



Parish Times

High School Open House
Pull-Out Section Pages 20-21

OCTOBER 2019

Living the Faith Together

FREE

Pilgrimage to Kindness

As in past years, the American Bishops have designated this month as Respect for Life Month. They ask that all Catholics reflect on the sanctity of life from conception to natural death and through prayer and action seek a society which respects each and every human life. I'm reminded of a relevant quote from former Vice President Hubert Humphry. He said, "The moral test of government is how



Chuck Short

Continued on page 28

A Relationship That's Hard to Beat

I reflected in the last issue of *Our Parish Times* on the priesthood and how proud I am that 10 young men were ordained by Archbishop Wilton Gregory to serve the Church in Washington. It was a proud day for the archdiocese when those men made this commitment knowing they were entering a church in some turmoil and need of healing.



Fr. John Enzler

These new priests have been ordained a little over three months now, and most have settled into new their assignments at parishes.

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A Culture of Life

"All life has inestimable value, even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor are masterpieces of God's creation, made in His own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect."

—Pope Francis

Consider the complete and comprehensive meaning of a culture of life. Consider what might happen if we, as Catholics, retook control of our message, and professed loud and clear that we place the highest value on all human life – each of us made in the "image and likeness of God"?



Patricia McGann

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40 Days for Life Campaign Kicks Off at St. Jane de Chantal

By Carol Ramirez

A huge crowd of over 100 people gathered after 5pm Sunday Mass on September 22 at St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish to kick-off the 40 Days for Life campaign. The campaign started on Wednesday, September 25 and ends on November 3. Sadly, a late-term abortion clinic opened two years ago just a mile away from St. Jane Frances de Chantal Church in the Wildwood Medical Center on Old Georgetown Road.

Parishioners from St. Jane's, Holy Redeemer, Our Lady of Lourdes, Wildwood Baptist Church, Fourth Presbyterian, St. Raphael's, St. Peter's, St. Patrick's and Holy Cross, as well as members of the Knights of Columbus and many others, listened to a full program of speakers, and conversed with others who are committed

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Photo by Teresa Blazewicz

Women committed to ending abortion joined the 40 Days for Life campaign kick-off at St. Jane de Chantal Parish and enthusiastically held up signs for the cause.

St. Raphael School Lands National Blue Ribbon

By MJ Zafis-Garcia

Amid a sea of blue confetti and "No. 1" blue foam fingers – and against a backdrop of a giant blue banner proclaiming, "We did it!" – St. Raphael School in Rockville celebrated its first National Blue Ribbon on Sept. 26. The youngest school in the Archdiocese of Washington, SRS opened in 2006 and earned the prestigious honor the first year it was eligible.

Operated by the U.S. Department of Education, the Blue Ribbon program honors public and private schools that have graduated at least five classes. Non-public schools are recognized as "exemplary high performing" if student achievement in English and math is in the top 15 percent in the country. With scores well above the national average

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Photo by Maryann Kearns

The faculty and staff of St. Raphael School celebrate their first National Blue Ribbon!

Mercy Awarded Grant from Catholic Coalition for Special Education

The Catholic Coalition for Special Education (CCSE) strives to provide an appropriate, inclusive, high quality education for students with developmental and intellectual differences. With the CCSE grant, teachers at Mercy, particularly in the Middle School, will receive direct

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Our Lady of Mercy receives grant award from Catholic Coalition of Special Education.

Transitional Deacon was Prayer Fixture at Germantown Abortion Facility

By Siena and Jenn Do

Deacon James Morrison, who is spending his pastoral year at St. Mary's Parish before being ordained to the priesthood in June 2020, has had a long role as a soldier in the war to end abortion. As a home-schooled high schooler, he and his large family joined the local church community in coming together



Deacon James Morrison

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October's CBN Friday Breakfast

This month's guest speaker is Casey McCormick, President and CEO of McCormick Paints

McCormick Paints, a family-owned business with 28 stores, is the largest independent paint manufacturer in the Middle Atlantic region. Based in Rockville, Md., with a fully automated high production facility and distribution center in Frederick, Maryland, McCormick operates a 100% zero waste facility. It's formulations, done utilizing the latest technology and in collaboration with its clients, are developed for the harsh Mid-Atlantic region.

Casey is very active in the community and with industry

October 11

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Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center

7007 Bradley Blvd, Bethesda, MD

To Register Visit: www.cbnmc.com



Casey McCormick, guest speaker

organizations. He has served on numerous industry boards including serving as President of Coatings Research Institute and President of Color Guild International.

CNB Breakfast Meetings bring together an average of 80-100 members and guests to hear speakers, network, socializing and focus on the CBN-MC tasks from 7:30 to 9:00am on the 2nd Friday of each month. Each meeting features a guest speaker. In addition to the speaker, there is plenty of time for networking and socializing – attendees exchange business cards with the promise to contact the recipient before the next meeting.

OPT

The Academy of Holy Cross Welcomes Archbishop Wilton Gregory



Holy Cross senior Molly Kueter and Archbishop Wilton Gregory.

The Academy of the Holy Cross observed the Church's feast of the Triumph of the Cross with a Holy Cross Day celebration on Friday, September 13. The community welcomed Archbishop Wilton Gregory to campus as part of the day's festivities to celebrate Mass with the students, faculty and staff. The Archbishop was joined on the altar by Father Paul Dressler, OFM Cap., Father James Van Dyke, S.J., and Deacon Frank Avenilla, who is the father of Holy Cross junior Seren Avenilla. Joining the community for the liturgy were six Sisters of the Holy Cross, who were acknowledged by Archbishop Gregory for their dedicated service in the Church and the legacy they have built in Catholic education. The Mass was also attended by members of the Holy Cross Board of Trustees, current family members and Holy Cross alumnae.

At the beginning of the Mass, President Katy Prebble welcomed the Archbishop and the many guests joining in the celebration. Later in the liturgy, Samantha Hermans, a senior who is the president of the student council, offered thanks to Archbishop Gregory on behalf of the students for visiting the Academy. She also presented the Archbishop with a spiritual bouquet from students, faculty/staff, and parents who committed to pray for Archbishop Gregory over the next month, and a monetary donation in his name to the Catholic Charities hurricane relief fund.

The music during the Mass, led by the student choirs, included three special selections in honor of the feast day. "Cross of Our Hope," by Stephen Warner, was written in recognition of the beatification of Blessed Basil Moreau, founder of the Holy Cross sisters, brothers and priests. "How True it Is," by Michael Turnblom, a former Holy Cross teacher, is inspired by the words of Blessed Basil Moreau. The Holy Cross alma mater was written by a Sister of the Holy

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Justice and Advocacy Council

Addiction: A Social Justice Issue

By William and Frances Beard

Addiction to alcohol and drugs is a critical public health issue affecting individuals, families, communities, and the nation in deeply disturbing ways. There is a consensus among most Americans about this. That fact supports our concern and justifies the clinical and law enforcement resources marshaled to address the problem for many years now. The recent surge in opioid addiction is the latest devastating development in a long history of lives destroyed or greatly damaged due to untreated substance use disorders.

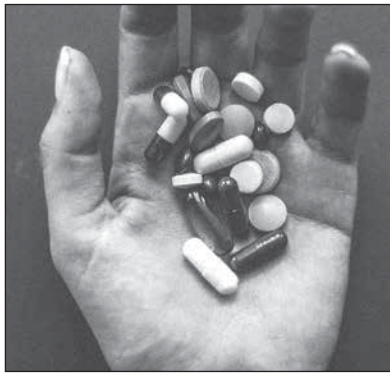
Many pastors in the Archdiocese can tell of the funerals they have celebrated for those lost to drugs. Catholic Charities and parishes have responded with gatherings about addiction.

Less accepted or understood, however, are the structural and societal factors that seemingly predestine larger proportions of our poor and marginalized populations to suffer with drug and alcohol dependence. These factors have a silent but deadly impact on communities across the country—including here in Montgomery County.

Seeking root causes of addiction

Researchers are beginning to look beyond addiction to the structural factors that bring substance use disorders to the doorsteps of the disadvantaged. Our nation's preeminent drug research body, the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) of the National Institutes of Health recently urged politicians and practitioners to confront the socioeconomic disparities that lay at the root of the drug crisis.

According to NIDA, "Blame for the opioid crisis now claiming 91 lives every day is often placed on the supply side: over-prescription of opioid pain relievers and the influx of cheap, high-quality heroin and powerful synthetics like fentanyl, which undoubtedly have played a major role. But we cannot hope to abate the evolving crisis without also addressing the lost hope



and opportunities that have intensified the demand for drugs among those who have faced loss of jobs and homes due to economic downturns."

The NIDA report continues, "Reversing the opioid crisis and preventing future drug crises of this scope will require addressing the economic disparities, housing instability, poor education quality, and lack of access to quality health care (including evidence-based treatment) that currently plague many of America's disadvantaged individuals, families, and communities" (NIDA, "Addressing the Opioid Crisis Means Confronting Socioeconomic Disparities," 10/25/17).

A new form of slavery

Pope Francis on several occasions has called drug addiction "a new form of slavery" (Pontifical Academy of Sciences, 11/24/16). This echoes the long-standing social teaching of the Church, such as that of Vatican II and St. Pope John Paul II, gathered together in the *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church* (paras 5, 158). Pope Francis also said, "Bombs destroy bodies. Addictions destroy the mind, soul and body too" (Address at Roma Tre University, 2/17/17).

In this same address, Pope Francis guides the J&A Council as we seek to influence public policy, reminding us that we are rooted in faith. "I profess myself Christian, and the transcendence which I open myself and look to has a name: Jesus. I am convinced that his Gospel is a force of true personal and social renewal."

Toward more meaningful legislation in Montgomery County

The Justice and Advocacy (J&A) Council of Montgomery County recently adopted addiction as one of our core issues in light of these emerging and pernicious trends. J&A Council co-chair Brian Dorsey

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Is there an Unplanned showing in your future?

By John Naughton

Right to Life of Montgomery County Education Foundation has purchased 50 DVDs of the acclaimed movie *Unplanned* and is distributing them without charge for showing to church groups, including non-Catholic churches and "pro-choice" groups, teen clubs, sodalities, etc. in an effort to give viewers a closer look at what Planned Parenthood calls women's health care and Planned Parenthood's treatment of women.

Unplanned is a true story about Abby Johnson who worked as director of a Planned Parenthood facility believing she was helping women. One day she was asked to help with a sonogram probe during an abortion and saw the image of the baby struggling in pain which made her violently ill. She resigned from PP and became an avid pro-lifer, helping others to leave the abortion industry and find respectable employment. Eventually the PP facility she directed closed. Mike Lindell, the TV "pillow guy", plays a small part in the movie.

When Ashley Bratcher, the actress who plays Abby Johnson, told her mother she had won the part, her mother confessed to her that she had almost aborted her. She was already on the operating table when she



changed her mind.

Unplanned is a very well done adult movie with excellent acting and screenplay. If you are interested in showing it to your group, contact RTLME-EF at 301-770 LIFE or on Facebook at RTLME. All who see this absorbing film will be uplifted morally and spiritually.

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Rev. Michael Salah, Pastor
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MJ Zafis-Garcia,
OPT Editor

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More St. Raphael News on Page 7

2019 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL K-8 OPEN HOUSE

St. Raphael School

9:30 a.m.

Monday, Oct. 21

For details and to register:
straphaelschoolmd.org



St. Raphael School
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301-762-2143

SAVE THE DATE: Preschool and K-8 double open house Jan. 13



Photo by MJ Zafis-Garcia / St. Raphael School

Congratulations to the members of the 2019-20 Student Council—(from left) Representatives Douglas Rohrer, Andy Dulcey, Declan Healy, and Abby Mendez; Treasurer Ellie Rascher; Secretary Tatum Francois; Vice President Brendan Beane; and President Kate Gregory. Joining them are Pastor Mike Salah, Student Council Faculty Adviser John Henderson, and Fr. Tom Morrow.

What's Ahead

Oct. 19: Angels on the Run 5K and kids' runs—proceeds benefit the school!

Oct. 21: SRS K-8 Open House invites interested parents to a presentation and tour of our campus.

Nov. 15: Adult Trivia Night invites current school and nursery school parents to a fun social event—winner has bragging rights for a year!

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

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St. Raphael Shines Bright!

By Tiffany Murphy

St. Raphael is *shining* bright as the school year is off to a wonderful start and full of SRS spirit! SRS welcomes and congratulates the newest members of the 2019-20 Student Council. The Student Council installation took place before the entire student body at Morning Prayer on Sept. 9.

SRNS and SRS celebrated Family Fun Night on Sept. 13. Easily called the best back-to-school party in town, the event had face painting, moon bouncing, dancing, fellowship, and fun. The DJ booth was rocking, and the kindergarten class closed it down at the end of the night! That same weekend, the eighth-graders hosted their car wash; it was such a splash! The annual fundraiser helps finance the

class's graduation-year expenses.

Fr. Michael Salah, Principal Teri Dwyer, and the St. Raphael community are excited for the 11th annual Fr. Bill Finch Memorial St. Raphael Golf Classic on Sept. 30 at Lakewood Country Club. As we continue to fulfill one of Fr. Bill's last works in progress prior to his passing, the Golf Classic fundraising this year has brought its "A" Game (a golfing term—a golfer's best game which is executed on a regular basis.). An anonymous sponsor stepped up to match donations/sponsorships dollar-for-dollar up to \$5,000. This amazing offer allowed every donation to double the impact. The match was met in just three days! This year's Golf Classic Bake Sale brought in almost \$1,500! All proceeds benefit the students of St. Raphael School.

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L-R: Edith Galvin, Indah Oei, Aleta Phillips, Joyce Aubrey, Betty Gill, Louise Cox, Leela Nidhary, Martha Verme, Sandy Cupples and Sharon Discavage

From the Holy Land to the Holy Mass

Our pastor, Fr. Michael Salah, took at least seventy Sodalists and parishioners on a virtual tour of the Holy Land at our first meeting of the year on September 11. Fr. Salah grew up in Jerusalem and is highly knowledgeable of the geography, history, religious sites and politics of the area. Of course, he interjected some of his humor into the presentation.

Please join us on October 15 when our Parochial Vicar, Fr. Dan Gallagher, will speak with us about the Hidden Beauty of the Holy Mass in the Parish Library at 7:00 pm. We will set the stage for our reflection on the Mass by praying the Rosary in honor of the mother of the Sacrificial Lamb, Jesus Christ.

Continued on page 7

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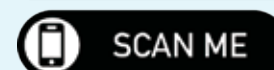
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St. Bernadette Inaugural Echo Dinner

Saturday, November 16, 2019
5:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Do you hear that? Do you remember the St. Bernadette ECHO? We are calling you! Please join us to celebrate 72 years of St. Bernadette memories with friends from our school, parish and neighborhoods past, present and future. The evening will include recognition for the Class of 1962 as they are inducted into the St. Bernadette Alumni Honor Roll for initiating the launch of Fund a Scholar.

Gather your classmates, friends and neighbors. No better time or place for a reunion and a chance to catch up for an incredible, important and impactful cause.

5:00 PM Mass followed by cocktails and heavy hors d'oeuvres in the school hall. Evening concludes with dancing.



TICKET PRICE: \$100.00

Tickets may be purchased with a credit card on school website under ECHO DINNER tab or by check delivered to the school office made out to St. Bernadette School.

Cannot join us this evening but would like to donate to this worthy appeal? Donations may be made on school website with a credit card under the tab marked ANNUAL FUND or by check made out to St. Bernadette School with "FUND A SCHOLAR" on the memo line.

All proceeds from The Echo Dinner support the newly launched Fund a Scholar initiative. This fund provides small need-based grants to students and makes a St. Bernadette education affordable and accessible to all who wish to have one.

Please share help us get the word out!

For questions or sponsorship opportunities please contact: Kate Rodgers, 301-593-5611 x135 krodgers@saintbernadetteschool.org

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St. Bernadette Parish

70 University Blvd., East
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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

More St. Bernadette News on Page 18



The SBS community is pleased and proud to welcome new members and celebrate new roles within our 2019-2020 faculty and staff. L-R: Bridgette Thompson (Health Room Medical Technician), Lynn Davis (Grade 1 Teaching Assistant), Mia Miller (Grade 1 Teacher), Christine Przybysz (Grade 1 Teacher) and Madeline Belknap (Music Teacher). We thank them for their energy, contributions and wish them terrific success.

The St. Bernadette Tuesday Club is Looking for New Members

By Mary Ann Fitzgerald, St. Bernadette Tuesday Club Travel Committee Chairman.

St. Bernadette's Tuesday Club, which is a social and travel club for seniors, has not been travelling monthly as was normal

in the past. Our membership has been steadily diminishing down to about 30 members due to death and declining health. Our almost 50-year existence is in jeopardy of continuing unless we are able to

entice some younger seniors into joining the club.

We still meet monthly to enjoy desserts and beverages but, as such, we have had to cancel and

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New and Returning Ministries at St. Bernadette

St. Bernadette has a few new and returning ministries for men, women and children that have gotten off to a great start this fall! Looking for a

way to connect with others and invigorate your faith? Read on to find out more and make time to check out one or two of these groups this fall!

That Man Is You! (Paradisus Dei)

Dozens of men from St. Bernadette attended the first *That Man Is You!* meeting on Saturday, September 14. A 13-week session, *That Man Is You!* honestly addresses the pressures and temptations that men face in our modern culture, especially those relating to their roles as husbands and fathers. The St. Bernadette chapter will meet in MSR at 6:30am-8:00am for 13 consecutive Sundays for discussion and fellowship. And yes, there will be a hot breakfast! Register at <https://paradisusdei.org/that-man-is-you/> Or email stbtmiy@gmail.com for more information.

St. Bernadette Well-Read Mom (Well-Read Women) Book Club

The St. Bernadette women are in the 4th year of their popular book club! This year's theme is "The Year of the Artist." In his Letter to Artists, Pope John Paul II asserts that "Art has a unique capacity to take one or other facet of the message and translate it into colors, shapes and sounds which nourish the intuition of those who look or listen." Members will read the books on the list and consider how these stories work to create, shape and reveal the beauty, truth and goodness in our loves and lives. St. Bernadette's WRW group meets the first Thursday evening of each month in the MSR at 7:45pm. Email Jasmine Kuzner at jasminekuzner@gmail.com for more information.

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St. Raphael

HOLY MASS

Con't from page 4

Keep our calendar of events handy and become a member of St. Raphael's Sodality (information below). St. Raphael's Sodality invites all women of the parish to join us. Through our motto "To Jesus through Mary," members are enriched with a deeper love and devotion for Mary, our Blessed Mother. Monthly meetings provide an opportunity for prayer, growth in holiness, and friendship. If you have questions about St. Raphael's Sodality, please call Louise Cox at 240-731-1348.

Dues are \$25 through October 31 and \$30 after that date. Send your check payable to St. Raphael Church (note Sodality dues in the memo line) to Aleta Phillips, 304 Winter Walk Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20878.

Sodality Calendar of Events
2019-2020



Wei-Sian Oei and Indah Oei enjoy Fr. Michael Salah's presentation on the Holy Land



Photo by MJ Zafis-Garcia / St. Raphael School

Student sellers and promoters at this year's Golf Classic Bake Sale helped generate almost \$1,500.



Photo by Ashley Mendez

Another satisfied customer at Family Fun Night, the best back-to-school party in town!

2019

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St. Bart's Embraces a Culture for Life

St. Bartholomew School's annual service calendar demonstrates a year-round effort to help its students understand, value, and embrace a culture that respects the dignity of every human life.

The 2020 Farmers' Almanac predicts a colder than normal winter with heavy precipitation. To help the DC Area's most vulnerable, St. Bart's annual Socktober is expanding to include a winter coat drive to benefit Catholic Charities'

Coats of Many Colors program. Each year, St. Bartholomew Parish and School collects more than 1,000 pairs of new adult socks and hopes to add 150 new or gently used winter coats.

Also in October, the school hosts its first "House Competition" to collect the most coins for the Archdiocese of Washington's Missionary Childhood Association. Each year students look forward to a visit from Sr. Annai for a special Mass, aptly coined the "Mission Mass" (pun intended).

The service calendar ramps up to include a Halloween candy collection for Soldier's Angels, the Greg Gannon Canned Food Drive in conjunction with the Thanksgiving collection for sister parish Sacred Heart, and the Adopt-a-Family program during Christmas.

In January, all students will participate in another House Competition to provide sandwiches for Martha's Table. Additionally, in recognition of the Mass for Life,

Continued on page 12

Five New Faces Added to St. Bart's Teaching Team

St. Bartholomew School welcomed 37 new students and five new teachers this year. Read on to learn about what each new teacher brings to the team.

Mrs. Katherine Plunket, Pre-K lead teacher, brings over 15 years of professional teaching experience in both general and special

education classrooms throughout Montgomery County and a seemingly endless supply of energy for a parent with two children under 2 years old and a part-time Pilates instructor to boot. She attended Catholic schools through college, earning her degree in education from St. Joseph's University in

Philadelphia.

Joining Mrs. Plunket in Pre-K is Mrs. Kirsten Howard. She's balanced managing a household with three of her own with substitute teaching in the Archdiocese of Washington and managing

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St. Bart's Choir trip to Italy

In October 2018, the St. Bart's Choir, spouses, and friends toured Tuscany, Florence, Assisi, and Rome, led by our pastor Rev. Mark Knestout. The choir, under the direction of music director Carole Wysocki, sang their way across Italy, at special Masses celebrated by Fr. Mark in some of Italy's most beautiful and iconic basilicas, cathedrals, and chapels: Orvieto Basilica, Basilica of San Domenico, Siena; Tomb of St. Francis, Assisi, the Catacombs, St. Peter's in Rome, Colonna Chapel at St John Lateran Cathedral, among others.

The group also visited the Pontifical North American College, where Fr. Mark studied, and four days touring the

Continued on page 22



Choir and Fr. Mark pictured with recently ordained Fr. Ben Pettey, who was the deacon at the Mass at St. Patrick's.

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



Rev. Mark Knestout celebrated Mass welcoming families to the start of Religious Education on Sunday September 15, assisted by Deacon John Class. The Homily by the Deacon reiterated the theme of the readings, forgiveness and welcoming in Christ's world in contrast to the judgement and punishment emphasized in politics and justice systems. The Pastor at the end of Mass blessed the students, parents, and teachers.

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New Eighth-Grade CCD teacher at St. Bartholomew

Brother Brendan Baran, O.P. is a friar of the Order of Preachers, Province of St. Joseph. The Order of Preachers (Dominican Friars) was founded by St. Dominic in 1216 for the purpose of spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ through preaching and teaching. Br. Brendan entered the order in 2016 and is currently assigned to the Dominican House of Studies in Northeast DC where he is studying in preparation for ordination to the priesthood. Prior to entering the order, Br. Brendan worked as an educator at boarding high schools in Virginia, Florida, and Connecticut. He taught history and Latin, coached crew. Since entering the order, he spends most of his days studying the theology of Thomas Aquinas, but he has also worked in ministry with the Missionaries of Charity (Otis St., NE), St. Vincent de Paul Homeless Shelter (Louisville, KY), and Frassati Fellowship Young Adult Ministry. He is excited about working with the Eighth Grade CCD at St. Bartholomew's.



Brother Brendan Baran, O.P.

St. Jane de Chantal's Traditional "Back to School" Welcome

Adapted from a Report by Catie Skibo

St. Jane de Chantal school welcomed back hundreds of students and their families to begin the new academic year. As it has been a tradition for many years at St. Jane, the first day starts with students and parents lining up in the school yard waiting to enter the building. Pastor Fr. Giese was on hand working the line, greeting and talking with the Parish's school students and families. As they made their way in, Mrs. Hamilton, the

Continued on page 22



Above, Pastor Fr. Giese greeted students and their families as they waited in line to enter the school on their first day back this academic year.



At left, the main prize after the long wait to enter the school's door was a big hug and photo opportunity with Mrs. Hamilton, St. Jane de Chantal School's loving and smiling Principal.

St. Jane de Chantal School Welcomes New Faculty

Story by Catie Skibo

St. Jane de Chantal School welcomed three new teachers for the 2019-20 school year. The new seventh grade science teacher, Mr. Tommy Williams, comes to St. Jane de Chantal with enthusiasm and a love of teaching. He was a substitute teacher at the school last year and also the Garrett Park Swim Team Coach last summer. He is excited to join the St. Jane's school community as a full-time member and would like to get even more involved in the school community by potentially coaching CYO soccer. Ms. Mónica Sainz Pabón joined the school as the new Spanish teacher. She was also a substitute teacher at St. Jane's school last year and was excited to meet all of her new students this new season. In fourth



Photo by Tina Maxwell

Faculty and staff of St. Jane de Chantal School pose for their traditional start of the school year photo.

grade, Ms. Brigid Morris, a St. Jane de Chantal School alumna, joined the school's teaching staff. She feels very lucky to work with her very own fourth grade teacher, Mrs. Cooper. The Parish and School warmly welcome these new teachers into its community.

OPT

St. Jane's Environmental Committee Visit Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Adapted from Report by Maureen Wilkerson

To help fulfill one of St. Jane de Chantal Environmental Committee's goal of education concerning conservation of the environment, members of the Committee organized a visit to the headquarters of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF). Rich Moore, the facilities manager at CBF, gave several members plus a guest a private tour of its facility located on 32 acres outside of Annapolis on the Bay. The tour was very informative about their use of solar energy for power and light. The by-product of their composting toilets is fertilizer for the natural

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

More St. Jane de Chantal News on Page 22



CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOR
CHILDREN PRE-K THROUGH GRADE 8

St. Jane Frances de Chantal School OPEN HOUSE

Monday, October 21, 2019 9:00–11:00AM

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St. John the Evangelist School Off to a “New” Start

The beginning of each school year brings lots of new things – new backpacks, new school supplies, new school shoes. Schools have new things too – new coats of paint, new bulletin boards, new schedules, new teachers. But this school year, St. John the Evangelist School went really big in the “new” department. There is new furniture in every classroom in grades 3 through 8, new lockers for Middle School, and a new water fountain that also fills water bottles.

The classroom furniture features desks and chairs that are easily configured in multiple ways to facilitate collaborative learning groups. Standing desks are available for students who want to demonstrate first-hand all the research on move-



Above, Father Calis blessing eighth-grade desks



At left, Hamlet cast members

Below, Ophelia and Hamlet practicing sword skills



At right, New desks in collaborative configuration

Below, Fifth graders using whiteboard workstation



At left, Student standing in front of school-wide project, St. John the Evangelist Eagles!



St. John the Evangelist Parish
10103 Georgia Ave.
Silver Spring, MD
301-681-7663

Rev. Joseph Calis
Pastor

St. John the Evangelist School
Mrs. Margaret Durney,
Principal
301-681-7656

Monica M. Bradford, OPT Editor
bradford2@comcast.net



St. John the Evangelist School
OPEN HOUSE

THURSDAY
Nov. 14

8:30-11:30AM
6:00-8:30PM

SUNDAY
Jan. 26

11:30-2:00PM

THURSDAY
Feb. 13

6:00-8:30PM



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ment and brain-based learning. There are workstations tables with whiteboard surfaces, complete with “wiggly” chairs to help students incorporate a little physical movement while they are brainstorming!

Our Pastor, Father Calis, went from classroom to classroom blessing the furniture and lockers and all those who use them. He even

stopped at the water fountain to bless it with holier water.

Our newly formed Drama Club, after a successful musical premiere in the Spring, is trying something new—a drama. And not just any drama, but Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*. So far the actors are most excited about learning to sword fight!

At the beginning of each school

year, our art teacher, Mrs. Stephanie Ricco, creates a school-wide project for us. Her new idea this year was for each student and teacher to decorate a feather. She then put them all together to create wings, so we St. John the Evangelist Eagles could begin to soar into this school year.

OPT

Congratulations, Father Cusick

Saint John the Evangelist Church and School want to congratulate our former Parochial Vicar, Father Mark Cusick, on his installation as Pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Washington, DC. The Installation Mass was on September 15, presided by His Excellency Bishop Roy Campbell.

St. Francis Xavier parishioners, family, friends, and St. John the Evangelist parishioners were present to share this beautiful moment. We miss you, Father Cusick, but wish you the very best in your first pastorate.



Bishop Campbell in the center, Father Cusick to the right, and Father Calis to the left

OPT

It pays to advertise in Our Parish Times



SFIS founding principal makes his profession as a member of the Secular Franciscan Order.



Forty-four middle school students from SFIS participated in the #GlobalClimateStrike on Sept. 20.

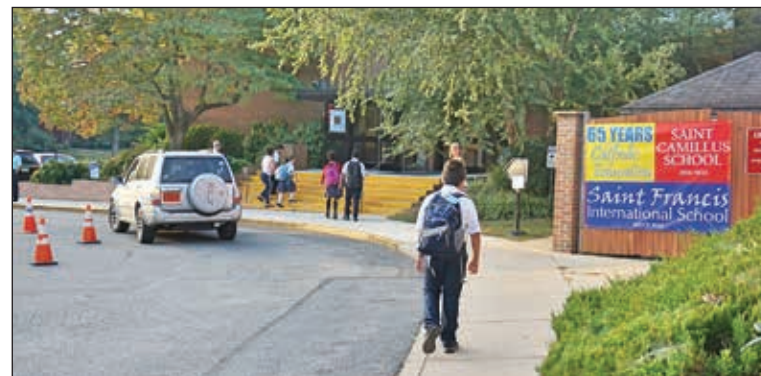


SFIS students helped to lead the Season of Creation prayer service in DC.



Fifth graders net a rockfish during their field trip with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

**It pays to advertise in
Our Parish Times**



Sept. 23rd marked the 65th anniversary of the opening of St. Camillus School in 1954.

The St. Camillus Parish Life and Education Center is 65!

On September 23, 1954, the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur traveled from Trinity College in DC and met 456 students for the first time. After years of planning and preparing, St. Camillus School opened with its first classes of Kindergarten through fourth grade. Under the leadership of Sr. Ann Patricia May, six Notre Dame Sisters and a one lay teacher began a legacy that is now in its 65th year. Throughout the last six decades, thousands of children have been nurtured in the classrooms of the St. Camillus Parish Life and Education Center, including 1,277 in the year 1960 alone!

On October 18, 1954, the Sisters moved into the completed convent

and the following morning, Fr. Grace, the founding pastor, celebrated mass with them in their cha-

Continued on page 22

St. Francis International School

www.saintfrancisinternational.org

Tobias A. Harkleroad,
Principal

St. Camillus Campus
1500 Camillus Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20903

St. Mark Campus
7501 Adelphi Road
Hyattsville, MD 20783



Help us celebrate 65 years!

The St. Camillus Parish Life and Education Center was built in 1954. Since then, thousands of young people have been educated at Saint Francis International School, St. Camillus School, and St. Camillus Faith Formation.

Saturday, October 19

Special 65th Anniversary mass in the Camillia Room - 9 am
Open House - 10:30 am
Family Block Party on Beacon Road - 11:30 to 3 pm
Founders Dinner - 7 pm (space is limited, tickets \$35)

Sunday, October 20

Mass with Bishop Dorsonville - 10:30 am
followed by procession and rededication
of the Parish Life and Education Center

*Special anniversary items are available,
including engraved memorial bricks,
a cookbook, and t-shirts.*



For more information visit: www.stcamilluschurch.org

NEW FACES

Con't from page 8

the administration of her husband Kevin's commercial real estate company. Prior to parenthood, Kirsten had a 10-year career in Human Resources, where she recruited and trained adults. Her volunteer work as Youth Group Leader, Sunday School teacher, and HSA President make her a well-rounded addition to the St. Bart's team.

Mrs. Karen Fogleman is an experienced Resource Teacher and a certified speech and language pathologist who brings over 18 years of teaching experience in the Archdiocese of Washington to the 5th, 6th, and 7th grade math classrooms. She has a strong understand-

ing of the middle school math curriculum, student development, and how to approach math instruction in a hands-on, challenging but supportive way.

When Mrs. Susan Kirkbride announced her retirement after 25 years, Mr. Charles Black was asked to come in and present a demo class to the students as part of the interview process. He quickly won the approval of the middle school students and their parents. He has an advanced post-baccalaureate teaching certificate and has taught middle and high school science for the past seven years. Lots of hands-on experiments to promote active and meaningful learning can be expected in his lively classroom.

Ms. Felicia Carlini has been a practicing, certified English teach-

er for the past 5 years, teaching grades 7-12. She received her B.A. in English from Sacred Heart University in Connecticut and her M.Ed. from Boston College in MA. In addition to her teaching certifications in two states, Ms. Carlini has also received the Gold Medal of Excellence in English Literature during her undergraduate studies. Sharing her love of reading and encouraging her students to develop their creativity and independent critical thinking skills are her favorite aspects of teaching.

Prospective families have the opportunity to observe these wonderful teachers in action at the Fall Open House on Friday, October 11, from 8:30am-10am.

OPT

CULTURE

Con't from page 8

each grade will assemble a "Baby Bundle" for new mothers in need.

Students surprise the senior residents in the Bartholomew House Assisted Living facility next door to share Valentine's greetings. By this time of year, the school supplies and materials originally collected for our area's youth are depleted so St. Bart's students will embark on its third annual Promise Pack collection, originally devised by class of 2019 students Liza Jane Triandafilou and Jack Gallagher. Last spring over 50 backpacks filled with fresh supplies, toiletries, and gift cards were donated to children in Montgomery County.

OPT

Throughout the school year additional efforts may be organized by the Student Government or individual classes such as bake sales for hurricane relief or donation based out-of-uniform days to benefit various organizations. With each service activity, St. Bart's students are provided the opportunity to reflect on how these efforts fit the seven tenets of Catholic social teaching and the critical importance of sharing these reflections with friends and family outside of the school and parish to promote the common good by embracing a culture of life.

MEMORIES

Con't from page 6

St. Bernadette Children's Liturgy of The Word

Our Children's Liturgy of the Word began on Sunday September 9 with a lot of new friends and faces! Geared towards children in grades Kindergarten through third grade, Children's Liturgy of the Word is a ministry with deep liturgical roots in our Catholic tradition. Children celebrate the Liturgy of the Word in a different space with readings and a Gospel Reflection that is lovingly considered with a child's heart and thoughts in mind. After our Liturgy of the Word, children are brought back upstairs to participate in the Liturgy of the Eucharist with the congregation. Children's Liturgy of the Word is offered during the 9am Sunday Mass through the school year.

OPT

GRANT

Con't from page 1

mentorship in Universal Design for Learning (UDL) from Vivian Nourse, an in-house teacher who has specialized in designing lessons and classroom environments for all learners. UDL is an approach to teaching and learning that provides students with equal opportunity to be successful. The method uses various means of acquiring information and knowledge and multiple means of demonstrating what they have learned.

The goal of UDL is to design all classroom environments for students with a variety of needs, including those who need extended learning opportunities. All students can and want to learn, and our mission at Mercy is to ensure we're doing everything we can to guarantee that all students learn and grow in body, mind, and spirit.

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Holy Redeemer Welcomes New Middle School English Teacher

Holy Redeemer School is happy to have Margie Davin join its Middle School team. Margie holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in Communications from Northeastern University and American University respectively. She has three years of editing and writing experience, has been a long term sub teaching Middle School Religion, and is excited to join the middle school team at

Holy Redeemer as an English teacher for the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades. Margie and her husband have raised four



Pictured at Peter Davin's 2019 Graduation from Georgetown Prep are left to right: Margie Davin, Peter Davin '15, Tom Davin, Maddie Davin '11, Jack Davin '14, and Tommy Davin '09.

children, all of whom attended Holy Redeemer School. "It is an honor to give back to my community."

OPT



Holy Redeemer parishioners standing up for life at the Carhart Abortion Clinic.

Holy Redeemer Respect Life Committee in Action

Holy Redeemer parishioners have been participating in prayer vigils at the Carhart Abortion Clinic located inside the Wildwood Medical Center at 10401 Old Georgetown Rd, Bethesda. There is a small and dedicated group that prays at the sidewalk every Monday year round. They also attend the prayer vigils sponsored by Our Lady of Lourdes on the first Sunday of every month. More parishioners are welcome to support the Fall 40 Days for Life Campaign, September 25-November 3, by participating in the sidewalk prayer vigils, particularly on Mondays, anytime from 11am-7pm. People can just show up or make a commitment to be there by signing up at <https://www.40daysforlife.com/bethesda>.

Other HR Campaign for Life activities

include:

- Spiritual Adoption of an Unborn Baby on October 6 after all masses. Started by Archbishop Fulton Sheen, people will have the opportunity to "spiritually adopt" a child who is newly conceived this month. Parishioners are being asked to adopt these babies by picking up a prayer card after Mass, naming the baby and praying for the baby daily.
- Also on October 6 Holy Redeemer will be participating in the "Witness for Life Mass" at St. Jane de Chantal at 12 noon followed by a prayer vigil at the Carhart Abortion Clinic.
- On October 9 there will be a viewing of the movie "Unplanned" in the church basement. Parishioners are welcome.

OPT

BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

Con't from page 1

and exceeding the archdiocesan average, SRS has consistently surpassed Blue Ribbon requirements.

"The award is a shared blessing among all of our families, students, teachers, and staff," said teacher Jerry Nash, a 2019 recipient of the archdiocesan Golden Apple Award. "It is an affirmation of the leadership that Teri Dwyer brings as principal."

"The Principal of the Year, the NCEA award, and our Golden Apples were all individual accolades," said Dwyer, who was honored as the ADW's Principal of the Year in 2018 and recognized among the country's top educators by the National Catholic Educational Association in January. "But this recognition is for our team – students, parents, staff, families, parishioners. We weave Christ into everything we do. This Blue Ribbon is like a gold medal validating a job well done!"

OPT

A Call to Virtue

By Pam Hurley

The Holy Spirit is alive and active in the Holy Redeemer School community. At the end of the 2017-2018 academic year the teachers at Holy Redeemer read a professional development book about "Social-Emotional-Learning" (SEL). Learning about the new trend in education was very exciting. Our new school counselor, Mary Ellen Bombara, provided many opportunities for the teachers to learn how to implement SEL in the classroom. This approach helps the students to become aware of and check their behaviors. Simultaneously, the HR religion department noticed a growing need among their students who seemed to be facing, on a daily basis, adult situations in the media and their own community. The department desired to find a way to help children draw on their Catholic faith to cope with the ups and downs of everyday life. They introduced the Virtues in Practice program. SEL, fit well with the new virtue program they added to the curriculum. It was a great way to blend this new learning trend with our Catholic identity.

The Virtues in Practice program was developed by the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia Congregation in Nashville, Tennessee, and is offered at no cost to Catholic schools. It runs on a three-year cycle beginning with the Year of Faith, followed by the Year of Hope and ending with the Year of Charity. We are currently in our second year, the Year of Hope. Each month will focus on one virtue beginning with Hope in September, followed by Studiousness, Humility, Patience, Fidelity, Cheerfulness, Temperance, Obedience, and Diligence.

Through the Virtues in Practice program the students learn to grow in Christian virtue

and see this practice as concrete expressions of their Catholic faith. They learn that virtue is not just something to know, but something to be lived. Students learn about a saint who exemplifies the month's virtue and practice it through role-playing in the classroom. Each virtue is reinforced both in school and at home. Parents, as the primary educators of their children in the faith, are encouraged through Home Projects to talk about and model the virtue of the month with their children.

According to Mary Harper and Pam Hurley from the school's religious education department, "We have begun to see some of the fruits of the Virtues in Practice program. We see older students bonding on a different level with their siblings, helping out in the classroom and at home without being asked, and a greater desire among the students to visit Jesus in the adoration chapel. We have also witnessed an increased enthusiasm and involvement in the Faith in Action Team, a student-led after school club."

Combining Social Emotional Learning and the Virtues in Practice program has greatly enriched our school community and helped our students gain confidence and perspective in facing the ups and downs of their day to day life through the strength of their faith.

OPT

Holy Redeemer Parish

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Holy Redeemer School

Mrs. Colleen Ryan, Principal

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Grades 5-8 • Monday, November 11, 2019

Preschool-Grade 8 • Friday, January 10, 2020

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WWW.STONERIDGESCHOOL.ORG

Mercy 5K Run/Walk to be held November 16!

In celebration of Mercy's 60th anniversary, we will be holding a 5K Run/Walk to raise money for the school educational fund. This event is one special way our entire community can support this year's theme: One Step Closer to

Jesus. The 5K will be held on Saturday, November 16, beginning with a Kid's Dash at 7:45 followed by the 5K at 8:00 am.



A student design contest is being held with the winning drawing to be printed on the Kid's Dash t-shirts. A post-race celebration will be held featuring, music, a sponsor-expo, and great food and drinks from Holy Crepes

and Saints Row Brewery! This event is open to the public.

OPT

Mercy Launches 2019-20 Speaker Series

Parents of fourth thru eighth graders joined us on October 3 for the first Mercy Speaker Series presentation of the new school year: *Helping Your Preadolescent Build Resilience*. Mary Karapetian Alvord, Ph.D Psychologist and Director, Alvord, Baker & Associates, LLC was the guest speaker.

OPT

Our Lady of Mercy Parish

9200 Kentsdale Drive
Potomac, MD

Fr. William Byrne, Pastor

301-365-1415

Our Lady of Mercy School

Ms. Deborah Thomas, Principal

301-365-4477

Gerry Burgess, OPT Editor

301-330-5676

School Open House

Mercy's Fall 2019 Open House will be held on Thursday, October 10, from 8:30-10:00 am for all grades. Spend some time with us and see what makes Mercy so special! For more information or questions, contact the school office at 301-365-4477.

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Mercy students celebrate Mass at Outdoor Ed with Father Stephen.

Outdoor Ed for Mercy Middle School

Mercy's entire middle school participated in three-day, two-night Outdoor Ed programs during the first two weeks of the school year. The eighth graders at Black Rock Retreat in Quarryville, PA; the sixth and seventh graders at Echo Hill Outdoor School on the Chesapeake Bay. The

three-day excursions offered a wide variety of hands on learning and fun team building exercises. Planning these trips at the beginning of the year allows students to bond in a meaningful way, which will support them through the entire school year.

OPT

The James M. Sullivan Memorial House

The community of Our Lady of Mercy and Potomac Community Resources are looking forward to a wonderful event. The celebration and blessing of the James M. Sullivan Memorial House which will provide residential opportunities supportive of independent community-based living, for women with developmental differences.

The house was brought into being through a cooperative effort that involved Potomac Community Resources, Our Lady

of Mercy Parish, the State of Maryland and Montgomery County. The house honors the memory of Jim Sullivan who co-founded PCR in 1994 and served the organization in leadership positions for 25 years.

The Most Reverend Wilton D. Gregory, Archbishop of Washington will preside at the blessing of the James M. Sullivan Memorial House on Sunday, October 13, at 10 AM.

OPT

Music Ministry OLOM Concert Schedule

The concert schedule for the 2019-2020 season has been released and it will include: A Mass of Remembrance where the Parish Choir of Our Lady of Mercy will be joined by a chamber orchestra and will feature selections from Faure's Requiem, at the 5 PM Mass on November 2, 2019. A choral prelude will begin at 4:30 PM

On December 8, 2019 at 2 PM the music of Advent and Christmas will be featured.

The concert will include the Parish choir, Hand Bell Choir, Children's Choir and Brass Ensemble.

On February 9, 2020 at 3 PM Musicians of Mercy will present Music for the Soul.

The Feast of Pentecost will be celebrated with special music at the 11 AM Mass on May 31, 2020 where the music will be provided by The Parish Choir, The Hand bell Choir, and a Brass Ensemble.

OPT

A Weekend with Fr. Ricky

Father Ricky Manolo CSP will be at Our Lady of Mercy in November to present Being Christ to One Another, Intercultural Skills for Liturgical Ministers. Two sessions are offered, the first begins on Friday evening November 15 at 7 PM. It is an evening for musicians. It includes a catered buffet dinner and the cost is 25 dollars.

On Saturday, November 16 a full day for all Liturgical Ministry is offered, Cantors, Choir Members, Ushers, Greeters, Eucharistic Ministers, Readers, Sacristans, Youth, Clergy and Assembly will be included. The day begins at 10 AM and ends at 3:30 PM the cost is 50 dollars and it includes a light breakfast buffet and a box lunch.

OPT

GREGORY

Con't from page 2

Cross in 1957, shortly after the Kensington campus opened.

Following the Mass, the school community continued the Holy Cross Day celebration with field games organized by the student

council. The "purple" teams (seniors and sophomores) competed against the "white" teams (juniors and freshmen) in three-legged races, balloon tosses, musical chairs, and more. The day concluded with the annual "Sister Grace Race" around the front circle. The purple team emerged the grand winner of the day.

OPT



At the beginning of September, Father Stefan visited each of our classrooms to bless these spaces of learning and growth. Students and faculty so appreciated this special blessing as they begin this school year together.

On Thursday, September 19, parents, friends, staff, and alumni of St. E's gathered together for a gorgeous day of golf. Over 100 golfers hit the course while raising important funds for our school's ongoing technology needs. It was a perfect way to celebrate our St. E's community.



Our eighth-grade students enjoyed an on-site day of retreat at St. Elizabeth Church as they prepared for the journey ahead of them this year as school leaders. Students made sandwiches for the homeless, bonded with their classmates, and spent time in prayer together.



Parishioners gather for the Summer series of *Life in the Spirit* at St. Elizabeth

Life in the Spirit Returns

Life in the Spirit resumes this October, November, and December at St. Elizabeth's! The Tuesday sessions will run from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on October 8, 22, November 12, 26, and December 10 in our school auditorium. This program will build on the three-week *Life in the Spirit* series offered this summer. Even if you did not par-

ticipate in that series, you are welcome to register for this upcoming series. Each evening session includes dinner, praising God through prayer and singing, a video presentation about our Christian faith, and small group discussions. Register online at stelizabethchurchmd.org/lits or fill out the form available in the Church Commons.

OPT

Walking with Purpose at St. Elizabeth's

St. Elizabeth launched *Walking with Purpose* with over 70 women participating this Fall. There are two different time options on Mondays. Participants in the bible study will learn how they can conquer their fears, the role of the Holy Spirit in their lives, what the Eucharist has to do with their friendship with Christ, why and how should they pray, among other topics. Registration for the Bible Study is online through the St. Elizabeth parish website, you can join at any time.

OPT

St. Elizabeth Parish
917 Montrose Road
Rockville, MD

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

Come Visit

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Saturday, October 26
10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.



Families, faculty, and staff had a blast at one of St. E's favorite traditions. Moonbounces, face painting, music, games, great food, and fantastic company on the back field made it hard to say goodbye at the end of the night.



**“BE WHO YOU ARE
and be that well.”**
-St. Francis de Sales



**Georgetown
Visitation**
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE

October 19
1 - 4 p.m.

Register at
[www.visi.org/
openhouseRSVP](http://www.visi.org/openhouseRSVP)

An all-girls Catholic high
school in Washington, DC
www.visi.org 202.337.3350

f **@**
[@visidc](https://www.facebook.com/visidc)

Huzzah! Camp Flintlock Comes to St. Patrick's School

On September 24, St. Patrick's School hosted Camp Flintlock for an engaging in-school field trip. Camp Flintlock offered a hands-on colonial experience including candle making, war paint, colonial dress-up, American Indian necklace making, and colonial games such as hoop racing and tug-of-war. The students also tried their skill at a tomahawk throwing station and participated in a game of rounders, a game which includes elements of baseball and kickball. Everyone had a chance to write like Thomas Jefferson using turkey feather quills and India ink. The morning drop-off

line was treated to fife and drum music. Students also witnessed a rifle firing and the shooting of a canon.

Second grade students loved being able to dress up in colonial clothing. "I enjoyed learning about how colonial girls and boys lived," commented second-grader Rachel Stone. Under the guidance of the Camp Flintlock staff, eighth grade students helped to lead the various activity stations and teach the younger students about colonial life. "It was very fun to go back in time and be a leader," eighth-grader Cecilia Cantarilho noted.

OPT



Students try their hand at writing with turkey feather quills and bottled ink.



Fall Open House

Sunday, October 27 from 12:30-4:00 pm

HEADMASTER'S PRESENTATION AT 2:00



Visit The Heights Forum for book reviews, interviews, and articles: heights.edu/forum
A resource for parents and teachers of "Men Fully Alive!"

50
years

1969 - 2019

THE HEIGHTS SCHOOL

THE HEIGHTS IS A PRIVATE, INDEPENDENT, PREPARATORY SCHOOL FOR BOYS IN GRADES 3-12 LOCATED IN POTOMAC, MD.

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St. Patrick's School SGA Installation

St. Patrick's School is pleased to announce the officers and representatives who will be leading the Student Government Association for the 2019-2020

school year. The following students are pictured along with St. Patrick's Pastor, Msgr. Charles Parry, Fr. Patrick Mullan, Parochial Vicar, and Deacon David Suley. The students were installed in a ceremony at a school Mass on September 11, 2019: Ellie Maurano (President); Makayla Cihlar (Vice President); Morgan Shannon (Secretary); and Maria Farren (Treasurer). The class representatives are also included: Lillie Bakey and Nicolas Carr (fifth grade); Vera Ogai and Lily Williams (sixth grade); Megan Depman and Joshua Wadja (seventh grade); and Sebastian Cantarilho and Paddy Kirchner (eighth grade). Msgr. Parry blessed the new SGA members and called for the "gifts of the Holy Spirit" to guide their leadership and service to their classmates.

OPT

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

More St. Patrick News on Page 18

The Woods Academy Hosts 17 Students from Toledo, Spain

At the beginning of September, The Woods Academy welcomed 17 students and their teachers from Colegio Divina Pastora in Toledo, Spain. The Woods is one of the only Pre-K-8 schools in the area to offer a daily world language curriculum beginning in Kindergarten and culminating with an exchange program in Grades Seven and Eight.

Students in Grade 8 who study Spanish at The Woods completed a language immersion trip to Spain at the end of March. During their 10-day visit, Woods students toured Madrid, Toledo, attended classes at Colegio Divina Pastora, and enjoyed a home-stay with the students from the school. Like The Woods Academy, Divina Pastora Toledo is co-ed Catholic school committed to innovation and bilingualism.

Throughout the week, the Spanish students attended classes at The Woods, and toured DC area landmarks like the Lincoln Memorial and various Smithsonian Museums, while



Grade Eight Spanish students from The Woods Academy and students from Divina Pastora Toledo visited the Lincoln Memorial and several other DC area landmarks during the exchange at the beginning of September.

staying with several Woods host families.

Exchange programs like this are extremely beneficial to the personal growth of middle school students. The students

gain confidence, knowledge, maturity, cultural awareness, open-mindedness, and independence while experiencing rich language-learning opportunities in authentic situations.

OPT

Out of The Woods

Field Trips at The Woods Academy provide challenging, active learning experiences that are connected and relevant to students' lives. These experiences enable students to make connections across disciplines and see the world in an interconnected way.

Our fifth-grade students recently visited the Queens of Egypt Exhibit at National Geographic. Soon our Kindergarteners, first and second graders, will travel to local farms where they will learn a bit about community and farm life and, of course, pick their own pumpkins. Third and fourth-grade students will take full advantage of all that the DC Metro area has to offer and visit several museums including the Newseum and the National Museum of the American Indian. And, our oldest students are all eagerly anticipating their overnight adventures to New York City, Williamsburg, Virginia, and Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. In addition, all of our students in the fifth and sixth grades will travel to a A Wider Circle several times this school year to complete various jobs, including sorting donated goods, testing appliances, basic cleaning, weeding the perimeter of the building, and more.

This is just a small sampling of all of



Fifth-grade Students and Teachers traveled back in time to Ancient Egypt at the Queens of Egypt Exhibit at National Geographic.

the experiences our students will have outside the classroom this school year, experiences that will contribute to their understanding of the world.

OPT

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



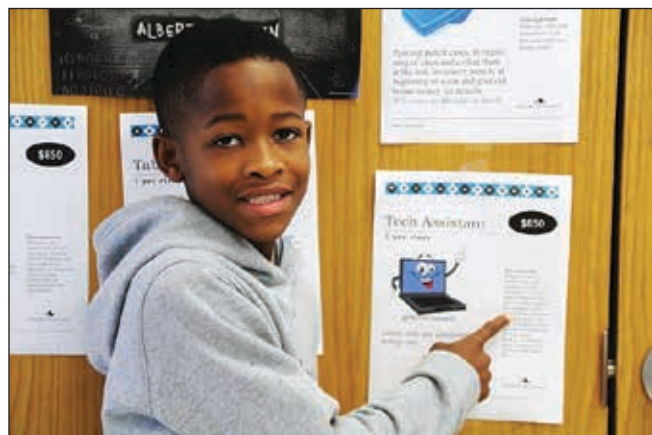
Making Money in the Classroom

As the sixth graders started the new school year, they found out that they would have to rent their desks. This may sound crazy but it is all part of a program called Classroom Economy which math teacher Mrs. Chrobocinski is implementing in her sixth-grade classes. Students had to apply for a classroom job such as supply manager, table assistant, banker, clerk, etc. and they will receive a (fake) salary each month for doing their job.

The students receive bonus money for extracurricular activities, doing well in class, completing IXLs and



Mae Mathis earns her salary as the class Auctioneer in Mrs. Chrobocinski's sixth-grade Math Class.



Braxton Davis earns his salary as the class Tech Assistant in Mrs. Chrobocinski's sixth-grade Math Class.

attempting to solve the problem of the week. With this money, they pay to rent their desk, they pay off fines for behavior or lack of supplies during class, and they participate in an auction once a month to win prizes.

This program will teach students about money management, help them feel connected to the class, and motivate them to do their best. Students are very enthusiastic about this new system and Mrs. Chrobocinski is excited to see it working throughout the year.

OPT

It pays to advertise in
Our Parish Times

THE WOODS
ACADEMY

Curious about The Woods?
Open House



Monday, November 11
9:00–10:30am

Register at woodsacademy.org/openhouse

Celebrating 25 years of sharing and growing in faith Save the date for the Taste of Haiti, October 19

Twenty-five years ago, Saint John the Baptist began its relationship with St. Pierre, our sister parish in Baradères, Haiti. Since then, we've exchanged visits, made lifelong friendships, and provided financial, material, and educational support. Our support began very humbly: we purchased benches for the elementary school children so that they did not have to sit in the dirt to learn their lessons. Today, Baradères boasts 14 Catholic elementary schools and one Catholic high school, College St. Jean Baptiste, named after our own Silver Spring parish. Through our support, all of the schools provide lunches for the students and faculty, and salaries for the cooks. The high school is one of the most academically outstanding high schools in the country. When we asked the pastor of St. Pierre what the principal factor is that leads to their academic excellence, he replied simply, "The lunch program...students don't learn when they are hungry."

St. John the Baptist has grown in faith and solidarity through our interactions with the



Taste of Haiti 2018

people of Baradères. Over the past 25 years we have shared both joys and sorrows as the rural community of Baradères has grown, battled

at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 12319 New Hampshire Avenue in Silver Spring. There will be a full Haitian meal with appetizers, including Haitian patés – meat-filled pastries. The main dishes will include a Haitian pumpkin soup, Haitian chicken, ham and pork, several types of Haitian rice – with beans or with Haitian mushrooms, as well as baked macaroni, beet salad, and tossed salad. There will be desserts, including a Haitian cake. The food will be prepared by parishioners using special Haitian family recipes. In addition, the

celebration will include music, children's activities, raffles and prizes, a chance to meet our newest sister parish pastor Fr. Noemi Ambrose and to learn about the varied projects, success stories, and information about St. Pierre Parish and St. John the Baptist's Sister Parish Project. For more information, please contact 301-622-1122.



The reason for our academic success is the School Lunch Program.

hurricanes and storms, and received academic awards as well as a visit from the Papal Nuncio and the Prime Minister of Haiti because of their academic excellence.

Please join us in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Haiti as we commemorate 25 years of sharing and growing in faith by attending the 5 p.m. liturgical celebration followed by the Taste of Haiti, Saturday, October 19, in the Gym

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

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St. Bernadette



Out of more than 124,000 entries, SBS teacher Shirley Jeffords and her Grade 3 students are thrilled to be one of the 4,000 grant recipients by the best selling author and literacy advocate James Patterson and Scholastic Book Clubs Partnership Giveaway! Our lucky class was awarded \$250 and 250 points to build and improve their classroom library. James Patterson says, "Teachers change lives every single day." We are buzzing with gratitude as we benefit from the generosity of this partnership here at The Hive.



St. Bernadette School is pleased and proud to partner with ADL Washington D.C. for ongoing training for our faculty, staff and students as a committed *No Place For Hate* community. Our most recent staff development on August 22 was the workshop *A Classroom of Difference*, which explored the roots of bias and prejudice in our society while supplying strategies and best practices for meeting these challenges in today's classrooms.

ADDICTION

Con't from page 3

said, "We are making efforts to engage county council members in conversation toward meaningful legislation and programs to address the special addiction treatment and prevention needs of Montgomery County residents." "Our hope," he said, "is to approach the issue as a systemic problem and advocate for change across the spectrum of socioeconomic factors that contribute to our county's addiction problems."

The J&A Council is committed building relationships with elected officials. We advocate for a variety of issues in accord with the principles of Catholic social teaching, such as increased job training, supporting individuals with developmental disabilities, and prison reform/recidivism. In 2019, we also focused on five priorities: affordable housing, economic security, immigration, addiction recovery, and

food security. The J&A Council has been advocating for change since 2006 and looks forward to 2020 as an important year for change among our leaders and legislators.

For more information on addressing addiction, search the following resources: "Catholics in Recovery," or HHS's Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration [National Helpline – 1-800-662-HELP (4357)].

The Justice and Advocacy Council is an official voice of the Archdiocese of Washington, speaking on and advocating for issues of concern to the Church. The J&A Council meets at Holy Redeemer Church in Kensington. The next J&A meetings are Wednesday, October 23, 2019 and December 10, 2019 from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm. For further information, please contact Brian Dorsey at brian.j.dorsey@gmail.com or phone 240-888-4736.

OPT
Frances and William Beard are members of Resurrection Parish, Burtonsville.

Looking Ahead – A New Religious Education Year

By Ana Maria P. de Jesus, EPS DC15

Good-bye, Summer! Time seems to speed up, especially when one is still enjoying these no Sunday School days. Just the same, welcome, Fall!

At the Church of Resurrection Parish, we welcome our four incoming catechists. We are grateful that the Holy Spirit inspired the following generous souls to answer our prayers: Kassia Molina (to teach Kindergarten), Donna Whittaker (to teach fifth graders), Tammy O'Donnel (to teach sixth

graders), and David Bottegai (to teach Confirmation A). We also praise the Lord, who inspired the rest of the RE faculty and volunteers who returned to continue their calling of sharing the good news to the incoming RE students this year. We also thank the generous individuals who have left the program for their efforts and dedication in the teaching years they spent at the parish.

To allow the family the opportunity to fully participate in the active mission of strengthening the domestic church, the Religious Education

and Youth Ministry Director Helene Stever has announced the line-up of schedules of Sunday classes, family service activities, sacramental celebrations, and Sunday class-off days for this school year. In a calendar provided to each family at the first day of classes, Ms. Stever also provides the sacramental celebration dates at the parish: Confirmation on April 30, First Reconciliation on March 14, and First Communion on May 9. She has carefully and meticulously worked out activities that are family-oriented, student-

Continued on page 22



On August 27, the Women's Ministry Group and Father Barry made a fun day trip to historical Saint Mary's City. Photo by Annick Kanter-Saint Hubert



At left, Sack Races at Resurrection Kids Fest

Below left, the Moon Bounce at Resurrection Kids Fest

Below right, Father Barry and Deacon Chuck at Kids Fest



Resurrection Hosts Kids Festival

By Jocelyn Olympio

In the continued effort to make our Resurrection a warm and inviting place, under the direction of Father Barry, the Parish Council sponsored a Kids Festival on September 1. Admission was free and the event was open to all. All kids who played a game won a prize. There was an estimated 300 guests to include parishioners and the Burtonsville community. The Msgr. Pennington Knights of Columbus 9808 prepared hot dogs and burgers for all!

By early morning, Resurrection's playground was transformed into a mini amusement park. It featured The Castle Moon Bounce, The Emerald Ice Slide, The Extreme

Obstacle Course, and many more inflatable structures.

With over twenty games to choose from,

Continued on page 39

Church of the Resurrection Parish

3315 Greencastle Road
Burtonsville, MD

Rev. John M. Barry, Pastor
301-288-4662

Susan Ahearn, Emily Kranking
Parish Editors
240-205-3195

2019

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH BURTONSVILLE

Winterfest & Craft Show

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6th
3:00 pm–9:00 pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7th
9:00 am–3:00 pm

Over 75 Crafters & Vendors

Homemade Goodies

Food & Dinner Specialties from the Knights of Columbus #9808

Silent Auctions

Raffles

And Much More!

Resurrection Catholic Church Burtonsville
3315 Greencastle Road
Burtonsville, Maryland 20866

For more information visit www.resurrectionadw.org



ST. VINCENT PALLOTTI
— HIGH SCHOOL —


JOIN US FOR FALL OPEN HOUSE!

Sunday, November 3rd 2:00 PM-5:00 PM • Register on-line today!

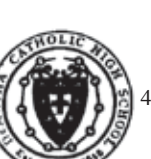
- ☒ **Challenging curriculum** including four-year honors program, Advanced Placement (AP) courses, Pallotti Transitions course for incoming Freshmen, pre-professional Arts Academy, Accelerated Science at Pallotti (A.S.A.P.) and a learning center for college bound students who need individual support.
- ☒ **Advanced 1:1 technology** to broaden each student's learning horizons and prepare them for the workplace of tomorrow.
- ☒ **Unique small community atmosphere** including a total enrollment of 500 students, an average class size of 17 students, and 11:1 student to faculty ratio.
- ☒ **Diverse extracurricular programs** including campus ministry, retreats, prayer services and liturgies, choral and band programs, artistic opportunities, and over 20 varsity athletic teams.
- ☒ **Financial assistance & scholarships** available for families who qualify.

113 St. Mary's Place • Laurel, MD 20707 • (301) 725-3228 • www.PallottiHS.org


 Archbishop Carroll HIGH SCHOOL Larry Savoy, President Elana Gilmore, Principal Michael Powell, Sr., Director of Admissions 4300 Harewood Rd., NE Washington, DC 20017 202-529-0900 ext 135	CO-ED Highly competitive athletic programs: Football, Basketball, Cross-Country, Track & Field, Soccer, Volleyball, Lacrosse, Baseball and Softball WCAC LIONS Green & Gold	SPECIALIZED Educational Programs JIM VANCE MEDIA PROGRAM Project Lead the Way STEM/Engineering International Baccalaureate Fine Arts	OPEN HOUSE Sunday October 27 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Freshman Early Decision Appl. Deadline DEC 14 Financial Aid Application Deadline JAN 31, 2020	Admission Notification FEB 2020 Registration Deposit Due Mid-March 2020
	Freshman Class Size: 125 • Tuition: \$14,788 • KNOW • LOVE • SERVE • www.achsdc.org				


 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	Boys Grades K-12 Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Football, Soccer Competitive Athletics Program	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 3 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
	Avg. Class Size: 15 • Academic Kindergarten Half Day \$4,100 Full Day \$8,275 • Gr. 1-2 Lower \$8,275 • Gr. 3-5 Elementary \$13,200 • Gr. 6-8 Middle \$14,700 • Gr. 9-12 Upper \$16,500					


 Brookewood School Richard B. McPherson President and Headmaster R.J. Hawley Executive Director Helen Williams Director of Admission 10401 Armory Avenue, Kensington, MD 301-949-7997 www.brookewood.org	Girls Grades 1-12 Basketball, Field hockey, Lacrosse, Soccer, Volleyball Bengals Blue & White	Special Programs Small Classes • Personal Attention • Content-Oriented Curriculum • Advanced Placement (AP) Courses • Emphasis on Cultural Literacy • Latin • Italian • Advanced Math Program • Music • Art • Actors Guild • Uniform • Interscholastic Sports	Open House Saturday November 2 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 \$8,275 Grades 3-5 \$12,800 Grades 6-8 \$14,450 Grades 9-12 \$15,900 • For more information: Helen Williams 301-949-7997					

 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	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. 3 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. 2020 Registration Deposit Due Mid-March 2020
	Freshman Class Size: 215 • Tuition: \$18,850 • Application / Financial Aid: Admissions Office 240-764-221015					

 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	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 3 11:00 am – 2:00 pm	Entrance Exam Archdiocesan test results required. Schedule a Shadow Day Online	Application Deadline December 12	Notification of Admission February 20 Registration March 14
	Total Enrollment 603 Students • Tuition \$15,250					

 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	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 20 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 Hoyas-for-a-Day visit.	Application Deadline Jan. 7, 2020	Notification of Admission Feb. 21, 2020 Registration Deposit Due March 13, 2020
	Tuition: Day: \$38,330 Boarding: \$62,090 • Forming Men of Competence, Conscience, Commitment & Compassion; Men of Faith, Men for Others since 1789					

 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. Battaille, Dean of Admissions 202-336-7101	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 24 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Entrance Exam Archdiocesan test results are required.	Application Deadline December 11 Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 10, 2020	Notification of Admission Feb. 27, 2020 Registration Deposit Due March 13, 2020
	Freshman Class Size: 245 • The Catholic, Jesuit school located in the heart of our nation's capital city. • Tuition: \$23,550					


 OUR LADY of GOOD COUNSEL HIGH SCHOOL A Xaverian Brothers Sponsored School 17301 Old Vic Boulevard Olney, MD 20832 Paul G. Barker Ed. D., President Thomas Campbell '93, Principal Maria Nichols '04, Director of Admissions Admissions@olgchs.org www.olgchs.org	COED Offering a comprehensive college prep curriculum including the IB Program, AP and Honors courses, the STEM Program, and the Ryken Program.	Home of the Falcons Extensive co-curricular activities, 54 sport teams, Performing Arts, Speech & Debate and over 55 cultural and academic clubs. Member of the W.C.A.C.	Open House Sunday, Oct. 27, 2019 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM	Prospective Parent INFORMATION NIGHT Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2019 7:00 PM	Freshman Application Deadline Dec. 13, 2019 Freshman Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Dec. 13, 2019	Freshman Notification of Admission Feb. 20, 2020 Freshman Registration Friday, March 13, 2020
	Tuition \$24,215					


 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	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 26 10:30-1:30pm Online Registration for visit days begins in September Entrance Examinations: Upper School SSAT • In-house achievement test for grades 6-8	Application Deadline & Financial Aid Appl. Deadline UPPER SCHOOL December 8 MIDDLE SCHOOL February 1	Notification of Admission: UPPER SCHOOL End of February MIDDLE SCHOOL Mid March Reg. Deposit Due: Mid March
	340 Students • Tuition Grades 9-12 \$34,2500 • Book Fee \$390 • Technology Fee Grade 9 \$1,300 Grades 10-12 \$470				


Area High School Open House Dates

Class of 2024

 The Academy of the Holy Cross 4920 Strathmore Ave., Kensington, MD 20895 Kathleen Prebble, President John Sullivan, Principal Jordyn Brock, Admissions 301-942-2100 • www.academyoftheholycross.org	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 3 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Entrance Exam HSPT (Offered at Holy Cross Dec. 7, 2019)	Application Deadline Dec. 9, 2019 Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 6, 2020	Notification of Admission February 2020 Registration Deposit Due March 6, 2020
	Freshman Class Size: 120 • Tuition: \$26,300 • Financial Aid: 301-942-2100					


 OAKCREST SCHOOL 1619 Crowell Road, Vienna, VA 22182 Dr. Mary T. Ortiz, Head of School Cynthia Bertolini, Director of Admissions and Enrollment Management 703-790-5450	Academic Excellence 6:1 student-teacher ratio Rigorous Curriculum 16 AP Courses	Faith-Character Daily Mass 1-to-1 mentoring Virtue-Based Workshops	Extracurriculars 19 Teams 17 Sports Beautiful fields on 23-acre campus Show Productions Over 25 Clubs	Bus Transportation available from Maryland and Virginia Lunch Service	Application Deadlines Upper School January 17 Middle School January 30 Financial Aid Application Due February 3	Open House Saturday October 19 2:00 to 5:00 pm Oakcrest.org
	An independent school for girls in grades 6-12 • Freshman Class Size: 30 • Tuition: US \$28,270 / MS \$26,960					


 ST. ANSELM'S ABBEY SCHOOL 4501 SOUTH DAKOTA AVE, NE WASHINGTON, DC 20017 Bill Crittengerberger Headmaster 202-269-2350 Peter Young, '01 Director of Admissions 202-269-2379 admissions@saintanselms.org www.saintanselms.org	Boys Soccer, Cross Country, Basketball, Swimming, Wrestling, Tennis, Baseball, Track, Lacrosse, Golf, Fencing Potomac Valley Athletic Conference Panthers	Special Programs Challenging academic program for students of above average ability in grades 6-12	Open House Sunday November 3 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Benedictine School	Entrance Exam Dates November 16 December 14 January 11 February 8 Exam also offered by appointment	Application Deadline Rolling Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Feb. 3, 2020	Admission Notification Feb. 21, 2020 Registration Deposit Due March 13, 2020
	Freshman Class Size: 45 • Tuition: \$28,700 Middle; \$29,700 Upper • Financial Aid: Ms. Ieva Young @ iyoung@saintanselms.org					

 ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL Mr. Jeffrey W. Mancabelli, President Mr. Christopher J. Themistos, Principal Mrs. Susan Hinton, Director of Admissions 202-363-2316 • www.stjohnschs.org 2607 Military Road, NW, Chevy Chase, DC 20015	Coed Coed: crew, cross country, equestrian team, golf, rifle team, swimming, track, female basketball, 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 & Social Impact • New Visual & Performing Arts Wing • New Student Center	Open House Sunday, Oct. 20, 2019 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Entrance Exam Archdiocesan HSPT results are required.	Application Deadline Dec. 6, 2019 Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 31, 2020	Notification of Admission Feb. 27, 2020 Registration Deposit Due March 14, 2020
	Tuition: \$20,675					

 SAINT JOHN'S CATHOLIC PREP Dr. Thomas Powell, President Will Knotek, Principal Kelly Weeks Director of Enrollment 3989 Buckeystown Pike Buckeystown, MD 21717 E-mail: kweeks@saintjohnsprep.org • 301-662-4210	Special Programs Guaranteed College Admission & Scholarship Program • Mount Saint Mary's Senior Year Partnership • Seton Scholars Program • AOPA • 19 athletic teams • Over 20 clubs • Coed • Buses from Montgomery Co.	VIKINGS Green, Gold & White	OPEN HOUSE Sunday November 4 1:00-3:00PM	HSPT or Institutional Testing Required Shadow Visits Scheduled Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays	Class of 2019 5.1million in scholarships Priority Application Deadline December 20	Financial Aid & Scholarship Deadline December 20 Notification of Admission February 20
	School Size: 300 • Tuition: \$16,900 • Financial Aid: Kelly Weeks kweeks@saintjohnsprep.org • www.saintjohnsprep.org					

 ST. VINCENT PALLOTTI HIGH SCHOOL 113 St. Mary's Place, Laurel, MD 20707 Mr. Jeffrey Palumbo, President/Principal Mrs. Stacy Springer, Director of Admissions 301-725-3228 Ext. 2202 www.pallottih.org	Coed Over 20 varsity athletic teams: Maryland Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA)—Men's Interscholastic Athletic Association of Maryland (IAAM)—Women	Grades 9-12 College Prep Curriculum Honors & AP Courses 96% College Placement Accelerated & Computer Science Programs Visual & Performing Arts Program Learning Center	Open House Sunday, Nov. 3 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Visit the web site for 2020-2021 application!	Admissions Application Deadline Dec. 13, 2019	Financial Aid Application Deadline Jan. 3, 2020
	400 Students 1:11 Teacher Student Ratio					

 Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart Catherine Ronan Karrels '86, Head of School 9101 Rockville Pike • Bethesda, MD 20814 301-657-4322 www.stoneridgeschool.org	Girls Grades 1-12 (Coed PS-K) Basketball, crew, cross country, equestrian, field hockey, golf, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, squash, swimming/diving, tennis, track & field and volleyball	Special Programs Honors/AP Courses 1:1 Laptop Social Action Exchange Program STEAM Certificate	Open House Upper School (Grades 9-12) Sunday, Oct. 20 12:30 – 3:00 pm	Required Entrance Exam: SSAT Register at www.ssat.org (School Code: 7494)	Decision Notification Feb. 28, 2020
	Freshman Class Size: 100 • Tuition: \$37,100 • Financial Aid Available				

 THE HEIGHTS SCHOOL 10400 Seven Locks Rd., Potomac, MD 20854 Alvaro J. de Vicente, Headmaster Richard S. Moss, Director of Admissions 301-765-2093 • admissions@heights.edu www.heights.edu	Boys 3-12 The Heights forms "men fully alive" through a rigorous curriculum implemented with a highly personal approach to education and character. Cavaliers Red & White	Challenging liberal arts; innovative science and math; small classes; individual mentorship; WCAC Athletics; extensive extracurriculars; rich sacramental life.	Open House Sunday, October 27 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.	Upper School Applicants Admissions Deadline Jan. 10, 2020 Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 10, 2020	Admissions/FA Notification Feb. 27, 2020 Enrollment Deadline March 13, 2020
	Freshman Class Size: 65 • Financial Aid: Phil McGovern (CF0) 301-365-4300					

 Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School Dr. Barbara McGraw Edmondson, 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	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. 19, 2019 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.	Entrance Exam HSPT (Offered at Visitation Dec. 7, 2019)	Freshman Application Deadline Dec. 6, 2019 Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 6, 2020	Freshman Notification of Admission Feb. 21, 2020 Registration Deposit Due Mid-March 2020
	Freshman Class Size: 130 • Tuition: \$31,200 • Financial Aid: Janet Keller @ 202.337.3350 ext. 2241				

ST CAMILLUS

Con't from page 11

pel. Over the years several dozen Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur lived in our parish convent; most working as teachers and administrators in St. Camillus School, some serving as pastoral associates in the parish in English and Spanish, and some going out to minister in other ways. The Sisters, especially through St. Camillus School, were builders of St. Camillus parish.

From 1951 to 1984, priests of the Archdiocese of Washington labored building St. Camillus. In the earliest days the parish rectory was a large house on Carroll Avenue in Takoma Park and mass was celebrated in the parlor. The community grew and in 1952 the pioneering St. Camillus parish began celebrating Sunday masses in the newly constructed Langley Park Movie Theater, in the plaza where the transit center is today. But, on November 21, 1954, Sunday masses began in what is now called the Camillia Room. Until the permanent church was built in 1970, the Parish Life and Education Center hosted all aspects of the community's life ... children were educated there, masses were celebrated there, the Sisters lived there, celebrations and weddings and funerals were held there, and the space grew to meet the needs of a vibrant church. In 1955, 1957, and 1960 the priests' residence was built, the school was expanded twice, and the convent was doubled in size.

Since the arrival of the Franciscans in 1984, the parish has continued to grow and evolve. Starting in the early 1970s, St. Camillus became the host to the growing Spanish-speaking community in Montgomery County. In the 1980s and 90s, the parish hosted the Vietnamese community until their church was built on New Hampshire Ave. The parish returned to Langley Park with the establishment of a mission located within the apartment complexes. And, over the years the parish also welcomed Haitians, French-speaking Africans, a Gospel mass community, Bangla-speaking South Asians, and native Guatemalans as a few of the unique groups that make up this community.

St. Camillus parish has always been more than Sunday worship, and even though the church is one of the most attended in the arch-

diocese each weekend, so much more happens seven days a week in the Parish Life and Education Center. After the Notre Dame Sisters moved out of the convent, spaces were converted to be used as offices, meeting rooms, and the Knights of Columbus Hall. In 1996, St. Camillus School was recognized with a Blue Ribbon from the US Department of Education, and the daily mass chapel was constructed adjacent to the Fr. Grace Room. In the late 1990s the school was renovated and over the last two years the parish has begun a process of modernizing the facilities on the 15-acre campus including new roofs, lighting, plumbing upgrades, upgraded kitchen, and planning for the eventual replacement of the heating and air conditioning.

Throughout the 2000s, St. Camillus continued to adapt to the needs of the community and continued to find ways to make the Parish Life and Education Center the heart of the parish. Today, while about 440 students go the school on weekdays, St. Camillus still educates and forms over 1,200 students in all of our programs in the Parish Life and Education Center and at Langley Park. In addition to the students who are educated at Saint Francis International School, St. Camillus has upwards of 800 children in the Faith Formation Programs on Sundays which are held in English, Spanish, and French at two locations. Parish volunteers also educate adults in ESL classes in the Parish Life and Education Center and at Langley Park during the week, and there are multiple vibrant youth ministry groups and adult groups that use the facilities every day of the week for prayer and spiritual development.

On August 27, 2019, the parish school – known as Saint Francis International School since 2010 – began the 65th year of Catholic education in the St. Camillus Parish Life and Education Center. The parish will gather in the Camillia Room, where so many masses have been celebrated over the last six decades, on October 19, the anniversary of the very first mass, to kick off two days of remembrance and renewal as the community works to constantly rebuild the Parish Life and Education Center and all of the parish resources to meet the needs of many people and ministries today and for generations to come!

OPT

ITALY

Con't from page 8

best of Rome, which included a Papal Audience at St. Peter's. The choir's final musical appearance was at a regular Sunday Mass at St. Patrick's American Community in Rome, singing to a capacity congregation of English speakers,

followed by a reception to thank the visiting singers.

Vineyard lunches in the Tuscan countryside, tours of ancient Italian villages, nighttime tours of the Vatican, and happy dinners where the Choir serenaded unsuspecting guests made for a perfect spiritual and musical two-week retreat.

OPT

It pays to advertise in
Our Parish Times

St. Jane de Chantal

Meet St. Jane's New Director of Liturgy and Music

St. Jane de Chantal Parish welcomed Jeffrey Porter as the new Director of Liturgy and Music. Mr. Porter was born and raised in Central New York, in Fulton. He is one of five children. He attended public school and holds a BMus in Organ Performance and an MM in Voice Performance from SUNY at Fredonia. Jeffrey served several parishes in the Buffalo Diocese and was the Director of Music at Christ the King Seminary for five years. He also served as the Diocesan Cantor and Assisting Musician at St. Joseph Cathedral. In 2014, he moved to Phoenix, AZ to be close



Jeffrey Porter, the new Director of Liturgy and Music of St. Jane de Chantal Parish, at the church organ after a Sunday mass.

to his parents and while there, was accepted to the MM program at Arizona State College in Organ Performance. He and his parents moved back east where he is now very thrilled to serve as Director of Liturgy and Music at St. Jane de Chantal. An avid cook and baker, his lifelong passion is inspiring singers and congregations to continually reach for ever higher goals and to appreciate the role that music plays in our everyday lives. Jefferey is delighting in the fact that he is now living in an area of great historical significance and is looking forward to exploring more of the area in the days and

OPT

Dunk Tank a Huge Success at St. Jane School's Family Fun Night

Another fun-filled and fabulous Family Fun Night took place this September at St. Jane de Chantal School thanks to Jamie Caulfield and Oliver Janney. There was a moon bounce, obstacle course, face painting, and for the first time ever... a DUNK TANK! Teachers Mrs. Tehan (pictured) and Mr. Molloy were active participants in the dunk tank, as well as Mr. Beccles and even some of the students had their chance to get dunked. This was a big hit! Delicious food was provided by Missy Carr, and the St. Jane's Home and School Association was there to sell exciting new Spirit Wear. This was a great event to meet new school families and catch up with old friends after a long summer. Courtesy of Catie Skibo and Johanna Goetcheus



BACK TO SCHOOL

Con't from page 9

Principal, greeted each family and provided a loving "welcome back" hug to each student. Students and families then made their way

through the halls to the students' new classrooms, where the teachers welcomed each and every child and family. As in previous years, there were many new backpacks, fresh haircuts, and big smiles as the students rejoined their friends and teachers. St. Jane's school theme

this year is "Gratitude". The entire community will emphasize this virtue while encouraging the students to be the best Catholics they can be through service, learning, and practicing their faith.

OPT

COMMITTEE

Con't from page 9

habitat. The floors are made from cork and covered with the rugs are made of coconut shells. Bamboo panels which provide insulation also require little maintenance. Creative use of fans and ductwork

allow the facilities management to maintain cooler temperatures in the two-story glass walled structure without air conditioning!

The focus of this tour did not include the variety and scope of all the many programs run by the CBF for people of all ages. The group went there specifically to visit the building and to learn about the

building's structural designs that help to combat the consequences of rising air and water temperature on the earth's ecosystems. They also had the opportunity to gaze out the windows of the headquarters of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation that overlooks the beautiful waters of the Chesapeake Bay, America's largest estuary.

OPT

LOOKING AHEAD

Con't from page 19

centered, aligned with the liturgy, and compliant with the archdiocesan requirements of RE and youth ministry.

While in class, the catechist provides the instructions and related activities on the topics as listed in the syllabus, the parents/guardians are still expected to embrace their role in the religious education of their child. Thus, in this respect,

together with the catechist, the RE program staff, the student assistants, and all parents/guardians are enjoined to work collectively as a unified team to provide the best and most effective learning experience for the students. More specifically, parents/guardians are entrusted with the tasks of checking that the child has the required materials for class, read the topics to be covered for the session, punctually comes on the required time for class, and is picked-up at the classroom by the designated person. Since the

syllabus is available for each parent to follow, the parents/guardians are also entrusted to cover the topics missed by their child, should the child miss any session due to unforeseen/excused absence.

With such working relationship, the parents/guardians and the catechist share in the universal mission of proclaiming and practicing the Good News of our salvation through the teachings of Jesus Christ.

OPT



Our much-appreciated parent volunteers.

Back to School Picnic

By Bridget Launi

The new school year is always an exciting time of anticipation of what is to come. One highly anticipated event at Our Lady of Lourdes School is the annual Back-to-School Picnic. The picnic is a time to celebrate our community's coming together again for a year of learning, fellowship, and commitment to a faith filled life.

Thanks to OLOL's amazing maintenance staff and the planning of our dedicated parent volunteers, the school celebration began with a bang after school on Friday, September 6. The delicious smell of hamburgers and hotdogs filled the air as children spilled out onto the playground. Imagine their delight as they were met by the sight of a huge moonbounce, a face-painting station, and a DJ playing music and calling out dances and games for all to enjoy.

The crowd included long-time OLOL



Students enjoying themselves at annual OLOL Back-to-School Picnic.

families as well as families just beginning at our school. Faculty and staff also enjoyed themselves as well as alumni coming back to share stories about their adventures at new schools. It is a particularly popular event for our most recent graduates. They are happy to return and take comfort in knowing that they are always welcome here at OLOL.

It was the last Back-to-School Picnic for one family that has coordinated the event over the past several years. A special thank you to the Deausens, parents of Francis (2020) and Claire (2018). We gratefully appreciate the years of service they have given to our school and the fabulous picnics we have shared together. The sense of joy and community that is evident at the Back-to-School picnic each year is truly remarkable and it couldn't happen without the dedicated families of our students.

OPT



New OLOL Golf Team about to tee off.

Our Lady of Lourdes New Golf Team

By Deirdre Walsh

The start of this school year marks the launch of the first ever Our Lady of Lourdes Golf Team. Our Assistant Principal, Mr. David Long, initiated the program with the idea of teaching interested eighth graders basic golf rules, techniques and etiquette of the game while having fun and building camaraderie amongst the play-

ers. For some it is their first attempt at the sport, while others have more experience.

Fridays after school, the team meets with several Lourdes alumni and travels to local golf courses, both public and private. They have lessons, followed by practice on the driving range and putting greens. To date, team members have learned the proper attire, grip, posture, and swing, as well as tips for

Continued on page 39

Lessons About Gardening and Life from Monsignor Filardi

By Ben Cocco and Chris Walsh,
OLOL eighth graders

Every Thursday morning at Our Lady of Lourdes, the eighth-grade class is taught by Monsignor Filardi, the parish pastor. During this class we are brought together to learn about our faith, the history and tradition of our parish, and what it means to pray.

The first thing Monsignor Filardi talked with us about this year was his garden in the back of the church. In this garden, he plants beets, pumpkins, peppers, kale, and collard greens. He explained to us how gardening is very similar to our life in many ways. He showed us that before planting, he must lay down a foundation. To do this he will take out all of the weeds, put down soil, and fertilizer. After this, he plants the seeds, and patiently waits, nourishing the plants with water and sunlight. This process is very similar to how we grow closer to God, by our good deeds and actions.

After we visited the garden, Monsignor showed us the statue of Mary outside the church. He explained to us that Mary is watching over and protecting us. Then Monsignor took us into the vestibule where we saw, carved in stone, that Our Lady Of Lourdes Parish was founded in 1926, and the Church was built in 1941. We proceeded into the church, where Monsignor showed us the stained-glass windows that light up the church with all kinds of colors. The windows were a very generous gift from a



Msgr. Filardi shares lessons on gardening and life with Eighth-grade students.

parishioner. Each window displays a part of the mass. We then entered the pews and said a prayer to conclude our class.

Our time with Monsignor Filardi was informative and an enjoyable experience. We hope other schools are able to experience times like this with their Pastor. The 8th grade is very thankful to Monsignor Filardi, our pastor, teacher, gardener, and historian, for taking time out of his busy day to give us an experience we will never forget.

OPT

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

7500 Pearl Street
Bethesda, MD

Msgr. Edward Filardi, Pastor
301-654-1287

Ms. Amy Moore, Principal
301-654-5376

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School

A 2015 National Blue Ribbon School

FALL OPEN HOUSE DATE: October 22, 2019
~ 9:30-11:30 AM & 1:00-2:30 PM



2019-2020 TOUR DAYS

November 19, December 17, February 27, May 13

School tours available between 9-11 AM & 1-2:30 PM

Call 301-654-5376 or go online to <http://bit.ly/OLOLTour> to reserve your tour.



Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School provides a solid foundation in the Catholic faith, fosters academic excellence, and educates children to be successful leaders who serve the world.

- Since 1941, proudly providing Catholic faith-based education and curriculum for students in preschool 3's through 8th grade.
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- Resource center and support programs
- Enrichment classes (before & after school) include: Latin, Italian, Math and Science.
- Extracurricular activities include: CYO sports, drama club, band program, children's choir and more!
- Licensed after care program

At Our Lady of Lourdes, the door to a Catholic education is always open. Come in and see the difference traditional Catholic values, a strong, inclusive community, and an exceptional faculty and staff can make in your child's life.

Caring for Our Aging Parents: A Workshop for Adult Children

This special event is designed exclusively for unpaid family caregivers of an aging parent.

Our ability to care for our aging parents is often complicated by layers of deeply held feelings, emotional reactivity, and inner conflicts, such as love, fear of loss, guilt, old resentments. These complications, in turn, can cause added stress and fatigue. In this experiential workshop, you will join other adult children—in the safe space we create together—to become more aware and understanding of the inner forces shaping your caregiving experience, develop some “mindful” strategies for taking care of yourself and your needs, and gain confidence in your inner resources and abilities to navigate caregiving with greater equanimity, wisdom and compassion.

Facilitated by: Paula Stone—who cared for her aging mother—has had a lifelong interest in personal growth and healing modalities. She is the author of a commercially published

self-help book; an award-winning playwright; an experienced support-group leader and trained facilitator; and a longtime practitioner of mindfulness meditation which has included completion of a year-long mindfulness intensive which she now mentors. She currently leads workshops for adult-children—and facilitates family meetings—about parental caregiving; and her most recent full-length play *Because She's My Mother* is about an adult daughter's struggles to balance her life, face loss, and let go as she cares for her failing mother. Paula is retired from the World Bank, where she serves on the steering committee of the retirees' “Members Helping Members” program; she has a PhD from MIT.

Registration Open Now – RSVP is required!

www.eventbrite.com/e/caring-for-our-aging-parents-and-ourselves-a-workshop-for-adult-children-registration-69236110069

OPT



It has been recognized for many years that people 65 years and older are at greater risk of serious complications from the flu compared with young, healthy adults because human immune defenses become weaker with age. While flu seasons can vary in severity, during most seasons, people 65 years and older bear the greatest burden of severe flu disease. In recent years, for example, it's estimated that between 71 percent and 85 percent of seasonal flu-related deaths have occurred in people 65 years and older and between 54 percent and 70 percent of seasonal flu-related hospitalizations have occurred among people in that age group. So, influenza is often quite serious for people 65 and older.

Actions to Take This Flu Season

1. Get Your Flu Shot

The best way to prevent the flu is with a flu shot. CDC recommends that everyone 6 months of age and older get a seasonal flu vaccine each year by the end of October if possible. However, as long as flu viruses are circulating, vacci-

nation should continue throughout flu season, even in January or later. Vaccination is especially important for people 65 years and older because they are at high risk for complications from flu. Flu vaccines are often updated each season to keep up with changing viruses and also immunity wanes over a year so annual vaccination is needed to ensure the best possible protection against influenza. A flu vaccine protects against the flu viruses that research indicates will be most common during the upcoming season.

2. Practice Good Health Habits.

Practicing good health habits Includes covering coughs, washing hands often, and avoiding people who are sick.

3. Seek Medical Advice Quickly if You Develop Flu Symptoms.

Seek advice to see whether you might need medical evaluation or treatment with antiviral drugs. CDC recommends that antiviral drugs be used as early as possible to treat flu

in people who are very sick with flu (for example, people who are in the hospital), and people who are sick with flu and have a greater chance of getting serious flu complications, like people 65 and older. The benefit is greatest if treatment is started within the first 2 days of illness. A full list of high-risk factors is available at “People at High Risk of Developing Flu-Related Complications”.

4. Get Pneumococcal Vaccines.

People who 65 years and older should also be up to date with pneumococcal vaccination to protect against pneumococcal disease, such as pneumonia, meningitis, and bloodstream infections. Talk to your doctor to find out which pneumococcal vaccines are recommended for you. Pneumococcal pneumonia is an example of a serious flu-related complication that can cause death. You can get the pneumococcal vaccine your provider recommends when you get the flu vaccine

Continued on page 26

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Federal Law Enforcement Action Involving Fraudulent Genetic Testing Results in Charges Against 35 Individuals Responsible for Over \$2.1 Billion in Losses in One of the Largest Health Care Fraud Schemes Ever Charged

Elderly Patients Nationwide Lured into Criminal Scheme; Centers for Program Integrity & Medicare Services Takes Administrative Action against Providers that Submitted Over \$1.7 Billion in Claims

A federal law enforcement action involving fraudulent genetic cancer testing has resulted in charges in five federal districts against 35 defendants associated with dozens of telemedicine companies and cancer genetic testing laboratories (CGx) for their alleged participation in one of the largest health care fraud schemes ever charged. According to the charges, these defendants fraudulently billed Medicare more than \$2.1 billion for these CGx tests. Among those charged today are 10 medical professionals, including nine doctors.

The Department of Justice, Criminal Division, together with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Inspector General (HHS-OIG) and FBI spearheaded today's landmark investigation and prosecution that resulted in charges against CEOs, CFOs and others.

In addition, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Center for Program Integrity (CMS/CPI), announced today that it took adverse administrative action against cancer genetic testing companies and medical professionals who submitted more than \$1.7 billion in claims to the Medicare program.

Today's announcement is a culmination of coordinated law enforcement activities over the past month that were led by the Criminal Division's Health Care Fraud Unit, resulting in charges against over 380 individuals who allegedly billed federal health care programs for more than \$3 billion and allegedly

prescribed/dispensed approximately 50 million controlled substance pills in Houston, across Texas, the West Coast, the Gulf Coast, the Northeast, Florida and Georgia, and the Midwest. These include charges against 105 defendants for opioid-related offenses, and charges against 178 medical professionals.

The coordinated federal investigation targeted an alleged scheme involving the payment of illegal kickbacks and bribes by CGx laboratories in exchange for the referral of Medicare beneficiaries by medical professionals working with fraudulent telemedicine companies for expensive cancer genetic tests that were medically unnecessary.

Often, the test results were not provided to the beneficiaries or were worthless to their actual doctors. Some of the defendants allegedly controlled a telemarketing network that lured hundreds of thousands of elderly and/or disabled patients into a criminal scheme that affected victims nationwide. The defendants allegedly paid doctors to prescribe CGx testing, either without any patient interaction or with only a brief telephonic conversation with patients they had never met or seen.

"These defendants allegedly duped Medicare beneficiaries into signing up for unnecessary genetic tests, costing Medicare billions of dollars," Assistant Attorney General Brian A. Benczkowski of the Justice Department's Criminal Division. "Together with our law enforcement partners, the Department will continue to protect the public fisc and prosecute those who steal our taxpayer dollars."

"The scope and sophistication of the health care fraud detected in Operation Double Helix and the related Operation Brace Yourself

is nearly unprecedented. But the citizens of the Southern District of Georgia should know that we put together an unprecedented response," said U.S. Attorney Bobby L. Christine of the Southern District of Georgia. "Our office charged more defendants, responsible for more health care fraud losses, than ever before in this office's history. While these charges might be some of the first, they won't be the last."

"The defendants allegedly targeted elderly, disabled and other vulnerable consumers, luring them into this fraudulent scheme that affected victims nationwide and generated losses in excess of one billion dollars which spanned multiple jurisdictions," said U.S. Attorney Peter G. Strasser for the Eastern District of Louisiana. "Schemes such as these have a profound effect on our nation, not only by the monies lost in the scheme, but also by stoking public distrust in some medical institutions. It is imperative to preserve taxpayer confidence whenever and wherever possible. Our office, along with our investigative partners, reminds seniors and their caregivers to be vigilant for fraudulent schemes. If you are aware of or believe you are the victim of a health care fraud scheme, please contact law enforcement."

"The defendants are alleged to have capitalized on the fears of elderly Americans in order to induce them to sign up for unnecessary or non-existent cancer screening tests," said U.S. Attorney Ariana Fajardo Orshan of the Southern District of Florida. "The genetic testing fraud schemes put personal

greed above the preservation of the American health care system. The U.S. Attorney's Office in South Florida, alongside our law enforcement and USAO partners, remains committed to protecting taxpayer dollars and the Medicare program from abuse."

"Healthcare fraud and related illegal kickbacks and bribes impact the entire nation," said Assistant Director Terry Wade of the FBI's Criminal Investigative Division. "Fraudulently using genetic testing laboratories for unnecessary tests erodes the confidence of patients and costs taxpayers millions of dollars. These investigations revealed some medical professionals placing their greed before the needs of the patients and communities they serve. Today's law enforcement actions reinforce that the FBI, along with its partners, will continue to pursue and stop this type of illegal activity."

"Unfortunately, audacious schemes such as those alleged in the indictments are pervasive and exploit the promise of new medical technologies such as genetic testing and telemedicine for financial gain, not patient care," said Deputy Inspector General for Investigations Gary L. Cantrell of HHS-OIG. "Instead of receiving quality care, Medicare beneficiaries may be victimized in the form of scare tactics, identity theft, and in some cases, left to pay out of pocket. We will continue working with our law enforcement partners to investigate those who steal from federal healthcare programs and protect the millions of Americans who rely on them."

OPT

Senior Call Check Program

Maryland is the first state in the country to start a free, opt-in, telephonic service to check on Maryland's older residents, all across the state.

How Does It Work?

Every day a telephone call will be placed to a participant at a regularly scheduled time. These calls will take place between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. as close as possible to the one-hour time block pre-selected by the participant. If the participant does not answer their first call, they will be tried two more times. If those calls go unanswered, additional calls will be made to notify an alternative person who is selected by the participant during program enrollment. This could be an adult child, a neighbor, or another loved one. The alternate will then be encouraged to check on the older adult program participant. The failure of the participant and alternate to answer may result in a Welfare Check by local law enforcement.

Who Can Participate?

Any Maryland resident who is 65 years of age or older who has a landline phone or cell phone (TTY is available). The participant and alternates should not have automated call blocking technology (or they should disable that phone feature for this program).

How to Apply?

Three options available to apply:



1. Online at: <https://aging.maryland.gov/Pages/senior-call-check-sign-up.aspx>
OR

2. Download, print, and mail in the Maryland Senior Call Check Paper Application: <https://aging.maryland.gov/SiteAssets/Pages/senior-call-check/Maryland-Senior-Call-Check-Paper-Application.pdf>

3. Call toll-free (866)-502-0560 and ask to have a hard copy application mailed to your home.

When Do Calls Begin?

Daily calls will not begin until the applicant / participant receives a call to verify all of their information. Verification will include a successful test automated call to both the participant and alternate where applicable. After all information is validated, a Welcome Packet will be mailed to your home address. The welcome letter will include your start date.

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Are you ready for service that goes over and above? Are you ready for care that goes the extra mile? Then, yes indeed, you may just be ready for assisted living and memory care with *A Whole Lotta Heart*.



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Thursday, October 24th | 4:00–8:00 pm

All are welcome. We hope you will join us!

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LEISURE CARE ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY CARE COMMUNITY

OPT

St. Peter's after-school programs provide students an opportunity to pursue their passions

By Erin Pant

At St. Peter's School in Olney, Md., the fun and learning doesn't end when the dismissal bell rings at 3pm. Each quarter, six to eight after-school enrichment programs are offered to students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. Popular classes include music, art, science, cooking, yoga, group piano, chess club, and video game programming. A ballet and tap class was added this fall after parents expressed interest in a dance class. "We send out surveys to parents each year to see what they are interested in and to gather feedback on our current programs," said Mrs. Theresa Barczy, Enrichment Programs Coordinator. "We try to have a variety of offerings for all interests."

Mrs. Eunice Pak, a St. Peter's parent and certified instructor has been teaching after-school yoga for several years. "Yoga is about connecting one's body, mind, and



Students participate in yoga and art, two after-school enrichment programs offered at St. Peter's.



dents applying these tools on their own and connecting with themselves,” said Pak.

St. Peter's music teacher, Mr. Peter Nguyen, teaches several after-school enrichment programs including beginner guitar, intermediate/advanced guitar, ukulele and instrumental ensemble. Nguyen says the after-school classes provide an informal setting where lessons can be specifically tailored to student's strengths and interests. Whether a student is attending the class to try out a new instrument for the first time, or perfecting a talent, Nguyen says the classes allows students to pursue their passions.

Mrs. Peggy Meile, St. Peter's art teacher, also enjoys teaching after-school programs. The small class-size allows for more individual focus and taking the instruction to a higher level. Meile teaches

two after-school art classes, one for grades K-2 and one for grades 3-8. The class covers topics including still life, landscapes, print making, and 3D sculptures. "Art teaches so many things, and one of them is problem solving," said Meile. "I love to see the students embrace art and develop their own unique styles."

"As a school we're very fortunate to have these extra after-school activities that enrich the children's skills and abilities," said Theresa Barczy. "Our goal is to continue to meet the interests of our students with new and exciting programs each quarter."

OPT

St. Peter's Class of 2020 gather for a group picture on the first day of their eighth-grade year



Blessing of the Classrooms: Fr. Pineda offered a special blessing upon St. Peter's students, teachers and staff as they embark on a new school year

Welcome Fr. Ryan Pineda

St. Peter's Parish welcomed new parochial vicar, Fr. Ryan Pineda in July. Fr. Pineda was born in the Philippines and lived in Guam and Los Angeles before moving to the Washington D.C. area in 2008. He taught math at Elizabeth Seton High School in Bladensburg, Md. while pursuing a master's

degree in Library Science at The Catholic University of America. In 2010, Fr. Pineda applied to study for the priesthood in the Archdiocese of Washington, and he was ordained in 2016. Fr. Pineda previously served Holy Redeemer Parish in Kensington, Md.

"I have been blessed to be assigned at St. Peter's," said Fr. Pineda, "The parishioners and the staff are very welcoming. I appreciate the many volunteers who give their time to the parish and to the school. Greeting the students before and after school and doing classroom visits, including blessing the classrooms, the students, and their backpacks has been a joy."

OPT

FLU SEASON

Con't from page 24

5. Identify Flu Symptoms Early.


Flu symptoms include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills, and fatigue. Some people may also have vomiting and diarrhea. People may be infected with the flu and have respiratory symptoms without a fever.

For Help Staying Healthy This Flu Season

Contact your local Maryland Access Point (MAP) office to discover local health support services in your area. Call 1 (844) MAPLINK (627-5465) to be connected. Information credited to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

OPT

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Above, Monsignor Amey and the St. Mary's Parish Council kicked off the year with a dedicated crew of veterans and several new members at their September 18, 2019 meeting. From left to right: G. Funkhouser, J. Do, J. Quirk, V. Onley, K. Yates, Msgr. Amey, Fr. Fields, M. Curley, A. Ilagan, Deacon Brune, T. Patchan, K. Bell, M. McCormick.



Above, Mrs. Davis joins us to assist Mrs. Sweet with our Kindergarten students. Her smile is a comfort to our young learners each day. We are so happy to welcome her to our community!

Below, St. Mary's School welcomes Mrs. Sallah to our Middle School Team, where she shares her knowledge and expertise in Reading and Language Arts with our sixth through eighth grade students.



Above, St. Mary's is happy to welcome Miss Campbell to teach our second grade this year. She is looking forward to helping our students on their faith journey as they prepare for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. There is always some fun learning happening in Miss Campbell's room!

At left, St. Mary's welcomes Miss Feroli to our school this year. Our faculty, staff and students greatly appreciate her work with our middle school Math students and our lower hall students during Library Time!



MORRISON

Con't from page 1

to combat this scourge on our society – namely, the late-term abortion facility of LeRoy Carhart that had opened in the suburbs of Maryland in December 2010 due to the state's lax abortion laws.

In one of those earlier community rallies, Deacon James specifically recalls these powerful words proclaimed by one pastor, "Imagine a sign at the abortionist's door: 'This abortion clinic is made possible by the good Christians and Catholics of Montgomery County.' If we don't do anything, this place stays open." They decided shortly thereafter that one hour of prayer each week was not too much they could offer for these children who were perishing. (According to statistics, about 50 million children are aborted every year throughout the world, and about 125,000 per day.) Every Monday morning, as many of these pro-life-minded people that could go, did go, to rally for

these babies' innocent lives. They held up signs and walked up and down Wisteria Drive saying prayers and countless Rosaries, endured the natural elements and the cruel scorn of passersby and the abortionist's office workers. Monday was the decided-upon day because that was when Carhart began the abominable practice – it takes three days to end a late-term pregnancy because the baby is so developed. Carhart would fly into town on the weekend from Nebraska – which is where he actually resides – to perform the gruesome procedures. Ironically, once or twice the inclement weather worked for life – the snow would cause his flight to get canceled and he could not travel to his office.

The fact is that abortion is so horrible, the world itself has turned a blind eye to it. Our world pretends it is not happening. Deacon James said, "You have to learn to distrust the peace that the world will project over this industry. It's hard to live in the reality of abortion, knowing how many thousands of children are killed every minute." Despair

can set it in. "It was discouraging to watch," Deacon James said. "What was our prayer really doing? Monday after Monday we would pray." The almost eight years the Germantown facility was open felt like an interminable amount of time to the pro-life prayer warriors who would gather along Wisteria Drive.

But it was that stalwart trust in God through prayer that ultimately led to its closing in August 2017. Thanks to the prayers of the faithful, the work of the sidewalk counselors and the pro-life pregnancy center directly across from Carhart's facility, 428 women ultimately chose life for their children. Like each one of us, these children have inimitable souls. There never was – and never will be – another person that is the same as just one of those saved babies. The victory in Germantown gives us hope that this extreme evil *can* end – but it starts with us. We have to change our lives to fight abortion. As Deacon James says, "The pro-life movement demands us to live differently, to change our schedules to make time – and to

sacrifice. A lot of fidelity and prayer bears real fruit in the end."

Unfortunately, Carhart's office has moved to North Bethesda (in the Wildwood Shopping Center near the corner of Old Georgetown Road and Democracy Boulevard). Hopefully, those in that neighborhood will also take action to stand up for life to get Carhart's operation closed for good. Deacon James said, "Proximity is a consideration. If you live next door to a burning house, you will have a responsibility that the others in the next town over will not. Whether we like it or not, this is our task and we have to respond." God will give us the fortitude, trust and humility to pray faithfully to Him. We have only to ask. The power of prayer works miracles big and small – and it will continue to give protesters inspiration and courage to move forward. We must not give up, brothers and sisters in Christ. We may have won one battle, but there is still a monumental war to fight.

To get more involved in the pro-life movement locally, especially

in October which is Right-to-Life month, check out 40daysforlife.com/bethesda. You can also support the efforts of the Gabriel Project, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping soon-to-be mothers and their families, providing them with prayerful and material support both before and after baby's birth. In one of the side vestibules at St. Mary's Catholic Church, there is Gabriel Project literature and a crib for ongoing donations.

OPT

St. Mary's Parish

520 Veirs Mill Road Rockville, MD

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St. Mary's School
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Mrs. Debby Eisel,
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Mother Seton Parish Celebrates Father Lou Faust

By Joan Gerard

Father Lou turned 80 years young, and the Parish was more than happy to celebrate their dear resident retired priest. What better way to express their love and gratitude to their counselor, pilgrim guide and faithful friend for over a decade than with a parish wide party.

A committee was formed and voila! Before you knew it, both volunteers and staff



ministries of the Parish presented him with memorial gifts for his favorite charities, and many ministries including Seton Seniors, Sodality, Flower Decorating Committee, Adult Choir, and Spanish Choir entertained Fr. Lou with songs, poems, and even the Staff wrote and performed a rap! Fun, laughs, and joy, joy, joy was had by all.

God bless you Fr. Lou! We thank our God for you!

OPT



The birthday boy blowing out the candles of one of many cakes.

Above, words of gratitude from Fr. Lou.

cooked up a party to end all parties.

Wall to wall the Parish centered was transformed into a tribute to Father Lou that included floral arrangements, posters, banners, a photo timeline of his life from age 2 on, and even a 1939 candies cart.

Many of his family attended, which was a delightful surprise for him. So many joyfully worked on the celebration to assure Fr. Lou would feel totally honored and loved. It worked! Fr. Lou was thrilled by the tribute. Several min-



Fr. Lou with his nieces and his siblings and their spouses.



MSP Parishioners enjoying good food and great company on a beautiful sunny day.

Mother Seton Parish Picnic

By Amy Tolan

Mother Seton's annual parish picnic was held Sunday, Sept. 22, at Mary of Nazareth School. It was a hot day but no rain this year. Lots of sun and fun.

We had the usual picnic fare of hot dogs and burgers with lots of sides provided by those attending, plus many delicious desserts.



Knights of Columbus presenting Fr. Lee Fangmeyer a check from their bingo fundraising event.

The children were entertained by a clown and great music. Many played soccer and some played baseball with Fr. Lee. Everyone had a great time just enjoying each other's company.

OPT

SHORT

Con't from page 1

it treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children, those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly, and those who are in the shadows of life, the sick, the needy and the handicapped". This moral test is applicable not only to governments, but to all social, economic and religious organizations and especially to each and every one of us.

This month is an appropriate time to honestly apply this test to ourselves and all aspects of our lives and commit to strengthening areas in which we fall short. Are we doing as much as we are able to assure that children are loved and cared for in a respectful manner? Abortion and immigrant children come to mind. Are we assuring that the elderly among us age with dignity and respect? Isolation and loneliness come to mind. Perhaps the most difficult of all, are we searching the shadows of our communities to assure that those often invisible and forgotten receive the respect that Christ demanded? The homeless and severely disabled come to mind. Many Catholic service organizations score high on this moral test. Here are some which may help you in your efforts to respect life this month. St Ann's Center for Children and Families has been caring for those in the **dawn of life** for more than 150 years, www.stanns.org. Victory Housing is celebrating its 40th year serving those in the **twilight of their lives** by providing affordable assisted and independent living, www.victoryhousing.org. The Joseph P. Kennedy Institute, a part of Catholic Charities serves those living in the **shadows of life** by providing services to children

and adults with disabilities, www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/kennedyschool. We are grateful and proud of these truly Christian service groups and others who serve as well.

Last time we reflected on the important and urgent need for **kindness today**. We identified disciplines necessary to be kinder people. We acknowledged that growing in kindness begins within each of us and requires effort and intention. Some of you emailed me in agreement and offered other ideas. Thanks.

The road to kindness may be likened to a spiritual pilgrimage. Whether Muslims trekking to Mecca, Jews flocking to Israel, or the more modest pilgrimage of Catholics enduring traffic along Rt. 270 to Thurmont to visit the Grotto of Lourdes, the faithful are changed for the better having made the pilgrimage. Might we consider a pilgrimage to a special place in our hearts called kindness? To make a meaningful pilgrimage, we should prepare ourselves spiritually. So let's reflect upon the preparations and supplies needed to make a pilgrimage that will enable us to live a kinder life.

We will need sustenance for the long journey. **Faith will fuel our spirit** and satisfy our hunger for affection. Trusting in God's inexhaustible love for each of us will enable us to recognize and welcome God as a reliable and supportive travel partner.

To reach the goal of our pilgrimage, we need a map. Be sure to pack the Gospel. The divine Cartographer, **Jesus Christ, has charted the way** to a kinder life in His teaching and example in the New Testament. We will be wise to read and reflect on these each morning before we begin the day's

leg of our journey. Isn't it amazing how much easier it is to get where we want to go when we know how to get there!

No doubt there will be bumps along our journey to kindness, perhaps even a breakdown. To plan for these, **bring along some self-forgiveness**. A priest friend of mine tells me that some of the kindest people he knows confess their deep disappointment in themselves for few and minor unkindnesses. For penance, he assigns them "forgive yourself". If we are unkind to ourselves, it will be more difficult to be kind to others.

The long journey to kindness will pass more quickly and be more joyful if we add entertainment. Most popular entertainment media these days contribute more to unkindness than to kindness so we will need to bring along our own joyful sources. **Turn on your heart and tune into thanksgiving**. Everyone has much for which to be grateful. In our busy lives, we often forget to take the time to stop and reflect upon the gifts of kindness we have given to others. Be thankful to your Traveling Partner for the joy we have brought to others and the trip will pass in a most satisfying way.

Before we know it, Advent will be here. Those four weeks of preparation for the birth of Jesus are a good time to take the pilgrimage to kindness. Having completed it, the Christmas season will be an ideal time to test out newly acquired insights into kindness and bring joy to the world. Have a blessed and joyful trip!

Kindness today!

Chuck Short,
cshort5@verizon.net

OPT

Mother Seton Parish
19951 Fr. Hurley Boulevard
Germantown, MD

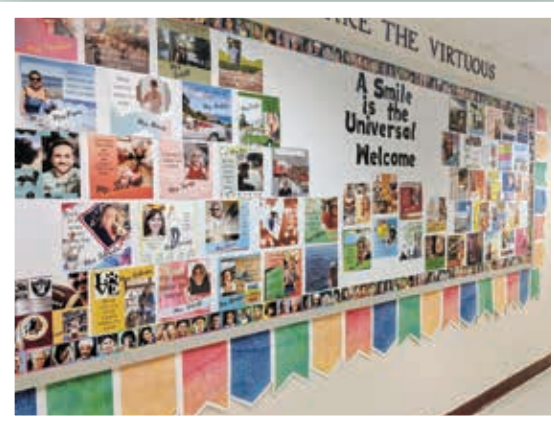
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Smile!

A smile is the universal welcome” Max Eastman and the first ACTION in our year of Virtues in ACTION initiative at Mary of Nazareth School. The goal of the Virtues in ACTION initiative is to remind us that virtues don’t have to be demonstrated through grand gestures, but everyday acts like smiling can demonstrate the virtues as well! Smiling demonstrates dignity for another person. A smile can help to make someone feel welcome, respected and included in the community. We want our students to know that an ACTION as simple as a smile can have a big impact!

When faculty and staff returned



The back to school bulletin board featured faculty and staff pictures and what makes them smile.

from the summer break to set up their classrooms, review lesson plans, decorate bulletin boards and finalize schedules, they were greeted with a smile, actually 46 smiles! A bulletin board in our

front hall was adorned with a picture of each facility and staff member smiling with the caption of what makes them smile. “Spending time with my family at the beach”, “Driving across the country with my friend” and holding my new baby granddaughter”, are just a few of the things that make members of our faculty and staff smile. When students and their families return to school next week after the long break and last minute back to school shopping, they will be greeted by our facility and staff with great big smiles, welcoming them and letting them know that each student and their family are valued members of the Mary of Nazareth Community.

OPT

New Year, New Faces!

Molly Carter is excited to be teaching third grade at Mary of Nazareth Catholic School this fall. She graduated from Mount St. Mary’s with a dual degree in Elementary Education and Special Education. She has taught in the private and public-school systems for the last four years and is thrilled to continue her career as a teacher at Mary of Nazareth this year!

Matthew Rice will be teaching Technology to grades K-8. Matthew grew up right in Gaithersburg as a parishioner of St. Rose of Lima. In college, he studied Materials Science and Engineering at the University of Maryland, College Park and was very involved at the Catholic Student Center. He has worked on projects ranging from assessing the orbital debris risks of batteries at NASA to programming a model of Mongolian gazelle migrations. This year he will be on both sides of the classroom as he works to finish an MA in Theology at the Dominican

House of Studies in DC. Matthew is looking forward to meeting all of the students, families, and teachers of MoN!

Matthew DuVall is very much looking forward to his fourth year of teaching being MoN’s middle school’s science. Matt is no stranger to MoN, as he has participated in multiple STEAM nights as well as being a judge in the science fair in the Spring. His passion is developing plenty of activities for the students to interact with the scientific process!

Holly Morris will be teaching Kindergarten at Mary of Nazareth. She left her job at an advertising agency to follow God’s call to serve his Church as a Catholic school teacher. Holly graduated with her Master’s degree in the art of teaching this past May and was married in June (to a fellow Catholic school teacher). She is beyond excited to be a part of the vibrant and welcoming community at Mary of Nazareth and

cannot wait to see what this year has in store!

OPT

Mary of Nazareth Roman Catholic School

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Mother Seton, Germantown; St. John Neumann, Gaithersburg; St. Mary’s Shrine, Barnesville; St. Rose of Lima, Gaithersburg; St. Paul, Damascus; Our Lady of the Presentation, Poolesville; Our Lady of the Visitation, Darnestown.



Eighth graders bravely put their faces forward to have pies thrown at them.

MON’s Back to School Fest

by William Antonetti

Mary of Nazareth opens their school year annually with a get-together carnival during the first week. Alumni, students, faculty, and parents all come together for an afternoon of games, food, and socializing. The weather managed to be a perfect mixture of cool air and sunshine. The sprawling campus of Mary of Nazareth was filled as cars parked and stands and inflatables were set up, and anticipation mounted.

Eighth graders and their parents sold hot dogs and hamburgers to raise money for their trip to New York. They even at one point man-

aged to draft a faculty member into their assembly line for cheeseburgers! The faculty got their revenge at the eighth graders’ other fundraiser. They had a booth where for two dollars you could throw a pie at an eighth-graders’ face. This resulted in many faculty members participating in good fun.

Younger students ran around enjoying the various games and inflatable water slide that was on the grounds for the carnival. The parents talked and met the new staff for the year. A grand time was had by all, and the school year is underway in good cheer.

OPT

McGANN

Con’t from page 1

How would the world receive the message that God makes no mistakes?

Do you wonder why God creates the weak and the fragile, those with broken bodies and broken minds? Don’t we all wonder why He wouldn’t make everyone “normal”? Of course we do. We can’t begin to understand why some people struggle through life, and others seem to coast along easily. But there are lots of things we don’t understand – the Virgin Birth, the Resurrection, the Holy Trinity – we’re not supposed to understand, that’s why we need

faith.

Jesus did not place greater value on strong bodies and minds. If we follow His lead, we won’t evaluate those who appear weaker and less than normal with pity and a sense of relief, whispering, “There but for the grace of God go I.” Instead, we are meant to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with one another, affording everyone the same respect and regard. As in any family, we are called to prop one another up, to hold one another accountable, and to love unconditionally.

Because we believe that all life has intrinsic dignity, that no one should be afforded more respect than anyone else. Because we respect and honor all life, we know

that none of us is worthless and none of us is more worthy than the other. Each of us contributes, and each contribution is valued. This is not a political position. It’s a truth – not up for debate.

So if we believe that every life has dignity, that everyone matters, and no one matters more than anyone else, do we have the courage to act on our beliefs? What would our Sunday Masses look like? What would our Catholic schools look like? How would we treat one another? How much richer would our lives and the lives of our children be if we saw the Hand and the Face of God in everyone we encountered?

OPT

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www.maryofnazareth.org

St. Mary Barnesville Annual Parishioner Appreciation Picnic



Above, Fr. Kevin celebrates the outdoor mass on September 15 along with Fr. O'Grady concelebrating and Deacon Dave Cahoon assisting.



Above center, some of the parishioners and friends in attendance for the Annual Outdoor Mass & Appreciation Picnic, which was held on September 15.

Above right, Mel Washington and folks gather for food and fellowship at the Annual Parishioner Appreciation Picnic at St. Mary's.

At right, Fr. Frank O'Grady received a Papal Blessing for his 50th Anniversary in the Priesthood. Father is retired from the US Army Chaplaincy, but still ministers to wounded veterans at Walter Reed. He assists on weekends here in Barnesville.



St. Patrick



Students enjoy a game of rounders, a colonial game which includes elements of baseball and kickball.

St. Mary's Parish

18230 Barnesville Road
Barnesville, MD 20838

Rev. Kevin O'Reilly, Pastor

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Fifth grader Lily Williams successfully throws a tomahawk at a target more than twenty feet away!



40 DAYS

Con't from page 1

to end abortion. There were tons of information, flyers, signs, t-shirts, and bumper stickers available for pick up. Right to Life of Montgomery County had a table with pencils, pens, wristbands, and literature that people could take for their own information and also for handing out to others in the community.

Fr. Giese, Pastor of St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish, opened the event with a talk about the first civil right as the right to life and then proceeded to bless the event with an inspirational prayer. Matt Britton, General Counsel and Chairman of the Board of 40 Days for Life, gave shocking statistics and amazing stories about the horror of the situation but gave hope that there are also stories of lives saved and conversions. George Weigel, a Parishioner of St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish and Saint Pope John Paul II Historian, praised the 40 Days for Life campaign and encouraged full participation. Pastor David Sayne, Wildwood Baptist Church, closed the evening with a dynamic prayer reminding the audience to follow the Gospel. Jill Gadwood, local coordinator, gave all the practical details for the 40 Days campaign and highlighted the October 6 Witness for Life Noon Mass

at St. Jane's church followed by a rosary procession to Carhart's facility. St. Jane's Pro-Life Committee invited attendees to join them in their rosary campaign during the month of October pledging rosaries for the unborn. Attendees committed themselves to 140 rosaries.

The 40 Days for Life is a worldwide mobilization effort that seeks to protect mothers and children. In its 12-year history, 40 Days for Life has saved 16,000 unborn babies, closed 100 abortion facilities, and inspired 1,000,000 volunteers at over 800 locations in 60 countries. The tools used by 40 Days for Life are prayer, fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach.

From September 25 through November 3, a 40 Days for Life vigil will take place daily, from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm, outside LeRoy Carhart's late-term abortion clinic at the Wildwood Medical Center (10401 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda). Several local parishes have committed to join the campaign and organize groups of parishioners to come pray in front of the abortion clinic during the 40-day vigil. Vigil participants will stand on the public sidewalk between Old Georgetown Road and the white fence. To sign up go to www.40daysforlife.com/Bethesda.



Sr. Teresa Rose (second sister from the left) was among the three novices of the Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus who professed first vows on the feast of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, August 22, 2019, in the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, New Ulm, Minnesota. The sisters professed their vows in the presence of Bishop Andrew Cozzens (left), Mother Mary Clare (second from left), and Bishop John LeVoir (right).

First Vows: Sister Teresa Rose, ACJ

By Mary Beth de Ribeaux

When the time came at last for her to profess her first vows, the nervousness vanished, and total peace descended. "I, Margaret Diane Miller, called in religious life, Sr. Teresa Rose of the Most Precious Blood of Jesus, vow..." she began – and thus this daughter of St. John Neumann parishioners Hall and Laura Miller became united to Jesus in a special way through her vocation to consecrated life.

Hall and Laura, together with the rest of their family, were present in New Ulm, Minnesota, as Sr. Teresa Rose and two other novices of the Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus professed their vows at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity on the feast of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Aug. 22, 2019.

"My heart was so filled with joy and peace," Sr. Teresa Rose wrote when describing her special day.

For her mother, the most touching part was seeing each of the sisters come forward to hug their newly professed sisters warmly. "There's so much love between those sisters," said Laura Miller. "The vows ceremony was beautiful, and Sr. Teresa Rose was smiling nonstop!"

All the sisters were amazed and very thankful for the generosity of St. John Neumann parishioners when the Millers brought them the donations collected last month. Sr. Teresa Rose's sister Diane packed her car full of boxes of toothpaste, granola bars, soap, and lots of other essentials for the sisters and drove all the way from Maryland to Minnesota, while Hall and Laura handed over more than \$2,000 in monetary and gift card donations to Mother Mary Clare.

Now that she is professed, Sr. Teresa Rose is moving on from the novitiate and will be teaching Church history at Cathedral High School in New Ulm and assisting with promoting vocations.

OPT

TUESDAY CLUB

Con't from page 6

limit some of our travel activities because there are not enough members to make a trip cost affordable with the motor coach rental and other fees. Over the summer, some members joined with another travel club and took a trip to a casino in the Finger Lakes region of New York. They enjoyed two days of touring the local attractions and being entertained in the casino in the evenings. The club did enjoy a wonderfully delicious Deluxe Tea at The Furnace Inn in Elkridge, Maryland, also over the summer with more than 40 participants. We always welcome anyone who wants to join our trips to attend even though they are not regular members of the club. All the food is made on the premises and the fruits

and vegetables are grown on the property. They have started animal husbandry and butcher their own meats.

In October, we will embark on a two-hour train trip from Walkersville, Maryland, to view the scenery and enjoy an elegantly served luncheon on board. On the way home, we will tour a brewery in Frederick, Maryland and hopefully get to sample some of the beers. For our October meeting, we are having a pizza party instead of our usual offerings. That should be fun and we hope the members enjoy the change of pace! To wind up the year we will have our annual catered luncheon celebration, which is always lovely, and almost all of the members will attend, along with any guests they may wish to invite. We will also invite the priests and rectory staff to join us.

OPT

First Vows: Brother Steve Castellano, MIC

By Mary Beth de Ribeaux

On Aug. 15, 2019, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Steve Castellano's name changed in a slight, but significant way: As he professed his first vows as a Marian of the Immaculate Conception at the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, he became Brother Steve Castellano, MIC.

Along with four other Marian novices, Br. Steve professed one-year vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience before the provincial superior, Very Rev. Fr. Kazimierz Chwalek, MIC. Then he received the Blue Scapular of Our Lady as a sign of honoring and imitating Mary and changed from the white shirt and bright blue tie the novices wear to black clerical garments, symbolizing his new life.



Photo ©2019 Marians of the Immaculate Conception of the B.V.M.

"I, Steve Castellano, for the glory of God and the honor of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary and all the Saints, in the presence of the entire Community, through your hands, most Reverend Father, vow to Almighty God in the Congregation of Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, according to its Constitutions, the three vows of chastity, poverty, and obedience for one year. So help me God and this holy Gospel."

Reflecting on this important event in his formation, Br. Steve said, "I brought a deep sense of gratitude for all the graces the

Lord gave me during my novitiate year, and I look forward to the future with hopeful expectation. I ask the Lord to make my life fruitful as a consecrated person and that he'd use me in whatever way he wants."

Br. Steve is the son of parishioners Tony and Ellen Castellano and grandson of long-time parishioners Carmine and Mary Castellano. In 2018, Brother Steve entered the Marians of the Immaculate Conception, a religious order that among other charisms, works to spread the message of Divine Mercy. Brother Steve will continue his studies as a Marian seminarian in Washington, DC.

OPT



Brother Steve Castellano with family

First Vows: Brother Mark El-Hallal, LC

By Mary Beth de Ribeaux

Over the sun-dappled grounds of the Legion of Christ College in Cheshire, Connecticut, family and friends mingled under shady trees on a day that was incredibly beautiful in many dimensions. Br. Mark El-Hallal, smiling broadly and laughing readily, seemed to radiate joy as he bounced among his guests at the reception, many of whom had traveled quite a distance for the event. The reason for his joy? Earlier that morning of August 31, Br. Mark had professed his first vows as a Legionary of Christ along with eight other young men before the order's North American Territorial Director, Fr. John Connor, LC, at St. Bridget of Sweden Church.

"It was not only me giving myself to Christ, but Christ giving Himself to me," Br. Mark reflected. "Now I can say I am totally His and He is totally mine." In his hand, he clutches a crucifix that was presented to him by Fr. Connor after professing his vows, then tucks it into his cassock, near to his heart. During the vows ceremony, Fr. Connor had said to each of the



Brother Mark El-Hallal with his other eight confreres after their profession of FIRST VOWS into the Legion of Christ religious order.

newly professed, "Receive this crucifix. May Christ crucified be your sole possession always." And each had responded, "Hail, O Cross, our only hope."

Br. Mark is the son of St. John Neumann parishioners Simona and the late Joseph El-Hallal. In 2017, he entered the Legionaries of Christ, a religious congregation of priests and men on the path to priesthood that seeks to build the Kingdom of Christ in society and transform culture. Br. Mark will

continue his studies with an intense two-year humanities program in Cheshire before going to Rome for further studies in philosophy and theology.

OPT

St. John Neumann Parish
9000 Warfield Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20882
Msgr. Robert Panke, Pastor
Rus Wester, OPT Editor



OLQP Parishioners gathered at the coffee hour after Mass on August 25, 2019, with visiting priest, Fr. Richard Philiposki, S.Chr., who celebrated Holy Mass. From left are Karol Klonowski, Professor Mirek Skibniewski, Rev. Richard Philiposki and Dr. Edwarda Buda-Okreglak. Fr. Philiposki is a fourth generation Polish American and has the distinction of being the first American-born priest in the Society of Christ. The Society of Christ was founded in Poland in 1932 by the Primate of Poland, Cardinal August Hlond, with Fr. Ignacy Posadzy to serve the Polish diaspora abroad. Since its inception, our parish has been served by priests from the Society of Christ and our Pastor, Fr. Jerzy Frydrych, is also from the Society. Fr. Philiposki served as Pastor at several parishes, among them Holy Rosary Church in Baltimore. He is currently priest in residence at the parish of Our Lady of Las Vegas Roman Catholic Church in Nevada, which includes a Polish American community. Fr. Philiposki has authored a book on Polish American parishes in Toledo, Ohio, and writes about Polish customs and traditions.

Join the Pilgrimage from OLQP Parish to St. JP2 Shrine on October 26

The October 26 Pilgrimage is a 12-mile walk from Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish in Silver Spring to the Saint John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, DC, in celebration of the feast day of Saint John Paul II. The Saturday walk will include the recitation of the rosary, songs of praise, and group prayer to create a truly communal pilgrimage experience. The pilgrimage will end with Mass at the St. John Paul II Shrine and a prayer of Marian consecration, followed by a celebration with music and food.

The Pilgrimage is a way for young adults and families to spend the day together. Family, friends, schools, councils, and religious communities are encouraged to participate.

There is a Shorter Walk for families with young children and those with other special needs who can join only for the last 3 miles of the pilgrimage after the group exits Rock Creek Park. When registering, check the "shorter walk" option and also inform the Shrine if you need

special parking accommodations at the Shrine.

Participants are urged to register now at: JP2SHRINE.ORG/PIGRIMAGE

The registration fee covers all costs for the day – water and snacks during the pilgrimage and the food and drink during the celebration after Mass. When registering, consider submitting any intentions that you would want participants to hold in prayer as they walk.

Additional details regarding registration, the exact route, and a detailed schedule for the day can be found at jp2shrine.org on the events page for the pilgrimage.

Please note that Our Lady Queen of Poland (OLQP) Parish in Silver Spring is a repository of the relics of St. John Paul II. In addition, it is a repository for the relics of St. Sister Faustyna Kowalska, St. Maximilian Kolbe, and several beatified martyrs, among them Fr. Jerzy Popieluszko.

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Our Lady Queen of Poland Pastor, Fr. Jerzy Frydrych, S.Chr., welcomed everyone to the OLQP parish picnic in Silver Spring on September 22 after celebrating Holy Mass to inaugurate the new school year for students at the Polish Saturday schools and religion classes. Sister Danuta Przybylek, S.A.C., and Bozena Lis are with Father.



Some of the younger OLQP picnickers at the parish picnic in Silver Spring on Sept. 22.



Parishioners and friends of Our Lady Queen of Poland, Silver Spring, gathered on the parish grounds to enjoy the delicious food, festivities, and camaraderie on Sept. 22.



The Ojczyzna Polish Dancers of Baltimore performed dances from various regions of Poland at the OLQP parish picnic in Silver Spring on Sept. 22 and were a big hit with everyone.

SAVE THE DATE!



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An Honor for Holy Cross

Holy Cross School and Parish was honored to welcome Archbishop Gregory as the lead celebrant of our opening school Liturgy and the Votive Mass of the Mystery of the Holy Cross

on Friday, September 13th. In attendance was also Bill Ryan, Secretary for Catholic Schools. Archbishop Gregory's homily emphasized that the cross is a symbol of victory, and it is a reminder of the great love that

God has for each one of us.

After mass, Father Robert and Mrs. Lisa Kane led a tour of the school where Archbishop Gregory and Mr. Ryan visited some of the classrooms. The reception for Archbishop Gregory by students in the PreK-3 was pure delight. One student even jumped up to hold the Archbishop's hand!

When our special visitors arrived in the PreK-4 classroom, the children were engaged in a multi-sensory human graphing and rhyming activity from the Energizing Readiness Curriculum from the Titans Foundation. With the help of their teacher, Mrs. Overly and Para-Educator, Mrs. Downs, the children were grouped in lines according to the type of shoe each was wearing: with shoelaces, with Velcro, and slip-ons. The children were delighted when Archbishop Gregory joined one of the lines after data was collected regarding his shoes – they were slip-ons!

Our first-grade class was just beginning morning snack when



PreK-4 loved that Archbishop Gregory jumped right into their multi-sensory human graphing and rhyming activity from the Energizing Readiness Curriculum.

Archbishop arrived. He bestowed a special blessing on the students before making his departure.

Principal Mrs. Kane reflected, "We could not have asked for a better start to our school year – having Archbishop Gregory celebrate our Opening Mass on the Votive of the Holy Cross was an extraordinary

honor and a pleasure. He challenged our students, faculty, and staff to "Lift high the Cross, not just on our Feast day, but every day. It is such an important message, and one that is significant to our Holy Cross family."

OPT



Holy Cross Parish and School was honored to welcome Archbishop Gregory as the lead celebrant of our opening school Liturgy and the Votive Mass of the Mystery of the Holy Cross.

Holy Cross Kicks Off a Kindness Initiative

"When you can be anything in this world . . . always be kind!" These are the words spoken at the end of each day, immediately following afternoon prayers by Holy Cross Principal, Mrs. Lisa Kane. Students and faculty alike have enjoyed this message over the past few years and can often be heard saying this quote in unison with Mrs. Kane.

This year, the faculty and staff took this concept even further with a comprehensive *Kindness Initiative*. Students and faculty members were given a tee shirt bearing the Holy Cross logo along with the message "Always Be Kind" to kick off this



Students and faculty worked together to form a beautiful cross to kick off the Kindness Initiative and prepare for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.



Holy Cross School students were excited to wear their special "Always Be Kind" tee shirts to school!

program. We held our first *Kindness Day* when students and faculty wore their tee shirts to school and the entire school assembled for a special photo in the church to form a large-scale cross. This team effort corresponded with celebrating the Feast Day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross and required both patience and kindness!

Mrs. Kane is collaborating with Mrs. Cabellaro, our school counselor, to plan additional *Kindness Days* along with special activities throughout the year. One constant will be the *Kindness Tree* that is "growing" outside of the main

Continued on page 39

Twenty Years of Bingo Fun for a Purpose

The Respect Life committee or Holy Cross parish is sponsoring its 20th Annual Harvest Bingo party to benefit the Centro Tepeyac Pregnancy Aid Center in Silver Spring on Saturday, October 19. The commitment and generosity of the parish, along with contributions from many other donors, have made possible the purchase of an ultrasound van for the center, and it is hoped that this will be brought to the Harvest Bingo celebration to showcase the fruits of these collective fundraising endeavors.

The evening will start with a dinner of pizza, Chick-Fil-A sand-

wiches, as well as make-your-own ice cream sundaes. Then, the games will begin!

The success of the evening relies on the generosity of many businesses in our community. While a complete list of donors for this year's event is not finalized, in the past prizes have been donated by Baskins Robbins, Bertrams Inkwell, China Gourmet, Continental Pizza, Clydes Restaurant, Fitzgerald Auto Mall, Frankly Pizza, K Towne Bistro, La Panetteria, Ledo's Pizza, Montgomery Right to Life, Original Pancake House, Seasons 52, Silver Diner, and Trader Joe's.

Bakery items will be donated this year by Vie de France. Plus, a grand prize winner will walk away with a crisp \$100 bill and an equally crisp \$50 bill will go home with a second prize winner.

The Respect Life committee invites everyone to a night of fun and good food all in support of Centro Tepeyac. All are welcome—parishioners, members of surrounding parishes, neighbors, friends, and school families. Consider attending the five o'clock vigil Mass at Holy Cross, then stroll on over to Lewis Hall for supper and Bingo!

Hope to see you on October 19!

OPT

40 Days for Life

Holy Cross parishioners will participate in the 40 Days for Life Autumn Prayer and Fasting effort, a peaceful, international effort to pray, and fast to end abortion which runs from September 25 through November 3. This year 500 cities will participate, an

increase of 100 from last year.

On the afternoon of Sunday, October 6 from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m., Holy Cross will participate in the vigil outside the LeRoy Carhart's late-term abortion clinic at the Wildwood Medical Center, 10401 Old Georgetown Road.

For more information, please visit the website: 40daysforlife.com.

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Holy Cross Picnic

Beautiful blue skies and sunshine were the backdrop for the annual Holy Cross Picnic on Sunday, September 15th. Laughter and conversation filled the air as parishioners and school families enjoyed an afternoon of delicious food, camaraderie, and fun. Several recent alumni also returned to Holy Cross to visit!

Representatives from parish committees were on hand to showcase their good works and highlight the

vibrance of our parish community. Boy Scouts from Troop 463, led by parishioner Barbara Thawley, were in attendance and working to earn a merit badge by overseeing the recycling of picnic-related products.

Children were treated to many activities. The moon bounce and face-painting table are perennial favorites. This year, children could also show their creativity by decorating tee shirts and create crafts.

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**More Holy Cross News
on Page 34**

Fr. Dave Wells gathers with members of the Parish Council following a Rite of Commissioning during mass in September. Photo courtesy of St. Martin's Parish.



St. Martin's Parish Approaches Its 100th Anniversary

By Emily Moldiz

Ninety-nine years ago, in the fall of 1920, Republican Warren G. Harding had just been elected President. The Cleveland Indians had defeated the Brooklyn Dodgers, 5 games to 2, to win the World Series. In the Archdiocese of Baltimore, in the town known as Gaithersburg, population about 760, a small group of devoted Catholics was about to see the culmination of years of prayers, work, and savings.

As early as the 1880s, Catholics in the Gaithersburg area attended Mass in a special chapel in home of Thomas and Adeline Gloyd. The brother and sister lived at 5 North Frederick Ave (the "Great Road West"), near where the new rail-

road line had been established. As the community grew, they began to hope and plan for a more permanent place of worship. A committee of local ladies began a "Chapel Fund" to collect one dollar each month from local Catholics. They also approached the landowners of the vacant property they had selected, at the corner of Frederick and Summit Avenues.

In 1914, Mr. John Diamond, a Catholic, donated his share of the land. Mr. Ignatius Fulks sold his land at half-value to Father George B. Harrington of St. Mary's in Barnesville, MD, who promptly transferred ownership to the Archbishop of Baltimore. Further plans were halted by the onset of World War I, and then Fr.

Harrington was transferred away from St. Mary's. Father John S. Cuddy, his replacement, was eager to continue the work and soon enough it was December 1920 and St. Martin's was canonically established.

On December 12, 1920, Fr. Cuddy said the first Mass in the church of St. Martin of Tours. The building was made from re-purposed army mess halls moved to the property by Fr. Cuddy, a former army chaplain.

Today St. Martin's hosts ten weekend Masses in three languages. The parish has a church, a school, and a wide variety of ministries and activities.

We invite all those who have a special place in their hearts for St. Martin's to join us as we kickoff the Centennial Year. We open with our annual Tri-lingual Mass on Sunday, November 10 at 12:00 pm in honor of St. Martin of Tours. Bishop Brennan, the newly appointed bishop of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, West Virginia will serve as the celebrant. Following the Mass, Bishop Brennan will dedicate and bless the newly renovated Church Hall.

The parish will hold a year-long celebration of its founding, leading up to a Centennial Celebration weekend in November 2020.

OPT



St. Martin's new staff members. From left to right, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Dillow, Ms. Green, Mrs. Meadows, Mrs. Frelk, and Mrs. Romero.

Photo courtesy of St. Martin's School.

Fun Facts about St. Martin's School's New Teachers

By Catherine Cooksey

And now.... Introducing the newest additions to St. Martin's all-star lineup!

Caroline Green, 2nd grade teacher. Ms. Green grew up in the Bethesda. She likes to play tennis, hang out with friends and family, and travel. She is currently reading Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows.

Sherry Meadows, 4th grade teacher. Mrs. Meadows enjoys mysteries and going to escape rooms. She's currently reading The Gingerbread Cookie Murder. If she could be anyone for the day, she'd be her dog, Duncan, a 10 month old Whoodle.

Debra Dillow, middle school math teacher. Mrs. Dillow grew up in Montgomery county, and she played tennis for the University of Maryland in college. Now, she enjoys sitting by the firepit at her house, kayaking with her daughters,

water rafting, and horseback riding.

Rose Frelk, middle school language arts teacher. Mrs. Frelk enjoys reading, going to the beach, and roasting marshmallows. If she could be anyone in the world for a day, Mrs. Frelk would be Selena Gomez, the famous singer and actress.

Maritza Romero, Kindergarten assistant. Mrs. Romero is originally from El Salvador, but moved to the United States when she was 15 years old. Her favorite TV show is Full House, and she has a dog named Milo.

Vanessa Wright, 1st grade assistant. Mrs. Wright grew up in Maryland. She enjoys watching classic TV shows like The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air and F.R.I.E.N.D.S.

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Photo courtesy of St. Martin's School.

St. Martin's School gathers outside, around the flag pole, to mark the anniversary of 9-11 with a prayer service.



Photo courtesy of St. Martin's School.

Students at St. Martin's School raised \$750 to "Fill the Flag" for Bahamians devastated by Hurricane Dorian.

Holy Cross

Buddies, Bookmarks and Butter Cookies

On Friday, September 13, the Seventh Grade joined their Second-Grade buddies for a special treat in anticipation of the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross the following day. The Seventh Graders helped their younger buddies to understand what it means to exalt the Holy Cross. Then, the older students



A Holy Cross Seventh Grader teaches his Second Grade buddy that using three fingers to make the sign of the Cross signifies the Holy Trinity.

taught the Second Graders how to properly say and make the sign of the cross. Each Second Grader received a bookmark from his or her buddy, created by Seventh Grade homeroom teacher, Mrs. Hogan, which depicted these concepts.

Afterwards, everyone decorated homemade cross-shaped cookies with green icing and white sprinkles (our school colors), all sup-

plied by Mrs. Falcone and Mrs. Branson, the Second-Grade teacher and Para-Educator. It was a sweet end to a special activity. One proud Second Grader proudly shared, "I went home and showed my mom. I told her the back of the bookmark shows us the right way to make the sign of the cross!" It was the perfect conclusion to a meaningful and tasty buddy activity.

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Sarah Seyed-Ali Returns Home to Lead Youth Ministry

By Melissa Montealegre Egan

Sarah Seyed-Ali has accumulated a life's worth of experiences living as a young Catholic adult, having graduated from one of the top Franciscan universities in the U.S., traveled to Rome and the Holy Land and discerned a religious calling to the Missionaries of Charity. Her calling as a Catholic has now brought her full circle to lead the Youth Ministry at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church – a group to which she belonged as a high school student while at Magruder High School in Derwood.

On Sept. 3, Seyed-Ali joined the parish staff, working with clergy, her new colleagues and the Youth Group's adult volunteers to build upon the solid foundation of the Youth Ministry. She succeeds Fr. Jack Berard in her new role after he



Sarah Seyed-Ali, the new Youth Minister at St. Francis of Assisi Parish

was called to serve in Annunciation Parish in Washington DC.

Seyed-Ali spent much of the

past three years discerning how she wanted to pursue a life of holiness. While working toward a bachelor's degree in business administration from the Franciscan University in Steubenville, OH, she chose to serve with the Missionaries of Charity, the religious order founded by St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta. During a year with the order's corporal branch, Seyed-Ali served the poor living on the South Side of Chicago, bringing food to people, serving pregnant women living in a home adjacent to the sisters' residence and working in a soup kitchen. After returning to school and graduating, she resumed discernment in the order's contemplative branch, where she spent most waking hours praying before the Blessed Sacrament and in silence.

"Living in the communal life with other women was very enriching," Seyed-Ali said. "The life was

organized in that we were always together – I didn't know the impact of working together every waking moment. I didn't realize how important a solid, communal Catholic life was to serving the Church."

As St. Francis' new Youth Minister, Sarah said she wants to encourage young people to receive the love of God through their families and the St. Francis faith community and help facilitate the building of a rich, spiritual life for the youth. She wants to help them see what the Christian life is by deepening their baptismal consecration, nurturing their faith formation and offering them opportunities to serve the Church. She'd also like to help cultivate in young people a rich life of prayer.

Seyed-Ali, 23, credits her former youth minister, Sue Lea, for the example she set as someone who cared for young people and

the world around them. "She took us to the March for Life – that's something that formed my decision to be pro-life in my life. She took the teens to World Youth Day and to archdiocesan events. I'd like to continue attending diocesan events and really being one with the Church," Seyed-Ali said.

Fr. John Dillon said Seyed-Ali approached him about the Youth Minister position right after he had prayed to God for guidance. "I hope that Sarah will be able to foster the personal and spiritual growth of the young people of our parish in such a way that they will be able to confront the real challenges and sorrows of human life and develop their tales in service of their family, parish and neighborhood," he said.

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With Fr. John Dillon watching, from left to right, RCIA Ministry Coordinator Terry Davis, Senior Catechist Don Dean and Coordinator Sara Dean are recognized at the 11:15 am Mass on Aug. 11 for their decades of service to the RCIA Ministry.

For More than 20 Years, Catholics at St. Francis Came on Board with the D-Group

By Melissa Montealegre Egan

In 1997, former St. Francis pastor Donald Worch approached parishioner Don Dean in the Rectory with a disconcerting statistic: Did he know that the Council of Bishops says 50 percent of people who go through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) aren't involved in church a year after they come into the church? Fr. Don invited Don and his wife, Sara, to a potluck dinner in which he wanted to get their input on the RCIA program.

"I went with him that night, not realizing I'd be involved with RCIA for the next 20 years," said Sara, in a recent interview.

More than two decades after they were first approached, Don and Sara Dean are stepping down from the ministry that brings people from all walks of life into the Catholic Church. Along

with the longtime ministry coordinator, Terry Davis – who had already been at the helm of St. Francis' RCIA ministry nearly a decade before the Deans said yes – the Deans and Davis are retiring to make room for new blood, different ways to form the faithful and some much deserved time away.

In the 22 years since they've been involved with RCIA, the outreach, offering and work of the ministry have not changed much. After people were recruited, the RCIA Team – whose core consisted of Davis, the Deans, Deacon Jim Datovech and his wife, Patrice – began meeting with the candidates and catechumens in the Rite of Inquiry, a period in which participants could ask about the Catholic faith and discern whether joining the church was for them. In the Rite

Continued on page 39

Haitian Students Earn Diplomas with 95 Percent Success Rate at Private School Financed by SFA Parishioners

By Melissa Montealegre Egan

Two years after St. Francis of Assisi Parish first made it possible for students in its sister parish in Haiti to complete their high school education, 70 young Haitians have now earned their diplomas, allowing them to imagine their own futures.

Over the past two years, the 95 percent success rate of Haitian students at the Bon Pasteur School having passed their final year of high school – called the 'Philo' year – and the national exam at the end of that year is accomplishment enough. Yet, the nearly 20-year partnership to operate a school that educates Haitian children from the elementary to secondary levels is the true gift that St. Francis parishioners have given residents of Leon, Haiti, a rural, agricultural community that has about 20,000 residents in its outlying areas.

"There is no word to express gratitude," said Ketlard Boursiquot, a native of Haiti and St. Francis of Assisi parishioner since 1997. "Without St. Francis, the success of those kids would not happen."

The education system in Haiti is comprised of preschool, "Fundamental" Education, secondary education and higher education, all governed by Haiti's Ministry of National Education and Professional Training. Fundamental Education – which equates to U.S. elementary and middle school education – is required for children between six and 11 years of age and consists of three cycles of three years each, ending in the



Members of the 2018-19 Philo Year class at Bon Pasteur School in Leon, Haiti, celebrate earning their high school diplomas.

ninth grade. Ninety-two percent of Haitian schools are privately owned and financed, including the Bon Pasteur School. According to statistics from the nonprofit organization HaitiScholarships, 60 percent of students will leave school before the sixth grade.

For those who complete their Fundamental Education, students must pass a national exam to earn a certificate of completion and advance to the secondary level. In the final two years of the secondary level, -- the Rheto and Philo years – students complete their general education classes and choose a curriculum based on their own interests and objectives.

St. Francis began the Bon Pasteur School at its sister parish of Conversion of St. Paul's Parish in Leon in the early 2000's, said Haiti Ministry Coordinator Dan Cardile. After adding grades each year, St. Paul's Pastor Pere Jeanot asked St. Francis of Assisi Parish in 2016 if it could add the Philo year. In Leon, it would be the only Philo program,

because of its remote location an hour's motorcycle ride from the nearest large city.

The first Philo year kicked off in the 2017-18 year, with 49 students. Of these, 45 completed the year and passed the national exam that allows them to apply for universities, go to some trade schools, or get jobs with more opportunity. In the 2018-19 year that ended last spring, all 25 students who sat for their national exam passed it, demonstrating their command of the French language and exhibiting proficiency in subjects, such as French, English, literature, upper level mathematics and the sciences.

The Bon Pasteur School receives about \$22,000 annually, a combination of parishioners' direct contributions, fundraisers and some grant money. But the real investment comes in the opportunity that's being created, Boursiquot said.

"Having the kids finish high school, that's opening doors to them," Boursiquot said.

OPT

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Backpacks for Our Parish Children Campaign

by Cynthia Lewis

In July the Sodality at St. Michael the Archangel Church, in partnership with the Knights of Columbus, and the Hispanic Charismatic Community, launched a "Backpacks for Our Parish Children" campaign to help children establish an excellent start to the new school year. The organizers were delighted with the overwhelming response from parishioners. Thanks to their generosity, on August 18, 2019, over 160 backpacks stocked with school supplies were distributed after each mass to happy young students in Grades K-8 in the parish hall. At the door, members of the Sodality handed each child a blessed Rosary and pamphlet with the Rosary prayers. With their parents beside them, the youngsters took such care in picking out just the right backpack. Their beaming smiles showed the joy



Members of St. Michael's Sodality are prepared to distribute backpacks, stocked with school supplies, to parish students in grades K-8.

they felt in having their new gifts.

This impressive achievement was the result of several weeks of receiving parish donations. People brought backpacks, notebooks,

rulers, pens, packs of paper, and various other school necessities to place in donation boxes at the church entrances. Also, significant monetary donations from parishioners enabled the planners to purchase many supplies that completed the needed inventory to stuff the backpacks.

The giveaway was held in the parish's Williamsburg Room in a festive atmosphere. There was lively music, an assortment of refreshments, and a full array of face painting designs and characters were enjoyed by the children.

The organizers hope to present the campaign again and are setting a goal to provide even more children of the parish with backpacks and school supplies.

OPT



Keeping A Decent Future for All

by Yamide Dagnet

About a year ago, inspired by 16-year old Greta Thunberg, young people around the world began an unprecedented movement by taking off school on Fridays to demand that their leaders take more serious actions against global warming. In May 2019, about 2 million kids took the street and urged adults, citizens, trade unions, faith-based community to join them on September 20, 2019 for the biggest climate mobilization ever in history.

Young people are angry that our leaders have done so little to slow

the deadly heating. It is disturbing to hear college students wonder whether they should have kids since they would be condemned to a doomed short future. Many argued it was morally wrong to make such family plans. Can we turn the tide around? The scientific answer is YES, WE CAN, BUT ONLY IF WE ACT URGENTLY AND ACT TOGETHER.

We have the technological means to do this. Reports published over the past two years have confirmed the trillions of benefits that would emerge if we took action to reduce greenhouse gases. A global commission report on adaptation demonstrated that about 2 trillion investments to strengthen our adaptive capacity would yield about seven trillion worth of benefit. We should not wait for more hurricanes, more fires, more droughts, more floods, and more species extinctions for us to take action.

We have the technological means to turn the tide. However, we need political will and we need to put equity and people at the center of our choice. While we are all threat-

ened, the most vulnerable communities are the most exposed and are likely to be less resilient. The radical shifts and transformation must be accompanied by measures designed to facilitate a just transition of the society to a greener, cleaner and safer future.

The UN Climate Action Summit culminates on September 23 with events throughout the week, starting with the climate strike as an important springboard for action. Governments all over the world, with many other non-state actors, are expected to confirm their serious effort to ramp up climate actions and flow of investments to decarbonize the economy and to highlight initiatives that can help them cooperate better, act faster and at higher scale. Next year, 5 years after the Paris Agreement, will be the moment of truth, when national leaders come forward with stronger national climate plans, which they are expected to do so every five years.

Our youth are holding the torch for such endeavors. Are we? Are you?

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St. Michael's Kicks Off Hispanic Heritage Month

By Helder Hernandez

St. Michael the Archangel kicked off the beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month with a vibrant celebration on September 8. Hispanic Heritage Month is a celebration to recognize the contributions of the Hispanic community, while highlighting the diversity, culture, and traditions.

The celebration started with a bilingual mass in which over 400 parishioners from St. Michael's diverse community attended, followed by a fellowship that included Hispanic dishes and cultural artifacts from over ten Latin American countries. Dishes included Nicaragua's

famous Gallo Pinto (rice and beans), Salvadorian Pupusas, Guatemala's Tostadas, Colombia's Almojábanas (Colombian cheese bread), Honduras' cultural Baleadas (thick flour tortillas with fillings), Ecuador's Maiz Tostado (toasted corn nuts), Peru's Papa a la Huancaína (potatoes Huancayo style), Uruguay's empanadas and Dominican Republic's Moro de Guandule (Dominican Pigeon Peas and Rice). It was a beautiful culture celebration by which brothers and sisters came together in an enriched setting to learn and acknowledge the contributions made by the Hispanic Community.

OPT

Knights of Columbus Council #15084 Receives Multiple Awards at State Convention

By Ana Maria P. de Jesus EPS DC15

The State of Maryland Knights of Columbus convene annually to renew their commitments to the mission of vision of their founder, the Venerable Fr. Michael McGivney, and to recognize councils that achieved their goals. This year, the 121st Annual Maryland State Convention of the Knights of Columbus was held from May 3-5, 2019.

Alfonso de Jesus, the 2018-2019 Grand Knight of St. Michael the Archangel parish, Council #15084, marched with all the other attending Grand Knights with their Ladies. Our Council received a recognition plaque for our council's participation in the Faith-in-Action Program. Only 67 out of 160 councils in Maryland participated in this program and our Council was one of the councils that performed all the set goal activities and punctually submitted its reports to the State.

The Recognition Awards Program acknowledges all the work done to accomplish the four goals set by the

Supreme Council in: faith activities, community activities, family activities, and life activities.

This year, the St. Michael the Archangel Council garnered the First Place Award in Division D for each of the four activities. They also received the General Excellence Award in its division. Alfonso de Jesus received the five total recognition plaques on behalf of the council.

While the recognition of the council is received in person by the Grand Knight, the credit is shared by the many honorable gentlemen, their families, and the community by supporting the council activities. Our Council and supporters are continually sympathetic to the many charitable activities in the parish and are always thinking of new approaches to address recurring challenges while generously offering their valuable time to accomplish their goals. It has truly been a year well spent in the endeavor of fulfilling the vision of their founder.

OPT



St. Michael's pulled together a team called "St. Michael's Prayer Warriors" to participate in the Race for the Cure for the 2nd year in a row.

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El Buen Camino

By Maria Kendall, CTK parishioner

In October 2017, I was part of a pilgrimage to Lourdes, Fatima and Santiago de Compostela. While in Santiago, in the Pilgrims' Square, my group witnessed the arrival of pilgrims who had walked the Camino. People applauded as the pilgrims arrived in the Square. They looked exhausted but were joyful. Witnessing this sight was an inspiration to walk the Camino someday.



Christ the King parishioner Maria Kendall (4th from right) with Camino companions upon arrival in Santiago, Spain

This past March 2019 I joined a group from nearby St Augustine Church in Washington, which had decided to do the walk from Sarria to Santiago, a distance of 100km (about 62 miles). This would make the group of 10 eligible to earn the coveted Compostela certificate. "G Adventures" booked the walk plan, the religious pilgrimage to the tomb of St James the Apostle, for August 26 until September 1. All of us researched about the walk, attended talks about experiences of others,

bought our hiking equipment and trained. Then our group met "Very", our Chief Experience Officer (CEO) in Sarra on a Sunday, walked every day from Monday to Saturday, stopping to rest at albergues (hotels) each evening.

We passed beautiful scenes of farms, small chapels, communities, cafés and albergues, meeting very nice people from all over the world, young and old. We had our Pilgrim's passports stamped at the places. All walked for religious reasons starting the day with a prayer. We enjoyed the walks except for the steep hills (which seemed to never end) and prayed at the chapels on the way. The Galician food – pulpo, bacalao, nata, tarta Santiago, flan! Taps at certain points provided the best tasting water!

All experienced blisters, aching ankles, knees, legs and feet but continued to plow on. I personally do not know how I finished the walk, but God was surely with our group all the way. We were tired but exuberant upon arriving at Santiago Cathedral Saturday afternoon. Attendance at Mass at San Francisco Church Sunday and the receipt of our certificates was the culmination of a dream realized.

OPT



Christ the King Parochial Administrator Fr Steve Carter, OFM, in the center, serving lunch to the gathered catechists

Catechists Retreat

By Ada Christine Refsland, 9-year-old CTK parishioner

On September 14 catechists and assistant catechists for the Religious Education programs, CCD and RCIA, of Christ the King parish gathered in the Monsignor Dressel Colonial Room with our DRE, Mrs. Isidra Molina, to prepare for the upcoming catechetical year. After a welcoming and initial prayer, we started with an ice-breaker in which we shared our favorite Bible characters. Participants talked about problems and solutions, for example,

seating, attendance and textbooks. Mrs. Molina discussed the use of bulletin boards and requirements. Father Steve and Deacon Nehemias Molina cooked and served tasty Puerto Rican and Salvadoran food for lunch.

Classes began on September 22 and will meet on Sundays in the Religious Education building from 9-10:15am. If you are interested in joining our program, please contact Mrs. Molina at imolina@ctk-catholicparish.org and pray for the catechists and the program.

OPT

ENZLER

Con't from page 1

Today, I would like to continue reflecting on the journey that awaits these priests and the parishes they will serve.

When you talk to people about what makes a parish special, the priests are almost always mentioned. You hear how much the pastor and parochial vicars are loved. Thriving parishes that feed and energize all who attend are usually led by a pastor and priests who care deeply about their people and the Lord.

Priests are no different than anybody else in that they all have different talents. Some are great organizers, others not so much. Some are prayerful with spirituality seemingly oozing out of their being, while others may not show it as clearly. Some are great preachers, and some are not as good. I used to say of one priest that he gave the most powerful sermons every day of his life. They weren't his words but his actions.

The key always seems to be that the priests in those thriving parishes are kind, loving and compassionate. They go over the top in their care and concern for others, particularly their parishioners, who are part of their family.

But then there's the reality priests do not stay forever. That's true of parishioners as well. Many of you in the next five years will move or find a different community in which to get involved, often because of job changes. The same is true for

priests. Generally speaking, after three years as a parochial vicar or six years as a pastor, they are asked to move on to other service.

That separation can be painful for the parishioners, and it's painful for the priest as well because they have built strong relationships and established deep friendships. Those relationships are good for the parish and for the priest's own emotional and spiritual health.

If you happen to be in a parish with a new parochial vicar or pastor, please do all you can to make sure that your new priest is welcomed by you and the whole parish family. I'll give you a little tip: don't be afraid to introduce yourself multiple times in his first year. The number of people a priest meets as he gets settled can be overwhelming and way beyond most of our memories. Reminding them of your name helps them feel welcome. It is not an irritant but rather a blessing.

Pastors tend to stay longer in a parish. As people sometimes say, they are like the mayor of the village. The pastor guides and leads the entire community. Almost all the important decisions flow through him. He's involved in everything from everyday activities to crisis situations.

I love my new assignment at Catholic Charities, and one reason is that I still think of myself as a pastor, just not in a specific parish. Others have said I am now the pastor to the poor, an assignment I enthusiastically embrace. There are also many things I miss about not being in a parish. I think I most miss leading a community and

helping the whole community grow together. I particularly miss being a pastor during the holidays when our parishes are filled with such a wonderful spirit.

Our parochial vicars stay for what feels like a short period of time. Within a few years after ordination, they are often asked to leave their first assignment in a parish and take on new responsibilities, sometimes even as a pastor.

After I was ordained 46 years ago, I did not become a pastor for 14 years. I served as associate pastor at Little Flower for six years and then led the archdiocese's youth ministry before my first assignment as pastor in Mt. Calvary, which was followed by Our Lady of Mercy and Blessed Sacrament. It was more common then to be ordained for 13 or 14 years before you became a pastor. Now, it can happen just a few years after ordination.

I know times change, but I wish we could still give priests a little more time before asking them to lead a parish. It can take a while to get your feet grounded in the priesthood itself as well as what it means to serve a parish.

I write all of this to remind you to love your priests, watch out for them, support them, and help them when they ask. There is nothing like the relationships we form with our people, our families in Christ. We receive as much as we give because of the generosity and service of our parishioners like you.

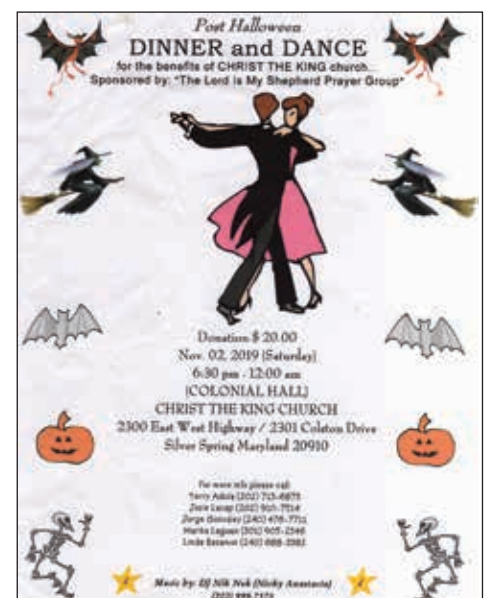
A good priest serving a great community is hard to beat.

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Christ the King Parish Notes

Christ the King hosts Silver Spring Catholic Young Adult Faith-Study and Fellowship every Monday at 7pm through Dec 4. Its first meetup Sept 16th drew 18 young people to the discussion led by the two Dominican student-brothers. All are welcome. The weekly discussion on prayer, Catholic teaching and the life of Faith is held in the parish rectory meeting room, entrance at 2301 Colston Drive in Silver Spring. For more information, use the groups' email: sscatholicfellowship@gmail.com and JOIN IN!

Dancing the way to a new heating and a/c renovation, Christ the King will initiate its Capital Campaign, with fundraisers in the near future. The first will be THIS Saturday Oct 5th with a Latino Styled (fairly formal) dance and gourmet dinner, 7pm until 1am in the Colonial Room. Tickets for this event will be \$35; tickets may be bought in advance, or as a contribution. In the following month, Nov 2nd there will be a post Halloween dinner-dance from 6:30 until midnight in the Colonial Room of Christ the King Church, entrance at 2300 East West Highway in Silver Spring. The ticket donation is \$20.00 and tickets may be bought in advance. Contributions may be made as well by those who are unable to attend



Fundraising Dances on the horizon

but want to contribute to the benefit of the parish.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Our Archbishop Wilton Gregory is expected to celebrate our parish feast day at all Masses the weekend of The Feast of Christ the King – November 24th!

OPT

Christ the King

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New Altar and Sanctuary Dedicated at the Shrine of St. Jude

Auxiliary Bishop Michael Fisher was welcomed to the Shrine of St. Jude on Sunday, Sept. 22, 2019, to bless the new altar and sanctuary at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. The Knights of Columbus Honor Guard and the combined music ministries at St. Jude (Filipino Choir, Spanish Choir, and St. Jude Regional Catholic School Choir) also participated in the Mass and dedication.

A few items of note regarding the new altar and sanctuary:

- New carved oak altar and ambo were acquired from the Belford Chapel in England through the generosity of a family in the parish. The altar has three bas-reliefs in front: the birth of Jesus, Jesus the Good Shepherd, and Jesus being taken down from the cross. The ambo bas-relief is about Jesus restoring sight to a blind person, which conveys the message that the word of God opens the eyes of the soul.
- The main cross was cleaned and



Above left, "Lord, may our prayer rise like incense in your sight. May this place be filled with the fragrance of Christ," (David Haas, *The Fragrance of Christ*) was recited during the anointing of the new altar/incensation of the new altar by Auxiliary Bishop Michael Fisher at the Shrine of St. Jude on Sunday, Sept. 22.



Photos by Tom Roach.

Above right, Auxiliary Bishop Michael Fisher was welcomed to the Shrine of St. Jude on Sunday, Sept. 22, 2019, to bless the new altar and sanctuary at the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

refinished, including the body of Jesus.

- The tabernacle was moved from

the side altar to the center, and a matching new altar of reservation was created. The Code

of Canon Law prescribes that the tabernacle "should be placed in a part of the Church that is

prominent, conspicuous, beautifully decorated, and suitable for prayer" (938).

- The newly created baptistery is now on a platform that formerly held the altar of reservation for the tabernacle.
- For better collaboration, the organ was relocated to a position where the organist, the choir, and the people can see and communicate with each other much more easily.
- The huge organ speakers, which used to be located behind the sanctuary wall, were moved to the rear of the church, which will afford better sound throughout the church.
- The entire ceiling was painted, making the whole ceiling consistent and bright.
- Future plans include having two sets of statues—the Holy Family and Saints Peter and Paul—so as to recognize our connection to the Holy Family and catholicity and unity of our faith.

OPT

Outdoor Mass Honors Emil Kapaun, Army Captain and Chaplain

By Michelle Ardillo

With a glorious and sunny day as the backdrop, the student body of St. Jude Regional Catholic School (SJRCs) celebrated its weekly school Mass outdoors on Friday, Sept. 20, in honor of Fr. Emil Kapaun, Army captain and chaplain. Joined by school parents, parishioners, and honored guests from the military – both active duty and retired – the students served in the various ministries of the Mass.

In homage to Fr. Emil Kapaun, who served as an Army chaplain during the Korean War, Pastor of the Shrine of St. Jude Rev. Paul D. Lee, STD, celebrated the Mass wearing a gold chasuble in the style of the time period, loaned by an area priest. Covering the hood of the 1940s-era jeep as an altar cloth, in the same manner as Fr. Kapaun, was the Army blanket of the late Sgt. Otis A. Sangster, Sr., a Korean War veteran and father of St. Jude parishioner/former SJRCs parent Otis A. Sangster, Jr. Flying high on the school's flagpole was the American flag that had covered the casket of the senior Mr. Sangster. Concelebrating the Mass was



Photos by Tom Roach.

To honor Fr. Emil Kapaun, an Army chaplain and captain during the Korean War, Pastor of the Shrine of St. Jude Rev. Paul D. Lee, STD, celebrated the Mass wearing a gold chasuble in the style of the time period. Concelebrating the Mass was Rev. Robert Kosty, Senior Priest, and Rev. Angel Gabriel Fermin, Parochial Vicar.

Rev. Robert Kosty, Senior Priest, and Rev. Angel Gabriel Fermin, Parochial Vicar.

The Mass was preceded by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by the St. John's Catholic High School Color Guard, and a welcome by SJRCs student Sally Gitau, who also served as one of the cantors for the Mass. Students Isabella Grijalba and Lina Garcia were the lectors, and students Benjamin Lopez, Tim Sanders, Naomi Barish, and Santi Tellez-Leon were altar servers. The gifts were brought to the altar by students Ethan Mendes, Mary Breece, and Caleb Garcia. School parent Jeffrey Prather assisted with sound to make the outdoor Mass audible to the congregation.

Fr. Lee, whose brother was only 11 years old on June 25, 1950, when the Korean War broke out,

gave an eloquent and moving homily on the short life of Fr. Kapaun, a priest from the Diocese of Wichita, Kansas. Known as the "shepherd in combat boots" and the "soldier who never fired a gun," Fr. Kapaun was named a Servant of God in 1993, and he was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor in 2013. Noting the coincidence that the Mass was taking place on the feast day of Saints Andrew Kim Taegon, (Korea's first priest and pastor), the lay apostle Paul Chong Hasang, and Companions, Fr. Lee said, "Today is the celebration of a hero, a hero in many ways, the celebration of his valor, his faith, and his Christian charity." Painting a vivid picture of the striking resemblance to Christ the King on the Cross, Fr. Lee detailed Fr. Kapaun's 40-mile

A Challenge – Saturday Morning Adoration

By John Naughton

When Fr. Shaun Foggo was Parochial Vicar at St. Jude and served as the moderator of *That Man Is You* (TMIY) – a program for men that is held on Saturdays during the fall and winter months from 6:45 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. – he invited them to attend adoration at the St. Clare Chapel for an hour before and a good number of the men participated.

When Father was transferred from St. Jude, he challenged them to continue the Saturday morning adoration. They accepted the challenge and extended the invitation to women as well. Since May 2017, the average attendance at adoration on Saturday mornings is around 14 men and women, totaling 1,700 visits to Jesus.

Adoration is a perfect preparation for Mass, which follows at 7 a.m. During the fall and winter months when TMIY is in session, the meeting ends at 8:15 a.m., in time for attendance at the regular Saturday 8:30 a.m. Mass.

For anyone accepting the challenge, adoration is held in the St. Clare Chapel in the Convent building. All are welcome to spend some quiet time of reflection and prayer with our Lord in the beautiful chapel, which has been serving the St. Jude parish for the past 56 years (dedicated in 1963). The relics of St. Clare of Assisi, Virgin, and St. Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr, are embedded in the altar. The St. Clare Chapel is open for Eucharistic Adoration every Thursday (9:30 a.m. to



Photo by John Naughton.

In early September, Sister Josepha Marie of the Children of Mary in Newark, Ohio, joined Shrine of St. Jude parishioners for early Saturday morning Eucharistic Adoration. Sister was visiting her mother in Bethesda and Googled to search for local early adoration and found St. Jude listed. Sister, who was formerly known as Lynn O'Reilly, prayed often at local abortuaries.

6:30 p.m.) and every Saturday morning (5:40 a.m. to 6:45 a.m.).

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta said, "Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is the next best time to Mass and the reception of Jesus you will spend on earth. It will make your soul everlastingly more glorious and beautiful in Heaven. An hour of adoration helps bring everlasting peace to your soul and to your family. It brings greater love for Jesus, for you family and the poor. Every holy hour deepens our union with Jesus and bears much fruit." She went on to say a daily hour of Adoration was necessary for her and her sisters to provide the charity required for working day after day with the poorest of the poor.

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Coach Larry Young: Making an IMPACT on Youth Soccer

St. Jude Athletic Association (SJAA) soccer coach Larry Young has been named the grand prize winner of the national 2019 Coach of IMPACT award, sponsored by the Soccer Parenting Association (SPA). Coach Young was one of 10 finalists who were selected from a nationwide field of more than 200 nominees. The award allows soccer parents the ability to recognize coaches who have an impact on youth soccer and who follow these principles set by the SPA: Inspires players, Makes memories, Parent engagement, Athlete centered, Connection builder, and Trustworthy.

For the past 10 years, Coach Young has been coaching with the SJAA, and for the past six years, he has been coaching with the Spring SAM league — both boys' and



Photo by Karen Sanders.

2019 Coach of IMPACT grand prize winner Larry Young with a few of his soccer players: (clockwise) Constantine Asso, Kevin Argueta, Yvema Alexis, and Eliot Mendes.

girls' teams. Additionally, Coach Young has served as President of the SJAA for the past decade.

On his selection as a top-10 finalist, Coach Young said, "I'm humbled. I certainly did not expect anything like this. I'm glad to have the opportunity to be part of young people's lives and to perhaps have a small impact on their own growth and development into young adults. There's nothing like team sports to teach all of us what it means about commitment to others and become part of something greater than our own self-interest."

The Shrine of St. Jude community is thrilled to have Coach Young on its team and to have him recognized nationally for all to see the impact he is making on the youth of its parish.

Congratulations, Coach Young!

OPT



Picnic-goers are all smiles at the craft table.

PICNIC

Con't from page 33

"The picnic comes together because of the hard work of many volunteers guided by our Home and School Association. We are

so blessed to have a community that works together so diligently to share their time and talents to make it a success. At the end of the day, everyone leaves with a smile, and a wonderful memory of a beautiful afternoon," shared principal Mrs. Kane.

OPT

KINDNESS

Con't from page 33

office. The purpose of the tree is to serve as a creative and beautiful way to encourage and acknowledge acts of kindness throughout the school. Leaves are added to the tree

by students and faculty to recognize the kind deeds of others.

Mrs. Kane states, "We are excited to see the Kindness Initiative and tree come to life. We believe this program will be a heartwarming way to foster kind, supportive relationships and build and sustain a culture of kindness."

OPT

D-GROUP

Con't from page 35

of the Catechumenate, participants make a commitment to prepare for the Sacraments of Initiation. During Lent, they enter the period of Purification and Enlightenment, after which many of them enter the Catholic Church during the Easter Vigil. The year after the newly initiated join the Church is known as the period of Mystagogy, during which they learn how to engage with their Catholic faith.

Don Dean, who served as a senior catechist for much of his

service, said his biggest challenge in helping form the candidates and catechumens was helping them reconcile questions of the heart and the mind. Once the RCIA Team answered the questions in people's heads, they then had to respond to the inquiries in their heart.

He said he and Sara didn't feel full closure with any RCIA cohort until after they had served them in Mass. "We're Eucharistic ministers — it wasn't over until we had served them," Don said.

In an essay he wrote for *Our Parish Times*, Davis said he continued "to receive a hundred times more" from the many people who entered the Church through the

RCIA process. "We now are being 'fed' by them as they proclaim the Word to us in liturgy, help us to praise the Lord through music, teach the children of the parish and serve in so many other ministries," Davis wrote.

Fr. John said the many decades of service Davis and the Deans provided was invaluable to the ministry work of St. Francis.

"Terry, Don and Sara ran an RCIA program that was well-regarded, not only in the parish, but in the whole archdiocese," Fr. John said. "Anything we do will build upon the solid foundation that they left us."

OPT

FESTIVAL

Con't from page 19

in the Amadeo Hall and enjoyed hot dogs and popcorn. Representatives from the Colesville Council of Community Congregations (C-4), the Eastern Montgomery Emergency Assistance Network (EMEAN) and Resurrection Ministries within the parish manned tables and shared information on activities and volunteer opportunities.

The highlight of the event is a now famous horse race. Our esteemed jockey, Father Barry challenged a five-year old attendee to a Fun Derby race. Up until then, Father's opponent had beaten everyone she raced against so she accepted the challenge.

The race began, and the two horses took off. They were neck and neck, but as they approached the finish line, Father Barry inched past his opponent. She had finally met her match; or so we thought!

Right at the end, Father toppled of his horse, and she sailed past him to yet another victory!

At the Welcome Table, there was a Jelly Bean Guessing game. There 801 in the jar and the winner came in at an 800 guess! There was so much fun all around that since Labor Day; Resurrection families have not stopped talking about it. There are already plans for one on Labor Day weekend, 2020!

OPT

KAPAUN

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march after capture, how he became the "most accomplished food thief," scrounging for food at night to feed the wounded soldiers in captivity. Yet, on his way to his own death, 35-year-old Fr. Kapaun "held up a weak hand and blessed the guards saying, 'Forgive them for they know

not what they do.'"

At the end of the Mass, Fr. Lee gave a blessing to the honored guests, including parishioners Mr. Cleat Roh, an Air Force veteran of the Korean War, and Mr. Wally Stack. Also in attendance was Mr. Charles White, father-in-law of SJRCS music teacher and choir director Mrs. Amy White, who served in the Vietnam War as an Army captain in the field

artillery. Military school parents in attendance were Navy Chief Petty Officer Dan O'Connor and retired Navy Commander Larry Young. Representatives from the Archdiocese of Washington included Secretary of Education Mr. Bill Ryan and Mr. Vincent Spadoni, President of the Consortium of Catholic Academies.

OPT

GOLF TEAM

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choosing the appropriate clubs for distance and accuracy.

Their first outing was to the Olney Golf Center. After learning some basics from their coach, they took to the driving range to practice long drives and chipping. They concluded with a team dinner before heading home. Eventually, they will begin playing nine-hole

rounds and possibly start the tradition of an annual OLOL golf tournament.

Not many elementary schools offer golf as an extracurricular activity. This experience will be advantageous for those hoping to play for their high school golf team. The students at Our Lady of Lourdes are fortunate to be given an early introduction to this lifelong sport while enjoying time together with their friends.

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