



Parish Times

Back to School
Issue

OCTOBER 2014

Living the Faith Together

FREE

St. Bartholomew Parish Hosts Screening of *A Bridge Apart*

On Thursday evening, October 2, St. Bartholomew Parish hosted a screening of *A Bridge Apart*, a film about the plight of immigrant children coming to the United States, fleeing violence in

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A Bridge Apart addresses the plight of immigrant children fleeing Central American violence. Photo courtesy of Christina Wolf



The faculty of St. Mary's School during a rare break from preparing for the upcoming school year. Many new faces grace the halls of St. Mary's School and we LOVE the energy and enthusiasm these new teachers bring to our community! See more photos of St. Mary's School on page 11.

"You Belong To My Heart"... For 70 Years!

By Sandy Wester

Parishioners Mary and Carmine Castellano celebrated 70 years of marriage this past August 30th with their friends and large family pulling out all the stops and 'raising the roof' of the Hilton Hotel in Gaithersburg.

The beaming, beautiful couple was given a wonderful, surprise performance by their family of a dance and sing-along to the tune "Happy" by Pharrell Williams. It was evident around the party room that 70 years of married life has brought much happiness and a bounty of gifts to the Castellano couple: many loyal & loving friends, 4 children, 12 grandchildren and a new great-grandson, Luke,



SJN Parishioners Mary and Carmine Castellano celebrate 70 years of marriage

born July 13, 2014. Fathers Rogers and Sweeney were also on hand to partake in the festivities and bring many smiles and blessings to the gathering.

The party DJ played Italian songs, popular tunes and standards the couple enjoyed spanning their 70 years together, but, one was the most special to the pair: after the cutting of the cake, a surprise "live" serenade by Carmine, to his bride Mary, of the song, "You Belong To My Heart" made the entire room stand up and cheer!

"My parents have understood their marriage commitment in God's Holy Plan for family," said son, Tony Castellano. "They've welcomed all the

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Protecting God's Masterpieces



Chuck Short

Since 1972, each October has been designated by the American Bishops as **Respect Life** month. Catholics are asked to reflect upon human life as a sacred gift from God and pray that people everywhere respect life and respond with awareness and love to the challenges to the sanctity, value and quality of life. Pope Francis recently spoke of each human life as a masterpiece of God. What a perfect metaphor as each of us is indeed a uniquely crafted creature created to carry out a specific purpose in God's master design for human salvation. Have you ever thought of yourself as a masterpiece? Have you wondered what critical role in the world's salvation you are hand-crafted to play? As God's magnificent gift, each human life, from conception to death, regardless of form or purpose unre-

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Commemorating the Anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising

On September 3, 2014, Our Lady Queen of Poland & St. Maximilian Kolbe longtime parishioner Mrs. Barbara Syska participated in the commemoration of the 70th Anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising along with historian Dr. Jadwiga Biskupska at American University in Washington, D.C.

The Warsaw Uprising began at 5 P.M. on August 1, 1944, and lasted for 63 days. It was a struggle waged by the Polish Home Army against the



Mrs. Barbara Syska (right) and Dr. Jadwiga Biskupska at American University. Photo by Bozena Buda

Nazi German occupying forces to liberate the capital of Poland. It was to become the largest single military resistance effort in World War II.

Mrs. Syska, a veteran of the Warsaw Uprising, recounted her experiences and her active role in the Uprising while still a young teenager in 1944. The event was jointly sponsored by the Embassy of the Republic of Poland and the Polish Student Organization at American University.

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Joao Gonzalez and his cousin Sarai Villars, grandchildren of St. Michael's parishioners Cecillia Flores and Rolando Villas, danced at the Michaelmas celebration.

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Winning foursome left to right – Byrne Peake, Luis Moran, Vince Lynott & Jon LeSage

Breakfast Meeting Speaker Brendan Tuohey, PeacePlayers International

Join us for CBN-MC's Monthly Breakfast on Friday, October 10th, 7:25 am at the Timpano Italian Chophouse (12021 Rockville Pike, Rockville). Our speaker this month is Brendan Tuohey, Co-Founder and Executive Director of PeacePlayers International, an organization built upon the premise that "children who play together can learn to live together." Over the past ten years, PeacePlayers International has worked with over 55,000 children in Northern Ireland, South Africa, Cyprus, New Orleans and the Middle East. PeacePlayers International has been featured by The Today Show, by an Emmy Award®-winning piece on CBS News Sunday Morning, CNN, BBC, ESPN, The Washington Post, The Chicago Tribune, Sports Illustrated, Parade and other media outlets.

Join CBN-MC for good food, great speaker and, of course, NETWORKING. Sign up on the "Events" tab on our NEW website www.cbnmc.com. \$20.00 for pre-registered Members. \$30.00 for guests and Members at the door.

OPT

Eighth Annual CBN-MC Golf Outing

Sixty four golfers enjoyed a crisp, fall day at Falls Road Golf Course on September 26 as they participated in the eighth Annual Catholic Business Network of Montgomery County Golf Outing. The generosity of the players and sponsors benefited CBN-MC's Annual Scholarship Essay Contest which awards scholarships to area eighth graders who will be attending a Catholic high school.

The outing began with breakfast and some nervous conversation as golfers, and non-golfers, prepared to conquer Falls Road Golf Course.

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The Stork Bus

The Stork Bus, purchased by Centro Tepeyac Silver Spring Women's Center to take their services on the road including the ability to provide sonograms outside abortuaries, was on display at the CTWC Gala on Sep. 20th at the Shrine of St. Jude. When they see their babies via sonogram even though they are abortion-minded, a high percentage of women choose life.



A view of the inside of the Stork Bus shows the consulting area, sonogram table and sonogram monitor (upper left).

Requiescat in Pace

At Brookewood School, Tim Nauman, a beloved faculty member, passed away right before the school year began. Mr. Tim Nauman taught Medieval History, Church History and Latin at school, and he was an excellent teacher and role model for the students and faculty. One of our students, Patricia Davern, has written an elegy in praise of Mr. Nauman.

An Elegy for Mr. Nauman

By Brookewood sophomore Patricia Davern

Another school year closes in,
But how can the year still begin
When our teacher, friend, and father,
Can't begin it with his daughters?
How can the year go on, without
Notes that have no ending amount,
Without quizlets, extra credit,
Or maps that we painstakingly
Struggled to color so lightly,
And I know that we won't forget,
We haven't earned angels yet,
Neither your constant dear humor
As our fellow April fooler.
My silly Russian accent coach
For our *Loves Labours Lost* approach,
And to make you smile, Origen!
There's extra credit for heaven!
Mr. Nauman, I will miss you for so many



Mr. Timothy Nauman, beloved religion and history teacher at Brookewood School, recently passed away on Aug. 25.

things,
And couldn't bear it not knowing, that you
flew on wings
To heaven, to be'n Our Lords embrace,
My dear Mr. Nauman, you have won the race

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Christmas Comes Early at Resurrection Winterfest

By John Small

Christmas always comes early at Resurrection Church, and this year will be no different, with the parish's 14th annual Winterfest & Craft Show set for the December 5-6 weekend.

For at least one lucky participant, Christmas will come even earlier during the "Early Bird" drawing of a \$250 cash prize November 10 in the festival's popular "Big Raffle."

In another new twist in the raffle,

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**More Resurrection
News on Page 12**



Ivora Tyler (left) and Sally DeSavage (right), members of the Resurrection "Quilting Bees," display the super queen-size quilt they helped make for the Big Raffle at the parish's annual Winterfest set for Dec. 5-6. Photo by John Small

the top prizes will be \$1,000 and \$500 cash prizes, rather than a variety of electronic devices like televisions and other electronics in past years. One staple of the raffle, however, will be a super queen-size, colorful quilt handmade by the parish's hard-working "Quilting Bees."

Other major attractions of the two-day event will be an array of items from some 70 crafters and vendors on the East Coast, homemade baked goods for the holidays, White House ornaments (featur-

ing President Harding), a Silent Auction, Breakfast with Santa and a Secret Santa Shop for children.

The parish's major fundraiser of the year will run from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, and from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, in the Amadeo Room and the Parish Life Center.

In recent years, more than 1,500 people have been attending this event, which raised more than

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Fifth-grade Scientists



Holy Redeemer fifth graders Colm Tuite and Marco Albano show off an edible animal cell that they made for their science project in Mrs. Woll's class



Holy Redeemer fifth grader Riley Bain shows off her plant cell project for Mrs. Woll's science class.



Mrs. Marylou McDonald, CRE at Holy Redeemer, Kensington, shown with some of the third grade Religious Education students.

New CRE at Holy Redeemer Makes Inclusion a Priority

Children with special needs have always been warmly welcomed in the Religious Education Program at Holy Redeemer in Kensington. This tradition is carried on by Mrs. Marylou McDonald, the new Coordinator of Religious Education (CRE), replacing longtime DRE John Buchanan. McDonald encourages parents of children with special needs to enroll them in RE at Holy Redeemer, noting that the parish has years of experience and the tools on hand to support students.

McDonald, who assisted Buchanan for the past nine years, graduated from Holy Redeemer School and has been a parishioner for the past forty years. She attended Catholic University where she obtained her BA and MA degrees. Marylou's parents, Larry and Susan Grayson, have also been very involved in parish activities, currently serving as the Knights of Columbus Pro-Life Couple for the state of Maryland. McDonald, whose youngest child currently attends Holy Redeemer School, is excited about leading the RE Program at Holy Redeemer and about the new partnerships being formed with families.

McDonald began this year's faith

formation program with professional development on technology and access to faith for students with special needs. The special needs training was led by Holy Redeemer parishioner and speech-language pathologist, Alison Hughes, MS, CCC-SLP, who explained techniques that can help create a productive learning environment for everyone. Peg Kolm, Coordinator in the Archdiocese of Washington's Department of Special Needs Ministries, talked about how the Church has been a leader in providing access to faith for persons with special needs, detailing the many new Archdiocesan resources and

Continued on page 18

Movin' On Up

By Michelle Ardillo

Kindergarteners move up to first grade and a new teacher, first graders move up to second grade and a new teacher. This is the way things usually go. This year, however, twelve first graders moved up to second grade along with their first grade teacher! Mrs. Meghan Rivera, who joined Holy Redeemer's faculty last year, moved up to second grade with some of her first grade students. Mrs. Rivera was born and raised in Maryland, having obtained her BA from Catholic University and her MA from Marymount. She taught third grade at Annunciation Catholic School in DC for five years before coming to Holy Redeemer.

Mrs. Rivera is looking forward to spending more time with the twelve who landed in her homeroom again, but she is also excited to better get to know the other rising second graders in her homeroom! As she prepares her second grade class for First Penance and First Communion, she also hopes to teach them to think outside the box, to use their imagination, and to be creative. When not in her classroom at Holy Redeemer, Mrs. Rivera enjoys reading and spending time with her husband, Pedro, their friends and family, and their two dogs.

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Mrs. Meghan Rivera and three of her former first graders, Cecilia Graham, Meghan Morin, and Marianna Moawad, all now in her second grade classroom

Holy Redeemer Faculty Begins Year with Healing and Humor

By Michelle Ardillo

What do Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta and a 1986 Corsica have in common? Fr. Dan Leary! On Friday, August 22, 2014, Rev. Daniel P. Leary, Pastor of St. Andrew Catholic Church in Silver Spring, led a spiritual retreat for the faculty of Holy Redeemer School. Fr. Leary, in the engaging style of a traditional Irish storyteller, regaled the group with humorous stories of his life and growing up Catholic as one of the "Leary boys", taking everyone along with him through his discernment and years at seminary. He also spoke seriously on the topic of healing and quoted exten-



Fr. Dan Leary, talking of faith and healing at HR Faculty Retreat

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The Young Adult Ministry Team with Fr. João Seabra, who is visiting from Portugal.

Christ the King Picnic

By Katie Holland, CTK editor

On Sunday, September 14 after the Rosensteel Knights of Columbus Council hosted

Christ the King parishioners for their annual picnic. Held on the Rosensteel Avenue grounds across for the old St. John's Church in Forest Glen, the 4-hour long picnic began with the Knights generously again becoming the grill-meisters, preparing the burgers, the fixings and even the beverages! Parishioners brought their own special dish to share.

Inside the Knights' standing bar restaurant, the Knights allowed Redskins fans the opportunity to watch the game on live at the same time! There were competitive games outside, like sack races, a DJ blasting the neighbor-



Christ the King volunteers Marge Mercurio and Herta Pittman.

hood with tunes and a 50-50 raffle circulating (the winner turned in the win back into the "pot" for Christ the King). Christ the

King thanks the generosity of the Rosensteel Knights for doing this every year.

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Christ the King Devotions

By Katie Holland, CTK editor

The 40 Hours Devotion is a special 40-hour period of continuous prayer made before the Blessed Sacrament in solemn exposition. It provides a wonderful opportunity for the spiritual growth of each person and the parish as a whole. It began at Christ the King on Friday, September 5, with a 7pm Mass in the Church. From there the parish processed to the Religious Education Building chapel. There the Blessed Sacrament stayed for

Adoration. The 40 Hours ended on Sunday September 7 with the Solemn Blessing at 12noon in the Church. Very well attended, the Devotion for one parishioner was a surprise when she, unable to sleep, arrived at the Chapel to find it filled with other parishioners who stayed until the sun came up!

The next month celebrated the feast of St. Francis of Assisi on Saturday, October 4, at a 5pm Blessing of the animals. Parishioners brought animals, large and small to the Church grounds for

this event. Continuing, Christ the King celebrated/s October with the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, by reciting the rosary each Thursday in October, at 6:30pm. All are invited to join us in honoring Our Lady. This began Thursday, October 2, and continues through and including the 30th. It is at the end of the day for every Thursday Eucharistic Adoration. Beginning with 7am Mass, Adoration is in the main Church until the 6:30pm Rosary following by Benediction.

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Upcoming Events of Note at Christ the King

The LordIsMyShepherd prayer group will host a **Dinner Dance**

Christ the King
2301 Colston Drive
Silver Spring, MD

Rev. Jose Maria Cortes
FSCB Pastor

Katie Holland,
OPT Editor

301-495-4812
kh7@georgetown.edu

fundraiser on Saturday, October 25, from 6 pm to 12 midnight in Christ the King's Msgr. John J. Dressel Colonial Room. Tickets are \$15 which includes dinner. Dancing to a DJ into the night! All the proceeds will be used to purchase new Church exterior signs. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

This year's annual **Bazaar** at Christ the King will be held the Sunday *before* the traditional Feast of Christ the King celebration, as our parish's celebratory event, on Sunday, November 16. It will be

held from 8am until 3pm in the Msgr. John J. Dressel Colonial Room. At the Bazaar, the standard "tables" will include Jewelry, Books, White Elephant, The Wheel, The Food Corner and a 50-50 raffle held at the Baked Goods tables, as is the usual for a Christ the King Bazaar. We will also have our 50th anniversary Christ the King Commemoratives on sale including In Memoriam plaque bronze nameplates. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

OPT

SHORT

Con't from page 1

vealed to us, must be appreciated for its uniqueness and as a sacred masterpiece entrusted to humanity for protection.

The John H. Mulholland Family Foundation is an example of a group of people and parishes who respect God's masterpieces. The Foundation works with several Montgomery County parishes, including Resurrection, St Michael's, St John Evangelist, St Andrews and others to raise money and collect food to assist the poorest of the poor living in Catholic inner city parishes. **Life is endangered when essential nutrition is unavailable.** If you or your parish wish to know more about or get involved with the Mulholland Foundation's mission of life, check it out at www.jsmff.org.

Respect for life includes the obvious; ending abortion, euthanasia, and capital punishment. But also requires action to eliminate hunger and disease; enhance the quality of life for those with disabilities and comfort for those who are frail. It includes efforts to bring peace to the minds of those with mental illness and freedom from enslavement for those with drug addiction. It requires that innocent and vulnerable people be protected from physical and emotional harm. This month we are reminded that every month our faith requires us through prayer and action that we honor God's masterpieces in every form they assume.

Coincidentally, October has been designated as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the United States. It was established in 1987 to increase public awareness of domestic violence, defined as violence against spouses, partners and children; to promote community dialogue to prevent domestic violence; and to inform victims and those who care about victims of local and national resources available to assist them. Domestic violence is a crime and a major assault against our fundamental commitment to respect life. Because we have witnessed several horrific crimes of domestic violence in the Washington metro area, and as part of our commitment to life, I suggest we reflect upon individual and parish actions which can be taken to prevent harm and assist victims of domestic violence in our communities.

A recent study by Court Watch Montgomery estimates that 93,000 women in Montgomery County are likely to be victims of domestic violence at some point in their lives. Montgomery County Child Welfare Services reports that it investigated 2,665 suspected child abuse cases in 2013. Priests will tell you that domestic violence is often the subject of confession and pastoral counseling. They will also tell you that this tragic family cancer is among the most difficult to treat

and cure because of its complexity. There are legal, mental health, substance abuse, housing, medical as well as spiritual issues involved often entangling victims in a web from which they cannot escape. As committed as a priest may be to assist a victim or perpetrator of domestic violence, the interventions are beyond his best efforts and skills. Often women and children, the usual victims of domestic violence, turn to the clergy for help. Victims are embarrassed or afraid to seek help from a friend or relative. Without specific awareness and training, clergy cannot help beyond spiritual counseling. This is where others in the community, especially those who share the same spiritual home with victims may be able to assist.

The Maryland Interfaith Domestic Violence Coalition knows this from experience. On October 1, they held a Day of Dialogue during which hundreds of clergy were invited to learn about resources and issues associated with domestic violence. In addition on the weekend of **October 24-26**, they are calling upon local faith communities to provide information about domestic violence and bring messages of hope to victims. I urge your parish to participate and consider an ongoing ministry to aid victims of domestic violence.

Here are links to sites with critical information regarding how your parish can help: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/fjc/services.html#5>; <http://www.goci.maryland.gov/faith/domestic.html>; <http://mnadv.org?featured=booklet-for-faith-based-organizations>; <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/marriage/domestic-violence/when-i-call-for-help.cfm> (Bishops Letter on Domestic Violence); <http://jcada.org/www/docs/119>, (Jewish Coalition Against Domestic Violence Clergy Resources).

If you know someone who needs immediate help, here are a few **emergency resources**: Montgomery County Abused Persons Crisis Line 240 777 4673; Montgomery County 24 Hour Crisis Center 240 777 4000; Legal Assistance, 240 777 9087; Support Groups Montgomery County Victim's Assistance 240 777 1355.

Catholic Charities is currently expanding its services to victims of domestic violence. If you would like to get involved with this, please contact **Sharon Obrien** at sharonaobrien@msn.com.

Domestic violence is a painful assault on life. Those in its bruising grasps are often lonely, embarrassed, ambivalent, and unaware of helpful resources. Often they worship in the pew next to us. In prayer and love, let's seek to protect and respect these among the most vulnerable of God's masterpieces.

Enjoy autumn and a blessed Thanksgiving!

God Bless!
Chuck Short



Newly-minted Eagle Scouts Alex Gourlay, Matthew Chun, and Chase Covell celebrated their achievements during an Eagle Court of Honor at St. Jane de Chantal in June.

Troop 461 Celebrates New Eagle Scouts

Boy Scout Troop 461, chartered for more than 50 years at St. Jane de Chantal, celebrated three new Eagle Scouts last spring.

Matthew Chun, Chase Covell, and Alex Gourlay earned the highest advancement rank in Scouting and were honored June 7 during an Eagle Court of Honor at Caulfield Hall at the church. All three Scouts chose Eagle projects that improved the parish school's playground,

including installing a new drainage system, grading and leveling the ground, replacing ground cloths, spreading many truckloads of wood chips under and around play equipment, and installing steps from a parking lot to the play area; there were many long days and evenings for Scouts who volunteered to help during a very hot summer.

All three Eagle Scouts are currently in college.

OPT

St. Jane de Chantal Unveils New Cafeteria and New Mascot

St. Jane de Chantal School started its school year with a bang, unveiling a long-awaited major cafeteria renovation to the delight of students, parents, and the community. The renovation was the result of last school year's Gala, a major fundraiser chaired by parents Missy Carr, Tara Merola, Dorene Michael, Donna Owens, and Alicia Tierney that raised \$65,000 to transform the space.

Major changes and improvements included:

- New freezer, refrigerator, warming station, warming oven, and convection oven.
- New bus tubes, lunch box containers, sheet pans, garbage cans, and microwave.
- All-new cabinetry that offers much-needed storage.
- Nineteen fold-and-roll tables, two of which are designated peanut-free by their different tops.



St. Jane de Chantal unveiled its newly-renovated cafeteria, including a fabulous new mural, in September.

- New coat hooks for backpacks and coats.
- New hand sanitizer dispensers at exits.
- New and refurbished ceiling tiles.

One of the biggest changes was a new paint job that turned formerly plain walls into a lively mural that celebrates both the cafeteria's main function as a cafe for students and teachers, and Duke, the school's new mascot who was unveiled with the cafeteria renovation and was

Continued on page 37



St. Jane de Chantal teachers helped spread awareness and raise money to fight ALS by accepting the summer's popular ice bucket challenge in the school parking lot before classes started in August.

School Year Starts Strong

School started in late August at St. Jane de Chantal, but it's already been a busy and productive year for students and teachers.

Even before classes started, teachers were hard at work during an in-service week. As part of that, they took to the parking lot to accept the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge and douse themselves in freezing water for a great cause. The challenge was accepted in honor of Charles Corrado, husband of computer technologist Mrs. Corrado, and many friends who have battled and

Continued on page 37

Knights of Columbus Welcomes Archbishop Broglio

The Knights of Columbus Rock Creek Council will welcome His Excellency, Archbishop Timothy Broglio on Wednesday, October 29, at 8 p.m. in Cantrel Hall. Archbishop Broglio is archbishop of the diocese of Military Services of the U.S.A., and will speak about the Catholic military chaplain program and the great need for priests to join. All are welcome. Visit kofc2797.org for information.

OPT



School Principal Betsy Hamilton poses with a likeness of Duke, St. Jane de Chantal's new mascot.

St. Jane de Chantal Parish

9601 Old Georgetown Road
Bethesda, MD

Fr. Samuel C. Giese
Pastor

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St. Jane de Chantal School
Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton

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Kim Fernandez, OPT Editor
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St. Andrew Apostle Celebrates New School Year

Perfect fall weather and record crowds highlighted the Saint Andrew Apostle "homecoming" week. The weekend, with a Friday "tailgate party" and a Sunday community carnival and picnic, has become a joyous way to mark the beginning of the school year for the whole parish.

To kick off Homecoming week, the students had a surprise visit from Slapshot, the mascot of the Washington Capitals. He brought a message of eating right, exercising and staying healthy. The students enjoyed the break in their normal routine and loved meeting a local "celebrity".

Friday night, dozens of families gathered for the food truck tailgate. The Greatest American Hot Dogs truck peddled gourmet dogs, and Pepos (international cuisine) parked in the parking lot, while families ate and drank under a large tent in the parking lot, enjoying each other's company and catching up from the summer.

The playground (relocated last year from the far side of the parking lot to the near edge of the playing field) was mobbed by



Slapshot and student helpers spread the message about healthy living

children, while adults socialized on the beautiful autumn evening. Lines for the food trucks were so long, that quick-thinking organizers had to call in pizza to sell.

Revelers sang a surprise happy birthday to Principal Susan Sheehan and enjoyed marbled birthday cake.

By Sunday afternoon, the playing field was transformed into carnival grounds. Seven different activities ringed the field, including obstacle courses, climbing walls, slides, and sports challenges. Parents and children alike gawked at the air-powered batting tee off of which youngsters hit plastic baseballs.

A tense egg-toss competition ended in a win for Paul Kerlin and Nico Manlapaz, who tossed and caught their egg 10 yards without breaking it.

Some attendees took in a Tae Kwon Do demonstration from nearby King Tiger Martial Arts. Young students of instructor Sean Kim showed their skills with weapons and at breaking boards.

Continued on page 9



Picnic Attracts Record Crowd



Under the Big Tent with food, drink and the Redskins

Growing God's Garden

As seasons are changing - students returning to school, weather cooling, we at Saint Andrew Apostle are watching for signs of first frost as we complete our second year harvesting vegetables in God's Garden. Last year, Mrs. Miller's kindergarten class (class of 2013-2014) began the year harvesting peppers and tomatoes before the first frost. Throughout the year, they tracked the outside temperature to determine the proper time to plant. Over the winter, tomato, pepper and various kinds of

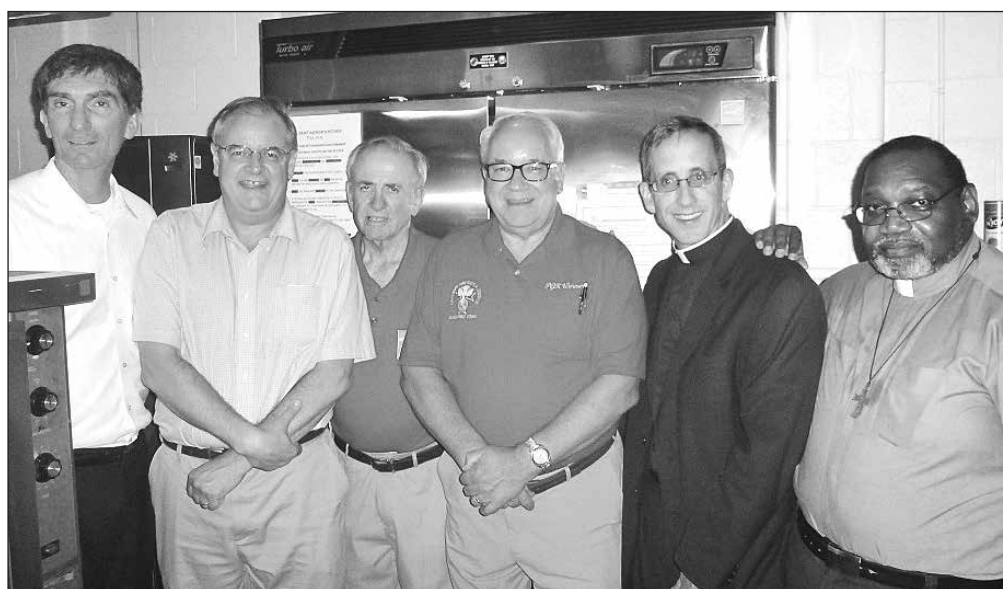
squash seedlings were planted and carefully nurtured in the classroom greenhouse as the students eagerly awaited the time when the seedlings could be transplanted in the garden.

In March, the kindergarten class ventured out to plant an early crop of peas and lettuce which they harvested in May. When the weather warmed, they transplanted the seedlings and sowed seeds for pumpkins, bush beans and pole beans. Over the summer, parishioners tended the garden - watering, weeding and harvesting.

Thanks to a partnership with Saint Camillus parish, their food bank accepted our harvest.

If all goes well, in October, we hope the current kindergarten class will join in harvesting peas and broccoli, planted for fall harvest. In the spring, we hope to add strawberries to God's Garden. In the meantime, we continue to gain inspiration from Dorothy Frances Gurney's poem, "The kiss of the sun for pardon, the song of the birds for mirth, one is nearer God's heart in a garden than anywhere else on earth".

OPT



Shown with the newly installed freezer: Tom Beck, Bill Bolin, Marvin Schutloffel, Werner Moeller, Father Dan Leary, Deacon Michael Bond

K of C Council Activities Support Parish

Thanks to the hard work of many Knights, the Monsignor Thomas M. Wells Council (Saint Andrew's Parish), was able to raise enough money to purchase a new freezer for the school. It replaces an old, inoperable single door freezer that was beyond repair. A special thanks to Worthy Past Grand Knight John O'Donnell who was able to obtain a very favorable

bid for a commercial double door freezer.

Using funds from the proceeds of the Parish Pancake Breakfasts, the Council voted unanimously to purchase a dual door model for under \$4,200. Upon delivery, Sir Knights Werner Moeller and Marvin Schutloffel accepted, moved and set up the freezer in the kitchen. It is used by the school as

well as other parish groups.

Hosted by the Council, Parish Pancake Breakfasts are held, after the morning Masses, the second Sunday of the month, September through April. Serving pancakes, eggs, sausage, fruit and a variety of drinks, the Knights started the event to provide parishioners with a nice way to get together after Mass. It's

Continued on page 9

St. Andrew Apostle Parish

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Silver Spring, MD

Rev. Daniel P. Leary,
Pastor

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St. Andrew Apostle School

Susan M. Sheehan,
Principal

301-649-3555

GOLF

Con't from page 2

Some did, most did not, but all had fun. The course was in excellent shape; and the players enjoyed networking, laughter and golf. The outing was capped off by a delicious lunch provided by the Falls Road staff.

This year's winners were the foursome of Luis Moran, Vince Lynott, Berne Peake and Jon LeSage. Adding to the fun were contests for the longest drive and closest-to-the-pin.

CBN-MC now shifts focus to its 21st Annual Gala to be held on November 21 at the Bethesda North Hotel & Conference Center. This year, Donald J. Urgo, Sr., President

and CEO of Urgo Hotels & Resorts, will be honored as the 2014 CBN Catholic Business Person of the Year. Don is well known throughout the Archdiocese for his dedicated support of Catholic education.

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

We apply the principles of our faith in the marketplace; promote valuable networking opportunities among CBN-MC members, as well as additional support within the County for the education of our young men and women. Profits generated by CBN-MC, includ-

ing several specific fund raising events during the year, go to support Montgomery County, Catholic schools and students through the CBN-MC Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

From the beginning the Members of CBN-MC have made Catholic Education the focus of their charitable work. To date, CBN-MC has distributed \$788,600 spread among Development Grants to Catholic schools (\$398,600), Essay Scholarships (\$182,500), and Need-Based Scholarships (\$207,500).

For information on CBN-MC membership or the 21st Annual Gala, including seats, tables and sponsorship, visit www.cbnmc.com.

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NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Con't from page 8

Under the tent in the parking lot, the Redskins faithful took in the tense Redskins game that ended in defeat, 37-34 at the hands of the rival Eagles.

Hamburgers, hot dogs, cotton candy, and snow cones filled the stomachs of festival-goers. Volunteers at the snowcone stand found themselves swarmed by bees who were smitten with the sugary "grape," "strawberry," and "blueberry" syrup. The bees were harmless.

Record crowds attended the carnival and the school was able to raise over \$7,800 to support Catholic education.

Parishioner Ben Landers flew a drone (armed only with a camera) over the carnival, providing visitors to Saint Andrew Facebook page a beautiful birds-eye view of the festivities.

The volunteer effort for the weekend was massive. Leslie Zarrelli headed the carnival committee, and in all over 70 volunteers carried out every task from carrying 5,000lbs of ice, to setting up, to selling tickets, grilling and serving food, to cleaning up.

Our next big event will be our Adult Oktoberfest, which will be on Saturday, October 25th at 6pm. We will have German style food, entertainment, decorations and activities. Come join us for a fun evening!

OPT

K of C

Con't from page 8

also been a good fundraiser for the parish and school.

Other October activities hosted by the Council include a Silent Auction and Oktoberfest themed meal on October 18 as well as the annual Soccer Challenge on October 13. Held from 3 to 5 pm on the Saint Andrew Athletic field, girls and boys, ages 10 to 14 are invited to participate. Certificates will be given to all participants and winners in each age group will advance to the District Championship. District winners advance to the State Championship.

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Feast of the Transfiguration

In the tradition-steeped countries of Mexico, Central and South America, a special connection to all things regarding Jesus takes place. Every aspect of the Savior's life is celebrated and commemorated in a very justified, dramatic fashion. This past August, the spirit of devotion by SJN Hispanic parishioners was generously shared with the entire parish as everyone came together to celebrate the El Salvador del Mundo (The Savior of the World) on the Sunday the church commemorates the Feast of the Transfiguration.

The parish was blessed with the loan of a beautiful statue of Our Lord to use in the celebration. Processional songs, prayers and the statue of the Divine Savior prompted thoughts of God the Father's words "My Son, the beloved...listen to Him." May we always listen and transform into all He wants us to become.

OPT



SJN Parish celebrated the Feast of El Salvador del Mundo (The Savior of the World) with Holy Mass and Procession of the statue of the Transfigured Jesus.



SJN Priests, Fathers Joe Rogers (far L.) and Dave Wells (far R.) join the Dwyer family on the day their oldest son Mark (Center) departs with the blessings of the parish as he enters St. John Paul II Seminary in Washington, DC.

Man on a Mission

By Mary Beth de Ribeaux

When Mark Dwyer went to Mass on Sunday, August 17 -- his last Mass here at his home parish of St. John Neumann before entering the seminary for the Archdiocese of Washington -- he felt his senses heightened. More attentive than ever, he pondered how a priest reflects Jesus Christ and felt "a flood of love blitz my heart." At that Mass, our pastor, Fr. Joe Rogers, presented Mark with the four-book set of *Liturgy of the Hours* (the official set of daily prayers to be recited by the clergy)

as a gift from the parish.

"I didn't expect that," says Mark, who has used the book each day since. Expressing his gratitude for the parish, he adds, "I wouldn't be where I am without the community, my parents, and the help of Our Lady."

Mark felt a call to the priesthood gradually growing over the past year or two, as he deepened his prayer life and looked for opportunities to serve. "I've had doubts, like most other seminarians," he admits. "But I put them aside because I know the Lord has placed something in my heart that's a higher mission."

With his military background (he served as cavalry scout platoon leader and hopes to become an Army chaplain), Mark likes to think in terms of receiving a mission and executing it. For now, Mark sees his mission at St. John Paul II Seminary as learning about the Faith, defending the Faith, and spreading the Word of Jesus. "I'm all in," he says. "I will give 100%. I just want to be a vehicle of His love."

OPT

St. John Neumann Parish

9000 Warfield Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20882

Fr. Joseph Rogers,
Pastor

Rus Wester,
OPT Editor
301-330-0047



Father Joe's family gathered in the SJN Parish Center for the first time together at Mass since his ordination in 2007. "Joy" was the word and feeling of the day.

Cardinal Wuerl Makes It Official

By Rus Wester

On Sunday, September 14, Archbishop Donald Cardinal Wuerl came to the parish to officially install Fr. Joe Rogers as our Pastor during the Exaltation of the Holy Cross Mass.

Priests, deacons, religious, seminarians, visitors, hundreds of parishioners, rectory staff, members of SJN ministries, filled every corner and seat of the church and parish center, all charged with joy.

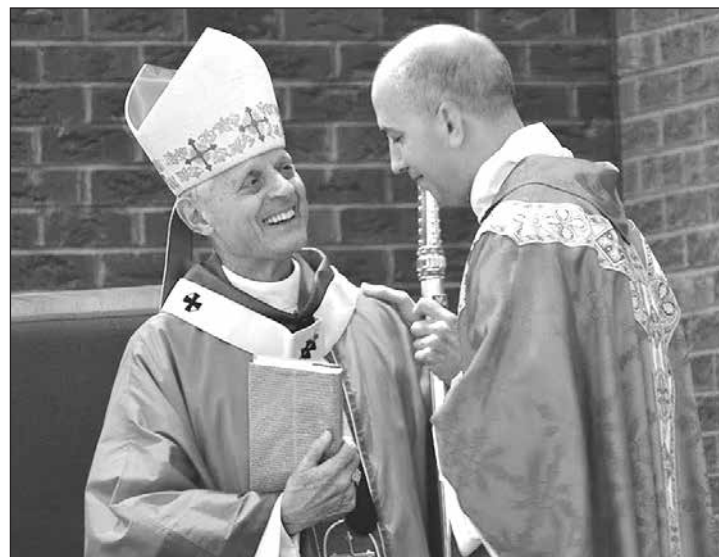
"It was a day of deep gratitude, praising the Lord for the gift of His Mercy in my life, in my family, and in the lives of our parishioners," said Fr. Joe. "I was so humbled that the Cardinal would come. I thanked him for being our shepherd, for ordaining me as a priest and sending me to study Sacred Scripture, and now for installing me as pastor of this parish-family of Jesus, all of us united by faith here at St. John Neumann."

In his homily, Cardinal Wuerl described the Church as the family of God, that in the end we seek as a family, through the triumph of the exaltation of the cross, to enter into eternal life together.

Father Joe publicly thanked the three families he is part of: his parish family, his natural family and his ecclesial family.

"The first is the family of our local church of the Archdiocese. It was a beautiful moment at the Installation to ponder as a priest, being entrusted by the chief shepherd of the local church, to lead our parish family and really give thanks to the Lord for this gift," said Father Joe.

"The second family is my natu-



Father Rogers thanks Cardinal Wuerl for his support and confidence as Fr. Joe renews his Ordination Vows during the Installation Ceremony

ral family," continued Father Joe. "If you met my family, well, here comes everybody... an imperfect bunch with our history, difficulties and struggles like most, but more importantly, experiencing the healing of the Lord in our personal relationships and as a family. We can all testify to it."

My convert-Mother formed us with great love in the faith and I thanked her along with my Dad, a well-decorated U.S. Army soldier, who often took me to visit the men in his command. I got my first lesson on being a Pastor there. Dad taught me that anytime we have a position of responsibility or authority, it's always to be used for those who don't have it.

He always looked out for his soldiers."

Father Joe has been part of an ecclesial family for some time. "It is called the Family of the Pierced

Hearts. Like many, people today are part of a spiritual family-group like Charismatic Renewal or Opus Dei. The Pierced Hearts provides, wherever you are--as a priest, married or single person--a Marian spiritual path, an interior home and school to grow in holiness and to share the joy of the Gospel. I was humbled and grateful that the Mother Foundress of this family, Mother Adela Galindo, came from Miami for the Installation."

Closing thoughts, Father Joe? "We had our multi-generational, multi-cultural choirs, children cantered, the Knights of Columbus were there. The Cardinal's heart was touched and I believe he was very much at home in our parish. I couldn't have been more grateful for the way everything went and the way Our Lady guided it all."

70 YEARS

Can't from page 1

joy, as well as the challenges. I think one of their tips for a great marriage would be ... *don't give up!*"

The bride and groom added: "It may not be what we have done to bring us so many years of marriage. We both see it as a gift given to us by God. We've been blessed with great children, great family."

Congratulations Mary and Carmine!

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St. Mary's eighth graders greeted students on the first day of school with signs and cheers. The enthusiasm carried over once inside the building as it is all smiles!! Greeting old friends and making new ones is a great way to start the new school year.



Social Concerns Corner

Social Concerns had a busy September and has many initiatives planned for October. The largest is the annual Gabriel Project Drive which runs from October through the first week of November.

A *Health and Wellness for Aging and Disabilities* event is scheduled for October 25 in the Parish Hall at St. Mary's. Speakers will share information available in Montgomery County for aging and disability services). A vendor fair of area providers will also be in the school gym. This is a great event for both seniors and their families from parishes across Montgomery County. There is no charge.

OPT

Education, Excitement and Extra-Curriculars

This year St. Mary's offers its students more avenues for a well-rounded experience at the school. Extended learning opportunities are available through the Homework club which meets weekly, an HSPT prep class on Mondays for 8th graders, blocked scheduling and organizational skills classes for middle school students and Peer Assisted Learning (PAL).

PAL is one of the great success stories at St. Mary's. Students from 1-8 have the opportunity to receive math tutoring from qualified students and alumnae. It speaks volumes that graduates are willing to return to the school and assist current students with math skills.

The extracurricular activities abound as well. The drama club just announced *Alice in Wonderland Jr* as their annual production! The Scratch club, Robotics, Chess Club, choral arts and Schola choir in addition to the Yearbook and

Newspaper Clubs ensures that there is something for everyone!

It is a hands-on year with a focus on touching and experiencing science, innovative ways to teach core subjects like Math and Religion and the opportunity for students to think outside the box and express themselves!

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Pastor

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St. Mary's School

Mrs. Debby Eisel, Principal

301-762-4179

Maureen Stiles, Parish Editor

301-990-4329



Middle school students gather for a photo after presenting their speeches as part of Student Government Elections. The results are in! Emmet Scanlon, President; Lauren Antonucci, Vice President; Libby Rowe, Secretary; Charlie Rowe, Treasurer and Chris Walker, Historian.

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Fund Raiser at Fair Successful – Many Volunteers

By Sylvia Jones

Our parish community was on duty at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair, this summer selling pork barbecue, grilled chicken, hot dogs, hamburgers and piles of French fries. Our goal was to raise funds to support the parish. More than 220 adults, teens and families volunteered their time to work a shift, cooking, cleaning or prepping the tons of food served during the eight days of the Fair.

The mission was a finan-



St. Francis "open for business" at Montgomery County Agricultural Fair



At left, Customer check-out team. L to R – Katrina Schmidt, Barbara Schmidt, Colin Preston

Below, Serious business of preparing marinated chicken. L to R, clockwise: Evelyn Roebuck, Eunice Goh, Chris Goh, Sylvia Jones, and Ann Culver

cial success. However, the greatest benefit was the sense of community created by individuals working together. We are planning to do it again next year. Come hungry to our corner of Sycamore and Maple at the 2015 Fair.

OPT



St. Francis Religious Education Classes Resume

By Susan Anderson, Director of Religious Education

During the week of September 21, St. Francis of Assisi Parish started the new year of Religious Education, welcoming just over 300 students in Preschool through Grade 8. Elementary classes (grades 1-5) are offered at two session times: Sunday morning, 9:20-10:35 am, and Monday afternoon, 4:30-5:45 pm. Preschool and Kindergarten classes meet on Sundays from 11:10-12:15 pm. Middle school classes (grades 6, 7 and 8) are offered on Monday and Tuesday evenings, from 6:45-8:00pm.

Our parish community is blessed with a wonderful team of catechists

and classroom aides, including more than 50 adults and 15 teens, who volunteer their time each week to teach religious education classes. In addition to these weekly classes, we also look forward to the special sessions that will be offered for our children and young people, and their families, who are preparing for sacraments this year. St. Francis also offers a monthly class for children and young people with special needs and their families.

More information about our Religious Education program is available on our web site (http://www.sfadw.org/re_prek.php) or by calling our Religious Education Office at 301-258-9193. It's still not too late to register!

OPT

Resurrection



200 Say 'Thanks' to Sister Rita

About 200 members of Resurrection Church attended a farewell celebration Sept. 14 for Sister Rita Ricker (right), who served as Director of Social Justice/Outreach at the parish for 14 years. Sister Rita recently left Resurrection to serve on the Leadership Team for the Religious of Jesus and Mary (R.J.M.) in the U.S. Province. Sabine Paul (left) was one of the many parishioners who came to the farewell reception to say "thanks" to Sister Rita for her service to the parish. The Resurrection social justice program now includes numerous activities to assist the hungry and homeless; advocate for health, peace, justice and environmental protection; and unite the parish helping a sister parish in Haiti. Photo by Peter Fagan

Concert Series Includes Space Journey, 75-Year Retrospective

The latest "Living Arts Concert Series" at Resurrection Church will feature everything from classical to ragtime music, Irish music and dancing, Latin jazz, the traditional Christmas concert, a space journey and a 75-year retrospective of popular music.

In a change from previous years, the 2014-2015 concerts will be presented at 4 p.m. Sundays from October to May, with the exception of the Christmas concert at 7 p.m. Dec. 21, according to Concert Series Director Annick Kanter-Saint Hubert.

The nine concerts are free, although donations are suggested. Resurrection Church is located at 3315 Greencastle Rd., Burtonsville, MD 20866.

The space journey concert, dubbed "Music of the Spheres," will be held Jan. 18 and feature Resurrection organist Bill Wisnom. The concert will explore the wonders of the cosmos, including Icarus' fiery flight to the Sun, the waxing and waning of the moon, the magi's sojourn to the Morning Star, and Jupiter the "Bringer of Jollity."

The series closes May 24 with the "75 years of music" retrospective, going back to the time when the Washington diocese was created. On the radio, happy music topped the charts with songs like "Chattanooga Choo Choo" and "Rum and Coca-Cola." In Catholic Churches, Mass was still in Latin, but many popular hymns were sung in English. The concert features both the sacred and the popular

music over those years.

The Christmas concert is "back by popular demand," with handbells, brass and organ music, and various choirs performing the songs of the angels and shepherds in celebrating the birth of the Messiah, according to Kanter-Saint Hubert.

The overall tone of the concert series will vary from "serious and scared to whimsical and humorous" while presenting great music for the next nine months, she said.

The series began Oct. 4 with duo Al Petteway and Amy White performing original, traditional, contemporary Celtic, and Appalachian-influenced music on acoustic guitar, mandolin, Celtic harp, piano, banjo, lap dulcimer and world percussion.

Other dates in the series include:

Nov. 9

A "Tribute to Luciano Pavarotti" with tenor Antonio Giuliano, a frequent soloist with the United States Army Chorus, accompanied by Dana Scott, pianist

Dec. 7

"Mary, Most Highly Favored Lady," with the Voix de Femmes Chamber Choir and soprano Suzanne Karpov, presenting compositional treasures such as the famous "Ceremony of Carols" by Benjamin Britten and "Rejoice Greatly" (from Handel's Messiah) and the beloved "Gesu Bambino"

Dec. 21

Annual Christmas concert (7pm)

Continued on page 25

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Service Project

Sixth graders at St. Patrick's School completed a month long service project supporting "In the Name of the Mother" charity. This charity, supported by Catholic Charities, was started by the McConville Family. They find ways to support mothers who have been diagnosed with breast cancer with financial assistance for rent, utilities, housecleaning, food, medical needs, and wigs. The charity was founded nearly a decade ago to honor sixth-grader Eileen McConville's mother, Megan, who lost her battle with breast cancer in 2004. Using the proceeds from a successful school bake sale, the students sponsored a hole at the "In the Name of the Mother" golf tournament held on September 12, 2014. They are pictured here along with their teacher, Mr. Jake Blauvelt, wearing pink accessories and clothing in support of breast cancer victims and their families.



St. Patrick's Student Government Association

Members of St. Patrick's Student Government Association were formally installed in a ceremony following the school's weekly liturgy on September 17, 2014. Fr. William Foley, Pastor, called the members to the altar and blessed them with holy water. The assembled student body then prayed together for strong leadership, asking that God grant the SGA members "the light of your Spirit to guide them in their responsibilities as a School Council." The following students are pictured along with Fr. Foley: Lauren Kiss (SGA President); Sofia Leusch (SGA Vice President); Billy Allston (SGA Secretary); and Carmella Rizzo (SGA Treasurer). The representatives from the middle school home-rooms are also included: Aaron Siegle and Katie Maurano (5th grade); Katherine Dow (6th grade); Emma Farren (7th grade); and Faith Flaherty, Jillian Martinko and Karina Giampetroni (8th grade). Not pictured: Azure Onyewu (6th grade).

St. Patrick's School Welcomes Its Youngest Students

On August 28, 2014, St. Patrick's School opened the doors of its first preschool program. When its first class of Kindergarteners from Fall of 2004 graduated from eighth grade in 2013, plans began in earnest to open a preschool to offer a Catholic education to younger siblings of school families, young student parishioners, and parish neighbors. Following ten years as a successful K-8 school, St. Patrick's School now offers a Pre-K program for four year olds. The opening day was marked with much fanfare as sixteen "pioneer" students began their journey at St. Patrick's School. Fr. William Foley, St. Patrick's Pastor, offered a prayer and blessing for the school and its youngest students. Then with assistance from the students (using safety scissors, of course!), Fr. Foley cut the ribbon officially opening the preschool. Parents and students enjoyed a celebratory breakfast hosted by the Home and School Association.

Ms. Mary Jo Glacken serves as the prekindergarten teacher. She brings over 30 years of preschool



Pioneer St. Patrick's Prekindergarteners!

teaching experience to her new position, primarily in Archdiocese of Washington schools. Her background is in early childhood education and Ms. Glacken previously served as a director of large child-care programs for many organizations including Montgomery County Public Schools. She also recently served on the ADW committee to develop new evaluation

standards for primary report cards. Ms. Glacken is thrilled to be a part of St. Patrick's first preschool program and looks forward to "creating a learning environment through play and imagination." The theme for the year is "Adventures are waiting in PreK!" The preschool features a centers-based curriculum with emphasis on math, language arts and fine motor skills.

Ms. Glacken has a special interest in literature and plans to include book and author studies in the curriculum. She also looks forward to incorporating the Catholic faith into every part of the school day. In the classroom, she is assisted by full-time preschool aide, Ms. Connie Silva-Arce.

The preschool has been fully integrated into the elementary school community. Students receive enrichment with art, Spanish, music and physical education taught by the elementary school specialists. The preschoolers have teamed up with fifth grade, who will serve as mentor "buddies" to the four year olds.

Buddies assist these youngest students with Mass, monthly learning activities and service projects. The preschool offers a daily program with half-day and full-day options, as well as an aftercare program.

Principal Christie Anne Short is delighted to welcome these youngest members into the St. Patrick's School family. "We are excited to help our 4 year olds grow into lifelong learners who are excited about their faith, friends, and community," Ms. Short commented. All interested parents of future St. Patrick's preschoolers should plan to attend one of the upcoming Open Houses on December 14 (11:00am-1:00pm) and January 23rd (9am-10am). Please contact the school for further information at 301-929-9672.

OPT



Members of St. Patrick's first preschool class assist Fr. Foley, Pastor, with a ceremonial ribbon cutting inside the new classroom. The preschool which opened on August 28th offers a program for 4 year olds.

St. Patrick's Parish

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Back to School with a Picnic, Pasta, and Lots of Fun

The Our Lady of Lourdes School community celebrated our return to school with a huge picnic during the first week of school. Under the able direction of Tony Ieronimo, in his ninth year of organizing the day, the picnic went off without a hitch.

There was great music playing, students were dancing, eating hot dogs and hamburgers, jumping in the moon bounce and getting their faces painted. Parents were catching up on summer news with old friends, and welcoming new families to the school. The Home and School Association Board members were providing lots of information to newcomers and veterans alike.

It was especially nice to see so many of our alumni return to Lourdes to celebrate the beginning of school with us! The



Joe Novak and a friend getting ready to compete in a game

weather was perfect, and the teachers had an opportunity to meet the parents of their new students in a casual atmosphere.

A little over two weeks later, Monsignor Filardi welcomed school and parish families for an Italian Dinner after 5pm Mass on Saturday. Pietro Tundo made 500 meatballs and his homemade sauce for a crowd of over 175. With bread from Mamma Lucia's, cannoli and ice cream sandwiches, we had a meal fit for kings and queens. For the ridiculously low price of \$10 per family, all of our big families found themselves with a real bargain on their hands!

Both events were scheduled to allow Mrs. McGann and Monsignor Filardi to welcome everyone back to church and school after the long summer. The Lourdes family is back together again!

OPT



Diego Orrego and Chris Walsh enjoying their hot dogs



Mrs. Catherine Lacey, Charlotte Lacey and Brooke Underwood

Stop In For Prayers One Day!

By Maureen Skelly

If you happen in to Our Lady of Lourdes between 8 and 8:15 on any given weekday morning, you won't hear lockers slamming, see students rushing to class, or anything over the PA system. Walk into the gym, however, and you will experience a tradition that is unique to our school. Every morning, the students, staff, and families of Our Lady of Lourdes School meet together for a quick assembly and shared prayers.

Students as young as three years old make announcements about their Juice Day or show-and-tell, elementary aged students share new shoes and wiggly teeth, middle schoolers share soccer scores and CYO wins and losses, and students of all ages celebrate the birthdays of classmates, parents, dogs, third cousins, and more. Students feel a part of our community from even their earliest days at Lourdes as Mrs. McGann calls them all by name to share any news they might have, and the whole community claps in approval and celebration.

Led by our eighth graders and Mrs. McGann, we pray for our troops and any special intentions in our community as we say the Morning Offering and a prayer of the month. Following our prayers, we stand together for the Pledge of Allegiance and sing a patriotic song. In September, we stand proudly as we sing the National Anthem, and in October we march to "You're a Grand Old Flag."

We finish our time together with words of wisdom from Mrs. McGann to guide our decisions that day and a joke by a student. Parents head to the lobby where they see each class off for the day, and Mr. Long and Mrs. McGann wish each student a "Good Morning" or "Have a good day!" as they leave. Parents, students, and teachers leave the gym with full hearts, clear minds, and smiles to last us through the day.

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St. John the Evangelist Welcomes Three New Teachers

This story was researched by the following SJE students: fifth graders Femi Tanimowo and Daniel Francis; seventh graders Helen Hoang and Chantal Larios; and eighth grader, Sarah Hagos, Aidan Mockridge, and Kathleen Schech.

St. John the Evangelist welcomes three new teachers into their fold. They share similar backgrounds, having been raised in Catholic families and educated at parochial schools much like St. John's. Two teachers, Miss Anna Davitt (fifth-grade homeroom) and Miss Sarah Kolosky (Upper Wing Science teacher) are local to this area and grew up in Silver Spring and Olney, Maryland respectively. Miss Emily Pacconi, our new eighth-grade homeroom teacher, hails from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and recently relocated to this area to fill the position.

Unique Spirit

When asked if they could name something special or unique about working at St. John the Evangelist, all three teachers agreed that it has an exceptional feeling of community spirit. Says Miss Davitt: "SJE is an incredible community that I feel blessed to be a part of. The faculty, staff, students and families have all gone above and beyond to make me feel welcomed as a new member." Miss Pacconi feels that it is her "privilege" to be able to work at a Catholic grade school like St. John's.

Passions and Inspirations

The students may have been somewhat surprised to learn that these women did not all set out to become teachers. As a young girl, Miss Pacconi thought she was going to become a veterinarian but was inspired by two of her grade school teachers to become a teacher instead. This story was echoed by Miss Kolosky as well who felt called to be a teacher after being motivated by one of her favorite English teachers. On the other hand, Miss Davitt, a graduate of St. Bernadette's school and the Academy of the Holy Cross, says she wanted to be a teacher since she was a child and has many friends and relatives who are teachers who were her role models. Seeing them demonstrate their passion and love of the profession assured her it was the right career choice for her.

L to R: Anna Davitt, Sarah Kolosky and Emily Pacconi

But even though these teachers enjoy teaching very much, they are still faced with daily challenges. When asked about challenges in teaching that make their jobs rewarding, Miss Davitt said "the process of learning never stops, even for teachers." Miss Kolosky told the children she enjoys "working with children from different backgrounds."

Our crack student interviewers also discovered that their new teachers have many hobbies, including: spending time outdoors (especially at the beach) hiking, watching and playing sports, running, reading and baking.

Goals

While the students may have imagined that their teachers had already achieved most of their goals, they learned they have other things they'd still like to accomplish. For instance, their new science teacher,

Miss Kolosky would like to start a community garden and get a science fair back up and running again

at SJE. Both Miss Kolosky and Miss Pacconi dream of going back to school for their Masters' degrees. And Miss Pacconi hopes to open a pierogi shop one day!

Guidance

Finally, all three teachers were asked to give advice to seventh and eighth graders who are hoping to get accepted at Catholic high schools and we leave you with their sage guidance:

Anna Davitt: "Work hard! Catholic schools are competitive and challenging, but I have always been extremely grateful for my Catholic education. Your choice in high school helps to shape you into the person you are meant to be, so choose wisely."

Sarah Kolosky: "Appreciate your small school now and try to prepare yourself for big change. And when you get to high school, don't forget to focus on some extracurricular activities and have fun!"

Emily Pacconi: "Always be yourself and always follow your heart. And, don't be in such a hurry to grow up!"

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Every Catholic Should Make a Trip to Italy

Buy a Chance for a Tuscany/Rome Culinary Escape!

St. John the Evangelist Parish community is selling raffle tickets for a Tuscany/Rome trip for two as part of its 2014 Fall Gala & Auction. Only 200 tickets will be sold at \$100 per chance. The winning ticket will be pulled on October 25, 2014 at the parish gala. Winner need not be present to win.

The trip includes:

- Five days in Tuscany; 2 nights in Rome
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To purchase your ticket online using a credit card, go to: <https://jes.ejoinme.org/ComeFlyWithMe>.

To purchase your ticket via check; please send checks made out to St. John the Evangelist and mail to the St. John the Evangelist Rectory at: 10103 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20902, ATTN: Ashley Campbell. You gotta play to win!

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Eric Sillers – Linking Present to Past

One of the first things a parishioner at Silver Spring's St. John the Evangelist might have noticed, when Eric Sillers became Director of Liturgical Music in April of this year, was more Latin hymns.

"The new translation brings us closer to the Latin rite," he explains, "and we have more knowledge of the past available to us than any people who ever lived. I'm grateful that my parish role allows me to share our musical heritage and the way contemporary work builds on it."

Sillers grew up in a home full of all kinds of music. He attended St. Joseph's parochial school in Beltsville, DeMatha Catholic High School, and then Shenandoah Conservatory in Winchester, VA. From grade school on he sang in choirs, performed in community theatre groups, and even made several European choir tours.

He loves old music, his young family, his friends, acting, home improvement, opera conducting, the occasional video game and yes, new music too. Before com-

ing to St. John's he directed choirs in three parishes and worked with many other groups and congregations. In 2012 he was a founding member of Third Practice, a professional chamber vocal ensemble that seeks to bring the beauty of the human voice to new and broader audiences.

His plans for St. John's? "We can start with doubling the choir. This parish has lots of talented musicians, and they've had good pedagogy from my predecessors. I hope that more will come out of the woodwork and some who have been part of the choir in the past will come back. Instrumental talent is also welcome. We have some cool things coming up!"

Short-term plans include two requiems November 2 and 4 and First Vespers on December 7, the eve of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Through the holiday season, as on any given Sunday, parishioners will experience a welcoming mix of familiar tunes from the hymnal and others that are not yet familiar.

"I'm still a little scared," Sillers

admits. "There's so much I don't know. I'll listen to suggestions, base programs on the talent available, and try not to get too ambitious too fast. But maybe, definitely, a children's choir for the feasts. A praise band. A flute ensemble ... I look forward to working with an active liturgy committee and being guided by the liturgy. To see parishioners come together to make music in the service of the Lord, and do it well, is always one of my greatest joys."

St. John the Evangelist Parish

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Pastor

St. John the Evangelist School
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St. John's Celebrates 20th Anniversary with Sister Parish in Haiti

By Cynthia Norris

This month, St. John the Baptist Catholic Community (SJB) will celebrate 20 years



St. Pierre Dental Clinic

of collaboration with St. Pierre, in Baradères, Haiti. As a part of the Global Solidarity Mandate in Catholic Social Teachings, SJB parishioners have sought to assist in supporting improved health, hygiene, and education. Baradères is in a remote location in Haiti. North of Les Cayes, the terrain is extremely hazardous and difficult to travel. As a result, little or no assistance has been provided to the people of Baradères and its outlying 14 chapels. Over the past 20 years, SJB parishioners have generously donated over 1 million dollars in cash, school and medical supplies, and precious edu-



Haiti Mission

cational, medical and dental services to the people of Baradères. The fellowship that we share is

enriched when we travel each year to Baradères and when the pastor of St. Pierre visits SJB every fall.

On Saturday, October 11th, we will host a celebration of our

Continued on page 30

"Boots & Bling" Parent Social Brings Western-Theme Fun!

By Molly DiPippo

St. John the Baptist School held a brand new social event entitled "Boots & Bling" (Boots), on Friday, September 19. It was a western theme "Back-to-School" party for parents only. The free event was held outside, on the school grounds.

Boots included dinner, and was planned with the hope that all parents would come to socialize and get to know fellow parents. Boots attendees enjoyed gorgeous summer evening weather, near the

school's Butterfly Garden. Party attendees dressed in country attire with lots of bling for the ladies.

A mechanical bull was the showstopper of the night. Parents and our new Principal, Brian Blomquist, rallied together and went for a ride when challenged by fellow parents.

Dancing took place under the stars with DJ Dude Jimmy and his side-kick Hoedown Helen. (Jimmy and Helen Carr are SJB parents who often volunteer their time and talent to school events.) One attendee noted that SJB parents may have

been challenged by dancing to the country music, but they rose to the occasion.

"We didn't get as many kindergarten and 1st grade parents as we would have liked, but it was a great showing of the SJB parent community," remarked one attendee. "We had such a fun night with our wonderful community of friends at SJB."

This sounds like an amazing start to the 2014/2015 school year!

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SJB Parents Enjoy Boots and Bling Social Event. Photo by Michael Chu

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St. John the Baptist's New Principal Reflects on his First Month at SJB

By Molly DiPippo

With the first month of the school year complete, new Principal Brian Blomquist shared his impressions on his new and exciting role. Here are some highlights from the interview:

"The first month of school has been a little different than I expected."

I remind myself that I am still learning about how things are done at St. John's. Sometimes, when the pace picks up, I may get a bit ahead of myself. We had a meeting for new parents, and when I tried to answer one parent's question, one of the teachers very politely corrected me.

"The teachers have been extremely supportive."

The more I see them, the more I am impressed with our teachers. They are unusually collaborative

and motivated. I listen and support them in small ways. We streamlined our dismissal procedures so teachers are finished watching students 10 minutes earlier. We did that because the teachers' school day starts 20 minutes earlier this year!

"School days rarely go the way you expect them to."

There is always a chance something unexpected will happen – a surprise visit by the health inspector, a student sent to see me, or a concerned parent needing attention.

"The students are always the best part of the job."

As they learn, they may make mistakes. When one student was sent to see me, I found out he had been to the dentist that morning and he'd scraped his knee at lunch. I told him with confidence that his day would improve. They get so excited when they see me arriving or leaving on my motorcycle! I'm

the only male teacher at the school, so that alone changes the environment a little.

"The families at St. John the Baptist have been great."

I wanted everyone, especially the students, to feel comfortable from the very first day. I brought the students to the gym to pray together on the first morning. Usually, prayer is read over the loudspeaker, but I wanted the kids to see who I was on that very first day.

On Back to School night we had a fair for parents and volunteers. Parents were free to walk around, talk with each other, and learn about assorted school organizations. The fair was held outside on a beautiful night. It was well attended and a big success."

We're so very grateful to Mr. Blomquist for his strong dedication to our students and to our school.

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"My skills may be duplicated by others, but my knowledge and expertise will set me apart. I look forward to working with you."

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The Vital Voices club meets once a month at Holy Cross. Organizer, Anne Paxton is seated in the front row on the left.



A Vital Role for Vital Voices

Holy Cross Sixth Grader, Anne Paxton was so inspired by the autobiography of Malala Yousafzai, *I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* – a book she read for a school book report – that she took action. Last spring, Anne organized a fundraiser for Mother of Mercy Secondary Girls' School in Lare, Kenya. Girls from all over Kenya are provided an education, room and board in order to transform their lives.

This year, Anne has organized a Vital Voices club for Middle School girls at Holy Cross. Vital Voices is a global partnership whose mission, described on their website, is “to investigate and bring visibility to extraordinary women around the world by unleashing leadership potential to transform lives and accelerate peace and prosperity in their communities.”

Anne's leadership exemplifies an aspect of the Vital Voices mission to promote women into leadership roles within communities. “Vital Voices is a chance for Middle School girls at Holy Cross to learn about women's

educational circumstances in other countries. By forming this club, I hope to encourage others to make a stand for girls' education throughout the world. At our first meeting we learned more about this issue and brainstormed ideas for future gathering,” Anne explained. The group will meet once a month.

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**More Holy Cross News
on Page XX**

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Maryland General Election is on November 4

See How the Candidates Responded to Survey of Key Election Issues

Maryland voters will head to the polls this fall to elect a governor, eight U.S. Representatives, and 188 members of the General Assembly, among others.

The Maryland Catholic Conference has prepared resources to help Catholic voters understand the issues that are important to the Catholic Church and to assist parishes in promoting faithful citizenship.

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■ Read about the Key Issues



of interest to the Catholic Church. The Maryland Catholic Conference has prepared a brief summary of the Public Policy Positions of the Catholic Church.

■ Learn about the candidates. Past Candidate Surveys and Voting Records are available at the Maryland Catholic Conference website.

■ Pray for a mind and heart open to the truth our faith and reason reveal to us.

■ Vote

Important Dates: 2014 Elections

Tuesday, October 14: Deadline to register to vote in general election

October 23 – October 30: Early voting period

Tuesday, November 4: General election (Governor, U.S. House of Representatives, General Assembly)

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CRE

Con't from page 5

programs. Both presenters will be available throughout the year to advise McDonald and the parish's catechists on strategies to support all children in the classroom.

To continue the conversation on faith and disabilities, Holy Redeemer will host training on Saturday, October 25, 2014, from 1-3 pm. Nationally-recognized autism expert, Deacon Larry Sutton, Ph.D., will explain how to create meaningful and inclusive parish programs. Deacon Sutton, author of a book about autism and catechesis published in 2013 by Loyola Press, is currently director of Pre-Theology at St. Vincent's Seminary in Latrobe, PA. He will speak on his success in teaching about the sacraments to children with severe disabilities, in part by using teen faith mentors. All are welcome to attend this event; especially teen faith mentors (including siblings). Please contact Marylou McDonald at mcdonald.kensington@comcast.net. More information is also available from the event's sponsor, the Archdiocese of Washington's Department of Special Needs Ministries at 301-853-4560 or specialneedsministry@adw.org.

Holy Redeemer also has a group of parishioners that has come together to form the Friends of Flynn committee which is “aimed at creating an atmosphere of inclusion for adults and families of children with special needs.” Spiritual, social, and community programs offered by Friends of Flynn echo the message that, at Holy Redeemer, all are welcome. More information on Friends of Flynn is available at <http://www.friendsofflynn.com>.

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St. Bartholomew's Youth Group Roars into Fall

Bonfire, Water Balloon War, Scavenger Hunt, Hiking, and More!

The St. Bart's Youth Group kicked off the year by running around in search of clues in their own Scavenger hunt! In the weeks that followed they took full advantage of the outdoors by having a bonfire, water balloon war, and a hiking trip. Looking ahead, October will be filled with service activities and a talk by Fr. Tim.

Want to learn more about the group?!

The St. Barts Youth Group is a group devoted to learning that our Faith is not about rules but about experiencing true happiness and growing into the best-version of ourselves by simply doing and loving the good things of life!

The group goes bowling and ice skating, watches movies, plays sports, serves the community, listens to interesting talks and more. Youth between fifth grade and tenth grade are always welcome!



St. Bart's Youth Group members display nerves of steel with water balloons in the Church courtyard. Photo Courtesy of Maria Kaufmann

Watch for upcoming activities in the St. Bart's Church Bulletin or contact Maria Kaufmann at 32kaufmann@cardinalmail.cua.edu.

OPT

A BRIDGE APART

Con't from page 1

their home countries. The screening was followed by a discussion about the thousands of immigrant children now in the Washington area seeking family or asylum and the services available to help them and their families. The screening was a joint undertaking of both St. Bartholomew Parish and Catholic Charities. The film was produced by Ginger Wolf, a long-time St. Bart's parishioner with over 25 years of film-making experience. It had its origins in 2007 when Mrs. Wolf took a Catholic Relief Services trip through Central America, which made her aware of the terrible poverty in that region and especially the dire straits of migrants. She wanted to make the film "to try to make people aware of the circumstances of these people." She did not intend a political statement, "just connecting people face-to-face." The idea to show the film at St. Bart's began with a conversation between Ginger Wolf and fellow St. Bart's parishioner Mary Yerrick, who agreed to help and took a lead role in organizing the screening.

Father Mark Knestout, Pastor of St. Bartholomew Parish, told OPT, "We were very excited to host this film, in conjunction with Catholic Charities." He noted that Pope Francis has warned against the "globalization of indifference." Father Knestout observed, "It's a trap Christians must try not to fall into and this film makes us

aware of this issue. The children coming here, fleeing violence, are right here, not somewhere else. Our hearts have to be open to them. At St. Bart's, our question was, 'What can we do to raise awareness of the problems facing these children and their families?'"

Msgr. John Enzler, President of Catholic Charities and resident at St. Bart's, commented, "The film is really a poignant, beautiful depiction of the struggle of these young people and their families." Msgr. Enzler told OPT, "The film brings to focus just how harrowing it must be to flee violence and poverty and head to a foreign land on a very dangerous journey. Catholic Charities has long served young people seeking safety from other countries through our Immigration Legal Services program, as well as through some of our medical and dental clinics and other general help. Now, we are excited to be part of an expanding response from the local Catholic community to simply say, 'What do you need child?'"

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 <p>GEORGETOWN VISITATION PREPARATORY SCHOOL <i>Founded 1799</i></p> <p>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 35th Street, NW • Washington, DC 20007</p>	<p>Girls</p> <p>Educating women of faith, vision, and purpose for over 200 years. Extensive array of co-curricular activities, sports, and performing arts; dynamic Christian service program. Independent School League</p> <p>Cubs • Gold & White</p>	<p>Special Programs</p> <p>Bridge programs with Georgetown University, AP & Honors Courses, Competitive athletic program & lively performing arts opportunities</p>	<p>Open House</p> <p>Saturday Oct. 18, 2014 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Entrance Exam HSPT (Offered at Visitation Dec. 6, 2014)</p>	<p>Freshman Application Deadline Dec. 5, 2014</p> <p>Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 5, 2015</p>	<p>Freshman Notification of Admission Feb. 26, 2015</p> <p>Registration Deposit Due Mid-March 2015</p>
<p>Freshman Class Size: 125 • Tuition: \$26,500 • Financial Aid: Janet Keller @ 202-337-3350 ext. 2241</p>						


 <p>OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL HIGH SCHOOL</p> <p>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 • 301-365-0955 www.olgchs.org</p>	<p>COED</p> <p>Offering a comprehensive college prep curriculum which includes The IB Program, AP & Honors courses, STEM program and the Ryken Program.</p>	<p>Home of the Blue & Gold</p> <p>Extensive co-curricular activities, 43 sport teams, Performing Arts, Speech & Debate and over 30 cultural and academic clubs. Member of the W.C.A.C.</p>	<p>Open House</p> <p>Sunday, Oct. 19, 2014 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM</p>	<p>Prospective Parent INFORMATION</p> <p>NIGHT Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2014 7:00 PM</p>	<p>Freshman Application Deadline Dec. 12, 2014</p> <p>Freshman Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Dec. 12, 2014</p>	<p>Freshman Notification of Admission Late Feb. 2015</p> <p>Freshman Registration Early March 2015</p>
<p>Tuition \$18,800</p>						

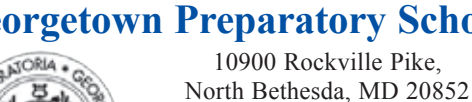
 <p>CONNELLY SCHOOL OF THE HOLY CHILD</p> <p>9029 Bradley Boulevard, Potomac, MD 20854 Shannon Gomez, Ed.D. Head of School Patricia Harden Director of Admissions • 301-365-0955 www.holychild.org • admissions@holychild.org</p>	<p>Girls 6 - 12</p> <p>Field Hockey, Cross Country, Soccer, Tennis, Volleyball, Equestrian, Basketball, Golf, Swimming, Diving, Lacrosse, Softball, Track, Dance Team</p>	<p>Special Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> College Prep Curriculum Spanish Heritage Program Online School for Girls AP & Honors Courses Fine Arts Opportunities <p>Our student teacher ratio is 8:1</p>	<p>Open Houses</p> <p>Upper School Sunday, October 26 11AM-1PM Middle School Preview Days Online Registration for Middle School Preview Days begins in September.</p>	<p>Application Deadline & Financial Aid Appl. Deadline</p> <p>UPPER SCHOOL December 5 MIDDLE SCHOOL February 2</p>	<p>Notification of Admission: UPPER SCHOOL March 2 MIDDLE SCHOOL March 9</p> <p>Reg. Deposit Due: UPPER SCHOOL March 13 MIDDLE SCHOOL March 24</p>	
<p>Freshmen Class Size: 70 • Tuition: \$28,850 Upper School; \$25,700 Middle School • Financial Aid: Patricia Harden</p>						

 <p>OAKCREST SCHOOL</p> <p>850 Balls Hill Road, McLean, VA 22101 Dr. Mary T. Ortiz, Head of School Terri Collins, Director of Admissions Cecilia Marquez, Academic Dean 703-790-5450 • Fax 703-790-5380 Oakcrest.org • admissions@oakcrest.org</p>	<p>7:1 student-teacher ratio 1 to 1 advising Vibrant International Program 21 Clubs including Model UN, Mock Trial and Jr. States of America Daily Mass</p>	<p>Basketball, Volleyball, Cross Country, Lacrosse, Soccer, Swimming, Softball, Tennis, Track & Field, Conditioning & Weight Training Potomac Valley Athletic Conference</p>	<p>Open House</p> <p>Sunday, October 19, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.</p>	<p>2 Veritas Scholarship Awards Each Year Deadline to apply: February 3, 2015 Bus Transportation now available from Maryland</p>	<p>Application Deadline Feb. 3, 2015 Tuition Assistance Appl. Deadline Feb. 6, 2015</p> <p>Testing SSAT HSPT</p>	<p>Academic Excellence</p> <p>Leadership ~ Character ~ Service</p>
<p>An independent school for girls in grades 6-12 • Freshman Class Size: 37 • Tuition: MS \$21,175 US \$22,220</p>						

 <p>Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart</p> <p>Catherine Ronan Karrels '86, Head of School 9101 Rockville Pike • Bethesda, MD 20814 301-657-4322 www.stoneridgeschool.org</p>	<p>Girls PS-12 (Coed PS-K)</p> <p>Basketball, cross country, field hockey, equestrian, golf, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, squash, tennis, swimming/diving, track & field and volleyball</p>	<p>Special Programs</p> <p>Honors / AP Courses 1:1 Laptop Program Social Action Exchange Programs Stem Certificate Program</p>	<p>Open House</p> <p>High School Sunday, Oct. 19 12:00 – 2:30 pm All School Nov. 11, Dec. 10, Jan. 16 8:45 am</p>	<p>Required Entrance Exam: SSAT Register at www.ssat.org (School Code: 7494)</p> <p>Application Deadline Dec. 5, 2014</p>	<p>Financial Aid Deadline Jan. 15, 2015</p>	<p>Notification of Admission Late February</p> <p>Registration Deposit Due Early March</p>
<p>Freshman Class Size: 85 • Tuition: \$29,500 • Financial Aid Available</p>						

 <p>The Academy of the Holy Cross</p> <p>4920 Strathmore Ave., Kensington, MD 20895 Kathleen Prebble, President Melissa Huey-Burns, Principal Louise Hendon, Admissions 301-942-2100 • www.academyoftheholycross.org</p>	<p>Girls</p> <p>Basketball, cross-country, field hockey, ice hockey, golf, lacrosse, poms/cheer, rugby, soccer, softball, volleyball, swimming and diving, tennis, track, crew, equestrian. Washington Catholic Athletic Conference</p>	<p>Special Programs</p> <p>IB Diploma Programme AP & Honors Courses 1-to-1 iPad Program Senior Project Internship</p>	<p>Open House</p> <p>Sunday, November 2 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Entrance Exam HSPT Scholarships Available</p>	<p>Application Deadline Dec. 12, 2014</p> <p>Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 9, 2015</p>	<p>Notification of Admission Feb. 26, 2015</p> <p>Registration Deposit Due March 12, 2015</p>
<p>Freshman Class Size: 130 • Tuition: \$20,725 • Financial Aid: 301-942-2100</p>						

 <p>ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL Est. 1891</p> <p>Mr. Jeffrey W. Mancabelli, President Bro. Michael Andrejko, FSC, Principal Mrs. Susan Hinton, Director of Admissions 202-363-2316 • www.stjohnschs.org 2807 Military Road, NW, Chevy Chase, DC 20015</p>	<p>Coed</p> <p>Coed: ice hockey, crew, cross country, golf, rifle team, swimming, track; Female: basketball, field hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis, volleyball; Male: baseball, basketball, football, lacrosse, soccer, tennis, wrestling, rugby.</p>	<p>Special Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> De La Salle Scholars Program • Benilde Program • 1:1 Technology Program (iPads) Optional top-ranked JROTC Leadership Program • Outstanding Band and Theater Programs • James V. Kinsey Science & Technology Center 	<p>Open House</p> <p>Sunday, Oct. 26, 2014 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Entrance Exam</p> <p>Archdiocesan test results are required.</p>	<p>Application Deadline Dec. 12, 2014</p> <p>Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Feb. 2, 2015</p>	<p>Notification of Admission Feb. 26, 2015</p> <p>Registration Deposit Due March 14, 2015</p>
<p>Tuition: \$17,200</p>						

 <p>Georgetown Preparatory School</p> <p>10900 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda, MD 20852 www.gprep.org 301-493-1215 Father Scott Pilarz, SJ, President Jeffrey L. Jones, Headmaster Brian J. Gilbert, Dean of Admissions</p>	<p>Boys</p> <p>15 interscholastic sports 20 clubs and organizations</p>	<p>College Placement:</p> <p>Virginia • Yale Notre Dame Georgetown Harvard U.S. Naval Academy Boston College Duke • Princeton Penn • Stanford</p>	<p>Open House</p> <p>Sunday, October 19 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. REGISTER ONLINE</p>	<p>Admissions Process:</p> <p>Please visit www.gprep.org to set up your admissions account. Also, be sure to set up your Hoyas-for-a-Day visit.</p>	<p>Application Deadline Jan. 5, 2015</p> <p>Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 5, 2015</p>	<p>Notification of Admission Feb. 27, 2015</p> <p>Registration Deposit Due March 13, 2015</p>
<p>Tuition: Day: \$32,120 Boarding: \$52,735 • Forming men of competence, conscience, courage & compassion: Men of faith, Men for others since 1789</p>						

 <p>The Heights School</p> <p>10400 Seven Locks Rd., Potomac, MD 20854 Alvaro J. de Vicente, Headmaster Richard S. Moss, Director of Admissions 301-765-2093 • rmoss@heights.edu www.heights.edu</p>	<p>Boys 3-12</p> <p>Varsity and Junior Varsity Soccer, Basketball, Baseball Lacrosse, Swimming, Track, Squash, Tennis, Golf, Cross Country, Wrestling & Rugby</p>	<p>Challenging Liberal Arts, College Prep Curriculum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full array of AP courses Summer and abroad programs Small classes 	<p>Open House</p> <p>Sunday, October 26, 2:00 to 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>SSAT or Equivalent Exam is required of all high school applicants.</p>	<p>Admissions Deadline for Full Consideration Jan. 26, 2015</p> <p>Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 26, 2015</p>	<p>Notification of Admission Feb. 26, 2015</p> <p>Registration Deposit Due March 13, 2015</p>
<p>Freshman Class Size: 65 • Financial Aid: Phil McGovern (CF0) 301-365-4300</p>						


Catholic High School Open House Dates

Class of 2019 Courtesy – Catholic High Schools & Our Parish Times

WESLEYAN

 <p>the Avalon School</p> <p>Richard B. McPherson President Kevin J. Davern Headmaster 200 W. Diamond Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD 20877 301-963-8022 www.avalonschools.org Avg. Class Size: 15 • Tuition: Half-Day Kindergarten \$6,375; Full-Day Kindergarten \$12,750; Lower School \$12,750; Middle School \$14,250; Upper School \$14,800</p>	<p>Boys Grades K-12</p> <p>Soccer, Football, Basketball, Baseball</p> <p>Black Knights Black & Gold</p>	<p>SPECIAL PROGRAMS</p> <p>Small Classes • Personal Attention • Content-Oriented Curriculum • Advanced Placement (AP) Courses • Latin • Spanish • Advanced Mathematics Program • Full Religion Program • Actors Guild • Poetry • Journalism • Dress Code • Transportation • Interscholastic Sports • Coed Kindergarten</p>	<p>Open House</p> <p>Saturday, November 1 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Steps to Admission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application Shadow Visit Teacher Recommendation Transcript Family Interview 	<p>Application Deadline Rolling Admission</p>	<p>Notification of Admission Rolling Admission</p>
<p>Financial Aid: Kevin Davern @ 301-963-8022</p>						


 <p>DeMatha Catholic High School</p> <p>4313 Madison Street, Hyattsville, MD 20781 Dr. Daniel McMahon, Principal Mr. Mike Jones, Admissions • 240-764-2210 www.dematha.org</p>	<p>Boys</p> <p>Competitive teams in 15 interscholastic sports. Students participate in wide range of athletic activities (Varsity, JV, Freshman, Intramurals) Washington Catholic Athletic Conference</p> <p>Stags Red, White & Blue</p>	<p>Special Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extensive Honors courses in 33 areas Advanced placement courses in 15 areas Nationally recognized instrumental and choral music programs Extensive creative and practical arts programs 	<p>Open House</p> <p>Sunday, Nov. 2 11:00 a.m.</p>	<p>Entrance Exam: Archdiocesan test results are required</p>	<p>Freshman Application Deadline December 15</p> <p>Freshman Financial Aid Appl. Deadline December 15</p>	<p>Freshman Notification of Admission Feb. 2015</p> <p>Registration Deposit Due Mid-March 2015</p>
<p>Freshman Class Size: 230 • Tuition: \$15,600 • Financial Aid: Admissions Office 240-764-2210</p>						


 <p>Archbishop Carroll HIGH SCHOOL</p> <p>Mary Elizabeth (Beth) Blaufuss, President Katy Dunn, Principal Elana Gilmore, Vice Principal Tiffany D. Scurlock, Director of Admissions 4300 Harewood Rd., NE, Washington, DC 20017 www.achsc.org</p>	<p>Catholic</p> <p>Serving students from 60 zip codes, 40 nationalities, 44 feeder schools Rigorous International Baccalaureate College Prep</p>	<p>Joyous spiritual formation and a zeal for social justice WCAC Athletics Theater, Music, Robotics</p>	<p>International Baccalaureate</p> <p>Sunday October 24, 2014 Mass 10:30 am OPEN HOUSE 11:00 am – 1:00 pm www.achsc.org</p>	<p>Priority Application Deadline Jan. 20, 2015</p>	<p>Know, Love, Serve.</p>	
<p>Coed • Freshman Class Size: 100 • Tuition: \$12,640 • Admissions Information: Tiffany D. Scurlock @ 202-529-0900, x135</p>						


 <p>Elizabeth Seton High School</p> <p>5715 Emerson St., Bladensburg, MD 20710 Sr. Ellen Marie Hagar '74, President Melissa Davey '99, Admissions 301-864-4532 www.setonhs.org</p>	<p>Girls</p> <p>Basketball, soccer, volleyball, softball, golf, swimming, crew, cross country, lacrosse, indoor and outdoor track, tennis, field hockey, cheerleading and dance. Washington Catholic Athletic Conference</p> <p>Roadrunners Scarlet, Gold, and White</p>	<p>Special Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scholars and Honors Program for academically-gifted students Agnes M. Brown Pre-Law Program Learning Engineering and Design STEM program 	<p>Open House</p> <p>Sunday, November 2 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM</p>	<p>Entrance Exam Archdiocesan test results required.</p>	<p>Application Deadline December 11</p> <p>Archdiocesan Financial Aid Application Required</p>	<p>Notification of Admission February 19</p> <p>Registration Deposit Due Mid March</p>
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 <p>SAINT JOHN'S CATHOLIC PREP</p> <p>3989 Buckeystown Pike Buckeystown, MD 21717 301-662-4210</p> <p>Gordon Oliver, President Marc Minsker, Principal Michael Schultz, Director of Enrollment Management E-mail: mschultz@saintjohnsprep.org</p>	<p>Coed</p> <p>Small class size • College preparatory 100% College Applicant Acceptance Rate Honors and AP Classes • Program for students with learning needs • Bus Transportation</p>	<p>VIKINGS Green, Gold & White</p>	<p>Open House</p> <p>Sunday, November 2 1:00-3:00PM</p> <p>Founded in 1829</p>	<p>HSPT Entrance Exam Saturday, December 6 8:30AM Registration 9:00AM Testing begins</p>	<p>Application Deadline Rolling Admissions</p> <p>Financial Aid & Scholarship Appl. Deadline Dec. 15, 2014</p>	<p>8th Grade Acceptance Day Feb. 20, 2015</p> <p>Registration Deposit Due March 20, 2015</p>
<p>Freshman Class Size: 65 • Tuition: \$15,400 • Financial Aid: Michael Schultz @ 301-662-4210 • www.saintjohnsprep.org</p>						

 <p>Brookewood School</p> <p>Richard B. McPherson President Joseph W. McPherson Headmaster Helen Williams Director of Admissions 10401 Armory Avenue, Kensington, MD 301-949-7997 www.brookewood.org</p>	<p>Girls Grades 1-12</p> <p>Basketball Field hockey Lacrosse, Soccer Volleyball</p> <p>Bengals Blue & White</p>	<p>Special Programs</p> <p>Small Classes • Personal Attention • Content-Oriented Curriculum • Experiential Learning • Advanced Placement (AP) Courses • Emphasis on Cultural Literacy • Latin • Italian • Advanced Math Program • Music • Art • Actors Guild • Uniform • Interscholastic Sports</p>	<p>Open House</p> <p>Saturday November 8 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Steps to Admission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application Recommendation Transcript Shadow Visit Family Interview 	<p>Application Deadline Rolling Admission</p>	<p>Notification of Admission Rolling Admission</p>
<p>Average Class Size: 13 • Tuition: Grades 1-5 \$11,400 Grades 6-8 \$12,650 Grade 9-12 \$12,900 • Financial Aid: Helen Williams 301-949-7997</p>						

 <p>ST. ANSELM'S ABBEY SCHOOL</p> <p>4501 SOUTH DAKOTA AVE., NE WASHINGTON, DC 20017</p> <p>Bill Crittenberger Headmaster 202-269-2350 Peter Young, '01 Director of Admissions 202-269-2379 admissions@saintanselms.org www.saintanselms.org</p>	<p>Boys</p> <p>Soccer, Cross Country, Basketball, Wrestling, Tennis, Baseball, Track, Lacrosse, Golf, Fencing Potomac Valley Athletic Conference</p> <p>Panthers Maroon & Grey</p>	<p>Special Programs</p> <p>Challenging academic program for students of above average ability in grades 6-12</p>	<p>Open House</p> <p>Sunday November 2 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Benedictine School</p>	<p>Entrance Exam Dates Oct. 11, 2014 Additional Dates TBA Exam also offered by appointment</p>	<p>Application Deadline: Rolling</p> <p>Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Feb. 1, 2015</p>	<p>Notification of Admission: Feb. 27, 2015</p> <p>Registration Deposit Due March 13, 2015</p>
<p>Freshman Class Size: 45 • Tuition: \$24,000 Middle; \$25,000 Upper • Financial Aid : Ms. Ieva Young @ 202-281-1656</p>						

 <p>ST. VINCENT PALLOTTI HIGH SCHOOL</p> <p>113 St. Mary's Place, Laurel, MD 20707 Mr. Jeff Palumbo, President/Principal Ms. Lindsay Dively, Director of Admissions 301-725-3228 Ext. 202 www.pallottihs.org</p>	<p>Coed</p> <p>17 varsity athletic teams; Maryland Athletic Association (MIAA)–Men; Interscholastic Athletic Association of Maryland (IAAM) –Women</p> <p>20 Clubs & Organizations</p>	<p>Grades 9-12 College Prep Curriculum Honors & AP Courses 99% College Placement One-to-One Laptop Technology Visual & Performing Arts Program Learning Center</p>	<p>Open House</p> <p>Sunday, Nov. 9 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>515 Students</p>	<p>Visit the web site for 2015-2016 application!</p> <p>18:1 Teacher Student Ratio</p>	<p>Admissions Application Deadline Dec. 12, 2014</p>	<p>Financial Aid Application Deadline Jan. 4, 2015</p>
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 <p>Gonzaga College High School</p> <p>19 Eye St., NW, Washington, DC 20001 Rev. Stephen W. Planning, S.J., President Mr. Thomas K. Every II, Headmaster Mr. Andrew Bataille, Director of Admissions 202-336-7101</p>	<p>Boys</p> <p>7 Freshman, 16 Junior Varsity, and 17 Varsity Sports Washington Catholic Athletic Conference</p> <p>Eagles Purple & White</p>	<p>Special Programs</p> <p>Comprehensive advanced placement, band, choral arts, internet applications, earth systems, science laboratory.</p>	<p>Open House</p> <p>Sunday, November 23 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Entrance Exam Archdiocesan test results are required.</p>	<p>Application Deadline December 10</p> <p>Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 9, 2015</p>	<p>Notification of Admission Feb. 26, 2015</p> <p>Registration Deposit Due March 13, 2015</p>
<p>Freshman Class Size: 245 • Tuition: \$20,125</p>						



OAKCREST SCHOOL

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guided by the teachings of the Catholic Church

Open House

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2014

2:00-4:00 P.M.

*Presentation by Head of School: 2:45 p.m.

Come speak with our students, faculty, parents and administration. Learn more about our rich liberal arts curriculum, our vibrant advisory, arts, sports and service programs, and the difference our graduates are making in the world.

Find out more at Oakcrest.org



Archdiocese of Washington's 75th Anniversary Celebration

Cardinal Donald Wuerl, archbishop of Washington, celebrated a special Mass for the 75th anniversary of the Archdiocese of Washington at the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle – the Mother Church of the archdiocese – on September 21. In his homily, the Cardinal talked about the Masses he celebrated earlier this year on St. Clement's Island where the first Catholic Mass in the English speaking colonies was celebrated in 1634 and at the reconstructed Brick Chapel in St. Mary's City. The two Masses at the historic sites in Southern Maryland serve as powerful reminders of the area's legacy as the birthplace of religious freedom in the United States.

The Cardinal also referenced another significant milestone on our archdiocesan pilgrimage of faith. "In 1789 the first bishop for the Catholics in the English speaking colonies was selected. The designation of Bishop John Carroll as first Bishop of Baltimore took place in Sacred Heart Chapel – now a part of Sacred Heart Parish in Bowie, Maryland – a part of this archdiocese," he said. "Earlier in the spring we commemorated that event that took place 225 years ago because it became a cornerstone of the hierarchy for the United States. In a sense, the Catholic Church in the United States had come of age."

While only 75 years since the establishment of the archdiocese, "it is equally and fully a part of this grand march of faith that manifests God's kingdom now and someday will glory in its fullness in the eternal realm of heaven," said the Cardinal. But he also acknowledged that the 75th anniversary celebration was not confined to looking back on history.



Cardinal Donald Wuerl

"This anniversary year gives us opportunity to look forward as we renew our mission and ministry. We are committed to being the heralds of the New Evangelization and the agents of a new Pentecost," he said.

Celebration of the Archdiocese of Washington's 75th anniversary began in January when Cardinal Wuerl presented the Manifesting the Kingdom award to 204 individuals who exemplify the New Evangelization from parishes and Catholic organizations across the archdiocese. Additionally the Archdiocese of Washington published *Catholic Impact 2014*, which chronicles the local church's rich history of serving those in need in the Washington area, in celebration of the archdiocese's 75th anniversary.

OPT

Men Fully Alive

Fall Open House
Sunday, October 26, 2014 from 2:00-5:30 pm



The Heights School

The Heights is an independent Catholic preparatory school for boys in grades 3-12 located in Potomac, MD

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'No touch' rules in Africa after Ebola

Caritas Internationalis health expert Monsignor Robert J. Vitillo is in Monrovia in Liberia, helping the local Church in its Ebola response. He finds a country and a people transformed by the killer virus. The following first-person blog was posted September 29.

Over the years, I have been blessed with the privilege to visit and accompany Caritas and other Catholic Church-inspired organizations in Africa as they responded to the epidemic of HIV and AIDS. I always received warm greetings of welcome and warm handshakes even when people were traumatized by the massive loss of life that resulted from AIDS.

On my present visit to Liberia, however, I found a "different Africa." From the moment that our plane touched down at the Monrovia airport, we were confronted with buckets of bleach water with which

to wash our hands and with people armed with "gun thermometers" to take our temperatures before we could even step into the terminal building.

Perhaps the most striking difference from my other visits to Africa was found in the "no touch" policy. Africans usually are warm and physical in expressing welcome – they usually offer hearty handshakes. Now, in the Ebola-affected countries, everyone seems uncomfortable as a result of the need to avoid physical contact in

Continued on page 37



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Where dozens of sports, arts, and clubs give rise to **confident leaders**.

Where a strong **Benedictine tradition** grounds values and inspires faith.

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Open House: Sunday, November 2, 11am-3pm

Grades 6-12 | 40-Acre D.C. Campus | www.saintanselms.org

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

The Academy of the
HOLY CROSS

I am a Lady of the Academy.

JOIN US FOR AN
OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, November 2 • 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

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All-Girls, Grades 9-12 • 4920 Strathmore Ave, Kensington MD • 301.942.2100



St. Bernadette School

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- Faith-based, multi-cultural community

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"That We May All Be One"

www.saintbernadetteschool.org

St. Bernadette



St. Bernadette's HSA entertained over 300 with showing of *Muppets Most Wanted* on September 19

SBS HSA Movie Night

St. Bernadette School is pleased to announce the Home and School Association Board for the 2014-2015 School Year: Lou Welanetz, President, Stephanie Sarwal, Vice President, Priscilla Rawlins, Treasurer and Dawn Nichols, Secretary.

This year the Board opted to forego the usual Back to School Picnic in favor of a movie on the soccer field. Parents were encouraged to vote for one of seven movies while signing in to the HSA's Back to School Night, September 9th. The movie, *Muppets Most Wanted*, was selected. "Over 300 folks

came out to watch the Back to School Movie last Friday, September 19th. Huge screen on the field, chairs, blankets, coolers and fun!" said Dawn Nichols, HAS Secretary. Popcorn, snacks and beverages were available to movie-goers at the CYO's Snack Shack which stayed open throughout the movie.

The Home and School Association (HSA) consists of parents and faculty whose purpose is to promote effective communication and cooperation among the pastor, school principal, faculty, and parents. The ultimate goal in all cases is to provide the best Catholic education for each child.

OPT

Come see the exciting things that are happening at GC!



OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, October 19, 2014
10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Over \$31 million in
scholarships awarded
to the Class of 2014.



OUR LADY OF
GOOD COUNSEL
HIGH SCHOOL

17301 Old Vic Blvd | Olney, MD 20832
www.olgchs.org | 240.283.3235

California Bishops File Federal Complaint against State

Agency Accused of Serious Civil Rights Violations

The California Catholic Conference has filed a complaint with the Office of Civil Rights at the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) citing federal civil rights violations by the California Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) resulting in Catholic institutions and others being forced required to purchase health insurance covering all forms of voluntary direct abortion, including late-term and gender selection.

The HHS Office of Civil Rights has jurisdiction in this matter because of a federal law known as the "Weldon Amendment" that was enacted to protect the conscience rights of individuals and institutions. In this case, the Office of Civil Rights can cut-off California's access to federal funds unless or until it stops its discriminatory practices.

The complaint was filed because of an administrative directive issued on August 22, 2014 by DMHC to the heads of eight different health insurance plans (Aetna, Anthem/Blue Cross, Blue Shield of California, GEM Care, Health Net, Kaiser Permanente and United Health Care) ordering them to amend their cur-

rent health plans and remove any coverage or exclusions regarding voluntary abortions on the basis that abortion for any reason was "basic health care" and could not be excluded.

"This is a coercive and discriminatory action by the State of California," said Bishop Robert McElroy, auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of San Francisco and chair of the Institutional Concerns Committee of the California Catholic Conference. "This demand by the State was directly targeted at Catholic institutions like Santa Clara University, Loyola Marymount University, along with other California employers and citizens. It is a flagrant violation of their civil rights and deepest moral convictions, and is government coercion of the worst kind."

"Catholic beliefs about life and human dignity animate and shape our Catholic ministries," said McElroy. "It's why we oppose abortion, but it is also why Catholic schools provide education, Catholic hospitals care for the poor and vulnerable and why Catholic social services provide assistance to people and families in need. It goes to the core of our moral beliefs."

OPT

New Smiling Faces at St. Bernadette School

St. Bernadette School welcomed several new members to the teaching and Administrative staff this year.

First grade teacher, Miss McCoy, has a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Stonehill College, MA, and Master of Science in Education and Literacy from College of Saint Rose, NY. She is certified in Massachusetts and New York. She has been teaching first grade at St. Jude the Apostle Catholic School since 2012 and also ran their after-school and summer programs.

Director of Development, Hilary Bednarz, comes to St. Bernadette



Ms. Rogevich works with student in the newly formed choir, The St. B's Singers.



SBS's HSA Board members embrace their new responsibilities.



Hilary Bednarz, Director of Development speaks to parents.

School from Grace Episcopal Day School, Kensington where she also served as Development Director. Bednarz, a SBS parent, earned her law degree at the Columbus School of Law, Catholic University of America.

Ms. Sarah Rogevich, Music and K-2 resource teacher, earned her Bachelors in Music from the University of Richmond, MM from the New England Conservatory, and Med from DeSales University. Since joining the St. Bernadette faculty, Rogevich has begun a concert choir, The St. B's Singers, and has added hand-

bells to the music instruction curriculum. Rogevich says her goals are to help students connect with and express their faith through music, become more confident singers, and further develop a culture of singing.

Not to be outdone by the school, St. Bernadette Parish announced the arrival of the new parish Music Director, John Henderson. Henderson is graduate of Catholic University's music program, currently pursuing a Master of Music degree at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore. He comes to St. Bernadette from Christ the King parish, and has also played at Saint Matthew's Cathedral downtown.

Mr. Henderson is working with Ms. Rogevich to launch a Parish Youth Choir. The choir will include young people from across the parish community, including those in the parish school, as well as those in other local schools and home school.

OPT

CONCERT

Con't from page 12

Jan. 18

"Music of the Spheres," space travel concert

Feb. 15

Duende Quartet Latin Jazz, playing a vast repertoire ranging from traditional Cuban songs to modern jazz compositions

Mar. 15

Narrowbacks Irish Band. Group includes Terence Winch, button accordionist; Jesse Winch, bodhran and harmonica; Mitch Fanning, fiddle; Tina Eck, flute and whistle; and Eileen Estes, vocals and guitar. Members of the Culkin School of Traditional Irish Dance will perform as well.

Apr. 9

Peabody Ragtime Ensemble. For more than 40 years, the group has been bringing audiences to their feet with their infectious brand of "delightfully diverse repertoire."

May 24

"75 years of music," retrospective popular and church music

More information on the series is available at www.resurrectionadw.org/index.php/concert-series or by calling Annick Kanter-Saint Hubert at 3-01-520-8921.

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St. Bernadette Parish

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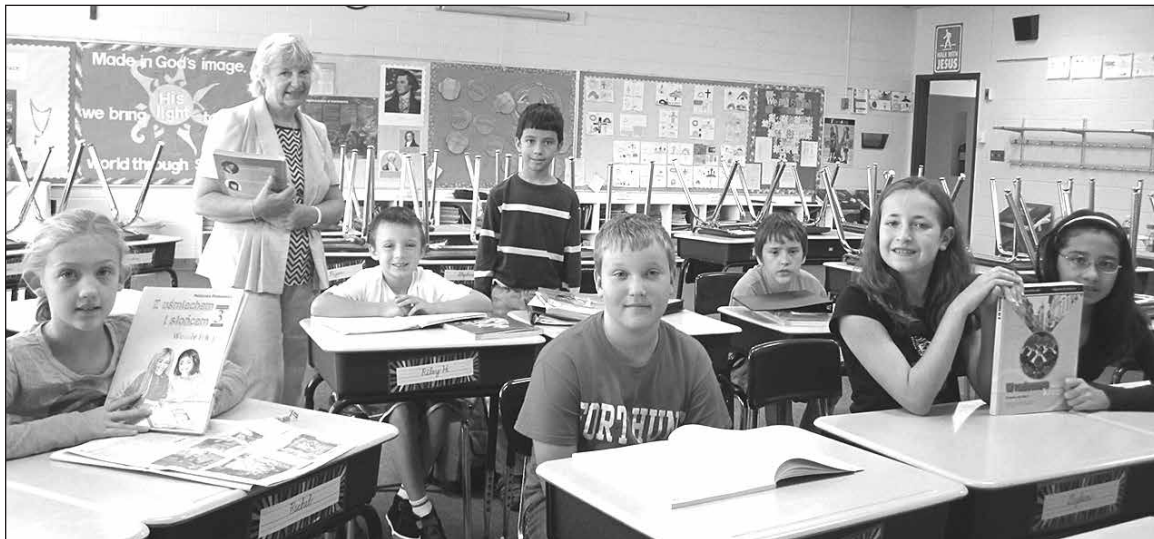


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New School Year at Polish Saturday School



Polish School Director Ewa Chlebowska with her class. Ewa has been a teacher with the school for 24 years, the last 14 she also has served as the school director.



OLQP Pastor Rev. Jan Fiedurek prays with the students at the start of religion class. Rev. Fiedurek has religion classes with the older students and prepares them for First Holy Communion.



Polish School Teacher Malgorzata Firek (on right, with student) with her preschooler class during floor play time. The two parent helpers that day were Pani Dominika and Pani Sylwia.



Polish School Teacher Ewa Turner with her class and Director Chlebowska. Ewa has taught Polish school since 1988, with a break in between.



Abortion rights activists promised us a world of equality and reduced poverty.
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and rather than shared responsibility for children,
even more of the burden has shifted to women.

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Polish School Teacher Wiesława Wisniewska with her class and Director Chlebowska. This is the "zerowka" (kindergarten) class.

Our Lady Queen of Poland

9700 Rosensteel Avenue
Silver Spring, MD

Rev. Jan Fiedurek,
S. Chr. Pastor
301-589-1857

Bojenna Buda, OPT Editor
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Saturday, September 20th, marked the opening of the new school year for the Polish Saturday School sponsored by Our Lady Queen of Poland and St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish. The classes are held in classroom space leased from St. John the Baptist Catholic Community in Silver Spring.

Many of the families whose children attend the school live in Silver Spring and Rockville. Some, however, travel from as far away as Annapolis and Sterling, Virginia. Their goal is to help their children

learn about their Polish heritage in a supportive, age-appropriate environment, with dedicated teachers. The school focuses on language and culture. Students learn songs and poems for religious and national holidays.

Everyone gets a role in the Christmas play, the "Jaselka," which is staged at the school and again for parishioners at the OLQP Parish Christmas Dinner. It is an event that the entire Parish looks forward to each year. Pictures by Bojenna Buda

St. Michael the Archangel Celebrates "Michaelmas" with Service, Worship and Fellowship

By Pat Ryan Garcia

On Saturday, September 27, St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Silver Spring held its fourth annual "Michaelmas" celebration in honor of their patron saint. Although the Feast Day of the Archangels was on Monday, September 29, the parish celebrates it on the weekend closest to the actual Feast Day.

The day-long event began with Mass at 7:45 a.m. followed by a Morning Prayer service led by St. Michael's Parochial Vicar Father Saulo Vicente, who accompanied himself on acoustic guitar. As part of the service Fr. Vicente read from the writings of St. Vincent DePaul, whose Memorial was celebrated on September 27, as a fitting prelude to the community service projects parishioners were heading to that morning.

Parishioners gathered after Mass for refreshments before heading out on service projects in the Silver Spring community at the Shepherd's Table, which provides meals and other services to the homeless, and A Wider Circle, an organization that helps furnish the homes of needy families.

The focal point of the 2014 Michaelmas celebration was the vigil Mass that began at 4:00



Parishioners enjoying the Michaelmas celebration of food provided by many parishioners from various countries.

p.m. with prelude hymns from St. Michael's choirs. The sanctuary was filled to capacity for the Mass celebrated by Msgr. Eddie Tolentino, Fr. Saulo Vicente, Fr. Michal Sajnog, Fr. Rafael Barbieri, Deacons Ronald Ealey, Carlos Hernandez and Stephen Frye.

The cultural diversity of the parish was celebrated in the music for the Mass with performances from the Spanish Adult, Youth choirs

and the Poochriso Chorus from the African community.

Following the Mass, parishioners flocked to St. Michael's Williamsburg Room and an adjacent tent for a multicultural potluck feast. Members of the parish's African, Caribbean, European, Latin American, Filipino communities prepared ethnic specialties to share which were served with a variety of American favorites contrib-

uted by parishioners from other backgrounds. Two beautiful cakes donated by Deacon Hernandez from Ridgewell's Caterers supplemented the desserts contributed by parishioners.

Parishioners enjoyed entertainment during the feast with music and dance performances from parishioners and friends and a DJ provided by the Filipino community.

The celebration continued on Sunday, September 28, as parishioners gathered in the Michaelmas tent for refreshments and fellowship after the morning Masses. It was a great way to share all of the wonderful desserts leftover from the previous evening's celebration.

St. Michael the Archangel Parish revived the tradition of a Michaelmas celebration in 2011 in lieu of an annual parish picnic. Michaelmas originated in the middle ages when it was a major festival marking not only the Feast of the Archangels but also the autumnal equinox and harvest time. Now Michaelmas is becoming a new tradition for the parish, with attendance growing every year. A special thank you to all of St. Michael's volunteers who assisted prior, during and after the event!

OPT

St. Michael's Parish

805 Wayne Avenue
Silver Spring, MD

Rev. Msgr. Eddie Tolentino,
Pastor

301-589-1155

Joanie Heavey,
OPT Editor

301-5891155 ext. 21



St. Michael's parishioners after prayer service getting ready to volunteer for community service projects at Shepherd's Table and Wider Circle- part of our feast day celebration weekend Michaelmas.

Upcoming Events at St. Michael the Archangel Church

October 12	Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast
October 18	Knights of Columbus Kids Helping Kids Walkathon
October 18	Diversity Justice Workshop
October 26	Sodality Bake Sale
December 5	Bazaar 2014 Silent Auction and Bazaar Preview
December 6 & 7	Bazaar 2014

Religious Education Information please call 301.587.2395
Check out all of our events at St. Michael's website and FB page!

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OR Email stmichaelsbazaar2014@gmail.com



Students enjoy stories and crafts at St. Martin's Literary Night. Photo courtesy of Logan Hsueh.

A Just So Literary Night

By Janet Martins, Eighth Grader

For the past few years, St. Martin's teachers have held special nights and activities for children. In September, we held our second Literary Night and the theme was Tales from the Jungle. The library was transformed and filled with animals, vines, and books about animals.

Two Just So Stories, "How the Camel got its Hump," and "How the Rhino got its Skin" by Rudyard Kipling, were read aloud to the children. The stories explained how the animals developed their unusual characteristic. The teachers dramatically used props to act out each story. The teachers were entertaining as they created the hilarious roles of the narrator, camel, rhino who faced conflicts throughout the tales. Behind the teachers, illustra-

tions from the stories were shown. The audience also participated in the stories by saying "Humph" each time the camel said expressed itself. The parents were delighted to see their children having fun.

In addition to the dramatic tales, the children chose their own animal hats from a selection that included lions, foxes, owls, monkeys, and bears. The 8th grade students staffed a variety of centers around the library. Children wrote their own Just So Stories, designed unique animal skins, followed how-to guides to draw animals, created bookmarks, challenged themselves with jungle trivia, and more.

At the end of the evening, everyone ate cupcakes and enjoyed jungle trail mix. Each jungle child then went home with the treasures he or she had created.

OPT

St. Martin's Makes Sweet Music

By Dulce Diaz, Eighth Grader

If you walk pass the cafeteria on a Tuesday at Saint Martin's, you would hear the beautiful sound of Saint Martin school's prestigious band. With students playing instruments such as the flute, clarinet, saxophone, and trombone, ours is the largest band in the county.

The school's band is made of musicians from fourth to eighth grade, and this year is conducted by Wesley Meyer. Mr. Meyer is a talented trumpet and piano player, who was inspired to be a band teacher at a young age. To Mr. Meyer, band teachers are inspirational people and that

belief motivated him to pursue the career as a band teacher. He plans on conducting a variety of music for the upcoming school year.

With a range of different music from Christmas music to Pop music, this year's band is in for a lot of diversity. Band students range from novices to experienced, so the band is divided in to beginner, intermediate, and advanced band. The intermediate and advanced students meet every Tuesday afternoon from 3:45 pm to 4:45 pm.

Each year the advanced and intermediate band will compete in a music competition at

Saint John's, and each year Saint Martin's brings home an excellent or a superior trophy. Each year, St. Martin's also sends musicians to the ADW honors band which is made up of the most talented students.

All students may also participate in summer band. Over the summer, students from all over the region work together to improve their skills as musicians and to perform together. Several St. Martin's students attend each year.

Saint Martin School's band is a group of musicians who work hard to become the best they can be and to have fun along the way.

OPT



Two sixth graders enjoy a painting during the after school club, Amazing Afternoons. Photo by Logan Hsueh.

School Welcomes New Teachers and Staff

By Vasilios Mantzouratos, Eighth Grader

Over the course of this past week, I interviewed several new teachers and faculty members at my school. I learned many things about them. I asked them several questions in their interviews.

The first teacher I interviewed was Ms. Christina, a teacher who works in Pre-K. In her interview, I discovered several things about her. One thing I learned was that she chose to work in Pre-K because they are easily inspired and she thinks they're awesome. I also learned that before she started working at St.

Martin's she worked as a sub at a long term music job at St. Mary's in Rockville which inspired her to teach. I also found out that she chose to work at St. Martin's because she liked the community and how her mother worked there, which was another reason that inspired her to teach at St. Martin's. I also learned that she thinks of each child as an individual and that she is very patient with them because with the each age group, in this case Pre-K, comes a responsibility.

The second person I interviewed was Mrs. Patti, a secretary who works in the front office. In her interview, I discovered several things about her and her job. One thing I learned about her was that before she came to St. Martin's she worked as a manager at an internet company and that her experience with people and their problems paved her way to becoming a secretary at St. Martin's. I also learned about some of the responsibilities she has as a secretary. A few of her responsibilities are answering all the phone calls to the school, taking care of lunch and orders, dealing with the vendors who bring things to the school, and writing the newsletter so the parents know what is going on at the school. She decided to work at St. Martin's because it was a good distance from

her house, but more importantly because it was a Catholic school and she liked the community. Plus she gets benefits like getting the same vacation schedule as her children.

The third teacher I interviewed was Mrs. Cilia, a teacher who works in fifth grade. In her interview, I discovered several things about her. One thing I discovered was that growing up she liked school and almost always had a feeling she wanted to be a teacher. I also found out that she enjoyed working with children and the idea of teaching. Another thing I found out was that she didn't always stay on the path to becoming a teacher. In fact, at one point she decided that she wanted to be a lawyer, but then later she changed her major back to teaching. I also learned that she chose to teach fifth graders because they are more independent than the younger kids and there is less drama than middle school has. Another thing I found out was that she enjoys that she gets to see when something becomes clear to a kid and how she to see them grow in maturity and potential. She chose to teach at St. Martin's because everyone was welcoming and friendly and wanted to make sure she was getting into the swing of things.

OPT

WINTERFEST

Con't from page 4

\$35,000 last year to help reduce the debt on the Parish Life Center built in 2006, according to Winterfest Chair Phyllis Bottegale.

Among the crafters will be a number of Resurrection parishioners, including Paula and Paul Kerris, selling handmade baskets and artwork; Becky Gredlics, who makes lightweight jackets; and Kristina Huddle, who sells her hand-made purses.

Other items on sale from the crafter will be handmade jewelry, candles, Brazilian lace articles, hand-crocheted items, hand-sewn totes, table runners and placemats, and floral arrangements, Bottegale says.

There also will be a special table of handmade articles to benefit Resurrection's sister parish in Haiti. And all kinds of food will be served both days from the renowned chefs of the Knights of Columbus, according to Winterfest co-chair Bill Ratcliffe.

The Quilting Bees involved in making this year's raffle quilt, dubbed a "Trellis of Flowers," and in making items to support the Haiti mission, are Nancy Schrider, Ivora Tyler, Sally DeSavage, Pam

Carrigan, Suzanne Esparza, Connie Schenkel, Eleanor Roberts, Barbara Fowler and Francie Parrick.

As always, one of the most popular features will be the Silent Auction, which provides an opportunity to win gift baskets containing an assortment of items, including sports memorabilia, tickets and gift cards, Ratcliffe says. Many are donated by local businesses in the Burtonsville and Silver Spring communities.

Bargain hunters will enjoy Santa's Closet, which offers many items donated by parishioners and sold at a low cost.

Kids of all ages can have Breakfast with Santa on Saturday morning cooked by the Knights of Columbus, and children can have their picture taken with Santa.

"Winterfest at Resurrection is a fabulous event for the parish, a fabulous event for the community," Bottegale says. "Join us for this exciting holiday event and get some of your Christmas shopping done at the same time."

Resurrection Church is located at 3315 Greencastle Rd. in Burtonsville.

For additional information or inquiries, contact Phyllis Bottegale at: winterfestfun@gmail.com.

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Mary of Nazareth Gets Soaked to Support the Schaefer Family

By Lorraine Palmer

Three and a half years ago, my sister asked my opinion about changing schools, in particular, whether to attend Mary of Nazareth School. I remember saying, "...the community - that's the real reason we've have been at Mary of Nazareth for over ten years - you will never experience anything like it."

My words were personified in spectacular fashion last month, when our entire school community came out in support of my sister, her husband and their beautiful family, to take the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge.

Just three months after the Schaefer family joined their cousins and arrived at Mary of Nazareth School, Tom Schaefer, my brother-in-law, received a devastating medical diagnosis - Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). ALS is a progressive disease that affects the neurons in the brain and spinal cord which control muscle movement. It affects mobility, eating, speaking and breathing. ALS strikes randomly with no regard to race, gender or economic condition. With no treatment or cure, Tom, Ursula and their three young children face an overwhelming challenge to Tom's health and the normal life of their family.

When the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge steadily gained momentum this summer, our family was particularly delighted and took part wholeheartedly. This was the first time in the history of ALS that so much awareness and money was being raised at one time. It could become a real game changer in the fight to strike out ALS.

Over the summer, as the unique



The entire student body of Mary of Nazareth School celebrates the completion of the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge.



Tom and Ursula Schaefer take time for a photo with their children Kate (2nd), Carson (7th) and Andrew (5th) and Principal Michael Friel.

fundraiser took over social media, many more participated. Mary of Nazareth School's principal, Mike Friel, was challenged by his friends and my son, Nicholas (6th grade), challenged our gym teacher, Adrian McDonald, to the icy bucket. Soon a creative plan was hatched by Mr. Friel to put the love and respect we felt for the Schaefer's into action right at school.

With the help of many parent volunteers, we would support the Schaefer's both in spirit and in practice - to

bring awareness to the disease and funding for ALS research, but most importantly to show our solidarity to one of our own Mary of Nazareth family members.

With Tom and Ursula's agreement, Mr. Friel set out to make it happen. On Friday, August 29, when Ursula brought Tom to school in his motorized wheelchair, they saw a sea of red on the side soccer field. There, over 500 of our students were standing en masse, holding a red or black cup of ice water and getting set for some fun and a great cause.

At Mr. Friel's direction and after a brief rendition of "Ice Ice Baby" by the Schaefer kids (Carson, 7th;

Andrew, 5th; and Kate, 2nd), we were ready to go. What followed was a class-by-class ice water dumping accompanied by screams and squeals that filled the air.

Tom, with Ursula by his side, watched from atop the field, and smiled and laughed with parents and staff who stood by cheering and clapping. The *grand finale* was performed by Carson, Andrew and Kate, as they happily dumped a huge cooler of icy water over their principal and gym teacher - to the uproarious applause of all the students!

Finally, our wet students made their way back to their classrooms for dismissal, stopping on their way to visit Tom and Ursula - to share a hug, a flower, a good wish, a touch, a prayer - the simple and genuine gifts from children learning to give of themselves in support of another. "We are fighting with you" are words from a student that keep replaying in my ears. Needless to say, there weren't many dry eyes left among parents, faculty and staff that morning.

Each school day, our children learn about their Catholic identity and share their faith. On this day, they were able to embrace that knowledge to step outside themselves to help another; to stand in friendship with a classmate; and, ultimately to offer hope and love to a family in our community. This is why we send our children to Mary of Nazareth school - "you will never experience anything like it!"

The Mary of Nazareth Ice Bucket Challenge raised over \$1100 for ALS research at the Pope John Paul II Institute. Well done, everyone!

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Mary of Nazareth School Open House Schedule

Thursday, October 9, 2014
9am-11am

Sunday, January 25, 2014
1pm - 3pm

Mary of Nazareth Roman Catholic School

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Assistant Principal:
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The Mary of Nazareth School Recycling Crew

By Daniel De Lude, Fouad Ayoub and Max Filliben

The MoN Recycling Crew is a student-run program at Mary of Nazareth Catholic School. It is led by a group of sixth grade students - Daniel De Lude, Fouad Ayoub, and Max Filliben. This program is a fairly new initiative that started in February, 2014 when Principal Friel and P.E. Teacher Mr. McDonald wanted to come up with a way to improve the Recycling Unit at MoN. Mr. McDonald recruited Fouad, Daniel and Max to lead this new program. "I just love the smiles on their faces when they recycle or see us in the hallway. I hope when we go to high school this will still be running," Daniel explained.

Several students have now joined the Recycling Crew and are assisting daily with moving the recycling



Recycling Crew leaders Daniel De Lude, Max Filliben and Fouad Ayoub with Mary of Nazareth Gym Teacher and program director, Adrien McDonald

from classrooms to the school's main recycling unit. "I never knew that Recycling could actually bring together people and make a bond

between them. When I first started Recycling, I thought it would be small and unpopular, but I was surprised when it came a big hit

to the children and a big hit to the school," Max said. The crew also educates students on how to recycle and improve the environment.

There is also a weekly "Trash Talk Tuesday" announcement to the whole school that provides fun facts and trivia questions. "I like the fact that we are helping the world for future generations" Fouad said. The boys are hoping the Recycling Crew will continue to be a big hit and be a part of the MoN community for many years to come. "I am so proud of the boys for putting together such a wonderful recycling crew and making a difference here at Mary of Nazareth," said Mr. McDonald.

The entire Mary of Nazareth School community is thankful to the recycling crew for all they do. Job well done, boys!

OPT

October is Respect Life Month

The worldwide 40 Days for Life campaign began Wednesday, September 24, on the public sidewalk on Wisteria Drive in front of late-term abortionist LeRoy Carhart's offices in Germantown. The Germantown Vigil is being held in front of Germantown Reproductive Health Services located at 13233 Executive Park Terrace from 6 a.m. until 12 a.m. every day until Sunday, November 2.

40 Days for Life is a peaceful pro-life effort that has been embraced by more than 625,000 volunteers in 539 cities across 24 nations. People in hundreds of cities are participating in this life-saving campaign which is based on the three components of prayer and fasting, community outreach, and a peaceful prayer-filled vigil. Along with God's help, these campaigns have achieved proven results of 8,973 babies saved from abortion, 101 abortion worker conversions, and 56 closed abortion centers. If you're interested in praying for one hour or more, contact prayforcarhart@gmail.com and pick your time, or call 301-202-40DL. Or visit: 40daysforlife.com/GERMANTOWN. Mother Seton's designated prayer days are Sat. and Sun., Oct. 11 and Oct. 12. A mid-point rally will be held on Sun.,

Oct. 12, at 3 p.m. in Mother Seton's Parish Center. A talk will be presented entitled, "How to Defend the Pro-Life Position" by a speaker from the Life Training Institute.

LeRoy Carhart is one of four abortionists in the United States who conduct abortions throughout the 9th month of pregnancy. The others are: California abortionists Shelley Sella and Susan Robinson, who work at Southwestern Women's options in Albuquerque, N.M., and Boulder, Colorado's Warren Hern, who runs the Boulder Abortion Clinic. Carhart usually arrives in Germantown on Sunday and performs 4-day, 3-day, 2-day, and one-day abortions. He usually flies out on Wednesday to Nebraska where he has another office. An ambulance has been called to his office in Germantown eight times for a medical emergency for which Carhart has been responsible since March 2012. The patients were transported to a nearby hospital where Carhart doesn't have any privileges. About two years ago, Jennifer Morbelli died at Shady Grove Hospital from complications stemming from Carhart's botched late-term abortion. To urge an investigation into Carhart's abortion practices, contact the MD Board of Physicians, 1-800-492-6836 or 410-764-4777,



Eric Scheilder was the speaker at a recent pro-life talk at Mother Seton Parish sponsored by Defend Life.

or email: mbpmail@rcn.com. Or go to their website, find the time of their next meeting, and afterward, try to speak with one of the physicians on their way out. Try to explain the situation with Carhart in Germantown.

Across the parking lot from Carhart's office are the offices of Germantown Pregnancy Choices. Volunteers there monitor the activity of abortion patients who are interviewed by sidewalk pro-life counselors. GPC keeps track statistically each week of how many

women come for abortions, what state they're from, what kind of abortion they're having, and the outcome. Recently Janet Kotowski, GPC volunteer, reported that a woman arrived for an abortion last May, talked with GPC volunteers and was taken to a nearby pregnancy center. This woman talked with her family and was told to come home so they could take care of her and help raise the baby. She flew home in June. Her son, Jimmy Alexander, was born in mid-September. GPC works with local pregnancy centers in helping the mother find the resources she needs to give birth to her child, and to make sure she is on her feet spiritually, physically and financially. GPC offers their services through the work of dedicated volunteers. They are in need of volunteer office staff as well as other areas of support including prayer warriors. If you have a passion for pro-life work, please consider volunteering and call GPC, 301-916-5433, or email: jkotowski@pnjnet.com. In addition, a confidential small group Bible study is being offered for post-abortion women for nine weeks on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in a private home in Gaithersburg. Call GPC for more information.

On Fri., Sept. 19, Mother Seton Parish hosted Eric Scheilder, Director of Pro-Life Action League Revert, sponsored by DEFEND LIFE. He presented a talk entitled, "Kicking Out Carhart", in which he said over 3,000 abortions are performed per day in the United States. He told a story about the ongoing battle his town of Aurora, Ill., has had with Planned Parenthood, the largest abortion chain in our country, and their efforts to shut them down. He said the best thing people can do is "offer the gift of our prayers for these children who are dying before being born. Prayer and mourning for these babies is action that we all can take." Cathy Roth, one of the organizers of the event, said, "This is our Calvary, and we should join ourselves to the Cross." For more information on upcoming speakers and dates, visit DefendLife.org, or call 410-337-3721.

On Sat., Oct. 11, at noon (12 p.m.), a public Rosary for the unborn will be said at the 40 Days for Life site. The group 'American Needs Fatima' will also be present. All are welcome to come pray, however, please do not park in the office park parking lot.

OPT

Other Mother Seton Parish Events

On Saturday, October 19, Fiesta Latina, a celebration of Spanish heritage, will take place in the MSP Parish Center. Food, drinks, and dance music will be offered and tickets are currently on sale for the event. Fiesta Latina has been held annually for more than 15 years at Mother Seton in honor of Spanish Catholic heritage, specifically Columbus discovering a new route to India that was financed by Spain's Queen Isabel, known as 'The Catholic'. Her motive in financing the adventure was evangelization and spreading Christianity and the Gospel message to an unknown civilization. Fiesta Latina is a fun evening with lots of dancing to which all parishioners are invited. All proceeds will be donated to MSP.

On Sunday, October 19, the 3rd annual procession of the Lord of Miracles will be held after the 12:30 p.m. Mass. The Lord of Miracles is



Fr. Herald Brock, CFR, will be preaching at an Advent Parish Mission beginning Mon., Dec. 8, at Mother Seton Parish.

a Peruvian devotion which started in the 17th century, based on a miraculous painting of our Blessed Trinity by a black Angolan slave, who received his inspiration from Christ. Numerous miracles have been attributed to this devotion. The program will begin at Mass and after, procession of the Lord of Miracles painting in the church parking lot, ending with a potluck reception in the Parish Center.

On Monday, November 17, MSP and the Fr. McKenna Council of the Knights of Columbus will host one of five Silver Rose Icons crossing the

United States from Canada to Mexico City. The Silver Rose Icon honors Our Lady of Guadalupe and encourages respect for life. In 2002, the K of C initiated the Running of the Silver Rose. Members from Canada, the U.S., and Mexico carry a small sculpted rose from council to council as a show of unity on life issues.

On Saturday, December 7, after the 5 p.m. Mass, a representative from the Archdiocese of Washington's Department of Life Issues will be leading a candlelight Rosary walk over to Wisteria Dr. and the sidewalk in front of Carhart's offices. Everyone is invited to attend. Finally, on the

second weekend of December, Fr. Herald Brock, CFR, will be preaching. From Mon., Dec. 8 through Wed., Dec. 10, Fr. Brock will be preaching at an Advent Parish Mission. The theme of the mission is "Peter's Shadow (Acts 5: 15). Fr. Brock will take a look at Peter the Apostle's response to and relationship with Jesus as it emerges on the

pages of the New Testament. Fr. Brock is a Franciscan Friar of the Renewal based at St. Crispin Friary in the Bronx, N.Y.



ANNIVERSARY

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relationship at our 5 p.m. Mass. This Mass will be co-celebrated by Fr. David Brault, Pastor of St. John's, Fr. Tony D'Souza, St. John's Associate Pastor, Monsignor Francis Kazista, former SJB Pastor, and Fr. Jude Pierre Junior Jacques, Pastor of St. Pierre. Former Directors of Social Concerns Steve Yank and Kim Lamberty will also participate. Graduates of the College St. Jean Baptiste (CSJB), including Chantelour Bélanston, Sindy Delphonse, and Michelène Pierre, will also be in attendance. Mr. Delphonse currently lives in the U.S., attends college in Florida, and works at the Home Depot. Chantelour Bélanston resides in Haiti and is in his 5th year of Seminary, which he will attend for a total of 12 years. Michelène Pierre also resides in Haiti and is attending university in Port-au-Prince.

The Haitian Choir from Silver Spring and the SJB Children's Choir will also participate in our musical celebration during Mass.

Following the Mass, we will host a reception featuring a history of the Sister Parish Project from 1994

to the present, highlighting the success of the medical clinics, the Gift of Water project, and alumni from their ten high school graduating classes. During the visit, the students and Fr. Jacques will meet with the Sister Parish Committee, other parishioners, SJB Elementary School students, teachers, and the SJB Pastoral Council.

The educational achievements in Baradères have attracted the attention of the Ministry for Education in Miragoane and Port-au-Prince, the Prime Minister, and even the Papal Nuncio. The students at CSJB are amazing. The average pass rate of CSJB students is 93% to 100%!

Despite its poverty, the community of St. Pierre has enriched the lives of all who visited them over the years. Each year, our members including doctors, nurses, teachers and dentists provide training seminars in Baradères and the outlying villages and (bi-annual) pop-up clinics. In addition to our annual visit, we have the pleasure of hosting St. Pierre's Pastor for a week each year. The visits between the two parishes enhance the solidarity between the parishioners of St. Pierre and those of us at SJB.

OPT

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

Mother Seton Parish
19951 Fr. Hurley Boulevard
Germantown, MD

Fr. Lee Fangmeyer
Pastor
301-924-3838

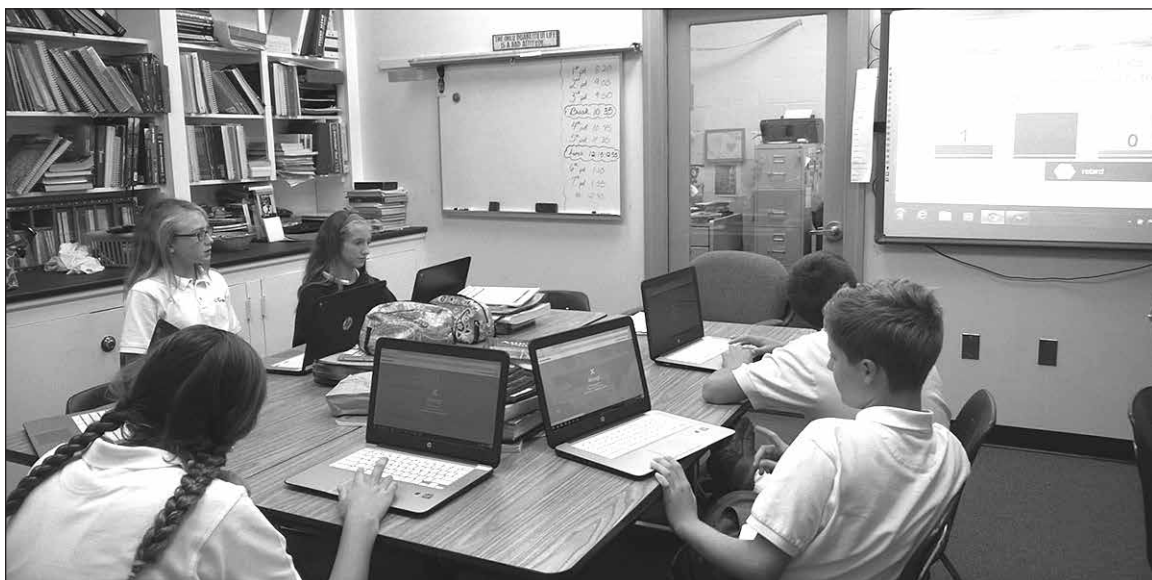
Joyce McCarthy
OPT Editor
301-718-5995
mspbltn@aol.com

OPT



Mercy Middle School Helps Homeless

Mercy middle school students proudly display their banners at the annual Help the Homeless Mini-Walk, hosted by Our Lady of Mercy sixth grade class. Each year Mercy shows commitment to neighbors in need by participating in the walk, which benefits Interfaith Works. Interfaith Works provides shelter, housing, clothing, food, and counseling to more than 20,000 of our neediest Montgomery County neighbors, helping those in need move from crisis to stability. Prior to the walk, a speaker from Interfaith Works addressed the 5th - 8th graders on the issue of homelessness. To participate in the walk, Mercy middle school students were encouraged to make donations to Interfaith Works. Mercy K- 4th graders participated on this day by bringing in nonperishable food items for St. Martin's Food Pantry. The walk is a kick off for the sixth grade homeless shelter project, directed by teacher Jenny Nachbar, which concludes with students serving a week of dinners at the Community Based Shelter in Rockville.



One-to One, One-to-World Computing at Mercy

Technology is all a buzz this year at Our Lady of Mercy. Through fund raising efforts, the school has purchased 108 new Chromebooks. With these new devices students and teachers have access to cloud computing tools which enhance independent learning, promote collaboration and support curiosity and creativity. Each seventh and eighth grader is assigned a Chromebook to be used throughout their school day. Technology stations and a roaming class set of Chromebooks are also available to students in grades 3-6. The result is a highly interactive and engaging learning environment. "Through ongoing workshops and professional development, our teachers are finding wonderful ways to match teaching strategies with technology," said Kitty Shadman, Mercy Technology Coordinator. "Having access to the many resources offered by Chromebooks has brought a new level of enthusiasm to the classroom. We are preparing our students to be 21st century life-long learners."

Seventh graders Danielle Short, Annie Morris, Nina Vito, Peter Phelan, and Rocco Tranquill enjoy interactive learning through Chromebooks.

Our Lady of Mercy Parish

9200 Kentsdale Drive
Potomac, MD

Rev. John Dakes
Pastor

301-365-1415

Our Lady of Mercy School

Ms. Joan Hosmer

301-365-3104

Gerry Burgess, OPT Editor

301-330-5676

FACULTY

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sively on faith from spiritual works, giving the teachers and staff much to think about as they prepared for the new school year.

One of Fr. Leary's witty stories involved an incident when he was called upon to drive Mother Teresa to the airport for her departing flight after a visit to Washington, DC, where Fr. Leary was assigned dur-

ing his apostolate year in seminary. "Mother Teresa rode shotgun in my 1986 Corsica," Fr. Leary announced, savoring each word. The car was old and not in the best of repair, and as luck would have it, refused to start after Mother Teresa disembarked on the tarmac. Needing to drive off the tarmac and away from the departing plane, Fr. Leary had to resort to placing medals blessed by Mother Teresa on the hood of the car to get it to start. When it came time to finally

part ways with his 1986 Corsica, Fr. Leary did what any devout follower of Mother Teresa would do: he removed the front seat where Mother Teresa sat on that fateful trip. The Corsica front seat now takes up residence with Fr. Leary, moving from parish to parish.

After his series of talks, Fr. Leary celebrated Mass at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church for the faculty and staff, before heading back to his own ministries at St. Andrew Apostle Catholic Church. **OPT**

Staff Travel Near and Far to be New "Ministers of Mercy"

By Mary Kate Kassman

Our Lady of Mercy welcomes four staff members who traveled from neighboring parishes, dioceses, states and even countries to step into new roles and share their talents as pastoral ministers and staff.

Karen Rappaport comes to Our Lady of Mercy in two capacities; to the school as the new part-time music teacher and by the parish as our new Children's Choir Director. Karen's most recent position was with Beauvoir, the National Cathedral School. Prior to her years at Beauvoir, Karen was the Fine Arts and Music Teacher at Holy Cross Elementary School and parishioner at St. Andrew the Apostle, our Montgomery County neighbors.

Anna LaNave is the Pastoral Associate for Adult Faith Formation and Evangelization. Anna spent more than a decade as a lobbyist, but for the last eleven years has worked as the "Landings" parish coordinator at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Arlington, our closest diocesan neighbor in Virginia. Anna grew up and attended school in California, and has a B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley, in Political Science and Government and a Master's degree in Pastoral Studies with a concentration in Adult Faith Formation from the Washington Theological Union. Her thesis was on "Conversion and the Returning Catholic." She has also co-authored a book entitled *When They Come Home: Ways to Welcome Returning Catholics*. Anna lives in Burke, Virginia with her husband, Dr. Gregory LaNave, and their four children: Lucia, Dominic, Antonio and Vincent.

Michael Servis drove from Wisconsin to Maryland this sum-

mer to become our new Pastoral Associate for Youth Ministries. In Wisconsin, Mike was associated with an organization called SPIRITUS, formed from the Church's call for a New Evangelization, and has as its mission to inspire and ignite the faith of young people through retreats, spiritual programs and Bible studies to live as disciples of Christ in the world today and to take one leadership roles in the Church. In his years with SPIRITUS, Michael worked with other young adults to lead more than 160 youth retreats as well as bi-monthly Bible studies entitled "Teen Disciples." Prior to his association with SPIRITUS, Mike was a full-time volunteer assistant to the Director of Immigrant and Refugee Services at Catholic Charities in Saint Cloud, Minnesota. Michael was born in Maine, is the youngest in a family of seven children, and holds a B.A. from the University of Maine in Political Science & International Affairs, with a minor in French.

Alina Belenky, our new principal organist, lives in Germantown, Maryland with her husband Vadim and daughter Julia. Both Vadim and Alina were born in the former USSR, and arrived in the United States eighteen years ago from Odessa, near the Black Sea. Alina received her Bachelor's in Jazz and Popular Piano Performance from Kaliningrad College of Music in Kaliningrad, Russia and her Masters of Music in Organ Performance from the University of Houston. In recent years she has been the organist and pianist at several local churches and formal dance institutions.

Welcome Karen, Anna, Michael and Alina! We look forward to your contributions to the parish as our newest "Ministers of Mercy."

OPT

Our Lady of Mercy Parish News

Fall Programs Offer Something for Everyone

The last week of September and the first week of October at Our Lady of Mercy mark the point where seasonal fall programs begin and yearly programs resume. Children, teens, and men and women can find special programs which focus on their needs and interests.

The fall series of the women's Bible Study has resumed. The group is meeting in the Byron House library on Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:00 AM. They are devoting eight sessions to the study of the Gospel of Mark. The Bible Study group 'Walking with Purpose' is also being offered. The men's scripture study group will meet from 7:30 to 8:30 PM on the first Wednesday of the month from September until May.

A group that has been established for several years, Coffee and Conversation, begins this sea-

son with a series presented by Dr. Anthony Tambasco of Georgetown University. The title of his series is "Towards a Creation Spirituality." The group meets in the Enzler Room after the 9:00 AM mass on Saturday.

Weekly Youth Mass has resumed. The Mass is celebrated at 5:00 PM on Sunday in St. Gabriel's Chapel from October through May. The group is looking for teens to volunteer as greeters and ushers, Eucharistic Ministers (age 16 and up), and altar servers and readers. Opportunities to participate are available for musicians and singers. They are also in need of teens to set up and clean up after the Youth Group meeting that takes place after the Mass.

Last but not least, Children's Liturgy of the Word is being offered during the 8:30 AM and 10:45 AM Sunday Masses. **OPT**

Ten Years Building Up the Body of Christ at St. Elizabeth Catholic School

The term principal can mean many different things. In finance, it refers to the amount of debt or investment, minus the interest; in music, the soloist in a concert; in construction, the main end-rafters of a roof. But for St. Elizabeth Catholic School, principal refers to the one who articulates our vision and helps it be realized; the one who calls forth the gifts of those he leads; the one who fosters a spirit of unity and collaboration. For the nearly 600 students and 60 faculty and staff of St. Elizabeth, principal means *Mr. Vincent P. Spadoni!*

In tangent with our pastor, Monsignor John Macfarlane, a dedicated administrative team, faculty and staff, and an extremely generous and supportive school community, Mr. Spadoni has positively impacted the culture of our school. "St. Elizabeth School has flourished in so many different ways while he



St. Raphael parishioners interact at the all school surprise party. A representative of each class held a letter and proclaimed a special word that began with their letter and reminded them of our Principal, Mr. Spadoni.

academic programs and enhancements have taken flight, and several faculty and staff positions have been created, all serving the needs of our growing student population.

In addition to Mr. Spadoni's school responsibilities, he has been the Montgomery County Representative to the Elementary School Principals' Association as member (5 years), President-Elect (2 years) and currently serves as President of the Association. He is also a member of the Archdiocesan School Board and the Superintendent Search Committee.

"...and he gave some as apostles, others as prophets, others as pastors and teachers, to equip the holy ones for the work of ministry, for building up the Body of Christ." (Ephesians 4:11-12) Congratulations and thank you, Mr. Spadoni, for your work sharing in the building of Christ's Body, His Church, at St. Elizabeth Catholic School!

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The Home and School Association surprised Mr. Spadoni with a banner to commemorate this 10 year milestone!

(Mr. Spadoni) has been our principal. At the core of our success has been his belief in the value of Catholic education," remarked Mrs. Lynn Cruser, President of the St. Elizabeth School Advisory Board.

In the words of some of our students, Mr. Spadoni is, "Marvelous, dedicated, inspiring, enthusiastic, awesome," and even, "a snappy dresser!" During his decade-long tenure, Mr. Spadoni has seen our enrollment steadily climb, adding over 100 new students. In 2005, he initiated the move of our Kindergarten classes to our own campus and in recent years has overseen the opening of the Preschool-3, Preschool-4, and Junior Kindergarten programs. Under his leadership, several other



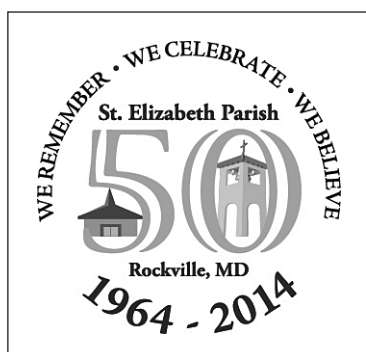
Mr. Spadoni greeting children as they leave the Macfarlane Athletic Center following a surprise 10 year anniversary celebration. Mr. Spadoni and all the students wore a commemorative 10 year anniversary memento.

St. E's 50th Anniversary Celebration

Guest Speaker and Cardinal Wuerl in November

John L. Allen to Speak on "The Francis Effect"

John L. Allen, Jr., formerly Vatican correspondent for The National Catholic Reporter (NCR), now covering the same beat for the



Boston Globe and for the emag Crux, will be guest speaker at St. Elizabeth on Wednesday, November 5.

He will be speaking in the church at 7:30 pm. His topic, a topic on many minds these days, is the "Francis Effect", the impact our new pontiff is having, not only on

Catholics but the entire world. Any of you familiar with NCR or Crux, both readily available online, know that Mr. Allen has written thousands of words on the subject.

No doubt, with the Extraordinary Synod on Marriage and the Family now in progress, the implications of Francis influence on the synod,

as well as the synod's impact on Francis' papacy, will provide even more materials for Mr. Allen's talk.

Mr. Allen is touted as one of the most savvy authorities on the



John L. Allen, Jr.

Vatican, and surely he will be open to answer questions as well as provide a very knowledgeable lecture on the comings and goings of Pope Francis.

Cardinal Wuerl to Celebrate Mass November 16

As part of our 50th Anniversary events for November, his Eminence, Cardinal Wuerl, will celebrate Mass on the 16, at 10:30 am. Anniversary masses are being celebrated throughout the year in honor of various parish ministries and organizations. Cardinal Wuerl's mass will honor the

priests, pastors and their assistants, along with all the weekend assistants, who have served at St. Elizabeth since its founding in 1964.

OPT

St. Elizabeth Parish

917 Montrose Road
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Msgr. John Macfarlane
Pastor

301-881-1380

St. Elizabeth School Principal
Vincent P. Spadoni

301-881-1824

Gerry Moore,
OPT Editor
202-887-6475



St Jude Altar Servers Have Natitude!

Thanks to the generosity of Mr. Jim Welch, the altar servers at the Shrine of St Jude were able to attend a Washington Nationals baseball game last month. The servers were accompanied by family members as well as Fr. Ken Gill and Fr. Raul DeLeon, both parochial vicars at St. Jude. Pictured above from left to right are some of the altar servers who attended the game: Rebecca Welton, George Marcolin Christine Welton, Shawn Mashburn, Kaelyn Mashburn, Justin Davis, and Molly Martin.

Liturgy of the Word

The Word of God is for Children, Too

By Jane Ziles-Soberano

Over the summer, the Shrine of St. Jude joined 45 other parishes in the Archdiocese of Washington by offering the Liturgy of the Word for children aged 4 to 10.

Every Sunday at the 10:30 Mass, children are “dismissed” after the opening prayer and led by one of three teams to hear the Sunday readings from the *Lectionary for Masses with Children*. Adults help the children understand what is read through dialogue, dramatization, visuals, and handouts. A short creed and petitions are also prayed. The children return to the church and their families as the gifts are brought up to the altar.

Starting this venture at the beginning of the summer may seem unusual, but that is precisely when



Cecilia Rowedder leads a group of younger children as part of the Shrine of St. Jude's new Liturgy of the Word program for its much younger parishioners.

other sources of religious learning, such as school and religious educa-

tion, take a break—and the Word of God is never on vacation!

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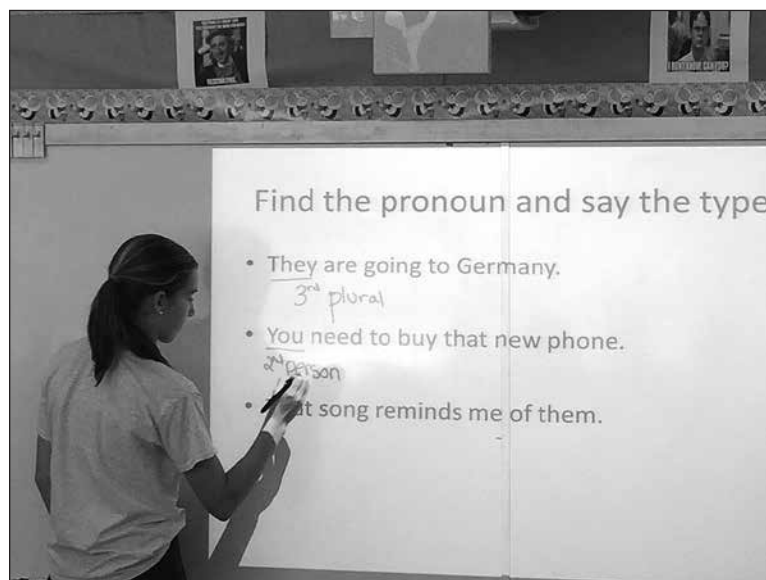
St. Jude Regional Catholic School Goes Interactive

For the past three years, St. Jude Regional Catholic School has been implementing a Modernization Project designed to

give the students and teachers the very best in wireless and interactive technology. As part of the project, 11 classrooms were outfitted with

new whiteboards and Interactive Ultra-Short Throw Projectors this past summer. With the new projectors, teacher and students can use a variety of online tools and Web-based textbooks in class. In preparation for the new interactive technology in the classroom, the school

Continued on page 35



SJRCS eighth-grader Julie Kilmer works on one of the interactive white board recently installed in many classrooms.

Shrine of St. Jude Parish

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

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Fr. Paul Lee Speaks at Forum in Korea

Fr. Paul Lee, pastor of the Shrine of St. Jude, and Dr. John Garvey, president of the Catholic University of Korea, served as keynote lecturers earlier this month at the fourth BWL International Forum for Catholic Humanism at the Catholic University of Korea. Dr. Garvey talked about “The Changing American Family” while Fr. Lee spoke about “Fecundity in Marriage.” There were other presentations and discussions as well as student essay and debate contests.

The event was preceded by a banquet, which included the conferral of the annual Catholic Humanism Award. This is the fourth year that Fr. Lee has attended and given one of the keynote lectures.

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Fr. Paul Lee, pastor, Shrine of St. Jude

Open House at St. Jude Regional Catholic School, Nov. 12

Catch Our Spirit

Catch the St. Jude spirit when St. Jude Regional Catholic School hosts an open house where prospective students, their families, and the community can learn about the school and its mission to provide high-quality, values-based education. The open house will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 12, from 9-11:30 a.m. Admissions information will be available at all times.

St. Jude Regional Catholic School serves students in Pre-Kindergarten through 8th grades of all religious, racial, ethnic, and income backgrounds. Its location at 4820 Walbridge Street in Rockville is perfect for commuters, as it is convenient to Veirs Mill Road, Connecticut Avenue, Georgia Avenue, and Rockville Pike.

For information on the curriculum, admissions policies and registration, contact the school office at 301-946-7888 or visit www.stjuderockville.org.

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Oktoberfest 2014!

St. Jude Regional Catholic School is inviting adults over the age of 21 (must have valid photo ID) to celebrate Oktoberfest on Saturday, Oct. 18, from 6:30-10:30, on the grounds of the school and parish. For \$35 per person, attendees can enjoy traditional German food and drink served from the Biergarten, including brats, potato salad, sauerkraut, and German wine and beer. College football will be broadcast on outdoor screens and



cornhole will be the game of the day! There will also be music and a 50/50 cash raffle. Attendees are urged to get in the true spirit of Oktoberfest and dress in traditional German tracht (clothing).

Please RSVP by Oct. 9 at www.stjuderockville.org and select the Oktoberfest link to pay online.

Questions? Contact Ashley Bettis at ashleybb@outlook.com or Margy Crivella at mdelbj@aol.com.

OPT

Shrine of St. Jude Parish Pastoral Council

According to the Archdiocese of Washington, “a Parish Pastoral Council is an important consultative body that comes together under the direction of the pastor to provide him advice and support for the good of the parish community. Through reflection, prayer, planning, motivation and support, the Parish Pastoral Council serves the pastor by helping identify and encourage those ministries or services that are needed

ish community. Through reflection, prayer, planning, motivation and support, the Parish Pastoral Council serves the pastor by helping identify and encourage those ministries or services that are needed

Continued on page 35

Fiesta 2014 Celebrates Filipino Ministry's 20th Year at St Rose

The weather was gorgeous on September 27 as St. Rose held its annual Fiesta – a fun, community-building event and a major fundraiser for St. Rose ministries and programs.

A World Village showcased the multi-cultural nature of

the parish community. There was a Fabulous Flea Market & Book Nook, great ethnic and traditional food, and fun activities for all.

Children's activities included a moon bounce, pumpkin decorating and face painting. Throughout the day, on the

Center Stage St. Rose talent sang, danced, and played music.

At 5 p.m., Fiesta concluded with a multi-cultural Mass. The combined St. Rose choirs lead the congregation in a joyful celebration.

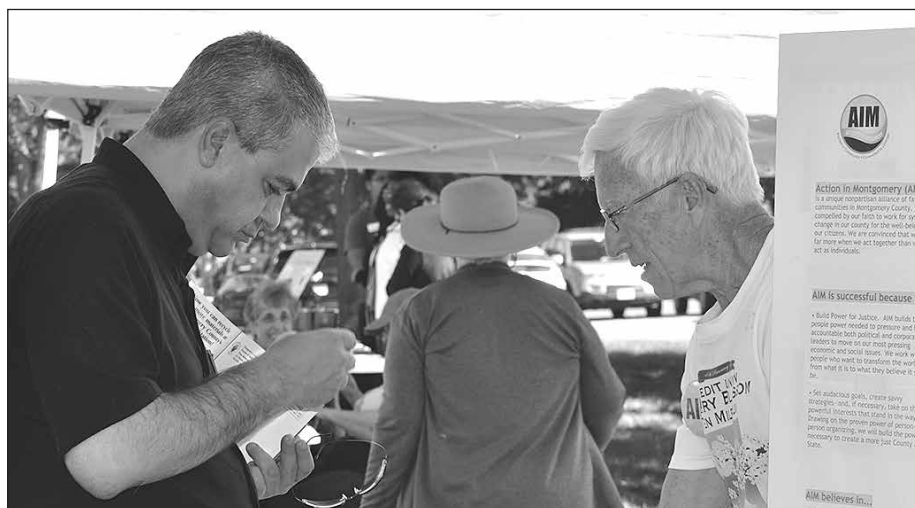
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The St. Rose Fiesta featured face painting for all ages.



St. Rose parishioners showcase dancing skills at Fiesta.



Father Mateo chats with a parishioner at this year's Fiesta.



The offertory gift bearers at the Fiesta Mass

This weekend!

St. Rose Ministry Fair

The St. Rose Ministry Fair will be held after Masses on Saturday, October 11 and

October 12.

At the Fair, St. Rose parishioners will have the opportunity to sign-up to help with a wide variety of ministries ranging from religious education to social concerns to liturgy to music. To help attendees choose a ministry that's right for them, each ministry will have a representative available to answer questions and written information for distribution.

The Ministry Fair will be in the Woodlands Room.

St. Rose of Lima

11701 Clopper Road
Gaithersburg, MD

Rev. Msgr. Paul J. Langsfeld
Pastor

301-948-7545

Mary Zoccola, Parish Editor

mary.zoccola@gmail.com

240-401-0612

OPT



Knitting ministry meets Wednesday morning at 10:00.



St. Raphael parishioners interact with the representatives of over 40 parish ministries and organizations at our Ministry Fair on September 7. The fair's theme was "How Can You Serve."

St. Raphael holds Ministry Fair

On September 7, over 40 ministries and parish organizations were represented at a Ministry Fair for new and old parishioners alike. The theme of the Ministry Fair was "How You Can Serve" and marketing this event included the logo above. The goal



of the ministry fair was to spotlight the many types of ministries, events and organizations that contribute to the vibrancy of this faith community and to encourage parishioners to volunteer in at least one area of interest. From the staffed ministries to the volunteer-based events and parish organizations, anyone attending could find out what was the mission statement, types and job descriptions of volunteers needed and obtain a calendar of activities from any one of the groups represented.

"St. Raphael is a parish that is so generous and loving!" one attendee in the crowd stated. Many individuals expressed that they never knew all the things that were going on behind the scenes. Held in the Trumpet Room, a maze of tables with their exhibits were aligned to group liturgical, spiritual and ser-

vice oriented ministries or organizations so that the participant looking for a specific type of ministry could find them located in the same area. The integration of both Anglo and Spanish Community Ministries demonstrated the efforts being made to bridge both communities together with common missions. The extensive planning yielded much fruit as parishioners were reported as signing up to volunteer and have since been placed in their desired positions since the fair.

This year's event will prove to plant seeds for discernment for the parishioner. God calls each one of us to share our gifts and talents so that the common good can be achieved and hearts be uplifted. All these efforts and more are being initiated to engage the parishioner to become part of God's invitation to serve. As St. Teresa of Avila so aptly stated: "Christ has no body now on earth but yours; no hands but yours; no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which He is to go about doing good, yours are the hands with which He is to bless people now..."

OPT

INTERACTIVE

Con't from page 33

has purchased new textbooks at every level that include online and interactive resources. Grades

Kindergarten through 8th now have state-of-the-art classrooms, which include wireless technology and iPads in addition to the interactive projectors.

The students at St. Jude Regional Catholic School are thriving with

the variety of educational tools that are literally at their fingertips. St. Jude is extremely grateful for the efforts of our parents, parishioners, friends and supporters who have made the Modernization Project a success.

OPT

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Con't from page 33

for the growth of a living parish community, evaluated and implemented on a regular basis. Thus the pastoral council must carefully consider the needs of the faithful and search within the community to

recommend to the pastor ideas and means that will adequately respond to these needs."

The Shrine of St. Jude Parish Pastoral Council is led by its pastor, Fr. Paul Lee, and comprised of eight parishioners: Doug Arkin, Chair of the Council; Greg Argyros, Secretary; Diana Cordoba; Natalie Craven; Tom Dollard; Rafi Gorospe;

Lou Kratz; and Tom Pretzfelder.

Should a parishioner have a need from the parish that is not being met, please contact Doug Arkin, chair of the Shrine of St. Jude Parish Pastoral Council, at doug@arkincopa.com or Greg Argyros, secretary, at gjargyros@verizon.net.

OPT

St. Raphael School News

By Emma Kaibni

St. Raphael School and Nursery School kicked off the academic year with the theme "Alive in the Moment." Recognizing that we live in a time of great distraction – the era of smart phones and access to immediate information – this theme touches all of us in a special way as we learn to be mindful and live in the present.



Fourth-grader Alex Wilson is all smiles as he crosses the finish line at St. Raphael School's Angels on the Run. Photo by MJ Zafis-Garcia

Run, Angels, Run!

We hosted our third Angels on the Run on Sept. 13 and attracted record numbers. Once a year, school families and friends come together to socialize and exercise in this 5K, which this time included two shorter races for the younger set – a 1.5-miler and a Toddler Trot. The event was open to students, faculty, alumni, parents, parishioners, friends, and neighbors and drew more than 450 registrants. We would like to thank everyone for coming out to support this popular "fun-raiser" – including our many sponsors.



St. Raphael School kindergartner Allison Hite joins the cheering section at Angels on the Run. Photo by MJ Zafis-Garcia

School Families Come Through for Shelter

The students and families of St. Raphael once again displayed their generous spirit on Sept. 17. From pasta to pull-ups, they collected more than 70 pounds of food and 280 pounds of household supplies and personal items for the residents of Stepping Stones Shelter, a Rockville organization that assists homeless families with children. The initiative was inspired by Day to Serve, a collaborative interdenominational effort to help those less fortunate in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, D.C. As the school volunteers unloaded their cars filled with donations, staff members at the shelter expressed their gratitude to our families for filling their empty shelves. This is the third year St. Raphael School and Nursery School have participated in Day to Serve.

A Favorite Tradition: Grandparents' Day

On Sept. 26, we welcomed some dear visitors to our campus. Grandparents' Day is a special morning, when our students honor and cherish their grandparents (or other invited guests for those students without grandparents). The event begins with a Mass and is followed by refreshments, a slide show, portraits taken of the students with their grandparents or guests, and gifts for our visitors. Grandparents' Day has become a favorite tradition at St. Raphael School.

OPT

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

Synod of Bishops on the Family Now Meeting in Rome

Pope Francis presided at the celebration of Holy Mass in the Vatican Basilica on the occasion of the opening of the Third Extraordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops on the theme: The pastoral challenges to the family in the context of evangelization.

After the proclamation of the Gospel, the Pope delivered the following homily:

Today the prophet Isaiah and the Gospel employ the image of the Lord's vineyard. The Lord's vine-

yard is his "dream", the plan which he nurtures with all his love, like a farmer who cares for his vineyard. Vines are plants which need much care!

God's "dream" is his people. He planted it and nurtured it with patient and faithful love, so that it can become a holy people, a people which brings forth abundant fruits of justice.

But in both the ancient prophecy and in Jesus' parable, God's dream is thwarted. Isaiah says that the vine-

yard which he so loved and nurtured has yielded "wild grapes" (5:2,4); God "expected justice but saw bloodshed, righteousness, but only a cry of distress" (v. 7). In the Gospel, it is the farmers themselves who ruin the Lord's plan: they fail to do their job but think only of their own interests.

In Jesus' parable, he is addressing the chief priests and the elders of the people, in other words the "experts", the managers. To them in a particular way God entrusted his "dream", his people, for them to nurture, tend and protect from the animals of the field. This is the job of leaders: to nurture the vineyard with freedom, creativity and hard work.

But Jesus tells us that those farmers took over the vineyard. Out of greed and pride they want to do with it as they will, and so they prevent God from realizing his dream for the people he has chosen.

The temptation to greed is ever

present. We encounter it also in the great prophecy of Ezekiel on the shepherds (cf. ch. 34), which Saint Augustine commented upon in one of his celebrated sermons which we have just reread in the Liturgy of the Hours. Greed for money and power. And to satisfy this greed, evil pastors lay intolerable burdens on the shoulders of others, which they themselves do not lift a finger to move (cf. Mt 23:4).

We too, in the Synod of Bishops, are called to work for the Lord's vineyard. Synod Assemblies are not meant to discuss beautiful and clever ideas, or to see who is more intelligent... They are meant to better nurture and tend the Lord's vineyard, to help realize his dream, his loving plan for his people. In this case the Lord is asking us to care for the family, which has been from the beginning an integral part of his loving plan for humanity.

We too can be tempted to "take over" the vineyard, because of that

greed which is always present in us human beings. God's dream always clashes with the hypocrisy of some of his servants. We can "thwart" God's dream if we fail to let ourselves be guided by the Holy Spirit. The Spirit gives us that wisdom which surpasses knowledge, and enables us to work generously with authentic freedom and humble creativity.

My brothers, to do a good job of nurturing and tending the vineyard, our hearts and our minds must be kept in Jesus Christ, as Saint Paul says, by "the peace of God which passes all understanding" (Phil 4:7). In this way our thoughts and plans will correspond to God's dream: to form a holy people who are his own and produce the fruits of the kingdom of God (cf. Mt 21:43).

Original text: Italian. Translation by the Vatican.

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Archdiocese of Washington Challenges HHS Mandate

Supplemental Brief Filed in Case

The Archdiocese of Washington filed a supplemental brief with the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit on September 16 addressing the revised HHS mandate regulations issued by the government last month. This brief is the latest step in the ongoing case filed by the archdiocese and its co-appellants challenging the HHS mandate.

The new regulations continue to artificially divide the Church into two separate spheres and deny a full religious exemption to those parts of the Church that extend their ministries into the charitable and educational realms. Rather

than extending to religious schools, health care institutions and social service ministries the kind of time-honored religious exemption they have historically received, the regulations would only modify the "accommodation," which continues to require the archdiocese and its affiliates to act in violation of their religious beliefs.

In addition, the Archdiocese of Washington echoes the concern of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops that the proposed extension of the "accommodation" to the closely held for-profit employers that were wholly exempted by the Supreme Court's

decision earlier this year in the case of *Burwell v. Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc.* would effectively reduce, rather than expand, the scope of religious freedom.

At this time, the injunction issued by the U.S. District Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia in the ongoing case, *Roman Catholic Archbishop of Washington, et al. v. Burwell*, remains in place and prohibits the government from enforcing the HHS mandate's objectionable requirements against the archdiocese and its co-appellants pending further order from the court.

OPT

Holy Cross

Musical Talent at Holy Cross School

The school year at Holy Cross is filled with music, with performances directed by music teacher Mary Bentley and Band Director, Doug Harvey.

Mrs. Bentley, a soprano with the National Philharmonic Chorale at Strathmore, shares her talents with the Holy Cross community in many ways. The first public performance is the annual Christmas pageant performed by students in Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth Grade. A Middle School musical is the traditional centerpiece of the spring season. Throughout the year Ms. Bentley also works with the school choir, comprised of students in Grades Three through Eight, to lead the singing at school masses,

and to prepare for two concerts in the winter and spring.

Band Director, Doug Harvey has been working with Holy Cross students for 11 years. His talent and guidance introduces new musicians to band and hones the skills of our more seasoned players. The Holy Cross Prep Band is for students new to playing their instruments, with the Concert Band geared to our more seasoned players. Students practice in small groups with Mr. Harvey, as well as in full group rehearsals to learn the dynamics of group performance. The Holy Cross Band is consistently awarded a trophy for "Excellence" in the annual Archdiocesan Band competition hosted by St. John's College High

School. Many Holy Cross students are invited to play in the Honors Band, and also go on to play in high school and college bands. Mr. Harvey said that it is a "rewarding experience to work with such an enthusiastic and talented group of students" each year.

Last year, Ms. Bentley, Mr. Harvey and art teacher Ms. Marcus organized the first annual spring Arts Night featuring performances by the choirs and the bands, as well as a wonderful display of artwork by the students. "It was great to show off all of the talent we have here at Holy Cross School," Ms. Bentley noted. It was a memorable evening, and one that is much anticipated this spring.

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Classifieds

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EBOLA

Con't from page 23

order to prevent further spread of this virus. On our way into the city, Sr. Barbara Brilliant, a Franciscan Missionary of Mary, who is serving as my host, rolled down the window of the car to reprimand a young man and a young woman who were holding hands while walking on the street and she reminded this couple that they should not be "touching"!

International aid needed

The Ebola situation in the country is very grave. Many hospitals and clinics are closed, so it is very difficult to get medical treatment for other diseases. Some people die in the streets looking for medical treatment for infection or for a whole host of other diseases. Schools and many government offices are closed. This means that families do not have enough income to provide food and other necessities. Health workers — doctors, nurses, and others — are afraid to go back to work.

But also the socio-economic impact is very dire. This is a country that just emerged from years of conflict and war and now must deal with the "war" on Ebola. In the communities in which quarantine has been imposed in order to eliminate the risk of further spread of infection, people do not have access to food, clean water, and other necessities.

There is a general sense of psychological trauma and anger among the people; several people shared with me their fear that social unrest and conflicts will soon begin again.

How can the international community be of help? There still is much fear and denial among the general population, so funding is needed in order to organize community-based education in order to encourage people to seek treatment if they are showing the signs of fever or other symptoms. Better understanding of the need for quarantine of suspected patients must be provided in the communities. Financial and technical support for such activities already has been requested by Caritas Liberia and by the diocesan Caritas structures.

The health care infrastructure in the country has been weak for many years and the present epidemic has brought it to the breaking point. Additional units to diagnose and treat Ebola patients are desperately needed in several parts of the country and especially in Monrovia. I heard stories of patients who go in taxis in order to seek treatment — all without success.

An oath to serve the sick

The Catholic Hospital of Saint Joseph, in Monrovia, was considered the best health facility in the country, but it was closed after the director and eight other staff members died of Ebola. Today I walked

the halls of the closed hospital together with one of the surgeons there that became infected with the virus but now has recovered from the illness. He sadly showed me the rooms where his colleagues, including Brother Patrick Nshamdze, director of the hospital, had died.

Not only these the medical missionaries, but also the local staff with whom they worked, gave their lives because they were committed to the medical oath of serving all sick people and of upholding the dignity of the human person from conception to natural death. For them the practice of medicine was not a "business"; it was a vocation. They come from a long line of holy persons, literally a "communion of saints", who express their belief in Jesus' gospel by serving others and even giving their lives out of love for their most needy neighbors.

The Brothers of St. John of God want to re-open the hospital but they need financial help to do so — they also will need to organize an Ebola screening unit in order to prevent any repeat of spread of infection within the hospital. They want to walk in the footsteps of their brothers and sisters in religious life who walked before them in service to the sick in Liberia, but they need the help of the international community, and especially of the Caritas confederation and of the entire Universal Catholic Church, in order to do so.

OPT

SCHOOL YEAR

Con't from page 7

are fighting ALS. DeChantal teachers challenged the faculty of St. Elizabeth's in Rockville and Our Lady of Mercy in Potomac to take the challenge.

School started August 25 and as is tradition, principal Betsy Hamilton greeted every single one of her 500 students at the door. New eighth grade patrols demonstrated leadership skills and seventh grade "pit crew" members helped Pre-K students from their cars to their classrooms.

Physical Education teacher Lisa Tehan made her first collection of General Mills box tops soon after school started; those donations benefit the PE program at the school, which earned more than

\$1,000 through the program last year. Community members are encouraged to send their box tops to Mrs. Tehan at the school: 9525 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, Md., 20814.

In September, 170 families headed to the school field after Saturday evening Mass for an evening of barbecue, moon bounces, dancing in the dark, and plenty of good old-fashioned catching up with friends at the school's annual Family Fun Night. Always a highlight, this year's event enjoyed clear night skies despite a rainy day and there was plenty of fun for all.

The eighth grade Journalism Club started planning the first issue of the school newspaper. Their first order of business was to rename the paper to reflect the new school mascot, Duke the dog. The paper is published quarterly by eighth graders who choose to participate.

OPT

MASCOT

Con't from page 7

chosen after many suggestions and much feedback from the school community.

Duke, a large black dog that looks like a Labrador retriever, was modeled after a dog owned by St. Jane de Chantal; she was given the puppy by a friend of her late husband who was killed in a hunting accident. Duke went with Jane when she visited the sick and dying and welcomed women who turned to Jane after they were turned away from convents. He also served as watchdog and was said to rescue his



St. Jane de Chantal unveiled its new mascot, Duke the dog, and a new logo in September.

mistress from a frozen lake during a snowstorm.

Students, parents, and teachers

were introduced to Duke with a reading of his story that says, in part, "We are a community of teachers, students, and families who are loyal and brave. We are friendly, kind, and faithful. We are strong and agile, yet happy and welcoming. We strive to please and protect. We are the Dukes."

Duke's portrait was included in the new cafeteria mural, painted by artist Susan Sands, along with the new logo that features his face. He and the cafeteria changes were welcomed and blessed during the annual Home-School Association meeting in September.

OPT

Father Benedict Groeschel Dies at 81

Well known author and speaker Father Benedict Groeschel, a Franciscan Friar of the Renewal, died Friday evening, the vigil of St. Francis.

Famed author, speaker, psychologist, and spiritual director, Father Benedict Joseph (Robert Peter) Groeschel, CFR, 81, died at St. Joseph's Home in Totowa, New Jersey on October



3, 2014, after a long illness. The eldest of six children, Father Groeschel was born in Jersey City, New Jersey on July 23, 1933, to the late Edward Joseph Groeschel and Marjule Smith Groeschel and attended Catholic schools in both Jersey City and Caldwell, New Jersey. Ten days after his 1951 graduation from Immaculate Conception High School in Montclair, New Jersey, he entered the novitiate of the Capuchin Franciscan Friars of the Province of St. Joseph in Huntington, Indiana. Adopting the name Benedict Joseph in honor of St. Benedict Joseph Labré, he pronounced his first vows as a Capuchin in 1952 and his final vows in 1954. Father Groeschel completed his theological studies at the Capuchin Franciscan Seminary of Mary Immaculate in Garrison, New York in 1959, and on June 20th of that year was ordained to the priesthood in Sacred Heart Church, Yonkers, New York.

His first priestly assignment, that of interim Catholic Chaplain at Children's Village in Dobbs Ferry, New York, a residential facility for troubled children, was a post he expected to occupy only for a few months. However, he stayed at Children's Village for 14 years, working with hundreds of troubled youths, quite a few of whom remained his friends

for decades. He often described his years at Children's Village as "the happiest time of my life," and in many ways that period set the tone for the rest of his life, prompting him to begin graduate study in

psychology to better serve the children in his care. After earning a master's degree from Iona College in 1964 and a doctorate from Teacher's College, Columbia University in 1970, he began lifelong work as a counselor who always endeavored to unite effective psychological methods with true Christian compassion and a vibrant spirituality.

In 1973 at the request of Terence Cardinal Cooke, Father Groeschel left Children's Village to become the founding director of Trinity Retreat in Larchmont, New York, a retreat house primarily for Catholic clergy and religious. During his forty years there, he became known throughout the Catholic world for the depth of the spiritual and psychological direction he offered, as well as for the extent of his caring for all who came to him for help. During this period he was urged by colleagues and friends to try his hand as a writer, and so he began work on a manuscript that he called Spiritual Passages. Published by Crossroads in 1983, Spiritual Passages is still in print and has been read by people the world over. Known for his inexhaustible energy, Father Groeschel continued writing throughout the rest of his life, becoming popular among Catholic and non-Catholic readers alike.

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37 New Track & Field Records at Maryland Senior Olympics

MSO's 34th annual track and field meet was held in Baltimore August 6-17 and 37 new records were established. Leading the way were Audrey Lary of Frederick, who moved up to W80-84, and Edward Murphy of Rockville, who moved up to M90-94, with six new records each.

To see all the 2014 M Maryland Senior Olympics results and for information in participating in Maryland Senior Olympics events, visit: www.mdseniorolympics.org/

The Maryland Senior Olympics is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization for proactive residents aged 50 and above. Since 1980, the Maryland games have provided great competition and camaraderie for mature



adults as many have advanced to the National Senior Games and returned as U.S. champions.

Camaraderie is just as important as competition at the Maryland Senior Olympics. Each year, MSO offers around 100 events through

two dozen sports in age groups of 50-54, 55-59, 60-64 and so forth. The top three finishers in each event win medals; every odd year is a qualifying year for the National Senior Games. The top four in each state-level event qualifies for

nationals.

But you don't have to be a world-class athlete to compete in the Maryland Senior Olympics – far from it. MSO's motto is, "To Participate Is to Win!" Many MSO athletes compete just for the fellowship and friendships. Others compete because of the personal challenge. And yes, some athletes compete because they are still competitive even in their advancing years.

OPT

The Senior Connection

The Senior Connection, a small non-profit, is celebrating 20 years of providing free and reliable services to older residents of Montgomery County, Maryland.

Escorted transportation to medical appointments is the most requested Senior Connection activity. In December 2010, The Senior Connection added The Montgomery County Shoppers Program to its list of offerings. Volunteers either escort the senior to the store or go for them and help with putting the groceries away upon returning. This program serves low income seniors, ages 60 and older, using the same volunteer model as our original program. To qualify, seniors must prove they are below 250% the poverty line (\$28,725 individual or \$38,775 for a couple) and have no other means of getting groceries.

The newest Senior Connection service is the Bill Payer Program, which coordinates volunteers willing to provide individual hands-on help to seniors who are no longer able to navigate their monthly bill paying obligations. The services are provided free of charge and operate in the same manner that professional Daily Money Managers help seniors. This program is offered in partnership with the AARP Foundation's Money Manager Program, and in cooperation with the American Association of Daily Money Managers (AADMM). To qualify, seniors must prove that their income does not exceed \$45,100 per year individually, or \$51,500 per year as a couple. The asset limits are equal to the yearly income limit. Assets include: cash, deposit accounts (savings, checking, CDs), stocks and bonds. Assets do NOT include: retirement accounts, life insurance policies, automobiles and primary residence. With this program, seniors stay in control of their own finances, yet enjoy the help of a volunteer to help with writing monthly checks, managing paperwork and filing, and ensuring safeguards against fraud and identity theft.

The Senior Connection is holding its second annual gala on October 18 in the Silver Spring Civic Center from 6:00pm to 11:00pm. For more information about sponsoring and attending the 2014 Gala, visit <http://www.seniorconnectionmc.org>. **OPT**

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SOAR Fall Trips!

The Montgomery County Department of Recreation has released its Fall 2014 Senior Outdoor Adventures in Recreation (SOAR) travel program for active adults age 55 and over. Unless noted, all transportation is provided on restroom-equipped motor coaches. You may register for a SOAR trip in any of four ways. The fastest and easiest way is to use the internet and go to RecWeb at: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec. (Please note: First timers must register and receive a PIN prior to registering for a trip online. It usually takes 2-3 days to receive our PIN # once you complete the online information.) You may also mail your trip application, fax it to 240-777-6818, or walk in to the registration office at 4010 Randolph Road. If you have questions about the registration process, please call 240-777-6870. If you have questions or require more information about a specific trip, call the SOAR Coordinator at 240-777-4926.

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Trip No. 377320
Thursday, October 9
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Re-Enactment of the Battle of Baltimore

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Trip No. 377322
Tuesday, October 14
Fee: \$75
Leave 8:45 am; Return 4:00 pm

Western Maryland Scenic RR Trip

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Trip No. 377324
Thursday, October 16
Trip No. 377325

Wednesday, October 22
Fee: \$70
Leave 7:45 am; Return 6:00 pm

Guided Walking and Riding Tour of Historic Harrisburg

Capital of Pennsylvania
Trip No. 377326
Wednesday, October 29
Trip No. 377327
Thursday, October 30
Fee: \$60
Leave 7:00 am; Return 6:00 pm

The Amish Experience

Tour Amish Sites in and around Lancaster
Trip No. 377328
Thursday, November 6
Fee: \$85
Leave 7:15 am; Return 6:30

Guided Tour of Carlisle, Penna.

Historic Town Settled in the Eighteenth Century
Trip No. 377329
Wednesday, November 12
Trip No. 377330
Thursday, November 13
Fee: \$69
Leave 7:00 am; Return 6:00

Christmas at Oatlands Plantation and Morven Park Mansion

Leesburg, Virginia
Trip No. 377333
Thursday, December 4
Fee: \$59
Leave 8:00 am; Return 6:00

New NIH research awards to address multiple chronic conditions

Three new research awards – totaling up to \$19.4 million over 5 years – will address the growing proportion of the U.S. population that has multiple chronic medical conditions. The grants are funded through the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) Health Care Systems (HCS) Research Collaboratory, which engages health care systems as research partners in conducting large-scale clinical studies.

It is estimated that 3 in 4 adults over age 65 and 1 in 15 children suffer from two or more chronic medical conditions—such as diabetes mellitus, chronic kidney disease, hypertension, and chronic pain. As patients develop more chronic conditions, they are likely to use more health care services and suffer negative outcomes such as unnecessary hospitalizations, adverse drug reactions, declining functional status, and mortality. These growing problems emphasize the need for more research to improve health outcomes of patients with multiple chronic conditions.

The projects are:

■ **PROVEN:** This trial will evaluate video education as a tool for decision-making for the patient, family, and health care team about advanced care planning in nursing homes, where residents typically have multiple chronic conditions. The videos will be tested to see how they help patients and staff address difficult decisions about resuscitation, use of ventilators in the last stages of



illness, and similar important care issues. This project will be primarily overseen by the National Institute on Aging.

■ **Improving Chronic Disease Management with PIECES:** This trial will implement a collaborative model between primary and subspecialty care, enhanced with a medical information tool called PIECES, in patients with multiple chronic conditions (diabetes mellitus, chronic kidney disease, and hypertension). This project will be primarily overseen by the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases.

■ **U.S. Trauma Care System Pragmatic Trial for PTSD and**

Comorbidity: This trial focuses on patients who are being treated for acute physical injuries and who also have conditions such as post-traumatic stress disorder, alcohol and drug use problems, depression, chronic pain, and other medical conditions. This project will be primarily overseen by the National Institute of Mental Health.

The overall goal of the HCS Research Collaboratory is to strengthen the national capacity to implement cost-effective, large-scale research studies that engage health care delivery organizations as research partners. The aim of the program is to provide a framework of implementation methods and best practices that will enable the participation of many health care systems in clinical research, not to support a defined health care research network. Research conducted in partnership with health care systems is essential to strengthen the relevance of research results to health practice.

OPT



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For more information, contact the Department of Special Needs Ministries
at **301-853-4560** or **specialneedsministry@adw.org**

Potomac Community Resources, Inc. is proud to support this initiative of the Archdiocese of Washington.