



OUR Parish Times

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

OCTOBER 2017

Living the Faith Together

FREE

God's Amazing Timing

God is good! He always comes through when we need him, and often in unexpected ways.

About a year ago, Ford Motor Company offered Catholic Charities USA a new disaster-relief vehicle to be used in difficult times for our country. Thankfully, such a vehicle isn't needed for disaster relief all of the time, so Catholic Charities USA came to us in Washington, Baltimore and Arlington and offered use of the van one week each month to provide services to those in need here in our own communities.

In late August, the van was dedicated and blessed for service, and it really is an amazing vehicle. It has compartments everywhere to store the items to be distributed. Tables can be set up so volunteers and case workers can provide direct service. It has a big awning that can be brought out to provide cover for those who are working or receiving help outside. And one of my favorite things, it has the capacity to plug in nearly 100 cell phones



Fr. Enzler

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The Habit of Christian Service



Chuck Short

More people are taking to the internet and social media to express their views. Did you happen to see the photo of the nun in full traditional habit wielding a chainsaw during the cleanup after Hurricane Irma?

(Search nun with chainsaw.) In it, Carmelite Sister Margaret Ann, a veteran high school principal in Miami decided to illustrate her view about **Christian service** by grabbing a chainsaw and clearing trees blocking the neighborhood road. She said she was simply living the message taught her students every day, "Do what you can to help". The inspiring photo of Sister Margaret demonstrates several characteristics that distinguish genuine Christian service and calls to mind local examples of some who faithfully serve.

First, there is Sister's Margaret's **humility**. Esteemed school principal, the boss, herself laboring on behalf of others when she could have sent a group of muscular football players to do the heavy work. Christian service

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Members of a new choir pose. They sing in French and under music director Annick Kanter-St. Hubert's coaching, they share the euphony of the French language with parishioners at Mass.

Chant en français

by Susan Ahearn

The Church of the Resurrection is adding a new choir to its well-known music program.

A French Choir performed its first Mass last month, after organizing during the summer. Resurrection Musical Director Annick Kanter-St. Hubert, a native French speaker from Belgium, thought about creating the new choir when she realized the large number of French speakers in the parish. "And being that I'm obviously comfortable in the language, I figured why not give it a try and see if there is an interest."

Kanter-St. Hubert says many of the French speakers at Resurrection are from Haiti or

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The entire Oakcrest School student body, faculty and staff gathered September 8 in front of its new home on Crowell Road in Vienna, Virginia.

Oakcrest School Unveils New Campus in Vienna, Virginia

Oakcrest School has moved to 1619 Crowell Road in Vienna. It brings with it over 40 years of experience in educating young women with an excellent liberal arts program guided by the teachings of the Catholic Church. September 6 will mark an exciting time in its history as it opens the doors to its permanent campus for the first day of a new academic year.

Conveniently located just off of the

Dulles Toll Road, the 23-acre campus designed by award-winning firm, Davis, Carter, Scott includes a three-story Manor House, two academic wings, and regulation soccer, lacrosse and softball fields. Each classroom was uniquely crafted, in close consultation with faculty, to promote modern, flexible and collaborative learning - including two science labs, an instrumental and choral room, and an art

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Lucila San Jose's artwork includes this Madonna from a new series she is creating

The Gifts of Faith, Art, and Family

Holy Cross parishioner Lucila San Jose recently held an art exhibit at the at Penn Place Gallery, above the Post Office in Garrett Park. The exhibit included a collection of photographs and paintings. Many were portraits or scenes from nature. Among them were four stunning Madonnas, the beginning of a new series of paintings. She explains that creating art "brings happiness to my soul."

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October Monthly and Hall of Fame Breakfast

Friday, October 13, 2017

7:30 am EDT

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

We will meet on the second Friday of this month at the Vis Arts in the Rockville Town Center 155 Gibbs Street Rockville, Md. Parking is conveniently located in the garage and near Dawson's Market. Parking will be validated. Registration is \$30 for pre-reg-



istered CBN-MC members, \$35 at the door and for non-members.

Annual CBN-MC Scholarship Fund Golf Outing

Thursday, October 19, 2017

We cordially invite you to the annual CBN-MC golf tourna-

ment. Proceeds fund scholarships for Montgomery County students attending Catholic school.

- Registration and Lunch 12:00pm
- Shotgun start 1:00pm
- Award Ceremony 5:30pm
- Red Gate Golf Course, 14500 Avery Road, Rockville

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Upcoming Events at the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes

The Dedication of the Saint Sharbel Shrine will be held on September 30, at the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The day will start with Preparation at 10:30 am, followed by a Dedication Ceremony, Holy Mass, and Reception. The Shrine



Grotto has been working with "The Family of Saint Sharbel, USA" for

the Shrine's addition and dedication.

The Last Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima centennial celebration will be held the weekend of October 13-15 at the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Some highlights of the weekend will include a Rosary and procession with Fr. Patrick Russell on Friday night, a lecture with Prof. John-Mark Miravalle on Saturday, and Confession and Mass on Sunday. The weekend's full schedule can be found at nsgrotto.org/events.

The Shrines of France Pilgrimage will be held in March 2018. Twelve days, starting in Paris and ending in Lourdes, exploring Shrines with the beautiful backdrop of France. Registration is available online at nsgrotto.org, and the registration deadline is October 16, 2017.

OPT

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You've waited all year, and it's finally here!

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Rev. James R. Van Dyke, S.J.

Rev. James Van Dyke, S.J., Georgetown Prep President

The Board of Trustees of Georgetown Preparatory School is delighted to announce that Rev. James R. Van

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The Montgomery County Justice & Advocacy Council

Living the Gospel through the Two Feet of Love in Action

By Anthony Bosnick

The inspiration for this article came while I was at a meeting of the Montgomery County Council of the St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVDP). We hold these meetings quarterly and they are attended by the presidents of each of the St. Vincent de Paul conferences in Montgomery County.

What brought to mind the Justice and Advocacy Council (J&A) while I was at the St. Vincent de Paul meeting was largely that two of us there were members of both SVDP and the J&A Council. Also at the meeting in the basement of St. Martin Church in Gaithersburg was Ann Barbagallo, co-chair of the J&A Council.

Two feet of love in action

The J&A Council and the SVDP

Society represent the "two feet" of the Church's social ministry. The two feet are "social justice" (the main focus of the J&A Council) and "charitable works" (the main focus of SVDP). People are often involved in both charitable activities and social justice.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is a tireless and creative promoter of "The Two Feet of Love in Action." You will find a wealth of information on their website by searching "USCCB two feet." In the words of the USCCB: "This foundational tool describes two distinct, but complimentary, ways we can put the Gospel in action in response to God's love." (Editor: URL if you want it: <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/>)

two-feet-of-love-in-action.cfm).

Social Justice. This is the primary focus of the J&A Council. The USCCB states: "We step with this foot when we work to address the root causes of problems facing our communities by advocating for just public policies and helping to change the social structures that contribute to suffering and injustice at home and around the world."

The J&A Council does this as we attend meetings called by County Executive Ike Leggett to discuss the county budget. The same is the case when we meet with County Council members and attend County Council sessions to discuss issues such as affordable housing and improved public transportation.

Charitable Works. This is the main work of the SVDP Society.

Continued on page 38

The Academy of the Holy Cross Dedicates New Heritage Hall

The Academy of the Holy Cross community gathered for its opening Mass celebration on Wednesday, August 30. In celebration of the Academy's 150th year, six priests joined the assembly for the liturgy: Msgr. John Enzler (principal celebrant), Msgr. Ray East, Msgr. Maury O'Connell, Father Stephen Planning, SJ, Father Martino Choi, and Father Mbonyumugenzi Deogratias. Four Sisters of the Holy Cross also attended the Mass: Sister John Anthony, Sister Vivian, Sister Katherine Kase, and Sister Sharon Mihm '63.

All in attendance received a special 150th pin during the Mass and were encouraged to wear it throughout the year. Following the Mass, Msgr. Enzler led a blessing and dedication ceremony of the new Heritage Hall display space. As he led the group through the hall others in the group were offered the chance to bless the display with holy water. At lunchtime following the celebration students were treated to cupcakes by the administration.

The Heritage Hall display is the culmination of year-long planning. Assisting with the preparation and providing a vision for the display, Gordon Anson, father of an alumna and the Deputy Chief of Design at the National Gallery of Art, oversaw every step of the project and spent countless hours working to bring the display to life. The Academy combed through its archives for memorabilia, asked alumnae to send their treasures, and worked with the archives at the Mother House of the Sisters of the Holy Cross in South Bend, Indiana.

The display is arranged along the main school entrance and hallway.

Included are cases dedicated to the history and accomplishments of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, student life at the Academy, and mementos through the decades. Along the main school hallway, there are

nine 5-foot panels depicting the Academy's history and highlighting four areas of focus: Academics, Spirituality, Arts, and Athletics.

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Students with Priests following dedication. Photo by Chris Newkumet, Newkphoto LLC

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Fr. Giese and Fr. Burney were on hand to mingle with and greet the students and their families as they waited in line to enter the school on the first day back this new school year.



A Festive and Prayerful “Back to School” Welcome at St. Jane de Chantal

On September 5, St. Jane de Chantal school welcomed back hundreds of students and their families to begin the new school year. As it has been a tradition for many years, the first day of school starts with students and parents lining-up at the school's entrance. Here, like every other first day of school, Mrs. Hamilton was on hand to meet, greet and hug each student at the door. Students and families then made

their way through the halls to the students' new classrooms, where the teachers welcomed each and every child and their families. This year's wait seemed longer than usual, but fortunately a coffee and food truck was available in the schoolyard to make the wait more enjoyable. Also Fr. Giese and Fr. Burney were on hand working the line, greeting and talking with the Parish's school students and families. There were many new backpacks, fresh haircuts, and many excited and happy smiles as the students rejoined our Catholic community the start of the new school year.

At the end of their second week, students and faculty celebrated a school Mass to mark the official start of the new school year. The entire school sang beautifully, as the students sat together by class to pray for a successful and fun new school year. Fr. Burney discussed this year's school theme, encouraging all to support each other and to be followers of Christ. The school year has officially begun!

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After the long wait to enter the school came the main prize at the door: a big hug and photo opportunity with the St. Jane de Chantal's School's loving and smiling Principal, Mrs. Hamilton.

St. Jane's Assistant Music Director Moves on to National Shrine

By Russell Weismann

In August, Andrew Vu, the Assistant Music Director at St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish, moved on to take a full-time position as Assistant Organist at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Mr. Vu began working at St. Jane de Chantal over nine years ago, shortly after he and his family came to the United States from their native Vietnam. He started off as the accompanist for the Parish' Contemporary Choir, but later was promoted to Assistant Music Director as his church music skills grew.

At St. Jane de Chantal Church, the pipe organ built



Mr. Andrew Vu (left) and St. Jane's Music Director, Russell Weismann (right), pose for a photo in front of the St. Jane de Chantal Church organ after Mr. Vu's farewell recital that took place in August. Photo by Russell Weismann

St. Jane de Chantal Parish

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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



A popular activity at the St. Jane de Chantal Family Fun Night was face painting and temporary tattoos. Photo by Maureen Morris

Night of Family Fun at St. Jane de Chantal Parish

By Catherine Skibo

Another successful and enjoyable St. Jane de Chantal Parish Family Fun Night took place on warm and beautiful evening in September on the field of the St. Jane de Chantal School. Families from the school and Parish joined together to welcome in a new school year with fun, games and delicious food. Moon bounces, dancing, face painting, games, glow sticks, and much more were on hand to ensure the evening was a cherished event. Special thanks to Mr. Caulfield and Mr. Janney for volunteering their time to make this event extraordinary, and to the eighth-grade students of the school who helped to ensure a fun time for all.

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Eight-grade helpers from the St. Jane de Chantal School pose for a photo after the clean up of the Family Fun Night event. Photo by Maureen Morris

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St. Martin's Remembers Extraordinary Parishioner

By Anne Gemunder

St. Martin of Tours parishioners gathered at church on Thursday, September 14 to mourn the loss of Michael T. Strubel, parishioner, friend, and generous supporter of the church and school. He died earlier this month at the age of 73.

Mike was an extraordinary man who chose to serve the Lord by serving others with a joyful spirit. Archdiocese of Baltimore Auxiliary Bishop Mark Brennan, former pastor of St. Martin's, noted, "He was truly a Christian gentleman, strong in his faith in Christ and his love for the Church and willing to pitch in where help was needed."

In his years at St. Martin's, Mike shared his wealth, but did it quietly. He helped to pay off parish debt, renovate the parish office, and build the Adoration Chapel. Mike made significant contributions to the school, even donating valuable family heirlooms to support the school's annual auction. Every time he gave, he asked that his donation remain anonymous.

Mike combined his financial generosity with humble service. Every week he would stop by the parish office, coffee in hand, to



Michael Strubel, together with friends Linda Joy, and Srs. Maristella and Judith Maldonado. Photo courtesy of St. Martin's School.

see what needed to be done. "He would tell funny stories about his Navy days or what happened at Mass that day," recounted Sheila Griffith, the parish Data Manager. He would pitch in to stuff bulletins, inventory candles, update missals, and deliver wine to the sacristy. He cared for those in the parish who were sick and handicapped; he drove people to their doctor's appointments and shoveled driveways. Mike was a role model and was admired by those who knew him. As parishioner Marion Strishock added, "He was the epitome of the humble in spirit. He turned to Christ in humility and faith and he will be

Continued on page 39

New Kindergarten Teacher for St. Martin's School

By Andrew Dris, Eighth Grader

If you didn't know, we have new teacher in Kindergarten, Mrs. Ana Andrade. Mrs. Andrade was born in Washington, DC. She then moved and lived in Portugal for 10 years. Mrs. Andrade has Bachelor of Arts Degree in Early Childhood Education from Western Governors University. Mrs. Andrade was a student teacher here at St. Martin's this past year and taught Kindergarten and Third Grade.

Prior to her student teaching, Mrs. Andrade

owned her own daycare center for little kids. Mrs. Andrade's favorite aspect about teaching is seeing the growth of the kids physically and academically.

It is Mrs. Andrade's first year being a teacher. She chose to teach here at St. Martin's because she loves the atmosphere of the school. She loves the staff, the kids, the environment, and especially the diversity of our school. Mrs. Andrade has a wonderful year planned for her Kindergarten class, and she is very excited to be here with our St. Martin's family.

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Middle Schooler Solves the Great Cookie Caper

By Helene Redmond, Eighth-Grade Teacher

"Where's the Evidence?" is this year's cross-curricular theme for St. Martin's middle school. To kick off the program, students were surprised one afternoon when Principal Sahadi called on them to help solve the SMS Great Cookie Caper. According to Mr. Sahadi, the cookies he had baked for the middle school students had gone missing, and the evidence pointed to the culprit's being one of the teachers. Immediately, the teachers started accusing each other, but any accusations needed to be based on evidence.

Students received case folders with crime scene photos and profiles brimming with interesting facts on each suspect. The students formed teams and rotated through investigative stations and labs. They had to translate a ransom note, analyze fingerprints, use chromatography to match ink type, examine soil types, test chemical reactions of powder evi-



Middle school students work together to figure out who stole Mr. Sahadi's cookies as part of this year's cross-curricular theme, "Where's the Evidence?" Photo courtesy of St. Martin's School.

dence, and code DNA samples. Students then gathered together to discuss their findings and the evidence they used in making their pronouncements. They spoke with conviction as they vehemently pointed to one suspect after another.

Ultimately, the middle schoolers outsmarted cookie thief. The culprit was identified, the cookies were recovered, and the hard-working investigators received a delicious reward!

OPT

Parishioner's First Album Inspired by Prayer Life

By Emily Moldiz

St. Martin of Tours parishioners filled the school gym on August 12, for the release of Susy Vallecios, first CD "Quiero Hacer Tu Voluntad." "This is a simple story of a dream that by the grace and help of God, it became real," said Vallecios.

Originally from El Salvador, Vallecios came to the United States in 2001 when she was 15 years-old. Only a few days later she joined St. Martin's Parish where she became involved in youth group, the girls choir, and the Sunday music group. Vallecios said she started off playing the tambourines and singing respond and echo solos to eventually becoming the coordinator of the music group in 2007.

Vallecios passion for music is driven by her prayer life. She said many of her songs were written as prayers to find her calling in life. "I had to pray a lot for guidance," said Vallecios. "I was walking in the dark but led by God."

Her album developed from a desire to surrender and give everything up to God. She admitted it was hard to sincerely lay down her plans for her life. She had dreams of getting married, having a family, and going to school. She felt motivated to write down her prayer which eventually became the title of her first song, Quiero Hacer Tu Voluntad, "I Want To Do Your Will."

While on a silent retreat, six more songs came from her prayers and within two years



St. Martin parishioner Suzy Vallecios sings songs from her new album which is inspired by her prayer life. Photo courtesy of St. Martin's Parish.

St. Martin of Tours Parish

201 South Frederick Ave.
Gaithersburg, MD

Fr. Richard Gancayco, Pastor
301-990-3203

St. Martin School
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www.saintbernadetteschool.org**St. Bernadette School Celebrates our 70th Anniversary!**

On September 8, 1947, St. Bernadette School opened our doors to welcome our very first classes of students. To mark the occasion of this special milestone, exactly 70 years later on September 8, 2017, our community of school families, alumni, parishioners, neighbors and friends of St. Bernadette came together as we celebrated our very first school mass of this 70th year as a school. Monsignor Smith, pastor at St. Bernadette Parish, spoke of the importance of anniversaries on this extraordinary day, made even better, by occurring on the birthday of Our Blessed Mother. After mass, our guests enjoyed cake while visiting with one another in the lobby of the school. We surprised our students with a lunchtime treat of a cupcakes decorated with sprinkles in the school colors of blue and yellow.

The anniversary celebration will



Above, Anniversary cake

At left, alumni attending September 8, 2017 70th Anniversary mass L-R: Carlos Acosta, Carlos Acosta, Sr. (Alumni parent), Jim Williamson, Ted Ewanciw (SBS Principal) and Olga Acosta-Polston

continue throughout the year with a first ever Homecoming Weekend taking place September 29-October 1 with a full schedule of terrific events to be enjoyed by the entire St. Bernadette community from those who built our past to those who will shape our future. St.

Bernadette School is proud to provide a faith-based education developed within academic excellence, nurtured within an extraordinary community rich with tradition for students and families for the past 70 years and for many more years to come.

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An Active Start for St. Bernadette Boy Scouts!

At the its quarterly Court of Honor, members of St. Bernadette's own Boy Scout Troop 440 were presented with 33 merit badges they had earned since June, most of which they earned at Goshen summer camp in July. We also had three scouts advance in rank this quarter. Petey and Tommy Lowe earned their Scout Rank, the first rank in Boy Scouts, and Gavin Lanning earned his Life Rank, which is the Rank just before Eagle Scout.

Our September 29, 30 and Oct. 1 camping trip will be two nights of camping along the C & O canal, and cycling the towpath from just south of Shepherdstown for about



Boy Scout Troop 440 performed a flag raising ceremony for the opening night of Fall Sports on Friday, September 8, and also had fun serving donuts, coffee and other treats for Community Sunday on September 10.

70 miles, ending our trip in Georgetown. After we complete our cycling, we will head straight to St. B's to set up our Monkey Bridge at Fall Fest on October 1.

Want to know more about Scouts at St. B's? Contact Carolyn Hoskinson carolyn.hoskinson@gmail.com or 202-236-3619.

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On Tuesday, September 19, Maureen O'Leary Heuga and Ann Faulconer Witty, both Class of 1958, paid a special visit to our school. They shared precious memories with our boys and girls about their treasured days as students at St. Bernadette School. #AlwaysABee



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St. Bart's Rock Band performs at September 16th Mass celebrating the new school year.

Happy New Year in September!

New School Year kicks-off with Mass, a Potluck, and Great Music!

The St. Bartholomew Parish and School celebrated the start of a new school year on a beautiful Fall evening, Saturday, September 16th. The success of the event was the work of organizer Amy Boccella Smith and many other hardworking parishioners. The celebration began with 5:00 p.m. Mass featuring St. Bart's own 8 p.m. Rock Band with Junior Rock Band special guests.

A potluck dinner afterwards in the parish hall was a delicious success, and homemade cookie sales by parishioner Danielle



St. Bart's parents and parishioners celebrate the beginning of a new school year at September 16th Potluck.

Mazurowski raised funds for cancer research and awareness. The night was capped off by live music in the courtyard, provided by parishioner Will Travis and his band SixtyFive12.

OPT

St. Bartholomew Unveils @StBartsRocks Project



St. Bart's fourth graders paint their rocks



A St. Bart's fifth grader paints her rock



Third-grade teacher Kerry Parker, who helped launch @StBartsRocks

At St. Bartholomew School, the first homework assignment of the year was unusual, to say the least. From Pre-K to 8th grade, students were instructed to "Bring a rock the size of your fist." The added weight in their backpacks soon turned into gems of good cheer, as the school launched its @StBartsRocks project. Under the guidance of art teacher Ivi Bradley students and faculty covered the rocks in colorful paint and inspirational phrases, and then tucked the treasures around the campus and beyond, offering the school and the neighboring community a chance to encounter surprise pick-me-ups.

Third-grade teacher Kerry Parker started the @StBartsRocks project when she saw her daughter's excitement upon discovering a painted rock. "I was walking in the woods with my family, and my little two-year-old noticed a painted rock that my husband and I had just walked by," said Parker. "Children see subtleties that adults need to be reminded of." St. Bart's hopes others will be inspired to try this idea in their communities.

Check out the @StBartsRocks page on Instagram to explore what ways St. Bartholomew Catholic School is "rocking" this project, plus see its leadership in the areas

of academics, service, and sports.

OPT

St. Bartholomew Parish

6900 River Road
Bethesda, MD 20816

Rev. Mark Knestout
Pastor

301-229-7933

St. Bartholomew School
Stephen Lamont, Principal
301-229-5586

Frank Maguire, OPT Editor
202-512-8226

More St. Bartholomew News on page 39

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A Tee Time to Remember

By Nina Cardillo

For the ninth year, St. Raphael community and friends came together at the Lakewood Country Club for the Fr. Bill Finch Memorial St. Raphael Golf Classic to pay tribute to Fr. Bill—his life and legacy—and to enjoy a day of golf and fellowship. One year after his passing, the groundbreaking for St. Raphael School that Fr. Bill envisioned began, and the seed was planted. Over the years, fruits have become visible in the 73 graduating students, building and campus upgrades, community involvement and outreach, as well as in our traditions and new events.

With great prizes at stake, the competitive bar was raised as golfers teed off with local PGA caddie Mike “Fluff” Cowan at the “Beat the Pro” hole. A memorial reception and live auction concluded the evening with remembrance and fervor. Proceeds from the tournament benefited the St. Raphael Educational Building



PGA caddie Mike “Fluff” Cowan returns as host of the ninth annual St. Raphael Golf Classic. From left, Mike Krivka, Dave DeSalle, Cowan, Denio Zara, and Fr. Agustín Lopez. Photo by MJ Zafis-Garcia, St. Raphael School

Fund in Fr. Bill’s name, making it possible for Fr. Bill’s dream to continue to be fulfilled for our school.

OPT



Principal Teri Dwyer, Fr. Dave Wells, and Fr. Mike Salah proudly stand alongside the new SRS Student Council members (from left): Benjamino Zelaya, Alek Micich, Mick Kaibni, Ben Navabi, Maggie Sullivan, Caleigh Rose, Max Edmonds, and Tony Orr. Photo by MJ Zafis-Garcia, St. Raphael School

St. Raphael School News

Around the Campus

Marking the start of the 2017-18 school year, the St. Raphael School and Nursery School staff, students, and families gathered together for an opening Mass. During the homily, our pastor, Fr. Mike Salah, reminded us of the lighting of the Paschal candle at the Easter vigil, representing the light of Christ coming into the world to dispel darkness, as we strive to live out this year’s school theme, “Be the Light.”

With the opening of the school year, the Student Council was installed during Morning Prayer and received a special blessing from Fr. Salah and our parochial vicar, Fr. Dave Wells. This year’s council members are Tony Orr (president), Caleigh Rose (vice president), Max

Edmonds (treasurer), and Maggie Sullivan (secretary). Class representatives

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St. Raphael Parish St. Raphael School

1513 Dunster Road
Rockville, MD

Rev. Michael Salah, Pastor

Teri Dwyer, Principal

MJ Zafis-Garcia,
OPT Editor

301-762-2143

www.straphaels.org
www.straphaelschoolmd.org
Facebook, Twitter, Instagram:
@SRSRockville

Rosary of Reparation on October 7

St. Raphael’s Sodality will join the parish Legion of Mary to pray a Public Rosary of Reparation in front of the church on Saturday, October 7 at 4:00 pm in commemoration of the Blessed Mother’s last apparition at Fatima. We will pray for God’s help through the intercession of His Blessed Mother for respect for life in our country and the world. There will be chairs available and the church will be open for inclement weather. All are wel-



Father Salah blesses the new officers of the sodality board: (L-R) Aleta Phillips, Betty Gill, Karen Watson, Louise Cox, Anna Derry

come to join in this public prayer. First Saturday Mass, Exposition, the rosary and confessions will also be available on October 7 at 9:00 am.

explain the significance of the Mass as the Perfect Prayer. If you have questions please call Louise Cox at 240-731-1348.

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Kensington, MD**Rev. Mark Hughes**
Pastor

301-942-2333

Holy Redeemer School**Mrs. Colleen Ryan,**
Principal

301-942-3701

Holy Redeemer's Friday Night Lights

With the first autumn chill, football fever takes hold over the school families and parishioners of Holy Redeemer Church in Kensington. For it means the beginning of another season of flag football under the lights at William Hold Plank Sr. Field.

This September marks over forty year for the beloved program at the Kensington parish. "It really is something the kids look forward to

every year," said Holy Redeemer Athletic Director and former player Jorge Garayta. "The kids at HR play multiple sports, but they seem to love flag unlike anything else."

It might be because Holy Redeemer's program is a bit unique. Teams are made up boys and girls, from second through eighth grade. The "Littles" - 2nd through 5th grade - play the first and third quarters. The "Bigs" - 6th through 8th grade - play the second and fourth quarters. The league organizers group families and extended families together on the same teams. The division allows brothers, sisters, and cousins to all play together, while ensuring competition and safety.

And while much of the action takes place on field, the stands and parking lot surrounding the field are abuzz with family and friends catching up with each other after the long work week while younger siblings and other kids stand in line for a treat from the ice cream man. Among the dozens of fans at the game on a recent Friday was Kathleen Neary, who has two boys playing in the Holy Redeemer league. "The flag program is very special at HR. It's more than a game. It is an opportunity for school parents and parishioners to come out and be with friends and family in a fun and safe environment."

Mostly run by parent volunteers,



Teacher and Coach, Mr. Criscuoli pumps up his players before the game.

the program has often brought back HR alumni encouraged to coach to ensure current students have as just as memorable as an experience as they did. Eighth Grader Donnie Carmody is excited to be coached by Zach Waits-Cabrales '15, who has returned to coach a team this season. Carmody wants to come back and coach a team when he is in high school to keep the traditions alive and to help new players have as much fun as he has had over the years.

The program has been part of HR for over forty years. The

games began as two hand touch and changed over to flag to ensure the safety of all players. There are many current parents and coaches who played when they were HR students. This is one of the most exciting parts, being able to pass along these experiences to their children and getting together with other parents to cheer on their children.

The 2017 season runs from September through early November and includes more the 265 players from the parish divided among

Continued on page 39

Holy Redeemer parishioner & school parent.

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Nursery School Program has moved up to the Big School

Holy Redeemer welcomed our littlest Cardinals to the main school building this year, and have had such fun getting them settled in! With wide-eyed expectant faces, 87 Pre-K students walked our halls for the first time in September as they found their classroom and met their teachers. Our Pre-K wing now consists of 3 and 4-year old classrooms, the Nurse's office, the Library, and Resource offices.

Previously our half day 3 and 4-year-old program has been located in the basement of the church and an all-day Pre-K 4 program in



Pre-K 3's are enjoying outside time with Mrs. Hirsch



Messy Hands in Pre-K

the big school. We now have combined full day and half-day programs available for 3 and 4-year olds. We are so excited to finally have all of our homerooms together under one roof!

Facilities investments specific to the Pre-K program include a new Pre-K size bathroom (no stools needed for the toilets!) and a brand-new playground. The older children (Kindergarten and 1st grade) have also loved their new role as the "big kids". Overheard

Continued on page 31

Community Comes Together for Hurricane Relief

Earlier this month, St. Mary's School was so lucky to be a part of "Stuffing a Truck" full of items desperately needed by victims of Hurricane Harvey in Texas. The donation drive was organized by two brothers who happen to be St. Mary's Alumni and own Top Dog Services. They teamed up with the Rockville Fire Department and Rockville City Police FOP and brought a huge truck and parked it in front of St. Mary's Church.

The donations began rolling in shortly after and kept coming until

Continued on page 19



Top Dog Services owners and St. Mary's alumni Todd and Kyle Dickerson rallied the St. Mary's and Rockville communities to provide much needed supplies to hurricane victims in Texas.



Monsignor Amey, Father Jorge, Principal Debby Eisel gather with Todd Dickerson and seventh-grade students after sorting school donations.



St. Mary's Faculty and Staff welcome new faculty members and are excited to start the 2017-2018 school year!

St. Mary's Welcomes New Second and Third Grade Teachers

By Mr. Patrick Deegan

St. Mary's School in Rockville is fortunate to have several wonderful new teachers join their school community for the 2017-2018 school year. Mrs. Sandi Gersten will serve as the new second grade teacher, and Mrs. Samantha Youngman will be the new third grade teacher.

Mrs. Gersten previously taught at the Avalon School, where she taught first and second grades. A kind, soft-spoken teacher, she is quick to smile and also known for her gentle demeanor. She is eager to lead the second graders on their journey to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion.

Mrs. Youngman, an Illinois native,

taught third grade for several years in Chicago. Enthusiastic and warm to her students, Mrs. Youngman is excited to share her faith with her students.

The St. Mary's community is quite blessed to have such caring, dedicated teachers, and we are so grateful that they have joined us!

OPT

St. Mary's Parish

520 Veirs Mill Road
Rockville, MD

Msgr. Robert Amey, Pastor
301-424-5550

St. Mary's School
Mrs. Debby Eisel, Principal
301-762-4179

Maureen Stiles, Parish Editor
301-990-4329

St. Mary's Students Challenge and Encourage Each Other at Calleva

By Natali and Kiden, seventh-grade students at St. Mary's School Rockville

Every year, our fifth through eighth graders go on a field trip to Calleva. Calleva is an outdoor ropes course that specializes in helping students to collaborate and get to know each other better. The Staff at Calleva work with the children to help them learn special skills such as problem solving, and learning team work.

There are many different activities that all students can do. Some of these activities require a lot of teamwork, such as Red Robin; this

is a game where you help your teammates to successfully move around an area. There are other activities that are just plain fun, like the Giant Swing! Some activities require specific skills. One game, Willy Nilly, features two students trying to walk across two metal wires without falling off. Teamwork, patience, and communication are some of the skills needed to accomplish the goal of having both partners walk to the other ends of the metal wires.

In the end, the Saint Mary's students were very happy and excited because of the thrilling trip!

OPT

St. Mary's Preschool is a Great Place to Grow!

Once again, St. Mary's Preschool opened the doors of a new school year with an increased capacity for students. This year's expansion added another classroom for four-year-olds. With almost 40 students in the PreKindergarten program, St. Mary's welcomed new staff as well. Mrs. Patty Tartaglia, Mrs. Katy Vera, Mrs. Andrea Bohr, and Mrs. Karen Giblin are all on board to care for our young scholars. St. Mary's Preschool continues to be A Great Place to Grow!

OPT



FALL OPEN HOUSES:

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

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

Little Hearts Early Childhood Program–Grade 2:
Wednesday, October 18 · 8:30 AM


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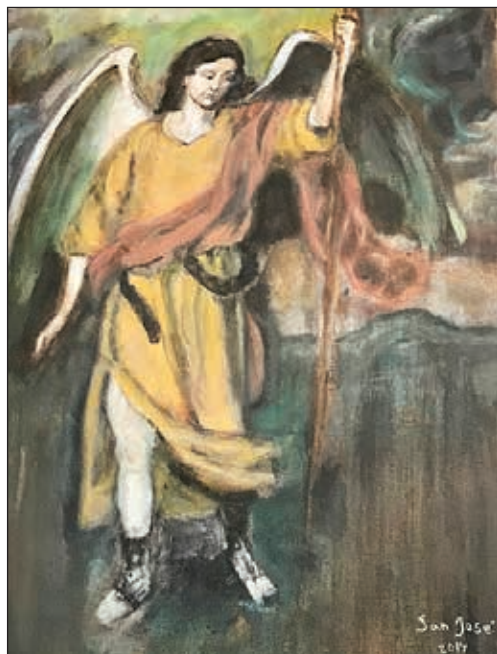
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GIFTS

Con't from page 1

Originally from Hato Rey, Puerto Rico, where she spent a magical childhood, Ms. San Jose has been a resident of Garrett Park for sixteen years along with her mother and two sons. "Painting and photography brings joy to my whole family," shares Ms. San Jose, who comes from a family of artists. She recalls spending evenings with her grandfather, a musician and poet, under star-filled skies learning to appreciate the beauty of nature and all living things. An aunt was a potter and sculptor. Her parents also loved art and taught her the importance of laughter, creativity, and inner-beauty. Now, her mother loves to watch her paint and gives advice about how her paintings are taking shape.

Ms. San Jose remembers her grandmother's strong faith, and describes the religious medals she used during prayer. "They are rubbed



almost smooth, and have inspired my love of the Madonna." She has learned that it is "our everyday, simplest acts that bring the possibility of unexpected gifts to our lives, and it is my faith that holds me up, even when times are difficult."

Lucila's family became her inspiration, and her art is now a gift for her two sons, who seem prepared to carry on the family tradition. In sharing her gift with the community, Lucila unites us all as a family, and brings happiness to every soul.

More information about Lucila's art, and upcoming exhibits can be found on her Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Lucila-San-Jose-123152794494044/>.

This article was made possible by contributions from Colleen Scanlon and Lucila San Jose, as edited by Lurana Hogan.

Lucila San Jose's artwork includes this portrait of the Archangel Raphael.

ENZLER

Con't from page 1

simultaneously for recharging.

Who knew that just a week after the dedication that Hurricane Harvey would hit east Texas? I'm happy to say that this van, which we at Catholic Charities DC would have used the first weeks of September and October, has been busy doing the work it was built for – providing much-needed aid following the devastation from the recent hurricanes. There is a disaster-relief expert and whole team of people with the van making sure that Catholic Charities USA provides the services that we've become known for in times of real struggle.

We were there after Katrina. We were there for Sandy. Now we're in Texas, Florida and elsewhere, working on your behalf to help our brothers and sisters in need. Thank you to all who have generously supported the effort through special collections and donations. I assure you that there are many grateful people benefitting from your support.

We don't know when the van will finish its hurricane relief mission, but when it does and we are able to use it one week each month, we look forward to expanding our outreach here in our own area. The real beauty of this van is that it will allow us to go meet those in need, overcoming the hardship of their having to come to us. You may not be aware of this, but there are places right here in our community where those without homes live in the woods. Others, of course, live on the streets or in any other place they can find. This van will help us serve them better.

I share this with you now because you may hear more about these efforts in the coming months as we ask for your help outfitting the van. We may be coming to your parish for assistance as we collect basic items like water bottles, toothpaste and toothbrushes, razors, shampoo, soap and laundry detergent, and more. In colder weather, we hope to provide blankets, gloves, hats and coats. In about six months, we expect to have a trailer added to the van that will have both showers and laundry facilities, allowing people to get themselves and their clothing clean right near where they live.

Jesus calls us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth, and Pope Francis has urged us to go out and meet people where they are. This van will enable us to do just that, bringing much-needed items and Jesus' love to more people in our own community. I look forward to telling you more about the van and the good it will help us all do when it returns, and I know you will respond generously and lovingly to our brothers and sisters in need.

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At left, eighth-grade students organized a service project to benefit "In the Name of the Mother" charity which offers financial assistance to women undergoing cancer treatment. They held a successful bake sale on September 14, 2017 which raised more than \$600 to help women with food, transportation costs, child-care costs, and other necessities which may be difficult to pay for when facing a long-term illness. The charity was founded in 2005 by a long-time St. Patrick's family to honor their mother, who lost her battle with cancer in 2004. Over the last few years, efforts by the school community have raised thousands of dollars to help these women.

St. Patrick's School is pleased to announce the officers and representatives who will be leading the Student Government Association for the 2017-2018 school year. The following students are pictured below along with St. Patrick's Pastor, Msgr. Charles Parry, who installed the students in a ceremony at a school mass on September 27, 2017: Katie Maurano (SGA President); Christian Leusch (SGA Vice President); Ellie Maurano (SGA Secretary); and Anthony Santos (SGA Treasurer). The representatives from the junior high homerooms are also included: Makayla Cihlar and Sebastian Ament (Fifth grade); Paddy Kirchner and Meredith Erickson (Sixth grade); Brendan Erickson and Rafi Rubino (Seventh grade); and Emily Altimont and Bobby Mascari (Eighth grade).



St. Patrick's School is excited to welcome our new pastor, Msgr. Charles Parry, to our community. Msgr. Parry began his duties at St. Patrick's Parish in July and has wasted no time becoming an active part of our school. He delivers daily homilies at morning assembly and can often be seen on the playground, and waving to cars during morning and afternoon carpool. Msgr. Parry enjoys daily visits to our classrooms and looks forward to teaching our students. He recently began a weekly religion unit in fourth grade on the life of the French saint, St. John Vianney. We are grateful for his enthusiasm for our students and for showing us how to follow Jesus.



Domestic Violence Workshop

How to help family and friends suffering from domestic violence
Tuesday, October 17,
from 10 am – 2 pm

St. Patrick Catholic Church
Parish Center Room 104
4101 Norbeck Road,
Rockville, MD 20853

This is a great opportunity to learn about what you can do to help those you know who are in need of help in an abusive relationship.

To RSVP, contact Monica Ludwig at Monica.ludwig@stpatrickadw.org or Teresa Villanueva at Teresa.Villanueva@cc-dc.org.

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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,
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Transitional Deacon Joins Parish for Pastoral Assignment

This year, St. Elizabeth parish welcomes Deacon Kevin Fields among its clergy. Deacon Kevin was ordained by Cardinal Wuerl to the transitional diaconate for the Archdiocese of Washington on June 10, 2017 at the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle. He began ministry at St. Elizabeth's shortly thereafter.

Deacon Kevin is a seminarian of the Archdiocese of Washington, one of five from his home parish of St. Peter's in Olney. He previously served seminary assignments at St. Patrick's in Rockville and Immaculate Heart of Mary in Lexington Park. Deacon Kevin is in his final year of studies for the priesthood at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg; completing a Master of Divinity degree and a Master of Arts degree in Moral Theology. Deacon Kevin will be



Deacon Kevin Fields

ordained to the priesthood on June 16, 2018 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

A Baltimore native, Kevin

grew up in Olney and enrolled in Montgomery County Public Schools before attending Our Lady of Good Counsel High School (back when it was in Wheaton). He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree with All-College Honors in Political Science and Urban Studies from Canisius College in Buffalo, NY, and a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Baltimore. Before entering seminary in 2012, Kevin worked at Sandy Spring Bank; specializing in loans and escrow.

"After earning my M.P.A. and seeking a career in non-profit service, I began to earnestly discern where God was calling me to be a man for others", Deacon Kevin reflected. "As I prayed, I began to not just talk to God but also to silently listen to Him through Sacred Scripture and visits to the

Blessed Sacrament. When I felt the desire to discern in the seminary, I sought out spiritual direction, attended daily Mass, and went to Confession more frequently. Blessed with the prayers and support of my family, friends, and parish community, I answered the call to priestly formation."

Aside from preaching and assisting at liturgies, Deacon Kevin taught a 3-part adult faith formation series at the parish entitled *Heaven, Hell, and Everything in Between*. This past summer, he assisted the Vacation Bible School and mentored the St. Elizabeth's Young Adults. This year, he assists Fr. Chip Luckett with Youth Ministry and is leading the St. Elizabeth's team of runners and walkers in the Archdiocese of Washington's Run for Vocations.

Outside of the parish, Deacon

Kevin is known to be a trivia buff and hockey fan. His Seminary Trivia Team, *Merii Kurisumasu* ("Merry Christmas" in Japanese), is the 4-time undefeated champion at The Mount. Deacon Kevin is also a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Thomas More Society of America.

"Priestly formation and pastoral assignments for seminarians would not be possible without the generosity of parishioners through the Cardinal's Appeal and through their parish," Deacon Kevin remarked. "I thank Msgr. Bill Parent, Fr. Chip Luckett, and everyone in the St. Elizabeth family for making this opportunity possible. May God continue to bless St. Elizabeth Catholic Church and may St. Elizabeth continue to intercede for her parish family."

OPT



So happy to start the new year off with good friends!



St. E's eighth graders are all smiles entering their final year of middle school.

The First Day of School



St. Elizabeth Catholic School is decked out in colorful balloons, as the students return after a great summer break.



Principal, Mr. Spadoni, and Monsignor Parent, prepare to welcome their returning and new students at St. Elizabeth School.



Brigid Murray and Jack Birch, both members of the Class of 2018, cut the Ribbon of New Beginnings to kick off the new school year!

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Denise Crawford



Parish Secretary
Nan Waffin



Communications Director
Tori Wesley

New Staff Join St. Elizabeth Parish

There are new faces at St. Elizabeth. Plus there is one familiar face no longer at the office.

Denise Crawford, who manned the front desk for 18 years and was usually the voice that cheerfully greeted us when we called, has retired. She was a dedicated and valued member of our staff and she will be greatly missed. We wish her God's blessings for a long, healthy and happy retirement.

Nan Waffin has joined St. Elizabeth as the new full time parish secretary. A self-proclaimed

Continued on page 32

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

Brownies, Cookies, Pizza, and Cake...Oh My!

Bake Sale and Raffle for Hurricane Relief a Resounding Success

On the very first day of school, fourth graders Alessandra V. and Abigail S. presented a wonderful idea to Mr. JP Clubbs, the Student Council Faculty Advisor – a bake sale and raffle to raise funds for hurricane relief.

With the help of the Student Council Officers, the bake sale and raffle fundraiser for the victims of

recent hurricanes was a resounding success. As a result of the incredible energy and determination of Alessandra and Abigail, enthusiasm and generosity poured out from The Woods Academy community.

During lunch on Thursday, September 14 and Friday, September 15, students in grades 1-8 enjoyed delicious cookies and brownies supplied primarily by Alessandra, Abigail and their families. Additionally, the



Fourth Graders Alessandra V. (left center) and Abigail S. (right center) pictured with Student Council Vice President Luciana W. (left) and President Maddie P. (right) organized a bake sale and raffle to raise funds for hurricane relief.

students in first grade will enjoy a pizza party, cake, and a tag day since one of their classmates won the raffle.

The effort raised approximately \$1,600 toward hurricane relief. While it is yet to be determined the charity to which these funds will be donated, The Woods Student Council and other individuals have pledged even more money toward this great cause.

OPT

The Science of Teaching

Three Woods teachers had the opportunity to attend The Science of Teaching and School Leadership Academy at St. Andrew's Episcopal School this summer where they learned about the latest and most cutting-edge mind, brain, and education research. The Woods has partnered with St. Andrew's and their Center for Transformative Teaching & Learning (CTTL) to send a few teachers to this conference every year for the next three years. Fifth-grade teacher Mrs. Tanzi, Director of Extended Care Mrs. Papazian, and Sixth-grade teacher Ms. Firstenberg were lucky enough to be the first three teachers to attend!

The very first activity of the week was a sheep's brain dissection. The organizers wanted the attendees to get outside their comfort zones and break the ice as they learned about the fundamental structures of the brain. Next, they spent time debunking some of the "neuromyths" out there and learning about 15 power strategies for teachers and students that the researchers at the CTTL have developed. (Has anyone ever told you that we only use 10% of our brains? That's FALSE! Even when we "aren't doing anything," neurons are firing all over the brain!)

After getting a broad overview of

the current body of research, they spent time in "deep dive sessions" where they explored specific topics in great detail. Some attended sessions on growth mindsets, executive function, and feedback and assessments. Midweek, the educators traveled up to Johns Hopkins in Baltimore where they talked with researchers and visited their labs to see how they conduct their research.

At the end of the week, they learned more about how faculty members at St. Andrew's are conducting their own research in their classrooms. They turned the table

Continued on page 36



This summer Fifth-grade teacher Mrs. Tanzi (right), Director of Extended Care Mrs. Papazian (left), and Sixth-grade teacher Ms. Firstenberg (center) attended The Science of Teaching and School Leadership Academy at St. Andrew's Episcopal School.

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



Fall Open House

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

HEADMASTER'S PRESENTATION AT 3:30



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Brian Lamb, founder and chairman emeritus of C-SPAN asks eighth-grader Megan M. about who she believes and why.

Who do you believe? Why?

Brian Lamb, founder and chairman emeritus of C-SPAN Visits Upper School Chapel on September 18

Where do you get your information?

How do you trust it?

How does the profit motive determine what we see, hear, and what content we view on the internet?

Brian Lamb, founder and chairman emeritus of the C-SPAN political networks, kicked off The Woods Academy's study of media literacy addressing these questions with the school's 142 fifth through eighth graders on September 18.

Mr. Lamb, who served his country in positions in the Navy, White

House, and Senate, engaged students in a 45-minute dialogue about their media usage and why the media operates as it does. Students quickly realized any response they offered would be met with a succinct follow-up question – "Why?"

"To be an enlightened consumer of media takes work," Mr. Lamb said. "And this requires each of us 'to follow the money.' One must understand that the media (in its many forms) wants our money and attention. As we accept this funda-

Continued on page 18

Holy Cross School ...

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9:00 to 11:00 am

Sunday, January 28, 2018
1:00 to 3:00 pm

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www.hcross.org • 301-949-1699

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A Heartfelt Congratulations for an Incredible Achievement

John Schiller, Ph.D., and his colleague Doug Lowy, M.D., of the National Cancer Institute are the 2017 recipients of one of the Lasker Awards, a group of medical prizes often call the "American Nobels." Dr. Schiller, the father of two Holy Cross School alumni, and Dr. Lowy received the Lasker-DeBakey Clinical Medical Research Award for their foundational research on animal and human papillomaviruses – specifically HPV-16 type, a form of the virus that can cause more than a half-dozen types of cancer. Their research ultimately led them to conduct, in collaboration with scientists at Johns Hopkins University, the first clinical trial of the HPV-16 vaccine in humans. The clinical trial gave pharmaceutical companies the evidence needed to develop a vaccine which is now administered around the world.

On its website, The Lasker Foundation notes that Drs. Schiller and Lowy "took a bold but calculated approach toward a major public-health problem whose solution required them to vault formidable hurdles. They devised a blueprint for several safe and effective vaccines that promise to slash the incidence of cervical cancer and mortal-



Dr. John Schiller, pictured here with his wife Amy, and their children Madeline and Isaac, attended the Lasker Awards luncheon in New York City on September 14.

ity, the fourth most common cancer among women worldwide, as well as other malignancies and disorders that arise from human papillomaviruses."

The well-deserved accolades have not changed Dr. Schiller's humble and self-effacing personality that the Holy Cross family knows. In an interview which appeared in Scientific American magazine on September 6, he said, "To this day, we still do basic

Continued on page 31

An Afternoon of Fun, Food, and Friendship

A beautiful afternoon was the backdrop for the Holy Cross Picnic on Sunday, September 10, when families and friends gathered to enjoy games, activities, conversation and, of course, hamburgers!

Ten Sisters of the Holy Cross were honored guests at the picnic. The Sisters of the Congregation of the Holy Cross



Above, Ten Sisters of the Holy Cross were honored guests at the Holy Cross parish and school picnic.



At left, two Seventh Grade friends take a break from the festivities to smile for the camera.

Below, Holy Cross faculty member Christine Zalewski (back right) and an official photographer for the picnic, stepped from behind her camera to pose with Principal Lisa Kane (front left) and several other faculty members.



donated the land for our Holy Cross Church & School over fifty-five years ago, and many were teachers at the school. Sister Vivien, who is much loved by all the Holy Cross School children, continued to offer her time teaching our primary grade students until last year.

Representatives of the various ministries at Holy Cross were there to share information and enjoy the festivities. Cindy Kratz, chairperson of the Parish Council said, "Our annual picnic brings together our entire Holy Cross family. Each of our ministries set up information tables, representing the richness of our parish life. Our thanks to Father Robert [Buchmeier] for his caring leadership and to all our dedicated volunteers, who made this all possible."

Children were entertained by such activities...

Continued on page 36

Holy Cross Parish

4900 Strathmore Avenue, Garrett Park, MD

Fr. Robert Buchmeier, Pastor
301-942-1020

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

Lurana Hogan, Parish Editor
l.hogan@hcross.org

OAKCREST

Con't from page 1

studio. A spacious library with a stone fireplace offers a cozy space for enrichment, reading, and quiet study that rounds out the space that will house up to 450 students in grades 6-12.

Upon entering the Manor House one is greeted with a bright and cheerful parvis that draws the eye to the true heart of the campus – the school's chapel. Students and visitors are charmed by a sense of old world beauty and timelessness of their faith as they approach the entrance. Daily Mass is offered and this inspiring space provides students a place for thoughtful daily reflection and prayer. Head of School, Mary T. Ortiz, Ph.D., is excited about their new home. "The new campus combines the warmth of a traditional home and the needs of a 21st-century learning environment."

Parent partnership and character development are cornerstones to the school's mission. Oakcrest is a place where girls are educated with a challenging curriculum that helps them discover their passions and interests to become the "Trustees of Humanity" that Saint John Paul II called all women to be in his apostolic letter "On the Dignity and Vocations of Women."

Academic Dean, Cecilia Marquez, emphasized, "In today's society we need strong women who have a solid moral and intellectual anchor. We need transformative citizens and more female leaders for the 21st century. Oakcrest is positioned to be this change agent."

Videos and images of the campus site can be found at Oakcrest.org.

OPT

ALBUM

Con't from page 5

she had written 10 songs. She was encouraged by fellow parishioners and her family to record her music.

"I didn't know how to make a CD," said Vallecios.

In 2015, Vallecios' uncle found a producer and studio in California who would help record her CD. After sending the producer demos, she used up her savings to fly to California to record. She said over time many of her songs changed and developed from her originals but her first song remained unchanged.

In September of 2016, Vallecios and Ananias Gonzalez were married and together they continued to work on the album until it was finished the summer of 2017.

Vallecios is grateful to the St. Martin's community for their prayers and support throughout her musical journey. She said it was only appropriate to release her CD at the parish that became her home. "This is my home, my first and only Church," said Vallecios. "They have seen me from when I played the tambourines to now."

"Quiero Hacer Tu Voluntad" is available on Spotify, Amazon, CD Baby and Deezer.

OPT

VAN DYKE

Con't from page 2

Dyke, S.J., has been named the next president of Georgetown Prep, effective July 1, 2018.

Fr. Van Dyke is a committed administrator, teacher, and leader. As the founding principal at Cristo Rey Atlanta Jesuit High School, Fr. Van Dyke created the curriculum and engaged a faculty and staff to set the school in motion. He was the rector of the Jesuit Community at St. Ignatius while serving as Director of Ignatian Programs and Faculty and Staff Faith Formation at Xavier High School in New York City. He currently serves as the Director of Ignatian Programs and

Faculty Formation at Canisius High School in Buffalo, New York. In the classroom, Fr. Van Dyke has taught English and theology at Canisius, Xavier, Fordham Prep (Bronx, New York), McQuaid Jesuit High School (Rochester, New York), and Regis High School (New York City). At Regis, he also served as the school's chaplain. He has served on the Board of Trustees at Fordham Prep and Regis High School.

Denis Dwyer, Chair of Georgetown Prep's Board of Trustees and Chair of the Presidential Search Committee, stated, "Fr. Van Dyke has the vision and skills to lead Prep into exciting new opportunities in education and furthering the mission of the school, while honoring our rich Jesuit his-

tory and strong traditions and values. Fr. Van Dyke looks forward to working with our outstanding faculty and staff to challenge, support, and care for our students as they develop into accomplished scholars, athletes, artists and engaged citizens in their community; men of faith and men for others."

Fr. Van Dyke noted, "I am excited and eager to work with the entire Georgetown Prep community to ensure this great school's continued success as an outstanding Jesuit institution, enhance our Ignatian spirituality, and ensure a vibrant Prep for future generations."

Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J., current president of Georgetown Prep, said, "I could not be more thrilled for Fr. Van Dyke and Georgetown Prep."

I've known Fr. Van Dyke for many years as we entered the Society of Jesus together in 1981. He is an excellent educator, talented administrator, and more importantly, a wonderful man and Jesuit."

Michael Bidwill '83, Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees and member of the Presidential Search Committee, added, "This has been a careful and comprehensive process to identify the candidates best suited to lead this great Jesuit institution through the opportunities and challenges ahead. Although we considered many very qualified individuals, Fr. Van Dyke was the clear choice. He will be the next great leader for Georgetown Prep."

OPT



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—St. Francis de Sales

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PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

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Thinking of Other Catholic School Children in Need

The students and parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes are praying for the people impacted by the hurricanes in Texas and Florida and the earthquake in Mexico.

We contacted Mrs. Kathy Barnes, the principal of Sacred Heart School in Rockport, Texas. This school was almost completely destroyed by Hurricane Harvey. They are in the process of rebuilding and recovering. Mrs. Barnes has notified the Sacred Heart families that they should enroll their children in other nearby Catholic schools until Sacred Heart can reopen. Sacred Heart School serves many poor families, and many of those fami-

lies lost their homes in the hurricane.

The parish poor box collections for the month of September will go to Sacred Heart School, as will many donations made through the school. Last week the faculty and the eighth grade sponsored a bake sale, and raised over \$700 toward the cause. Mr. Long and his staff held a Fun Friday event that raised over \$800. In addition, many of our generous families have donated over \$2500 to this cause!

The children and families of Our Lady of Lourdes understand that our Catholic faith teaches us that a big part of loving our neighbors is reaching out a helping hand when they are in need.

OPT

Little Group is Full of Fun!

Little Group students at Our Lady of Lourdes School are having a great time! Whether they are tracing shapes in shaving cream or creating king-sized triangles on the floor, the Little Group children jump in with great enthusiasm. Mrs. "C" is teaching them to speak Spanish, and Ms. Mestner comes to their classroom for Art. They are learning their prayers, and they love story time with Ms. Moore.

These three- and four-year olds are learning how to play together, to walk in a line, to make beautiful music, and they are learning to love school!

OPT



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New Faces at Our Lady of Lourdes

Our Lady of Lourdes has begun the school year welcoming two new members to our faculty. Mother Therese McNamara has joined us in our Music Department and Miss Meghan Uebel is our new Middle School Religion teacher.

Mother Therese was born and raised in New England and is a sister with the Benedictine order. She is teaching Music classes to the children in pre-school through eighth grade. She directs both the elementary and middle school choirs, as well as the children's choir which sings at the 9:00 am Mass on Sundays. We are looking forward to hearing these beautiful voices when they perform at our Grandparents' Day celebration before Thanksgiving break, the Christmas Pageant in December, and other various events throughout the year.

"I love Our Lady of Lourdes

Parish", says Mother Therese. We are so lucky she has joined us this year.

Meghan Uebel was homeschooled from third grade through high school and recently graduated from Christendom College in Front Royal, VA, with a degree in Theology. Her former professor, Fr. Mark Wenzinger, happens to be a good friend and former classmate of our pastor, Msgr. Filardi, and she came to us with high recommendations! In addition to teaching daily Religion classes, she will also be preparing our eighth graders for their Confirmation in the Spring. "OLOL stood out from the other schools because of the

diversity of the students and the school's commitment to teaching the faith. There is something unique about OLOL which drew me to it," says Meghan. "I am so impressed and humbled by their willingness to help each other, and their desire to know more about the faith." Meghan has already begun making such a positive impact in developing the faith of our students.

We feel so blessed to have both Mother Therese and Meghan as part of our school. They have so much to offer our students and we are looking forward to a wonderful year ahead.

OPT



Mother Therese McNamara and Miss Meghan Uebel

Staff Reflection is Good for the Soul

by Bridget Launi

A new school year is a time of anticipation, excitement, anxiety and joy. It takes a while for students and staff to develop a rhythm that will guide them throughout the year. Fortunately, for the staff at OLOL, Wednesday mornings offer them a brief time to come together and share thoughts and experiences that will help them maintain their rhythm through the ups and downs that always come along between September and June.

Every Wednesday, the 20-minute reflection begins promptly at 7:40 am with a short

prayer. Staff members each take a turn leading; choosing a topic of their choice to share. Reflection topics are as varied as the staff who present them and have included such things as favorite books, articles, video clips, and prayers. Often, but certainly not always, the topics pertain to the vocation of teaching.

Principal Patricia McGann said that this staff tradition was in place when she became principal and she guesses that it has been going on for about 20 years now. In my short time at OLOL, I have come to see reflection as a wonderful gift of fellowship and prayer for staff.

OPT

LAMB

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mental truth, we can better discern what is worthy of our time and what is of truly lasting value."

Encouraging an attitude of healthy skepticism should include seeking out many sources of news, not simply that with which we agree, Mr. Lamb told students.

Mr. Lamb offered students some "life wisdom" as well:

- Appearance matters when you meet people in business - look your best and always shine your shoes!
- Listen, listen, listen.

- You only have one chance to make a first impression....that first impression can influence someone's view of you for a lifetime.
- Be humble - if you do good things, expect no reward other than the fact that you had an opportunity to do a good thing.
- Monitor what society values and create your own value system. "Often times," Mr. Lamb said, "our values as a country appear seriously 'out of whack.' Why should a prominent talk show host, athlete, or actor make \$25 million a year while the

average teacher makes just \$36,000?"

Mr. Lamb founded C-SPAN in 1977 as the political network of record allowing viewers to observe sessions of Congress, presidential press conferences, and public policy events unedited and without commentary.

Mr. Lamb's alma mater, Purdue University, named its School of Communications after him in 2011. President George W. Bush awarded Mr. Lamb the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2007 for his outstanding contributions to American life.

OPT

Food Pantry on Your Grocery List

When we leave church we are sent out to "Serve the Lord and one another." Full of the spiritual strength of the Eucharist and this commission, we are handed a bulletin which not only tells us of the collection count and prayer intentions of the week but also directs us to needs in the community. On our way home,

to the Montgomery County Food Bank, 85,000 people are hungry in our neighborhood and 32,000 of those are children. That's one child of every four sitting at a school desk not having enough to eat day after day. Unemployment and poverty play a large factor but those above the poverty line can suffer as well. Almost half of

cial bags to celebrate traditional Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners. The number of adults and children in the household are recorded. No one is turned away but a bag of food twice a month is the general rule. It's a very simple exchange in a world where the complexities of forms and filling often complicate and thwart assistance to basic needs. They are directed to other means of help offered by the county and other non-profit program such as the free Community Supper given at Liberty Grove United Methodist Church right down the road. There is an ebb and flow in the number of visitors in need but there is always food to share.

Resurrection relies on the donations of parishioners and those who volunteer to sort and pack the bags. Ray and Cathy Stevens volunteer weekly to shelve donated food staples such as peanut butter and jelly, macaroni and cheese, and canned fruit or applesauce. Parishioners drop items off after Masses or during the week. The Stevens pack grocery bags full of these food gifts preparing them a week in advance. The volunteers in the office like Mary Ellen Howarth and Sally DeSavage often help as needed and a 93-year-old parishioner crochets dish towels to be placed in each bag as a gift.

Sometimes grocery shopping can be a chore. But if we can be of service to others by adding a few items to the cart, we will witness the Holy Spirit at work in our lives and in our community.

OPT



Cathy and Ron Stevens (left) take a break from stocking the food pantry shelves at the Church

some of us stop at the local Giant to pick up items forgotten during the weekly shopping trip and there in the midst of the aisles and bins of food around us is an easy opportunity to serve our neighbor.

Like most parishes, Resurrection has a food pantry. By buying a few items for the pantry when shopping, the parishioners at Resurrection serve others nearby, impacting the lives of those lacking one of our basic needs, food. This is a shocking fact in a county that ranks #11 on most lists of wealthiest counties in the United States. According

these people fail to qualify for the government safety nets of WIC (a nutritional program that helps pregnant women, new mothers, and children under five years of age), SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program formerly known as Food Stamps), and free school meals.

At Resurrection, a person only needs to have an identification card to receive assistance. They come to the church office and their names and addresses are taken down for statistics. Come the winter holidays, they will be offered spe-

that's the second language in this parish. It is not Spanish, it is French."

Kanter St-Hubert says most members of the new French Choir have not sung with an organized group before but they are very enthusiastic. According to the Music Director, they use technology like their smart phones to record the music and practice with it once they leave rehearsal. "That's one thing that's cool: a number of them take their phones and record their parts. More so than our regular adult choir."

Not all of the new French Choir know how to read music and Kanter-St. Hubert says they are very excited when they learn what the notes mean, especially one woman in the choir. "...I was showing her how the notes go up and down and it's like this revelation..." She says other members of the new French choir go over their music even before they get to rehearsal, including one man who always arrives early and practices in his car. "...It's pretty neat."

OPT

Mary's seventh graders helped with the sorting of all of these items as they were loaded onto the truck.

We continue to keep all those affected by Hurricane Harvey in our thoughts and prayers and thank all of you who were able to donate to this important cause. #ADWSchools #HelpHouston #PrayforHouston #HoustonStrong #HurricaneHarvey

OPT



The popular Living Arts Concert Series at Resurrection began with a free performance of the Clarinet Choir from The United States Army Field Band to the delight of the audience.



Father John Barry celebrates his first baptism at the Parish.

Church of the Resurrection Parish

3315 Greencastle Road
Burtonsville, MD

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

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

CHOIR

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African countries like Côte d'Ivoire or parts of Cameroon. She says about 20 people have joined the French Choir, which includes both adults and teenagers.

The main difference between this choir and the regular adult choir is that rehearsals are conducted entirely in French. "This is a French singing choir. We speak French through the whole rehearsal. I think it's something they like," says Kanter-St. Hubert. She says speaking only in French also helps choir members who took French in high school or college, or for anyone interested in learning the language.

The Music Director often hears parishioners speaking French to each other or talking to her in French, and she believes French is more common at Resurrection than in other parishes, where Spanish is spoken. "I think

RELIEF

Con't from page 11

8 p.m. that night. At last count, over \$5,000 in gift cards and monetary donations were collected along with over 80,000 pounds of supplies (construction grade trash bags, work gloves, bleach, water, gatorade and more). St.



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	Coed • Freshman Class Size: 100 • Tuition: \$13,672 • Admissions Information: Tiffani D. Scurlock @ 202-529-0900, x135				


 the Avalon School Richard B. McPherson President Kevin J. Davern Headmaster 200 W. Diamond Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD 20877 301-963-8022 www.avalonschools.org	Boys Grades K-12 Soccer, Football, Basketball, Baseball Black Knights Black & Gold	SPECIAL PROGRAMS 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 Saturday, November 4 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Steps to Admission: • Application • Shadow Visit • Teacher Recommendation • Transcript • Family Interview	Application Deadline Rolling Admission	Notification of Admission Rolling Admission
	Financial Aid: Kevin Davern @ 301-963-8022 Avg. Class Size: 15 • Academic Half-Day Kindergarten \$4,000; Primary School Gr. K-2 *full day kindergarten \$8,000 Gr. 3-5 \$12,750; Middle School \$14,250; Upper School \$15,500					

 Brookewood School Richard B. McPherson President and Headmaster R.J. Hawley Executive Director Helen Williams Director of Admission 10401 Armory Avenue, Kensington, MD 301-949-7997 www.brookewood.org	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 11 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Steps to Admission: Shadow Visit Application Transcript Recommendation Family Interview	Application Deadline Rolling Admission	Notification of Admission Rolling Admission
	Average Class Size: 13 • Tuition: Grades 1-2 \$8,000 Grades 3-5 \$12,000 Grades 6-8 \$13,500 Grades 9-12 \$14,500 • Financial Aid: Helen Williams 301-949-7997					


 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, Equestrian, Basketball, Golf, Swimming, Diving, Lacrosse, Softball, Track, Dance Team 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 Opportunities • Music • Art • Actors Guild • Uniform • Interscholastic Sports	Open Houses Upper School Sunday, October 21 10:30-1:30pm (presentations at 10:45, 11:45, 12:45) Online Registration for Middle School Preview Days begins in September. Entrance Examinations: Middle and Upper School SSAT	Application Deadline & Financial Aid Appl. Deadline UPPER SCHOOL December 8 MIDDLE SCHOOL February 16	Notification of Admission: UPPER SCHOOL End of February MIDDLE SCHOOL Mid March Reg. Deposit Due: Mid March
	300 Students • Tuition Grades 9-12 \$31,600 • Book Fee \$300 • Technology Fee Grade 9 \$1,000 Grades 10-12 \$375				

 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 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. 6 11:00 a.m.	Entrance Exam: Archdiocesan HSPT required	Freshman Application Deadline December 15 Financial Aid Application Deadline December 15	Freshman Notification of Admission Feb. 2018 Registration Deposit Due Mid-March 2018
	Freshman Class Size: 250 • Tuition: \$17,600 • Application / Financial Aid: Admissions Office 240-764-2210					

 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 AP & Honors Courses Scholars Program Small classes and personal attention 1:1 MacBook Air devices	Open House Sunday, November 5 11:00 am – 2:00 pm	Entrance Exam Archdiocesan test results required. Schedule a Shadow Day Online	Application Deadline December 14 Archdiocesan Financial Aid Application Required	Notification of Admission February 15 Registration March 9 & 10
	Total Enrollment 552 Students • Tuition \$13,950					


 Georgetown Preparatory School 10900 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda, MD 20852 www.gprep.org 301-493-1215 Rev. Scott Pilarz, 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 15 1:00 pm to 4:00 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. 8, 2018 Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 22, 2018	Notification of Admission Feb. 23, 2018 Registration Deposit Due March 12, 2018
	Tuition: Day: \$35,955 Boarding: \$58,460 • Forming Men of Competence, Conscience, Commitment & Compassion; Men of Faith, Men for Others since 1789					


 Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School Daniel M. Kerns, Jr., Head of School Mary Kate Blaine, Principal Janet Donnelly Keller, Director of Admissions Tel: 202.337.3350 Fax: 202.342.5733 • www.visi.org 1524 Thirty-fifth Street NW Washington, DC 20007	Girls 9-12 A Catholic High School and Pioneer in Women's Education since 1799 • Small Class Sizes • 100% College Acceptance • Bridge Program at Georgetown University • AP & Honors Courses • ISL Champion Athletics • Lively Performing Arts • Robust Service & Retreat Programs • More Than 50 Clubs Cubs • Gold, White & Green	OPEN HOUSE Saturday Oct. 14, 2017 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.	Entrance Exam HSPT (Offered at Visitation Dec. 2, 2017)	Freshman Application Deadline Dec. 1, 2017 Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 8, 2018	Freshman Notification of Admission Feb. 23, 2018 Registration Deposit Due Mid-March 2018
	Freshman Class Size: 129 • Tuition: \$29,200 • Financial Aid: Janet Keller @ 202.337.3350 ext. 2241				


 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. Bataille, 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 19 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Entrance Exam Archdiocesan test results are required.	Application Deadline December 11 Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 11, 2018	Notification of Admission Feb. 22, 2018 Registration Deposit Due March 14, 2018
	Freshman Class Size: 245 • The Catholic, Jesuit school located in the heart of our nation's capital city. • Tuition: \$22,100					


Catholic High School Open House Dates


Courtesy Catholic High Schools & Our Parish Times


 OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL HIGH SCHOOL A Xavierian Brothers Sponsored School 17301 Old Vic Boulevard Olney, MD 20832 Paul G. Barker Ed. D., President Thomas Campbell, Principal Kevin Collins, Director of Admissions Admissions@olgchs.org www.olgchs.org	COED Offering a comprehensive college prep curriculum including the IB Program, AP and Honors courses, the STEM Program, and the Ryken Program.	Home of the Falcons Extensive co-curricular activities, 54 sport teams, Performing Arts, Speech & Debate and over 55 cultural and academic clubs. Member of the W.C.A.C.	Open House Sunday, Oct. 15, 2017 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM	Prospective Parent INFORMATION NIGHT Tuesday, Sept. 26, 2017 7:00 PM	Freshman Application Deadline Dec. 8, 2017 Freshman Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Dec. 8, 2017	Freshman Notification of Admission Feb. 22, 2018 Freshman Registration Friday, March 9, 2018
	Tuition \$21,840					

 The Academy of the Holy Cross 4920 Strathmore Ave., Kensington, MD 20895 Kathleen Prebble, President Melissa Huey-Burns, Principal Meredith Gobbi '06, Admissions 301-942-2100 • www.academyoftheholycross.org	Girls Basketball, cross-country, field hockey, ice hockey, golf, lacrosse, poms/cheer, soccer, softball, volleyball, swimming and diving, tennis, track, crew, equestrian. Washington Catholic Athletic Conference Tartans • Lavender & White	Special Programs IB Diploma Programme AP & Honors Courses Project Lead the Way Engineering 1:1 iPads Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment with Maryland University Senior Project Internship	Open House Sunday, November 5 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Entrance Exam HSPT (Offered at Holy Cross Dec. 2, 2017)	Application Deadline Dec. 11, 2017 Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 8, 2018	Notification of Admission February 2018 Registration Deposit Due March 9, 2018
	Freshman Class Size: 120 • Tuition: \$23,905 • Financial Aid: 301-942-2100					


 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, golf, rifle team, swimming, track, lacrosse, soccer, softball, volleyball, swimming and diving, tennis, track, crew, equestrian. W.C.A.C. Cadets Scarlet & Grey	Special Programs Scholars Program • Benilde Program • 1:1 Technology Program (iPads) • Cadet Corps (optional) • Entrepreneurial Center for Innovation & Leadership • New Visual & Performing Arts Wing • New Student Center	Open House Sunday, Oct. 29, 2017 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Entrance Exam Archdiocesan HSPT results are required.	Application Deadline Dec. 8, 2017 Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 29, 2018	Notification of Admission Feb. 22, 2018 Registration Deposit Due March 10, 2018
	Tuition: \$19,175					


 Dr. Thomas Powell, President Marc Minsker, Principal Michael Schultz Executive Director of Advancement 3989 Buckeystown Pike Buckeystown, MD 21717 E-mail: mschultz@saintjohnsprep.org • 301-662-4210	Coed Small class size • College preparatory • 100% College Applicant Acceptance Rate • College-level, AP & Honors Classes • Program for students with learning needs • Bus Transportation	OPEN HOUSE Sunday November 5 1:00-3:00PM	HSPT Entrance Exam Saturday, December 2 8:30AM Registration 9:00AM Testing begins	Application Deadline Rolling Admissions Financial Aid & Scholarship Appl. Deadline Dec. 15, 2017	8th Grade Acceptance Day Feb. 15, 2018 Registration Deposit Due March 16, 2018
	Freshman Class Size: 70 • Tuition: \$16,500 • Financial Aid: Michael Schultz @ 301-662-4210 • www.saintjohnsprep.org				

 OAKCREST SCHOOL 1619 Crowell Road, Vienna, VA 22182 Dr. Mary T. Ortiz, Head of School Carolina Agostini, Director of Admissions Cynthia Bertolini, Middle School Admissions 703-790-5450 Oakcrest.org • admissions@oakcrest.org	Academic Excellence 7:1 student-teacher ratio Rich liberal arts curriculum 15 AP Courses	Faith-Character Daily Mass 1-to-1 mentoring Virtue-Based Workshops	Extracurriculars 18 Teams 12 Sports Potomac Valley Athletic Conference Director's Cup Winner Show Productions Over 25 Clubs	Rising 9th Graders: Veritas Award Scholarships Bus Transportation available from Maryland and Virginia	Application Deadlines Upper School January 18 Middle School January 26 Tuition Assistance Application Deadline January 29	Open House Saturday October 21 2:00 to 5:00 pm Be an Oakie for the Day Middle School Applicants Thursday November 2
	An independent school for girls in grades 6-12 • Freshman Class Size: 40 • Tuition: US \$25,540 / MS \$24,350					

 ST. ANSELM'S ABBEY SCHOOL 4501 SOUTH DAKOTA AVE, NE WASHINGTON, DC 20017 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, Wrestling, Tennis, Baseball, Track, Lacrosse, Golf, Fencing Potomac Valley Athletic Conference Panthers Maroon & Grey	Special Programs Challenging academic program for students of above average ability in grades 6-12	Open House Sunday November 5 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Entrance Exam Dates November 18 December 9 January 13 Exam also offered by appointment	Application Deadline Rolling Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Feb. 5, 2018	Notification of Admission: Feb. 23, 2018 Registration Deposit Due March 16, 2018
	Freshman Class Size: 36 • Tuition: \$26,800 Middle; \$27,800 Upper • Financial Aid: Ms. Ieva Young @ 202-281-1656					

 ST. VINCENT PALLOTTI HIGH SCHOOL 113 St. Mary's Place, Laurel, MD 20707 Mr. Jeff Palumbo, President/Principal Ms. Lindsay Dively, Director of Admissions 301-725-3228 Ext. 2202 www.pallottihs.org	Coed Over 20 varsity athletic teams; Maryland Athletic Association (MIAA) – Men; Interscholastic Athletic Association of Maryland (IAAM) – Women 20 Clubs & Organizations	Grades 9-12 College Prep Curriculum Honors/AP Courses 92% College Placement Accelerated & Computer Science Programs Visual & Performing Arts Program Learning Center	Open House Sunday, Nov. 5 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Visit the web site for 2018-2019 application!	Admissions Application Deadline Dec. 15, 2017	Financial Aid Application Deadline Jan. 2, 2018
	500 Students 11:1 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 PS-Grade 12 (Coed PS-K) Basketball, crew, cross country, equestrian, field hockey, golf, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, squash, swimming/diving, tennis, track & field and volleyball The Gators Blue & Gold	Special Programs Honors/AP Courses 1:1 Laptop Social Action Student Exchange STEAM Certificate	Open House Upper School (Grades 9-12) Sunday, Oct. 15 12:00 – 2:30 pm	Required Entrance Exam: SSAT Register at www.ssat.org (School Code: 7494)	Application Deadline Dec. 2, 2017	Financial Aid Deadline Jan. 15, 2018	Notification of Admission Late February Registration Deposit Due Early March
	Freshman Class Size: 90 • Tuition: \$33,900 • Financial Aid Available						

 THE HEIGHTS SCHOOL 10400 Seven Locks Rd., Potomac, MD 20854 Alvaro J. de Vicente, Headmaster Richard S. Moss, Director of Admissions 301-765-2093 • admissions@heights.edu www.heights.edu	Boys 3-12 The Heights forms "men fully alive" through a rigorous curriculum implemented with a highly personal approach to education and character. Cavalliers Red & White	Challenging liberal arts; innovative science and math; small classes; individual mentorship; 13 varsity sports; extensive extracurriculars; rich sacramental life.	Open House Sunday, October 22 2:00 to 5:30 p.m.	Admissions: Call us any time or visit our website at www.heights.edu/admissions for an overview of our application process.	Admissions Deadline for Full Consideration Jan. 5, 2018 Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 24, 2018	Notification of Admission Feb. 22, 2018 Registration Deposit Due March 9, 2018
	Freshman Class Size: 65 • Financial Aid: Phil McGovern (CFO) 301-365-4300					

Councils at Christ the King

By Katie Holland, OPT parish editor with Parish Council member Chip Patterson and Finance Council members Mike Furey and Phoebe Dixon

The Parish Council works with a mission to advise the Pastor and provide consultation in areas where he desires assistance. Supporting the Pastor's vision of the Parish is the council priority while providing perspectives reflecting the rich and blessed diversity of this Parish. Christ the King's Parish Council provides a forum to coordinate the various functions and activities of the Parish, to network internal Parish activities and those external to the Parish with its community partners to achieve the Pastor's goals, as well as to provide feedback from the parish community to the Pastor for his consideration in prioritizing the needs of the Parish. The council operates to offer solutions to the Pastor regarding issues confronting the Parish.

As the Archdiocese may assign different Pastors, the council is a resource to provide continuity of parish activities and offer past context to current issues. The council provides a focused source of prayers and

spiritual support to our Pastor, who serves as the Chair of the Parish Council. Currently the members are: Deacon Steve Mitchell, Noel Augustyn, Anthony Afrifa-Kyei, Mario Arbaiza, Reina Flores, Terry Adula, Maria Kendall, Adela Penate and Relford (Chip) Patterson. Their first meeting this parish-council-year (July-June of every calendar year) was on Wednesday evening September 27 in the Rectory.

Finance Council initially met quarterly but have met monthly since the beginning of 2017 to assess and make recommendations regarding the fiscal health of our Parish as well as work on developing the parish budget for FY2018 which started July 1, 2017. Although the parish spent less in FY16-17, revenues were lower than FY15-16. The spring 2017 Parish Appeal for increased weekly contributions did not yield the response needed.

The Finance Committee prepared a letter to all parishioners regarding the parish's finances for FY16-17 and budget for FY17-18, which included an appeal for increased weekly contributions. The letter will be included in the parish bulletin by mid-October. The Committee is also considering an open forum to answer any questions regarding the parish's finances after the 10:30am Mass on October 29, 2017 (NOTE: that date is still tentative). As the Archdiocese now requires the parish priest to serve as Chair of the Finance Committee and a lay person serves as Vice-Chair, Fr. Carter serves as Chair with Michael Furey as its Vice-Chair. The additional members are: David Belli, Phoebe Dixon, and John Willging. They consider themselves to be "a congenial group that likes numbers"!

OPT

Christ the King

2301 Colston Drive
Silver Spring, MD
301-495-2306

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

Katie Holland,
OPT Editor
kh7@georgetown.edu



Inveterate volunteer and Open House coordinator Hilda Quezada welcoming parishioners into the Rectory dining room



CTK's Administrative Assistant Jean Barrionuevo lining up volunteers to carry the "goods" from the Rectory kitchen

Christ The King Rectory Open House

Christ the King opened its Rectory to all parishioners for a first ever Open House. Newly appointed Parochial Administrator Fr. Steve Carter, OPM Cap., introduced the Rectory staff and hosted the feast after the 10:30am (English language) and 12:30pm (Spanish language) Masses on

Sunday, September 24.

Fr. Carter asked parishioners to "take a moment, come and meet us; feel at home in your house." Photographs were graciously taken by Lector-parishioner, Open House attendee Anita Lee.

OPT

Installation of Fr. Ettore In Minnesota

Archbishop Benard A. Hepda of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis presided at the Installation of Father Ettore Ferrario, FSCB, on August 27, 2017. Fr. Ettore, former Parochial Vicar at Christ the King, will serve as Pastor of the Church of St. Peter in North St. Paul, Minnesota. Some parishioners were present (just showed up, as one put it!) when Fr. Ettore is installed as Pastor at St. Peter's in North St Paul, Minnesota. Father will be assisted by Parochial Vicars Fr. Pietro Rossoti, FSCB (who also was at CTK) and Fr. Daniele Scorrano, FSCB. Parishioners of Christ the King send their best wishes to the trio especially as they approach their first winter in gelid Minnesota.

OPT



Tour leader Achille DiLibero (at left) with three of his "pilgrims"

New York Visitors

The 8:30am Mass on Sunday September 24th was unusually "full." Thirty-four travelers from multiple parishes in Queens New York, looking for an early Mass, found Christ the King before departing their homes for the overnight trip to witness the installation of the Rosary Garden at The Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. They all wore identifying buttons for the 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima's

October 13th final visitation in 1917. Their tour guide, Achille DiLibero, of A&G Peace Tours was also one of them and introduced himself and members of the tour to parishioners at Christ the King just before leaving to make their last stop at the JP2 Center and the Franciscan Monastery. Safe journey to them and thanks from Christ the King for their welcomed "visit."

OPT

Upcoming Events

- Wednesday, October 11, 7pm in the Church, new Lector recruits meeting
- Saturday and Sunday, November 25&26, for The Feast of Christ the King (all Masses) the CTK

Commemoratives will be on sale in the vestibule of the Church (most especially the family nameplates for the *In Memoriam* plaque).

OPT



DINNER and DANCE

For the benefit of Christ the King Church
Hosted by: "The Lord Is My Shepherd Prayer Group"



Donation: \$ 20.00
October 21, 2017 (Saturday)
6:30 pm to 12 midnight
Christ the King Catholic Church
(COLONIAL HALL)
2300/2301 East West Highway/Colston Drive
Silver Spring Maryland 20910

For more info...please call

Josie Lacap (202) 9107514
Lito dela Pena (202) 2947976
Jorge Gonzales (240) 4767711
Marita Laguan (301) 9052346
Linda Velasco (240) 6883382

Music by: DJ Yo

Thank you and God Bless...



Spiritual Nourishment for our Young Adults

On September 10, members of our Young Adults Ministry celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Blessed Virgin Mary's appearance in Fatima with a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, in

Barnesville, Md.

The Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, located at St. Mary's parish, is the official shrine for the Archdiocese of Washington. It was dedicated in 1959 by Archbishop O'Boyle. On the

indoor altar at the Shrine is a stone cut from the area where Our Lady appeared to the children in Fátima, Portugal, in 1917. The trip included a talk by Fr. Cusick on Fatima's message, prayers to the Blessed Mother in the prayer garden, and dinner.

OPT



The Young Adult group visited the shrine of Fatima at St. Mary's Church in Barnesville, pictured (L-R) are Father Cusick, Angela, Luis, and Cynthia



The Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima

Scouts Head West in Search of the Great Outdoors

B TOW or Big Trip Out West has been a staple of the Troop 466 Outdoor Program since the late 1980s. Every three years, we pack up our gear and strike out from our home base at St. John the Evangelist to one or more of our National Parks. This year, almost 30 of us spent two weeks at Grand Teton (GTNP) and Yellowstone National Parks (YNP).

Although this was the fourth trip to GTNP and YNP for the Troop, each time it is just a bit different. From the fox that made its way through our Coulter Bay Campsite (Grant Teton) almost daily, white-



The scouts gather with their adult leaders surrounded by lush forest

water rafting down the Snake River, hiking the steep trails of Granite Canyon, Death Canyon and the

Alaska Basin, to the encounter with a black bear in the Lamar Valley in Yellowstone, there is always a new story to tell.

Troop 466 welcomes new members, including boys (ages 11-17) and adult volunteers. If you are interested in being part of this 65 plus year Scouting adventure/tradition, take a look at our website (<http://troop466-ncac.blogspot.com>), contact us at ncactroop466@gmail.com, or stop by the Kennedy Room (Woodland Drive) most Monday evenings after 7pm. Join the adventure, learn new skills, and make a lifetime of memories.

OPT



The group reaches an elevation of 8262 feet at the Continental Divide.

SJE School Year Off to a Great Start

A Blue Alien! That was the star of St. John the Evangelist's annual Literary Day. Students in grades 4-8 read two books over the summer and discussed the books in small group settings. Students in Kindergarten through third grade read stories in each class and completed creative art projects about the stories. Then we welcomed this year's guest speaker, Mr. Brian Bichy, author of "The Day I Brought a Blue Alien to Homeroom."

Mr. Bichy, a member of St. Jane Frances de Chantal parish, told the students how he got the idea for his book, about the writing and editing process, and his plans for future



Ice cream and slides bring smiles to the children's faces.

books. Afterward, he signed copies of his book for our students and donated several copies to our library.

Our school's eighth graders, along with the parish's CCD Confirmation candidates, made a pilgrimage to

the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes. Attending Mass and praying together at the shrines is a wonderful way for these young adults to start their Confirmation journey together.

New families of our St. John the Evangelist school community joined other families at an ice cream social hosted by our Home School Association.

The children ran, slid, climbed, and tumbled on the playground between nibbles on ice cream cones and popsicles. Parents got a chance to make new acquaintances and see old friends.

OPT



The 2017 SJE Confirmation class gathered with firemen and EMTs from the Hyattstown Fire Department.

A Confirmation Pilgrimage We'll Never Forget

By Lucy Droege

The eighth-grade class of SJE has a thing with school buses. On various field trips throughout the years, we've had busses with a leaky roof, a flat tire, and an overheated engine. Now, the SJE 2017 Confirmation Class – a combined eighth grade and CCD class of 40+ students – will never forget its Confirmation pilgrimage to The National Shrine of Elizabeth Ann Seton and the National Shrine Grotto of Lourdes in Emmitsburg, Md., on September 21.

After a great day touring the shrines, getting to know one another better and celebrating Mass together, our group ended up in a small accident with a minivan on its way home! Luckily, there were only a few minor injuries and we were able to hang out in the Hyattstown Fire Department while waiting for a

new bus to arrive to take us home to Silver Spring. Despite our mishap, it was a special day and we are sure that the Holy Spirit was looking out for us.

Please pray for all our Confirmandi!

OPT

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
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November 16
8:30 AM – 11:30 AM

SUNDAY
February 11
10:30 AM – 1:30 PM



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Baltimore County Department of Aging Hosts Physician-Assisted Suicide Panel

For the last three years, the Maryland Catholic Conference has opposed the End of Life Options Act, which would have legalized physician-assisted suicide (PAS). The Conference is part of the Maryland Against Physician Assisted Suicide coalition, a diverse group of healthcare professionals, disability rights advocates, mental health professionals, advocates for seniors, and members of faith communities in opposition to the legislation.

The Baltimore County Department of Aging hosted a two-hour panel discussion on PAS Tuesday, Sept. 26 at the Senior Box Office in Parkville. The panel included several of the issue's most well-versed local oppo-



Dr. Joseph Marine, a cardiologist at Johns Hopkins Hospital and parishioner at the Catholic Community of St. Francis Xavier in Hunt Valley, talks about the many flaws with proposed Physician-Assisted Suicide legislation.

nents who have worked to defeat the bill that has been considered by the Maryland General Assembly, including Msgr. David Fulton from St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore and Joseph Marine, M.D., a cardiologist at Johns Hopkins Hospital and a parishioner at the Catholic Community of St. Francis Xavier in Hunt Valley.

"PAS is discriminatory," Marine said. "It creates a new class of human beings who are denied protection of the law afforded to others, including people with severe illness, disabilities, advanced age who are told your life is less valuable and less worthy of the protection of the law."

Elder care attorney Elena Boisvert also talked about the bill's dangerous

provisions and why is it wrong for Maryland citizens.

"Vulnerable seniors are very susceptible to being influenced," said Boisvert. "This legislation does not have safeguards to protect vulnerable seniors. What they do is put the ultimate tool in the hands of the people that would financially exploit their beloved parent."

The proponents of PAS are well-funded, out-of-state activists looking to push their national agenda here in Maryland. For more information on the work the coalition is doing to fight this legislation, please visit <https://stopassistedsuicidemd.org>.

Maryland State Senators Bob Cassilly and Jim Brochin, who sit on the Judicial Proceedings Committee

where the Senate bill has been assigned each year, agreed that the legislation is flawed.

"This is scary legislation. Normally in a medical procedure we hold doctors accountable. This bill avoids transparency," said State Senator Bob Cassilly, from District 34 in Harford County. "You can't fix the bill. It puts people in a conflict and that's scary. There are safeguards from the MVA when you get a parking ticket and when people are in jail. We go through incredible procedural safeguards to ensure the right thing is done, except in this bill." Cassilly sits on the Judicial Proceedings Committee where the Senate bill has been assigned.

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www.VictoryHousing.org



Online Education on Aging Issues at Your Fingertips

American Society on Aging offers topical web seminars at no charge to non-members. To view the complete calendar of offerings and to register, visit: www.asaging.org/web-seminars.

Upcoming web seminars include:

- Preventing Senior Scams
Family Caregiver Support Web Seminar Series
Sponsored by Home Instead Senior Care
Wednesday, October 4, 2017, 10:00 AM Pacific–11:00 AM Pacific
- Depression and Parkinson's Disease: Treatment Options
Parkinson's Disease Expert Briefings Series
Presented by Parkinson's Foundation
Tuesday, November 21, 2017, 10:00 AM Pacific–11:00 AM Pacific
- Loss of Independence and Isolation
Family Caregiver Support Web Seminar Series
Sponsored by Home Instead Senior Care
Wednesday, December 6, 2017, 10:00 AM Pacific–11:00 AM Pacific
- Marijuana and Parkinson's Disease: What Do We Really Know?
Parkinson's Disease Expert Briefings Series
Presented by Parkinson's Foundation
Tuesday, April 17, 2018, 10:00 AM Pacific–11:00 AM Pacific

OPT

Cost of lifetime Senior Pass to National Parks increases to \$80

On August 28, 2017, the price of the America the Beautiful – The National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Senior Pass increased for the first time since 1994 – from \$10 to \$80 – as result of the Centennial Legislation P.L. 114-289 passed by the US Congress on December 16, 2016. The additional revenue will be used to enhance the visitor experience in parks.

The legislation also establishes an annual Senior Pass for \$20. That pass is valid for one year from the date of issuance. Four annual Senior Passes purchased in prior years can be traded in for a lifetime pass. Additionally, access to the majority of National Park Service sites remains free—only 118 of 417 National Park Service sites have an entrance fee.

US citizens or permanent residents 62 years or older are eligible for the Senior Pass. The passes cover entrance and standard amenity (day-use) recreation fees and

provide discounts on some expanded amenity recreation fees. The Senior Passes admit pass owner/s and passengers in a noncommercial vehicle at per-vehicle fee areas and pass owner plus three adults, not to exceed four adults, where per-person fees are charged. (Children under 16 are always admitted free.)

Senior Passes can be purchased at any federal recreation site, including national parks, that charges an entrance or standard amenity (day-

use) fee. Proof of age and residency is required. See the complete list of sites where the pass is available (PDF).

Passes can also be purchased online or through the mail from USGS; an additional \$10 processing fee will be added to the price. Visit the USGS store to buy the pass online or find instructions for purchasing by mail: <https://store.usgs.gov/senior-pass>.

OPT



Domestic Violence Workshop

How to help family and friends suffering from domestic violence

**Tuesday, October 17,
from 10 am – 2 pm**

St. Patrick Catholic Church
Parish Center Room 104
4101 Norbeck Road,
Rockville, MD 20853

This is a great opportunity to learn about what you can do to help those you know who are in need of help in an abusive relationship.

To RSVP, contact Monica Ludwig at
Monica.ludwig@stpatrickadw.org or
Teresa Villanueva at
Teresa.Villanueva@cc-dc.org.



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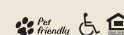
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Caregiving Around the Clock

The theme for National Family Caregivers Month November 2017 is "Caregiving Around the Clock"

Caregiving can be a 24-hours a day/7-days a week job. Caring for a senior with Alzheimer's or a child with special needs can be non-stop. Providing care around the clock can crowd out other important areas of life. And you never know when you will need to rush to the hospital or leave work at the drop of a hat. What challenges do family caregivers face, and how do they manage them day and night?



Morning: Getting off to work. The average family caregiver is a working mother of school-aged children. Mornings become a tricky balancing act of getting the kids ready for school, making sure your loved one has what they need for the day before getting yourself out the door for work.



All Day Long: Managing medications. Up to 70% of the time, the family caregiver – not the patient – manages the medications. The more serious the condition, the more likely it is that the family caregiver manages the medications for the patient. This means ensuring your loved one is taking their medication correctly and maintaining an up-to-date **medication list**.



During the Workday: Juggling caregiving and work. Six out of 10 family caregivers work full- or part-time in addition to juggling their caregiving responsibilities at home. And most of them say they have to cut back on working hours, take a leave of absence, or quit their job entirely.



Evening: Family time and meal time. Ensuring that you get proper **nutrition** will help you maintain strength, energy, stamina, and a positive attitude. **Nutrition** is as important for you as the caregiver as it for your loved one. Caregiving affects **the whole family**.



Late at Night: Taking time for yourself. Late at night might be the only time you get a few minutes for yourself. Make sure you take time to **rest and recharge**. The chance to take a breather and re-energize is vital in order for you to be as good a caregiver tomorrow as you were today.



The Middle of the Night: Emergency room visits. Have you ever had to take your loved one to the emergency room in the middle of the night? **Be prepared** ahead of time with what you need to know and what you need to have with you.

During **National Family Caregivers Month**, we recognize the challenges family caregivers face when their loved ones need

Caregiving Around the Clock!

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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.

Get Your Flu Shot!

The best way to prevent the flu is with a flu shot. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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, vaccination 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.

Immunity from vaccination sets in about two weeks after inoculation. People 65 years and older can get any injectable vaccine (flu shot) that is approved for use in that age group. This includes cell-based, recombinant and flu shots made using traditional egg-based manufacturing processes. There are two vaccines designed specifically for people 65 and older:

The "high dose vaccine" is designed specifically for people 65 and older and contains 4 times the amount of antigen as the regular flu shot. It is associated with a stronger immune response following vaccination (higher antibody production). Results from a clinical trial of more than 30,000 participants showed that adults 65 years and older who received the high dose vaccine had 24% fewer influenza infections as compared to those who received the standard dose flu vaccine. The high dose vaccine has been approved for use in the United States since 2009.

The high dose and adjuvanted flu vaccines may result in more of the mild side effects that can occur with standard-dose seasonal shots. Mild side effects can include pain, redness or swelling at the injection site, headache, muscle ache, and malaise.

Note: People 65 years of age and older should not get the nasal spray flu vaccine, the intradermal flu shot, or jet injector flu vaccine.

OPT

Source: Maryland Department of Aging (with information credited to CDC).

Select homes available

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

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Tilma of Our Lady of Guadalupe Visits St. Rose

By Chris Jeffrey

The tilma of Our Lady of Guadalupe is visiting parishes throughout the Archdiocese and was St. Rose was graced to host the tilma. The visit was bookended by two feast days of Mary with the tilma arriving on Sept. 8, the Nativity of Mary and leaving the parish on Sept. 15, the feast day of Our Lady of Sorrows. The first day was highlighted by a bi-lingual Mass. The tilma was displayed over the weekend at all the liturgies.

On Monday, Sept. 11, there was a prayer service during which Javier Bustamonte, Executive Director of the Washington Archdiocese's Office of Cultural Diversity and Outreach, shared with us the significance of the image. Our Lady of Guadalupe asks us to say yes to be evangelizers of the gospel. She asks us to reach out to the stranger in our midst. During the week, members of the



A replica of the tilma of Our Lady of Guadalupe processes during a Mass at St. Rose of Lima in Gaithersburg. Photo by Chris Jeffrey

Mes Mariano committee pray many decades of the rosary. Many people were touched by the beautiful image of the tilma, which was hand embroidered by cloistered nuns in Mexico.

OPT

Family Formation Night

By Mary Zoccola

Once a month, St. Rose parents and children in grades K-5 are invited to the Woodlands Room, as part of the Family Faith Formation religious education curriculum.

At St. Rose, Family Faith Formation is a new model of religious education that recognizes parents as the primary educator in faith for their children. By providing lesson plans and guidance, Family Faith Formation equips parents to live and teach faith to their children. Family Faith Formation sessions are held one Sunday a month, 4 - 6 p.m.

"The idea of family-based faith instruction is not new," said Susan Joseph, St. Rose director of Religious Education for children, grades K-5. "It's in the family that kids learn the basics of Catholic religious life, such as faith, forgiveness and community. So, it's only natural that we give the parents tools to help convey Catholic ideals to their children."

Each Family Faith Formation session has three discrete activities that feature praise and worship, grade-level religious edu-



St. Rose children listen to music at Family Faith Formation. Photo by Sherry Moitoza

cation instruction and a group activity called Catholic Academy. First, Family Faith Formation sessions begin with praise and worship. Second, children go to their grade-level formation classes, grades K-5. During the children's formation sessions, parents remain in the Woodlands Room. One of the parish priests, usually Father Justin, joins the parents to discuss the upcoming lesson in faith, for the upcoming month.

Finally, the parents and children regroup for Catholic Academy, a fun way to emphasize the lesson for the month. Catholic Academy varies every month and features skits, art and service projects.

For the rest of the month, parents spend an hour a week talking to their children about God's word. Some parents team up and teach religious education in small groups to their children, much like a Small Faith Community.

OPT

Fiesta Prep Week at the St. Rose Flea Market

By Mary Zoccola

Every year, scores of St. Rose parishioners donate innumerable hours to prepare, manage and operate St. Rose's annual Fiesta. One of the many parts of Fiesta is a large flea market featuring donated clothes, collector's items, appliances, and toys.

Like every other part of Fiesta, a bevy of parishioners donate their time to make the flea market happen. "The week before Fiesta, the Flea Market is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.," said Sandy Diederich, a Fiesta Flea Market co-chair. Some



Volunteers sort clothes at the St. Rose flea market prep. Photo by Mary Zoccola



Andrew Turner sorts items at the St. Rose Flea Market prep. Photo by Mary Zoccola

volunteers work 10-12 hours a day. Other volunteers take off work to help with flea market preparations.

Each year, the St. Rose Flea Market receives several tons of clothes, artwork, sports equipment and collector's items. "Last year, 178 bags of clothes were donated to St. Rose and each bag is 25 pounds," Diederich said.

Since 2002, Diederich and Laura Murphy have been Flea Market co-chairs. When they first took over the flea market, Diederich and Murphy decided to take what had been long tables of various types of merchandise and break the items down into smaller "departments." A volunteer is assigned to manage each department and determines

how to merchandise the items for sale. Flea market departments include toys, a Christmas shop, Baby Boutique, Kitchen Corner. New this year are two additional departments: one a with items that are slightly "upscale," and another featuring collector's items.

The Wednesday before Fiesta, St. Rose donates a significant amount of clothes to charity. Additionally, at the end of the Fiesta, any remaining clothes are donated to various local charities.

OPT

SCHOOL NEWS

Con't from page 9

include Ben Navabi, Alek Micich, Benjamin Zelaya, and Mick Kaibni.

Summer may be out, but school is in, and September's Family Fun Night was the place to be for festivities and food. Activities and games entertained all ages as students and families came with their back-to-school smiles and caught the SRS spirit!

On Grandparent's Day, SRS shared its love with the older generation, recognizing the importance of their role in our students' lives and as an extending branch of the school family tree. On this special day, our beloved grandparents joined us for Mass, classroom visits, family portraits, and a light reception.

For Day to Serve, our school community once again collected hundreds of pounds of food and supplies for Stepping Stones Shelter. Community outreach is a big part of who we are at St. Raphael's, and this annual initiative is a simple way to help those less fortunate.

Out and About

It was a day of faith-building, bonding, and touring of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., for members of the eighth-grade class, as they embarked on a one-day retreat to The Catholic University of America

with their teacher, Cynthia Buzby, and attended Mass on campus. Joining them were St. Raphael Church Youth Minister Annie McHugh and her husband, Mike, who helped the students focus on their faith.

From the heart of Washington, D.C., to the heart of where Catholicism in America began, the seventh-grade class journeyed to southern Maryland, tracing the history and impact of Catholicism in our state. Accompanied by their teacher, Jerry Nash, the students toured the historical sites of St. Mary's City and shared in an outdoor Mass at St. Clement's Island, celebrated by Fr. Wells, commemorating the place where the first Catholics settled in America.

Still to Come

- Oct. 11: Knights of Columbus Soccer Shootout challenges fifth- through eighth-graders to compete in a variety of events. Winners in age groups advance to the district and state competitions.
- Oct. 16: SRS Open House welcomes interested parents to a presentation and tour of our facilities. Join us 9:15-10:15 a.m.
- Oct. 21: Angels on the Run 5K invites everyone to a morning fun run and school-spirited celebration.

Visit our school website at www.straphaelschoolmd.org for more information.

OPT

St. Rose of Lima

11701 Clopper Road
Gaithersburg, MD

Fr. Agustin Mateo
Pastor

301-948-7545

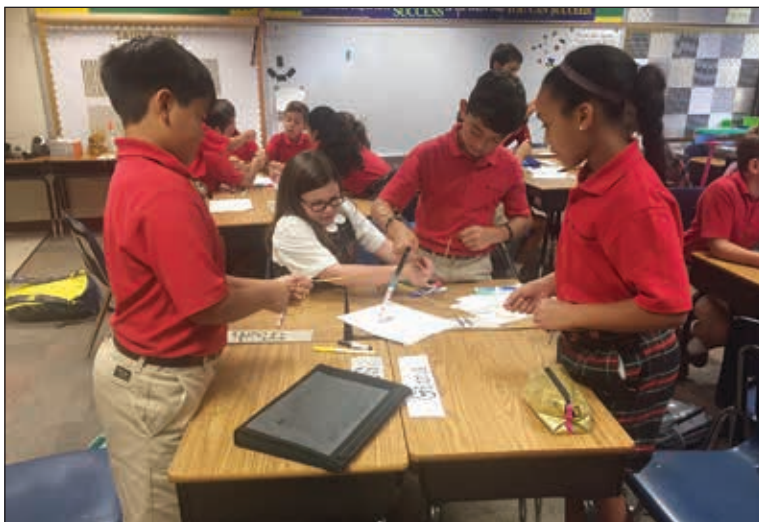
Mary Zoccola, Parish Editor
mary.zoccola@gmail.com
240-401-0612

Mary of Nazareth Catholic School implements inquiry-based STREAM curriculum

This September, Mary of Nazareth began the new school year with a new approach to instruction. The regional Catholic school, located in Darnestown, is taking its first steps to implement an explorative learning experience for students that is focused on Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics (STREAM). Every Friday, for an hour, students will meet in cross grade-level groups to engage in the “MoN STREAM of X-treme Innovators” initiative.

The overarching theme of innovation, as the school implements its STREAM curriculum, aims to foster collaboration, critical thinking, problem solving, and ultimately allow for a deeper understanding of the connection between content areas.

Kathy Luongo, Resource Director



MoN students enjoy engaging and exploratory STREAM lessons

at Mary of Nazareth reports, “The overall goal is for all persons involved with instruction to be able to develop lessons that incorporate

inquiry-based learning.” Inquiry-based learning refers to instruction that is student-centered and student-motivated, rather than teacher-directed. Jennifer Massey, Middle School Science teacher states, “STREAM will provide opportunities for students to think critically and deeply in new and creative ways. In science, we will be using engineering practices to solve real-world problems across the science disciplines. This is also the focus for this year’s seventh grade science fair.” In this way, learners gain mastery of content by employing a variety of skills, modalities and intelligences. Most importantly, inquiry-based approaches to learning, such as STREAM, allow students to see value in what they’re doing as they apply content to real-life problems and scenarios.

Earlier this year, Mary of Nazareth generated steam for its STREAM initiative with a successful summer camp, professional development, and teacher planning sessions. The camp welcomed students elementary aged students to explore the wonders of water in an interactive learning environment. A variety of educational technology was used during the camp to enhance student experience, including virtual reality field trips. Other camp activities included exploring careers in water conservation and marine biology, creating clouds in a jar, testing pH and water samples, building rain gauges, and making squirt-gun art. Mary of Nazareth is a Blue Ribbon School, serving children in Upper Montgomery County grades prekindergarten to eight.

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Mary of Nazareth Preschool Opens Its Doors for a Full Day 4’s Program

Mary of Nazareth Catholic School is pleased to announce its full-day preschool program is up and running for the 2017-2018 school year. The program, offered to four-year olds, features a play-based learning environment aimed at enriching students’ lives through hands on experience. Development of the whole child is central to the program’s philosophy and curriculum. Math, science, language, social, and emotional skills are encouraged through participation in a wide variety of activities, including dramatic play, art projects, and outdoor exploration. Children are introduced to fundamental tenets of Catholic social teaching as they learn to practice unconditional love and forgiveness during common social learning moments.

“We believe the new 4’s program meets a growing demand for full-day preschool and has been an extremely positive addition to our vibrant, faith-based school community,” says Principal, Mike



Preschool students are excited to start the school year at Mary of Nazareth.

Friel, on the preschool’s opening. He adds, “The demand for enrollment far exceeded our expectations and we look forward to delivering an authentically Catholic preschool experience to more parish families.” Ms. Amy Ebner, lead preschool instructor, is aided by two assistants to maintain a 10:1 student to teacher ratio. Students have access to two large classrooms in their own wing of the school. These enthusiastic young mini mustangs also attend daily specials including, PE, Art, Library, Music and Spanish.

Mary of Nazareth’s preschool program meets Monday through

Friday from 8:15 until 2:55 PM, and accepts a maximum of 30 students. 2017-18 tuition for in-diocese families is \$6,200 per child and \$6,700 per child for out-of-diocese families. Tuition rates for the upcoming year will be set in January 2018. Interested families are invited to tour Mary of Nazareth’s campus and meet its talented faculty at Open House on Wednesday, October 11 from 9 until 11 AM. Additional open house dates are available and can be found on the school’s website, www.maryofnazareth.org, along with information about the school’s curriculum and offerings.

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Mary of Nazareth Alum Receives Scholarship for Service to Parish

Alex Vassallo, a recent graduate of St. John’s College High School, received the 2017 George Nethery Memorial and Bernie Hughes Service award in recognition of his service to St. Paul’s Catholic Church in Damascus. The award, which includes a college scholarship, is offered annually by the St. Paul Mens’ Club and acknowledges a high school senior who demonstrates the meaning of service within the parish and the community. Each year, the recipient of the award is honored at St. Paul’s Parish Picnic. Vassallo, now in his Freshman year at Bridgewater College, has been a parishioner at St. Paul’s since 2004 and is a member of the 2013 graduating class of Mary of Nazareth Catholic School.

As a St. Paul Parishioner, Alex has been known to serve his parish and community whenever possible. In addition to being recognized as one of St. Paul’s longest tenured altar servers, Alex participated in community clean-up days, conducted holiday basket deliveries, assembled product kits for the food pantry, assisted with St. Paul’s “Good as New” sale, volunteered at the annual Honduras Gala,



Alex Vassallo Receives Scholarship For Service to Parish

and provided 40+ hours of service at Marian Manor Nursing Home. Some of Alex’s additional accomplishments include maintaining a “B” grade point average, working with Community Services for Autistic Adults and Children (CSAAC), and achieving the rank of 1st Sergeant in the JROTC program at St. John’s College High School.

Of his college choice, Alex reflects, “I selected Bridgewater College because it has a history of service to the community.” He will be playing lacrosse for Bridgewater, having signed his NCAA commitment letter in January. Alex plans to study Political Science, and hopes to continue on to law school after college.

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**Mary of Nazareth
Roman Catholic School**
14131 Seneca Road, Darnestown,
Maryland 20874

Principal: Mr. Michael J. Friel

**Assistant Principal:
Mrs. Rosemary Adams**
301-869-0940 (tel)
301-869-0942 (fax)

**Mary of Nazareth
OPT Editor: Sara Jamison,**
sjamison@maryofnazareth.org

Website:

www.maryofnazareth.org

Affiliated with the following parishes:
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.



Girl Scouts Raise \$2,500 for Hurricane Harvey Relief Efforts

Mary of Nazareth Girl Scout Troop #398 challenged fellow students to match their donation of \$346 toward Hurricane Harvey Relief efforts. The school responded to the challenge with an unbelievable \$2,154 collection. Girl Scout troop leader, Dante Preciado, states, “We’re proud to report that a total of \$2,500 was raised today to help Hurricane Harvey Relief efforts.” The clever \$346 dollar amount is symbolic of Houston’s area code, 346, one of the hardest hit areas of Texas. The 4th Grade Girl Scout Troop plans to submit their donation through Catholic Charities.

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Girl Scout Troop #398 raises \$2,500 for Harvey Relief.

Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony Celebrates Pre-School Opening

by Merianne Spencer

St. John the Baptist (SJB) in Silver Spring began its first school day with students and faculty gathering at the entrance of the new preschool room to celebrate the new program with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

"We're excited because the pre-school brings more families to SJB, and it helps some of our current families with young children. We have a great community atmosphere. Day or night, if you look around, all you see are families and kids active and happy. This expansion, our first one in 24 years, just makes it even better," Brian Blomquist, the school principal, said.



Father David Brault watches as Archdiocesan Superintendent of Schools Bill Ryan cuts the ribbon formally opening the new pre-school opening

The new preschoolers stood by, wearing new SJB T-shirts and using musical instruments recently purchased for the class.

Father David Brault, SJB's pastor, led the prayer and blessing of the new preschool and the Catholic Schools Superintendent Bill Ryan initiated the ribbon cutting ceremony. Diana McPherson, the new preschool teacher and former student of SJB, led the preschoolers in a parade following the ribbon-cutting with Jeanine Regan, the preschool teacher aide and mother of Madelyn Regan (first grader).

SJB's preschool program is a full-time program (8am – 3pm) with before and aftercare available. The new preschool room, which

was outfitted over the summer break, was designed for play-based learning and is equipped with various learning activities and furnished with new technology.

"[We have] learning centers that the children rotate around during the day" Mrs. Regan explained, "And the children can learn by playing and socializing with their peers." As part of the program, preschoolers are also taught math, literacy, and Spanish, and attend Mass regularly with the remainder of the school.

Many preschoolers have older siblings attending SJB and are thrilled about the new preschool opening.

"It's so great to be able to drop off my children at one place – the timing was just right!" One parent stated. "I'm looking forward to watching them grow up in such a great parish community!"

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Principal Brian Blomquist greets St. John the Baptist School's first PreK class.



Students crowd around the ribbon.

**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

Sister Parish Update

It's that time of year where we focus our attention on our sister parish, St. Pierre, in Baradères, Haiti. In addition to celebrating the progress made since Matthew devastated the region last October, we are also collecting donations for the general fund. The general fund pays 75 elementary school teacher salaries, lunch for students and teachers at 14 schools, and a morning breakfast for students' kindergarten through second grade.

As you all know, Haiti was brutalized by Hurricane Matthew in October 2016. They are still recovering. Luckily, Haiti escaped the brunt of Irma, which swept by the north of Haiti, but hurricane season is not over, so keep up your prayers.

Continued on page 32



Goats provide poor Haitian families with nutritious, animal-source protein, resulting in improved diets that will positively affect their growth and development

Save the date

Taste of Haiti

Saturday, Oct. 7, 6:00 pm
Celebrate our Sister Parish
St. Pierre in Baradères!

Featuring

- Updates on our Sister Parish
- Haitian food
- Raffles for Haitian paintings and gift baskets
- Children's activities
- Haitian music and dancing
- Haitian cooking demonstration
- Haitian Cookbooks
- Kreyol lessons



Haitian oil paintings for raffle

Special Guests

Father Jean-Philippe St. Aubin, pastor, St. Pierre parish, and newly ordained **Deacon Chandeaur Belanston** graduate, College St. Jean Baptiste. There is no charge for the event, but free will offerings are welcome to help defray the cost of the food.

For more information please contact Cynthia Norris at 301-622-1122, ext. 108 or socialconcerns@sjbcatholicchurch.com.



Deacon Chandeaur Belanston with his family at his ordination in May.

*In his own words . . .***Parochial Vicar Fr. Benjamin Garcia**

Mother Seton Parish welcomed recently ordained Fr. Benjamin Garcia as our new parochial vicar. Father Ben was ordained on June 17, 2017 by Cardinal Wuerl at the National Basilica of the Immaculate Conception. He recently sat down with Dominique Seraphin, our director of Faith Formation and Evangelization for a brief interview.

Who influenced you to consider the vocation to the priesthood?

I think what influenced me was

meeting a family priest friend who when I was a child made a huge impression on me. For several years I was at odds of who he was, thinking that he was my parish priest, but later, I was able to meet him and learn from him. It was just one encounter as a child that marked me, but also, I think God was always working in my life with a special desire to learn more about what the priest was doing and what was going on the altar. Reading the life of Padre Pio was also something that marked me deeply.

What are some of your hobbies?

Photography, visiting zoos and sports. I like reading but I fall asleep really fast.

What are some of your favorite books/spiritual readings/magazines?

Introduction to Devout life, Treatise on the love of God both from Saint Francis of Sales. Interior Freedom by Jack Phillip, The Imitation of Christ, the Life of the Cure of Ars, The Interior Castle and the Book of her life by St. Teresa of Avila...

Who is a hero to you?

St Benedict, St Bernard, St Catherine of Siena, St Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, St. John Paul II, Padre Pio, The Cure of Ars...

What have been some of the greatest joys for you as a priest?

Other than saying Mass every day, hearing confessions for several hours a day (4-6hrs) in the Cathedral in Chile for a whole week and hearing of someone's healing after being anointed although not attributed to me in any way other than being the minister.

OPT



Fr. Benjamin Garcia

What did you do before you became a priest?

I went to the Naval Academy for two years and then studied engineering for a year. I entered Religious life before entering the Diocesan Seminary.

What would people be surprised to learn about you?

That I have a song for each word you can think of...so I am jukebox with legs...

Parish Reorganizes Faith Formation to include more Parish Wide Evangelization

Dominique Seraphin



Todd Levitas



Mary Beth DeLuzio



Dn. Raúl Calvo



Jill Brodrick

By Dominique Seraphin

Many changes have taken place here at Mother Seton in the past few years especially in staffing. Thankfully we can create and fund positions which allow us to respond to the needs of our parish and community. This past year we recognized that we needed to evaluate our current positions to see if they were satisfying

the needs of our parish.

Our greatest mission is to provide the sacraments and attend to the spiritual needs of the parish. We are called to evangelize and catechize and form disciples for Christ. We are to be a place of the Encounter with Jesus. We have a wonderful staff who have been instrumental in recognizing and responding to these needs.

We see the greatest need in faith formation and evangelization of both young and old. The model of having classes for youth corresponding to their secular education, while our backbone, is not meeting all the needs of young people or their families. More children are coming to us for sacraments outside the usual time frame. RCIC – Rite of Christian Initiation for Children and Teens – has been growing each year. This is exciting and challenging. It is a terrific opportunity to

evangelize not only the children but their families as well. Overall, we need to reach beyond the pews to adults and offer more opportunities for deepening their faith. To better respond we have created these new positions:

Director of Faith Formation and Evangelization – Mrs. Dominique Seraphin

Coordinator of Faith Formation for grades K-5 (including First Communion and special needs children) – Mrs. Mary Beth DeLuzio.

Coordinator of Faith Formation for middle and high school (Confirmation and youth ministry) – Mr. Todd Levitas.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) – Deacon Raul Calvo
Social Concerns Coordinator – Jill Brodrick

Please pray for all our staff and for our parish to continue to grow as faithful disciples of Christ.

OPT



Mother Seton Youth Group

Discovering God's Answers

By Todd Levitas, Youth Minister,
Middle and HS Faith Formation
Coordinator

"Lord, to whom shall we go," spoke the Apostle Simon Peter, eagerly wishing to console The Lord by an act of pure confidence in Him. "You have the words of eternal life. We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

The hours and days, weeks and months are all beginning anew for the youth at Mother Seton parish. Now that the new school year has already begun to blossom, what fruits lie ahead? What thorns lay in store? What struggles will be brought to our classroom doors? And which of our deepest hopes will become as resplendent as joyful stars, burning brightly in our hearts? There are so many questions along the winding journey of

discovering God's answers! And let's face it, in era where true and selfless academia is more of a hidden pearl than it is an AYCE buffet, it's God's answers we need most, more now than ever before! So then, TO WHOM SHALL WE GO that we might feed on True Wisdom and be transformed anew along our destined path to self-knowledge and divine discovering? The youth at Mother Seton parish are echoing the sentiments of their patroness:

"I will go peaceably and firmly to the Catholic Church: for if Faith is so important to our salvation, I will seek it where true Faith first began, seek it among those who received it from God Himself."

– St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Mother Seton! Pray for us!

OPT



Having fun together

Miracles do Happen

By Dominique Seraphin

On September 8, Mother Seton Parish welcomed Mr. Matthew Loboda who shared his amazing story of a miracle brought by faith. His story began on Dec. 28, in Phoenix, Arizona, when, in the blink of an eye, his 19-month-old daughter Joy, went missing from a family gathering. Matt Loboda, raced to the koi pond outside, where he found nothing. Then prompted by the Holy Spirit, he ran to the fenced pool. There, he saw Joy floating on the top of the water. He dove in, got her out of the water and immediately began CPR.

He said "As I breathed into Joy I prayed that my breath would be the breath of God into her. In between breaths I begged for the Ruha (Hebrew word for breath or life) of God to enter her. Her lips were blue and her beautiful blue eyes were wide open. Matt continued, I could see her pupils shrinking at an alarming rate. Then I started to pray in between breaths in the words of Jesus, Talitha Koum, which means 'Little girl, I say to you, arise'. I knew we needed a miracle because I could actually feel her slipping away."

The prognosis wasn't good. The

Continued on page 32

Mother Seton Parish
19951 Fr. Hurley Boulevard
Germantown, MD

Fr. Lee Fangmeyer
Pastor
301-924-3838

Brenda Rosado
OPT Editor
Bulletin@Mothersetonparish.org

The Second Greatest Story Ever Told

Over the past four months, over 50 fellow parishioners attended a 10-week summer video series, sponsored by the St. John Neumann Men's Ministry, entitled *The Second Greatest Story Ever Told*.

Father Joe Rogers' parish invitation reminded us that "as a parish we have lived very deliberately the 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima's apparitions. As we have come to see and experience, the centenary is integral to a greater movement of grace, a movement that includes each of us, our entire parish; what Pope Saint John Paul II has defined as the era of Divine Mercy.

The Second Greatest Story Ever Told is a primer on our historic moment and the Love that conquers all.

Fr. Michael Gaitley, author of the book and video series, explains the "story" of Divine Mercy through the spiritual lens of Our Lady of Fatima, St. Faustina Kowalska, St. Maximilian Kolbe, and Pope St. John Paul II.

Fr. Gaitley explains: "God seems to be giving us the Second Greatest Story in our day for an important reason [...] to give us unprecedented grace and mercy in response to the unprecedented



evil in our modern world."

Reflecting on this Tony Castellano, the summer series coordinator, remarked "This very personal revelation of the Father to each of us can have a profound impact on our lives and more closely align us with God's will. And frankly, there's no better place to be. The peace that this covenant relationship between God and his creation brings, is truly divine."

If you missed our parish summer series, it's available by going to www.formed.org and registering using the SJN Parish Code "PBP3MZ". For more information on the St. John Neumann Men's Ministry please visit www.SJNMEN.com.

OPT

50+ Club Fundraising

By Rus Wester

Thanks to parish generosity in July, the 50+ Club raised over \$2,200 in its summer fundraiser: raffling a ceramic Lladro Nativity Scene, staging a bake sale, and selling a lot of treasure donated by parishioners.

50+ Club coordinator Rose Acuff and her planning committee were grateful to all who brought success to this year's event: "A million thanks to all who baked, donated Treasure Chest items, sold and bought raffle tickets. A special thanks to our members who worked Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Your dedication and tireless work made it all possible. God Bless you for your sacrifices and giving up your weekend."

Last year 50+ Club donated \$1,000 toward SJN seminarians' travel to a mission and gave them Christmas gift cards. They also gave \$600 to purchase parish chairs; \$1,000 was donated to cover new roof costs at the rectory; they helped fund the SJN Youth Group annual retreat; 50 families-in-need



Father Joe Rogers draws the winning raffle ticket for 50+ Club prize of a Lladro Nativity Scene

received Thanksgiving turkeys in November from 50+ Club.

There are over seventy-five members in the 50+ Club and Fr. Peter Sweeney is their Spiritual Advisor. Coordinator Rose Acuff and her planning Team of Linda Kwesell, Claudia Sullivan, Kathleen Hurley and Rosemarie Lunn help guide the many club activities, which last year included: Lenten Stations of the Cross, guest speakers, bingo, luncheons in area restaurants, raf-

fles/bake/treasure sales, indoor/outdoor picnics, games, healthcare presentations, movies, Christmas party and lots more.

The 50+ Club meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month, March through December at 11 a.m. in the parish center. New members are always welcome to join in fellowship, charitable works, and recreational activities. Check out the 50+ Club bulletin board in the church lobby.

OPT

SJN Knights of Columbus Ready to Serve

By Rus Wester

As a man becomes a member of the Knights of Columbus, he learns more about "service", especially to Our Lady as she guides her servants to know and glorify her Son.

Our parish organization of the Knights of Columbus (known as a "Council") serves under the banner of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The gold rope that hangs from that banner was blessed by Holy Water, on the main altar at the shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. Our brothers, fathers, uncles, cousins, and friends who join this unique organization are ever-aware that they are under the caring and watchful eyes and protection of the Lady who is the patron of SJN's KofC Council #12127. Installing new incoming officers marks the beginning of another working year for the Knights. This year's installation ceremony and dinner (July 2017) began on an historical note as our new Grand Knight, Mike York, took his oath of office and reminded the attendees "This is our Council's 20th anni-



The Knights of Columbus Officers of Our Lady of Guadalupe Council 12127 begin their new Columbian Year at SJN.

versary year, the eve of the Parish's 40th Jubilee Anniversary. In this 2017-2018 Columbian year, we will further [our] commitments of this Council to forge a deeper relationship within the Parish and ourselves as men."

There was no doubt among his dining witnesses that the new Grand Knight has taken his leadership mission very seriously as he invoked the Blessed Mother for her help in achieving the goals of the Council by supporting the unification of the faithful in the church; becoming the voice for the unborn through Right for Life; supporting our clergy, youth, and seminarians.

But of great importance to the incoming Grand Knight, is a new multifaceted plan being forged to bring together the men of the various organizations and ministries of the parish. "We intend on moving from a calendar-driven service organization into a period of New Evangelization," said Grand Knight, Mike York. "Our Knights Council will proactively seek men, where they are in their faith formation, through fraternity and care... seeking men where they are in RCIA, Pre-Can, TMIY small

groups and while participating in Marriage and Religious Retreats. We'll be working to make Catholic men better."

Joining the Grand Knight's leadership team are men who can tell you more about membership. Seek them out.

Chaplain – Fr. Joseph Rogers
Grand Knight – Mike York
Deputy Grand Knight – Tom Whippen
Chancellor – Neville Levi
Financial Secretary – Bob Faber
Treasurer – Ed Sullivan
Lecturer – Dan Cipra
Advocate – Mike Amery
Recorder – Tom Miller
Outside Guard – Larry Doyle
Inside Guard – Chris Campbell
3yr Trustee – Gary Guy
2yr Trustee – Manny Dayao
1yr Trustee – Terry Waters

OPT

ACHIEVEMENT

Con't from page 16

research, and it's still intrinsically valuable to do basic research because you don't know when it will lead to a transformational breakthrough."

Dr. Schiller's wife, Amy, was recognized in May 2017 with the Simon of Cyrene Award for her tireless work and support of Holy Cross School and Parish, including serving as the head of the Parish Counsel for many years. In his award acknowledgments, Dr. Schiller notes that "I am eternally grateful to my family, Madeline, Isaac, and, especially, my wife Amy

for cheering me on, putting up with my more than occasional lapses of attention, and taking on most of burden of the household and so allowing me to concentrate on my science."

Holy Cross knows Dr. Schiller as Madeline's and Isaac's easy-going, affable dad and Amy's husband. We are so proud and happy for the entire Schiller family.

For more information about Dr. Schiller's work visit: www.scientificamerican.com/article/whats-next-after-creating-a-cancer-prevention-vaccine/ and www.laskerfoundation.org/awards/show/hpv-vaccines-cancer-prevention/#achievement

OPT

NURSERY SCHOOL

Con't from page 10

in the hallway recently was a 5-year old saying "Aww, they're so cute!"



Pre-K 4's playing with playdough

Inside the classroom, circle times in our Pre-K classes have included lively discussions about the beach and other fun things that happen in the summer, thoughtful sharing of feelings about our new school and new friends, curious questions about the many types and uses for apples, and the undisputable fact that God made each of us Special.

We are thrilled to have an expanded Pre-K program at Holy Redeemer and so grateful for the joy that they bring to our school. As one 3-year-old student shared after her first day, "This is the best school ever!"

OPT



Incoming Grand Knight, SK Mike York (L.) and retiring Grand Knight, SK Gary Guy (R.)

St. John Neumann Parish
9000 Warfield Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20882
Fr. Joseph Rogers, Pastor
Rus Wester, OPT Editor

Another great start for Saint Francis International



Brother Diego volunteers with SFIS students as he discerns his vocation.



A middle school student at SFIS shows her mom her new Chromebook computer.

Even though Saint Francis International School is only entering its eighth year as a regional school in the Archdiocese of Washington, you wouldn't know how it is so young by seeing its many accomplishments. The year started off with another innovation for SFIS, thanks to grants and partnerships with the state and federal governments Saint Francis was able to put Chromebook computers in the hands every student in grades five through eight and over the summer the school's wi-fi was upgraded to enterprise level to handle the technology expansion. Now that every middle school student at SFIS has a Chromebook in every class and can take the computer home every night, Pre-K through fourth grade students now get more extensive use of the school's existing computer lab and Chromebook cart.

SFIS students know how to be appreciative for the gifts that they have and the school community decided to take up a special collection at their first weekly mass of the school year to help victims of the hurricanes, earthquakes, and other natural disasters affecting others here in the US and all over the globe. Over \$300 was collected at mass and over the next few days more



SFIS students take up a special collection for natural disaster victims that raised \$631.28.

donations kept coming in from students, teachers, and parents ... in the end, SFIS was able to send a check for \$315.64 to Catholic Relief Services and another check for \$315.64 to St. Peter's Catholic Church in Rockport, Texas – a parish that serves a Vietnamese refugee community which was destroyed in Hurricane Harvey.

On September 20, the SFIS community offered special prayers for those affected by the earthquakes in Mexico. Bishop Mario Dorsonville celebrated mass for the Saint Francis community in the presence of the pilgrim tilma of St. Juan Diego bearing the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The tilma visited SFIS and St. Camillus Church for a week at the start of Hispanic Heritage Month in the USA (Sept. 15 – Oct. 15 annually).

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



Bishop Dorsonville incenses the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe at an SFIS weekly mass.

The SFIS community is blessed this year to have an increased number of long-term volunteers. Three men considering becoming Franciscan friars are ministering at SFIS three days each week as they participate in their postulancy year at Holy Name College, the national OFM house of formation that is on the same campus as Saint Francis. SFIS is continuing its relationship with the Capuchin Franciscans by welcoming another full-time volunteer as part of the Cap Corps program based in DC. The friars of Holy Name Province are also supporting SFIS with four part-time volunteers who are giving a year of service as Franciscan Volunteer Ministers. This year SFIS is embarking on a new relationship with Notre Dame University which will have a teaching fellow from the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) minister at the school as the middle school social studies for the next two years. All of these volunteers live in communities with other people giving their lives to ministry with the Church for a year or two.

Saint Francis is very full this year with 420 students using every nook and cranny of the school building at St. Camillus. New faculty and staff, new technology, new programs, and so much more are contributing to happy students who are excited to be at school every day!



Happy students can be found in every classroom at SFIS!

SISTER PARISH

Con't from page 29

Earlier this year, we sent funds to buy new livestock to replace the animals killed by the storm. Your donations also helped rebuild walls and foundations in the schools and the rectory of our sister parish, St. Pierre in Baradères, Haiti. Keep in mind -- several dozen people sheltered on the second floor of the rectory during Matthew because the water rose to the ceiling on the first floor. This structure is vital to the community! Because of your solidarity and generosity, our sister parish continues to provide children a firm educational foundation. Students benefit from nutritional lunches, trained teachers, and the necessary educational tools.

Your prayers and donations have yielded incredible progress in Baradères! Fr. Jean Philippe was ecstatic to inform us that 100% of our philo class students passed the national exam again this year! Also,

they have been very busy rebuilding the walls outside the school and rectory, distributing goats to families, and completing other necessary repairs.

One of the great outcomes of our partnership with St. Pierre in Baradères, Haiti, is that our sister parish is now producing priests in the church. Fr. Charlotin Jhonson was ordained a priest in December 2016, and Chandeleur Belanston was ordained a deacon in May 2017. Both are graduates from the schools you fund in Baradères! We need to keep up this important work. We hope you will have a chance to meet Chandeleur next weekend.

Our sister parish continues to need our commitment and support to educate the children, provide medical assistance for the community, and maintain our Catholic faith and practices in their lives. Let's keep up the good work! Envelopes will be in the pews next weekend during Fr. Jean-Philippe's visit.

MIRACLES

Con't from page 30

paramedics arrived quickly but were not hopeful. The doctor at the ER, too, was not hopeful, but he informed Matt and his wife, Kristin, that Joy had a heartbeat. Doctors later estimated that she had gone up to 30 minutes without air.

Immediately, the Lobodas shared their story on social media, begging their loved ones to #PrayforJoy. Soon, their prayers were joined by those of thousands of people from around the world as they, together, prayed for a miracle.

Two weeks later, Joy was active and alert, eating and playing, smiling and laughing. She was moved out of intensive care and into rehab. A few days after that, Joy was visited by the first responder team of the Phoenix Fire Department

who had been at the scene of the accident. And a miracle, seemingly, is what they got. After being put in a medically induced coma, being put on a ventilator and undergoing surgery to remove two blood clots, Baby Joy not only has survived but she seems truly to have come back to life without signs of any permanent brain damage or effects. Six days after the accident, Joy was breathing on her own. Her eyes were open, and she was alert. In the midst of it all was continuous prayer.

In their darkest moments and suffering, the Lobodas are profound witnesses of faith and trust in God. Not only has Joy been healed, but Matt said that he has heard from many people who have had their own faith reignited by the miraculous recovery of little Joy. As the Lobodas have been ever quick to say: to God be the glory.

OPT

NEW STAFF

Con't from page 14

"Navy brat," Nan was born in Newport Rhode Island and moved to Maryland with her family when she was 12. Her parish growing up was Our Lady of Mercy – and is also where she and her husband were married 27 years ago. For the past 10 years, she has been a parishioner at St. Raphael and has been actively involved as a volunteer in many parish activities such as the ADW Lenten Food Drive, the annual school charity golf tournament and in the Parish office. Nan was also a part-time receptionist at St. Raphael School. Before joining St. Elizabeth as a full-time parish secretary, Nan was an award-winning television and video producer with 30 years of experience that included projects with a wide range of national news topics, current events, and social issues. She looks forward to being part of the vibrant St. Elizabeth

Parish community.

The position of Communications coordinator is a newly created one at St. Elizabeth's and recent University of Maryland grad Tori Wesley, has been hired for this position. Her duties will include working on parish communications – the bulletin, website and social media. Tori earned her Bachelors in Communications at UMD and this position is her first job post grad. She worked with social media and communications at the Catholic Student Center in College Park as well as social media for music artists such as The Wanted. She is excited to work toward updating parish communications so that all parishioners have access to what is going on at St. Elizabeth, no matter where they are or what form of communication speaks to them.

St. Elizabeth's bids a fond adieu to Denise and welcomes these new ladies to our staff and are excited about what they bring to our strong and vibrant community!

OPT

Repairing the Church Roof with Crabs

By Ana Maria P. de Jesus EPS DC15

Summer fun would not be complete without a crab feast and what better way to enjoy crabs than to relish them and at the same time assist in the repair of the church roof in doing so. After all, from testimonials of regular crab feast attendees, the blue crawlers in the past crab feasts had always been so delectably satisfying.

On August 25, true to their commitment to assist in the maintenance of the church, the St. Michael the Archangel Knights of Columbus Council 15084 held a crab feast at the Williamsburg Room. Several round tables were all arranged neatly in the hall each table with its bucket at the center and wooden mallets for each guest to use for cracking the claws. A separate dessert table by the side wall close to the kitchen invitingly displayed several trays of delicious square cakes home baked.



GK Noddie Barrion attends to his invited guests.

The volunteer ladies-of-the-knights busily worked in the kitchen to assemble the additional dinner treats including the slightly-spicy crab soup, juicy-sauced chicken, coleslaw, yellow corn-on-the cob, dinner rolls, and a specially made fruit salad. They

kept the rolls warm in a large wicker basket covered with white cloth.

The gastronomic fun started at 4:00 pm with the early-bird guests accompanied by their host knights streaming steadily to fill up their favorite tables. Less than an hour after, the room was swarming with crab lovers already busy downing all-they-can-eat crabs. As traditionally done annually, a fifty-fifty raffle added a boost to the fund collection for the intended repair.

By closing time, while the majority of the guests had left happily satisfied, the number of remaining ones had dwindled down to just the volunteer crew with their spouses who stayed behind to help clean-up. In no time, the hall was restored to the original condition, all clean and empty. As tired as they were, they all looked forward to the next summer crab feast.



Mouthwatering menu on the long table compliments the endless supply of steamed crabs.

OPT



Fr. Alberto and Neocatechumenal Way youth group during their mini-pilgrimage.

Summer Youth Pilgrimage

By Araceli Kawakami

This past summer, the Neocatechumenal Way youth group from St. Michael's participated in a four-day mini-pilgrimage. The pilgrimage to Pennsylvania and New York included visit to the National Shrine of St. John Neumann, Ground Zero, Mother Cabrini Church, Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine and Niagara Falls.

As they visited holy places and pilgrimage sites, they had an opportunity to ask God for a grace and pray for those that are in need. The youth learned about the lives of martyrs and had an opportunity to reflect on their own journey of faith and the many miracles God has done in their life. They also had an opportunity to experience the life of a pilgrim,



Visiting the National Shrine of St. John Neumann

beginning and ending each day with prayer, moving to a different location each day, and trusting that God will provide for and protect them throughout their journey.

OPT

Rite of Admissions to Candidacy for Holy Orders

By Edwin Mendez

On Sunday, September 24, 2017 the rite of admissions to candidacy for holy orders to the permanent diaconate was celebrated at Saint Mary's Catholic Church in Bryantown, Maryland. Mass was celebrated by His Excellency, the Most Reverend Roy Edward Campbell, Jr.

Oscar Mendez has been a member of Saint Michael the Archangel Parish for over 17 years. Always active in parish ministry, he was admitted along with 10 others, as a Candidate for Ordination into the Permanent



Mr. Oscar Mendez and his family

Diaconate for service to the Archdiocese of Washington.

Over the years Mr. Mendez has served the parish as Administrative Assistant, member of the Hispanic Committee, Religious Education teacher and Coordinator of the Hispanic Young Adults. He has also served as Coordinator of the Hispanic Catholic Charismatic Renewal for the archdiocese. Currently employed by the Government of the District of Columbia, he and his wife, Cindy are the parents of two sons. We look forward to the ordination of his class in 2021.

OPT

By Nicole Calaro

Silver Spring Catholic teamed up with 270 Catholic this year to host their 2nd annual "Grill & Chill" event at St. Michael the Archangel in Silver Spring, MD. This event is a young adult barbecue that begins with a Vigil mass and lasts all night with barbecue, live music, dancing, and cornhole. The night was a success with over 100 young adults in attendance throughout the night.

Silver Spring Catholic and 270 Catholic are both regional young adult ministries. Silver Spring Catholic is comprised of most of the Silver Spring parishes. 270 Catholic represents many parishes in Montgomery County, named by the "I-270" highway that they are located near. Both regional ministries have events happening regularly, including hikes, Theology on Taps, and Holy Hours.



Silver Spring Catholic and 270 Catholic Young Adults ended the summer with their big annual BBQ.

OPT

St. Michael's Parish

805 Wayne Avenue
Silver Spring, MD

Rev. Msgr. Eddie Tolentino,
Pastor

301-589-1155

Edwin Méndez,
OPT Editor

301-589-1155

Joy, Awe at Seeing Pope Francis

By Melissa Montealegre Egan

Two years after Pope Francis thrilled area Catholics by celebrating his first Mass in the United States at Catholic University in Washington DC, parishioners from St. Francis of Assisi Church who attended still recall the joy and pride they felt at seeing the pontiff in person and believe his message of love and inclusion have filtered down in positive ways to local parishes.

As they left the grounds of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on September 23, 2015, many parishioners went home brimming with emotion. For many, witnessing Pope Francis celebrate the Canonization Mass of Blessed Junipero Serra gave them a personal experience with an outsized man who counseled his flock to proclaim the Word and protect the world – both, the disenfranchised and the environment.

Ralph Chite, a St. Francis parishioner since 2008, said he wanted to attend the Mass since he first heard

the Holy Father would be visiting the United States.

“I admire him so much – the way he preaches the Gospel in such a loving, non-judgmental way,” Chite said in 2015. “He challenges us to treat everyone with dignity and respect – the way you would want to be treated.”

Like many of the estimated 26,000 pilgrims who attended the Canonization Mass, the day started early for many St. Francis ticketholders. Several people, such as Fr. John Dillon, Deacon Jim and Patrice Datovech, Parish Secretary Donna Zizzo and parishioners Robin Werner and Perla Loh, were among those who took buses from St. Patrick’s Catholic Church in Rockville. Once they arrived on the grounds, most St. Francis parishioners sat far from the National Shrine’s east portico where Pope Francis celebrated the Mass. But several glimpsed the pontiff up close when he wound his way through the crowds on his popemobile, just before getting vested for the Mass.

Patrice Datovech described a

feeling of awe. “I thought, ‘This man is connected to St. Peter,’” she said, referring to the Church’s first pope. “Just to be there and to be that close to him, never in my wildest dreams did I think I would see him.”

Fr. Dillon concelebrated the Mass along with 900 of his fellow priests, calling the event “a great experience.” He attributed the pope’s universal appeal to his ability to engender hope in people.

“People are looking for that in their lives,” Fr. Dillon said in 2015. “He’s trying to be a part of evangelizing the Gospel – it infuses such a great sense of hope.”

The Mass proceeded, with its familiar rites and rituals, in Spanish and was accompanied by five choirs. Meghan Jones, a longtime altar server, usher, lector and FRED core team member at St. Francis, read the Second Reading from the Letter to the Philippians 4:4-9. The passage exhorts its readers to rejoice because “the Lord is near.”

Jones, a 28-year-old woman with Down’s syndrome, said she was honored to be chosen to read. “I felt



St. Francis of Assisi parishioner Meghan Jones reads the Second Reading on Sept. 23, 2015, during the Canonization Mass of Blessed Junipero Serra, the first Mass Pope Francis celebrated in the United States.

like I belonged, not because I had a disability, but because I was part of something,” Jones said in 2015.

The pontiff’s Homily, which invoked those listening to move forward in living the Gospel, left an imprint on the St. Francis pilgrims, who felt the pontiff’s message will have a positive effect on parish life and ministries.

Chite, who retired earlier this

year, said the pope’s visit challenged him to assess what his focus should be during the next phase of his life. “Giving back is what I want to do,” he said. “It’s the greatest challenge that [Pope Francis] has given us. I’m very grateful that I belong to a parish that takes to heart the Pope’s Gospel message of love, service and the welcoming of strangers.”

OPT

New Small Groups Make St. Francis Church a Smaller Faith Community

By Melissa Montealegre Egan

When St. Francis parishioner Alice Welanetz helped care for her stepfather through heart surgery this year in South Carolina, she began attending St. Michael’s Catholic Church in Murrells Inlet. The convert to Catholicism was struck by the number of older and younger people she saw at Masses. And she was surprised by the breadth of activities offered at the church, including a family game night and bi-monthly restaurant meet-ups for young adults.

“I told [husband] Miguel, ‘I want this church at home,’” Welanetz said.

Her interest in helping make St. Francis of Assisi Church a more intimate community dovetailed with a goal of Fr. John Dillon’s to support his parish’s 1,500 registered families to get to know one another in small groups. This fall, St. Francis of Assisi Parish is encouraging parishioners to sign up for existing or new Small Groups, with the hope that people who only see each other at Sunday Mass will



Members of St. Francis’ Saturday Morning Spiritual Reading Group hold copies of Dante’s *Paradise* and C.S. Lewis’ *The Four Loves*, two books members have read and discussed during their weekly Small Group meetings.

explore their faith by organizing around a common interest – be it, books, the Bible, film or fettuccine – once a week in people’s homes.

The 32 people who have signed up for new Small Groups will begin meeting the second week of October. The Small Groups include a Sunday Mass Preparation group, where participants will discuss the upcoming Sunday’s readings; a Pivotal Players group, which will discuss Bishop Robert Barron’s Pivotal Players Series, an in-depth look on film at some of the church’s most influential leaders; Psalmody, a group which will pray through ensemble singing and instrument playing; and Catholic Perspectives on the Vietnam War, which will base discussions on director Ken Burns’ 10-part documentary series on the Vietnam War and its impact

on Catholic social teachings.

The new Small Groups are offered alongside existing discussion groups based on books, Scripture, and other spiritual writings. But Welanetz, the Small Groups coordinator, is hoping Small Groups will convene around just about any subject, since discussions will nearly always gravitate toward one’s faith. She and Fr. Dillon also hope they will encourage members to develop friendships that will lead to people leaning on and supporting one another.

“There’s plenty of people who are warm, caring, and friendly [at St. Francis] and don’t feel like anyone cares about them,” Welanetz said. “If you’re not connected to anyone, then you feel like you’re not part of anything. And I think that’s the only way we’ll grow.”

OPT

Helping Youth Form into Disciples of Christ

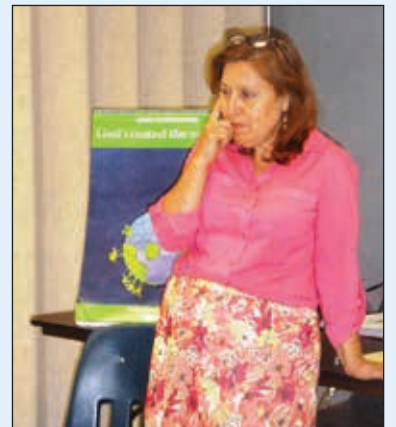
By Melissa Montealegre Egan

Based on an archdiocesan curriculum titled, “Forming Disciples for the New Evangelization,” the St. Francis Religious Education Program for Pre-K, elementary and middle-school aged students successfully launched on Sunday, Sept. 17, with a robust work plan supplemented by art projects, retreat opportunities and seasonal religious celebrations.

Even though the 264 students enrolled in Pre-K through eighth grade is slightly down from this time last year, Director of Religious Education Susan Anderson feels confident that her team will receive additional registrations as the year progresses. The program’s goal, she said, remains to lead people to be one with Christ so they may follow him completely. In faith formation, this is done by supporting the parents, who are their children’s primary models for the Christian way of life.

In preparing her catechists for the start of the program year, Anderson said she invited St. Francis Parochial Vicar Fr. Jack Berard to present at a breakfast for catechisms on Sept. 9. Fr. Jack – who serves as the church’s youth minister for high school students and young adults minister -- spoke on the topic of faith and imagination.

“Through his presentation, we considered the ways in which imagination serves not only the



St. Francis of Assisi catechist Isabel Seyed-Ali listens to her second-grade students, as they introduce themselves Sept. 18 on the first day of their Religious Education class.

teaching of the faith, but also the living of the faith,” Anderson said. “Our catechists were inspired by the presentation and engaged in lively conversation about how to utilize the gift of the imagination in the service of catechesis.”

St. Francis’ Religious Education Program also provides instruction to children and teenagers with special needs through in-class support in traditional classes, a class specifically for children with special needs and a home school model. This year’s class for children with special needs currently has five children enrolled.

For more information about St. Francis’ Religious Education Program, contact Susan Anderson at (301) 258-9193.

OPT

**St. Francis
of Assisi Parish**
6701 Muncaster Mill Road
Derwood, MD

**Rev. John J. Dillon,
Pastor**
301-840-1407

Melissa M. Egan
OPT Editor
301-972-4844

melissa.egan74@verizon.net

Fallen Korean War Army Chaplain Fr. Emil Kapaun Honored

By Michelle Ardillo

On Friday, Sept. 22, St. Jude parishioners as well as St. Jude Regional Catholic School (SJRCs) students, teachers, and faculty/staff attended a Mass to honor Fr. Emil Kapaun, a Catholic priest from Kansas who served in the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps during the Korean War. Fr. Kapaun was captured and taken prisoner on Nov. 1, 1950, while rescuing wounded soldiers and giving Last Rites to the dying. He died of his wounds and poor treatment on May 23, 1951. In his last moments before succumbing, Fr. Kapaun reached out his weakened arms and blessed his guards, asking God's forgiveness for them.

The Mass was celebrated outside on the parish's main parking lot, which serves as the school's main

playground on school days. St. Jude pastor, Rev. Paul D. Lee, S.T.D., celebrated the Mass on the hood of an Army jeep from the Korean War supplied by Mr. Tim Jones. Concelebrating the Mass was Father Robert Kosty, Senior Priest at St. Jude.

After opening remarks by SJRCs Principal Glenn Benjamin, the St. John's College High School Color Guard led the congregation in the Pledge of Allegiance. SJRCs students served in the various ministries of the Mass, prepared and guided by SJRCs religion teacher Mrs. Jeanne Donatelli. Music for the

Continued on page 39



Rev. Paul D. Lee, Pastor at the Shrine of St. Jude, right, and Rev. Robert Kosty, Senior Priest, left, during an outdoor mass to honor Fr. Emil Kapaun, a Catholic priest from Kansas who served in the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps during the Korean War.



SJRCs parent and Chief Petty Officer Daniel O'Connor and family at the outdoor mass to honor Fr. Emil Kapaun.



Welcome new St. Jude staff! Left to right: Michelle Ardillo, Stephanie Ness, Will Ratcliffe, Tiffany Brown, and Maria Arocho

New Faces, New Energy and Enthusiasm at St. Jude Regional Catholic School

By Maureen Martin and Michelle Ardillo

The new school year brought some new faces to St. Jude Regional Catholic School (SJRCs), and with those new faces came new energy and enthusiasm. The faculty, staff, students, and parents have welcomed the new staff members with open arms.

Joining the SJRCs faculty after serving the school community as a substitute teacher, recess monitor, and aftercare teacher, Maria Arocho begins this year as a teacher's aide in the Pre-K 3 classroom. Mrs. Arocho conveys an abundance of understanding, care, and patience with her young charges, skills that were honed in her twenty-year career as a home daycare provider.

SJRCs's new Second-grade teacher, Tiffany Brown, has five years of teaching experience under her belt, the last two in the ADW. Mrs. Brown brings to SJ a passion for Catholic school teaching and a strong desire to be part of the SJ community, which she has already noted "feels like a family." She looks forward to working with her second graders in preparation for receiving First Penance and First Holy Communion.

Michelle Ardillo comes to SJRCs

with 10 years of experience teaching middle school language arts. Her enthusiasm for reading and writing are evident in her classes each day, where she challenges her students with preparation for the rigors of high school English. Mrs. Ardillo is thrilled to be teaching in her home parish school where her daughters were educated and where her family continues to be active members of the parish.

Stephanie Ness is SJRCs's new resource director as well as a Sixth-grade literature teacher. Teaching two years in a self-contained Special Ed classroom taught her a great deal about looking at the student as a whole person, not just evaluating academic struggles. Ms. Ness's calm professionalism will be invaluable in assisting her students to reach their "full potential and truly blossom."

Will Ratcliffe is SJRCs's new PE teacher as well as Fifth-grade literature teacher. With a background teaching exercise science at the collegiate level, Mr. Ratcliffe hopes to bring energy and excitement to his PE classes. Mr. Ratcliffe and his wife are new to the area, but he already feels a part of SJ's friendly and fun spirit.

OPT

Summer Reading Goes Off the Charts!

By Michelle Ardillo

Students of St. Jude Regional Catholic School were challenged to read more last summer and a few stepped up to the challenge. The following top readers were honored by school principal Mr. Glenn Benjamin at an assembly on Friday, Sept. 15: 1st Place – William Etta (Eighth Grade); 2nd Place – Christina Argyros (Sixth Grade); 3rd Place – Ethan Mendes (Sixth Grade); 4th Place – Jack Young (Fifth Grade); and 5th Place – Kala Edwards (Third Grade). These students read a combined total of 30,000 minutes last summer, which is 500 hours of reading! Congratulations to the top readers from St. Jude!

OPT



Pictured with Mr. Benjamin from left to right: William Etta, eighth grade; Christina Argyros, sixth grade; Ethan Mendes, sixth grade; Jack Young, fifth grade; and Kala Edwards, third grade.

Flashback to 1967! The St. Jude Class of 1967's official class photo



Flash forward to 2017! The St. Jude Class of 1967 at their 50th reunion in September.

SJ Class of 1967 Celebrates its 50th Reunion

Twenty-seven former classmates from the St. Jude Catholic School class of 1967 recently came back to the school from which they had graduated to celebrate their 50-year reunion. Many took tours of the

facility, noting the recent updates and renovations, and remarked that it still felt like the old St. Jude School they knew when they were young.

OPT

Renovations at the Shrine of St. Jude

Over the quiet summer months, with the school children home on break, the Shrine of St. Jude took the opportunity to revamp and remodel the Thaddeus Room kitchen, hallway, and restroom facilities. Each year, the parish hosts not only many of its own celebrations, but also receptions and galas from the extended Catholic community of the Archdiocese.

The Shrine of St. Jude is excited to offer future guests a more pleasant and serviceable reception/meeting space. Thanks to all who worked hard over the summer to finish these renovations in time for the start of the school year. Most importantly, thanks be to God!

OPT



Shrine of St. Jude Parish

12701 Veirs Mill Road
Rockville, MD

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

St. Jude Regional
Catholic School
Mr. Glenn Benjamin,
Principal
301-946-7888

Maureen Martin,
OPT Editor
MaureenCMartin@verizon.net

OLQP Parish Picnic – a success!



OLQP Pastor Fr. Jerzy Frydrych with his birthday cake at the Parish Picnic on September 17.



OLQP Pastor Fr. Jerzy Frydrych with parishioners and Polish Scouting Organization ZHP members at the Parish Picnic.

The Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish Picnic on Sept. 17, 2017, was a resounding success! Parishioners and friends gathered after both Masses to enjoy the delicious food, camaraderie, and the beautiful sunny weather. The children had a variety of activities in which to engage.

An added attraction this year was the flea market, which yielded treasure finds and new homes for donated cherished artwork and other items.

During the picnic, parishioners and friends presented the Pastor of Our Lady Queen of Poland



Pastor Jerzy Frydrych with Judith Kelly, author of "Just Call Me Jerzy" about the Rev. Jerzy Popieluszko, "a martyred chaplain of the Polish freedom movement called *Solidarnosc* (Solidarity)" at the OLQP Parish Picnic.



Parishioners and friends enjoy the OLQP Parish Picnic.

Parish, Fr. Jerzy Frydrych, with a birthday cake and "Happy Birthday" wishes. No birthday wishes in Polish are complete without singing, "Sto Lat!" (may you live to 100 years) and this celebration was no exception as everyone joined in.

OPT

Militia Immaculatae

The Knighthood of the Immaculate

The complete name of our parish is Our Lady Queen of Poland and St. Maximilian

Kolbe. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the existence of the Militia Immaculatae, also known as the Knighthood of the Immaculate (*Rycerstwo Niepokalanej* in Polish), which was started by Br. Maximilian Kolbe on October 16, 1917, with permission from his superior and with six confreres, at Our Lady's altar in the chapel of the Seraphic College in Rome, Italy. It was formed in response to the challenges that the faithful faced in the year 1917. This worldwide organization continues St. Maximilian Kolbe's mission of evangelization, through dedication to the Virgin Mary.

Br. Maximilian became a mis-

sionary and worked in Japan. During World War II, he became an Auschwitz martyr. He was killed in the German concentration camp in 1941 and was canonized by Pope John Paul II in October, 1982.

The OLQP parish observances will be on Friday, Oct. 27, 2017, at 7:30 PM, and on Sunday Oct 29, 2017, at the 10 AM and the 12 Noon Masses. After each Mass, we will venerate the primary relic of St. Maximilian Kolbe which resides permanently in our parish. After the noon Mass, parishioners and friends are invited to lunch in the Parish Hall.

OPT

Feast Day of St. John Paul II and Veneration of His Relics

Our Lady Queen of Poland & St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish will celebrate the feastday of St. John Paul II on Sunday, Oct. 22, 2017, with Holy Masses at 10 AM and 12 Noon. After each Mass, there will be veneration of the relics of St. John Paul II.

The parishioners of OLQP Parish

have a special reason to be grateful to St. John Paul II because it was through his intercession, during one of his visits to the United States while he was still known as Karol Cardinal Wojtyla, that he helped us establish this parish. St. John Paul II, pray for us!

OPT

Wadowice-on-the-Potomac on Oct. 22 Friends of John Paul II Foundation to honor Papal Nuncio

The local chapter of the Friends of John Paul II Foundation will hold their annual celebration of St. John Paul II's life and papacy, entitled Wadowice-on-the-Potomac, on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 22, 2017.

The event is under the patronage of His Excellency Ambassador Wilczek and the Honoree will be the Papal Nuncio, HE Archbishop

Christophe Pierre.

Wadowice, a city in southern Poland near Krakow, is the birthplace of St. John Paul II (who was born Karol Jozef Wojtyla).

This is the major fundraiser to support the work of the John Paul II Foundation. For information and an invitation, please email: jp2friends.dc@gmail.com or call: 301-495-3377.

OPT

FRIENDSHIP

Con't from page 16

ties as a moon bounce, an obstacle course, and Hungry Hippos Alive!, as well as oversized lawn games like Connect Four. A "Dunk the Dad" tank was a big hit, thanks to the brave Dads who volunteered to take the plunge. Other child-friendly activities included a spin art and an airbrush tattoo station; and a scavenger hunt.

Parishioner David Ruppert arranged for a performance by The Irrational Exuberance Quartet, an a cappella group in which he sings. Towards the end of the picnic, we recognized our parish seniors, some of whom are founding members of the parish. Cake was served and enjoyed by all.

Scouts from the Holy Cross-sponsored Boy Scout Troop 463 were also on hand, working to earn a merit badge by overseeing the recycling of picnic-related plastics.

Principal Lisa Kane noted that "The Holy Cross Picnic is a wonderful tradition. The sound of chil-

dren's laughter, the lively conversation and the camaraderie among the picnic-goers is a joyful sound. It is an outward sign of the heart of Holy Cross – welcoming, happy, and enthusiastic – with faith at the center. Of course, it could not have been possible without the



Father Robert Buchmeier, Pastor of Holy Cross Church, enjoys a conversation with a parishioner.

hard work of our Home and School Association, the Parish Council, and the many volunteers who shared their time and talents, and we are all grateful for their efforts."

Accompanying photos by Christopher and Christine Zalewski

OPT

TEACHING

Con't from page 15

on the attendees and asked them to develop a research question and an action research project to bring back to The Woods. This culminating activity really brought all the different sessions of the week together and prompted the educators to think about more specific ways in which

they will put all that they learned into action.

All week, The Woods teachers got to talk and network with other teachers and administrators from more than 20 states and six different countries. It was fascinating to hear stories from their schools and discuss how they were going to implement the strategies they learned and bring all the newfound knowledge back to the schools.

OPT

**Our Lady
Queen of Poland**
9700 Rosensteel Avenue
Silver Spring, MD
**Rev. Jerzy Frydrych,
S. Chr. Pastor**
301-589-1857
Bozena Buda, OPT Editor
301-495-3377
bbudadc@gmail.com

Shrine Celebrates 100th Anniversary Year of Our Lady of Fatima Apparitions

By Deacon Dave Caboon

In 1958 Pope Pius XII urged that a parish in every diocese be dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima. In response to our Holy Father, Patrick Cardinal O'Boyle designated the historic church St. Mary of the Assumption at the foot of Sugarloaf Mountain as the official Shrine for the Archdiocese of Washington.



St. Mary's was named the Archdiocesan Shrine to Our Lady of Fatima by Patrick Cardinal O'Boyle in 1959. This altar was erected in the church to celebrate this designation. At the base of the altar is a rock from Fatima, Portugal presented to St. Mary's by the Ambassador of Portugal in 1959.

Beautiful indoor and outdoor shrines were erected and the bishop solemnly dedicated it on May 3, 1959. The ambassador of Portugal presented a stone cut from the site where Our Lady appeared to the children; it remains on display underneath her statue to the left of the altar.

Our Holy Father Pope Francis has granted plenary indulgences to those who make a pilgrimage to Fatima, Portugal during this liturgical year, the 100th anniversary of her appearances

there. The indulgences extend to those who cannot make the trip to Portugal but pray before a statue of Our Lady of Fatima publicly exposed for veneration, marking the individual anniversaries of her six apparitions. St. Mary's Shrine for Our Lady of Fatima is that place of pilgrimage for the Archdiocese. We opened the Fatima year on May 13 with a celebration of Mass and a homily on the significance of Our Lady's appearances in 1917. It was well attended and followed by a potluck supper in the parish hall.

Danielle Rose, internationally known music missionary, flew out from Duluth, Minnesota, to give a rare concert in honor of Mother's Day for our Blessed Mother. Both she and her sister Aubrey are mothers of infant children, and 6-month-old Pascal helped out mom and aunt for the concert.

We have marked the anniversary of each of the monthly appearances along the way and we plan on closing the year of celebration with Father Kevin leading 33 pilgrims on a journey to Fatima Portugal in October. Our closing Mass will take place on Sunday, October 15, at 11 AM, followed by a catered luncheon in the parish hall (call 301.972.8660 by October 6 to reserve a spot at the luncheon). We have two more in our series of first Saturday talks following the 5 PM Mass on Nov 4 (the nine major apparitions of Our Lady) and Dec 2 (Our Lady of Guadalupe). Wine and cheese served.

OPT



Danielle Rose and sister, Aubrey celebrate our Blessed Mother on Mother's Day with music at St. Mary's Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima

St. Mary's to hold annual Ham and Turkey Dinner



The 88th Annual Ham & Turkey Dinner is coming on Saturday, October 28, 2017. All are invited to join us for our Crafts, Christmas Shop, baked goods, cake wheel and more. Come and join in our tasty, all-you-can-eat dinner.

St. Mary's Parish in Barnesville, located in the picturesque foothills of Sugarloaf Mountain, will hold their 88th annual Ham and Turkey Dinner on Oct. 28 from 12 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., with Mass celebrated at 5 p.m.

Father Kevin O'Reilly, pastor of St. Mary's, said the dinner "is our second biggest fundraiser of the year, and it features a marvelous meal, my favorite of the year. I'm having turkey and all the trim-

mings. We have a wonderful craft table and Christmas shop. It's an excellent means by which our parish shares ourselves with the larger community and we welcome people of all faiths."

Full course dinners eaten inside are \$16 for adults and children 10 years old and younger eat free. Carryout is \$16 for all ages. There will also be a craft table, baked goods, cake wheel, Christmas shop, hayrides, pumpkins, cider and more.

Susan Jamison, a parishioner at

St. Mary's, said, "The Ham and Turkey dinner is a standout fall event with great food, crafts, cakes, raffles and fellowship. I particularly love the Christmas table which has so many lovely but inexpensive Christmas ornaments and decorations."

St. Mary's is located at 18230 Barnesville Road, Barnesville, Md. For more information call 301-972-8660. Credit cards are accepted.

OPT

Fr. John O'Grady a Finalist for 2017 Lumen Christi Award

By Diane Yendrey

St. Mary's - Barnesville is proud of its visiting priest, Father John (Frank) O'Grady, who was selected as a finalist for Catholic Extension's 2017-18 Lumen Christi Award. Now in its 40th year of annual awards, Catholic Extension searches for the "best, brightest, and most inspiring people who demonstrate how the power of faith can transform lives and communities."

Father O'Grady, CH (LT), USA has served (24) years of active duty as chaplain in the U.S. Army. He was nominated by Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the U.S. Archdioceses for the Military Services, for "exceptional pastoral care for wounded and ill U.S. servicemen and women and their families." Catholic Extension's panel of judges chose 8 finalists from among 45 nominees from 269 dioceses in the United States. Father is one of six "Retiree-Recall" priests serving in the U.S. Army. He retired in 2013 and was recalled to active duty on 1 February 2014.

Father O'Grady is currently serving at Walter Reed National Military



Father O'Grady recites the Beatitudes at St. Mary's Church in Barnesville, MD

Medical Center in Bethesda, where he has brought spiritual healing to the wounded and ill in the Medical and Surgical Intensive Care Units, the Emergency Room as well as providing Catholic coverage throughout the hospital. He has also been helping those who are mobile, when he led weekend marriage retreats with childcare, prayer breakfasts, prayer lunches, and bus trips to Ocean City for military families. He has provided over fifty Spiritual Resiliency events to support the Staff in the ICU and

Emergency Room wards during his four years as a recall.

Fr. O'Grady is a recipient of the Army Commendation medal for exemplary ministry after the 9/11 attack on the Pentagon, and the Legion of Merit on the occasion of his initial retirement in October 2013.

Ordained in 1969 at the Cathedral of the Assumption in Thurles, Ireland, Father O'Grady came in 1978 to the Diocese of Paterson, New Jersey, where he served two parishes. He joined the U.S. Army Reserve in 1987 and came on active duty in the U.S. Army in 1994.

When asked about his visiting priesthood at St. Mary's, Barnesville, Father O'Grady said he is grateful to have the good experience of parish ministry once again. "It's a different flavor than counseling young soldiers who are trying to regain their health; and their families as well, who bear the weight of the problem." About St. Mary's, he says he "appreciates the warm community, good sense of cooperation among volunteers, good relations with the church, and a lot very deep faith."

OPT



Our annual appreciation Mass and pig roast was held on Sunday, September 10. Over 200 people were in attendance and enjoyed the beautiful choir and uplifting Mass and lunch with live entertainment. It is our annual way of celebrating our parish family.

St. Mary's Parish

18230 Barnesville Road
Barnesville, MD 20838

Rev. Kevin O'Reilly, Pastor

(301) 972-8660

www.stmaryonline.com

News from Our Lady of Mercy Blood Drive

The last opportunity to sign up to donate for Mercy's Blood Drive in support of INOVA is here. Blood is always

needed in the community and throughout the country. A pint of blood can save more than one life through the use of blood components. Make sure that blood is available, donate on Saturday October 14. Contact Richard Sinatra at SinatraR@verizon.net to reserve time to donate.

OPT



TWO FEET

Con't from page 3

The USCCB says: "We step with the Charitable Works foot when we work to aid or assist others both locally and globally to meet their immediate, short-term needs."

In the past month at St. Francis SVDP alone, we helped two people facing eviction and a woman who had no food for her family. What we do is multiplied by the other SVDP Councils in the county and by Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington (thank God for them!) and several independent charitable societies (and them too!).

Both. Together.

Generally, social justice and charitable works travel together by the two feet of love in action. It is hard to do one without the other. While Catholics generally are comfortable with doing charitable works, we are often less comfortable with social justice. That is the reason the J&A Councils were established here in

Montgomery County and in other places in the Archdiocese around 2005. There was a great need to advocate for justice so that Jesus' call to the Church could more faithfully be fulfilled. You can spend a lot of time applying a band aid when a wound needs deeper healing.

Consider attending a J&A Council meeting. You just missed the September meeting. Our next one is Wednesday, December 6 at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Redeemer, Kensington. For more information, call Ann Barbagallo at 301-482-1022.

A word about the St. Vincent de Paul Society

Only five of the 29 Catholic parishes in Montgomery County have SVDP conferences: St. John Neumann (Montgomery Village), St. Martin (Gaithersburg), St. Raphael (Rockville), St. Francis of Assisi (Derwood) and Mother Seton (Germantown). A sixth conference is being established at St. Paul (Damascus).

Some parishes handle charitable

outreach through other means, such as a parish-based social ministry. Other parishes, unfortunately, are not organized for charitable outreach and cannot provide help (or only very limited help) to those who come to them in need.

St. Francis of Assisi parish organized a SVDP conference about two years ago. Our pastor, Fr. John Dillon, is fully committed to the Society, which makes it possible for the parish to respond more faithfully to those who come to us for help. At the same time, the SVDP Society greatly lightens his work and worry load as the Society is the first responder when people need help.

If your parish does not have a SVDP conference and you would like to learn more, call Bill Garvey, the Montgomery County SVDP president at 301-367-9001. He will be glad to talk with you.

Anthony Bosnick is a member of the Montgomery County J&A Council. He is also social concerns minister at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Derwood, MD.

OPT

Blessing of the Animals

Our Lady of Mercy Parish celebrated the Feast of St. Francis with the blessing of the animals on October 1. This feast celebrates the special bond we have with our animal companions. Father Bill invited us to bring our "non-human family members." Father Bill's boxer Roo is a favorite at OLOM. She is a fine example of what a devoted companion a dog can be. There is a beauty and richness brought to our lives by domesticated animals. Pope John Paul II wrote, "It is my hope that



the inspiration of St. Francis will help us to keep ever alive a sense of 'fraternity' with all those good and beautiful things which God has created."

OPT

Fall Training has arrived!

Become a Eucharistic Minister! Enhance your faith participation

We need Mass ministers (for all Masses except 11AM), and to also serve at our local care facilities and for the homebound. All are welcome! Join us for a training meeting on Wednesday October 11, at 7:30 PM, in the choir area of the church.

Please contact Trina Hope, 301-469-8949 or trinadon@verizon.net to receive an administrative/training package needed in advance of the meeting and/or for further information.



DIRECTOR

Con't from page 4

in 2013 serves as the focal point of musical leadership at all the weekend Masses except for one. The Parish music ministry follows

the mandates of the Second Vatican Council and holds the instrument in "high esteem", as called for by our bishops, and strives to manifest "wonderful splendor" so that its music "powerfully lifts up man's mind to God and to higher things." (*Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*)

The Parish is immensely proud of Mr. Vu for his accomplishments and takes great pride in his appointment to the National Shrine, where his service to the Church will take on a greater international distinction.

OPT

SHORT

Con't from page 1

calls us to put our needs and status beneath the needs of those we serve. I am reminded of those who serve Victory Housing's elderly residents at St Bartholomew's, Our Lady of Mercy and St Raphael's assisted living homes. Regardless of their station in life, they humbly do whatever needs doing including the basics of driving, feeding and bathing the frail elderly.

Then there is the sincere smile on Sister Margaret's face. Offering service with joy is a double measure of Christian service adding an elevating dose of comfort to the good deed provided. The huge grin on the faces of Potomac Community Resources and Upper County Community Resources volunteers and staff as they dance and sing with their physically or intellectually challenged participants shows the great joy in their hearts.

Christian service requires personal sacrifice. Sister Margaret Ann's comfort zone includes chalk, computers and the classroom, surely not a storm ravaged road and chainsaw. Sacrificing our comfort to serve others is a characteristic of Christian service. The volunteers of the Catholic Charities Welcome Home program have likely never set foot in prison before joining the pre-release mentoring program. They stretch the boundaries of their comfort and love when they pass through the locking doors of local

jails to tutor and counsel offenders who are transitioning back into community life.

Sister Margaret is a visually impaired, elderly woman, living an unconventional lifestyle and strangely attired for the work she is doing in the photo. Some might question her ability to serve with a chainsaw. Christian service is inclusive. The parishioners of St Paul's in Damascus who travel to serve in Honduras and those from other parishes who serve in Haiti are men and women of all ages, skills, and backgrounds. Each are welcomed on the service trips and contribute their unique talents.

If you have seen someone using a chainsaw, you know it's hard work. Christian service often requires extraordinary effort. Parishioners from St Elizabeth's in Rockville travel weekly to the far southeastern portion of the county to serve in the Langley Park Food Pantry and to teach English as a second language. With traffic, it can be an arduous trek taking an hour or more. It would be much easier to serve closer to home. The suffering is great among the poor in Langley Park. The effort required to serve is significant, but none complain.

As Sr. Margaret was clearing the road, I doubt she was doing it for Catholic drivers only or those without sin. Christian service is non-judgmental. The late Cardinal Hickey used to say, "Catholics serve not because those we serve are Catholic, but because we are Catholic". The Spanish Catholic

Center serves thousands of needy immigrants in Montgomery County. Volunteers help with food, legal aid, education and employment. Never is religion, legal status, or any other qualifier a condition of their Christian service.

Cleary, Sr. Margaret is a person of action. One of the greatest injustices is not hostility to the poor and vulnerable but rather indifference to their suffering. Our local Justice and Advocacy Council, a regular contributor to this newspaper, is known for its efforts on behalf of the poor and vulnerable. Their persistent advocacy before public officials urging justice in laws and budgets is effective and demonstrates our Christian belief that when making difficult choices, we must place the needs of the vulnerable ahead of all others.

Finally, there is love. Not plainly visible but certainly present on Sister Margaret's habit is her Crucifix, the greatest symbol of love. The brown habit of the Carmelites is not required for Christian service, but the selfless habit of love for our neighbors is essential. Where is your passion to serve? It begins with praying about IT; then doing ABIT, until it becomes a HABIT. Your parishes are seeking habitual volunteers to engage in Christian service to build a beloved community.

God Bless you in your Christian service!

Chuck Short

Cshort5@verizon.net

OPT

Jesuit Refugee Service: Helping Others To Heal...Learn...Thrive

In our continuing series on the refugee and migrant crisis, we welcome Giulia McPherson, JRS Director of Advocacy and Operations, who will talk about the ongoing JRS global mission helping more than 750,000 refugees.

Join OLOM parish and Malta members on Wednesday October 11 at 7:30 am in the Enzler Room to learn how the Jesuit Refugee Service/USA is responding to this current humanitarian crisis.

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
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FLAG FOOTBALL

Con't from page 10

10 teams with names such as the Wolverines, Flying Pigs, Titans, Honey Badgers, Sooners, Titans, Crabs, Thundering Herd and Super Sonics. The program wouldn't be complete without a team named the Redskins. For the past few years the Redskins has been coached by Middle School Social Studies teacher Joe Criscuoli. Mr. Criscuoli is arguably the most excited person on the field bringing his enthusiasm for sports and personal knowledge of the game to the team. Another favorite coach is Brooks Sabatano, affectionately known as Mr. S. Having both of these teachers as coaches helps the players feel even more connected.

League commissioner, Sean Neary, works hard coordinating everything and everyone. "The great success of the program is



Always smiles after our games.

attributable to the hard work of the dedicated group of volunteers who have a passion for football and a commitment to the kids." Having a group of individuals so committed to the program has the kids com-

ing back to play every year and helps fill the stands with spectators and fans. "I've literally seen kids grow up on this field. They are surrounded by friends and family and creating memories that will last a lifetime," said Mike Zeigler, who has been one of the perennial program volunteers.

Each team plays seven games in the regular season which then moves to playoffs with an HR Flag Football Super Bowl to crown the winner. Although the winning participants do not receive a championship ring they do get bragging rights and their team name on a trophy which is proudly displayed in the front hall of the school.

Flag Football offers the entire community a wonderful way to come together and reconnect.



These players are ready for some football!

STRUBEL

Con't from page 5

blessed."

Mike Strubel was born in 1944 in Willamette, Illinois. He attended Notre Dame as an undergraduate and received his MBA from Columbia University. He was a naval officer for more than ten

years before becoming a defense contractor in the Washington, DC area, eventually settling in the Gaithersburg area.

St. Mary of the Mills pastor Michael Mellone, attended the vigil. Monsignor Mellone was also pastor of St. Martin's during Mike's years as a parishioner. He said, "He was an unsung hero. He gave financially, but equally important,

he gave his presence to the Lord, to the church, and to those that needed him."

It would be difficult to count the number of people whose lives were improved because Mike Strubel took action to help others. He was a man who lived his faith by caring for others, putting their needs above his own. That example is an inspiration for us all.

St. Bartholomew

St. Bartholomew's Father Tim Daniel on Mission to Nicaragua

St. Bart's Parochial Vicar, Fr. Tim Daniel, was sent to Nicaragua for three weeks this August for a "work-study" program to help with Spanish ministry. Fr. Daniel and two other priests lived in a town located two hours north of Managua called Estelí and attended classes for four hours each weekday to practice Spanish conversation and study grammar.

Fr. Daniel told OPT, "Each of us celebrated Mass and preached most days, making for a true immersion experience. The typical Thursday Mass was attended like a Sunday Mass and followed by a Eucharistic procession, and most



St. Bart's Fr. Tim Daniel says Mass during a three-week mission to Nicaragua.

parishes celebrated an extra Mass in the morning." Fr. Daniel commented: "On a spiritual level the experience was quite moving. Eucharistic

seemed to help the people appreciate family, friendship, and God all the more."

KAPAUN

Con't from page 35

Mass was provided the SJRCS Choir, under the direction of Mrs. Amy White, SJ music teacher. In attendance at the Mass were honored guests, including veterans from various military branches and active duty Chief Petty Officer Daniel O'Connor, who is a school parent.

Fr. Lee's homily centered on Fr. Kapaun's service to his country which was borne through his absolute and courageous faith to the Church. Fr. Lee recounted that Fr. Kapaun's faith was so compelling that, along with Christians, he had Jews, Muslims, and atheists pray-

ing the rosary together. On April 11, 2013, President Barack Obama posthumously awarded Fr. Kapaun the Medal of Honor "for conspicuous gallantry and for his extraordinary heroism while serving with the 3d Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, during combat operations against an armed enemy at Unsan, Korea, and as a prisoner of war from November 1-2, 1950."

Fr. Kapaun has been named a Servant of God, as the Cause for Canonization process was officially approved on June 21, 2016. At the end of Mass and before the final prayer, Fr. Lee gave a special blessing to the U.S. veterans in attendance at the Mass.

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St. Catherine Labouré

*Renewing Baptismal Promises,
Recognizing the Gifts of Persons with Special Needs*



ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON 8TH ANNUAL
WHITE MASS

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2017
11:30 AM**

Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle

1725 Rhode Island Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Principal Celebrant

HIS EMINENCE
DONALD CARDINAL WUERL
Archbishop of Washington

Homilist

REV. THOMAS GAUNT, S.J., PH.D.
Executive Director of CARA Georgetown University

REV. MSGR. W. RONALD JAMESON
Rector, Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle

The Mass has the designation, "White" because of that color's connection to our baptismal promises and it has now become a tradition that all the participants at the liturgy wear white, to symbolize the bonds of community we all share through this sacrament of initiation. In fact, the Catholic Bishops in 1995 based their Sacramental Guidelines for Persons with Disabilities on this primary foundation:

*By reason of their baptism,
all Catholics are equal in dignity in the sight of God
and have the same divine calling. (#1)*

Wheelchair Accessible • Sign Language Interpreted • Metro: Farragut North/Red Line

Ample paid parking at Colonial Garage across the street from Cathedral.

For more information, contact specialneedsministry@adw.org or 301-853-4560.

 **PCR** www.pcr-inc.org
POTOMAC COMMUNITY RESOURCES, Inc.
SERVING TEENS AND ADULTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DIFFERENCES
**IS PROUD TO SUPPORT THIS INITIATIVE OF THE
ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON.**
Rev. Msgr. John Enzler, Chairman • James M. Sullivan, President

**22nd Annual
Patricia Sullivan Benefit for PCR**
His Eminence Donald Cardinal Wuerl, S.T.D.
Honorary Benefit Chair
Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference Center

**Save the
Date
Saturday
April 14**