



Parish Times

Back to School
Issue

AUGUST 2018

Living the Faith Together

FREE

Our Response: Back to Basics

By Chuck Short

Welcome back from summer. Our Parish Times introduces another year of parish activities among schools, religious education, sports, sacramental preparation, liturgical and social justice ministries. With God's grace, we return strengthened in faith and renewed commitment to re-engage in parish life at a critical time. Welcome new pastors, clergy and staff to our Montgomery County Catholic communities, especially newly ordained priests and deacons. Welcome new principals and staff in our outstanding Catholic schools along with others in parish work serving more than 120,000 faithful in promoting inspired parish communities of spiritual growth and Christian service. As often observed here, Montgomery County is a wonderful place to live, learn, work, play and worship. Active



Chuck Short

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St. John the Evangelist Parish Celebrates 125 Years of History



Fr. Cusick, Fr. Calis, and Deacon Jeeves are joined by picnic attendees in front of historic St. John the Evangelist Church. Photo by Chris Newkumet

Your Vote Makes a Difference

By Katie Holland, Christ the King parish editor

In his column "A Critical Time for Montgomery County" in the last issue of *Our Parish Times*, Msgr. Enzler reminded us that it is always important to "look carefully at all the candidates and vote for those who might be particularly supportive of the values we hold as a Church and as a community."

Looking around Montgomery County, St. Paul's in Damascus is the parish with the most political candidates this election cycle. Little Flower in Bethesda is in second place.

These are the candidates running for office in this November's General Election who may be sitting next to you in the pews!

From St. Paul's in Damascus, Patricia Fenati, endorsed by Maryland Right to Life, is running for one of the three Legislative District 14 General Assembly Delegate seats, along with Kevin Dorrance, also from St. Paul's, and Michael Ostroff of St. Francis of Assisi in Fulton (Howard County). These three running for the General Assembly are joined by Robert Drozd of St. Paul's who is running for the District 14 Maryland Senate. At Little Flower, Bill Day, a 1995 graduate of the US Naval Academy and Dad-coach for the parish school, is running for one of the Legislative District 16 General Assembly Delegate seats. Robert Dyer is running for one of the Montgomery County Council At-Large member seats. Dyer has been a life-long Little Flower parishioner and is a gradu-

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St. John the Evangelist Parish in Silver Spring traces its origins to a chapel that was built in 1774 close to the family home of Father John Carroll, SJ, who became the first bishop and archbishop of the United States. The early parish became a mission church of St. Mary's in Rockville in 1813 and a new chapel was built in 1850 to replace the original Carroll Chapel. In 1893, Father Rosensteel,

pastor of St. Mary's, began construction of a new stone church on the land adjacent to the chapel. On June 30, we celebrated the 125th Anniversary of the church construction by holding our parish picnic outside of the historic church. The Carroll Chapel replica and Historic St. John's were open for visits. Docents were available to describe

Continued on page 11

Blue Ribbons Galore

This summer, St. Jane de Chantal parishioner and occasional cantor Emily Tennant, her mother, sister and two brothers decided to submit 70 entries in various Arts, Crafts, Hobbies, Photography, and Home Arts (baked goods, decorated cakes, fillings) categories to honor the 70th year of the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair.

Ms. Tennant decided she would paint an owl, which was featured as the Animal of the Year by the Fair's Art Department, and weeks ago she blocked it out on canvas. Then she



put it aside, thinking it would take too long, and worked on other projects

for the Fair. Starting after lunch the day it was due she finally painted the owl and submitted it just in time.

Ms. Tennant's owl won the Blue Ribbon in its class, a Champion Rosette for best painting in oil or acrylic, and the Jane Preece Award for best submission in Fine Arts (encompassing Oil and Acrylic, Watercolor, Pastels, Pen, Ink, and Charcoal).

All in all, Ms. Emily Tennant and her family ended up submitting 83 entries, 23 of which won Blue Ribbons!

OPT

A Breach of Trust

By Patricia McGann

The recent revelations of Cardinal McCarrick's despicable behavior have reverberated across the Catholic community in the Washington Archdiocese. He was a charming man. People wanted to be around him. We believed in him. We were so proud of him that we sent him all over the world as an emissary of our church. He represented our best - at least that's what we thought.

As more details are revealed, many of us wonder, "Did my Pastor know about this?" "How could Church officials have not known - or how could they have remained silent if they knew?" Was the Catholic hierarchy so intent on maintaining membership that no one was willing to speak up or speak out? We are disappointed and angry with our Church. Our faith in our priests - in our Church's leadership - is definitely shaken. But is our faith in God and his teachings in jeopardy?



Patricia McGann

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Second Waste Disposal Company Quits Bethesda's Late-Term Abortion Business

Operation Rescue, the pro-life Christian activist organization, received a letter from Biomedical Recovery Systems owner John Kappler in June that shows he terminated his business dealings with late-term abortionist LeRoy Carhart and his AbortionClinics.org (ACO), the abortion facility in Bethesda, Maryland, that conducts abortions throughout all nine months of pregnancy.

This is the second medical waste disposal company to terminate business dealings with Carhart and ACO in this summer as the result of phone calls and e-mails made



Leroy Carhart's AbortionClinics.org, a late-term abortion clinic on Old Georgetown Road near Wildwood Shopping Center in Bethesda.

by pro-life activists asking that the businesses halt their dealings with

the notorious late-term abortion facility.

On June 5, 2018, Biomedical Waste Services stopped picking up the remains of babies aborted at ACO – some reportedly over 30 weeks gestation. ACO then contracted with Biomedical Recovery Systems, which made only one pick up at the abortion facility before quitting.

The letter from Kappler to Chelsea Souder, administrator for ACO, dated June 23, 2018, states, "This letter serves as notice that effective immediately I am terminating our service with your organization."

OPT

Domestic Church Renewal Movement for Marriages

Domestic Church (DC) is the family branch of the Light-Life Movement started in Poland by Fr. Franciszek Blachnicki with the help and support of Karol Wojtyła (the future Pope John Paul

II). It joins sacramentally married Catholic couples and families in small groups (circles). The families in the circle help each other grow in faith and build unity between spouses. The movement provides



lifelong formation in personal, marital, and family spirituality. It helps spouses in building true unity and, by getting closer to each other, getting closer to God and creating a truly Christian environment for bringing up children.

Married couples together (husband and wife) get involved in the formation by joining a DC circle that consists of 4 to 7 couples (ideally accompanied by a priest). They meet once a month to help one another on their spiritual journey "like ministering to like" (Humane Vitae, 26).

The monthly meeting consists of three segments:

Sharing Life Experiences: an opportunity to learn from each other, celebrate successes and support each other in times of difficulty;

Prayer: we form a community that stands united before our Father;

Formation: a conversation about spiritual topics related to marriage

Continued on page 12

Traditional Catholic Latin Mass

You are Cordially Invited to Attend

Sundays at 8:00 a.m.

Traditional Latin Mass Congregation

Old St. John the Evangelist Church

9700 Rosensteel Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910
1/2 mile west of Georgia Ave.,
off Forest Glen Rd., Rt. 192

www.tradlatinmass.org
E-mail: JSteis@aol.com

Latin Mass in accordance with the "Motu Proprio" of Pope Benedict XVI, issued July 7, 2007

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PUBLISHED IN ALTERNATE MONTHS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR.

Letter of the Holy Father Francis to the People of God

Following is the full-text of the letter from Pope Francis to the entire church occasioned by the recent release of the Pennsylvania Grand Jury Report.

08.20.2018

"If one member suffers, all suffer together with it" (1 Cor 12:26). These words of Saint Paul forcefully echo in my heart as I acknowledge once more the suffering endured by many minors due to sexual abuse, the abuse of power and the abuse of conscience perpetrated by a significant number of clerics and consecrated persons. Crimes that inflict deep wounds of pain and powerlessness, primarily among the victims, but also in their family members and in the larger community of believers and nonbelievers alike. Looking back to the past, no effort to beg pardon and to seek to repair the harm done will ever be sufficient. Looking ahead to the future, no effort must be spared to create a culture able to prevent such situations from happening, but also to prevent the possibility of their being covered up and perpetuated. The pain of the victims and their families is also our pain, and so it is urgent that we once more reaffirm our commitment to ensure the protection of minors and of vulnerable adults.

1. If one member suffers...

In recent days, a report was made public which detailed the experiences of at least a thousand survivors, victims of sexual abuse, the abuse of power and of conscience at the hands of priests over a period of approximately seventy years. Even though it can be said that most of these cases belong to the past, nonetheless as time goes on we have come to know the pain of many of the victims. We have realized that these wounds never disappear and that they require us forcefully to condemn these atrocities and join forces in uprooting this culture of death; these wounds never go away. The heart-wrenching pain of these victims, which cries out to heaven, was long ignored, kept quiet or silenced. But their outcry was more powerful than all the measures meant to silence it or sought even to resolve it by decisions that increased its gravity by falling into complicity. The Lord heard that cry and once again showed us on which side He stands. Mary's song is not mistaken and continues quietly to echo throughout history. For the

Lord remembers the promise He made to our fathers: "He has scattered the proud in their conceit; He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty" (L 1:51-53). We feel shame when we realize that our style of life has denied, and continues to deny, the words we recite.

With shame and repentance, we acknowledge as an ecclesial community that we were not where we should have been, that we did not act in a timely manner, realizing the magnitude and the gravity of the damage done to so many lives. We showed no care for the little ones; we abandoned them. I make my own the words of the then Cardinal Ratzinger when, during the Way of the Cross composed for Good Friday 2005, he identified with the cry of pain of so many victims and exclaimed: "How much filth there is in the Church, and even among those who, in the priesthood, ought to belong entirely to [Christ]! How much pride, how much self-complacency! Christ's betrayal by His disciples, their unworthy reception of His body and blood, is certainly

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Justice and Advocacy Council of Montgomery County Common Good inspires Catholics to Faithful Citizenship

By Brian Dorsey

Early in his pontificate, Pope Francis reminded Catholics, "We need to participate for the common good. Sometimes we hear: a good Catholic is not interested in politics. This is not true: good Catholics immerse themselves in politics by offering the best of themselves so that the leader can govern." (Rome, 9/16/13)*

Catholics in the Justice and Advocacy Council (J&A Council) of Montgomery County are engaged in this call to faithful citizenship. We invite all Catholics to join us. We look forward to the general election on November 6 when we elect a large number of local and state candidates to office. Elections on the national level take place on that date too.

Learning the issues; forming consciences

In preparation for elections this fall for the Montgomery County Executive, the J&A Council and Catholic Charities (DC) hosted a candidates forum for county executive. Msgr. John



Enzler, President and CEO of Catholic Charities, moderated. The J&A Council focuses on county and local issues and is an outreach of the Archdiocese of Washington.

Over 250 people gathered May 3 at St. Jude School in Rockville to hear the candidates discuss their positions on issues affecting the poor, vulnerable, and marginalized residents. Candidates also discussed their vision for the future for the county. The uniqueness of the forum was that the questions reflected issues of special concern to the Catholic understanding of the common good.

At times, candidates disagreed with each other on certain key issues such as support and funding for universal access to pre-kindergarten programs and the recordation tax on real estate. However, candidates also agreed

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MERCY U Starts Third Year with Focus on Philosophy

As Mercy U – Lay Theology Institute – begins its third year of courses, over 200 lay students that have sampled its offerings of theology. Last spring, it also celebrated 8 students who had received the designation of St. Catherine Scholars, finishing the 6 courses of study. They were honored with a dinner at the Dominican House of Studies in May.

In effort to bring graduate level theology to his parishioners, Pastor Fr. Bill Byrne of Our Lady of Mercy and PFIC President Father John Langlois formed a partnership to offer Dominican House faculty to the parish. They wanted to make it flexible and convenient for those who wanted to take one class or follow a course of study. Classes are taught on Saturday mornings or



Wednesday evenings.

A highlight of last year was a course by Dr. Jem Sullivan on "The Beauty of Faith" – which looked at sacred art and its role in communicating the faith. This course ended with a private tour of the National Gallery by Dr. Sullivan.

For course descriptions, and to register online, go to www.mercyu.org.

FALL 2018

God and Man in Thomistic Philosophy (Dr. Brian Carl)

WINTER 2019

Reason and Revelation (Rev. Brian Chrzastek, O.P.)

SPRING 2019

Theological Anthropology in Augustine's Confessions (Rev. Andrew Hofer, O.P.)

All classes take place at Our Lady of Mercy (9200 Kentsdale Drive, Potomac, Md).

OPT

Cardinal Donald Wuerl's Statement on Pennsylvania Grand Jury Report

August 14, 2018

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Upon the release of Pennsylvania's Report of the 40th Statewide Investigating Grand Jury ("Report"), Cardinal Donald Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington, issued the following statement:

"As I have made clear throughout my more than 30 years as a bishop, the sexual abuse of children by some members of the Catholic Church is a terrible tragedy, and the Church can never express enough our deep sorrow and contrition for the abuse, and for the failure to respond promptly and completely. While I understand this Report may be critical of some of my actions, I believe the Report confirms that I acted with diligence, with concern for the victims and to prevent future acts of abuse. I sincerely hope that a just assessment of my actions, past and present, and my continuing commitment to the protection of children will dispel any notions otherwise made by this report."

OPT

45th Thomas Verner Moore Lecture



Stephen J. Pope, PhD

Dr. Pope is a theological ethics scholar who currently serves as Professor, Department of Theology at Boston College

Co-Sponsored by St. Anselm's Abbey, the Columbus School of Law, and the School of Theology and Religious Studies at CUA

Topic: Why Christians Should Never Say, 'Everything Happens for a Reason'
Reflections on Contingency, Vulnerability, and Divine Providence

Date: October 13, 2018, 7 pm

Reception follows

Location: The Catholic University of America,
The Columbus School of Law, Slowinski Courtroom
Complimentary garage parking on the Catholic University Campus

Resurrection's Choir Librarian

by Susan Ahearn

Kathleen Plunkett is the choir librarian for the Church of the Resurrection. The Columbia resident has held the position since 2010 after she retired from the federal government as a senior executive with the Department of Defense. "There was no list of all the songs we had. The music was everywhere, so we commandeered a room downstairs in one of the classrooms. I spent the summer with several people helping me try to organize all of the music that we had," described Plunkett.

She and a group of volunteers organized, stamped,

Continued on page 16



Kathleen Plunkett inspects a music book. Photo by Emily Kranking

Church of the Resurrection Parish
3315 Greencastle Road
Burtonsville, MD

Rev. John M. Barry
Parish Administrator
301-288-4662

Amy Horn,
Susan Ahearn
Parish Editors
240-205-3195

How to Appeal the Stewardship

By Emily Kranking

The Church of Resurrection is once again participating in its Stewardship Appeal. Each summer, Resurrection focuses on raising money, so they can send their finances to the Archdiocese of Washington. But, through the reports, administrators can deter-

Continued on page 16

Resurrection Celebrates Staff Anniversaries

By Emily Kranking

On May 19, Resurrection held a special Mass to celebrate the achievements of five individuals. The Knights of Columbus also attended to honor them, saluting Rev. John Barry, Annick Kanter-Saint Hubert, Helene Stever, Gwen Wilhelm, and Levi Jones. Afterwards, over 200 parishioners gathered in the Amadeo Hall to enjoy delicious refreshments.

Rev. John Barry is one of Resurrection's newest members, joining last year. This May, he celebrated 30 years of being a priest. Other parishes he adminis-



Honored at the Resurrection Celebration of Staff Anniversaries in May were from left, Annick Kanter-Saint Hubert, Helene Stever, Father John Barry, Levi Jones and Gwen Wilhelm. Photo by John Small



Annick Kanter-Saint Hubert has been music director at Resurrection Church for more than 25 years. Photo by John Small

trated include St. John the Baptist in Silver Spring, St. Nicholas in Laurel, St. Mary's in Rockville, and most recently St. Edward the Confessor in Bowie.

Annick Kanter-Saint Hubert was honored for her 25 years as music director at Resurrection. She has lead all of the vocal choirs, as well as the handbell choir. 2018 will also be her 40th year in the music industry. An individual celebration for her will be held in October.

Like Saint Hubert, Helene Stever is celebrating 40 years in

Continued on page 8

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Brookwood
SCHOOL



Celebrating the Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Jane de Chantal Church

On June 22, Bro. Bradley Elliott, OP, who has served St. Jane de Chantal Parish as a deacon, was ordained a priest in San Francisco. Fr. Brad celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Jane de Chantal on Sunday, July 15. A reception for Fr. Brad followed in Caulfield Hall with cake and fellowship. Many parishioners and entire families took the opportunity to offer him their congratulations and receive the blessing of the newly ordained priest. Photo by Carol and Leo Kane.



Youth and Adult Retreat Participants pose on the campus of University of Maryland, site of the Encounter the Gospel of Life Work Camp. Photo by Debbie Okim

St. Jane de Chantal Youth Group Completes a Particularly Blessed Year

The St. Jane de Chantal High School Youth Ministry has had a very busy and fruitful school year, full of activities and spiritual growth. The youth leadership contributed this year with a bigger role than in past years. In addition to the popular SMASH (Sunday Mass And Social Hour), which for the last few years has been celebrated every first Sunday of the month, multiple other events, such as social outings and a new overnight

Continued on page 18

St. Jane de Chantal Parish
9601 Old Georgetown Road
Bethesda, MD

Fr. Samuel C. Giese, Pastor
301-530-1550

St. Jane de Chantal School
Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton
301-530-1221

Susana and Mario Cerritelli,
OPT Editors

St. Jane de Chantal Receives Catholic School Awards

On Friday, May 11, the Knights of Columbus honored St. Jane de Chantal School with three awards for the 2018 school year. The Lifetime Achievement award was given to Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton for 30 years as Principal of St. Jane de Chantal School. Teacher of the Year was awarded to

Mrs. Mary D'Antonio, and the Service Award was given to Mrs. Susan Shaeffer. Congratulations to these three women, who with their intelligence, grace, and understanding, help the students and faculty of St. Jane de Chantal School achieve excellence every day.

OPT

More St. Jane de Chantal News on Page 18



I AM
A SCHOLAR.
A LEADER.
A LEWIS CUP CHAMPION.

OPEN HOUSES

GRADES 9-12
Sunday, October 14
12:00-2:30 PM

PRESCHOOL-GRADE 4
Tuesday, October 16
8:00 - 10:00 am

GRADES 5-8
Monday, November 12
8:00 - 10:00 am

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GIRL.


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ST. B'S CYO

2018 GOLF & BLACKJACK TOURNEY



WHAT

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buy-in gets to 18 holes of golf
plus your entry fee into the blackjack tournament

WHEN

Friday, October 12, 2018

9am Start, Registration opens at 8:15am

WHERE

Sligo Creek Golf Course

9701 Sligo Creek Pkwy, Silver Spring, MD 20901

Over \$2500 in
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DETAILS: Three irons with a 5 iron max + a putter

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MEN & WOMEN WELCOME

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Of alumni

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October 1, 2018

Jeff Ott:

jefmikott@verizon.net &

Ed Mullaney:

em@verizon.net

Keegin Teare:

Keeginteare@hotmail.com

Send an email with names
of golfers and alumni
status and we will arrange pre-
payment to ease up the event
day lines.



Some of Saint Bernadette's own Irish dancers from the Culkin School put on a show for our summer camp. This year at "Camp Soubirous" we "set sail" with St. Patrick to learn about the Holy Trinity!

St. Bernadette's Home School Association is Ready for the New School Year!

By Bernardo de los Reyes, Vice President SBS HSA

St. Bernadette Home School Association 2018-2019 School Year Update

As the summer ends, St. Bernadette School is preparing for students returning on the big first day, Wednesday, August 29th. The HSA is also gearing up for a great school year as we desire to be great partners in growing our community spirit. It's going to be a wonderful year! With a calendar-year full of events, we want to see students and parents get together, have some fun, and enjoy one another through a wide variety of offerings. We also know these events do not happen without volunteers and are so thankful to everyone who has already signed up to lead and/or support HSA-sponsored events for 2018-2019. What a tremendous commitment to the students and community! There are many remaining opportunities to still take advantage of! Please sign up through our school Sign Up Genius link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090544a8a72aa7fe3-volunteer1>

Welcome Kindergarteners

How exciting to be starting a lifelong journey of learning! The first event of the year is for our Kindergarteners and their families. The Kindergarten Welcome Picnic will be held on Saturday, August 25th at 4 PM. Please come to run around with your new classmates and to meet other parents and families! We will meet by the snack shack on St. Bernadette's back field.

Used Uniform Sale

The first used uniform sale is on August 19th; and for winter shopping on November 4th. The used uniform sales are held after

the 9AM and the 11AM Masses in the St. Bernadette School Hall.

First Home School Association (HSA) Meeting

Join us in the St. B's School Hall on Wednesday, September 5th for the first Home School Association meeting of the year. We have a full agenda that will include, at the request of our school families, more information on internet safety. We are happy to announce the evening includes a presentation by the Maryland State Police on internet safety and internet crimes against children. We encourage returning families to warmly welcome new families to the community as we kick off the year.

Friday Nights on the Field

Please join us for a St. B's community tradition, "Friday Nights on the Field". We especially encourage families and alumni to join us on Friday, October 12th, 2018 for Fall Movie Night - the family-friendly show will begin after 6:30 pm. (Movie yet to be determined and definitely bring your chairs, blankets and snacks!)

Bingo

Bingo anyone? Break out your lucky Bingo Trolls for the first Saint Bernadette Bingo night on October 26th in the St. Bernadette School Hall. Doors open at 6PM and Bingo starts around 7PM. More specifics to follow but the evening includes fun, pizza, beverages and prizes!

Thank You

The St. Bernadette Home School Association is grateful to the parish, and

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Come see what the buzz is all about!

2018-2019 OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE

Monday, August 27: 1:00-2:30 PM
Thursday, September 13: 9:30-11:00 AM and 1:00-2:30 PM
Sunday, October 14: 10:00 AM-1:00 PM
Thursday, November 8: 9:30-11:00 AM and 1:00-2:30 PM
Thursday, December 13: 9:30-11:00 AM and 1:00-2:30 PM
Thursday, January 10: 9:30-11:00 AM and 1:00-2:30 PM
Sunday, January 27: 10:00 AM-1:00 PM
Wednesday, January 30: 9:30-11:00 AM and 1:00-2:30 PM
Thursday, February 14: 9:30-11:00 AM and 1:00-2:30 PM
Thursday, March 14: 9:30-11:00 AM and 1:00-2:30 PM
Friday, April 5: 6:00-7:30 PM
Thursday, May 9: 9:30-11:00 AM and 1:00-2:30 PM

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70 University Blvd., East
Silver Spring, MD

Rev. Msgr. K.

Bartholomew Smith
Pastor

301-593-0357

St. Bernadette School

Mr. Ted Ewanciw, Principal
301-593-5611

Kate Doyle Rodgers, OPT Editor
301-593-5611



The St. Bernadette community welcomes Rev. Emmanuel P. Magro as our new Parochial Vicar.



Youth Group Members from Three Parishes Join Together to Seek the Face of Christ

Many members of COR (Misericordiae) Our Lady of Mercy's youth group joined youth from Little Flower and Blessed Sacrament parishes to do service in NYC from June 24-29. While there, we were hoping to "seek the face of Christ" in both service and pilgrimage. We served with the Missionaries of Charity in their Harlem and Bronx locations, the Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen, and the Cabrini Immigrant Service. We attended the mass for St. Josemaria Escriva on Tuesday the 26th at St. Patrick's Basilica and we were able to meet Cardinal Dolan afterwards. Here is a picture with our entire group- 37 youth!

Fall and Winter Concerts

By Jayne Traynor Rose

This year's season is packed with exciting things. Our season begins with the *Concert of Remembrance* at 4:30 pm immediately prior to the *Mass of Remembrance* on Saturday, November 3rd at 5 pm. The choir will again be joined by an orchestra and will sing *Vivaldi's Gloria* prior to the Mass. During the Mass, selections from *Mozart's Requiem* will be featured, as well as other music to accompany the Mass.

Please plan to attend this special two in one of the Mass/Concert of Remembrance.

Our December 9th program will feature *Lessons and Carols of Advent and Christmas* at 2 pm. Finally, Sunday, February 10 will be the tenth installment of the *Musicians of Mercy* at 2 pm. The program will feature Symphonic Masterworks and will again display the talented and diverse musical staff at Mercy, as well as raise money to support a local charity.

OPT

Mercy Welcomes New Staff Members

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

Miss Lauren Wyble, a graduate of Salve Regina University in Rhode Island and the Academy of the Holy Cross, will be Mercy's new second grade teacher. She is a certified teacher in both early childhood and special education.

Miss Kathleen Greene, a graduate of Miami University in Ohio and Georgetown Visitation, will be Mercy's kindergarten teacher. Certified in early childhood education, Miss Greene has classroom experience in kindergarten, first, and third grades and is active in service work.

Mrs. Molly Crismond, a certified teacher and published writer who worked for Discovery Education and St. Patrick's, will join Mercy as a writing teacher for 5th and 6th grades. While at Discovery, Mrs. Crismond wrote and produced on-air promotions and managed four international virtual team members. Building on this background, she will oversee our studio to produce morning prayers and student productions including a new middle school elective class.

Miss Kellin McGinn holds degrees in education, audiology, and speech science. She is joining the Mercy inclusion team and will work in both academic support and small group instruction. A graduate of Michigan State University, Miss McGinn has five years of experience in the classroom and has com-

pleted extensive service work with children.

Mrs. Michelle Scango will teach math classes in both sixth and seventh grade. Mrs. Scango, who previously served as director of admissions at Stone Ridge and taught math at St. Mary's, worked successfully as a long-term middle school math substitute at Mercy two years ago. We are thrilled to have her back at Mercy!

Miss Caitrin Waites, Mercy's new art teacher, holds a degree in fashion merchandising and has worked in both the fashion industry and education. Her portfolio includes painting, ceramics, jewelry, collages, sculptures, graphic design, and more. Miss Waites will teach art for all grade levels, including pre-school.

Continued on page 39

Our Lady of Mercy Parish

9200 Kentsdale Drive
Potomac, MD

Fr. William Byrne, Pastor
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Our Lady of Mercy School
Ms. Deborah Thomas, Principal
301-365-4477

Gerry Burgess, OPT Editor
301-330-5676

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Teacher of the Year

In May, Mrs. Colleen Wilkerson was recognized as Teacher of the Year by the Rock Creek Council of the Knights of Columbus at their 28th Annual Catholic School Teachers' Appreciation and Awards Program. Mrs. Wilkerson has taught advanced Middle School Mathematics at Holy Cross for thirteen years.

Principal, Mrs. Lisa Kane, noted that, "First and foremost, has a true love and devotion for our Catholic faith and integrates it into her daily instruction." In addition, she implements best teaching practices in her classroom using real-world, hands-on instruction to explore math concepts.



Holy Cross Principal, Mrs. Lisa Kane (left), is pictured with Mrs. Colleen Wilkerson at the 28th Annual Catholic School Teachers' Appreciation and Awards Program hosted in May by the Rock Creek Council's Knights of Columbus.

Mrs. Wilkerson easily differentiates instruction and adapts lessons to accommodate various learning styles. Students appreciate the time that Mrs. Wilkerson makes available during lunch periods to offer additional instruction, or to provide targeted review for tests.

Mrs. Wilkerson is also the faculty co-moderator of the Student Council a member of the Holy Cross parish Bible Study group. It all adds up to a well-deserved recognition. Congratulations, Mrs. Wilkerson!

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

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



Educator of the Year

Mrs. Shari Connor was named an Educator of the Year by the American Institute of Aeronautics & Astronautics National Capital Section. Mrs. Connor was recognized for her work with the Holy Cross Middle School science program, especially the annual Science Fair. She was honored at a banquet in June.

The American Institute of Aeronautics & Astronautics (AIAA) is the preeminent professional organization for researchers and engineers involved in the aeronautical sciences. The AIAA National Capital Section (NCS), the largest of AIAA's regional chapters, actively promotes, supports and encourages the advocacy of science, technology, engineering and mathematical (STEM) curriculum and instruction.

The AIAA-NCS believes in investing in the future, and



Mrs. Shari Connor is pictured here in 2014, when she was named a Siemens STEM Institute Fellow – one of only forty-nine teachers nationwide to have received that honor. Mrs. Connor adds the AIAA-NCS Educator of the Year award to a long list of well-deserved honors.

towards that end honors outstanding educators in the STEM domain. Mrs. Connor inspires her students to explore the world of science, so our hypothesis

has been confirmed: she is truly deserving of this award.

OPT

TRUST

Con't from page 1

We are a human church. How many times have we been reminded that none of us perfect – none of us is without sin? And yet, they are priests. They have been chosen, and they chose a vocation. We revered them and we trusted them. We shared our personal struggles with them. They shared our Catholic traditions with us – and they Baptized our babies and brought the Last Rites to our loved ones; they led us in Stations of the Cross and Midnight Mass. Our priests forgave our sins and they gave us the Holy Eucharist. Our trust in our priests, Bishops, the Cardinal and our Pope is shaken.

Can our faith remain strong despite all of this? At these moments when nothing makes sense and everything we thought we knew about our Church is turned upside down, we really need to turn to our faith. Our faith is rich with messages and moments that will ease our minds and strengthen our spines as we weather this storm. We need our traditions and our rituals more than ever. They will help us to reconnect with Jesus and remember that He is our companion and our guide, and Heaven is our goal.

We need the messages of the Gospels to sustain us when we are faced with broken trust. We are all sinners, and certainly none of us would want to be judged publicly for our sins. Most of us have trouble just going to Confession. It takes

courage to admit failures, especially when the whole world is watching and listening, especially when our sins have ruined the lives of young people. Most of us can accept that even our church leaders can sin – but the nature of these sins and the hypocrisy feel like too much to bear.

Our anger and our disappointment could lead us to stay away from the Sacraments - to stop praying and going to Mass. But if we let the sins of others separate us from our faith and our God, then the Devil's work is done. Maybe we can't find forgiveness in our hearts, but we can find God in our traditions, our Sacraments and in our prayers, and we can find solace in God's word. "A man reaps what he sows." (Galatians 6:7.)

So, men who were supposed to be our rock - men who were supposed to show us the way to Heaven - have let us down. They have harmed the institution that is the Catholic Church, but they cannot fracture our relationship with our God. We will be far more cautious in the future. Our pastors and our parish priests, even the very best of them, will have to prove that they are worthy of our trust. Until the Catholic Church has repaired itself, those of us who believe will continue to do our best to live according to God's laws; we will seek comfort and courage by praying together and in the silence of our hearts. We won't waste our time judging or condemning Cardinal McCarrick or those who were complicit with their silence, because that's God's job, and we trust He will take care of it.

Patricia McGann is a Montgomery County Catholic school educator and consultant.

Editor's Note

Patricia McGann's column was submitted for publication prior to the release of the Pennsylvania Grand Jury Report. See page 3 for Cardinal Donald Wuerl's Statement on the Report.

ANNIVERSARIES

Con't from page 4

youth/religion education and her 15th year in the parish. Stever is the Director of Religious Education and Youth Ministry, leading youth

group activities and the CCD.

Gwen Wilhelm and Levi Jones have been long-time parishioners, but they play important roles at Resurrection as well. Wilhelm has been the business manager for 15 years and Jones has been a custodian for 17 years.

OPT



The Marion procession turns onto 28th from M Street in Georgetown on the Feast of the Assumption.

Georgetown Marian Procession

On the Feast of the Assumption, a group of about 150 – 170 people organized by members of the DC Young Catholic Professionals and joined by individuals of all ages participated in the first Georgetown Marian Procession. Following a statue of Our Lady surrounded by flowers and a painting of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the participants processed European-style from Georgetown's Church of the Epiphany on Dumbarton Street west to Wisconsin Ave, then east onto M Street and back up 28th St to the church.

As the people walked and prayed along the streets of Georgetown

surrounded by cars, pedestrians, and commuters led by Father John Paul Duran LC and Father Stephen Howe LC they recited the Glorious and the Joyful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary singing the Immaculate Mary Song between each decade and concluded with singing the Salve Regina. At intervals passersby and spectators sang along with the processors, several joined the procession, and some took videos of the procession while mouthing the words of the Hail Mary.

As one participant who lives in Georgetown noted afterwards at the open house social following the

Continued on page 38

John Acevedo named Full-time Director of Admission at The Avalon School

By Ellen M. Clifford, Assistant Head of School

The Avalon School will open in its new location on the St. Catherine Laboure campus in Wheaton, Md., on September 5, and the larger facilities will allow the expansion of classes and programs long-planned by the school's founders. To facilitate that growth, the school welcomed John J. Acevedo to the faculty in August. Acevedo brings a wealth of international and education-based experience to his role: overseeing the day-to-day admission process, including marketing and advertising, as well as guiding interested families through the application and interview process for boys in grades K-12. He also will shepherd the school's thriving international student program which has thus far hosted students from more than 12 countries.

Prior to joining the Avalon staff, Acevedo worked for more than 25 years with Berlitz International, serving most recently as on-site President of the Berlitz franchise,



John J. Acevedo, Avalon's new Director of Admission

Ecuador, as well as director of strategic planning US, director of Berlitz Virtual Classroom, and national director of government affairs (US), among other positions. He also has been an award-winning financial services representative with The Prudential Insurance Company of America.

He is native speaker of both English and Spanish.

Acevedo also enjoys first-hand knowledge of Avalon's guiding tenets. He is the proud dad of two graduates of Brookewood School – Avalon's sister school in Kensington, Md. – the uncle of several nephews who were in Avalon's first graduating class, and has worked with the leadership of both Avalon and Brookewood since before their inception.

"Where many of our educational institutions have turned away from the academic and moral principles that have guided western culture to its highest achievement, Avalon remains dedicated to providing boys and young men with a challenging education rich in the classical traditions, while fostering the gifts of piety and faith rooted in all men," he observes. "Anyone who is concerned about the moral content and academic rigor of their son's education should visit us at Avalon."

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An Exciting Summer for St. Elizabeth!

Over the summer St. Elizabeth said farewell to two staff members. In order of occurrence, the first farewell was to Marty Cosgrove, who left St. E's to become the music director in his neighborhood parish where his son attends school, St. Patrick Church in Rockville, Maryland. Marty has been a superb Director of Music and Liturgy for 16 years and is certainly a great addition to St. Patrick. The second farewell was to Kathy Swartz, who served St. E's for 26 years. She was remarkably generous in her role as Pastoral Associate, and her extraordinary



Maddie Booth, St. Elizabeth's new Director of Music and Worship

ability to manage any project and her great love for people have been profound blessings to us all.

We are so excited to welcome our two new staff members to St. Elizabeth. The first is Madeleine Booth who has accepted the position of Director of Music and Worship. "Maddie" has just graduated from Boise State University with a degree in music education and will begin working part-time towards a master's in music composition at the Catholic University of America this fall. A lifelong Catholic who began serving in par-

Continued on page 38

Over the summer, our school principal, Mr. Spadoni, traveled to Portugal, and while there, visited to Fatima to bring the prayers of our school family to the shrine of Our Lady.



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Msgr. J. Wilfrid Parent
Pastor

301-881-1380

St. Elizabeth School Principal
Vincent P. Spadoni

301-881-1824

Gerry Moore,
OPT Editor
202-887-6475

New Website

In the beginning of August, St. Elizabeth launched its new website. This new website layout was provided by the Archdiocese of Washington's partnership with e-Catholic, a technology company that promotes digital evangelization through user friendly website design, online payments, live streaming, and more. This easy to use template allowed St. Elizabeth to add custom

content that is user friendly and helpful to staff, such as online registration and payment for Christian Formation Classes, registrations for Baptismal preparation classes, an interest form for recruiting volunteers, and integration with social media channels. Take a peek at the new website by going to: www.stelizabethchurchmd.org

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Where in the World is Mr. Spadoni? Our incoming Fourth Graders took our principal Mr. Spadoni with them on their vacations this summer! What fun!



Fr. Cusick tries to hold his own against three boys eager to soak him with water.

Photos by Chris Newkumet

125 YEARS

Con't from page 1

the displays and answer questions. The celebration provided a great opportunity to learn more about our Parish history and the history of the Catholic Church in America.

The anniversary celebration included a delicious picnic and fun activities for all ages. The picnic was hosted by the Parish and the Rosensteel Council of the Knights of Columbus. The Knights prepared a scrumptious spread that

Continued on page 28



Members of the Knights of Columbus join Fr. Calis and the other celebrants in front of the altar at historic St. John's.



Scouts and their leaders keep an eagle eye on a picnic attendee as he walks across the rope bridge built by the scouts.



Father Calis leads the little ones in a parade down Rosensteel Avenue.



Everyone welcomed fun ways to cool down with water on this sunny Saturday afternoon.

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Rev. Joseph Calis, Pastor

St. John the Evangelist School

Mrs. Margaret Durney,
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SHORT

Con't from page 1

Catholic parishes, together with other faith communities, are essential components to our exceptional quality of life.

We welcome Michael Fisher new Auxiliary Bishop of Washington. Bishop Fisher, installed in June, served as pastor at St John Neumann parish in Gaithersburg for six years before his talents were summoned for a leadership role in the Pastoral Center. Bishop Fisher's appointment is a blessing and continues Pope Francis's extraordinary record of selecting deeply devout and pastoral priests as auxiliary bishops in the Archdiocese of Washington.

Many of us share the concern that national government and political leadership is deeply divided, uncivil, morally adrift, and ineffective in efforts to address the most important issues facing our nation. We are concerned that the press, once revered as the "fourth estate", is suspect as its critical role of providing objective information drifts to the more lucrative markets of opinion programming. Other fundamental institutions which sustain a free and just society are in question as well. Confidence in science, professional sports, universities, social media, finance, medicine, even law enforcement is shaken. Sadly, polls show growing disappointment and division in the Church's leadership

even before recent scandals. Sound and credible institutions are critical to moral societies. Today, many of these are deeply flawed. Not surprisingly, communities which rely upon them are becoming more fragmented, polarized and pessimistic. Predictably people living in communities are showing more signs of despair, anxiety and frustration.

The mission of Our Parish Times is to inform and celebrate Gospel-inspired work among local parishes and to promote cooperation through shared experience about local activities that contribute to building Christ-centered communities. The mission does not include solving the aforementioned great societal problems of the nation and world! However, the parish mission assumes that in serving as centers for worship and service, local parishes play essential roles in the lives of Catholics in maintaining social cohesion and in contributing to the moral strength of communities. **Here's our reflection. As major societal institutions are suspect or failing, should Catholic parishes enhance their roles as trusted spiritual and social centers where Catholics are nourished through inspired liturgy and selfless service? It is often said that a reliable remedy for one's own grief is found in service to others.**

The tragic failure of leadership harms us all but is devastating to those who urgently trust and rely upon them. Who will lead in caring

for the poor, frail, abused, addicted and imprisoned? Who will provide the public voice for those living in the shadows? Who will lead us to welcome strangers regardless of national origin or faith and our own estranged with mercy and without judgement?

Responsible leaders are obliged to care for the vulnerable. When they fail, the responsibility falls to people of good will at the most basic community level, those of us Christ described as, "the salt of the earth". His metaphor of salt is as poignant today as it was then. Salt is a symbol of purity and widely used as a basic preservative. Surely, today's institutions need purification and must be preserved from evil influences. Parishes are spiritual homes for people of good will, the salt houses for the salt of the earth. Christ's early church thrived in these basic spiritual centers in which his followers lived His call for love and mercy. They prayed together, cared for orphans and widows, the imprisoned and hungry and welcomed strangers. The humble led the way to Christian living. Tragic conditions in today's church call each parishioner to assume more leadership and engage in more service toward purifying and preserving Christ's church. Join or strengthen parish ministries. Start new ministries if necessary. Financially support the work of the parish. Support faithful parish clergy in their blessed voca-

tions and in their grief as victims of failed leadership.

There is assistance available to guide local parishes in responding to the vulnerable. Msgr. John Enzler, President of Catholic Charities, has enhanced the capacity of Catholic Charities to assist local parishes in assuming a greater role in strengthening Catholic communities. Fr. John created team of experts to assist local parishes in mobilizing their resources to better serve the needy in their communities. Team leader, Deacon Jim Shanahan, is available to assist your parish in a strategy to build parish capacity for service, jim.shanahan@catholiccharitiesdc.org or (202) 772-4310.

I believe that the United States is a good country that belongs not to failed leaders but to engaged and loyal people of good will. I am a grateful Catholic, humbled by Christ's many gifts especially the Eucharist. I believe the Spirit will sustain our church not through failed leaders, but through holy men and women of faith and engagement. In country and faith the duty is ours at the basic local level to purify and preserve the goodness.

God Bless!
Chuck Short

MOVEMENT

Con't from page 2

and family.

Additionally, couples are encouraged to attend retreats offered for entire families on weekends or during vacations. This is a great way to spend family time and meet new, wonderful people full of God's joy and peace.

Although the movement started in Poland, it is now truly global and is quickly spreading in many countries, including the USA. Currently there are Domestic Church circles in CT, FL, LA, NY, OK, TX, and WI. In all cases, the circles are formed with the agreement and blessing of the local parish priest and the diocese. It is in the core of the Light-Live Movement to be an integral part of the parish.

Is it us, Lord? Ask yourselves whether the Lord is sending an invitation to your marriage and family to join Him on a journey of spiritual growth and renewal of His Church. If you would like more information, please visit: www.domesticchurch-families.com

This fall, Domestic Church is planning to establish circles at St. Raphael Parish in Rockville. Please feel invited to attend the kick-off meeting on Sunday, September 16, at 7:15pm in the Parish Library. All couples are welcome.

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Parade of Nations

African Day at Mother Seton Parish

By Rennie Okob

In many African countries, Thanksgiving and Bazaar are celebrated with music, dancing, etc. In June 2014, the first African Day was born. The celebration kicked off in colorful fanfare with Holy Mass, with Fr. Didace Kamana as the main homilist, then food, drinks, and dancing, sharing with our brothers and sisters from different nationalities. Thanking God for all His blessings, most of all for the blessing of Mother Seton Parish.

On August 19, 2018, we celebrated our fifth anniversary of the African Day of Thanksgiving. The turnout of Africans,

Americans and our brothers and sisters from other continents of the world was phenomenal. We

had delicious food from different African countries, great music

Continued on page 22



Fr. Lee Fangmeyer with visiting African priests



Preschool Vacation Bible School class

Vacation Bible School has returned to Mother Seton

By Mary Beth DeLuzio

After several years hiatus VBS made its return to Mother Seton. The week of July 23-27, the entire campus of Mother Seton was SHIPWRECKED. We

Continued on page 22



Fr. Lee Coloring with the pre-schoolers.

Mother Seton Parish

19951 Fr. Hurley Boulevard
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Fr. Lee Fangmeyer
Pastor

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Brenda Rosado
OPT Editor

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Fr. Jose Maria Cortes, with CTK parishioners seated in front (l to r): Marian Michael, Marge Mercurio, Margaret Forbin (kneeling) and Dorothy O'Neill at table; standing (l to r) Katie Holland, Sieglinde and Art Lord (in the hat), Sue Gordon, Gloria Patterson in front of Noel Augustyn, Helen Costabile, Fr. Jose, Etienne Thadey, Janice Theobald, Andy and Adrianna Proal, Kyle Abreu and Manny Ochoa

Washington DC Welcomes the Return of Fr. Jose

By Katie Holland, OPT parish editor

The last Pastor at Christ the King, Fr. Jose Maria Cortes, FSCB, departed for Italy after a period of discernment surrounding his time spent with the Benedictines. The Fraternity of Saint Charles left Christ the King two years ago. In mid-July of this Fr. Jose returned to the area briefly from Italy in reference to a book he is pulling together of his Homilies.

Parishioners, former and current, and his altar servers from his time at CTK joined together for lunch with him at his favorite eating spot, Tavira Restaurant in Chevy Chase. In late August, he announced his appointment as Chaplain at the John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, near The Catholic University of America. He is expected to arrive very shortly.

OPT

VOTE

Con't from page 1

ate of Little Flower School and Good Counsel High School, then in Wheaton. In Rockville, Josephine Wang, endorsed by Maryland Right to Life, is a 40-year member of St Raphael's.

Several Catholic politicians not from Montgomery County are running for state-wide offices, most notably Governor Larry Hogan of Holy Family in Davidsonville (Anne Arundel County) who is running for reelection. Tony Campbell is running for US Senate and Marc A. King is running for the Legislative District 15 delegate seat in the Maryland General Assembly; while not Catholics, they are both endorsed by Maryland Right to Life, as is Anjali Reed Phukan, a Trinity University graduate running for Maryland Comptroller.

A more obscure position is the



(L-R) Michael Ostroff, Kevin Dorrance, Robert Drozd and Pat Fenati, the all Catholic slate from St. Paul's plus one



Bill Day of Little Flower



Robert Dyer of Little Flower



Josephine Wang of St. Raphael's

Montgomery County Register of Wills for which Dolores Reyes is running. While she is not yet registered in the parish, she attends Mass at St. Michael the Archangel Silver Spring and is a University of Dayton (and Howard University) alumna, having attended all Catholic schools growing up. The same goes for Ed Amatetti, who is running for the Montgomery County Council District 2 seat.

This write up on "our pew-mates" (and associates) was based on queries to every candidate listed on the 2018 General Election ballot, via email, phone, campaign literature, campaign web site information or in person conversations. For Catholics, candidates' party affiliations (or non-affiliations) may not be as relevant in this Maryland General Election as their responses to political survey questions and the recommendations of various conferences. Attention to Church teachings, as we vote, is always relevant. Sometimes a quick check of endorsements can be a very good guide.

Note: Blessed Sacrament and Christ the King parishes include neighborhoods in both Montgomery County and Washington. With its 97% Democrat voter registration, races in the District are assumed over with the results from the June 2018 Primary

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Gov Larry Hogan with Comptroller candidate Anjali Reed Phukan



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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 have been attracted to the school by the rigorous academics, strong sense of Catholic Identity, and commitment to excellence and inclusion. They will bring their own vibrancy to the Blue Ribbon award winning school and enhance our community.

Joining the Pre-K 3 team in a new role is Murray Gormly. This year Mrs. Gormly is taking her eight years of experience as a classroom aide and will be a Pre-K 3 lead teacher in our growing Pre-K Program. Mrs. Gormly grew in DC and is herself educated in schools within the Archdiocese of Washington (ADW) educated. After receiving her BA at Providence College and living in Boston, Mrs. Gormly and her family have lived in the area for the past 17 years. Along with her role as a teacher she is also the parent of recent HR graduate Maggie '18 and rising sixth grader Mary. Mrs. Gormly is most excited to share her love of our youngest cardinals in her new role. Outside of school she enjoys reading, traveling, and seeing family.



Mr. Stephenson and his wife

Mr. Michael Stephenson is joining the faculty as one of the sixth grade Homeroom teachers and will be teaching English in the middle school. He moved to Montgomery County in 2017 with his new bride, Allie. HE grew up in Athens and attended college in Rome, Georgia!

Professionally, Mr. Stephenson did his student teaching in 6th grade, has taught 7th grade World History, and 8th Grade American History. He has a passion for and experience working at summer camps and has spent the last two summers as the Director of Bulldog Day Camp at the Bullis School. Mr. Stephenson brings his positive attitude, a professional approach towards education, and a deep appreciation for the inherent, God-inspired value of every student and family. He is looking forward to being a member of the Holy Redeemer community and getting to work with all three middle school grade levels! His favorite leisure activities are running, hiking, reading, traveling, trying new food (always open for

restaurant suggestions), watching sports, and spending time with his friends and family.



Mr. Webb and his fiancé

Mr. Antuan Web will be bringing his knowledge and expertise in the role as PE teacher. He has an Associate Degree in Kinesiology and a degree in liberal arts and Criminal Justice. Along with teaching PE at HR Mr. Web will be part of the coaching staff at St. John's College High School. Originally from California, Mr. Web lives in Upper Marlboro. Mr. Webb enjoys live music, comedy shows, and bowling. He is engaged to his fiancé, Kesha Jackson.

Nicole Farhat has joined the staff as a part time nurse. She comes to HR with a degree in nursing from Georgetown University and MS in nursing from Catholic University. Mrs. Farhat grew up in the area and lived in DC for about 10 years before moving back to Montgomery County. Previously she has worked as a pediatric nurse and pediatric nurse practitioner at the NIH Clinical Center. Family. She is married with two kids. With 15 years of pediatric nursing experience and a positive and energetic attitude Mrs. Farhat is excited for the new school year. She is looking forward to sharing her love of working with school-age kids and is excited to meet all of the students and their families! Outside of school she enjoys running, eating pizza, traveling and spending time with my family.

Ms. Nora Hand will be working as a Resource Teacher/Curriculum Modification Specialist. She received her BA in Elementary Education from The Catholic University of America. Ms. Hand has lived in Washington, DC her whole life and currently lives in Chevy Chase DC. While in college she completed two practicums at Our Lady of Victory School, Murch Elementary School and she completed her student teaching at Washington Yu Ying Public Charter School. She is looking forward to modifying curriculum and creating learning materials for students as part of the resource team and to meeting all her new students and their families. She is most excited about being able to adjust learning materials and to support her new students to ensure their success. Ms. Hand loves to play golf, read, and create art.

Within the Preschool there will be three new part-time assistants. Kathleen Bruno, Meghan Meringolo, and Kate Morin will



Mrs. Bruno and her family!

all join the preschool staff. These three ladies are well known to our community as volunteer parents and have always been supportive community members. We are excited to have them bring their talents to the classroom. Mrs. Bruno is the mother of Nick (7th) and Vincent (3rd). She hopes to provide a nurturing, social and energetic atmosphere in the classroom and the Holy Redeemer



Mrs. Morin and family.



Mrs. Meringolo and her family.

community. Mrs. Meringolo is the mother of Dylan (6th) Taylor (4th) and Drew (Pre K 4). She has loved helping in the classroom as a Co-Op parent looks forward to spending more time in the Pre K wing of the school. Mrs. Morin is the mother of Kathryn (7th) Matthew (5th) Connor (2nd) and Kevin (Pre K 3). She grew up in Kensington and has spent the last year as a substitute teacher at HR. She hopes to bring her creative talents and energy to her new role at the school. She also looks "forward to working with the best staff and



Mrs. Gallagher and her husband.



parish community and getting to know all the children." All three new aides are excited to work with our littlest cardinals.

We welcome Ramona Gallagher as a Part Time Aide in First Grade. Mrs. Gallagher is originally from Columbus, Ohio. She has two daughters, Katie and Maggie, who both attended Georgetown Visitation. When her younger daughter graduated from middle school she began working as a second-grade aide at Blessed Sacrament School where she worked for 11 years. She hopes to bring enthusiasm, care, kindness, and love to her new position, is

Continued on page 35

Holy Redeemer Parish

9705 Summit Avenue
Kensington, MD

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Pastor
301-942-2333

Holy Redeemer School
Mrs. Colleen Ryan,
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301-942-3701

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St. Bart's to open outdoor sensory classroom

A new outdoor classroom at St. Bartholomew School promises to engage students in multi-sensory learning for every subject. Spearheaded by Reading Specialist, Laura Digges, the classroom will integrate nature and movement into learning. "I can just imagine a middle school student summarizing a scene from *My Side of the Mountain* while demonstrating how to pitch a tent, or PreK students drawing letters with magic paint (water) on a stepping stone 'chalkboard' before seeing their letter disappear in the sun," says Digges.

Beyond satisfying kids when they ask the age-old question Can we have classes outside? the classroom offers real benefits. Research



Fifth-grade homeroom teacher Ellie Tehan, Resource Specialist Amanda Herndon, Reading Specialist Laura Digges, and First-grade homeroom teacher Rachelle Phalen are excited to integrate use of the multisensory outdoor classroom into their teaching

shows outdoor learning improves mood and retention rate for students. It is especially helpful for children who are tactile or experiential learners, plus it lowers incidences of bullying. Construction started in August and is expected

to be completed by August 29th. When finished, the classroom will include a student garden, seating, a teaching platform, a musical area, sandbox, plus fitness and balance challenges.

OPT

J&A

Con't from page 3

on many positions on issues such as generally expanding access to pre-kindergarten and increasing affordable housing. Candidates mentioned their own top priorities to address issues affecting the poor, vulnerable, and marginalized residents.

Your vote matters

There are 644,000 registered voters in Montgomery County. Yet only roughly 130,000 residents voted in this June's primary election. As well, just 80 votes decided the winner of the county executive race of the eight county executive candidates running. The primary election was also extremely close on the County Council with 33 council candidates running for four at-large seats on the Montgomery County Council.

The General Election may be a

tight election with 16-year county council member Nancy Floreen launching her bid to become Montgomery County Executive by running as an Independent.

Immerse yourself!

With such high stakes, it remains more important than ever to exercise your rights and responsibilities as part of faithful citizenship.

The next meeting of the Justice and Advocacy Council is Wednesday, September 26 at 7:30 at Holy Redeemer, Kensington in the lower level of the church. All are invited. For more information, call 301-482-1022.

* <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship/>

Brian Dorsey of St. Paul Parish, Damascus, is a member of the J&A Council. On May 3rd the Justice & Advocacy Council, an affiliate of the Archdiocese of Washington (ADW), and Catholic Charities hosted a County Executive Forum.

LIBRARIAN

Con't from page 4

and labeled all of the choir music. Plunkett described how they now keep track of the music for the six choirs at Resurrection. "We do a complete inventory of everything that we have in the summer of the even years," said Plunkett, "and on the odd years, we just do an inventory of the songs that we sang that year, because we really don't need to do a complete inventory every year."

Plunkett adds Resurrection has about 45,500 pieces of music in the choir library. "And every year, that number increases by between 500 and 1000, depending on how much music we add during the year." She adds, "We lose about 40 to 50 pieces of music a year, which is about .1% of our inventory." Plunkett uses a huge spreadsheet to keep track of all the music.

OPT

STEWARDSHIP

Con't from page 4

mine new problems and possible solutions. For example, there has been a loss or relocation of 250 parishioners since 2014. To resolve this, administrators will practice tithing to save money.

For many people, donating money can be a simple thing. Resurrection makes it fun and appealing by adding an element everyone loves: Sports. Resurrection has introduced "President's Race," inspired by the Washington Nationals' traditional race in the fourth inning. In this case, Andrew Jackson is the mascot of every \$20 dollars, Alexander Hamilton is the mascot of \$10 dol-

lars, Abraham Lincoln is the mascot of \$5 dollars, and the first president George Washington is the mascot of the \$1 dollar bill. Reports of the races are posted in each weekly bulletin to make the donations fresh, entertaining, and relevant. Generally, Andrew Jackson keeps on losing to George Washington. In one August weekend, Washington had \$388 while Jackson only had \$35! Additionally, not even Hamilton's musical gave him enough recognition to beat Lincoln! Abe had \$115 while Hamilton had \$35. If parishioners want Jackson or Hamilton to beat their rivals, they should donate money and help out with the Stewardship as much as they can.

OPT

St. Bartholomew Parish

6900 River Road
Bethesda, MD 20816

Rev. Mark Knestout
Pastor

301-229-7933

St. Bartholomew School
Frank English, Principal
301-229-5586

Frank Maguire, OPT Editor
202-512-8226



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Photo of 17 of the 24 new Sodality Members (left to right): Glenda Buchanan; Armelle Kouakou; Carol DeOro; Fr. Michael Salah; Dora Pachajoa; Patricia Crew; Angela Rappa; Sharon Discavage; Kathy Patterson; Mihuryl Hernandez; Marion Griffith; Maria Fernando; Norma Saad; Juliana Jacobson; Shirley Lee; Mary Meyer.

A Prayerful Year Ahead for St. Raphael Sodality

St. Raphael's Sodality is preparing for another busy and prayerful year with Fr. Michael Salah as our Moderator.

Date	Topic	Speaker
September 12, 2018	Beauty of the Mass	Fr. Michael Salah
October 9, 2018	Mary is our Mother	Gina Witt
November 13, 2018	The Work of Mercy at the Lord's Table	Mary Canapary with Adult Club Parish Library
January 10, 2019	Museum of the Bible	
February 12, 2019	Sodality Tea	
3/8, 15, 22, 29; 4/12	Stations of the Cross	
	Mary's Way	Janet Leonard Walker with Adult Club
March 26, 2019	Lenten Day of Prayer	Richard Meyer
April 9, 2019	A Story of Conversion	Fr. Michael Salah
May 22, 2019	Potluck Dinner/Installation	

Continued on page 39



St. Raphael School Will Miss You, Ms. Quinn

By Nina Cardillo

Just after parting for summer break, St. Raphael School staff, students, and families came together again for a final, heartfelt farewell to our beloved fifth-grade teacher, Patty Quinn, who went home to God with the words "Jesus, I trust in You" on June 16. Family and friends of Ms. Quinn filled St. Raphael Catholic Church for the Mass of Christian Burial celebrated by Fr. Lee Fangmeyer, pastor of Mother Seton Catholic Church and longtime friend, and was celebrated by several current and former priests of St. Raphael Parish.

For the past eight years of her



Patty Quinn taught at St. Raphael School for eight years. Photo by Stone Photography

30-year Catholic teaching career, Ms. Quinn shared her deep faith in the Lord with SRS students and shaped them with devoted instruction. She filled them with unconditional love and touched everyone with her quick wit and humor. Ms. Quinn was known for retelling stories—often evoking an element of surprise and laughter—which

Continued on page 22



Students, staff, and parents line the sidewalk of St. Raphael School to say farewell to beloved teacher Patty Quinn in a special way after her funeral June 20. The bubbles were like prayers rising to Heaven. Photo by MJ Zafis-Garcia / St. Raphael School

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

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**More St. Raphael
News on Page 22**



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Archdiocese Office of Youth Ministry Honors Two St. Jane Parishioners

On May 31 in Landover Hills, Md., at the Seventy-Third Annual Archdiocese of Washington Youth Ministry/ Catholic Youth Organization Awards Banquet, two St. Jane de Chantal parishioners were honored with awards.

High school senior John Cerritelli was selected for the St. Timothy Award, and he was also a finalist for the Outstanding Male Catholic Youth Award, which is given to a high school junior or senior who is involved in youth ministry within their parish, serves as an active member of the youth ministry leadership team, shows mature leadership qualities among youth, exemplifies Christian examples and dedicated service to the Church, and is a positive role model. John exemplified all these attributes.

The Outstanding Adult Leadership Award



Award recipients, John Cerritelli and Ann Gradowski, Parishioners at St. Jane de Chantal Church, with their award plaques at the conclusion of the Archdiocese of Washington's Office of Youth Ministry Awards Banquet.



St. Jane de Chantal Youth Group Leaders, Ms. Sally Daniel (right), and Rev. Keith Burney, Parochial Vicar (left), congratulate John Cerritelli on being honored with the St. Timothy Award.

was presented to Ann Gradowski for the Christian example expressed in her personal life and in recognition of her efforts as advisor and friend to the youth as the Executive Director of Encounter the Gospel of Life Work Camp and the Archdiocese of Washington. It was presented by the Board of Directors of the Catholic Youth Organization of Washington DC. The Board expressed their great appreciation for her dedicated service and commitment.

On hand to congratulate and celebrate with the awardees at the dinner banquet were members from both families, along with Ms. Sally Daniel, the Director of Faith Formation, and Rev. Keith Burney, Parochial Vicar, from the St. Jane de Chantal Parish.

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YOUTH GROUP

Con't from page 5

retreat have kept the teens of the Parish engaged with each other's and their community. SMASH starts with the 5 PM Sunday mass during which members of the youth group help with the readings, the collection and ushering. After mass, dinner is provided by the teens' parents with time for games and time for socializing. For some other Sundays throughout the month, the teens got together to discuss topics of interest and concern to them, such as teen suicide, dating, and social media. Social outings, such as laser tag, hayrides and an Escape Room adventure, were also part of the scheduled activities this past year.

The Youth Group also had multiple opportunities to deepen on their faith with talks, reflections and more importantly with several retreats. New this year was a Kairos-style two-day retreat planned almost entirely by the teen leaders, along with young adults from the Parish. Kairos is a Greek word that means "the opportune moment". In this retreat it was indeed the opportune time to hear and accept God's call in a teen's life as they transition from childhood into adulthood. Distinct talks, group discussions, and silent time for meditation helped the members of the Youth Group to reflect on their lives and their callings as they prepare to enter a new phase of their lives.

The last retreat of the school year was the highly anticipated and deeply rewarding Encounter the Gospel of Life Work Camp, which every year is attended by several members of the St. Jane Youth Group and hundreds of teens from other parishes, both near and far. This retreat runs for almost a week at the University of Maryland and includes service projects during the days in different communities throughout the DC metro area that are in need of help. The evenings are filled with reflection, adoration, reconciliation, and other activities providing opportunities for the retreat participants to deepen their faith.

The Youth Group said goodbye with many well wishes to the college-bound members of the group, and after a restful summer vacation will be ready for new members and adventures in the upcoming school year.

OPT

New Faculty Profiles

The Woods Academy is pleased to welcome the following new faculty and staff members to our community:



Stephanie Clark
(2005)
Associate Teacher



Jennette Daniel
Montessori Preschool
Assistant Teacher



Madeline Dodge
7th & 8th Grade
Language Arts



Michelle Michlik
Learning Support
Coordinator



Susan Sabatano
Business Office
Assistant



Maricela Santiago-Torres
World Language Teacher



Emily Weber
Associate Teacher



Nancy Zachor
World Language Teacher

Faculty & Staff Anniversaries

5 Years



Samantha Gallagher,
Database Manager

5 Years



Paul Paoletti, *7th*
& 8th Grade Math
Teacher

10 Years



Jane Pontius, *School*
Transportation
Coordinator and
Lower School
Guidance Teacher

10 Years



Heggie Shegerian,
Business Manager

10 Years



Wendy Skolnik,
Spanish Teacher

10 Years



Katie Smith,
Montessori Assistant
Teacher

15 Years



Edgar Saucedo,
Maintenance Staff

At the completion of the 2017-2018 school year, the following faculty and staff members celebrated milestone anniversaries at The Woods Academy.

Lessons from Spain

By Wendy Skolnik, Spanish Teacher

This past March a group of 8th grade Spanish students and teachers from The Woods



Grade 8 Spanish Students on a city street in Toledo, Spain.

Academy traveled to Toledo, Spain. Toledo is an ancient, walled city in central Spain, about 45 minutes by car from Madrid. It was to be our home base for 10 days as students explored the celebrated history of the town, met Spanish middle-school students, and studied the language.

The decision to make Toledo our home base for our Spain trip was not a random one. I first visited this absolutely charming town 30 years ago and immediately fell in love with it. Since then, I've had the chance to visit a few more times. After speaking to the other Spanish teachers, Sra. Bados and Sra. Sheehan, along with 6th grade teacher Mr. Kalas, it

Continued on page 39



Grade 8 Spanish Students and Teachers just before their departure to Spain.

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Upcoming Community Events at The Woods Academy

Opening Mass of the Holy Spirit – Tuesday, August 28

@ 9:00 AM

Grandparents & Special Friends Day –

Friday, October 5

(woodsacademy.org/
grandparents)

Annual Woods Academy Golf Classic –

Monday, October 22 @

Kenwood Country Club

(woodsacademy.org/golf)

The Woods Academy

6801 Greentree Road

Bethesda, MD 20817

301-365-3080

Head of School

Joseph E. Powers

OPT Editor

Jodie Shoemaker

Director of Marketing,



Communications, & Alumni


Relations


www.woodsacademy.org




 <p>The Academy of the Holy Cross 4920 Strathmore Ave., Kensington, MD 20895 Kathleen Prebble, President Melissa Huey-Burns, Principal Meredith Gobbi '06, Admissions Director 301-942-2100 • www.academyoftheholycross.org</p>	Girls Basketball, bocce, crew, cross-country, equestrian, field hockey, golf, ice hockey, lacrosse, poms/cheer, soccer, softball, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field, volleyball. Washington Catholic Athletic Conference Tartans • Lavender & White	Special Programs AP & Honors Courses Project Lead the Way Engineering Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment Senior Project Internship	Open House Sunday, November 4 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Entrance Exam HSPT (Offered at Holy Cross Dec. 1, 2018)	Application Deadline Dec. 10, 2018 Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 7, 2019	Notification of Admission February 2019 Registration Deposit Due March 8, 2019
	Freshman Class Size: 120 • Tuition: \$24,800 • Financial Aid: 301-942-2100					


 <p>the Avalon School Richard B. McPherson President Kevin J. Davern Headmaster John J. Acevedo Director of Admission 11811 Claridge Road, Wheaton, MD 20902 301-963-8022 www.avalonschools.org</p>	 <p>Boys Grades K-12 Baseball, Basketball, Football, Soccer Competitive Athletics Program</p>	Small Classes • Personal Attention • Content-Oriented Curriculum • Advanced Placement (AP) Courses • Latin • Spanish • Advanced Mathematics Program • Full Religion Program • Actors Guild • Poetry • Journalism • Dress Code • Transportation • Interscholastic Sports • Co-ed Kindergarten	Open House Sunday, November 4 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm	Steps to Admission: • Application • Shadow Visit • Teacher Recommendation • Transcript • Family Interview	Application Deadline Rolling Admission	Notification of Admission Rolling Admission
			For information: John J. Acevedo @ 301-963-8022 Avg. Class Size: 15 • Academic Half-Day Kindergarten \$4,100; Primary School Gr. K-2 *full day kindergarten \$8,100 Gr. 3-5 \$12,900; Middle School \$14,400; Upper School \$15,700			


 <p>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</p>	Girls Grades 1-12 Basketball, Field hockey, Lacrosse, Soccer, Volleyball Bengals Blue & White	Special Programs Small Classes • Personal Attention • Content-Oriented Curriculum • Experiential Learning • Advanced Placement (AP) Courses • Emphasis on Cultural Literacy • Latin • Italian • Advanced Math Program • Music • Art • Actors Guild • Uniform • Interscholastic Sports	Open House Saturday November 3 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
	Average Class Size: 13 • Tuition: Grades 1-2 \$8,100 Grades 3-5 \$12,400 Grades 6-8 \$14,000 Grades 9-12 \$15,000 • For more information: Helen Williams 301-949-7997					

 <p>DeMatha Catholic High School 4313 Madison Street, Hyattsville, MD 20781 Fr. James Day, O.S.S.T., President Dr. Daniel McMahon, Principal Mr. Tommy Paolucci, Admissions Director www.dematha.org • 240-764-2210</p>	Boys Wide range of co-curricular activities including 15 competitive interscholastic sports teams, and numerous clubs and organizations moderated by faculty. Stags Red, White & Blue	Curriculum College Prep, Honors, Advanced Placement level courses to meet needs of a diverse student body.	Open House Sunday, Nov. 4 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. 2019 Registration Deposit Due Mid-March 2019
	Freshman Class Size: 230 • Tuition: \$18,350 • Application / Financial Aid: Admissions Office 240-764-2210					

 <p>Elizabeth Seton High School Sr. Ellen Marie Hagar '74 President Melissa Davey Landini '99 Dean of Admissions 5715 Emerson Street Bladensburg, MD 20710 301-864-4532 www.setonhs.org</p>	Girls Basketball, soccer, volleyball, softball, golf, swimming, crew, cross country, lacrosse, indoor and outdoor track, tennis, field hockey, cheerleading and dance. Washington Catholic Athletic Conference Roadrunners Scarlet, Gold, and White	Pre-Career Programs Engineering & Design Law, Health Science / Pharmacy, Hospitality & Tourism AP & Honors Courses Scholars Program Small classes and personal attention	Open House Sunday, November 4 11:00 am – 2:00 pm	Entrance Exam Archdiocesan test results required. Schedule a Shadow Day Online	Application Deadline December 13 Archdiocesan Financial Aid Application Required	Notification of Admission February 14 Registration March 8
	Total Enrollment 603 Students • Tuition \$14,375					

 <p>Georgetown Preparatory School 10900 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda, MD 20852 www.gprep.org 301-493-1215 Rev. James R. Van Dyke, S.J., President John Glennon Jr., Headmaster Brett Graham '92, Admissions Director</p>	Boys 15 Interscholastic Sports Over 20 Clubs and Organizations Hoyas Blue & Gray	College Placement: Virginia • Yale Notre Dame Georgetown Harvard U.S. Naval Academy Boston College Duke • Princeton Penn • Stanford	Open House Sunday, October 14 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm REGISTER ONLINE	Admissions Process: Please visit www.gprep.org to set up your admissions account. Also, be sure to set up your Hoya-for-a-Day visit.	Application Deadline Jan. 7, 2019 Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 21, 2019	Notification of Admission Feb. 22, 2019 Registration Deposit Due March 11, 2019
	Tuition: Day: \$37,215 Boarding: \$60,280 • Forming Men of Competence, Conscience, Commitment & Compassion; Men of Faith, Men for Others since 1789					


 <p>Gonzaga College High School 19 Eye St., NW, Washington, DC 20001 Rev. Stephen W. Planning, S.J., President Mr. Thomas K. Every II, Headmaster Mr. Andrew C. Battaile, Dean of Admissions 202-336-7101</p>	Boys 7 Freshman, 16 Junior Varsity, and 17 Varsity Sports Washington Catholic Athletic Conference Eagles Purple & White	Special Programs Comprehensive advanced placement, band, choral arts, internet applications, earth systems, science laboratory.	Open House Sunday November 18 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Entrance Exam Archdiocesan test results are required.	Application Deadline December 12 Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 11, 2019	Notification of Admission Feb. 28, 2019 Registration Deposit Due March 14, 2019
	Freshman Class Size: 245 • The Catholic, Jesuit school located in the heart of our nation's capital city. • Tuition: \$22,850					

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	Tuition \$23,070					


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 <p>CONNELLY SCHOOL OF THE HOLY CHILD 9029 Bradley Boulevard, Potomac, MD 20854 Shannon Gomez, Ed.D. Head of School Meghan Burke Cross Director of Enrollment Management 301-365-0955 www.holychild.org • admissions@holychild.org</p>	Girls 6 - 12 Field Hockey, Cross Country, Soccer, Tennis, Volleyball, Golf, Equestrian, Basketball, Swimming, Diving, Lacrosse, Softball, Track, Dance Team, Ice Hockey Independent School League Artificial Turf Field Tigers • Blue & Gold	Special Programs • College Prep Curriculum • Internship and Entrepreneurial Programs • Online School for Girls • AP & Honors Courses • Fine Arts & Performing Opportunities Our student:faculty ratio is 7:1	Open Houses Upper School Saturday, October 27 10:30-1:30pm (presentations at 11:00, 12:00, 1:00) Online Registration for visit days begins in September Entrance Examinations: Middle and Upper School SSAT • In-house achievement test for grades 6-8	Application Deadline & Financial Aid Appl. Deadline UPPER SCHOOL December 2 MIDDLE SCHOOL January 20	Notification of Admission: UPPER SCHOOL End of February MIDDLE SCHOOL Mid March Reg. Deposit Due: Mid March
	325 Students • Tuition Grades 9-12 \$32,950 • Book Fee \$375 • Technology Fee Grade 9 \$1,250 Grades 10-12 \$470				

 <p>OAKCREST SCHOOL 1619 Crowell Road, Vienna, VA 22182 Dr. Mary T. Ortiz, Head of School Cynthia Bertolini, Director of Admissions 703-790-5450 Oakcrest.org • admissions@oakcrest.org</p>	Academic Excellence 7:1 student-teacher ratio Rich liberal arts curriculum 16 AP Courses	Faith-Character Daily Mass 1-to-1 mentoring Virtue-Based Workshops	Extracurriculars 19 Teams 12 Sports Potomac Valley Athletic Conference Director's Cup Winner Show Productions Over 25 Clubs	Bus Transportation available from Maryland and Virginia	Application Deadlines Upper School January 17 Middle School January 25 Financial Aid Application Due January 28	Open House Saturday October 20 2:00 to 5:00 pm Be an Oakie for the Day For Applicants Grades 6 & 7 October 12 November 9 December 5
	An independent school for girls in grades 6-12 • Freshman Class Size: 38 • Tuition: US \$26,950 / MS \$25,700					


 <p>ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL Est. 1551 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</p>	Coed Coed: crew, cross country, golf, rifle team, swimming, track; Female: 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. 21, 2018 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Entrance Exam Archdiocesan HSPT results are required.	Application Deadline Dec. 7, 2018 Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Feb. 1, 2019	Notification of Admission Feb. 28, 2019 Registration Deposit Due March 16, 2019
	Tuition: \$19,925					

 <p>ST. VINCENT PALLOTTI HIGH SCHOOL 113 St. Mary's Place, Laurel, MD 20707 Mr. Jeff Palumbo, President/Principal Mrs. Stacy Springer, Director of Admissions 301-725-3228 Ext. 2202 www.pallottihs.org</p>	Coed Over 20 varsity athletic teams; Maryland Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA)—Men; Interscholastic Athletic Association of Maryland (IAAM)—Women Panthers Blue & White	Grades 9-12 College Prep Curriculum Honors & AP Courses 98% College Placement Accelerated & Computer Science Programs Visual & Performing Arts Program Learning Center	Open House Sunday, Nov. 4 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. 500 Students	Visit the web site for 2019-2020 application! 1:11 Teacher Student Ratio	Admissions Application Deadline Dec. 14, 2018	Financial Aid Application Deadline Jan. 3, 2019
	Freshman Class Size: 45 • Tuition: \$28,700 Middle; \$28,700 Upper • Financial Aid: Ms. Ieva Young @ 202-281-1656					

 <p>ST. ANSELM'S ABBEY SCHOOL 4501 SOUTH DAKOTA AVE, NE WASHINGTON, DC 20017 Bill Crittenberger Headmaster 202-269-2350 Peter Young, '01 Director of Admissions 202-269-2379 admissions@saintanselms.org www.saintanselms.org</p>	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 4 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Benedictine School	Entrance Exam Dates November 17 December 15 January 19 February 9 Exam also offered by appointment	Application Deadline Rolling Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Feb. 4, 2019	Notification of Admission: Feb. 22, 2019 Registration Deposit Due March 15, 2019
	Freshman Class Size: 45 • Tuition: \$28,700 Middle; \$28,700 Upper • Financial Aid: Ms. Ieva Young @ 202-281-1656					

 <p>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</p>	Girls PS-Grade 12 (Coed PS-K) Basketball, crew, cross country, equestrian, field hockey, golf, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, squash, swimming/diving, tennis, track & field and volleyball The Gators Blue & Gold	Special Programs Honors/AP Courses 1:1 Laptop Social Action Exchange Program STEAM Certificate	Open House Upper School (Grades 9-12) Sunday, Oct. 14 12:00 – 2:30 pm	Required Entrance Exam: SSAT Register at www.ssat.org (School Code: 7494) Application Deadline Dec. 1, 2018	Financial Aid Deadline Jan. 15, 2019	Notification of Admission Late February Registration Deposit Due Early March
	Freshman Class Size: 93 • Tuition: \$35,500 • Financial Aid Available					

 <p>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 1524 Thirty-fifth Street NW Washington, DC 20007</p>	Girls 9-12 A Catholic High School in the Salesian Tradition Educating Women of Faith, Vision, and Purpose Since 1799 • Small Class Sizes • 100% College Acceptance • Bridge Program at Georgetown • AP & Honors • Extensive Service Program • ISL Champion Athletics • Dynamic Performing and Fine Arts • Strong STEAM Focus • More than 50 Clubs Cubs • Gold, White, & Green	OPEN HOUSE Saturday Oct. 13, 2018 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.	Entrance Exam HSPT (Offered at Visitation Dec. 1, 2018)	Freshman Application Deadline Dec. 7, 2018 Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 7, 2019	Freshman Notification of Admission Feb. 22, 2019 Registration Deposit Due Mid-March 2019
	Freshman Class Size: 128 • Tuition: \$30,100 • Financial Aid: Janet Keller @ 202.337.3350 ext. 2241				

 <p>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</p>	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; WCAC Athletics; extensive extracurriculars; rich sacramental life.	Open House Sunday, October 21 12:30 to 4:00 p.m.	Admissions: Call us any time or visit our website at www.heights.edu/admissions for an overview of our application process.	Admissions Deadline for Full Consideration Jan. 4, 2019 Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 25, 2019	Notification of Admission Feb. 28, 2019 Registration Deposit Due March 15, 2019
	Freshman Class Size: 65 • Financial Aid: Phil McGovern (CF0) 301-365-4300					

St. Raphael Small Groups 2018-2019

Christ-Centered + Theme-Based + Parish-Connected

Parish-connected Small Groups, which meet in homes, are growing in number throughout the Church. Following the recommendation of our pastor, Fr. Salah, the AFF Coordinator and Team are adopting the best practices of current models and resources, and launching *St. Raphael Small Groups* (SRS) in the Fall of 2018.

Anthony Esser, Coordinator of Parish Evangelization in the Archdiocese of Washington, presented an *Introductory Workshop* at the parish in May of 2018. Recalling that we are “*Called to Community*,” Mr. Esser encouraged the formation of small groups that are Christ-Centered, Theme-Based, and Parish-Connected. Pietro Lojano, Assistant for Religious Education, worked with his artist cousin in Italy to develop a logo which highlights the desired outcomes for each SRS.

Over the summer, St. Raphael’s ran a pilot program with three small



Enjoying the moment in a home-based St. Raphael Small Group

groups. Their Facilitators, Karen Watson, Jessica Nardi, and Greg Metzger, have experience in education and human resources in addition to their recent involvement in the ChristLife program at the parish. Suzanne Nelson, parish AFF Coordinator, visited each group to

offer support and identify areas of growth before beginning the larger initiative with the whole parish. What did she notice? Spiritual reflection with shared discussion is a growing skill, and a shared grace that can create community in this troubled world and benefit us all.

On Sept. 8/9 during Mass parishioners will be invited to Sign Up for a preferred SRS day of the week, time, and other options.

On Sept. 13 at Information Night, there will be time to meet SRS Facilitators, ask questions, and pray for each other.

On Sept. 15/16 at Mass, Catechists and Facilitators will be commissioned for the coming year’s ministry. Nationally, this is *Catechetical Sunday*.

In 2018-2019 SRS will meet from 6-8 times in the Fall (Oct-Nov), in the Winter (Jan-Feb), and in the Spring (March-May). Specific dates will depend on the

day of the week each SRS meets.

For more information please see: www.straphaels.org/adult-faith-formation

Small Group Prayer

Holy God, Creator of the human family, we give you thanks for the many and varied ways you build up your Church. Bless all those who will be a part of a SRS in the coming year. Grant that through their vision and dedication they may grow in your love, bring honor and glory to your name, and be a source of support and joy to one another. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen

OPT

QUINN

Con't from page 17

became little legends among the students who passed through her class. She brought her summer reading assignment, “Misty of Chincoteague,” alive for the fifth-graders through an autumn adventure to Assateague Island, where they explored the land’s distinctive nature and creatures, including sightings of wild ponies. Her joyful presence was a light at our school, and the tireless hours she spent putting together yearbooks and spearheading the annual Mother’s Day celebration created lasting memories for our families. In 2014, Ms. Quinn won the prestigious Golden Apple Award, an achievement greatly deserved for the zeal she showed in the classroom, in the hallways, and in everything in between, and with Christ always at the center.

As the motorcade slowly departed from St. Raphael’s church for the burial, students and staff lined the school sidewalk, holding an honor guard for Ms. Quinn and blowing a bubble storm of prayers to heaven. As the bubbles lifted into the air, so did our grateful hearts for the impact Ms. Quinn had on the lives of so many children. Following the burial, a reception hosted by the SRS families was held in the Trumpet Room. We will miss Ms. Quinn and count her as a special SRS Angel, now in the company of many.

What’s New

This year’s school theme, “Roots and Wings,” celebrates the golden anniversary of St. Raphael Nursery School and recognizes 50 years of Catholic teaching rooted in the Gospel as well as the thousands of lives the preschool has touched and shaped in our community. The steadfast mission of faith-based education at SRNS and SRS offers a firm foundation to teach, inspire, and live out the Catholic faith while striving toward academic excellence for all its students.

SRS welcomes the arrival of

new staff for the 2018-19 school year. With a background in physics, mathematics, and education, John McCutcheon joins the faculty as a math teacher for fifth through eighth grades. John is also a fellow with the Casualty Actuarial Society. Teaching physical education is Andrea Kalochristianikas, who brings experience in fitness, instruction, and athletics, including Team USA boxing honors. Mary Kate McGetrick, a recent graduate of The Catholic University of America, is instructing music and drama, and Marylen Flood rounds out the roster as a reading enrichment teacher.

In addition to staff updates, we have a few exciting program announcements for 2018-19. SRNS will offer full-day options for the 3’s, 4’s, and 4-Plus students and is also launching an addition to its early-childhood program for preschoolers-in-training and their parents. Stay & Play drop-in sessions allow moms, dads, and caregivers to bring their little ones to campus for playtime led by an experienced teaching team. Lastly, SRS is expanding its afterschool options to include a variety of arts and sports classes, a new self-defense class, chess, and more!

What’s Ahead

Aug. 29: **Opening Mass** and festivities kick off the new school year.

Sept. 24: **St. Raphael Golf Classic** honors Fr. Bill Finch with a day of golf and memorial soirée.

Sept. 28: **Grandparent’s Day** welcomes grandparents to a special day at our school with a Mass and light reception.

Sept. 30: **St. Raphael Parish Picnic** celebrates our parish anniversary with food, fellowship, and fun.

Oct. 15: **SRS Open House** invites interested parents to a presentation and tour of our campus.

Oct. 20: **Angels on the Run 5K** and kids’ runs—proceeds benefit the school.

For details about these events and more, visit our website at www.straphaelschoolmd.org.

OPT

Mother Seton



AFRICAN DAY

Con't from page 13

and a wonderful fashion show, featuring beautiful African clothing from all over the continent.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to

our pastor Father Lee Fangmeyer, who has been very supportive of us always. To all the volunteers, visiting priests, 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

VBS

Con't from page 13

learned about how Jesus Rescues when we are lonely, when we struggle, when we do something wrong and when we worry. We had 96

campers and 55 volunteers. The volunteers were middle schoolers, high schoolers and adults. Everyone had a smile on their faces every day. Even though it rained for 4 out of 5 days we all had a great time singing “NEVER LET ME GO” over and over. The campers rotated to Ship

Rec games, Imagination station, Bible adventures, Kid Vid Cinema and tropical treats. We want to give a huge thank you to all who were involved in ANY way. To all those who donated materials or snacks. We look forward to next year.

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Ten Tips for Reinventing Yourself during Healthy Aging Month

1. Do not act your age or what you think your current age should act like. What was your best year so far: 28, 40? Picture yourself at that age again. Intentional self-imaging will help you feel better about yourself. (Tip: Don't keep looking in the mirror, just FEEL IT!)

2. Be positive in your conversations and your actions every day. When you catch yourself complaining, check yourself right there and change the conversation to something positive. (Tip: Stop watching the police reports on the local news).

3. Have negative friends who complain all of the time and constantly talk about how awful everything is? Distance yourself from people who do not have a positive outlook on life. Surround yourself with energetic, happy, positive people of all ages and you will be happier too. (Tip: Smile often. It's contagious and wards off naysayers.)

4. Walk like a vibrant, healthy person. Come on. You can probably do it. Analyze your gait. Do you walk slowly because you have just become lazy or, perhaps, have a fear of falling? (Tip: Make a conscious effort to take big strides, walk with your heel first, and wear



comfortable shoes.)

5. Stand up straight! You can knock off the appearance of a few extra years with this trick your mother kept trying to tell you. Look at yourself in the mirror. Are you holding your stomach in, have your shoulders back, chin up? Check out how much better your neck looks! Fix your posture and practice it every day, all day until it is natural. You will look great and feel better. (Tip: Your waistline will look trimmer, too.)

6. How's your smile? Research shows people who smile more often are happier. Your teeth are just as important to your good health as the rest of your body. Not only is it the first thing people notice, but good oral health is a gateway to your overall well-being. (Tip: Go to the dentist regularly and look into teeth whitening.)

7. Lonely? Stop brooding about having no friends or family. Do something about it now right this minute. Join a church group. Volunteer your time. Take a class. Invite someone to meet for lunch, brunch, or coffee. (Tip: Volunteer at the local school to stay in touch with younger people, choose a new person every week for your dining out.)

8. Start walking not only for your health but to see the neighbors. Have a dog? You'll be amazed how the dog can be a conversation starter. (Tip: If you don't have the time or place for a dog, go to your local animal shelter and volunteer. You will be thrilled by the puppy love!)

9. Make this the month for your annual physical and other health screenings. Go to the appointments and then stop worrying about your ailments for a while.

10. Find your inner artist. Have you always wanted to play the piano, violin, or tuba? Have you ever wondered if you could paint a portrait or landscape? What about working in wood? (Tip: Sign up now for fall art or music classes and discover your inner artist!)

Source: <https://healthyaging.net>

TRADER JOE'S

New Trader Joe's in Rockville

A new Trader Joe's will open on Friday, September 7, in the Travilah Square Shopping Center on Darnestown Road. Opening day will be celebrated with live music, food tastings and giveaways, starting at 8 am. Store hours will be 8 am to 9 pm daily.

"You're the help until help arrives" training Sept. 8

The county's Office of Emergency Management & Homeland Security is offering a free course designed to educate members of the public about the important role they can play in life-threatening situations until emergency services personnel arrive.

Life-threatening (traumatic) injuries require immediate action to stop someone from dying. While emergency medical responders are quick to arrive, any delay between injury and the initiation of care can result in death.

The training focuses on the most essential actions, including moving someone away from ongoing danger, stopping life-threatening bleeding, positioning the injured so they can breathe, keeping them warm and providing emotional comfort.

There is no age-restriction for this course, however there are some graphic photos and video recordings shown during the training.

At the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Use simple and effective skills to save lives
- Communicate with 9-1-1 operators effectively
- Act to protect the injured from further harm
- Position the injured
- Stop life-threatening bleeding
- Provide emotional support.

The free training is on Saturday, September 8, 10 am-12:30 pm, at Public Safety Headquarters, 100 Edison Park Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20878. For more information and to register, visit:

www.eventbrite.com/e/mocoprepares-you-are-the-help-until-help-arrives-training-tickets-48557199892#tickets

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Wellness Wednesdays in September

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September is Falls Prevention Month!

September 12 at 1 PM
Balance in Action

Learn techniques to increase strength, flexibility, balance and reaction time with a licensed physical therapist in this free 1 hour session.

Light Refreshments Served
Free Admission – RSVP Required
by September 7th

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September 26 from 6:30 -8 PM

A Live Webinar Presentation on
Parkinson's and Hospitalization

with Dr. Stephen Grill, MD, Ph.D
from the Parkinson's & Movement
Disorder Center of Maryland

Buffet Supper served at 5:45 PM
Free Admission – RSVP Required
by September 19th



Go to www.kensingtonparkseniorliving.com for more information
To RSVP call 301-946-7700 and ask for Barbara Duncan.

SOAR Fall Trips!

The Montgomery County Department of Recreation has released its Fall 2018 Senior Outdoor Adventures in Recreation (SOAR) travel program for active adults age 55 and over. Each activity or trip requires substantial walking and/or physical exertion. Program participants should be in good physical condition and consult with their physician if they have any concerns before registering or participating in an activity. Programs are held rain or shine; participants should dress accordingly.

You may register for a SOAR trip in any of four

Fall SOAR trips include:

Walking Tour of Harpers Ferry	Oct 11	\$59
Potomac Eagle Scenic RR Trip	Oct 17 and 18	\$89
Walk Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg w/ acclaimed historian Ed Bearrs	Oct 25	\$70
Luray Caverns and Shenandoah Vineyards	Nov 1	\$87
Winfield Parker Rhythm and Blues Concert in Germantown	Nov 7	\$39
Guided Walking Tour of Naval Academy	Nov 15	\$48
Visit Udvar-Hazy Annex of Air & Space Museum near Dulles Airport	Nov 29	\$35
Christmas at Oatlands Plantation and Morven Park Mansion in Leesburg	Dec 6	\$65

ways. The fastest and easiest way is to use the internet and go to 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. Unless noted, all transportation is provided on restroom-equipped motor coaches.

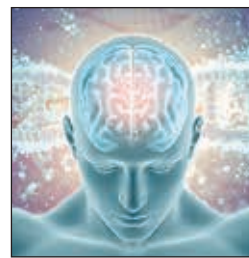
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NIH study finds evidence that viruses may play a role in Alzheimer's

Additional research needed to determine if role is causative

Analysis of large data sets from post-mortem brain samples of people with and without Alzheimer's disease has revealed new evidence that viral species, particularly herpesviruses, may have a role in Alzheimer's disease biology. Researchers funded by the National Institute on Aging (NIA), part of the National Institutes of Health, made the discovery by harnessing data from brain banks and cohort studies participating in the Accelerating Medicines Partnership - Alzheimer's Disease (AMP-AD) consortium. Reporting in the June 21 issue of the journal *Neuron*, the authors emphasize that their findings do not prove that the viruses cause the onset or progression of Alzheimer's. Rather, the findings show viral DNA sequences and activation of biological networks—the interrelated systems of DNA, RNA, proteins and metabolites—may interact with molecular, genetic and clinical aspects of Alzheimer's.

"The hypothesis that viruses play a part in brain disease is not new, but this is the first study to provide strong evidence based on unbiased approaches and large data sets that lends support to this line of inquiry," said NIA Director Richard J. Hodes, M.D. "This research reinforces the complexity of Alzheimer's disease, creates opportunities to explore Alzheimer's more thoroughly, and highlights the importance of sharing data freely and widely with the



NIA-funded researchers found fragments of herpes-virus strains in Alzheimer's brains.

research community."

Alzheimer's disease is an irreversible, progressive brain disorder that slowly destroys memory and thinking skills and, eventually, the ability to carry out simple tasks. More evidence is accumulating to indicate that this loss of cognitive functioning is a mix of many different disease processes in the brain, rather than just

one. Identifying links to viruses may help researchers learn more about the complicated biological interactions involved in Alzheimer's, and potentially lead to new treatment strategies.

The research group originally set out to find whether drugs used to treat other diseases can be repurposed for treating Alzheimer's. They designed their study to map and compare biological networks underlying Alzheimer's disease. What they found is that Alzheimer's biology is likely impacted by a complex constellation of viral and host genetic factors.

Important roles for microbes and viruses in Alzheimer's disease have been suggested and studied for decades, the authors noted. Since the 1980s, hundreds of reports have associated Alzheimer's with bacteria and viruses. These studies combined suggest a viral contribution but have not explained how the connection works.

While the current findings are more specific, they do not provide evidence to change how risk and susceptibility are assessed, nor the diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's, the authors said. Rather, the research gives scientists reason to revisit the old pathogen hypothesis and will be the basis for further work that will test whether herpes virus activity is one of the causes of Alzheimer's.

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New Ride On User Guide Now Available

Ride On has a new, handy user guide with information on fares, tracking your bus, trip-planning resources, SmarTrip Cards®, accessibility, transfers and more. Printable brochures are available online at: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-Transit/Resources/Files/Ride%20On%20



User%20Guide%20VER%202.pdf

Ride On is the primary public transportation system in Montgomery County, Maryland. Ride On serves Montgomery County as well as the community of Langley Park in Prince George's County. Sibley Memorial Hospital in Washington, D.C.

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A Late-Life Surprise: Taking Care of Frail, Aging Parents

By Judith Graham

"This won't go on for very long," Sharon Hall said to herself when she invited her elderly mother, who'd suffered several small strokes, to live with her.

That was five years ago, just before Hall turned 65 and found herself crossing into older age.

In the intervening years, Hall's husband was diagnosed with frontotemporal dementia and forced to retire. Neither he nor Hall's mother, whose memory had deteriorated, could be left alone in the house. Hall had her hands full taking care of both of them, seven days a week.

As life spans lengthen, adult children like Hall in their 60s and 70s are increasingly caring for frail, older parents — something few people plan for.

"When we think of an adult child caring for a parent, what comes to mind is a woman in her late 40s or early 50s," said Lynn Friss Feinberg, senior strategic policy adviser for AARP's Public Policy Institute. "But it's now common for people 20 years older than that to be caring for a parent in their 90s or older."

A new analysis from the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College is the first to document how often this happens. It found that 10 percent of adults ages 60 to 69 whose parents are alive serve as caregivers, as do 12 percent of adults age 70 and older.

The analysis is based on data from 80,000 interviews (some people were interviewed multiple times) conducted from 1995 to 2010 for the Health and Retirement Study. About 17 percent of adult children care for their parents at some point in their lives, and the likelihood of doing so rises with age, it reports.

The implications of later-life caregiving are considerable. Turning an elderly parent in bed, helping someone get into a car or waking up at night to provide assistance can be demanding on older bodies, which are more vulnerable and less able to recover from physical strain.

Emotional distress can aggravate this vulnerability. "If older caregivers have health problems themselves and become mentally or emotionally stressed, they're at a higher risk of dying," said Richard Schulz, a professor of psychiatry at the University of Pittsburgh.

Socially, older caregivers can be even more isolated than younger caregivers. "In your 60s and 70s, you may have recently retired and friends and family members are beginning to get sick or pass away," said Donna Benton, research associate professor of gerontology and director of the Family Caregiver Support Center at the University of Southern California.

Judy Last, 70, a mother of three adult children and grandmother of six youngsters, lives with her mother, Lillian, 93, in a mobile home park in Boise, Idaho. Last moved in three years ago, after her mother had a bout of double pneumonia,

complicated by a difficult-to-treat bacterial infection that put her in the hospital for eight weeks.

"You don't know if it's going to be permanent at the time," said Last, whose father died of dementia in January 2016 after moving to a memory care facility. "Mom had asked me several years before if I would be there when she needed help and I told her yes. But I didn't really understand what I was getting into."

Feinberg said this isn't uncommon. "People in their 90s with a disability can live for years with adequate support."

Hall, who's turning 70 in September and who lives in Cumming, Ga., managed her moth-

er's and husband's complex needs for years by establishing a strict routine. Monday and Friday they went to a dementia respite program from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. On other days, Hall cooked, shopped, did laundry, helped them with personal tasks, made sure they were well occupied, provided companionship and drove them to medical appointments, as necessary. "If someone had told me it would be years caring for my mother and your husband is going to get dementia, I would have said 'No, just no.' But you do what you have to do."

A few weeks after our conversation, Hall's mother entered hospice following a diagnosis of aspiration pneumonia and life-threatening

swallowing difficulties. Hall said she has welcomed the help of hospice nurses and aides, who ask her at each visit, "Is there anything else you need from us that would make it easier for you?"

Though older caregivers get scant attention, resources are available. Over the years, Hall has shared caregiving ups and downs at CareGiving.com — a significant source of information and comfort. Across the country, local chapters of Area Agencies on Aging run caregiver support programs, as do organizations such as the Caregiver Action Network, the Family Caregiver Alliance, the National Alliance for Caregiving and Parenting Our Parents, an out-

fit focused on adult children who become caregivers. A helpful list of resources is from the National Alliance for Caregiving at: www.caregiving.org/resources/general-caregiving/.

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Source: Kaiser Health News (KHN), used with permission. KHN is a national health policy news service. It is an editorially independent program of the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation which is not affiliated with Kaiser Permanente. KHN's coverage of these topics is supported by John A. Hartford Foundation and Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation

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www.VictoryHousing.org



Seminarian encourages parishioners to attain 'Everyday Holiness'

By Melissa Montealegre Egan

Despite his brief religious formation, St. Francis of Assisi Seminarian John Winslow already knows much about how one might attain holiness. During his summer series of talks on "Everyday Holiness: Living Ordinary Lives of Faith," Winslow shared that three facets of a grace-filled life – holiness, prayer and self-abandonment – are attainable, but only with self-discipline and sacrifice.

The sessions drew about 20 parishioners wanting to hear from the fourth-year seminarian attending The Theological College in Washington DC. Interspersing his discussions with Scripture and anecdotes, Winslow taught that holiness is something to which every Catholic should aspire.

"The conversion of souls comes from showing people the Christian



St. Francis of Assisi Seminarian John Winslow talks about holiness during the first talk of his summer series, "Everyday Holiness: Living Ordinary Lives of Faith."

life," Winslow said. "Most of the time, it will come from living a joyful life, filled with the joy of the cross."

In his first talk on "Holiness," Winslow pointed to the saints and those awaiting sainthood, such as St. Therese of Lisieux, as those

who attained holiness. For the Catholic laity, he referenced *Lumen gentium* ("Light for the Nations"), the central document from Vatican II, which tells Catholics there are many paths to holiness.

For a single person, holiness could be found through friendships. For a parent, it could be through following the examples of St. Joseph and Mary.

"Mary was willing to let everything happen as long as the Lord wanted it," Winslow said. "We are called to the same thing."

During his second talk on "Prayer," Winslow emphasized the importance of establishing a prayer life. It was not until he entered the seminary that Winslow said he cultivated his prayer life; now, he prays the Liturgy of the Hours – seven times daily that priests, seminarians and some laity refocus themselves on God.

Winslow recommended praying the *Lectio Divina* ("Divine Reading"), a four-step method of reading, meditating, praying on and contemplating Scripture. He also suggested regularly attending Eucharistic Adoration.

In his final talk, Winslow discussed the notion of self-abandonment as relinquishing our physical and spiritual selves. It involves abandoning sin through identifying it and regularly confessing.

Self-abandonment also requires jettisoning things that aren't sinful, but that prevent us from following Christ. Finally, it mandates resignation to the Lord.

"It's something we are called to, but that certain individuals are in," Winslow said. "For the rest of us, it's a willingness to put aside our own plan and accept whatever the Lord sends us."

OPT

In May, St. Francis of Assisi catechists who teach on Sunday mornings applaud for their peers who are being recognized for their service during the 2017-18 program year. At second and third from left are second grade co-teachers Desiree Araneta and Vicki Lee. At third from right is seventh grade co-teacher Donna Ruffin.



The Importance of Witnessing Their Faith to Students

By Melissa Montealegre Egan

As a high school junior, Donna Ruffin taught religious education to third graders in Bucks County, Pa., becoming her charges' sole catechist by the year's end. Forty-seven years later, Ruffin still delights at the prospect of guiding young people to learn to love Christ.

"When you see that spark, that love of Jesus that hits them, you get the sense that they understand," Ruffin said. "I love that 'a-ha' moment when the Holy Spirit hits them."

As Ruffin celebrates her 25th year teaching Religious Education

at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Derwood, she is one of several longtime catechists in the program who continue living out their faith by teaching children in a classroom environment. While these veteran catechists decided to teach religious education for different reasons, they all continue for the same one – to help plant the seeds of their Catholic faith in young people so that it takes root.

For Ruffin, serving as a catechist stems from a legacy of service imparted by her mother, Carolyn Maltz, a former director of religious education for Immaculate Conception Parish (now part of Queen of the Universe Parish) in Levittown, PA. It was there that Ruffin developed her belief that, once one receives a Catholic education, he or she must pay it forward.

The importance of imparting one's faith is a shared view of Ruffin's longtime co-teacher, Brent Hanson. Having grown up as a self-described "obligatory Catholic," Hanson began teaching at St. Francis in 2000 after selling his information technology consulting firm. He quickly found that explaining his faith to seventh graders was one of the most daunting tasks he

had ever tackled.

"The most important lesson I have learned is that it's not about facts or knowledge – it's about witnessing your faith," Hanson said. "The kids can see through you in a New York minute."

Desiree Araneta, who has also taught 25 years at St. Francis of Assisi, values the co-teaching relationship she shares with her long-time classroom partner, Vicki Lee. A nurse practitioner by trade, Araneta teaches second graders at St. Francis with Lee.

"We both understand what our roles are and have the same dedication to the Religious Education program," Araneta said.

After nearly 50 years teaching religious education in the post-Vatican II era, Ruffin feels gratified to have seen positive changes, not only in the diversity of curricula available, but in how faith is developed in young people.

"The foundation is all the same, but what has changed is how it's approached," Ruffin said. "We need to help children understand that they and lay people were responsible [for their faith], not just the priests and bishops. Part of being Catholic is taking part."

OPT

Fun-Filled Training Ground for Youngest Catholics

During the last week of June, St. Francis of Assisi's Parish Center and church grounds transformed into a sensory-filled training site for 155 children and youth experiencing their Catholic faith – the annual tradition called Vacation

Bible Camp.

Under the banner theme of "Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus," 97 campers learned about the Bible in experiential ways, danced and sang with their friends, challenged themselves

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St. Francis teen volunteer Colin Kavanagh looks on, as camper Elijah Egan mixes his blue slime during an art project at Vacation Bible Camp, held at St. Francis of Assisi Church from June 25-29.

St. Vincent de Paul Society Helping those who come seeking help

By Anthony Bosnick

A challenge we face at St. Francis of Assisi Parish—and which every parish faces—is responding to the requests of those in the community, and beyond, who come to the parish seeking help. They may be behind in rent or facing eviction. Some don't have food or clothing for themselves or their children. Others have lost their job and can't make ends meet. A grave

illness may make some unable to work. And then there are some trying to take us for a ride.

How do we decide what to do? Our job is easier—but still a challenge—since we established a St. Vincent de Paul Conference at the parish. Now the decision isn't faced by the pastor alone, the social concerns minister, or office staff. They no longer must make these

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30th Wedding Anniversary of Sylvia and Slawomir Korzan

On Sunday June 17, 2018, Our Lady Queen of Poland parishioners Sylvia and Slawomir Korzan gathered at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., for Holy Mass celebrated by Archbishop Donald Cardinal Wuerl. The Korzans, who were married in Poland and are the parents of three grown children – Sophie, Maksymilian, and John Paul – thanked God for the gift of 30 years of marriage as they renewed their vows in the presence of family and friends. More than 700 other couples joined them in celebrating their marriage anniversaries, which spanned 20 to 76 years of married life. We congratulate Sylvia and Slawek and their family! *Szczesc Boze!*



Commemoration of the Warsaw Uprising at OLQP on Aug. 1, 2018. Row 1: Oliver Bilinski; OLQP Pastor Rev. Jerzy Frydrych, S.Ch.; Fr. Wojciech Mittelstaedt, S.V.D.; Mrs. Krystyna Wolanczyk. Row 2: SK Richard Okreglak; Dr. Edwarda Buda-Okreglak; Bozenna Buda; Dr. Mark Michalski; Aleksander Macander; Jacek Marczyński, PGK; David Brierly, DGK.

Warsaw Uprising Commemoration

Several parish groups took part in remembering the anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising at a Holy Mass on August 5, 2018, at Our Lady Queen of Poland & St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish in Silver Spring, MD. Among them were members of the St. Maximilian Kolbe Council of the Knights of Columbus, Polish Scouting

Organization, Veterans, and Mrs. Krystyna Wolanczyk, participant in the Uprising.

The Warsaw Uprising began on August 1, 1944, in Poland during World War II. It was headed by the Polish underground resistance and led by the Polish Home Army (Armia Krajowa) to liberate Warsaw from German occupation.

Several OLQP parishioners fought in the Warsaw Uprising. A number of them are buried in the cemetery next to the church.

During Mass, we prayed for the living and the departed participants who fought so bravely for their Catholic and Polish heritage in the Uprising.

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Feast of Corpus Christi

OLQP parishioners and parish groups, including the Knights of Columbus, Polish Scouting Organization, Veterans, and First Communion children participated in the feast of Corpus Christi (Boze Cialo) procession to four altars on June 12, 2018, with OLQP Pastor Rev. Jerzy Frydrych presiding.



Visiting missionary Fr. Stanislaw Wargacki (first row, center) shared a fascinating slide-show presentation of his missionary work in Papua-New Guinea with OLQP parishioners after Mass on July 29, 2018. Rev. Dr. Wargacki, who was born in Poland, spent ten years as a missionary in Papua-New Guinea and, since his return, has completed doctoral studies in Cultural Anthropology. His birthday is in July, so parishioners and friends presented him with a cake and sang "Sto Lat!" for him.

OLQP Parish Picnic on Sunday, Sept. 9

The annual Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish Picnic will take place on Sunday, September 9, 2018, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the parish grounds at 9700 Rosensteel Avenue in Silver Spring, Maryland. There will be plenty of delicious Polish food, music, children's games, and face-painting. The rain date is Sept. 16.

OLQP Polish Saturday School and Polish Scouting

We are looking forward to the beginning of a new year for the OLQP Polish Saturday School and the Polish Scouting Organization ZHPpgk. Additional information, as well as registration forms for Polish Scouting, will be available at the Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish Picnic on September 9, 2018.

HELP

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decisions in isolation, while being good stewards of limited parish resources.

The conference at St. Francis was started in 2015 at the request of Fr. John Dillon, pastor. Four parishioners responded to the call to help. Our conference was mentored for a year by Alice and Bill Garvey, members of the conference at St. John Neumann Church and local and national leaders of the Society.

Their guidance helped us establish a firm foundation to understand the call we have received as "Vincentians"—members of the family of religious orders and outreach societies inspired by St. Vincent de Paul. They have also helped nurture new conferences at four other parishes in northern Montgomery County.

Ministers of charity and justice. We are more than social workers

and local activists, although that is part of our job. We are ministers of Christ and the Church. The mission statement of the Society puts it well: "A network of friends, inspired by Gospel values, growing in holiness and building a more just world through personal relationships with and service to people in need."

The Society helps people in need and helps us grow in holiness. There are 22 parishes in the county and only six conferences and a handful of other parishes that provide help to those in need. We need your help. Christ calls us all to reach out and care for those in need (see Matthew 25:31-46). If your parish would like to consider starting a St. Vincent de Paul conference, call Alice Garvey at (301) 448-8113.

Anthony Bosnick is director of parish social ministry and president of the St. Vincent de Paul Conference at St. Francis parish.

OPT

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Mary of Nazareth School welcomes students back with new STREAM Lab

Mary of Nazareth Catholic School built a state-of-the-art STREAM (science, technology, religion, engineering, arts and math) laboratory for student use beginning this fall. The expansion comes on the heels of a successful pilot year for the school's STREAM initiative, a curricular model which broadly aims to foster academic curiosity and creativity in young learners. "STREAM encourages students to inquire, analyze, investigate, and innovate," remarks Principal, Michael Friel. "We received such positive feedback about student experience with STREAM in the past year," he adds, "that the natural progression was to create a dedicated space for



Before and after the transformation of a Mary of Nazareth classroom into a STREAM Lab.

its long-term integration into the school day."

As the primary hub for interdisciplinary learning, the STREAM Lab will be utilized by students of all ages, ranging from kindergarten through eighth grade. It is being furnished with an array of materials, tools, and technology, that will provide exploratory and experiential learning opportunities to students. Learners of diverse levels, interests, and abilities will be able to work on projects involving anything from prototyping and 3D printing, to programming and coding, to circuitry, to video production and more. Visioning and development for Mary of Nazareth's STREAM Lab took place in partnership with

KID Museum of Bethesda and was made possible through funds raised at the school's Benefit Auction.

Mary of Nazareth is a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, serving upper-Montgomery County families with children in prekindergarten through eighth grade. The seven sponsoring parishes of Mary of Nazareth School include Our Lady of the Visitation Parish, St. Mary's Parish and Shrine, St. Paul Catholic Church, St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Mother Seton Catholic Church, St. John Neumann Catholic Church, and Our Lady of the Presentation Catholic Church. For more information about the school or its service efforts, please visit www.maryofnazareth.org.

OPT



Marian Garden Beautifies Campus

Students are welcomed back to a new school year at Mary of Nazareth with a transformed Marian Garden featuring fresh landscaping and vibrant flower beds. Additionally, plans to enhance the School chapel with stained glass windows are underway.

MoN Student Receives Copyright for Science Fair Project

Maria Ayoub, a current eighth-grade student at Mary of Nazareth, received a copyright for her science project over the summer. The project, "Food Allergy Control Program," is a database that helps resolve the problem of allergic reactions at school by ensuring that students do not eat food they're allergic to.

Ayoub, who suffers from food allergies, knows first-hand the challenges of eating prepared food at school. She designed the program to be used by a variety of end-users, including students, teachers, and kitchen staff. The Program's central function hinges on a comprehensive directory of students with food allergies, hot-lunch meals, and their respective ingredients. The Program can be utilized to view data in several ways. Reports can be generated to



Eighth-grade student Maria Ayoub received a copyright for her science project, "Food Allergy Control Program."

show all students allergic to a specific meal/ingredient, or to show all meals/ingredients that will cause an allergic reaction for a specific student.

Maria shares, "The reason I built the Food Allergy Control Program was for the benefit of my school and all the students with food allergies, including myself if teachers were to bring in a snack for the class, or if a parent were to bring in food, they would simply enter the ingredients and it will show which students are allergic to that food."

This summer, upon the recommendation of a Science Fair judge, Maria applied for and received a copyright for the Program. Maria hopes to deploy her Food Allergy Control Program at Mary of Nazareth School this year.

OPT

Welcome New MoN Faculty and Staff

Ms. Laura Kissinger will be teaching Kindergarten. Ms. Kissinger received a BA in Early Childhood Education and Applied Behavioral Science from the University of Kansas and has thirteen years of primary grade teaching experience in a variety of

school settings, including Catholic School. Highly recommended, she will be a superior addition to the Mary of Nazareth faculty.

Mrs. Nayda Depaz will be teaching Spanish in Pre-K through grade five. Mrs. Depaz has previously taught Spanish at the Mount Jezreel Christian School, the International School of Languages, and POPI NIH Daycare. She also served as the after-school Spanish Coordinator and Teacher at Gibbs Elementary in Montgomery County. A Mother Seton parishioner and volunteer, Mrs. Depaz is looking forward to teaching at a Catholic school, especially Mary of Nazareth.

Mrs. Paola Ortiz will be the new second-grade teaching assistant. Mrs. Ortiz has worked in our aftercare for the past two years and has extensive experience as a school and Mother Seton Parish volunteer. She is the mother of four children, all of whom attend Mary of Nazareth School. Mrs. Ortiz is a patient, pleasant, and flexible team player; she will be an excellent asset to our second-grade team and looks forward to working with the teachers.

OPT

TRAINING

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on an obstacle course and soaked themselves with sponges. Nearly two dozen adult volunteers provided the supervisory and advisory support to 58 teen volunteers, who led centers, groups of campers and music instruction.

It's all an effort to help the children learn, pray and celebrate their Catholic faith through Bible stories, art, music, games and snacks, said St. Francis Director of Religious Education Susan Anderson. At the

same time, Vacation Bible Camp seeks to mentor the middle school and high school teen volunteers, as they live and share their faith through parish service.

"VBC is truly a unique experience in which we strive to engage all participants, campers, families, teens, and adult volunteers, in a week of faith and fun," Anderson said.

One new feature of this year's camp was for campers entering fifth and sixth grade to put their understanding of Catholic Social Teaching into practice. The tween-aged campers weeded a flowerbed, assembled 200 food bags and made thank you

gifts for parishioners who sponsor a student at the Haitian school St. Francis parishioners support through its Haiti Ministry. Vacation Bible Camp culminated with a musical performance and Italian Ice social.

"As we look ahead to continuing to build our program, I hope that we can continue to strengthen the outreach aspects of VBC, such as including more developed service opportunities, inviting families to reflect on the daily VBC messages at home, and sharing the energy and enthusiasm generated during VBC with the wider parish community," Anderson said.

OPT

125 YEARS

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included hamburgers, hotdogs, kielbasa, grilled chicken and your usual assortment of cold salads and sides. Attendees brought deserts to share and to accompany a selection of ice cream treats that were provided. Children and adults did not let the

summer temperatures keep them from participating in an array of activities that ranged from dancing to a parade of decorated tricycles to traversing a rope bridge constructed by the Scouts. The frozen treats along with the water slide and water guns helped cool everyone off. An amazing group of volunteers from the parish and the Knights made all of this possible.

An outdoor Vigil Mass was celebrated at 4:30 and provided an appropriate ending to a wonderful anniversary celebration. What a joy to come together as a community to remember our roots and to reflect on all those who came before us to celebrate the sacraments in Historic St. John's.

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Presentation, Poolesville; Our Lady of the
Visitation, Darnestown.



After several years of service to St. Martin's Parish, Sr. Cruz Vega, Sr. Maristella Maldonado, Fr. Angel Gabriel Fermin, and Sr. Judith Maldonado are moving on to their new assignments. Thank you and farewell! Photo courtesy of St. Martin's Parish.

St. Martin's Parish Says Goodbye to Trio of Dominican Sisters

By Emily Moldiz

On July 8, 2018, St. Martin of Tours Parish was notified that Sr. Judith Maldonado, OP, Sr. Maristella Maldonado, OP, and Sr. Cruz Vega, OP would not be returning to Maryland.

Every six years the Dominican Sisters come together for elections and new assignments. Sr. Judith was chosen as a General Council Member and General Secretary. This position is a great honor. She will work directly with the Mother Superior of the order. Sr. Maristella was appointed as Director of Family Ministry for the

Congregation, through their Family Center, Mother Dominga Guzman, and as Assistant to the General Secretary. Sr. Cruz was named assistant in the Fatima Sanctuary and prioress of the Mother House.

"In an incredible silence, there was a battle between faith- obedience and incredulity-disobedience," said Sr. Judith. "Heaven and earth was waiting for an answer. Then, there was the question: 'Do you accept what Jesus is asking you?' Jesus was there. Mother Mary was there. Angels and saints waiting. St. Martin's Church was also there, waiting,

Continued on page 39

St. Martin's Parish Says Goodbye to Fr. Fermin

By Emily Moldiz

After three "joyful" years of his priestly service, St. Martin of Tours parishioners said goodbye to Fr. Angel Gabriel Fermin.

The English, Spanish, Filipino and French communities came together on July 1, 2018 at St. Martin's School to wish Father Fermin goodbye. He was surrounded by hundreds of parishioners who presented him with a gift on behalf of the parish.

Father Fermin was ordained June 2015 in the Archdiocese of Washington and was immediately assigned to St. Martin of Tours as a Parochial Vicar. Originally from the Dominican Republic, he left home to study in

Santo Domingo and later became a seminarian in the Redemptories Mater Seminary and a member of the Neocatechumenal Way, a movement devoted to missionary evangelization and catechesis.

Father Fermin's passion as a priest has always been ministering to the sick and to evangelize. While at St. Martin's, one of Father Fermin's many responsibilities and passions was serving as the spiritual director to the Spanish and English Youth groups and the Spanish Young Adults group, Sembrando Para Cristo.

Father Fermin is now serving as a Parochial Vicar at the Shrine of St. Jude in Rockville where he will continue to serve the sick and spread the Good News of the Gospel.

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Troop 927's Eagle Scout candidate, Isaac Cooksey, stands with his Troop Leader and Ed Escalante for the Maryland Bluebird Society. Isaac's project involved building and installing bluebird nesting boxes around the rectory of St. Martin's Parish. Photo courtesy of Anne Cooksey.

St. Martin's School Welcomes New Principal

By Anne Gemunder

St. Martin of Tours School is pleased to announce its new principal, Stephen Lamont. Rev. Richard Gancayco, Pastor of St. Martin's Parish stated, "Mr. Lamont is an experienced Catholic school principal who has the knowledge and skills to support our teachers and ultimately our students. I am confident that he will work diligently with our teachers to ensure the students at St. Martin's continue to receive the quality Catholic education for which we are known."

Since July, Mr. Lamont has welcomed those from the school community to stop into the office and introduce themselves. "I look forward to becoming a part of the St. Martin's community and getting to know the students, families, staff, and parishioners." Given his experience as an Archdiocese of Washington principal, he added, "Our role as Catholic

educators is to deliver Christ's love to our children along with fostering student growth, academically, socially, emotionally, and spiritually. My goal is to work collaboratively with the faculty as we continue those successes."

Mr. Lamont comes to St. Martin's from St. Philip the Apostle in Camp Spring, Maryland where he served for the past year as interim principal. Prior to that, he spent four years as principal at St. Bartholomew's School in Bethesda and as the Assistant Principal and Math teacher at Archbishop Carroll High School in Washington, D.C. Mr. Lamont has fourteen years of experience as an educator and holds a Master of Arts degree in Educational Leadership and Administration from George Washington University. Mr. Lamont and his wife, Helen, live in Bethesda, along with their four children.

OPT

Fall Events at St. Martin's School

By Anne Gemunder

We welcome back our school families to another exciting academic year at St. Martin of Tours. Our doors are open as we warmly greet our old friends and say hello to new ones.

- Aug. 27 New-Family Orientation and Open House
- Aug. 29 First Day of School
- Aug. 31 Opening School Mass
- Sep. 11 Back to School for Grades PreK-5
- Sep. 13 Back to School for Grades 6-8
- Sep. 29 International Potluck Dinner
- Oct. 1 Laser Science Assembly

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Fr. Joe Rogers Farewell

By Rus Wester

The first week of June 2018, SJN Pastor, Fr. Joseph E. Rogers, announced that he would be leaving the parish to continue his spiritual formation during a period of discernment and mission in the Archdiocese of Miami with the community of the Servants

of the Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

There were so many parishioners eager to offer prayerful goodbyes to our departing Pastor that it took a couple of event gatherings to assemble all of the well-wishers. The first event was on June 10 in the main church where parish photographer, Jerry Kelley, staged the photo-image

(OPT front-page) that was captured just after our 40-year-old “temporary” chair system was replaced by the installation of new, permanent red-oak pews—just one of the many parish improvements that came during the tenure of Father Rogers. This may be the largest group photo of SJN parishioners ever taken!

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Thankful St. John Neumann Parishioners

Wishing Father Joseph Rogers (not pictured) farewell, as he began his new assignment, a few St. John Neumann Parishioners got together for this group goodbye-photo, that was enlarged and presented to Father from over 500 additional parishioners who attended a July 1 reception in his honor. Photo by Jerry Kelley

40th Anniversary Jubilee Picnic

At right, kids of the parish, young and old, always look forward to piñata time

Below, SJN Priests Fr. Bill, Fr. Joe and Fr. Sweeney welcome over 1,000 SJN parishioners to the picnic festivities.

Below right, parishioners Dr. Adam Vitelli and his wife Cynthia kick back for a leisurely summer afternoon.



By Rus Wester, Photos by Jerry Kelley

As part of the parish's 40th Anniversary Jubilee, over a thousand parishioners showed up with their families for this year's annual picnic gathering on Mother of God school grounds. Parish ministries raised funds all year long to stage this year's parish party. Picnic planner/coordinator,

Cheryl Harskowitch, said “Weather always plays a part in this event and our day was perfect. But to flawlessly serve that many people a great meal, well, our caterers, under the leadership of Luis Jovel, scored another perfect, as over eighty other volunteers coordinated behind-the-scenes food prep and service, entertainment and activities for everyone on hand.

OPT



SJN Parishioners, Carmine & Mary Castellano Celebrating their 95th Birthdays

By Sandy Wester

As a late-July summer “monsoon” teamed outside the Gaithersburg Hilton hotel, it propelled four generations of Castellanos, extended family from around the country and dear friends into the lobby. Everyone felt a VERY SPECIAL EVENT was about to begin. Naturally, the opening prayers were reverently offered in a great salute to the guests of honor, Mary & Carmine. There were nearly a hundred people of all ages gathered in the ballroom to help the handsome “youngsters” celebrate their 95th birthdays.

“They’re an iconic couple in our parish”, said SJN Administrative Assistant, Maria Idoni. “They raised a wonderful family; have many friends and I’ve been privileged to attend a few of their milestone events over the years”.

So, what’s it like to go to a party thrown by the Castellanos? You gotta like Italian food, especially when it’s a buffet chock-full of everything from an abundance of antipasto & zuppa to some favorite selections of eggplant parmigiana, roast pork loin and chicken piccata. How would you top off a feast like that? Mary says: “At least one cannoli cake & one chocolate cake!”

Of course, there was music and if Sinatra, Tormé & Bennett were your speed, you would have been gliding around the dance floor dreamily as did the fun-loving celebrants. As the night advanced, “DJ Paul” Castellano (grandson), kicked it up a notch with some of the best dance music for parties of all ages and EVERYBODY got up to shake, rattle & roll.

When you’ve been really living and enjoying your lives, as Mary & Carmine have over their multiple decades together, you collect some great stories and the couple generously shared some of those along with their hugs, kisses, love and many life lessons.

Mary Castellano (granddaughter) said, “My grandparents are a great model for family life!” Grandma Mary has been so successful in gathering everyone together with love and has made a conscience effort to keep people close to her and her life-long companion, [my Grandpa] Carmine.

These two wonderful people have been a sterling example to all who know them, and it’s easy to understand their special lesson of “never give up-never quit...just keep going!” We’ll be celebrating Carmine & Mary again soon! Photos by Castellano Photography



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SJRCS Principal Glenn Benjamin Takes Helm as President of ESPA

By Michelle Ardillo

The 2018-2019 school year will prove to be a first-class example of multi-tasking for the principal of St. Jude Regional Catholic School. As he begins his 8th year, Mr. Glenn Benjamin will balance his leadership of the Pre-K to 8th grade school, a thriving faith-filled community of 260 students, with his new position as president of the Elementary School Principals' Association (ESPA) for the Archdiocese of Washington (ADW).

The ESPA is comprised of the principals of the Pre-K or K through 8th grade Catholic elementary schools of the Archdiocese of Washington. Mr. Benjamin looks forward to his two-year term leading the ESPA, which he says "was created to establish a unity among the elementary school principals of the Archdiocese for the purpose of articulation and communication between elementary school principals, as well as between the



Mr. Glenn Benjamin, principal of St. Jude Regional Catholic School in Rockville, Maryland, was recently named president of the Elementary School Principals' Association (ESPA) for the Archdiocese of Washington (ADW). Pictured with Mr. Benjamin is Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Whelan, outgoing president of the ESPA and principal of St. Peter Catholic School in Olney, Maryland.

ADW's Board of Education, the ADW's Catholic Schools Office, the Catholic secondary schools of the ADW, and other agencies of the ADW."

The ESPA, as an opportunity for fraternity, brings together principals from the four regions of the ADW: Montgomery County; Prince George's County; Washington, DC; and southern Maryland. The president of the ESPA attends all meetings of the ADW Board of Education and works closely with the Superintendent of Catholic Schools to provide professional development for the faculty and staff of the ADW elementary schools.

Outgoing ESPA president Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Whelan, principal of St. Peter's Catholic School in Olney, said, "I'm so happy that Mr. Benjamin will be taking the reins of the organization. His experience, instructional knowledge, and strong leadership skills will guide our colleagues through the next two years."

OPT



Fr. Angel Fermin



Patrice Roe

The Shrine of St. Jude Parish Welcomes Fr. Fermin and Patrice Roe

In July, the Shrine of St. Jude welcomed Father Angel Gabriel Fermin, who was most recently serving at St. Martin of Tours parish in Gaithersburg, Maryland. Fr. Gabriel has already hit the ground running, helping with everything from baptisms to funerals and anything in between. Before entering the seminary, Fr. Gabriel studied industrial engineering in college and worked in a textile company. He is originally from the Dominican Republic. We have been blessed that he answered the call to priesthood and look forward to many more blessings in the future.

At the same time, we sadly had to say goodbye to Father Shaun Foggo, who had served at the Shrine of St. Jude since

2016, working especially with the youth of the parish. While we will miss him, we wish him well in his new assignment down the road at St. John the Evangelist parish in Silver Spring.

Lastly, the Shrine of St. Jude also welcomes its new Parish Office Manager, Patrice Roe. Patrice has worked in Catholic churches in one capacity or another throughout her life. Along with her husband, a professional musician, Patrice moved to Maryland from Colorado in 2001. The Roes, including their son, their Samoyed dog, and their Jardine's parrot, have been living in Aspen Hill for the past four years. Patrice looks forward to meeting and serving all of the wonderful parishioners at St. Jude.

OPT



Vacation Bible School was a Circus!

At the Shrine of St. Jude this summer, 81 young people directed by 36 counselors enjoyed a week of Vacation Bible School themed "Circus of the Stars." Who were the stars? The children, of course, as well as the Saints and the Heroes of the Bible. And, yes, there was a circus performance on the last day by the counselors that was enjoyed by all.

OPT



It pays to advertise in Our Parish Times

SJRCS: New Faces, New Places

By Michelle Ardillo

Upon returning to the St. Jude Regional Catholic School (SJRCs) campus, staff and faculty found freshly painted hallways, new flooring in the faculty lounge, a newly paved parking lot and playground area, and a brand-new middle school STEM science lab! In addition to the improvements to the physical plant, SJRCs also welcomes two new faculty members to its staff and announces some transitions in existing staff as well.

The new PreK-8 art teacher, Ms. Olga Paz, comes to SJRCs from Turks and Caicos Islands, where she taught art to grades K-11 at Holy Family Academy. She holds a bachelor's degree in Art Education and Studio Art from the University of Maryland. Ms. Paz commented on her early visits to SJRCs, "St. Jude has a welcoming atmosphere and looks to be pretty active in the evangelization of the students. I am very excited to be part of the school community. I hope to be a light for the children and instill in them a love of creativity and imagination.

Heading up the middle school math team this year is Mrs. Katie Cain, who previously taught at St.



Martin's for 5 years. Mrs. Cain is also the 7th grade homeroom teacher. Mrs. Cain took note of the "kind, positive, and welcoming" atmosphere at SJRCs and looks forward to "encouraging my students to love math, and I want them to be confident in their abilities." A graduate of the University of Dayton, where she double-majored in math and education, Mrs. Cain

Continued on page 38

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

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Join Us in Celebrating Michaelmas



By Sandra Bonne-Année

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 the feast will be cel-

brated on Saturday, September 29. Our clergy will offer a multicultural Mass at 5pm, 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, music and dance.

This year we have chosen a theme in honor of our parish's year

of service for "Just as the son of man did not come to be served, but to serve..." 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.

OPT

Meet Father Luis Marroquín

By Sandra Bonne-Année

We are excited to welcome our new Parochial Vicar, Fr. Luis Marroquín. Father Luis Marroquín, hails from San Vicente, El Salvador and has recently celebrated his 32nd anniversary as a priest on August 23rd. The priesthood and his personal travels have taken the father to the Holy Land and several countries such as Canada, Mexico, Honduras and Guatemala. He has served the archdiocese of Washington for 25 years, with his most recent appointment as Parochial Vicar at St. Catherine Labouré, in Wheaton, MD.

We asked Fr. Luis a few questions about himself:

How did you find your vocation? I saw the good example of some priests especially my hometown pastor Father Ramiro Valladares. He was very dedicated to his ministry and his flock. Also, my brother Father Norberto entered the seminary before me and he was very happy and that encouraged me to enter the seminary a few years later.

What has been a highlight of being a priest? I enjoyed celebrating the Eucharist and the Sacraments. I have been blessed to be there for my parishioners in happy and sad moments.

What has been your greatest challenge as an ordained priest? Coming to serve a different country with a different language. I never thought I would leave my country but God had a different plan for me.



Father Luis Marroquín, Parochial Vicar at St. Michael's

What does it mean to you to be a parochial vicar? To work closely with my pastor in the caring of our parishioners.

What would you like parishioners of St. Michael's to know about you? I am a patient and friendly priest. I welcome everyone and that I will

do my best in my service to them. I ask that they pray for me and I will pray for them.

May the Lord continue to bless him as he serves the parishioners of St. Michael's.

OPT

St. Michael's Parish Supports Race for the Cure

By John Webster

On Saturday, September 8, the St. Michael's Prayer Warriors will join in the fight against breast cancer at the Washington DC Race for the Cure event. The Race starts at 9AM in the Freedom Plaza area. This important annual event raises significant funds for breast cancer awareness, research and treatment. Your support will make a difference for the many women, men and families who are affected by this disease. In 2018, more than 260,000 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed

in women and more than 2,500 cases in men in the U.S. In 2018, more than 40,000 women and more than 400 men in the U.S. are expected to die from breast cancer.

Please register to join the St. Michael's Prayer Warriors on Race day. Registration information and more information about the Race can be found on the St. Michael the Archangel Parish web site (www.stmichaelsilver-spring.org). If you are unable to join us at the Race, please consider making a donation to support our team.

OPT

Family Life Workshop Coming to St. Michael's Parish

Raising our Children in the Catholic Faith

By John Webster

On Saturday, September 22, from 9AM to 11AM, St. Michael's Parish will offer a workshop on Raising our Children in the Catholic Faith. This workshop is sponsored by the Office of Family Life, Archdiocese of Washington, and our guest speaker will be Dr. Lisa Klewicki, Director of Fountain of Life, LLC. Dr. Klewicki is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist with graduate degrees in psychology and theology. She integrates the Catholic faith with sound psychology to provide psychotherapy, consultations and assessments.

We recognize that families come in all shapes and sizes, and this workshop addresses the needs of parents in both traditional and non-traditional family circumstances

who share a desire to see their children grow in the Catholic Faith. Parents who are single, divorced, separated, widowed, in second marriages, and in blended families are especially encouraged to attend.

The workshop will be held at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church, located at 805 Wayne Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland. To register, please visit the Parish website (www.stmichaelsilver-spring.org) for more information and registration forms. Online registration is available on Eventbrite. Spanish translation and childcare are both available upon request.

For more information about this workshop, please email the Marriage Ministry at St. Michael's Parish at smacc.marriage@gmail.com.

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Attend Marriage Prep at St. Michael's

By John Webster

Planning a Fall or Winter 2018-19 wedding? Join us at St. Michael's Parish for your required Marriage Preparation classes. The Marriage Ministry at St. Michael's, in partnership with the Archdiocese of Washington Family Life Office, will be offering Marriage Preparation classes during the month of October.

The classes will present materials from the newly developed Transformed in Love (www.transformedinlove.com) program and will be held from 9AM until 1PM on four successive Saturdays (October 6, 13, 20 and 27). For

more information and to register, email the Family Life Ministry at flm@adw.org or call the Events Office at 301-853-5337.

OPT

St. Michael's Parish

805 Wayne Avenue
Silver Spring, MD

Rev. Msgr. Eddie Tolentino,
Pastor

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OPT Editor

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Wow! What a Summer!

In 2010, before Saint Francis International School even had its first day of school it set the precedent for busy summers. That June, July, and August the first program offered by Saint Francis was a summer camp located at St. Mark the Evangelist in Hyattsville. While the sounds of children enjoying the summer filled the St. Mark building, over at the St. Camillus building volunteers and staff members were busy painting classrooms, laying new floors, and combining the furniture and learning materials that had been used up to that point by the two separate schools. When St. Camillus School closed in June of 2010 there had been about 260 students using the building, but when Saint Francis International School opened just a few months later over 430 students walked through hallways and gathered in classrooms that had been updated and refreshed thanks to the dedication of many volunteers and staff members.

This past summer, SFIS held its ninth Summer @ Saint Francis programs. These included over 60 students who attended four weeks of Summer Academy, over 150 campers and volunteers who participated in Peace Camp in partnership with St. Camillus Church and the Little Friends for Peace, and over 75 children who received free lunches most weekdays made by the SFIS Nutrition Program and served at the offices of the Catholic Community of Langley Park.

All of this happened while the main gathering space at Saint Francis International School, the Camillia Room, closed for renovations from June 18 to August 28. The St. Camillus School building was built in 1954 and has served many thousands of young people in Catholic school and faith formation over the last 64 years. From 1954 until 1971, the Camillia Room served as both the main church for St. Camillus parish each weekend and the school cafeteria on weekdays. The last time the Camillia Room was renovated was 1971 when a separate church building was built on the parish's campus.

Thanks in part to several state and federal grants, SFIS was able



Above, New and used cafeteria equipment thanks to the generosity of the government and the generosity of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd sit in front of the new walls and storage areas created at SFIS.

At right, Principal Toby Harkleroad talks to Good Shepherd Sr. Mercy de Leon and Summer Academy students about the math that went into the construction at SFIS this summer.



Before the new drywall went up, Peace Camp attendees left message of love and hope on the original walls of the Camillia Room for future generations to find.



A Saint Francis Summer Academy student experiences the new VR goggles that SFIS added to their STEM resources thanks to the Maryland Textbook and Technology Loan Program.

after school snack. Because of this commitment to nutrition, Saint Francis received a federal grant for kitchen equipment that allowed the school to finally replace the 1950's gas stove with something a little more modern. In total the kitchen upgrade included a new range, new convection ovens, new reach-in refrigeration, and a new floor. The most impressive part of the kitchen renovation was the replacement of the failing walk-in cooler and freezer with a brand

program partially paid for building new storage spaces and installing over 50 new LED light fixtures along with replacing the floor and walls and painting the entire room. Over the coming months, the school families will embark on a major fundraising campaign to upgrade the stage and sound system to support the performing arts education at SFIS and additional grants will help to pay for the installation of modular room dividers and a new entry doors over the coming year.

SFIS was also blessed when the Sisters of the Good Shepherd generously donated a large amount of equipment and furniture that had been used at their now-closed ministry in Baltimore. Volunteers were able to bring well over four large truckloads of furniture and equipment back to SFIS. These items, worth tens of thousands of dollars would not normally be in the school's budget, but the Sisters were happy to see these items continue to serve the children of Maryland as the Sisters themselves had done for over 150 years!

Apparently, Mother Nature did not think that Saint Francis was busy enough this summer because during a massive downpour in early August, a 60+ year old retaining wall outside the school's main entrance collapsed due to the sudden, massive pressure from the deluge of water. But, the SFIS community trusts in God's Providence and they are hoping to find the funding to build a new handicapped accessible ramp where the wall had been in the hopes of making Saint Francis International School an even more welcoming place for students and their families!

This coming year there is lots of additional excitement as SFIS and St. Camillus Church prepare to celebrate 65 years of Catholic education in their school building starting in 2018.

OPT

St. Martin of Tours

St. Martin's Parish Welcomed Fr. Tony Alex D'Souza on July 5, 2018

By Emily Moldiz

St. Martin of Tours Parish welcomed Fr. Tony Alex D'Souza on July 5, 2018 as a new Parochial Vicar. Fr. D'Souza came to us from St. John the Baptist Parish in Silver Spring. Fr. D'Souza was ordained in the Archdiocese of Washington in 2014.

Where are you from? Born and raised in India

Do you have any siblings? Five sisters.

Why did you want to become a priest? To share the joy of the Gospel to all & to lead all people to God.

What is your favorite part about being a priest? To show the mercy & love of God

through the sacraments especially through the sacrament of Reconciliation.

What is the most challenging part about being a priest? Not to please everyone

What are some things people do not know about you? About my life stories.

Who is your favorite saint and why? St Francis Xavier. He left and risked everything

to spread the gospel in India.

What is your favorite part about St. Martin's Parish? It's very diverse and a lot of people come to the confessions.

What do you look forward to the most this new school year at St. Martins? To meet the school staff and kids and to share with them some stories about my life.

OPT



Children and staff at the closing program for VBS.

St. Mary's Church annual Vacation Bible School

The children ages three to 11 years old of St. Mary's Parish, along with neighboring Parish children, enjoyed a faith and fun filled week. The theme "Rise Up Called in Your Dreams" shared the many times throughout the Bible God called people to answer his call. The story of Joseph and his multi colored coat, especially engaged the children's interest. St. Mary's Sodality provided the colorful shirts for each participant. The Knights of Columbus provided set up, snacks, a generous donation, and served at



Fr. Kevin along with High School helpers Will and Ben Jamison.

the luncheon.

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. The success of Vacation Bible School is due to the faith community all stepping up in sharing the Word of God.

OPT

St. Mary's Church 143rd Annual Chicken Dinner

Since 1865 Parishioners have welcomed guests from all over the state to our Annual Chicken Dinner. Each year those interested in a beautiful drive in the country with a destination for a homecooked meal, head to St. Mary's. Families upon their arrival share stories of generations of their families coming for this spectacular event. Many first timers marvel at the bounty of the meal and wonderful fellowship.

The sit-down dinner is served family style. The menu includes barbecued chicken, unlimited potatoes, applesauce, green beans, coleslaw, and rolls. The event sold over 1,000 dinners this year! Once finished, those who still had room, purchased dessert at the Baked Goods stand or tried their luck at the Cake Wheel.

The venue also boasts a Country Store with fresh vegetables and canned jams, Craft Stand, White Elephant Sale, games and most importantly Jousting, which is the state sport of Maryland. Riders wait for the call to "Charge", and head to spear the golden ring. Guests as they departed for the day grabbed



Family enjoying the annual chicken dinner where over 1200 were served.

a Take Out for their meal the next day! The weather, food, and satisfied guest made for an outstanding event. Next year's event will be on July 27, 2019.

Our annual Ham and Turkey Dinner this fall will be on Saturday, October 27, 2018. Make plans to join us.

OPT



Jousters enjoyed the afternoon on July 28 in Barnesville competing in the Maryland State Sport.

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Barnesville, MD 20838
Rev. Kevin O'Reilly,
Pastor
(301) 972-8660
www.stmaryonline.com

Brides for Haiti

Saturday, August 18, was a bell-ringer day for the volunteers who work at St. Mary's Brides for Haiti wedding dress and special occasion shop in Frederick Maryland to raise funds for their twin parish in Haiti. They had a very special customer! Maria Grande of Gaithersburg came in and bought a beautiful wedding gown to wear at her 50th Wedding Anniversary Vows Renewal and wowed the staff with her beauty and grace.



Maria (left) pictured with volunteer Jo Evans

Before Maria left the shop with her gown, the Brides for Haiti staff made a surprise gift to her of a Holy Family Statue in honor of her long marriage and joyful spirit. "Maria is living the dream of a happy marriage which has lasted 50 years. We

hope and pray that each of the young ladies who walk through our doors to buy a wedding dress also finds such joy," says volunteer Jo Evans who presented the gift to Maria.

With wedding dress prices ranging from as low as \$10 (vintage gown sale) to \$250, the shop's customers are eager to find a bargain; many remark that they are happy that their purchase helps Haiti, too. One young bride who bought a lovely Maggie Sottero wedding dress for \$250 admitted that she hadn't even noticed the designer label on the dress. The beauty of the gown and not the prestigious label had won her heart.

"We run this Bridal Store under the special patronage of St. Philomena in order to raise money for our twin parish in Haiti, but



A happy bride

Continued on page 36

WVU Graduate from St. Mary's Barnesville Joins FOCUS

By Diane Yendrey

At a time of rapid growth of religiously unaffiliated young adults and the rise of those who self-identify as former Catholics, it was refreshing to hear from a life-long St. Mary's parishioner who addressed our congregation on July 8 seeking financial support as he begins a new vocation as a college campus missionary. Sam Chmelik is a recent graduate of West Virginia University with a degree in engineering and business.

While attending college, Sam was invited to attend a bible study sponsored by FOCUS, the Fellowship of Catholic University Students. FOCUS was founded in 1998 and is now present on 153

campuses. Sam's goal, in line with the FOCUS mission statement, is to encourage and equip students with practical formation and education, for lifelong Catholic mission.

When asked how he became a Missionary for FOCUS, Sam explained that he realized after college, a deeper desire in his work to give back to other students, and to make meaningful decisions that have an impact in his daily life.

Sam is now serving FOCUS as a Missionary at the University of Vermont. He will lead small-group bible studies, lead students in one-on-one discipleship, and help those students to have a lifelong impact in their parishes, jobs and communities.

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Drawn to the Community

New Teachers Join the Our Lady of Lourdes School Faculty

By Brigid McGann

Few professionals enjoy the gift of a literal, annual, fresh start like those in education. All teachers begin a school year with new students, classroom decorations, and techniques and ideas to try. One's first year at a school, however, provides even more of a change and opportunity for new adventures. This year, Our Lady of Lourdes welcomes new teachers from near and far. Like the children we will welcome on August 29, they each bring unique life experiences and gifts to share with our community.

Mrs. Nan Kiyonaga is a former Lourdes parent. Wanting to stay involved with the school after her children graduated, she stepped in when help at the reception desk was needed. This year she will be teaching seventh grade. As a veteran member of the Lourdes community, she describes it as, "one which accepts its members as is, with a



New faculty (L-R): Mrs. Nan Kiyonaga, Miss Mary Beth Jay, Mr. Tony Limarzi, Mrs. Maricar Parcon, Mrs. Judi Sallah

warmth and generosity of spirit which says without words, 'we are so glad you are here with us.' It allows for all the families, students, teachers, and parishioners to say, 'let's learn together,' 'let's grow

together,' and 'let's pray together.'"

Mrs. Maricar Parcon is also a current member of the Lourdes community. She was most recently a teaching assistant in the three-year-old preschool classroom. This

year she will teach music, which she taught in the Philippines before moving to the United States.

A new college graduate, Ms. Mary Beth Jay will be teaching third grade at Our Lady of Lourdes

this year. She was drawn to Lourdes because of the inclusive classrooms and the opportunity to teach *all* children "just as Jesus would have wanted!"

Mr. Tony Limarzi formerly ran the aftercare program in a local school and has been a substitute teacher in the Archdiocese of Washington. This year he will teach middle school math, and he looks forward to preparing Lourdes students for the demands of high school.

Lastly, Mrs. Judi Sallah has moved to the Washington area from Hollywood, Florida, where she taught at a Catholic school for 12 years. She will teach fourth grade this year and is excited about using the new Danielson framework to grow as an educator. She chose to come to Lourdes after a visit, during which she experienced 'the joy and love for Christ that permeates the entire school. I knew it was where I wanted to be.'

OPT

Our Lady of Lourdes Welcomes a New Principal

This spring Ms. Amy Moore was hired as the new principal at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School. Mrs. Patricia McGann retired after 13 excellent years leading the school. Principal searches are often a difficult process filled with anxiety and uncertainty. Lourdes parents, parishioners, students, and teachers eagerly awaited the naming of the next principal. In late April it was announced that the new school leader was someone who, in fact, had already been leading Our Lady of Lourdes for many years. In our rapidly changing world, children need a constant - Ms. Amy Moore has been that constant at Our Lady of Lourdes for almost two decades.

Ms. Moore joined Our Lady of Lourdes in 1999 as the second grade teacher. She was exceptional right away and laid the foundation of one of the fundamental philosophies true to Lourdes, "How can I help?" Always taking on the tasks and duties that needed to be accomplished, Ms. Moore set a standard of teamwork and accountability that changes children's lives.

In her time at Lourdes, Ms. Moore has taught just about everything. Her duties included, but



New school principal Ms. Amy Moore

were not limited to, second grade, first grade, kindergarten, and sixth grade homeroom teacher. She also served as the assistant principal, technology coordinator, and librarian. Ms.

Moore planned, oversaw, and implemented the creation of Lourdes' wonderful Library Media Center.

Amy Moore is one of the few educators who can make a story come alive while reading to a group of 3 year olds and, in the next period, lead a discussion with the 8th grade about the importance of truly living their Catholic faith. She is an educator of passion, dedication, and commitment. In her welcome letter to the parents Ms. Moore said it best, "Our Lady of Lourdes has been my home, my passion, and my vocation for the past 19 years, and I am excited to work with our community to bring faith, excellence and service front and center in our lives."

Every school needs a teacher like Ms. Moore — a person who tirelessly goes about her vocation to teach as Christ taught, never taking a shortcut and never searching for accolades. She sets an example year in and year out of how to do things the "Lourdes Way". Our Lady of Lourdes looks forward to continued success under the stewardship of Ms. Amy Moore.

OPT

Reading is Wonderful at Lourdes

We're getting digital! Along with adopting a new Reading Series, *Wonders*, we are leaving our reading textbooks behind and using *Wonders* to go digital in our K-5 Classrooms. We have added eighty new iPads and one hundred twenty new Chromebooks to help us get there. Using *Wonders* digitally offers the teachers the ability to use the online tools to plan, generate assessments, and track students' progress to personalize instruction. The students will have access to the digital anthology and leveled readers which they can access from any device, even at home!

We are also looking forward to using our new iPads and Chromebooks to help authentically incorporate technology into our lessons and to personalize each student's learning experience. We will continue use our favorite apps and resources like Google Classroom, Plickers, Kahoot, Nearpod, and many more. Digital citizenship is on the rise at OLOL!

OPT

FACES

Con't from page 15

looking forward to working with Mrs. Burns and is excited to meet all the children.

On the Administrative side Holy Redeemer is excited to welcome Hilary Shaw and Mary Ellen Bombara. Mrs. Shaw joins the school as the Admissions Coordinator/Administrative Assistant. She has a M.A. in Education from American University and a B.A. English from Tulane University. She has experience teaching grades 4-12 at National Cathedral School, Pre-K, Grade 2, Grade 5, and Grade 8, English, in area private schools.



Ms. Bombara, our new School Counselor.

Most recently she worked as Client Curator for a DC-based start-up. She has two daughters, Isabelle (19) and Charlotte (14). She will bring her love of children and enthusiasm for getting to know our wonderful community to her new role! She is looking forward to getting to know all the HR families and to doing everything she can to keep the school running smoothly! She loves to play tennis, travel, hike, and read. Mrs. Bombara is excited to join the staff as the part time school counselor. She has lived in Silver Spring area her entire life and attended St. Bernadette Catholic School. From there I went to Eastern Junior High and Northwood High School. She received her degree from Salisbury

in Elementary Education and taught 4th and 5th grade at St. John the Evangelist. She then taught 3rd and 4th grades for MCPS for 13 years. Mrs. Bombara earned a Master's Degree in School Counseling from Johns Hopkins University and spent the last 17 years as the School Counselor at two different elementary schools in Montgomery County. In her spare time she loves watching sports, catching up with family and friends, learning new things, traveling, listening to music, doing home projects and visiting the bay and beach.

OPT

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

7500 Pearl Street
Bethesda, MD

Msgr. Edward Filardi,
Pastor

301-654-1287

Patricia Kilroy McGann

Principal

301-654-5376

Calling all parishioners!

So – you’ve got a heart for Haiti. You know of its suffering, past and present. You feel bad when people insult Haiti, one slam after another.

We feel for Haiti, too. We know it’s a wonderful country. We’re the Haiti Sister Parish Committee of St. John the Baptist. In 1994, our parish entered a twinning relationship with St. Pierre Parish in Baraderes, Haiti. Since then, we’ve exchanged visits, made lifelong friendships, and provided financial, material, and educational support. Most importantly, we have grown spiritually through our interactions with the people of

Baraderes.

We are looking for a few good parishioners. Would you like to join us? Are you worried because you don’t speak French or Kreyol, or you can’t travel to Haiti? Don’t worry, just join us! Many committee members speak only English. Many of us have never been to visit St. Pierre.

We meet around 6 times a year. What we do:

- Share fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Baraderes, Haiti
- Stand in solidarity with them as they build a better tomorrow
- Enjoy the hospitality of others in our parish and elsewhere as we celebrate all things Haiti

- Arrange hospitality for the Haitian pastor’s visit; some of us travel to Haiti
- Host the Taste of Haiti Festival
- Explore projects and funding resources
- Keep the parish informed about our progress in Baraderes.

We’d love to have you join our fun and rewarding service work. If you can stuff envelopes, create posters, write bulletin drafts, or invite your friends to an event, you can help our Sister Parish! If you have any questions, please email or call Cynthia Norris at 301-622-1122, ext. 108 or socialconcerns@sjbcatholicchurch.com.

OPT

Bible Study returns this Fall

SJB Bible Study will be walking through the Book of Genesis, “The Beginnings,” from September 13 to November 8. Bible Study will meet for 8 weeks on Thursday mornings, 9:30-11:30 a.m. or evenings, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

There will be prayer & reflection, background information, worksheets, and small & large group sharing. For more information or to register, please contact Alicia Urban: 301-879-4368 or urban261@gmail.com.

Some Significant Theological Themes in Genesis are:

1. Creation is divinely planned, ordered, and good.
2. Humans are in God’s image and are God’s servants.
3. God has blessed humanity.
4. Sin is turning away from God.
5. God, however, both punishes and forgives.
6. Israel has been specially chosen by God.
7. The story is a story of promise.
8. God uses crooked lines to write straight, for example, Jacob’s deception of Esau.
9. Genesis is a story of faith.
10. Don’t forget the importance of worship.

OPT

**St. John
the Baptist Parish**
12319 New Hampshire Ave.
Silver Spring, MD

**Rev. Y. David Brault,
Pastor**
301-622-1122

**Brian Blomquist,
Principal**
301-622-3076

Is Your Child Interested in Becoming an Altar Server?

If your child is interested in becoming an altar server and is a 4th grader (or older), please send his or her name along with contact information (parents’/guardians’ names, phone number & e-mail) to the altar server schedule coordinator, Anne Thomas, at anne.thomas@grace.com.

Training will take place in early October. Training details will be provided in an e-mail message (if you provide your e-mail address) and in future issues of the parish Bulletin.

OPT

Registration for 2018 - 2019 Faith Formation

Faith Formation for all Grades PreK-8 is on Sunday 10:15-11:30 a.m.

Please fill out the registration form in the parish Bulletin (found online at <https://19970.sites.ecatholic.com/bulletins>). The absolute last day Registrations will be accepted is Monday, Sept. 24.

- Bring the form and a check for the appropriate amount to the Parish Office
- Questions? Email: lj.milone@sjbcatholicchurch.com
- All families will be automatically enrolled in Flocknote for all Faith Formation communication.

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- Faith Formation Classes (Sunday School classes) begin September 9, 2018.

Please see pages four and five of the parish Bulletin for registration forms and more information.

Pre-kindergarten students (age 4) are now accepted into the Sunday Faith Formation Program.

Parents can now register their Pre-K/4-year-old children in the Sunday Faith Formation (religious education or Sunday School) classes at St. John the Baptist. Register them as normal, by following the steps outlined above.

Living the Gospel: Contemplation and Action

A 2018-2019 Adult Faith Formation Series

A joint venture of St. Camillus, Resurrection, and St. John the Baptist Catholic churches



This series of retreats, workshops and discussions brings the Gospel to bear on our daily lives. Using the teachings of Jesus, we will personally and collectively ground ourselves in God, becoming more open to the ways God’s love can transform us. Participants will learn how living the contemplative dimension of the Gospel can help us more deeply experience God’s love. 2019 topics will include Pope Francis’ teachings on nonviolence, politics beyond party affiliation, and our parishes’ options for responding to local communities’ needs.

What we plant in the soil of contemplation, we shall reap in the harvest of action.
– Meister Eckhart

September 8 ♦ Forgiveness

9:30am – 4:30pm, Amadeo room, Resurrection Parish

- ♦ Learn ways to practice forgiveness in our workplaces, homes, and in social, political and church circles to satisfy our longing for the mercy of God and desire to be more forgiving. This all-day session will include experiential exercises, talks, group discussion, prayer, and will address the church’s sex abuse scandal.

October 3 ♦ Peaceful Parenting / Peaceful Kids

7:30pm – 9:00pm, Gym, St. John the Baptist

- ♦ Interactive workshop led by Little Friends for Peace (lffp.org) to help anyone interacting with children. Teachers, parents, grandparents, community workers, and interested others will learn how to “create homes, classrooms, teams, and workplaces where everyone gives, everyone gains, and everyone wins.”

November 3 ♦ Healing the Effects of Substance Use Disorders

9:00am – 1:00pm, Knight’s Hall, St. Camillus

- ♦ Substance abuse disorders create pain in the lives of all who are affected. The current opioid crisis has raised questions about the far-reaching consequences of these disorders. This session uses Jesus’ teaching to address medical, psychological, and spiritual ways to heal pain and to act with compassion.

December 29 ♦ The Joy of God is Yours

9:30am – 4:30pm, school library, St. John the Baptist

- ♦ Learn to more deeply experience the Joy of God in the midst of the hustle and bustle of daily life as a New Year approaches. This retreat includes teachings, spiritual practice, and interactive exercises. Let go of common ego attachments to surrender to God beyond the thinking mind through contemplation.

Registration is encouraged; to register for any session or for more information, email L.J. Milone at lj.milone@stbcatholicchurch.com. Please type in the subject line *Living the Gospel*. Parish staff and parishioners will lead sessions, except where noted. Please bring a bag lunch for the September and December sessions.

St. John the Baptist, 12319 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20904
Church of the Resurrection, 3315 Greencastle Rd., Burtonsville, MD 20866
Saint Camillus Church, 1600 St. Camillus Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20903

HAITI

Con’t from page 34

we also love helping our brides find affordable gorgeous dresses. When a bride who perhaps can only afford \$10 for a wedding dress walks out of our shop with a beautiful gown, we share her joy. And many of our customers have mentioned that they are glad their purchase is also helping the people of Haiti.” says volunteer Susan Jamison. Jamison notes that the dress shop has received many donations of gowns from both top bridal boutiques and individual generous brides.

Patti Bohr, the co-director of the

shop, is gearing up for Homecoming Dress season and hoping the shop’s brand-new website will help get the word out. “Our Facebook page is great, but a good website should really help people find us,” says Bohr who notes that the shop has several hundred beautiful short special occasion gowns (\$30) and long prom/formal gowns (\$50). “We hope to be invited to the schools to sell our dresses. The girls will get a bargain and it’s for such a great cause,” says Bohr.

That website – www.brides4haiti.org – is the result of the creative genius of webmaster and volunteer Jordan Belle Manning.

OPT

FOCUS

Con’t from page 34

Sam Chmelik’s faith formation began within his family. He is one of eleven children of Anthony and Rebecca Chmelik, who instilled them with values of leadership and service to the Lord. Even though he might have started a career in

engineering, Sam has instead chosen to serve Christ. He appears well-equipped with the knowledge and skills he will need to lead his FOCUS students to know what the Gospel message means and how to make it part of their lives, to do works of charity, and to grow together as a community with Christ and one another.

OPT

Mission Trip to Haiti

This summer, St. Patrick's Parish sent 33 hardworking and loving teens and adults as part of an annual mission trip to serve with Life Connection Mission in Montrouis, Haiti.

At right, the group of alumni students, alumni /current parents, teachers, and Fr. Choi made up the majority of the 33 missionaries who traveled to Haiti as part of the sixth annual parish sponsored mission trip!

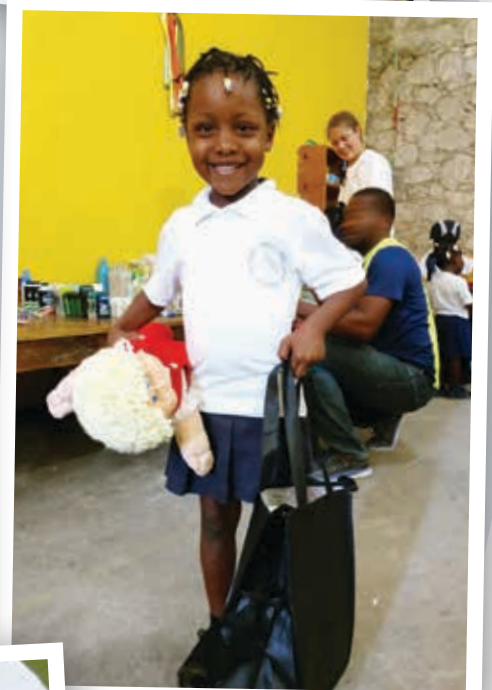
Below, thank you, St. Patrick's Parish Family, for allowing the mission to team, to feed well over 1,500 people throughout the week.



At right, hundreds of pairs of shoes very generously donated throughout the school year have made hundreds of school children, teachers, and staff more comfortable as they work and play.



At right, Fr. Martino Choi, Parochial Vicar at St. Patrick's, (in the yellow t-shirt), helping at the construction site.



Above, a prize-winning smile from a little girl who has just received a donated Cabbage Patch Kid from a friend at St. Patrick's School.



Morning Mass with Fr. Choi and an important message helped the group get their days started off with the right focus in mind and heart. "We are the hands and feet of Jesus"



Seven days later... the finished home! This is the 7th home St. Patrick's mission teams have helped to build in the community of Montrouis, Haiti.

St. Patrick's Parish

4101 Norbeck Road
Rockville, MD

Rev. Msgr. Charles J. Parry

Pastor

301-924-2284

St. Patrick's School
Ms. Christie Anne Short,
Principal

301-929-9672

Parish Editor

New Volunteer Needed
Contact rectory to apply

HSA

Con't from page 6

for all of the volunteers who serve the community at large in support

of St. Bernadette School. We also sincerely thank Monsignor Smith and Mr. Ewanciw for their leadership and support. We know all of these efforts make St. B's truly a special place for students and fami-

lies. We hope you to see you at the events and thank you again for partnering with us to make it a great school year!

HSA 2018-2019 Team
Barbara Agen Ryan, President

Bernardo de los Reyes, Vice President

Jonathan Champion, Secretary
TeNeisha Jeanty, Treasurer

OPT

It pays to
advertise in
Our Parish Times

St Mark's Society

Know the Faith – Share the Faith!

The St. Mark's Society is a prayer and faith discussion group who meet regularly in St. Mary's school room 44. We invite anyone who wants to discuss Catholic doctrine, social events and media issues to attend. We meet on Tuesdays from 7-8 pm. For more information contact Isaac Welsey at 301-379-7857 or Mary-Anne Fombu at 240-477-2722. Everyone is welcome!

OPT

Sodality Fashion Show October 7

All ladies of the parish are invited to a Fashion Show sponsored by the Sodality on Sunday, October 7, 2018 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm in the Parish Hall. The afternoon will feature clothes modeled by members of the parish in misses, petite and plus sizes.

Admission will again only be \$7.00 and light refreshments will be served. Get your friends together and make your plans now! Look for more information in the parish Bulletin soon. For any questions, call Claire Funkhouser at 301-762-7223.

OPT

Pro-Life Rosary Tour

Labor Day, Monday, September 3, 2018 at four Montgomery County local abortion facilities. Contact Bill Luksic, 301-461-9282 or bluk-sic1@verizon.net.

OPT

Attention all 5th thru 12th graders (2018-2019 school year) in St. Mary's School, CCD, or Youth Group

Interested in becoming an altar server?

Training sessions are scheduled: Saturday, September 29, 2018, 10:00-11:30 am and Sunday, September 30, 2018, 2:00-3:30 pm

Both sessions held in the Main Church. Need only attend one session. A parent must be present with the new altar server for the training session.

Please email or call Fr. Kevin with questions. St.maryserver@gmail.com; 301-424-5550.

OPT

Looking for Young Adult Lectors, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Interested in serving at Mass as a young adult lector or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion? We'd love to have you. Please email your interest or questions to Matt Curley at smymrockville@yahoo.com.

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

St. Mary's Small Group

Meets Sundays after the 12:30 pm Mass, 1:45-3:15 pm in the Parish Hall. Join our small group as we study the Sunday liturgy and for fellowship. Light snacks are provided. Please contact Alice Butera with questions: alice.butera@gmail.com.

OPT

to come up with the idea of the Procession, he cited a mission trip he did in Mexico focused on evangelization. He said, "I think evangelization is completely tied to just being joyful and processions are like a great representation of what joy means, which is like being proud, being loud, being happy, and not being afraid, and I think that's why we did it."

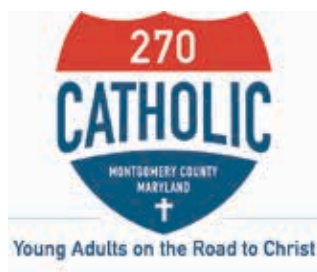
OPT

PROCESSION

Con't from page 9

event, "I've been up and down these streets a lot, but I've never felt anything like this here before. It was a heavenly experience."

When Juan Pablo Segura, the main organizer and member of the DC Young Catholic Professionals, was asked what inspired him



270Catholic

270Catholic is a lively young adult ministry (20's and 30's, single and married) seeking to grow closer to Christ in the I-270, Montgomery County region. Visit their Web site, 270Catholic.org, and sign up for the newsletter at the bottom of their homepage. For more details about any 270Catholic events, please visit www.facebook.com/270Catholic/events or send an email to 270catholic@gmail.com.

Run for Vocations with Team St. Mary's and Father Kevin!

Join Father Kevin and fellow parishioners to support Seminarians of the Archdiocese of Washington through their physical prayer and fundraising efforts. The Run for Vocations/Marine Corp 10K will be held on Sunday, October 28. The Run starts on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., and finishes 6.2 miles later at the Iwo Jima Memorial in Arlington, Va. Runners AND walkers of all levels are welcome to join Team St. Mary's. See dcpriest.org/run-for-vocations for more information and to register. Contact Father Kevin at the rectory with questions. Email stmaryrockville@yahoo.com or 301-424-5550 x 13.

OPT



Ride for Vocations

Registration is closing soon for the Ride for Vocations/Southern Maryland Century bicycle ride in Indian Head, Md., on Monday, September 3. Visit <http://dcpriest.org/ride-for-vocations> for more information and to register. Cyclists of all levels can choose their distance from 17 to 100 miles. Please email RFV@adw.org with any questions.

OPT

FACES

Con't from page 31

and her husband have a one-year-old daughter, Haley.

Transitioning from the math classroom to the computer lab, Ms. Becky Sella takes over as technology coordinator and PreK-8 computer teacher. Ms. Sella, who is in her 3rd year at SJRCS, replaces Mrs. Becky Durfee, who retired after 27 years in this role. Speaking of Mrs. Durfee, Ms. Sella said, "I have dauntingly large shoes to fill. As our department continues to grow, I aspire to provide the same level of encouragement and support as she did to both our staff and our students." Ms. Sella, a SJRCS alum, graduated from St. John's College High School and Duquesne

University, where she majored in middle level education. Once the dismissal bell rings, Ms. Sella changes hats and becomes the moderator for the SJ Drama Club where she directs the school's spring musical, as well as being a coach for Girls on the Run (grades 3-5) and Heart and Sole (grades 6-8).

Existing faculty members Mr. Frank Miller and Ms. Kiersten Paul will be trading subjects. Ms. Paul, a recent graduate of University of Maryland with a degree in English, joined the faculty as PreK-8 PE teacher and 5th grade literature teacher in January of last school year. This year she will take on the 6th grade homeroom and teach 5th and 6th grade history, English, and literature. Speaking of the sense of community present at SJRCS, Ms. Paul said, "Everyone is so involved and willing to help. I never felt

alone during my 1st year. I hope to become more involved in the school and contribute to the great community we have, and I would love to help any new teachers so they do not feel alone on their new journey."

Mr. Miller, who is beginning his fourth year on faculty at SJRCS, will be teaching PE to PreK-8 and history to the 7th and 8th grades. This is his 17th year teaching in the ADW; prior to that he worked in the information technology industry. Mr. Miller looks forward to inspiring a love of physical fitness in all of the students. He said, "I want to encourage them to progress at their own pace. A lifetime of enjoying physical activity is very important." Mr. Miller and his wife have two children who are both in college.

OPT

SUMMER

Con't from page 10

ish music ministry in the Eighth grade, Maddie has already been a director and co-director of music programs in both campus and parish ministry. She is accomplished on both the keyboard and as a vocalist and impressed our search committee with her musical skills,

her knowledge of liturgical music, and her down-to-earth demeanor.

Colleen Steele accepted the position of Volunteer and Event Coordinator. Colleen has been a parishioner at St. E's since 2013 and cared for her mother, Eileen, until her death last October. Colleen spent almost 30 years working for the NASDAQ stock exchange, most recently as a project management specialist and assistant corporate secretary. Colleen brings

to St. E's an impressive array of organizational skills and impressed us with the variety and depth of her project management experience as well as her deep Catholic faith. She is a lifelong Catholic and former catechist at the Cathedral of St. Matthew in Washington, D.C.

We are excited for the many gifts Maddie and Colleen will bring to the St. Elizabeth parish community!

OPT

SPAIN

Con't from page 19

was a go with four chaperones.

We arrived in Toledo in a torrential morning downpour, not typical weather for late March in this part of Europe. As we trudged up and down the steep inclines to our lodging, many of us were struggling to keep our footing on the 2,000-year old cobblestone streets. The teacher in me wanted to yell out a clue to the kids about who built the streets (the Romans), but I held my tongue. Let them get over their jetlag first.

We arrived at the Monastery of the Barefoot Carmelites, which would serve as our accommoda-

tions for the week. In order to subsidize rising costs of upkeep and maintenance, a number of convents and monasteries in Spain have begun offering lodging to visitors. We were greeted by our kind and affable host, Father Tito, one of several priests residing and working in the monastery. Students were struck by the magical quality of this palatial structure dating back to 1643. With its soaring ceilings, massive stone walls, and ancient tiled staircases, the weight of the centuries was palpable. All of us quickly realized that this was a very special, uniquely Spanish experience.

Aula Toledo is the school that organized our itinerary for the

week. Its owner, Maite, is a Toledo native and deeply rooted in the community. Daily Spanish classes for students were interspersed with an array of cultural activities targeted at immersing students in the everyday life of the city.

Back in the States, I wondered if the excitement generated by the trip would still be apparent when the kids returned to classes. Would they be as enthusiastic as we teachers were? Judging from the hubbub of conversation and the sharing of stories, photos, and memories with each other on the first day back, I can safely say that this adventure was undoubtedly going to have a lasting impression on many of them.

OPT

STAFF

Con't from page 7

Mrs. Kerry Hanson is a new lead pre-k 4's teacher. Mrs. Hanson, a certified teacher in early childhood, special education, and visual arts, brings five years of experience as a lead preschool teacher.

Mr. Andrei Pidkivka is the new Director of Mercy's band ensemble and instrumental teacher. Mr. Pidkivka is an acclaimed educator who has instructed students at various levels and provided master classes throughout the United States, Asia, and Europe. In addition, Mr. Pidkivka has had multiple appearances and performances on

recordings in support of soundtracks for Broadway, Disney, The Lord of the Rings, and Medieval Times. Throughout his career, Mr. Pidkivka has been a soloist and guest musician with a host of orchestras including the National, Phoenix, Seattle, Baltimore, and Manhattan Symphonies. Mr. Pidkivka received a Doctorate in Music Arts from Michigan State University.

Miss Allison Beatley is Mercy's new Director of Inclusion. Building on seven years of experience in the inclusion program, Miss Beatley will continue Mercy's long tradition of a model inclusive educational program in Catholic schools. Miss Beatley holds a master's degree in education.

OPT

SISTERS

Con't from page 29

with all the prayers and desires of our returning to this beloved mission. It was a very difficult moment. But Jesus of Nazareth looked deep into my eyes, straight to my heart and remembered me. The answer was given. Love, faith, obedience was the answer... 'Yes, your will be done.... Jesus, I trust in you.'

Sr. Judith and Sr. Maristella arrived in Maryland in August of 2012. Sr. Judith served at St. Rose of Lima parish for one year before joining her twin sister, Sr. Maristella at St. Martin of Tours. They were

later joined by Sr. Cruz and together the three sisters ministered to St. Martin's through family visits, retreats, and encounters. They were responsible for training the Spanish altar servers, leading the girls' Spanish choir, and overseeing the marriage preparation classes for engaged couples. They served on many parish and archdiocesan committees and groups including the Dominican of Fatima Laity Group, the Hispanic Committee, Liturgy Committee, and Pastoral Council.

St. Martin's community was able to join together for an emotional send-off for the sisters on August 5, 2018 at St. Martin's School to wish the sisters farewell and many

blessings on their new assignments. Parishioners from the Spanish, English, Filipino, and French communities each contributed to the day by providing food and musical entertainment.

"As humans, it is very painful to say goodbye to all of you, which we love as family," said Sr. Judith. "Thank you, St. Martin's, for your love throughout the years. Thank you for receiving us, for accompanying us in all we did as missionaries."

Taking over the family ministry program at St. Martins will be Sr. Mariana de Jesús, OP (Prioress), Sr. Esther Ortiz, OP and Sr. Inocencia Olmeda, OP.

OPT

JOE ROGERS

Con't from page 30

During a July 1st reception for Fr. Joe, send-off planners expected a guest list of 350 parishioners and friends at Mother of God gymnasium. Over 500 showed up to bid their farewells and bestow a few gifts.

The Rosary Memory Quilt gift-project was envisioned and guided by St. John Paul the Great Vocations Society member, Kristy Burrows, who involved 15 others in the crafting of the rosary design. Bead illustrations depict the most memorable accomplishments and graces the parish enjoyed during Father Joe's time at SJN. "When we learned of Father's departure, we wanted to convey the prayerful warmth of all he has meant to us," said Vocations Society Coordinator, Mary Beth de Ribeaux. "We wanted to wrap him in our love and prayers...thus the quilt, designed around Our Lady's Rosary."

The gathering for Father Joe on



One of the gifts presented to Father Joe was this Rosary Memory Quilt. Held up by Michaela Hiles (L), designer and fabricator of the individual Rosary beads, and Quilt Project Leader, Kristy Burrows (R). The quilt was sewn by parishioners and carried hand written signatures and messages around the quilt borders.

the first of July was scheduled from 3-5pm. It was not until 7:30pm when Father Joe offered his farewell handshake and hugs to the very last family who waited for several hours to exchange parting thoughts with their beloved Pastor who pledged to pray for us...and asked for our prayers as well. *Granted, Padre.*

OPT

SODALITY

Con't from page 17

Sodality invites you to join us in praying the Rosary after the 6:30am and 9am daily Masses. We are encouraging the Five First Saturdays Devotion in answer

to Our Lady of Fatima's call for prayer for world peace. On the First Saturdays there will be 9am Mass, Exposition, Rosary, and the opportunity for confession. We also pray the Miraculous Medal novena during Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament every Tuesday evening at 6:45pm. Confessions are heard during this prayer time.

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

OPT

FRANCIS

Con't from page 3

the greatest suffering endured by the Redeemer; it pierces His heart. We can only call to Him from the depths of our hearts: *Kyrie eleison* - Lord, save us! (cf. *Mt 8:25*)" (Ninth Station).

2. ...all suffer together with it

The extent and the gravity of all that has happened requires coming to grips with this reality in a comprehensive and communal way. While it is important and necessary on every journey of conversion to acknowledge the truth of what has happened, in itself this is not enough. Today we are challenged as the People of God to take on the pain of our brothers and sisters wounded in their flesh and in their spirit. If, in the past, the response was one of omission, today we want solidarity, in the deepest and most challenging sense, to become our way of forging present and future history. And this in an environment where conflicts, tensions and above all the victims of every

type of abuse can encounter an outstretched hand to protect them and rescue them from their pain (cf. *Evangelii Gaudium*, 228). Such solidarity demands that we in turn condemn whatever endangers the integrity of any person. A solidarity that summons us to fight all forms of corruption, especially spiritual corruption. The latter is "a comfortable and self-satisfied form of blindness. Everything then appears acceptable: deception, slander, egotism and other subtle forms of self-centeredness, for "even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light" (2 *Cor 11:14*)" (*Gaudete et Exsultate*, 165). Saint Paul's exhortation to suffer with those who suffer is the best antidote against all our attempts to repeat the words of Cain: "Am I my brother's keeper?" (*Gen 4:9*).

I am conscious of the effort and work being carried out in various parts of the world to come up with the necessary means to ensure the safety and protection of the integrity of children and of vulnerable adults, as well as implementing zero tolerance and ways of making

all those who perpetrate or cover up these crimes accountable. We have delayed in applying these actions and sanctions that are so necessary, yet I am confident that they will help to guarantee a greater culture of care in the present and future.

Together with those efforts, every one of the baptized should feel involved in the ecclesial and social change that we so greatly need. This change calls for a personal and communal conversion that makes us see things as the Lord does. For as Saint John Paul II liked to say: "If we have truly started out anew from the contemplation of Christ, we must learn to see him especially in the faces of those with whom he wished to be identified" (*Novo Millennio Ineunte*, 49). To see things as the Lord does, to be where the Lord wants us to be, to experience a conversion of heart in his presence. To do so, prayer and penance will help. I invite the entire holy faithful People of God to a *penitential exercise of prayer and fasting*, following the Lord's command.[1] This can awaken our

Continued on page 40

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FRANCIS

Con't from page 39

conscience and arouse our solidarity and commitment to a culture of care that says "never again" to every form of abuse.

It is impossible to think of a conversion of our activity as a Church that does not include the active participation of all the members of God's People. Indeed, whenever we have tried to replace, or silence, or ignore, or reduce the People of God to small elites, we end up creating communities, projects, theological approaches, spiritualities and structures without roots, without memory, without faces, without bodies and ultimately, without lives.[2] This is clearly seen in a peculiar way of understanding the Church's authority, one common in many communities where sexual abuse and the abuse of power and conscience have occurred. Such is the case with clericalism, an approach that "not only nullifies the character of Christians, but also tends to diminish and undervalue the baptismal grace that the Holy Spirit has placed in the heart of our people".[3] Clericalism, whether fostered by priests themselves or by lay persons, leads to an excision

in the ecclesial body that supports and helps to perpetuate many of the evils that we are condemning today. To say "no" to abuse is to say an emphatic "no" to all forms of clericalism.

It is always helpful to remember that "in salvation history, the Lord saved one people. We are never completely ourselves unless we belong to a people. That is why no one is saved alone, as an isolated individual. Rather, God draws us to Himself, taking into account the complex fabric of interpersonal relationships present in the human community. God wanted to enter into the life and history of a people" (*Gaudete et Exsultate*, 6). Consequently, the only way that we have to respond to this evil that has darkened so many lives is to experience it as a task regarding all of us as the People of God. This awareness of being part of a people and a shared history will enable us to acknowledge our past sins and mistakes with a penitential openness that can allow us to be renewed from within. Without the active participation of all the Church's members, everything being done to uproot the culture of abuse in our communities will not be successful in generating the necessary dynamics for sound and realistic change.

The penitential dimension of fasting and prayer will help us as God's People to come before the Lord and our wounded brothers and sisters as sinners imploring forgiveness and the grace of shame and conversion. In this way, we will come up with actions that can generate resources attuned to the Gospel. For "when-ever we make the effort to return to the source and to recover the original freshness of the Gospel, new avenues arise, new paths of creativity open up, with different forms of expression, more eloquent signs and words with new meaning for today's world" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 11).

It is essential that we, as a Church, be able to acknowledge and condemn, with sorrow and shame, the atrocities perpetrated by consecrated persons, clerics, and all those entrusted with the mission of watching over and caring for those most vulnerable. Let us beg forgiveness for our own sins and the sins of others. An awareness of sin helps us to acknowledge the errors, the crimes and the wounds caused in the past and allows us, in the present, to be more open and committed along a journey of renewed conversion.

Likewise, penance and prayer will help us to open our eyes and

our hearts to other people's sufferings and to overcome the thirst for power and possessions that are so often the root of those evils. May fasting and prayer open our ears to the hushed pain felt by children, young people and the disabled. A fasting that can make us hunger and thirst for justice and impel us to walk in the truth, supporting all the judicial measures that may be necessary. A fasting that shakes us up and leads us to be committed in truth and charity with all men and women of good will, and with society in general, to combating all forms of the abuse of power, sexual abuse and the abuse of conscience.

In this way, we can show clearly our calling to be "a sign and instrument of communion with God and of the unity of the entire human race" (*Lumen Gentium*, 1).

"If one member suffers, all suffer together with it", said Saint Paul. By an attitude of prayer and penance, we will become attuned as individuals and as a community to this exhortation, so that we may grow in the gift of compassion, in justice, prevention and reparation. Mary chose to stand at the foot of her Son's cross. She did so unhesitatingly, standing firmly by Jesus' side. In this way, she reveals the way she lived her entire life. When

we experience the desolation caused by these ecclesial wounds, we will do well, with Mary, "to insist more upon prayer", seeking to grow all the more in love and fidelity to the Church (SAINT IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, *Spiritual Exercises*, 319). She, the first of the disciples, teaches all of us as disciples how we are to halt before the sufferings of the innocent, without excuses or cowardice. To look to Mary is to discover the model of a true follower of Christ.

May the Holy Spirit grant us the grace of conversion and the interior anointing needed to express before these crimes of abuse our compunction and our resolve courageously to combat them.

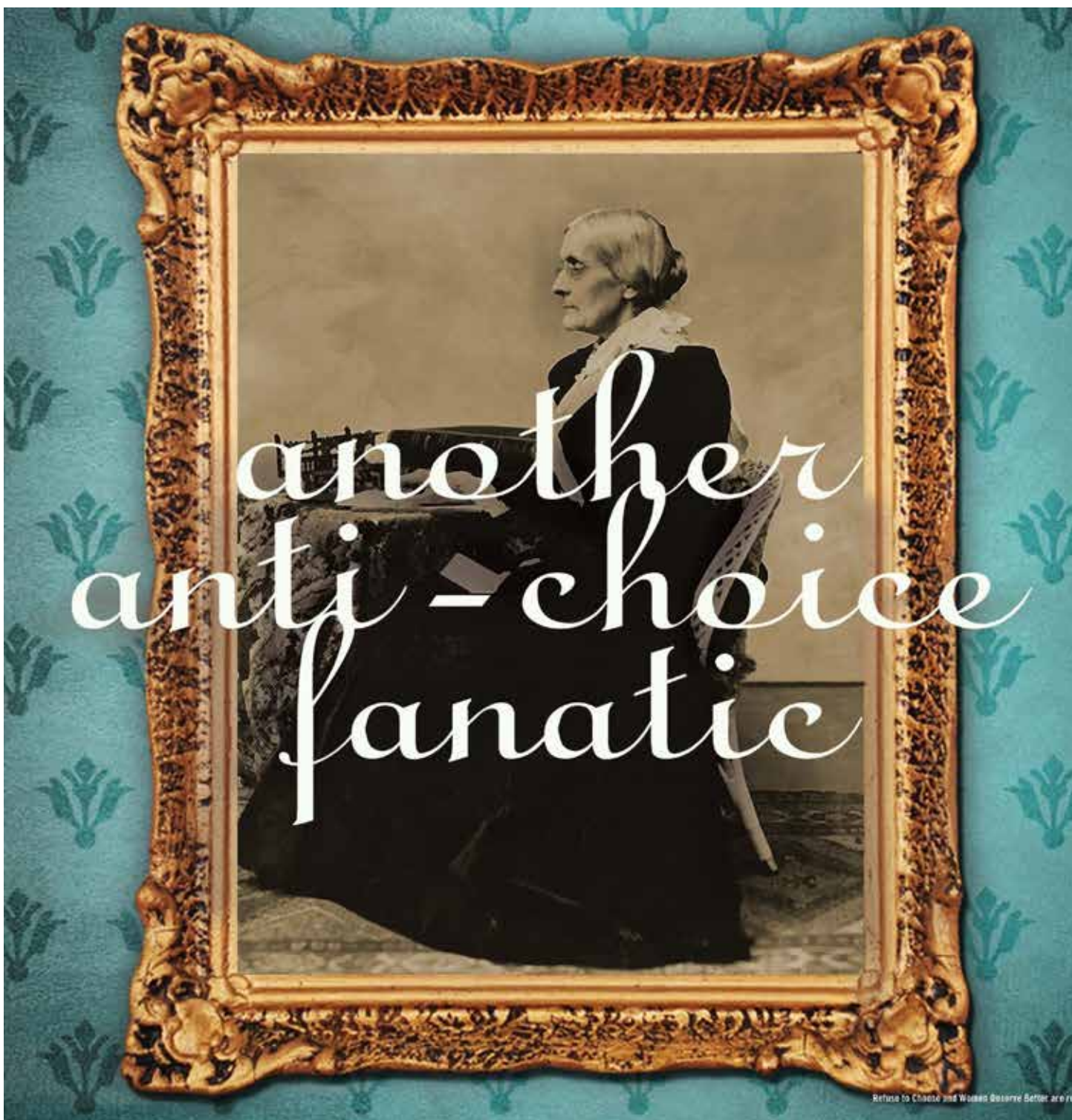
FRANCIS

Vatican City, 20 August 2018

[1] "But this kind [of demon] does not come out except by prayer and fasting" (*Mt* 17:21).

[2] Cf. *Letter to the Pilgrim People of God in Chile* (31 May 2018).

[3] *Letter to Cardinal Marc Ouellet, President of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America* (19 March 2016).



"Sweeter even than to have had the joy of caring for children of my own has it been to me to help bring about a better state of things for mothers generally, so their unborn little ones could not be willed away from them."

Susan B. Anthony

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