



Parish Times

Special
Graduation Issue

MAY 2016

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Chuck Short

This is the final edition of **Our Parish Times** until fall. We take this opportunity to thank those who help sustain our faith through service to their parishes: to inspiring priests and deacons, talented musicians and cantors and lectors; those who

tend the altars and diligently maintain parish facilities; compassionate ministry volunteers, dedicated teachers and staff and those who conduct sacramental preparations; and of course all who contribute material to **Our Parish Times**. With Memorial Day near, in a special way we remember with gratitude parishioners who have died and left us their enduring legacies of strong, vibrant parish communities. We congratulate our graduates and honor their parents for assisting in

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Second graders gather on the steps of St. Martin's Church in Gaithersburg following their First Communion. This group represents one of three that received their First Communions in April and May at St. Martin's. Photo courtesy of St. Martin's School.

Moving Forward, Giving Back



Fr. Enzler

This particular issue of *Our Parish Times* is one of my favorites. Every year I look forward to reviewing the pictures and reading about our young people. I have come to know many of them through the years, often through the parents I have met at my

various assignments at St. Jane de Chantal, Little Flower, the Office of Youth Ministry, Our Lady of Lourdes, Our Lady of Mercy, Blessed Sacrament, St. Bartholomew's and Catholic Charities.

I love to look at the smiling faces with years of education now completed, to read the words they have spoken or that have inspired them, and to learn the talents for which they are noted. Once again, I am filled with overwhelming gratitude for the gift of a Catholic education and for our schools that do so much.

My hope and prayer for all of you moving to the next stage of life is that you will see this as both a moment of completion as well as a new beginning. You deserve a great deal of credit, and I hope you celebrate well your accomplishments. I also encourage you to take the gifts you have been given and use them to make a difference in the lives of others, particularly those in need.

I strongly believe our schools have instilled a sense of social justice and a sense of service in our students. It seems very unlikely a child or teenager would graduate from one of our schools and not have a strong sense of who

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A Special Game of Basketball

On Thursday, April 7, Our Lady of Mercy's school gym was the place to be! The school, parish, and wider community gathered for a fun-filled evening of basketball. Anne Marie Finnell and Katy Gooch organized the event, with the help of Meg Muller and Amanda Herndon. The four quarter game was played by the basketball players from Special Olympics of Montgomery County mixed with Mercy's eighth-grade students. Each mixed team was coached by two volunteer Mercy dads.

Hot dogs, chips, and baked goods added to the cheerful scene as money was raised for Special Olympics of Montgomery County. In between quarters, students of all

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Maria Guadalupe, one of Mercy's own Special Olympics players

Olympic Gold Medal Winner Dominique Dawes Wows Crowd at St. Patrick's



Dominique Dawes speaking passionately to St. Patrick's audience about her Catholic faith

By Anne Mascari, with help from Molly Crismond and Jim Bilodeau

On Sunday March 20, St. Patrick's CYO hosted its annual CYO Awards and Recognition Ceremony and Pizza Party. The awards ceremony celebrated the accomplishments of St. Patrick's student athletes, Pre-K through high school, who competed in Soccer, Cross Country, Basketball, Softball, and Track & Field. St. Patrick's welcomed Olympic medalist Dominique Dawes as the guest speaker. Ms. Dawes has the distinct recognition of participating in three different Olympic Games as a member of the U.S. Olympic women's gymnastics

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Mike Keller, left, will be getting a donor voice from Trey McCloskey. Both boys are parishioners at St. Raphael, where auditions were held to find a match for Mike, 13, who has autism and is nonverbal.

The Gift of a Voice: A Message of Hope

By Nina Cardillo

"I am so excited to get a new voice!" Barely glancing at the keyboard as he types flawlessly with his left hand, 13-year-old Mike Keller expresses his joy. A member of St. Raphael Catholic Church and a boy with autism, Mike is nonverbal. While he is a typical young teen in many ways — he likes to swim, excels in math, and has a bright sense of humor — he does not speak with his own voice. A seventh-grader in a pilot program at Lakelands Middle School, Mike uses a keyboard to communicate. He expresses his thoughts and feelings one character at a time. His spelling is perfect, his patience is extraordinary, and his smile is contagious as he says,

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Holy Cross fifth-grade teacher Corri Deegan

Holy Cross Teacher Receives Award

Corri Deegan, Fifth-Grade teacher at Holy Cross, was recognized at Notre Dame of Maryland University's School of Education Awards Celebration on May 19th. This spring, Ms. Deegan completed a Master's Degree for Leadership in Special Education. One recipient is chosen each year from those who are graduating, based on such things as grade point average and professor recommendations. Congratulations, Ms. Deegan

OPT

Boy Scout Troop 461 Celebrates 100th Eagle Scout

St. Jane de Chantal's Boy Scout Troop 461 marked a milestone recently when they celebrated the advancement of their 99th and 100th Eagle Scouts. Scouts George Emerson Cox and Gabriel Trujillo Lederer were recognized at a special Court of Honor ceremony in April to mark their achieving the highest rank in scouting. Cox, a senior at Gonzaga College High School, is the son of George and Debora Cox of Bethesda; Lederer, a senior at Georgetown Prep, is the son of Gerard Lederer and Denise Trujillo, also of Bethesda. Both boys joined the troop six years ago after bridging over from de Chantal Cub Scout Pack 461.

Among the requirements for

Eagle Scout advancement is a service project that the scout candidate must organize and lead. Both boys separately selected projects that included trail improvements and bridge repairs within the Cabin John Park system, each demonstrating a commitment to the stewardship of the outdoors. Both boys also earned the 21 merit badges specifically required for Eagle, and provided leadership to the troop in a variety of positions over the past several years.

De Chantal's scouting program has flourished for 57 years, having been established in 1959. The troop's first Eagle Scout earned his rank in 1963.

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St. Jane de Chantal troop's newest Eagle Scouts: Gabriel Lederer and Emerson Cox



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A Fortunate Encounter

By Michelle Ardillo

April showers bring May flowers, or at least that is how the saying goes. This May, however, we seemed to just get more showers. The first week of May was set aside for our school's annual Arts Festival, with almost as many outdoor activities scheduled as indoor sessions. We had rain off and on each day, changing our planned outdoor Infiorata to an indoor arts session. On Friday, May 6th, the date scheduled for our procession and May crowning, Mother Nature intervened once again and we crowned the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary inside the church rather than outdoors in the grotto of the school circle.

As unfortunate as the weather was that week, our school community was fortunate enough to have as our keynote speaker and Mass celebrant Fr. Stan Fortuna C.F.R., one of the eight founding members of the Community of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, located in the Bronx, NY. Prior to his conversion, Fr. Stan was a professional jazz musician, and during his homily, when Fr. Stan began to talk about Mary, it was clear to see, and hear,



how his background as a musician influences the way he carries out his ministry.

The church was mesmerized as he read to the congregation of students, faculty, staff, and parents, from his notebook, something part rap, part prayer, part poem. As he recited "MM 33Lines", his deep

booming voice emphasizing certain syllables, Fr. Stan's words painted a living portrait of "Mother Mary" for all to see, and more importantly, to feel. Several students commented that they felt Mary's presence in a new way when they listened to Fr. Stan's "MM 33 Lines", and they

Continued on page 26

Justice & Advocacy Council of Montgomery County

The U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops and the Maryland Catholic Conference serve as the Catholic Church's voice on public policy issues, at the federal and state levels respectively. In Montgomery County, the Justice and Advocacy Council (J&A Council) of the Archdiocese of Washington advocates for poor and vulnerable residents.

Since 2004, the J&A Council has encouraged parishes to participate in this important work. Our advocacy efforts are based on the tenets of Catholic Social teaching which include the sacredness of life, the dignity of the human person, the responsibility to care for others, a preferential option for the poor and vulnerable, and the need to act in solidarity, recognizing that we are all part of one human family.

As you know, from the very beginning of his pontificate, Pope Francis has called upon us to remember the poor, the vulnerable, and the voiceless. There are numerous examples of his call for justice, including the following from last fall:

The call to serve involves something special, to which we must be attentive. Serving means caring for their vulnerability. Caring for the vulnerable of our families, our society, our people. Theirs are the suffering, fragile and downcast faces



J&A Council co-chairs Ann Barbagallo of St. Paul parish on the left and Cathy Couch of St. Elizabeth on the right.

which Jesus tells us specifically to look at and which he asks us to love. With a love which takes shape in our actions and decisions. With a love which finds expression in whatever tasks we, as citizens, are called to perform. It is people of flesh and blood, people with individual lives and stories, and with all their frailty, that Jesus asks us to protect, to care for and to serve. Being a Christian entails promoting the dignity of our brothers and sisters, fighting for it, living for it. That is why Christians are constantly called to set aside their own wishes

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Parishioners Marianne Moore (right) and Rosemary Hudecheck (left) placing adoptions on the Spiritual Adoption display

Spiritual Adoption Program

By Rose A. Attig

On Sunday, April 3, Divine Mercy Sunday, St. Francis of Assisi Parish, and its Respect For Life Ministry, launched its Second Annual Spiritual Adoption Program. Parishioners, either individually or as a family, had the opportunity to “spiritually” adopt a child, who is newly conceived, and pledge to pray daily, for 9 months, for a baby who is in danger of abortion. This program serves as a way to educate others about the development of the pre-born baby.

Monthly updates about the baby’s development will appear in the

Parish bulletin. Along with that, a new poster will be displayed, every month, depicting each state of the baby’s development. Parishioners have been asked to name “their” baby and place a heart, bearing the baby’s name, on the display.

At the end of nine months, the Parish will host a baby shower, with items donated to the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center in Gaithersburg. The baby will be “born” on January 22, 2017, in conjunction with the January March For Life, which commemorates the forty-fourth anniversary of Roe vs. Wade, when the Supreme legalized abortion in the United States.

Our prayers can make a difference between whether a baby will be born ...or aborted. Prayers can also be a form of spiritual support for both parents. The late Venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen encouraged the spiritual adoption of an unborn baby. His brief and powerful prayer is: “Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion.”

OPT

The 2016 St. Francis of Assisi First Communion Class

On April 30, forty-five young parishioners received their First Communion. The church was filled to capacity for the joyous occasion, plus overflow seating in the gathering space.

OPT



L to R: Nancy Currier, Bob Fangmeyer, Pat Badolato, Donna Zezzo greeting shoppers

St. Francis of Assisi Eighth Annual Yard Sale

Key Fundraiser – Many Volunteers

Business was brisk at our annual yard sale on Saturday, May 7. This took many volunteers to organize and price items, plus provide customer service at the event. And, of course, without the many donations from parishioners it wouldn’t have been a success. All in all, it was a wonderful parish community event.

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L to R: Carolyn Brauer, Bill Lynch, Eleanor Alcanites handling the checkout counter



Yard Sale Coordinator Linda Foster and her brother, Mike Lapp, who helped in ways too numerous to mention

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Holy Cross Students Receive Awards in Montgomery County Science Fair

As a follow-up to Holy Cross' impressive 2016 Middle School Science Fair, 11 of its students went on to compete in the Montgomery County Science Fair, sponsored by ScienceMONTGOMERY, on March 11-12. For these 11 students, it was yet another chance to flex their creative muscles, show off their projects again, and maybe walk away with an award recognizing their efforts. These dedicated students and their projects offered the judges and those visiting the Montgomery County Science Fair a glimpse into the future through a group of young minds that have only just begun to take shape!

Holy Cross believes that its own

Middle School Science Fair as well as the Montgomery County Science Fair allows students to develop both science and social skills due to the presentations of their projects to the science fair judges. All students entered in the Montgomery County Science Fair must be sponsored by an adult scientist. At Holy Cross, this responsibility goes to their highly dedicated science teacher, Mrs. Shari Connor.

Mrs. Connor stated that, "I love it when students take academic risks, so for that and many other reasons, I was very proud of all the students who chose to compete at the Montgomery County Science Fair! I know that Holy Cross was very well represented." For example, one of Holy Cross' eighth graders, Maddie Zalewski, has won 1st place in her division (and has been invited to compete on the National level) for 3 consecutive years.

On Sunday, March 13, the following students representing Holy Cross were recognized as winners at the Montgomery County Science Fair:

Division Winners:

Sixth Grade: 2nd Place: Katie Zalewski: Behavioral Sciences,

Continued on page 19

Three Cheers for Three Holy Cross CBN Essay Contest Winners!

Holy Cross eighth-grade students Lainey Barbour, Michael O'Reilly and Maddie Zalewski were recently recognized by the Catholic Business Network of Montgomery County for their responses to this year's CBN High School Scholarship essay contest. This program awards scholarships of up to \$2,500 each to students that enter a Catholic High School in the D.C. metropolitan area in the fall of 2016. This year's essay topic focused on Pope Francis' message of the Holy Spirit accompanying us as found in the little things that make each day different and special. Students were challenged to identify a person in their lives that is spirit-filled and share examples of this person's loving spirit in action.

Lainey Barbour's essay focused on the loving actions of her mother as an example of a spirit-filled person in her life. Miss Barbour stated, "My mother shows spirit in action through a number of little things like driving me to school, church and all of my activities. My mom always makes me happy when she sings while cooking; she may be a ter-



Holy Cross School CBN Essay Contest Winners Maddie Zalewski, Michael O'Reilly and Lainey Barbour with Holy Cross Pastor Fr. Robert Buchmeier

rible singer but it still makes me feel joyful. My mom is always patient. She gives me hugs when I'm feeling down." Lainey is looking forward to attending Our Lady of Good Counsel in the fall.

Michael O'Reilly, who will attend Gonzaga College High School in the fall, wrote about his older sister, Annabelle as an example of someone that he admires and possesses a loving spirit. Michael wrote, "Annabelle volunteered freshmen year in high school for the Senior Connection and met an elderly woman Lynne, who relies on volunteers for visits

and food shopping. What began as a one-year volunteer commitment has turned into a life-long friendship, which I find very inspirational." Michael also cited other examples of Annabelle's dedication to others through her work with Girls on the Run and that "most of all, she is a great sister!"

Maddie Zalewski wrote about her younger sister Katie. Maddie stated, "Katie has always had a sense of justice and is not afraid to stand up for what she believes in. Recently, I noticed one of

Continued on page 19

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Cardinals Care!

By Catherine Albornoz

Holy Redeemer School lives out the 4 C's of Courtesy, Compassion, Community and Commitment in daily interactions around the school, in our parish, and in our wider community. One vehicle for living this is through our *Cardinals Care* community service program. Students live Jesus' call to love our neighbor whether in Kensington or our wider metropolitan area. Performing acts of service throughout the school year helps foster a lifelong habit of community service and Catholic values.

The school partners with nonprofit organizations like So Other Might Eat (SOME), the St. Camillus Food Pantry, the Greg Gannon Canned Food Drive, and the Yellow Ribbon

Fund to provide hands-on projects for student participation. For example, each month students from one grade level assemble hundreds of snack bags for the men and women served by SOME, which are distributed to clients on the day that Holy Redeemer provides a hot meal and fruit. Students work together to decorate the snack bags, to pack them with treats, and to pray together for the recipients.

Students and families support seasonal food drives like the Greg Gannon Canned Food Drive, through which Holy Redeemer School collected 20,520 from the school community and the wider neighborhood this year. Holy Redeemer supports the St. Camillus Food pantry through nonperishable food drives throughout the year and with a special Thanksgiving project



HR Students excitedly make snack bags for SOME.



HR excitedly greet parishioners at Mass.

to give turkey dinners to families coming to the Silver Spring pantry for assistance.

Holy Redeemer students serve the wider parish community as Mass Greeters quarterly, opening church doors and providing welcoming faces and hospitality to those coming to all parish Masses.

The school also launched a new program this year, *Cardinals Work*, which aims to provide for the needs of parishioners who desire extra assistance. Students, accompanied by parents, offer their time to visit with elderly parishioners, read to them, go for walks together and help with light yard work.

Together, these efforts give Holy Redeemer students the opportunity to serve as Christ's hands and feet in the world, in service to others, and to learn ways to incorporate service into our daily lives.

OPT

The power of the Word...at the Holy Redeemer Arts Festival

By Cristina Morris, Art Teacher

Father Stan Fortuna, CFR was the featured guest at the Holy Redeemer Arts Festival. The priest, one of eight founding members of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal in New York City, is famous not only for integrating rap music with his ministry to the less



Fr. Stan preaches the Good News through rap and music.

fortunate, but also for his retreats, missions, and concerts at various World Youth Days. Fr. Stan opened the Arts Festival with the celebration of the Mass, where he immediately won over students with his "out of the box, in a good way" manner, to quote fifth grader Luke Sullivan. Second graders Clare McCarthy, Margaret Sullivan, and Colin Dunn

Continued on page 48

Holy Redeemer Parish

9705 Summit Avenue
Kensington, MD

Rev. Mark Hughes
Pastor

301-942-2333

Holy Redeemer School

Mrs. Colleen Ryan,
Principal

301-942-3701

**More Holy Redeemer News
on Page 60**

HR Students Supports the Yellow Ribbon Fund at Easter

By Judy Trigiani

In preparation for the celebration of Easter, students at Holy Redeemer School in Kensington Maryland teamed up with the Yellow Ribbon Fund for a community service project to help Wounded Warriors / Warriors in Transition and their families recovering at Walter Reed Naval Medical Center.

The second and third grade students filled plastic Easter eggs with goodies and stickers for the children of the Warriors in Transition. The families are staying at Fischer House a facility on the campus



Above left, school parent and Walter Reed Surgeon, Dr. Moawad came to speak to our second and third graders to talk about the good work of the Yellow Ribbon Fund. Above right, students stuff Easter eggs



at Walter Reed Naval Medical Center that allows families can stay at no cost while a loved one is

Continued on page 29



Holy Redeemer Parish 2016 First Communion

Spring is the Season of Sacraments!

The Second Graders at Holy Redeemer Catholic School celebrated their First Holy Communion on Saturday, April 30. There were 85 children celebrating from the school and CCD program. The children were nervous and excited to finally meet Jesus!

A few quotes from the day:

"I was nervous, but it was worth it! After I received communion, I felt blessed!"

"It was the best day of my life!"

"When I got the Body of Christ it felt like a magical moment!"

On Thursday, May 12, over seventy-eighth graders from both the school and the Parish will be

confirmed by Cardinal Wuerl. These young men and women have worked hard all year preparing for this big day through their prayers, studies, and community service. May the Holy Spirit guide them as they finish their elementary years and move on to high school.

OPT

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*Holy Redeemer parishoner
& school parent*



**Madilyn Grace Bedard**

WALTER JOHNSON

I honestly think it is better to be a failure at something you love than to be a success at something you hate.
George Burns

**Stephen James Beins**

ST. JOHN'S

I can accept failure, everyone fails at something. But I can't accept not trying.
Michael Jordan

**Samantha Michelle Crane**

STONE RIDGE

Hard work beats talent when talent fails to work hard.
Tim Notke

**Luciette Marie Daignault**

BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE

Faithless is he that says farewell when the road darkens.
J. R. R. Tolkien

**Dylan Diane Davidson**

HOLY CHILD

A positive attitude may not solve all your problems, but it will annoy enough people to make it worth the effort.
Herm Albright

**Farrell William Dinn**

GONZAGA

In life, you have three choices. Give up, give in, or give it your all.
Charleston Parker

**Alexander Rivera Domenech**

GEORGETOWN PREP

Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere.
Albert Einstein

**Samantha Taos Douki**

NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

If you love life, don't waste time, for time is what life is made up of.
Bruce Lee

**Jessica Morgan Enright**

ST. JOHN'S

Fun is good.
Dr. Seuss

Father Mark Hughes
Pastor

HOLY REDEEMER CATHOLIC SCHOOL

8th Grade Graduates Class of 2016

Mrs. Colleen Ryan
Principal

**Bridget Kathleen Fry**

HOLY CROSS

...for there is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so...
William Shakespeare

**Lauren Noelle Gaston**

HOLY CROSS

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.
Aesop

**Jacqueline Christie Gonella**

ST. JOHN'S

Today is not ours to recover, but tomorrow is ours to win or lose.
Lyndon B. Johnson

**Kevin Daniel Harper**

ST. JOHN'S

But after a while, you learn to ignore the names people call you. You just trust who you are.
Shrek

**Claire Anne Hastings**

GEORGETOWN VISITATION

If you obey all the rules, you miss all the fun.
Katherine Hepburn

**Eliza Sabine Henne**

GOOD COUNSEL

All the world's a stage, And all the men and women merely players. They have their exits and their entrances; And one man in his time plays many parts.
William Shakespeare

**Michael Andrew Heyl**

ST. JOHN'S

To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment.
Ralph Waldo Emerson

**Peyton Margaret Hinton**

ST. JOHN'S

Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.
Henry Ford

**Dylan Michael Hitt**

GEORGETOWN PREP

Today you are you! That is truer than true! There is no one alive who is you-er than you!
Dr. Seuss

**Ella Marie Keegan**

GOOD COUNSEL

I think it's important to look at the world as a bigger place than just the bubble that we live in. It's so easy to get caught up in things of a trivial nature.
Pete Wentz

**Patrick Murphy Kehoe**

ST. JOHN'S

A hero is not somebody who is unafraid, it's the guy who is scared to death and does the right thing anyway.
Chief Wallace Boden

**George Joseph Kucik**

GONZAGA

And will you succeed? Yes indeed, yes indeed! Ninety-eight and three-quarters percent guaranteed!
Dr. Seuss

**Genevieve Gail Lombardo**

ST. JOHN'S

The more you like yourself, the less you are like anyone else, which makes you unique.
Walt Disney

**Emily Grace Lucas**

HOLY CROSS

Obstacles are things a person sees when he takes his eyes off his goals.
Joseph Cossman

**Marguerite Marie Lucas**

BETHESDA CHEVY CHASE

Life is like a mirror. Smile at it and it smiles back at you.
Peace Pilgrim

**Lauren Jaime Lynch**

HOLY CROSS

The most important thing is to enjoy your life to be happy it's all that matters.
Audrey Hepburn

**Ashley June Magnino**

ST. JOHN'S

Be happy for this moment. This moment is your life.
Omar Khayyam

**Jason Allen Nobahar**

DEMATHA

All our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them.
Walt Disney

**Aidan Marie O'Donnell**

ST. JOHN'S

If you can dream it, you can do it.
Walt Disney

**Emiliano Jacob Parodi**

UNDECIDED

Faith is taking the first step, even when you don't see the whole staircase.
Martin Luther King Jr.

**Padraig John Phelps**

ST. JOHN'S

Live the life you love. Love the life you live.
Bob Marley

**Danielle Louise Quirk**

VISITATION

You can never cross the ocean until you have the courage to lose sight of the shore.
Christopher Columbus

**Pranav Sushil Rane**

ST. JOHN'S

Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far they can go.
T.S. Elliot

**Elizabeth Nairn Robey**

STONE RIDGE

The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today.
H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

**Hannah Elizabeth Sligh**

ST. JOHN'S

Would I rather be feared or loved? Easy, both. I want people to be afraid of how much they love me.
Michael Scott

**Matthew Lorenzo Sloan**

DEMATHA

The only easy day was yesterday.
U. S. Navy Seals

**Henry David Smith**

ST. JOHN'S

He who is not courageous enough to take risks will accomplish nothing in life.
Muhammad Ali

**William O'Brien Smolskis**

GONZAGA

The road to success is always under construction.
Unknown

**Sabine Samantha Smurthwaite**

STONE RIDGE

Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened.
Dr. Seuss

**Avianna Theresa Vinkler**

ST. JOHN'S

What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.
Ralph Waldo Emerson

**Zachary Augustine Waits-Cabrales**

GEORGETOWN PREP

I never think of the future - it comes soon enough.
Albert Einstein

**Andrew Zachary Walsh**

ST. JOHN'S

Positive anything is better than negative nothing.
Elbert Hubbard

**Siobhan Leigh Wampler**

HOLY CROSS

Life is very, very short, and you can choose to live it how you want. You can choose to dumb yourself down and not express yourself just so you can fit in, just so people won't dislike you.
Gerard Way

**Dominic Robert Welsh**

GEORGETOWN PREP

Mistakes are always forgivable, if one has the courage to admit them.
Bruce Lee

**Zachary Martin Whittier**

UNDECIDED

Winners never quit and quitters never win.
Vince Lombardi

**Matthew Joseph Wyble**

GEORGETOWN PREP

Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards.
Soren Kierkegaard

ADVOCACY

Con't from page 3

and desires, their pursuit of power, before the concrete gaze of those who are most vulnerable. (9/20/15, Mass at Plaza de la Revolución in Havana, Cuba).

Each year, the J&A Council decides to focus our attention on a few specific areas, but we are also open to new areas of concern that develop during the year. Some examples of our J&A Council's activities during this past year include:

Attended the public hearing before the County Council in March and provided support of

the Cab Driver's Bill of Rights. Subsequently, the County Council changed the laws governing taxi service in the County. The new laws will generate revenue for increased services to the handicapped, seniors and low-income riders and assure that owners will receive a fair and reasonable return on their investment while providing drivers an opportunity to earn a fair and reasonable income.

Testified before the County Council in support of the bill requiring BodyWorks establishments to be licensed. That legislation was passed.

Attended the September 17th "Purple Line Presentation and Informational Open House" that

was hosted by Montgomery County with a presentation by the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA). After the presentation, we provided comments for the County Executive's office expressing our concerns about retaining affordable housing along the Purple Line.

Testified before the County Council in support of Bill 39-15 to combat human trafficking making the purchase of prostitution a violation of County law and providing an enforcement mechanism for the police to combat human trafficking in the county.

Sent e-mails to our State Senators and Delegates regarding the privatization of alcohol sales in Montgomery County. We stated

that we did not hold a position on the merits of privatization itself, but we urged them to take a careful look at privatization's impact on services to low-income residents of Montgomery County.

Met individually with county council members or their staff. Our purpose was to find out if any of the upcoming issues or their priorities might impact the poor or vulnerable. We also urged them to be sensitive to the needs of the less fortunate.

We held a similar meeting with the County Executive.

Participated in the Maryland Catholic Conference's Lobby Night in Annapolis and spoke with several State officials that evening.

Testified at four of the County Executive's FY 2017 regional budget forums to support funding of the poor, vulnerable and disabled. We provided similar testimony before the County Council at one of their budget hearings.

The J&A Council of Montgomery County meets bi-monthly at Holy Redeemer Parish and new members (volunteers) are always welcome! Currently, Cathy Couch from St. Elizabeth and I (Ann Barbagallo from St. Paul) serve as Co-Chairs. We work with other members who represent many Montgomery County parishes. Our next meeting is July 27 from 7:30 pm to 9 pm. If you are interested, please contact Cathy Couch at 301-933-6120 or Ann Barbagallo at 301-482-1022.

OPT

ENZLER

Con't from page 1

they are and the need to give something back to those less fortunate.

Through the years, I have come to appreciate more and more what I received at Our Lady of Lourdes and St. John's, two schools that helped form my life and foster in me a desire to be a contributor to society and a priest to the Church.

I realized through my school experiences that getting involved in service activities when I went to college was an important part of who God was calling me to be. Out of all my college experiences, the ones that speak to me most today are those in which I was able to help somebody else, serve a community that was left behind, or assist in establishing programs to help those in need, particularly those with developmental disabilities. The seeds of those lessons were planted in grade school and high school and developed further during my college career.

May that be the experience of all of our graduates, and may they know they are not only blessed with gifts from God, but have the responsibility to share those gifts. For years, I have included this thought in my voicemail message by using a version of a famous quote: "Today is God's gift to you. What you do with it is your gift back to God." I pray our graduates do this well in their next level of growth and beyond, and that the rest of us use this time as a refreshing of our own passion to share the gifts we have been given.

Congratulations to all of our graduates! I look forward to reading about you as you prepare for a new step in the journey of life. I am blessed to know many of you personally, and I wish all of you the best in your future endeavors. May God bless you always!

OPT



Congratulations to

Blessed Sacrament's Class of 2016

(From the bottom left) Charlie Kannapell, Will Mullally, Devon Deerin, Ellie O'Brien, Reilly Talbot, Katy MacLennan, Rosie McCarthy, Andrew DePoy, Justin O'Neil, Peter D'Angelo, Robbie Vricella, Dolan Smith, Tara Cullen, Bridget McGuinness, Ciara Jacobs, Caroline Pirone, Teddy Thomas, Luke McGrail, Jack Morrissey, Michael Wolf, Gen Cullen, Marisa Kiley, Joe Koenigs, Connor Ebel, Ian McGunigal, Peter Stabler, Will Madden, Julia Clark, Mary Gletner, Maggie Finnegan, Kate Fee, Patrick Pfohl, Joseph Connors, Jack McKenney, Christian Ficca, Walker Calderon, Lilly Kannapell, Corinna Gilmore, Paul Kiyonaga, Greg Andrews, Patrick Chapman, Carter Child, Alex Fendig, Ruth Hailu, Mary Grady, Matthew Yost, Ryan Johnson, Patrick Schneider, Robby Dean, Will Mason, Liam Rhodes, Mae Puchalla, Molly McCarthy, NOT PICTURED Clark Baker, Teddy Mastal, Isabelle Mitchell, Shelby Strachan, and Matthew White

Blessed Sacrament School, 5841 Chevy Chase Parkway, NW, Washington, DC 20015

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



CONGRATULATES THE CLASS OF 2016!



Be who you are and be it well. —St. Francis de Sales

Msgr. Macfarlane to Retire

St. Elizabeth will bid farewell to long-time pastor, Msgr. Jack Macfarlane, as he retires this summer after 24 years leading our Rockville parish. Parish events celebrating not only his retirement, but also his 75th birthday and 50th anniversary of priesthood will take place the weekend of May 21-22, in addition to a number of smaller celebrations scheduled before his formal departure. The newly assigned pastor who will replace Msgr. Macfarlane has not yet been announced.

Born and raised in the Brookland neighborhood of Northeast Washington, John F. Macfarlane was ordained a priest on May 7, 1966 by Cardinal William Baum. His first assignment was at Sacred Heart in Bowie (1966-'69), followed by St. Stephen Martyr in Foggy Bottom (1965-'71). From 1971 to 1980, he was the associate at St. Bartholomew's, in Bethesda, during which time he pursued his Licensure in Sacred

Theology and Masters in Theology at Catholic U, and then another Masters in school administration. Between 1971 and '77, he also worked at the Archdiocesan Office of Religious Education and Clergy Education.

In 1980, Fr. Macfarlane became a resident at St. John the Baptist in Silver Spring, having been assigned by the Archdiocese to explore the region north of Silver Spring, one of the fastest growing of Catholics in the archdiocese, for the creation of a new parish. Settling on a site in Burtonsville, Md., Resurrection was founded under his leadership, and the cornerstone for the church was laid in 1981. After 12 years as pastor of Resurrection (at the time, the limit a pastor could remain head of a parish), Jack was asked to transfer to St. Elizabeth Parish in Rockville, and he did so on March 7, 1992. In 2005, Cardinal McCarrick announced that Pope John Paul II, had included Fr. Macfarlane in his latest (and what turned out to be his last), conferring of

the honor of the title of monsignor.

So here we are, 24 years later – so much for that earlier 12-year limit – with nearly half his priesthood spent at St. Elizabeth's. And what good use he has made of that time! The parish has grown, under his leadership, from 860 families to just over 1400; the church was spruced up and renovated, parish offices and a rectory were built, the large (and always busy!) gathering space, referred to as 'the Commons' was added to the front of the church, as were restrooms and a sacristy, meeting room, infant room and kitchen/storage room. The school has doubled in size – both in space and enrollment (close to 600 this year). A tower has been added to the church, equipped with beautiful bells calling all to our many liturgies each week. The religious education and youth ministry programs are strong and healthy, as are our outreach programs. In addition to regular support of the food program at St. Camillus

in Hyattsville, parishioners have financially supported the building of a six-room school at the parish St. E's supports in Haiti. Today, the parish stands on a solid footing--the budget is in the black, and a higher-than-national-average number of parishioners provide generous support to the parish. Msgr. Jack has created, with the help of his staff, a warm, welcoming and productive parish, inviting one and all to join its community for support, participation and worship.

We wish our revered pastor Msgr. Jack best wishes for a happy and healthy retirement, as he takes this well-earned opportunity to relax and enjoy a future filled with new challenges and adventures. For us, his parishioners, this is not 'goodbye' but simply 'see you later' – since he'll always be welcome to return and join in the liturgical and social life of St. Elizabeth's, the parish he so lovingly led for so many years.

OPT

The Transition to a New Pastor

By Kathryn Swartz, Pastoral Associate

Change – the word can strike fear and anxiety in many. Challenging and scary, it can also be stimulating and enriching. And, like it or not, it can't realistically be avoided. We can choose whether to be open and enthusiastic about change – or not.

Saint Elizabeth Parish is about to go through a change in leadership – Msgr. Jack Macfarlane is stepping down as our pastor after 24 years. He's heading into a well-deserved retirement as he celebrates 50 years of priesthood and his 75th birthday. And we will welcome a new pastor sometime this summer. A big change for all of us: for Msgr. Macfarlane, for the parishioners, and for the newly assigned pastor.

Working together, however, this move to a new pastor can be a smooth one...it may not always be easy – growing pains never are – but with open minds and hearts, a spirit of teamwork and cooperation, and a willingness to work together, one and all, we here at St. Elizabeth's can indeed navigate this transition smoothly and successfully.

St. Elizabeth's was founded in 1964 and in those five decades has had only two pastors, both with individual strengths and weaknesses (as do we all!) and both leaving their distinctive imprint on the parish. Parishioners have come and gone: some of our founding members are still with us, and new



Msgr. Jack Macfarlane



New pastor to come

individuals and families are joining every week. But through all of this St. Elizabeth remains a cohesive community. Today the parish is strong and vibrant, known for its warmth and welcome to all, as well as its many ministries and activities and encouragement to all to participate in whatever suits them best. We have beautiful liturgies with thought-provoking homilies, excellent educational programs through our school, RCIA, adult and children's faith formation and youth ministry. We have many healthy ministries, including those of bereavement, homebound and social justice, and well-attended social activities for all ages. We celebrate with great joy the love that God has for each and every one of us. This will continue because that's who we are as Christian people.

The anticipation of a new pastor brings many questions from parishioners: what will he be like? Do we have any say in who he'll be? Is he going to change things? Will this still be a parish that will still feel like home to us, individually and collectively, after he arrives?

And then there are the questions that he likely will have: will the parishioners accept me? What will it be like to move into a parish which has had the same pastor for the past 24 years (and only two pastors in 50 years)? What should my priorities be? How can I be the best pastor to my new flock?

I believe the best way to respond

is to ask ourselves yet another question: how can *we* (pastor and parishioners together) work through this transition; not 'how is this going to affect *me* as an individual'? We are a community, and that will not cease; we simply will do what we do best – welcome a new member into our midst. Newly assigned pastors are advised to spend their first year doing a lot of listening and learning, without jumping in to begin making changes right away, and we anticipate this will be the intention of whomever is to be assigned here. And we as parishioners should be willing to listen and learn as well from our new pastor.

We must embrace this opportunity to share with our new pastor who we are – and we can do so with openness, patience and respect. After all, he's one person coming into a sea of people, most of whom he's never met. We need to give him a chance to get to know us, to learn our strengths and weaknesses (and we his) and to weave himself into the fabric of our community. We've all been the 'new guy' at some point in our lives, so we can place ourselves in his shoes and with compassion, realize that it will be overwhelming at times learning who and what the new community is all about – and at the same time, deal with the nuts and bolts of parish administration: academic, personnel, physical plant, finances/budgeting, legal – all of which suc-

Continued on page 24



Our hats are off to Meghan MacFarland our First Place winner in the St. Elizabeth Parish "What I want to be when I grow up" Essay Contest. Meghan won the \$500.00 tuition prize! Alex Lacaze won Second Place, a \$100.00 tuition prize. We are very proud of you, Meghan and Alex



Congratulations to our Catholic Business Network Essay Contest Winners: (l-r) Maxwell Wharton (\$750.00), Meaghan Kilner (\$1,250.00), and Christopher Nash (\$1,500.00). These scholarships will be used toward their freshmen year at their Catholic high school! You have made us proud, Max, Meaghan, and Chris!



Dan Howley named CBN-MC Coach of the Year

Congratulations to St. Elizabeth School alumnus, Dan Howley, who was named to the Catholic Business Network's Coaches Hall of Fame! Dan & Debbie's two sons, Joe & John, are also graduates of St. Elizabeth. We are proud of you, Dan, and grateful for your many years of service to our parish school!

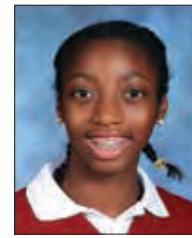
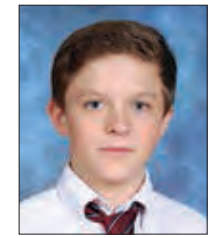
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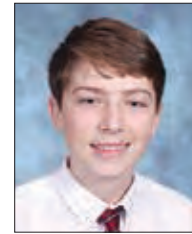
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Vincent P. Spadoni
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Gerry Moore,
OPT Editor
202-887-6475

**Calvin Annulis***Walter Johnson High School***Jakob April***St. John's Catholic Prep***Tatiana Arnaiz***Thomas S. Wootton High School***Matthew Bonato***St. John's College High School***Andrew Borges***St. John's College High School***Thomas Brennan***Our Lady of Good Counsel High School***Perpetua Buadoo***St. John's College High School***Mary Catherine Canary***St. John's College High School***Christopher Dorrer***St. John's College High School***Haley Dowdell***Our Lady of Good Counsel High School***Sofia Egan***Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School***Renzo Fano***Undecided***John Frick***Bishop England High School***Gabriela Guaipatin***Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart***Christopher Hayes***Our Lady of Good Counsel High School***Samuel Hayes***Our Lady of Good Counsel High School***Patrick Ibanez***St. John's College High School***Christopher Johannessen***Gonzaga College High School***Mr. Vincent P. Spadoni**
Principal

St. Elizabeth Catholic School

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2016

Rev. Msgr. John F. Macfarlane
Pastor**Declan Keating***Georgetown Preparatory School***Meaghan Kilner***Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart***Logan Kraft***Richard Montgomery High School***Lindsey Lutz***Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart***Ciaran McAndrews***St. John's College High School***Mikayla McCraw***Richard Montgomery High School***Declan McHugh***Poolesville HS Magnet Program: Global Ecology House***Claire McKeon***Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School***Daniella Mil***Walter Johnson High School***Ryan Moholt***St. John's Catholic Prep***Sophia Moore***Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart***James Murray***St. John's College High School***Julia Myers***St. John's College High School***Christopher Nash***St. John's College High School***Ana Pazmino***Paul VI Catholic High School***Frida Perez***Connelly School of the Holy Child***Robert Ramminger***Georgetown Preparatory School***Andrew Rauber***Georgetown Preparatory School***Chase Reed***St. John's College High School***Peter Roche***Georgetown Preparatory School***Margaret Scheibel***Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School***Nicolas Schillaci***Churchill High School***Casey Schuler***Thomas S. Wootton High School***Nicholas Scott***St. John's College High School***Nadia Solomon***Quince Orchard High School***Theodore-Minos Stratakis***Georgetown Preparatory School***Nicolas Talavera***Undecided***Joshua Tan***St. John's College High School***Maxwell Wharton***Georgetown Preparatory School***William Wharton***Georgetown Preparatory School***Kane Worch***St. Andrew's Episcopal School***James Worch***Our Lady of Good Counsel High School***Margaret Yarmas***Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School***Niccolao Zamalloa***St. John's College High School***Gwendolyn Zorc***Bishop O'Connell High School*



Fr. Salinas with Msgr. Jameson, rector of the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle in Washington

Fr. Rodolfo Salina Coming to Christ the King

Cardinal Wuerl has appointed Fr. Rodolfo Salinas as Administrator of Christ the King parish, effective July 6. Fr. Salinas has been with the Special Ministry to Hispanics at the Cardinal McCarrick Center in Wheaton, celebrating Mass in Spanish on Sundays.

The current Parochial Administrator, Fr. Ettore Ferrario, FSCB has received a new assignment in Denver, Colorado with his Fraternity of St. Charles Borromeo. The other FSCB priests stationed at the Fraternity's mission in Bethesda are engaged in teaching at the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family in Washington, Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, the Brookewood School in Kensington, and other area high schools. **OPT**

Sr. Eileen Walsh Remembered

By Chris Tan, former Christ the King editor for Our Parish Times

Sr. Eileen Walsh, CSC, was the Minister to the Sick at Christ the King from 1978 to 1998. Dressed in her blue habit and wearing a warm smile she was a familiar and well loved figure to the homebound, hospitalized and nursing home residents of the Parish. Last year a plaque remembering Sr. Eileen



Sr. Eileen Walsh (1998)

was placed on the Memorial Wall in the entry to the Church. On May 1 the 8:30am Mass was celebrated for Sr. Eileen Walsh, members of her family and Community, arranged by parishioner Maria Kendall. In his homily, our Parochial Administrator, Fr. Ettore Ferrario, expressed gratitude for the witness of Sr. Eileen and her Community and their gifts to the Church. **OPT**



(L to R): Fr. Ettore, next to members of the family and Community, with Chris Tan directly under the picture of OLOG, and more members of the family, with Maria Kendall kneeling.

The Year of Mercy at Christ the King

In this Year of Mercy, Christ the King has had a series of talks and concerts on the Year of Mercy, "Merciful Like the Father." With Easter in the midst, Christ the King's Palm Sunday ended with a concert, and on Wednesday of Holy Week a Tenebrae service (the first time at CTK in many years, decades) with songs and readings to recreate the Passion of Our Lord was followed by a Penance

Service at 7:30pm. The next concert, April 17 Sunday, "Mercy in Concert," was directed by Katie Yeago, Director of Music at Christ the King, with a professional chamber consort, vocal quartet and the Christ the King Schola, featuring the works of J.S. Bach and Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy.

Continued on page 59



First Communicant Marie Roach surrounded by her parents, Clare and Brandon and her brothers, Jeremiah, Jude and Danny.

Generations of CTK's Deckelman Family

Christ the King founding parishioners Sue and Frank Deckelman celebrated their granddaughter Marie's First Holy Communion in April. The 8-year-old is sister of Jeremiah, Jude, and Danny. Her parents, Clare, daughter of Sue and Frank, and Brandon Roach were married at Christ the King in August 2001. Both are alumni of Notre Dame and now work for the university while raising their family under the Golden Dome of Our Lady. **OPT**

Paul McCloskey, RIP

Christ the King lost one of its longtime members, Paul McCloskey. Paul was Lector, Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist, Head Usher, Collection counter, served on the Liturgy Commission as well as Parish Council, and first-shift-volunteer at Shepherd's Table in downtown




Paul McCloskey (1998)

Silver Spring. Memories flowed in after word went out from the Rectory that he had died. Paul had had some difficulties that Monday and went to Sibley Hospital where he suffered a heart attack while being released. He was then admitted to a Hospice where he died on Friday morning, April 8. His funeral Mass was the following Friday, April 15, in the Church, with a repast in the Colonial Room at his family's invitation to all parishioners.

Former OPT editor for Christ the King, Chris Tan, who knew Paul well, said, "Our special bond was Chestnut Hill in Philadelphia where Paul grew up and where I went to college. He had an aunt in the Sisters of St. Joseph who taught at the college. We never tired of talking about that little place. He told me so many wonderful stories about his family there. There is

Continued on page 59



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Katie Holland, OPT Editor
kh7@georgetown.edu

More Christ the King News on Page 59 & 63



ST. ANSELM'S

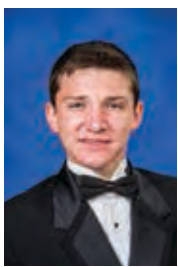
ABBAY SCHOOL

The Monks and Faculty of St. Anselm's Congratulate Our Seventy-first Graduating Class

THE CLASS OF 2016



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University of Michigan



Matthew Borden
Oakton, VA
Rochester Institute of Technology



Raymond Brown
Bethesda, MD
George Washington University



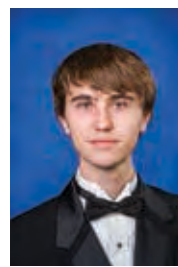
Jonathan Conrad
Arlington, VA
Virginia Tech



Eric Crump
Silver Spring, MD
University of Maryland



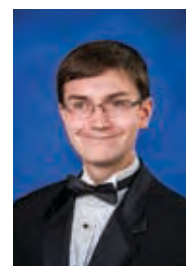
Nathan Dangle
University Park, MD
University of Pennsylvania



Nathan Gifford
Cheverly, MD
Grinnell College



Zhenyang Gong
Silver Spring, MD
University of Michigan



Adam Good
University Park, MD
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Mark Hornyak
Bethesda, MD
Case Western Reserve University



Harrison Howe
Washington, DC
University of Kansas



Cuatro Johnston
Alexandria, VA
U.S. Military Academy at West Point



Aaron Lee
Bethesda, MD
Case Western Reserve University



Jonathan Lorentz
Alexandria, VA
Virginia Commonwealth Univ.



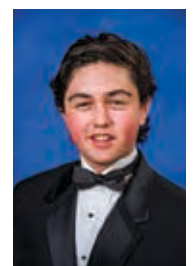
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Montgomery Village, MD
LaSalle University



Michaelangelo Maimone
Fairfax, VA
University of Mary Washington



Quinn McFeeters
Silver Spring, MD
Hobart College



Constantin Miranda
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University Park, MD
Yale University



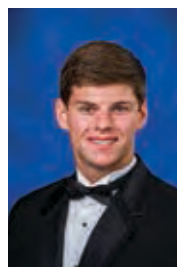
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McLean, VA
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute



Lucas Oblaender
Washington, DC
Towson University



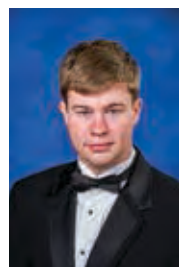
Anthony Pairo
Alexandria, VA
University of Pittsburgh



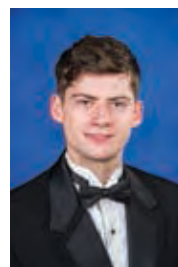
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Samuel Raymond
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Silver Spring, MD
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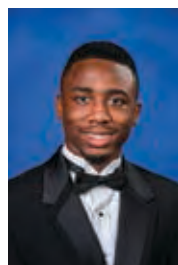
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Pablo Ruiz
Hyattsville, MD
Cornell University



Michael Savory
Falls Church, VA
St. Joseph's University



Gary Simms
Fort Washington, MD
Xavier University



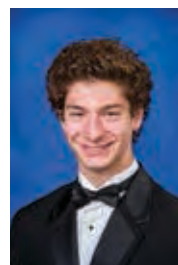
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Glenn Dale, MD
University of Maryland



Perry-King Tita
Silver Spring, MD
University of Pennsylvania



Cameron Underwood
Fort Washington, MD
Univ. of Maryland, Baltimore County



Adam Wasserman
University Park, MD
University of Michigan

PAX IN SAPIENTIA



The St. Bartholomew Youth Group loads donated supplies for delivery to local charities.

A Busy Spring for the St. Bart's Youth Group

The St. Bart's Middle School Youth Group roared through Spring with a busy schedule of sports, games, and service and faith activities. Events included a service event on March 16, included visiting residents of Bartholomew House. "Movie Night," was on March 16, with dinner provided. On March 20, the group tested their artistic skills by painting pottery at All Fired Up in Bethesda. On April 17, the group enjoyed Ultimate Frisbee, fueled by Pizza. On April 24 the group collected

donations and care packages for Ronald McDonald House. On May 1, a planned bonfire was rained out, but the group had a speaker event.

Upcoming events include St. Bart's Day on May 14 and Mini Golf on May 22. The St. Bart's Middle School Youth group are 6th, 7th, and 8th graders interested in serving our neighbor, playing together, and getting to know our Lord Jesus Christ. All are welcome. For more information, contact John and Maria Archer, 32kaufmann@cardinalmail.cua.edu.

OPT

Lenten Season Prayerful, Reflective, and Busy

The Lenten Season this year at St. Bart's started with three Masses and ashes on Ash Wednesday, February 10. On February 11, "Soup and Stations" was held in the Parish Hall. Confessions were available at St. Bart's every Wednesday evening during Lent. Stations of the Cross were held every Friday evening during Lent. The annual Women's Lenten Retreat was held at the Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat House on March 17. The Annual Men's Retreat was also held at Our Lady of Bethesda, on March 19.

Continued on page 20



Father Mark Knestout leads Children's Stations of the Cross on Good Friday at St. Bartholomew Parish.



Sr. Bart's fourth graders with Speaker of the House Paul Ryan in the rotunda of the U.S. Capitol

St. Bartholomew Fourth Grade Tours Capitol

by Julia Constable Allen

On April 21, the St. Bartholomew School fourth graders had an extraordinary opportunity!

They visited the US Capitol and were able to meet personally with Speaker of the House Paul Ryan. Speaker Ryan was incred-

ibly generous with his time, posing for pictures with the students and answering questions they had carefully prepared for him. Following this inspiring meeting, the fourth graders had an informative tour of the Capitol which was capped off by a special photo op on the Speaker's private balcony. Finally,

the students were given a tour of the United States Supreme Court.

The students were very appreciative of this amazing experience and they came away with a greater appreciation for how two of our branches of government operate.

Thank you Paul Ryan!

OPT



St. Bartholomew School students celebrate their win in the Trex Plastic Film Recycling Challenge.

St. Bartholomew School Students Win Recycling Award

Saint Bart's School students, under the leadership of teacher liaison Kerry Parker, came

in Number One in the annual in the Trex Plastic Film Recycling Challenge! This year over 550 schools participated nationwide. In addition to basking in the glow of victory, St. Bart's students enjoyed the competitive experience and also learned about proper plastic film and bag recycling. Seven schools in Montgomery County participated this year and collected a combined total of 2238 pounds of bags and consumer films. St. Bartholomew School stormed to victory with a winning collection of 3,584 pounds per student. St. Bart's School was awarded a Trex bench and planter.

OPT

St. Bartholomew Parish

6900 River Road
Bethesda, MD 20816

Rev. Mark Knestout, Pastor
301-229-7933

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

Frank Maguire, OPT Editor
202-512-8226



St. Bart's First Communion

Happy St. Bartholomew children pose for photos after their First Communion on Saturday, May 7, in St. Bartholomew Church.

More St. Bartholomew News on Page 20



CLASS OF 2016 GRADUATES

St. Bartholomew School

Reverend Mark D. Knestout, **Pastor** • Mr. Stephen C. Lamont, **Principal**



Katherine French Allen

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL HIGH SCHOOL

"To be beautiful means to be yourself. You don't need to be accepted by others. You need to accept yourself."

Thich Nhat Hanh



Kyle Thomas Badoy

GEORGETOWN PREPARATORY SCHOOL

"Veni, Vidi, Vici... I came; I saw; I conquered."

Julius Caesar



Isabella Bravo

WALT WHITMAN HIGH SCHOOL

"Only you can control your future."

Dr. Seuss



Valentina Bustamante

CONNELLY SCHOOL OF THE HOLY CHILD

"Always be who you truly are inside because in the end it's all that matters."

Anonymous



Leith Canizares

DEMATHA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

"Information, knowledge, is power. If you can control information you can control people."

Tom Clancy



Joshua Forrest Carter

WALT WHITMAN HIGH SCHOOL

"If you can't fly then run, If you can't run then walk, If you can't walk then crawl, But whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Audrey Anne Filimon

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

"Embrace what you were born with because it's beautiful."

Shay Mitchell



Kelly Eileen Gentilo

WALTER JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL

"Don't hide behind a cardboard cutout of yourself."

Cassie Conners



Peyton Harmon

STONE RIDGE SCHOOL OF THE SACRED HEART

"Colors are the smiles of nature."

Donny Osmond

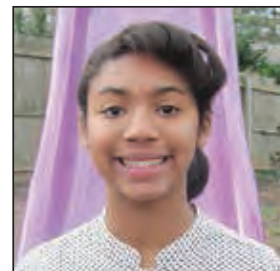


Preston Hull

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

"The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

Franklin D. Roosevelt



Jillian Tyler Joe

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL HIGH SCHOOL

"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples."

Mother Teresa



Daniella Mackenzie Karns

THE ACADEMY OF THE HOLY CROSS

"Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire."

St. Catherine of Siena



Philip T. McGreevy

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

"Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're going to get."

Forrest Gump



Juan Bautista Molinari

GONZAGA COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

"Heroes come and go, but legends are forever."

Kobe Bryant



Christopher Neal

GEORGETOWN PREPARATORY SCHOOL

"The more difficult the victory, the greater the happiness in winning."

Pelé



Noah Smith

GEORGETOWN PREPARATORY SCHOOL

"Yesterday, you said tomorrow. So just do it."

Shia LaBeouf



Michael Kilgore Travis

GONZAGA COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

"If you can dodge a wrench, you can dodge a ball."

Patches O'Houlihan



Reja Bushra Wasty

THOMAS S. WOOTTON HIGH SCHOOL

"Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen."

Sir Winston Churchill



Members of St. Michael's Sodality celebrate with their Annual Communion Breakfast on Sunday, May 1.

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 the Archangel youth member Darien Garcia addresses attendees at the Saint John Paul Center. Darien spoke on the importance of attending World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland, July 25-31, 2016.



Msgr. Tolentino, pastor of St. Michael the Archangel, parishioners, and Deacon Curtis Rodney, entering church celebrating the Easter Vigil.



Msgr. Tolentino and Fr. Saulo in the chapel at the Saint John Paul II National Shrine adjacent to Catholic University in Northeast Washington



Grace Whiting, parishioner and parish leader, participating with other parish leaders, developing a new strategic plan.

Miss America 2016 Betty Cantrell Visits The Academy of the Holy Cross Hair Donation Drive



On Monday, April 11, The Academy of the Holy Cross held its fourth annual Hair Donation Drive, in which students donated their hair to make wigs for cancer patients. As part of the event this year, Miss America 2016 Betty Cantrell visited campus to share her experience as Miss America and about donating her own hair.

Holy Cross had 38 students donate their hair during the drive, which is organized by the Christian Service office. Students donated at least eight inches of hair, with many of them donating more. The donated hair was given to Pantene Beautiful Lengths, which provides free real-hair wigs to the American Cancer Society's wig banks.

The event began with an all-school assembly where Betty Cantrell spoke

Continued on page 19

WINNERS

Con't from page 6

Katie's classmates eating his lunch alone. This boy was new to the school. Suddenly, I saw Katie quietly get up from her table, where she was sitting with all of her friends. Katie picked up her lunch and sat next to the new classmate. Katie's friends watched the whole thing, then one-by-one they got up and joined Katie and the new classmate. Soon they were all talking and laughing and enjoying their lunch. Katie's actions made God's loving spirit come to life in our lunchroom." Maddie plans to attend St. John's College High School.

Lainey, Michael and Maddie were among those honored at the recent CBN Scholarship Awards luncheon. Ms. Catherine Tier, Middle School Language Arts teachers, stated, "I have seen [Lainey, Michael and Maddie] grow as both writers and human beings and I'm extremely proud of what they accomplished. Principal Lisa Kane sums it up by stating, "Lainey, Michael and Maddie are talented and dedicated students who Walk with Francis each day by performing acts of tenderness, compassion and service. We are delighted to have three recipients of this award."

OPT

SCIENCE FAIR

Con't from page 6

3rd Place: Mykel Bailey: Physics, Honorable Mention: Cole Rodia: Physics

Seventh Grade: 3rd Place: Jan Haro: Behavioral Sciences

Eighth Grade: 1st Place: Maddie Zalewski: Behavioral Sciences

Community Award Winners:

Sixth Grade: 3rd Place: Cole Rodia: Smart Idea Award and \$150 Credit toward Basic Scientific Writing Course (Achievers League USA LLC 58); Certificate: Caroline Killian: Earth System Science Award (NASA)

Seventh Grade: Junior Certificate: Jan Haro: Recognizing Outstanding Research Projects in Behavioral and Social Science (American Psychological Association)

Eighth Grade: Certificate: Maddie Zalewski: For Middle School Projects Demonstrating Excellence in Math, Applied Science, Technology, and Engineering (Broadcom MASTERS)

Rockville Science Center: Awards for Middle School Projects Demonstrating Excellence in the Communication of Science.

Sixth Grade: 3rd Place: Mykel Bailey: Physics; 3rd Place: Katie Zalewski: Behavioral Sciences

Eighth Grade: 1st Place: Maddie Zalewski: Behavioral Sciences

U.S. Public Health Service: Award for Outstanding Projects in Health Related Research.

Eighth Grade: Meritorious Achievement Certificate: Maddie Zalewski: Behavioral Sciences (Commissioned Officers Association)

OPT

DONATION

Con't from page 18

about her path to becoming Miss America. She shared her personal story about how the experience provided her with a much-needed scholarship to complete her education. Her message to the students was one of perseverance. Betty told the students to pursue their dreams and goals, no matter what obstacles might get in the way. She also shared about donating her hair in December 2015—something unusual for a Miss America to do. "Miss America is knowing for having long, beautiful, flowing hair!" she said. But she felt compelled to give of herself in this way. Following assembly, Betty posed for selfies and photos with students and posted about her visit on her

Twitter and Instagram feeds.

As Miss America 2016, Betty Cantrell is currently on a national tour to educate her audiences on her platform – Healthy Children, Strong America – encouraging children to make healthy choices and to stay physically active. She will also continue to entertain the nation with her remarkable vocal performances, as well as serve as National Goodwill Ambassador for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

The students' hair was cut by the owners of Eivind and Hans of Georgetown salon and spa. They have participated in the Holy Cross hair drive since its inception. Holy Cross current parent Hans Kalset and his father-in-law Eivind Bjerke, have generously donated their time for over 20 years to the cause of helping women with cancer look and feel good about them-

selves. Working with the organization Look Good Feel Better, Mr. Kalset and Mr. Bjerke train cosmetologists to provide skin care and beauty techniques to patients in hospitals undergoing cancer treatment. Additionally, they clean and restore donated wigs to be donated free of charge to patients in need through the organization EBeauty. They have

both been recognized nationally for their generous efforts by organizations such as the American Cancer Society. During the assembly, Lisa Burris, Director of Look Good Feel Better spoke about the generosity of Mr. Kalset and Mr. Bjerke and congratulated the students for their act of generosity.

OPT



**Saturday July 16, 2016
9:00AM—1:00PM**

Our Lady of Good Counsel
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OAKCREST SCHOOL

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College Acceptances

Oakcrest Class of 2016

<p>American University Ave Maria University (4) Belmont University Benedictine College Berklee College of Music Boston College (2) Catholic University of America (12) Christendom College (4) Christopher Newport University Clark University Clemson University (2) College of the Holy Cross College of William and Mary (2) Culinary Institute of America DeSales University Duquesne University (2) Elon University Emory & Henry College Fairfield University (2) Franciscan University of Steubenville (2) George Mason University (3) Georgia Institute of Technology Harvard University High Point University Hillsdale College Indiana University, Bloomington James Madison University (6) Johns Hopkins University (2) Johnson & Wales University, Providence Loyola University Maryland Lynchburg College Marymount University Michigan State University Middlebury College Mount St. Mary's University (3)</p>	<p>New York University Northeastern University Old Dominion University Providence College (2) Purdue University (2) Radford University Salve Regina University Santa Clara University St. Mary's College of Maryland Texas A&M University The George Washington University Thomas More College of Liberal Arts United States Military Academy Universidad de Navarra (2) University of California, Los Angeles University of Central Florida University of Dallas (10) University of Dayton University of Illinois at Chicago University of Kentucky University of Louisville University of Mary Washington (3) University of Maryland, College Park (2) University of Nebraska, Lincoln University of Pittsburgh (2) University of San Diego (2) University of Scranton University of Texas, Austin University of Virginia (4) Villanova University (4) Virginia Commonwealth University (2) Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (4) West Virginia University (2) Worcester Polytechnic Institute Xavier University</p>
--	--

Ranked Most Challenging All-Girls School in the D.C. Area by The Washington Post

Oakcrest.org

An independent school for girls grades 6-12 guided by the teachings of the Catholic Church

LENTEN SEASON

Con't from page 16

Both retreats were led by Rev. Joseph Ligan, S.J., Rector of the Georgetown University Jesuit Community. During Lent, St. Bartholomew Parish also participated in the Share the Hope food drive, co-sponsored by Catholic Charities and the Archdiocese of Washington to replenish supplies at local food pantries. Holy Thursday at St. Bart's featured a lovely liturgy incorporating music, supported by the St. Bart's choir, followed by adoration until Midnight. Good Friday began with Children's Stations of the Cross at Noon, with adult and Spanish stations in the afternoon, and reading of the Passion, Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion in the evening.

OPT



St. Bart's Confirmation

Rev. Martin Holley, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Washington, poses questions to the assembled candidates for confirmation at St. Bartholomew Parish on April 16.



St. Bart's Father Mark Knestout washes parishioners' feet on Holy Thursday.

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St. Bartholomew parishioners and Friends gather in the Parish Hall to make activity books and puzzles for children staying at The Inn at NIH.

"Serve Before Service" Busy at St. Bart's

"**S**erve Before Service," a growing tradition at St. Bartholomew Parish, takes place monthly on Sunday nights when parishioners and friends gather in the St. Bart's Parish Hall to serve the needy in the local community. This service opportunity is especially convenient for Montgomery County Catholics who attend St. Bart's popular 8:00 p.m., Sunday Mass, featuring Christian contemporary music, which immediately follows the service project.

On Sunday, April 24, St. Bart's parishioners gathered in the Parish Hall for yet another service project. This month's project was creating activity books and decorating puzzles for children staying at The Inn at the National Institutes of Health. The Inn was created so that families can stay together while a child receives treatment. Participants made about 130 activity books and 75 puzzles. Organizer Brooksley Jones told OPT that she hopes to have another service project before summer starts.

OPT



Mother of God School

Congratulates the Graduating Class of 2016

	 Mary Abel <i>Home School</i>	 Colton Burger <i>Mount St. Joseph High School</i>	 Haily Gallagher <i>Damascus High School</i>	 Hani Haddad <i>Home School</i>	 Eugene Jackson <i>Watkins Mill High School</i>
 Olivia Madaras <i>Academy of the Holy Cross</i>	 Penelope Martin <i>St. John's Catholic Prep</i>	 Brian-Jordan Metuge <i>Watkins Mill H.S.</i>	 Michael Smith <i>Quince Orchard High School</i>	 Sophia Solodkova <i>St. John's Catholic Prep</i>	 Joseph Yoritomo <i>Home School</i>

“Mother of God School prepares students who, grounded in sound academics and strong faith, go forth bearing Christ to the world in their personal and professional lives.”



Alexa Addison
National Cathedral



Henri Arvis
Lycée Rochambeau



Phoebe Bacon
Stone Ridge



Griffin Belson
Gonzaga



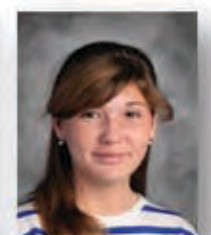
Ava Bogart
Piedmont



Cecilia Brooks
Stone Ridge



Claire Burke
Visitation



Molly Carroll
Visitation

Love of Learning Faith in God Service for Others



Francesca Ciatto
Stone Ridge



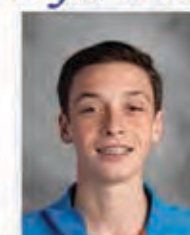
Cecilia DeBritz
Visitation



Michael Gannon
Gonzaga



Graduating Class of 2016



Alex Gomes
St. John's



Alessandra DeSomma
Stone Ridge



Agustin Izurieta
St. John's



Harrison Kemper
St. John's



Cathy Kolesar
Visitation



Molly Kueter
Holy Cross



Sophie Ledet
St. John's



Annie Malouf
Holy Cross



Gavin McElhennon
Gonzaga



Meghan Monahan
Holy Cross



Maeve Morris
St. John's



Nancy O'Gara
Visitation



Josh Pfefferkorn
Gonzaga



Claire Psillas
Visitation



Annabel Yeager
Visitation

Happenings In Our Blue Ribbon School

Kindergarten Circus

Once again in March, the kindergarten classes of de Chantal performed the amazing Circus! There were lions, bears and elephants. There were dangerous tight rope walkers and funny clowns. The kindergarten performed for the students during the day and their families the same night. It truly was the Greatest Show on Earth!

Pi Day

The 6th grade had a "Pi Off" for Pi Day (March 14th). After students recited how many decimals of Pi they knew, we had eight finalists. Our top two finishers recited 156 and 218 decimal places! Congratulations to Naomi Kaproth and Maeve Kramer for being our top two finishers and to Shawn Flynn, Logan Simmons, Christopher McDonough, Michael Kish, Emily Blackstone, and Jessica Vincent for being the runners up.

2016 Art Show

The students of de Chantal have

been working hard to create magnificent artwork for the annual art show. This year's theme focuses on the life and artwork of Vincent Van Gogh. Students from Kindergarten through Eighth Grade spent time learning about the artist and his style of artwork. Each grade was assigned a project relating to the artist or his artwork. Some grades recreated his artwork and others created their own artwork in his style. The front hall of the school was covered in this beautiful artwork through the end of April.

The Groovy Gala

The 2016 Groovy Gala Auction was a huge success last Saturday, April 16. The night was full of excellent entertainment, great friends, food, fun and of course groovy auction items to fuel the Field Improvement Fund. There were silent auction items to bid on, live entertainment from the Top Tones, The Groovy Gala 50/50 Raffle drawing, "Sign Me Up" parties and a live auction. It was an unforgettable night!

Vocations and Confirmation

The eighth grade class spent a momentous week in April. Early in the week they joined Catholic schools throughout the Archdiocese and attended the annual Mass for Vocations at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception where they also walked through the Door of Mercy. Then on the Saturday, they and students from Religious Education received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The Sixth-Grade Musical: The Lion King

After months of preparation, on April 28 and 29, the sixth-grade class performed the much-anticipated annual musical: The Lion King. It was an incredible performance led by directors: Shannon Cron, Olga Morales, and Tina Maxwell. With the seventh and eighth-grader choristers as the supporting voices, the sixth-grade students brought outstanding acting, singing, and dancing to the stage for three performances. A special

thanks to fifth-grade teacher Matt Dugan and art teacher Claire Shea for their creation of the background scenery, which made the play stand-out as a professional production. Congratulations to all of the sixth grade students for their hard work and perseverance to make this a sixth-grade musical for the school's record book!

Lollipop Day

St. Jane de Chantal welcomed new students and families on May 2, 2016. The annual day of welcome known as "Lollipop Day" included an opportunity for incoming kindergarten students to meet their teachers, visit their classrooms and spend time together. Incoming students in for grades one-seven spent the day with their new classmates and experienced a school day at de Chantal. Parents received a warm welcome from Mrs. Hamilton and HSA President Mrs. Kelley. These new families and students will join our community for the 2016-17 school year.

Space Station de Chantal

The fourth grade participated in Space Station de Chantal. With the help of some wonderful parent volunteers, students made models of Mars Rovers out of candy, made paper rockets, tried astronaut ice cream, created constellations in a can, and made moon craters. The fourth graders really enjoyed all of the hands on experiments and would like to thank all of the parents who volunteered to help.

Pre-K Zoo Trip

The pre-k has worked very hard all year on their alphabet and has finally finished letters A-Z. To celebrate their accomplishment, they went to the National Zoo to find all of their animal friends that begin with each letter of the alphabet. Lions and tigers and bears, oh my! The children were able to meet the newest addition to the panda family, Bei Bei. It was a great way to wrap up the year!

OPT

St. Jane de Chantal School



Brooke Andrews
Holy Cross
The quality of mercy is not strained.



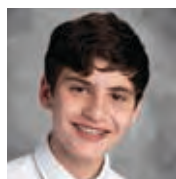
Michael Haley Bader III
St. Anselm's
It is a rough road that leads to the height of greatness.



Ali Bergin
Stone Ridge
Happiness is never ending.



Colleen Besche
Stone Ridge
Never let your fear decide your fate.



Rocky Carr
St. John's
Don't forgive because they deserve forgiveness, but because you deserve peace.



Cole Chalfant
Georgetown Prep
Don't cry because it's over; smile because it happened.



Adian Chan
The Lab School
Practice doesn't make perfect; perfect practice makes perfect.



Camy Corcoran
Stone Ridge
Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.



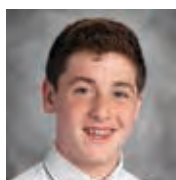
William Coulon
St. John's
You can retake a class, but you can't relive life.



Matthew Cresswell
St. John's
What worries you, masters you.



Mary Daniels
Visitation
Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it.



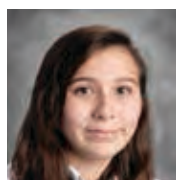
Peter D'Antonio
St. John's
Life is like a camera: Focus on what is important, capture the good times, and if things do not work out, take another shot.



Sofia D'Avella
Holy Child
The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.



Michael Emerson
Georgetown Prep
Trust in your friends, and they will have reason to trust in you.



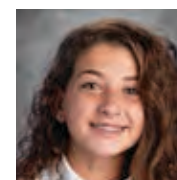
Chloe Farago
Walter Johnson
There will always be someone who cares.



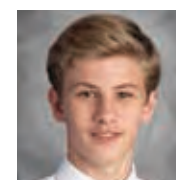
Matty Flynn
Walter Johnson
Be happy, and when times get hard, just keep going.



Jillian Geils
Holy Child
Happiness is found when you stop comparing yourself to other people.



Zoe Gerohristodoulos
Holy Cross
Be yourself.



Hayes Goetcheus
Gonzaga
Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.



Tripp Harris
Gonzaga
No matter how hard it seems, strive for your personal best every day.



Jack Hoffman
Gonzaga
Every accomplishment begins with the decision to try.



Cady Hyde
St. John's
If you are not trying, you are automatically losing.



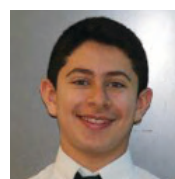
Henry Iloanya
Georgetown Prep
Make the most out of every situation.



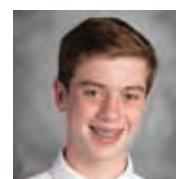
Stephanie Irving
Visitation
Inspiration and motivation may come from others, but true inspiration comes from within.



Harry Kaden
Georgetown Prep
Would I rather be feared or loved? Easy. Both. I want people to be afraid of how much they love me.



Chris Khoury
Georgetown Prep
Don't find a fault. Find a solution.



Will Kirvan
Gonzaga
If you cannot handle the heat, get out of the kitchen.



Josh Knutsen
Gonzaga
Do or do not. There is no try.



Ronan Kramer
Gonzaga
If you're walking down the right path and you're willing to keep walking, eventually you'll make progress.



Brooke Lennon
Holy Cross
Live, Laugh, Love

St. Jane de Chantal Sodality Guild's End of School Year Activities

The final general meeting of the St. Jane de Chantal Sodality Guild for this school year started out with a Mass, followed by food, drinks and prizes. The program also included two special guest speakers.

First Emma Tarquinio, an eighth grader at St. Jane de Chantal School, read her winning essay for the Junior Sodality Scholarship – a moving observation about mercy and forgiveness. Emma will use the Sodality Scholarship to attend a Catholic High School in the fall.

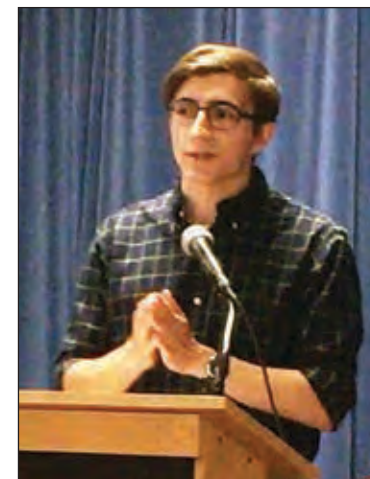
After that, Marco Cerritelli, a



Liz Strand, Co-President of Sodality, presided over all the evening's activities.



Members of the St. Jane de Chantal Sodality Guild enjoy refreshments while engaging in lively conversation following the end of school year event.



Invited speaker, Marco Cerritelli, addressed the Sodality group on helping college students grow in their Catholic faith, winning over for Christ.

St. Jane de Chantal Parish

9601 Old Georgetown Road
Bethesda, MD

Fr. Samuel C. Giese

Pastor

301-530-1550

St. Jane de Chantal School

Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton

301-530-1221

Susana and Mario Cerritelli,
OPT Editors

parish member and current FOCUS missionary, made a brief reflection about FOCUS Ministries across college campuses. The goal of FOCUS is to support students during their often-difficult college years. Marco reminded the audience of the importance of helping college students maintain their Catholic faith and for providing

spiritual support. With financial backing from members of our parish along with family and friends, Marco and other FOCUS missionaries are devoted to the mentoring of college students by being a presence, role model and friend. Marco asked the Sodality members to be a part of their Ministries by sharing in prayers and making voluntary

contributions to the cause.

The presentations were followed by fun activities, including the announcement of door prizes, lively conversations and the opportunity to buy Christian jewelry for first Communion, Confirmation, and Mother's Day gifts from Christian Bling. This was just the start of a busy weekend for St. Jane's

Sodality members. In addition to this event, the annual Sodality Plant Sale took place throughout the weekend allowing parishioners to support Sodality efforts through the purchase of hanging baskets, annuals, perennials, herbs, and veggies.

OPT

Congratulations to the Class of 2016



Mollie Maynard

Visitation
You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think.



Meghan McCarthy

Visitation
Do not go where the path may lead; go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.



Allison McCord

Holy Cross
Women who seek to be equal with men lack ambition.



Jenny McIntyre

Walter Johnson
Do not try to be like others when you are unique to this earth; you are you.



Maggie McKean

Visitation
You get in life what you have the courage to ask for.



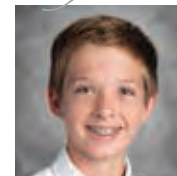
Lilly McKinnon

Holy Cross
Why fit in when you were born to stand out?



Kelly Miller

St. John's
Treat every moment like it's your last.



Luke Morris

Walter Johnson
When life gives you lemons, demand a better fruit.



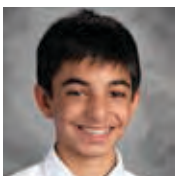
Emma Nalls

Holy Cross
Life is like a battle, but you can't win unless you fight.



Anna Owens

Holy Cross
We'll walk this road together, through the storm. Whatever weather, cold or warm.



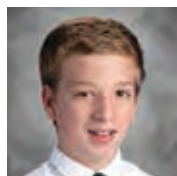
Anthony Pagedas

Good Counsel
Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.
- Aristotle



Matthew Pottker

Gonzaga
There is nothing on this earth more to be prized than true friendship.



Seamus Quirk

Undecided
Thanks, De Chantal. Class of 2017: Work hard and have fun.



Shayaan Razak

Walter Johnson
It is not the end; it's the beginning.



PG Ruff

Gonzaga
You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough.



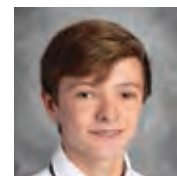
Nick Sheehan

St. John's
If you work hard, you will achieve.



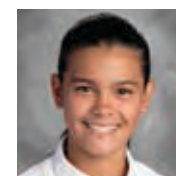
Amy Smigaj

Quince Orchard
In the end, we only regret the chances we didn't take.



Charlie Smithdeal

Gonzaga
Start by doing what's necessary; then what's possible; and suddenly the impossible.



Isabella Steadman

Visitation
Better to fight for something than live for nothing.



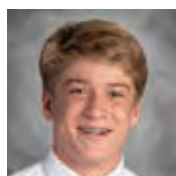
Cecelia Swartz

Visitation
Not all those who wander are lost.



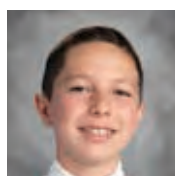
Emma Tarquinio

Good Counsel
Doubt kills more dreams than failure ever will.



Jack Thistle

Georgetown Prep
Don't go around saying the world owes you a living. The world owes you nothing. It was here first.



Andrew Timmer

St. John's
The best way to have a good idea is to have lots of good ideas.



Julian Trilling

Georgetown Prep
Life is simple; people make it complex.



Marissa Urgo

Holy Child
You may never know what results come of your action. But if you do nothing, there will be no result.



Meredith Van Kirk

Holy Cross
In the end, we only regret the chances we didn't take.



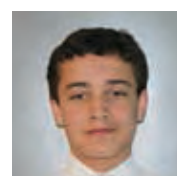
Veronica Vincent

Brookwood
Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass; it's about learning to dance in the rain.



Emma Wallinger

Bishop Kenny
Always laugh when you can. It's cheap medicine.



Mark Western

Gonzaga
Practice doesn't make perfect; perfect practice makes perfect.

Sacred Organ Music and Silent Film in a Sacred Place

Delivering the Passion and Power of Christ

On Friday, March 18th, St. Jane de Chantal Church turned into a movie theater to witness the power of Our Lord Passion through the combine per-

formance of music and film. The film, entitled "The Passion and the Power of Christ", was directed by Ferdinand Zecca and Lucien Nonguet and completed in 1905. It

was the first movie about the life of Jesus. At that time, it was one of the longer films produced, and it constituted a remarkably in-depth presentation of the Gospel story.

With a run time of slightly less than one hour, the film managed to show short vignettes that included the entire Gospels, from the Annunciation to the Ascension. While the staging and acting corresponded to that from the dawn of cinema, the genuine simplicity of the production and message spoke clearly to today's audience.

To enhance the experience, the silent film was accompanied by live music from world-renowned French organist, Thomas Ospital. Born in France, where he completed his musical studies, Mr. Ospital performs in different countries as a soloist or with choir or orchestra. Before the silent film started, Mr. Ospital treated the audience



Fr. Samuel Giese, Pastor of St. Jane de Chantal Church, introduced and thanked world-renowned French organist, Thomas Ospital, for his participation in this special silent film and sacred organ music event.



Parishioners and other invited guests filled the pews to watch the silent film on a giant projection screen set-up in the church, as Thomas Ospital provided live musical accompaniment on the church's pipe organ.

to a performance of the work from Johann Sebastian Bach. During the movie, the organist improvised music to complement the different scenes presented. It was a perfect combination of sacred music and a moving story that brought a genu-

inely religious experience to all in attendance.

This dual performance was made possible by Saint Jane Frances de Chantal Parish and the District of Columbia Chapter, American Guild of Organists.

OPT

St. Jane de Chantal Youth Group Presents the Way of the Cross

It has become an annual tradition that members of the St. Jane's Youth Group participate in a representation of the Way of the Cross, as part of the Lenten liturgies. Every Friday during Lent, St. Jane de Chantal celebrated the Way of the Cross, and the Parish Youth Group took the lead on the one on March 11th. Youth group members contributed their time and talent making for a special celebration. The young parishioners alternated reading each station and the corresponding reflection, while others in the group staged that step of Our Lord's Passion. It is always a moving and inspiring liturgy that all parishioners appreciate and enjoy. Under the direction of Fr. Mark Cusick and Ms. Sally Daniel, the members of the Parish's Youth Group engaged

parishioners in celebrating the Lord's Passion bringing everyone closer in preparation for Holy Week.

OPT



Ms. Sally Daniel and Fr. Mark Cusick pose for a photo with members of the Parish's Youth Group immediately following the Way of the Cross celebration in the Church.



Members of the St. Jane de Chantal Youth Group staged each step of Our Lord's Passion during the Church's celebration of the Way of the Cross.

NEW PASTOR

Con't from page 12

Successful pastors are expected to manage, in addition to the spiritual and sacramental care of the parish community. Much will be achieved with all of us working together.

As an active parish community, always looking to spread the Good News to our little corner of the world and beyond, we look forward to the new ideas and energy that will come from the leadership a new pastor brings. This can only enhance the good that's already happening and renew our thinking as it helps us to seize new opportunities for evangelizing and building up the Kingdom of God.

We look forward to welcoming our new pastor – whomever he may be! We're going to try hard to avoid having our mantra become 'but we've always done it that way' and look forward to working with him with adaptability and open minds in the days, months and years to come.

Change can indeed be challenging, but with prayer and the Holy Spirit, respect and a willingness to embrace each new day together, we can make this a positive and rewarding experience!

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JOHN NALLS
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Gonzaga College
High School
Class of 1982



Tom will
Find your new home...

Joseph will
Finance it...

John will
Settle it.

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2016

Nneka Akukwe
Elizabeth Jane Allen*†
Willy Almozard, Jr.
Alexis Alexandra Amos*
Janis Anning-Gyan
Anders Per Assarsson*
Cesar Fabricio Ayala
Byron John Robert Bailey*
Bobby Gene Baker IV*
Greer Aiyana Baker
Garpue Tarwoe Barchue
Christopher Joseph Barone
Keith Dewayne Beckett II
Sara Belay*
Luca Antonio Bertozzi*†
Marc William Binkley*
Michael Joseph Birch
Tanner Max Blizzard
Justin Anatoly Bodley-Bjorklund
Patrick Aloysius Bracken
Ariana Isabelle Breen
Devante Darnell Brooks
Kelli Suzanne Brookshire*†
Chase Aleksander Brossard*†
Aaron Robert Brown
Kordell Roy Brown
Michaela Lauryn Brown*
Shayna Gabrielle Brown
Samuel William Brustad
Lillie Anne Burke*
James Dewey Cahill*
Emelia Rose Carroll*
Jessica Kimberlee Castor
Marcus James Chavis
Madison Dionne Cheatham
Cole Walker Christenson*†
DeJuan Ray Clayton
Isaiah Jamal Coffey
Anyia Marie Coleman
Nicholas Christopher Coleman*
Leo Hemphill Confalone*†
Keana Renee Cooper*
Paige Amber Cooper*†
Jesse Sakkay Correa*†
Anthony DeWayne Cowan II
Rodrigo P. Cracel
Claudia Esmeralda Cueva
Carlos Martin Curay*
Janine Michaela Cusseaux*
Natalie Marie Dalton*
Caelan Caelum Danbury
Ryann Simone Davis*
Carlos Bernard C. De Leon*
Alexandra Nicole DeGrouchy
Zachary Worth Denton*
James Hugh DeVol*
Caelan Roger Doherty
John Emil Dour*†
Jeffrey Lee Downtin, Jr.
Gilbert Dmitry Durand*
Kayla Alexandra Edwards*†
Nathan Patrick Ehrenreich
Timothy Elewa Ekpone
Wahdae Yvonne Elliott
John Francis English*†
Christopher Henry Engvall*
Elon Harris Epps*
Marcela Alexandra Escoto
Ian Augustus Christopher Evans

Kamryn Lee Fagan*
Joseph Francis Falcone
Priscilla Barr Felten*†
Brendan M. Fennell
Evan Walter Finch*
Madalyn Cecile Flood*†
Julian Mauricio Flores, Jr.
Mary Kathryn Ford*
James Mulholland France
Kathleen Grace Fricke*
Samuel Kimball Gaffney
Braeden Riley Gazdag*
Sean Edward Gibbons
Connor Cavanaugh Giblin
Thomas James Gillespie*†
Katherine Ann Gonella*†
William Martin Greening
Catherine Anna Gregory*
Wayman Thomas Griffith II
Ashley Marie Jordane Guirand
Emir Gur-Ravantab*†
Kennedy Marissa Hagens*
John Lucas Hagerty*
Destiny Clyd'Daysha Haley
Terrell Oswald Hall
Trent Joseph Hammersmith
Aaron Michael Hansford
Emily Anne Harlan*
Kaleah Chae Harley
Khalid Demetrius Harley
John-Paul Harper
Colby Cochran Harrison
Maya Alicia Hartwell*
Carmyn Janae Hayes*
Michael Connor Heffron*†
Fionnbharr James Hembruff
Chloe Simone Henderson*
Madeleine Raine Henderson*
Alejandro Enrique Hernandez
Kevin Alexander Hernandez
Noel Fuad Hijazi
Mary Patricia Hippchen*
Rachel DeAnn Hithon*
Christopher Torres Horwhat
Agatha Villa Nova Hostins
Joshua Kamau House
Jordan Elise Hubbard*
Savohn Tyson Hunt
Margaret Olga Iapalucci*
Kaitwan Albert Jackson
Abraham Brennan Jacobson
Michael Christopher Jasinski*
Daniel Robert Charles Jeffrey
Zoe Jordan Jeffries*
Nicholas Stephen Jenkins
William James Jennings*
Clodagh Marie Johnston*
Trent McGuire Jones
Kevin Holt Joyce
Natalya Lilia Kirk
Liam Duncan Kirkpatrick*†
Sydney Therese Kirsch
John Charles LaHood
Emma Katherine Lander*
Mina Grace Mabuti Larraquel*
Carly Marie Latessa*
Anna Beverly Latoff*
Mahagani Ayanna Rose Lawson*
John Michael Leary*

Beatrice Farr Lennon*
Charles David Lewin-Smith
Daniel Murphy Love
Claire Luigard
Maria Alexandra Mack*
Khalia Janeé Magruder
Talik D. Mann
Nicholas Michael Manolatos
Brian Clifton Manuel
Jerman Abimael Marcia
Alexander James Marketos*†
Alexander Gerard Marshall*
Rose Standish Marshall
Katherine Damary Martinez
Alexander Joseph Mastel*
William Ben-Temirlan Masters*
Kaycie J. McCarthy*
Patrick Matthew McCormick
William Aiden McGinnis
Margaret Claire McGreal*†
Gabriel James McHugh*
Alexandra Gabrielle McLaughlin
Roy Edward Melvin III*
Myles Mwalui Mensah*
Annika Mila Neigus Meurs*
Christian Joseph Miller*
Kaitlin Q. Miller
Vanessa Jean Minador
Rosie Kelechi Mpamaugo*
Olivia Rose Munero*†
Laura Elizabeth Naccarato*†
Joseph Michael Nadonley*†
Alia Liesel Nahra*†
Adrian Jordan Nelson
Esmeralda Neri-Zamudio
Julia Joy Nessman*
Andrew Minh Nguyen*
John Chalmers Norris*
Eliza Murphy O'Donnell*†
Alexander Lewis O'Leary*
Brendan Charles O'Neill*
Olubusayo Oluwadamilola Odusanya*
Michael Gbolahan Ogunsanya
Thomas William Oricstan*†
Sarah Elizabeth Overcash
Benjamin Andreas Page
David Roy Painter
Kayla Victoria Passacreta-Okobi
Evan Hayden Patterson
Calixte Edouard Paul
Tayona Amah Pearson
Justin Dillon Penn
Genevieve Elise Pennanen*†
Anthony Andrew Perez III
Gillian Michael Peters*
Marie Lorraine Peters*
Diyante Jevon Pileta
Matthew Philip Pizola
Michael John Placanica*
Christina Grace Colberg Poley*†
Steven Marcin Polkiewicz
Robert William Pommer IV
Glynn Pratt II
Kyle Ian Pusey*
Eder Ramirez
Juan Daniel Ramirez
Alexander Dinkins Ray
Benjamin James Reese
Benjamin Vyacheslav Reistetter

Cameron Janard Remalia
Kayla Yvette Robbins
Andrew Walker Roberts
Katherine Izabela Roberts*
Joseph Micheal Robertson*
Kayla Briahn Robinson
Marilyn Jean Rosenman*
Micah Zachary Royster
Vera Claytor Ruhlmann
Katherine Page Rurka*†
Sahna Aminah Sabbakhan
Karla Maria Sanchez
Nigel Christopher Sanders
Bryce Montgomery Schrock
Brandon Aubrey Scott
Magdalen Isabel Scott*
Noah Muir Searchinger
Albert Isaiah Shackelford
Ellianna Foxx Shadricks
Brooke Ann Sharp
Mary Claire Gerard Sheridan*
Michael Peter Sherman
Joshua Taylor Simon*
Jordan Ernest Sligh*
Steven Michael Slough
Ryan Kennedy Smith*†
Nicholas Tucker Soresi
Jasmine Liliana Sosa
Anne Katherine Speer*
Taylor Deneen Spruill*
Peter Dmitry Weaver St. Amand
Nickolas Arrington Stacker
William Mitchell Steel
Taylor Jordan Stewart
Caroline Elizabeth Stiger*
Audrey Catherine Strachan*†
Caroline Mackay Sturges*†
Kylia Raekwan Sykes
Nicolas Alexander Tanzi
Stephanie Madeleine Tanzi
Alexander Rene Taylor
Jackson Matthew Thigpen*†
Rachel Marae Thomas
Michael Andrew Timmer
Giselle Maria Tolentino*
Pius N. Tomdio
Julia Marie Townsend*
Annalise Marie Tracey*†
Jude Charles Treacy
Daniel James Tremor*†
Margot Frances Trouve*
Brian Orrin Valcarcel*†
Boris Alberto Varela
Taylor Marie Veith*
Stephen Emil Vieno*
Luke Paul Wardour*
Christine Elizabeth Wasel
Mary Katherine Wasel*
Sarah Jeanne Westney*
Serina M. Williams*
Joshua Kye Wilson
Lucas Beatty Wilson
Katie Morgan Wright
Daniel Andrés Zamalloa

† De La Salle Scholar

* National Honor Society

Scientists and Faith Leaders Urge President Obama to Announce Steps in Hiroshima to Reduce Nuclear Risks

The heads of four leading science and faith organizations call on President Obama, who will likely visit Hiroshima, Japan, later this month for the G7 summit, to announce specific steps the United States will take to reduce the real and urgent risks posed by nuclear weapons and prevent a new global nuclear arms race.

"Since Saint Pope John XXIII issued *Pacem in Terris* in 1963, the Catholic Church has called for a world free of nuclear weapons. Faith and reason, religion and science, agree on this issue," said Bishop Oscar Cantú, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Committee on International Justice and Peace.

"Nuclear weapons pose a moral challenge and represent an existential threat that requires action now."

A statement released May 4, by Bishop Cantú; Ken Kimmell, president of the Union of Concerned Scientists; Leith Anderson, president of the National Association of Evangelicals; and Gabriel Salguero, president of the National Latino Evangelical Coalition calls on President Obama to:

- Scale back the U.S. plan to build a new generation of nuclear weapons, including canceling the new "destabilizing and unneeded" nuclear-armed cruise missile;
- Reduce the U.S. deployed strategic arsenal by a third, a level the Pentagon agrees is adequate to

maintain security; and

- Remove U.S. land-based nuclear missiles from hair-trigger alert, which would reduce the risk of an accidental, mistaken or unauthorized launch.

The groups met with U.S. National Security Advisor Susan Rice in November 2015 to express concern that the risk of nuclear weapons use may be on the rise, and to urge the administration to take concrete steps to reduce that risk.

The full text of the joint statement is available at www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/war-and-peace/nuclear-weapons/statement-by-faith-leaders-on-reducing-nuclear-threat-2016-05-04.cfm.

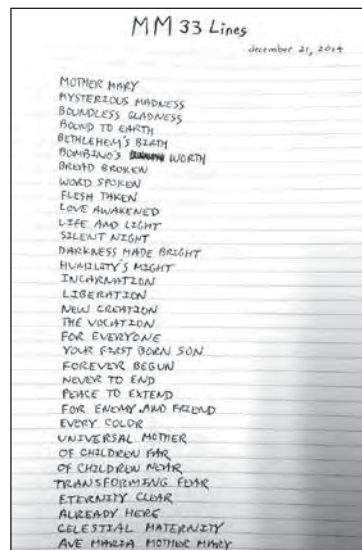
OPT

ENCOUNTER

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thought of that as they recited the rosary later that week after the May crowning.

When I spoke with Fr. Stan after the Mass, I asked him if I could have a copy of "MM 33 Lines" for an article I was writing. He asked



we fully trust that our emails, photos, text messages, and updates are being sent and received. Our faith, he explained, has to be much more tangible; we need to show how we are connected to our faith in order for our young people to model that. It's our job, he said, to show that we are ourselves engaged in our faith.

His words struck me and brought to mind a point in my life when I needed to be further engaged in my faith. I was born and raised Catholic, attended Mass every Sunday, said my prayers, received the Sacraments, but in 1993 when my mother was first critically ill, I was filled with despair, and I found it very difficult to pray. My mother's cousin, visiting from Scotland, said to me, "Pray the rosary. Our Lady will never leave us." She and I sat for hours in hospital waiting rooms and at my mother's bedside, praying the rosary together, and it was through the rosary that I prayed through my despair. It was through Mary and the rosary that I felt the power of healing of my own fears and worries. Our Lady did not leave me, and her renewed presence in my life changed the way I pray then and now.

During this month of May, the month of Mary, let us pray with renewed hope and faith, let us turn to Mary with a new vibrancy for our "universal mother, of children far, of children near, transforming fear, eternity clear, already here, celestial maternity, Ave Maria Mother Mary." Thank you, Fr. Stan, for the reminder.

OPT

National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for Mariners and People of the Sea, May 22

The National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for Mariners and People of the Sea will be celebrated on Monday, May 23. The day is observed in conjunction with National Maritime Day in the United States, which has been celebrated since 1933, to recognize merchant mariners and others in the maritime industry.

The Apostleship of the Sea ministry is active in 48 dioceses in the country, providing pastoral outreach in nearly 53 maritime ports in 26 states with a network of about 92 chaplains, priests, religious, deacons and lay ministers.

"In this Jubilee Year of Mercy declared by Pope Francis, may we bring the opportunity of encountering the mercy of God to our brothers and sisters who are seafarers, fishermen, and those whose occupations require them to spend most of the year away from their families, in the high seas, and sometimes facing dangerous situations," said Bishop J. Kevin Boland, retired bishop of Savannah, Georgia, and Apostleship of the Sea (AOS) promoter. "They too are our brothers and sisters with spiritual needs, may we accompany them in their joys and trials in life, so they may also grow in faith and understanding of God's love."

OPT

for my phone, opened his notebook, and took a photo of it, commenting on the date it was written, and the crossed-out error in one line. As a middle school teacher, I asked him what we could do to further engage our young people in their faith. He made an analogy of digital connections and satellites beaming things from one to the other every second of the day. None of this is visible, yet

I am a thinker, an athlete, an artist.

SUMMER AT HOLY CROSS

Co-Ed Summer Enrichment

High School Placement Test Prep (HSPT) Course

June 20 - 24

Morning Session:

8:30 am - 12 pm

Afternoon Session:

1 pm - 4:30 pm

Girls Soccer Camp, Directed by Coach Mastro

Grades 7-12

August 8 - 12

5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Girls Summer Sports Camps Grades 1-10

Volleyball, Soccer, Session 1: June 20 - 24 • 9 am - 3 pm

Softball, Lacrosse, Session 2: June 27 - July 1 • 9 am - 3 pm

Field Hockey

Basketball

Session 3: July 11-15 • 9 am - 3 pm

Co-Ed Summer Stock Performing Arts Grades 6-11

July 5 - 15 • 9 am - 3 pm

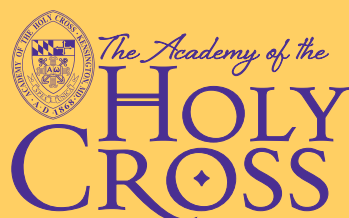
Classes in: Musical Theatre Dance, Musical Theatre Singing, Improvisation, Filmmaking, Acting

Final Performance: *Seussical Jr.**

Friday, July 15 at 7 pm

Music by Stephen Flaherty • Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens • Book by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty • Co-Conceived by Lynn Ahrens, Stephen Flaherty and Eric Idle • Based on the works of Dr. Seuss • Music Supervised, Adapted and Produced by Bryan Louiselle

**Seussical Jr.* is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.com



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THE WOODS ACADEMY

Congratulates the Class of 2016



The Class of 2016 has been accepted to the following High Schools:

Academy of the Holy Cross • Connelly School of the Holy Child
Georgetown Preparatory School • Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School
Gonzaga College High School • Our Lady of Good Counsel High School
St. Andrew's Episcopal School • St. Anselm's Abbey School
St. John's College High School • Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart

The Class of 2016 has been awarded \$270,000 in merit scholarships.



Mrs. Kathleen Miller, middle school English teacher at St. Jude Regional Catholic School, was surprised to find out she was one of 10 teachers awarded the prestigious Golden Apple Award from the Archdiocese of Washington. Pictured with Mrs. Miller is William Ryan, Superintendent of Schools for the ADW. Photo by Victor O'Neil studios

Kathy Miller Named One of 10 Golden Apple Teachers in the Archdiocese

Last month, the Archdiocese of Washington announced the 10 recipients of its 2016 Golden Apple Awards for Excellence in Teaching. St. Jude Regional Catholic School is honored that one of the recipients is Mrs. Kathleen Miller, SJRCS middle school English teacher. Mrs. Miller received the news from Superintendent of Schools William H. Ryan in a surprise school-wide assembly.

A teacher at St. Jude since 2013 and serving the Archdiocese for nearly 30 years, Mrs. Miller gives her heart and soul to her students. Writes SJRCS Principal Glenn Benjamin in his recommendation letter, "Kathy's outstanding work ethic is only exceeded by her own humility; she approaches every teacher, parent, and student with kindness and compassion that is Christ-like, and unlike any I have

ever seen before. She has a wealth of knowledge to share with all of us and does so with the wisdom and grace of an experienced educator."

Mrs. Miller, who was more than surprised when the award was announced, writes in her nomination letter, "For 29 years I have lived and breathed Catholic education as teacher and administrator; I have watched children form into adults and then form their children into loving faithful servants of God. I can't think of a more rewarding experience. Knowing that I may have had the smallest impact on a student is incredible. I have always told my students and my own children that serving others is a feeling of goodness that is so overpowering you will want to do it for the rest of your life."

Congratulations, Mrs. Miller! SJRCS is very lucky to have you as part of their team!

The Passion Comes Alive in Rockville

Third Annual Bilingual Walking Stations of the Cross

On Friday, March 25, clergy, staff, and parishioners of the Shrine of St. Jude took part in the third annual bilingual walking Stations of the Cross to commemorate Jesus' route to his crucifixion at Calvary. More than 400 people, including many children and teens from the St. Jude Youth Group, took part in this beautiful event, led by the Shrine's pastor, Father Paul Lee, as well as parochial vicar Father Ken Gill and Deacons Nick Scholz, Paul Schmitt, and Nathaniel Cordoba.

The pilgrimage began at 5 p.m. at the first station, in front of the church. The group then continued on the designated 2-mile route through the neighborhood, following a large hand painted banner that read, "He died so that we may live." The 12 stations to follow were located in front of St. Jude's parishioners' homes, at which bilingual (Spanish/English) prayers and devotionals were



Fr. Ken Gill from the Shrine of St. Jude prays over "Jesus" during the Shrine's annual Good Friday Passion Walk. Looking on are Los Niños del Rosario, or the Children of the Rosary.



Clergy, staff, and parishioners of the Shrine of St. Jude took part in the third annual bilingual walking Stations of the Cross to commemorate Jesus' route to his crucifixion at Calvary. Pictured carrying the cross are members of the St. Jude Youth Group followed by the Shrine's pastor, Father Paul Lee, parochial vicar Father Ken Gill, and more than 400 people, all making their way up Viers Mill Road to the Shrine of St. Jude.

offered. From station to station, bilingual hymns were sung and various parishioners helped to carry a large cross, while the children of the parish carried their own smaller cross and role played the events of the Passion.

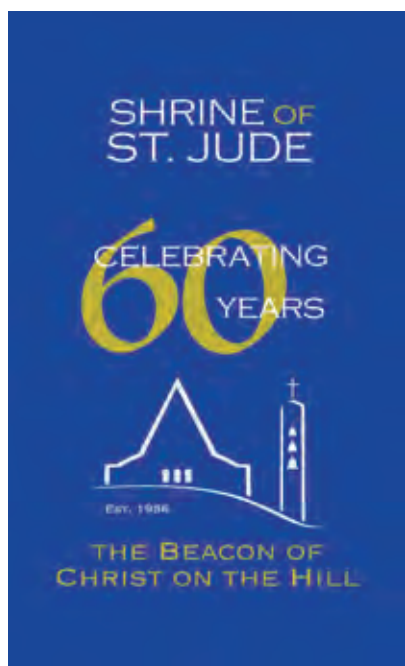
Throughout the procession it was evident that several passers-by and neighbors took notice of the crowd and showed particular interest, either by taking a photo or demonstrating reverence. This was most apparent while the large crowd processed up Veirs Mill Road and many cars rolled down their windows and drivers were seen making the sign of the cross.

The final leg of the pilgrimage was on Veirs Mill Road leading back up to the church entrance, where the 14th station was located. Montgomery County Police assisted with traffic control.

OPT

Celebrating 60 Years at St. Jude: The Beat Goes On!

The Shrine of St. Jude Catholic Church and Regional School ushered in 2016—our diamond anniversary year—with gratitude, enthusiasm, and joy. Celebratory kick off events included: our anniversary gala; new light pole flags, and new banners, which feature artwork from two St. Jude Regional Catholic School students; an evangelization workshop; Project Hope Memorial Brick Campaign; and monthly speakers'



tinues to plan additional events for the Parish, including:

- May 19: 1956 Family Dinner and Movie Night: featuring the viewing of a hit movie from 1956, "Around the World in 80 Days," and pizza from Ledo, a pizza chain that was founded the same year; 7:00 pm in the Thaddeus Room; tickets required (see bulletin).

- June 5: International Carnivale, 2:00 - 5:00 pm, — a nostalgic look back at St. Jude Carnival and Family Day with an intercultural look to the future; event includes rides, games, and international foods. (See bulletin for more details.)

Rides and games for the International Carnivale are donated in loving gratitude for the men and women of St. Jude Holy Name Society and Sodality. Check our website at: www.shrinesstjude-rockville.org for more details.

Coming this fall: Welcome Back Sunday, September 25, and our 60th Anniversary Mass and Reception with Cardinal Wuerl, Sunday October 23, at 10:30 a.m.

OPT



St. Jude Partners with American Red Cross to "Walk with Francis"

On Saturday March 19, St. Jude parish, in partnership with the American Red Cross, hosted a blood drive to fulfill the parish pledge made last September in honor of Pope Francis' visit to "Walk with Francis."

The Lady's Sodality, the Knights of Columbus, and numerous volunteers helped to make this blood drive possible and so successful. More than 80 donors presented to donate their blood and 63 units of blood were collected. According to the Red Cross, these units have the potential to help up to 189 individuals.

Given the success of this blood drive and the needs of our region (over 150,000 units of blood are needed annually), St. Jude parish anticipates hosting future blood drives with the Red Cross under the leadership of our parish Health and Wellness ministry team.

Pictured is Glenn Benjamin, principal of SJRCS, who was one of more than 80 donors to donate their blood to the American Red Cross in honor of the parish's pledge to Walk with Francis.

OPT

Shrine of St. Jude Parish

12701 Veirs Mill Road
Rockville, MD

Rev. Paul Lee, STD,
Pastor

301-946-8200

St. Jude Regional
Catholic School

Mr. Glenn Benjamin, Principal
301-946-7888

Maureen Martin,
OPT Editor

MaureenCMartin@verizon.net

nights, featuring Fr. Peter Ryan, SJ, Executive Director for Doctrine, USCNB, and Fr. Don Leary, Pastor of St. Andrew the Apostle, Silver Spring.

As we turn to spring, the St. Jude 60th Anniversary committee con-



O Mary! We Crown Thee With Blossoms Today!

As we honor Mary during May, St. Jude students took part in the annual May Crowning, a long-time school and parish tradition. The celebration included song, poems, and prayers for our Blessed Mother as well as the placing of a crown of flowers on her head. Pictured in addition to Pastor Fr. Paul Lee are from left to right St. Jude 8th graders Daphne Ranti, Kaelyn Mashburn, Natalie Young, Nick Sanders, Samantha Santoro, and Catherine Sarca. Standing in front are second-grade First Communicants Lina Garcia and Enzo Sosa.

FUND

Con't from page 8

receiving treatment. Both grades together assembled and decorated over 1100 eggs.

While filling the eggs with treats, students learned about the Yellow Ribbon Fund, a Bethesda-based nonprofit that helps returning American servicemen and women who are recovering at Walter Reed. Dr. Moawad, a surgeon at the Walter Reed, came in uniform and explained the needs of Wounded Warriors and their families. The children made great connections with the project noting that "The families can have an Easter away from home", and "Jesus wants us to help others."

This is the second year Holy Redeemer School has worked with the Yellow Ribbon Fund on its annual Easter holiday celebration. The school looks forward to further collaboration with the nonprofit and its efforts to assist Wounded Warriors and their families.

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Shrine of St. Jude Sodality Sponsors Parish Anniversary Breakfast

Eight Shrine of St. Jude couples celebrating 25+ years of marriage this year attended a very special Anniversary Mass on Sunday, April 17. Afterwards, Our Lady of the Wayside Sodality treated them to a delicious breakfast in Madigan Hall where Fr. Paul Lee, pastor, toasted to the longevity of their marriage and wished them many blessings for many more years together. Pictured from left to right are Frank & Judy Carroll, 50 yrs.; Eddie & Patti Ribas, 25 yrs.; Celerino & Ligaya Borbaja, 45 yrs.; Frank & Jeanne Rossomondo, 63 yrs.; Anthony & Zita Gonsalves, 25 yrs.; John & Annette Bell, 25 yrs.; Vincent & Raysha Picerno, 30 yrs.; and Raul & Carlota Cenicerros.



Principal: Mr. Benjamin
Pastor: Father Lee

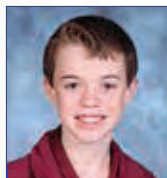
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATES OF 2016!



We are . . . St. Jude!



**Cullen
Anderson
Santos**
Snow Hill HS



**Matthias
Barish**
The Heights



**Joseph
Byrne**
The Heights



**Marilyn
Caceres**
*The Academy of
the Holy Cross*



**Kristelle
Chamandy**
*Oakcrest
High School*



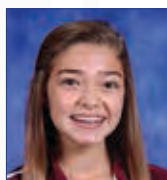
**Justin
Davis**
*St. John's College
High School*



**Gina
Dieguez**
*Our Lady of
Good Counsel*



**Alana
Johnson**
*St. John's College
High School*



**Samantha
Koehler**
*The Academy of
the Holy Cross*



**Valerie
Kuzma**
*The Academy of
the Holy Cross*



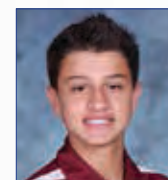
**Hailey
Lat**
*John F. Kennedy
High School*



**Kaelyn
Mashburn**
*Rockville
High School*



**Ashley
Mejia**
*Elizabeth Seton
High School*



**Dylan
Monday**
*Rockville
High School*



TJ Mouchti
*Richard
Montgomery
High School*



**Kevin
Ourand**
*St. John's College
High School*



**Daphne
Ranti**
*John F. Kennedy
High School*



**Patrick
Ribas**
*Our Lady of
Good Counsel*



**Cesar
Rivas**
*St. John's College
High School*



**Nicholas
Sanders**
*Our Lady of
Good Counsel*



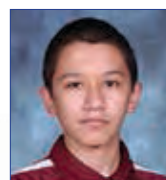
**Samantha
Santoro**
*Northwood
High School*



**Catherine
Sarca**
*The Academy of
the Holy Cross*



**Justin
Shrestha**
*Our Lady of
Good Counsel*



**Reuben
Spencer**
*Wheaton
High School*



**Natalie
Young**
*The Academy of
the Holy Cross*



**Jude
Weiksner**
*Rockville
High School*

www.StJudeRockville.org • MainOffice@StJudeRockville.org

Baby Bottle Benefits Shady Grove Pregnancy Center

Mary of Nazareth Catholic School participated in a charity event for Shady Grove Pregnancy Center. With help from the Student Government Association, baby bottles were distributed to students and staff. Every morning and afternoon the officers and representatives of our Student Government Association visited the classrooms to collect the filled bottles. Our Student Government

President, Josh Gonsalves, created a schedule assigning members of the SGA with specific classrooms in the collection of baby bottles. The SGA students packed the filled bottles in boxes to prepare for Shady Grove Pregnancy Center. Our generous school community filled bottles with donations. This is annual project occurs during the holy season of Lent.

OPT

Professional Attire Collected for 'A Wider Circle'

Mary of Nazareth School is being the change they wish to see in the world! A current MoN parent (Jeanette Staton) reached out to the Social Concerns Committee and shared that A Wider Circle was in need of Men's and Women's professional accessories. These accessories help individuals experiencing homelessness as they come to A Wider Circle, go on interviews, and enter the workforce. Students were asked to bring in gently used ties, belts, shoes,

purses, jewelry, and other professional apparel. Families were asked to go through their closets in the spirit of spring cleaning and sharing with others. The Mary of Nazareth Community is always so loving and generous. The students are very aware about the importance of giving back to others as well as sharing what they have. We collected many boxes and bags of these items. We can ALL make a difference in the lives of many!

OPT



MoN Honors Mary and 2016 Graduates at May Crowning Ceremony

MoN Class of 2016 pictured with Mary following May Crowning Mass.



Mary of Nazareth cheerleaders greeted bikers as they enter rest-stop.

Mary of Nazareth Hosts Bike Tour Rest-Stop for Disabled Veterans

2016 marks the fourth year that Mary of Nazareth School has hosted a rest stop on its campus for the Face of America bike tour. "Face of America" consists of a 110 mile ride from the Pentagon to Gettysburg, and is one of the largest annual non-competitive bicycle rides in the Washington, D.C. region. The ride includes more than 700 participants, 175 of whom are disabled veterans. Participants ride together to honor US troops, and inspire injured veterans.

Mary of Nazareth students and families welcomed riders to the school's 190+ acre campus, cheering them on, and handing them refreshments. Mary of Nazareth Athletic Director and veteran, Rich Huelbig, said of the event, "This is an incredible opportunity for young people to witness the sacrifices made by many

Continued on page 33



Band members celebrate earning "Superior" rating at adjudication.

Mary of Nazareth Band Earns "Superior" Rating

Congratulations to the Mary of Nazareth Band on their designation of "Superior" at Spring adjudication this year. Band members include: Jacob Zeranski (8th, Percussion), Fouad Ayoub (7th, Winds), Katie Carter (7th, Winds), Daniel DeLude (7th, Percussion), Jonathan Hofmann, (7th, Winds), Laura Osei (7th, Brass), Hackett Rascher (7th, Winds), Caitlin Hofmann (6th, Brass), Fiona O'Connell (6th, Winds), Nathan Abromavage (5th, Percussion), Jason Fischer (5th, Percussion), Amelia Maffeo (5th, Winds), Kate Nonnenkamp (5th, Winds), Madison Kelly (5th, Winds), Jacob DeAgostino (5th, Brass), Robert Castillo (5th, Percussion), Meghan Stone (5th, Percussion), Kamdi Nwakibu (5th, Percussion).

OPT

First Annual Hispanic Food Fair to be Held on May 16

¡Todos somos bienvenidos! Mary of Nazareth middle school students have collaborated this spring on a project that will transport visitors from the Caribbean islands where Columbus first landed to the highest altitudes of the Andes. 8th grade

students will take the role of tour guides, providing brochures with things to do and places to see across Latin America. 7th graders are the culinary experts, designing an individual "Menú del día", featuring traditional dishes for each Latin

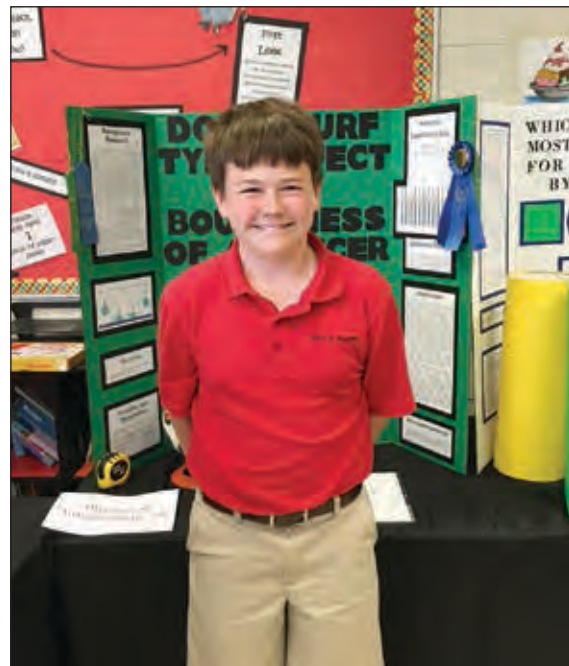
American country. No international travel will be required for visitors who'd like to try menu items - the 6th grade will provide take-home Spanish/English recipe cards, with the option of making and serving their dishes.

Mary of Nazareth Seventh Grade holds Science Fair

Each year the seventh grade students at Mary of Nazareth School participate in a year-long science project-based learning activity. They choose a science fair topic in the summer going into seventh grade, which may be the hardest part of the whole process. It takes about eight months from the start of the project in September to the final activity, the judging. During these months, the students discuss the scientific method, conduct their own experiments, and prepare a report and a display board.

The final projects were presented at the annual Science Fair on April 21. The students presented their display boards and talked about their projects and the scientific method. The judges were members of the MoN and scientific communities. The judging was assessed on the knowledge of the topic, how well the project followed the scientific method, creativity, and originality. This year, fifty-seven students participated in the science fair; their topics fell into three categories: physics and engineering, chemistry, or biology. A first, second, and third place winner was selected in each group and then a first, second, and third place winner was selected for each homeroom.

Continued on page 33



Dylan Olmsted

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Roman Catholic School**
14131 Seneca Road, Darnestown,
Maryland 20874

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**Assistant Principal:
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Mary of Nazareth
OPT Editor: Beth O'Connell,
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Nyawa Allieu
Richard Montgomery
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High School



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Preparatory School



Catherine Cherfan
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High School



Regina Choi
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High School



Annemarie Duda
Seneca Valley
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High School



Micah Flanner
St. John's Catholic
Prep High School



Agnija Furlong
Northwest High
School



Hendrick Gaunoux
Poolesville High
School



Joshua Gonsalves
Northwest
High School



Nicolas Guillamon
Our Lady of Good
Counsel High School



Celia Henein
Richard Montgomery
High School



Hannah Himes
Seneca Valley
High School



Jim Juhring
Georgetown
Preparatory School



Riley Keller
St. John's College
High School



Colleen Koch
St. John's College
High School



Hannah Kokinda
Quince Orchard
High School



Kristina Kopsidas
Georgetown Visitation
Preparatory School



Xavier Kresslein
Poolesville
High School



Zac Magrogan
St. John's College
High School



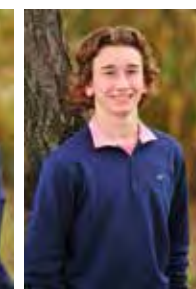
Samuel Massaro
Gonzaga College
High School



Ian McDonald
Our Lady of Good
Counsel High School



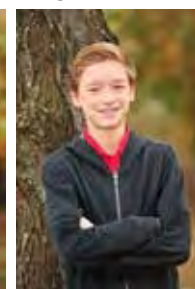
Matthew Moxley
Our Lady of Good
Counsel High School



Joseph Nolan
Quince Orchard
High School



Julia Nonnenkamp
St. John's College
High School



Lawrence Nyce
Quince Orchard
High School



Akosa Olisa
St. John's
Catholic Prep
High School



Kristen Puglisi
Academy of the
Holy Cross



Claire Rogers
St. John's Catholic
Prep High School



Brandon
Rodriguez
St. John's
Catholic Prep
High School



Logan Rohde
Poolesville
High School



Matthew Rutland
Quince Orchard
High School



Carson Schaefer
Gonzaga
High School



Elizabeth
Vandegrift
St. John's
Catholic Prep
High School



Grant Wexler
St. John's College
High School



Tia Wilson
St. John's College
High School



Brady Young
Gonzaga High
School



Jacob Zeranski
Poolesville
High School



**Congratulations to
the graduating class
of 2016!**



Mother Seton's RCIA members with Father Lee.



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Mother Seton Parish RCIA

By Peggy McGrail

Mother Seton Parish welcomes and congratulates the following members of RCIA, who received the sacraments of initiation, Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion, at the Easter Vigil Mass on March 26, 2016: Issam Joseph Ahmed, Daphne Brigette Mary M'Bayo, Jayson David Jacob Herr, Jack Joseph Lam, Gary Alonzo Martin Marquez, Joseph Paul Evans, Xenia Angela Cuevas Barnes, Rodolfo Cesar Michael Rodriguez, and Silvia Isabel Maria Rodriguez.

The next step in their spiritual journey in the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is referred to as the neophyte year. It is a time when all who were baptized and received into full communion continue their formation until they reach their one year anniversary next Easter.

From Easter until Pentecost, approximately seven weeks, they will participate in post-baptismal catechesis sessions referred to as mystagogy. Retreats, religious instruction, evenings of prayer, pilgrimages and scripture study programs will be continuously available to them throughout the 2016-2017 neophyte year. Additionally, opportunities to explore and participate in the many charitable organizations and ministries at Mother Seton will also be accessible as they continue to discern their call to ministry and witness.

We are truly blessed to have each one of them among us as part of our Mother Seton family.



Easter Vigil at Mother Seton Parish



Mother Seton Parish Confirmation candidates joined St. Andrew Apostle Parish, Resurrection Parish and St. Jerome's parish for a weekend Confirmation retreat on the Chesapeake Bay.

Confirmation Retreat on the Chesapeake Bay

By Dominique Seraphin, Director of Religious Education

On the weekend of March 18-20, 2016 Mother Seton Parish Confirmation candidates joined St. Andrew Apostle Parish, Resurrection Parish and St. Jerome's parish for a weekend Confirmation retreat on the Chesapeake Bay. Our retreat was held at Sandy Hill Camp in North

East Maryland where we were led in prayer and talks by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal and Jackie Lon (a parishioner of Mother Seton Parish).

The theme of our retreat was "Verso l'Alto" which means to the heights, which was the motto of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati a young lay Dominican from Italy. The theme has the image of Pier Giorgio Frassati climbing up a mountain with his eyes fixed on heaven. Our retreat kicked off with some fun icebreakers and then we began the "climb" up the mountain by asking our candidates who they were and why were they here. On Saturday the candidates had an opportunity to have a male and female led talk so they could discuss obstacles in the climb. We talked about our dignity as men and women. Mass was celebrated by Fr. Joseph Mary, CFR who also gave us a dynamic thought provoking

homily. After lunch, our candidates got to experience the Everything Skit which is a deeply moving skit that young people can relate to in their struggles with getting closer to Christ.

The highlight of our retreat was reaching "the source and summit" which was a Eucharistic healing procession; Fr. Joseph brought our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament to each person in the room. One candidate said: "When the priest came around with Jesus, I was afraid not knowing what to expect, but I felt such peace in my heart. For the first time in my life I knew Jesus." The retreat concluded on Sunday which was Palm Sunday with a beautiful procession from the Bay to our space for Mass. We are thankful to God for a beautiful retreat space and for all our volunteers that made this retreat for our 180 candidates a hug success.

OPT

BEACH BALL BINGO & SUPPER Friday, June 17

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Attendees are asked to bring a non-perishable food item to help fill Germantown Help's food bank. They need peanut butter, spaghetti sauce, canned tuna and canned fruit. All those who bring a food item will receive an extra door prize entry.

Disclaimer: Michael Kors Holdings Ltd., Kate Spade & Co., and Coach, Inc. are not affiliated with this event.

Mother Seton Parish

19951 Fr. Hurley Boulevard
Germantown, MD

Fr. Lee Fangmeyer
Pastor

301-924-3838

Juliana Ordoñez
OPT Editor

Bulletin@Mothersetonparish.org



At right,
Hackett
Rascher

SCIENCE FAIR

Con't from page 30

2nd - Kylie Ly
3rd - Antonio Checchia

OPT

BIKE TOUR

Con't from page 30

US service men and women. Our community is honored give back to our veterans, and excited to champion them to the finish line." The event, created and organized by World T.E.A.M. Sports, celebrates its sixteenth race this year.

In anticipation of the event, Mary of Nazareth students heard from veteran guest speakers on the Friday before the race. Veterans spoke with students about their jobs within their respective branches of the military. Three individual sessions of speakers were held for grades K-2, 3-5, and 6-8. Both Friday's and Saturday's events were organized by Mary of Nazareth's Social



MoN Scouts welcomed veterans to their school and supported them with pride.

Concerns Committee. The Committee works during the academic year to provide classroom instruction and volunteer opportunities that raise students' awareness of their responsibility to act as good stewards within their communities.

OPT

Category Winners:

Chemistry 1A: 1 - Ellie Gaunoux, 2 - Maggie Titus, 3 - Alex Castro-Conroy

Chemistry 1B: 1 - Max Filliben, 2 - Nicholas Palmer, 3 - Maeve McIntyre

Chemistry 1C: 1 - Lindsay Barrow, 2 - Julie Seminara and Ava Zamora, 3 - Liam McCarthy

Biology 1A: 1 - Gates Griffin, 2 - Jack Tucker, 3 - Daniel DeLude

Physics and Engineering 1A: 1 - Dylan Olmsted, 2 - Fouad Ayoub, 3 - Brendan Snocker

Biology 2A: 1 - Liam Melley and Antonio Checchia, 2 - Laura Osei, 3 - Stevie Orsini

Biology 2B: 1 - Hackett Rascher, 2 - Delia Teter, 3 - James Bailey

Physics and Engineering 2A: 1 - Gabby Lara, 2 - Will Scherer, 3 - Pierce Wexler

Chemistry 2A: 1 - Shalom Adewi, 2 - Kayla Waldron, 3 - Julia Wells

Chemistry 2B: 1 - Kylie Ly, 2 - Hayley Abromavage, 3 - Elizabeth Clarke

Overall Winners:

Class 7-1

1st - Dylan Olmsted
2nd - Max Filliben
3rd - Gates Griffin

Class 7-2

1st - Hackett Rascher

FOOD FAIR

Con't from page 30

Donations will be accepted to purchase a Passport into the fair, all proceeds from which will benefit Fabretto Children's Foundation. Fabretto's mission is to help empower underserved children and their families in the poorest Spanish-speaking country in the world: Nicaragua. Fabretto families survive on a dollar or two a day to support their families. Each participant in Mary of Nazareth's 1st Annual Hispanic Food fair will help Fabretto families to reach their full potential, improve their livelihoods, and take advantage of economic opportunity through education and nutrition. Thanks in advance to Mary of Nazareth students and families for their support of Fabretto's cause.

OPT



Alejandro José Alfonso
Richard Louis Bartozzi
Daniel Patrick Beatty II
Joaquim David Brooks
Gavin Patrick Brown
Vincent Joseph Buono
Justin Michael Calandra
Luke Stephen Cannon
James Arthur Carroll
John Paul Cipollone
Henry Corcoran Crooks
Michael John DeFelice
Guy Patrick DeSanctis
Nicholas Theodore Dietz
William Michael Digges
John Paul Lodge Ferguson
Joseph Patrick Foeckler
Emir-Andreas Fofana
Gabriel Salisbury Fowler
Patrick Joseph Friddle

Nicholas Peter Fuldner
Nathaniel Willem Gadiano
Joseph Cormac Goodwin
Derrick Jamaal Harrell
Daniel Thomas Herman
Michael Brandon Hildreth
Augustine Richard Hill
Alex Julien Karpinski
George King Kime
John Charles Kolesar
John Paul Kuzma
Anthony Leonard Leo
Andrew Mark Lutes
James Patrick Major
Quinn Thomas Martin
Louis Martin McHale
Alejandro-José Meléndez-Muñoz
Hugo Michael Moss
Michael Joseph Moynihan

Jacob Thomas Myer
Caleb Wilson Pelletier
Michael Reilly Eugene Pope
Michael Joseph Rego
Reid Vincent Robilotto
Owen Hebert Rossi
Ruslan Roustamov
Dylan Patrick Salmon
Vincent Reed Sedmak
Philip David Spence
James Reed Staines
William Joseph Swiacki
Andrew Jacob Thomas
Charles Dimitri Tsintolas
Gregory Paul Van Roie
Christian Bernard Warren
Ethan Charles Welsh
Xiao Xu
Zachary A. Yazdani
Austin Nicholas Yescas

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

The following list is representative of the wide variety of colleges and universities where Heights students have been accepted over the past three years:

Auburn University ■ Ave Maria University ■ Boston College ■ Boston University ■ Bowdoin College ■ Bucknell University ■ University of California at Berkeley ■ University of California, Los Angeles ■ Catholic University of America ■ University of Chicago ■ College of Charleston ■ The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina ■ Clemson University ■ Colgate University ■ Columbia University ■ Cornell University ■ Creighton University ■ University of Dallas ■ Davidson College ■ Denison University ■ Duquesne University ■ Fordham University ■ George Mason University ■ The George Washington University ■ Georgetown University ■ Georgia Institute of Technology ■ Gettysburg College ■ Harvard University ■ University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign ■ Indiana University at Bloomington ■ James Madison University ■ Johns Hopkins University ■ University of Kansas ■ Loyola University Maryland ■ University of Mary Washington ■ University of Maryland, College Park ■ Miami University, Oxford ■ University of Michigan ■ Mount St. Mary's University ■ University of Navarre ■ New York University ■ The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill ■ North Carolina State University ■ Northwestern University ■ University of Notre Dame ■ Pennsylvania State University, University Park ■ Pepperdine University ■ University of Pittsburgh ■ Princeton University ■ Providence College ■ Rice University ■ Sewanee: The University of the South ■ Villanova University ■ Virginia Tech ■ University of Virginia ■ Wake Forest University ■ Washington and Lee University ■ College of William and Mary

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The esteemed Cardinal Wuerl presided over the candidates for Confirmation on April 30. It was such an honor to welcome him to our parish.



"Fiddler on the Roof" opened to rave reviews on April 22 for a three-day run. Students from the fifth through eighth grades brought the classic play to the St. Mary's stage. A special thanks to Mrs. Beth Rodda and Mrs. Sara Berg who worked tirelessly to make this phenomenal production a reality.

You Know It's Spring If...

By Maureen Stiles

The calendar is crazier than the weather! We editors have the unenviable task of trying to wrap up all the wonderful things happening in our schools and parishes for this issue every year. So, to that end, I will attempt to do just that.

We celebrated our Annual Gala on April 9 with the theme Irish Blessings. And how blessed we are! The generosity of our parishioners and guests was astounding as we had another record breaking year. The highlight of the evening was a lively bidding war for rights to the street name in front of the Church as well as a house rental on the Emerald Isle itself.

Fathers got to take their best dates out for an evening at the Father-

Daughter Spring Fling April 15. Lots of dancing, treats and a picture memento made for a lovely evening for all.

The soggy weather didn't dampen spirits for Field Day May 4. Though relocated inside at school, the faculty and volunteers ensured that the games were just as lively. Even Father Chip got in the action and tried a few of the sports stations!

A year of hard work and practice paid off at the Spring Band and Choral Concert. The music ranged from classics to African pieces with drum accompaniment. The graduating members of the chorus sang a beautiful solo as their last performance.

One of our most beloved traditions, Grandparents Day, continued on May 6 as visitors came from

near and far to enjoy Mass, breakfast, entertainment and class tours with the students. It coincided with one of our most blessed days, May Crowning on Sunday the 8th. The children never looked more reverent then when laying flowers at the statue of our Blessed Mother and paying homage.

Lastly, a new tradition kicked off on the 9th with Moms and Muffins to extend Mother's Day a little longer (see pic below)

As the year hectic year winds down, there is still so much to celebrate with the Mustang Marathon Fundraiser, Choral Competition in Hershey Park, Annual Talent Show and, of course, graduation for our eighth graders.

Bring on the lazy days of summer!

OPT



Here a few of our First Communicants as they prepare for the May Procession. The second grade school students and CCD candidates received their First Holy Communion on Saturday the 7th in a beautiful Mass.



Mary Beth Mitchell, a St. Mary's Catholic School alumni, enjoys time with her four children at our first annual Muffins with Moms. The event was so popular we had to bring in more chairs to accommodate our guests!

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the **Class of 2016**

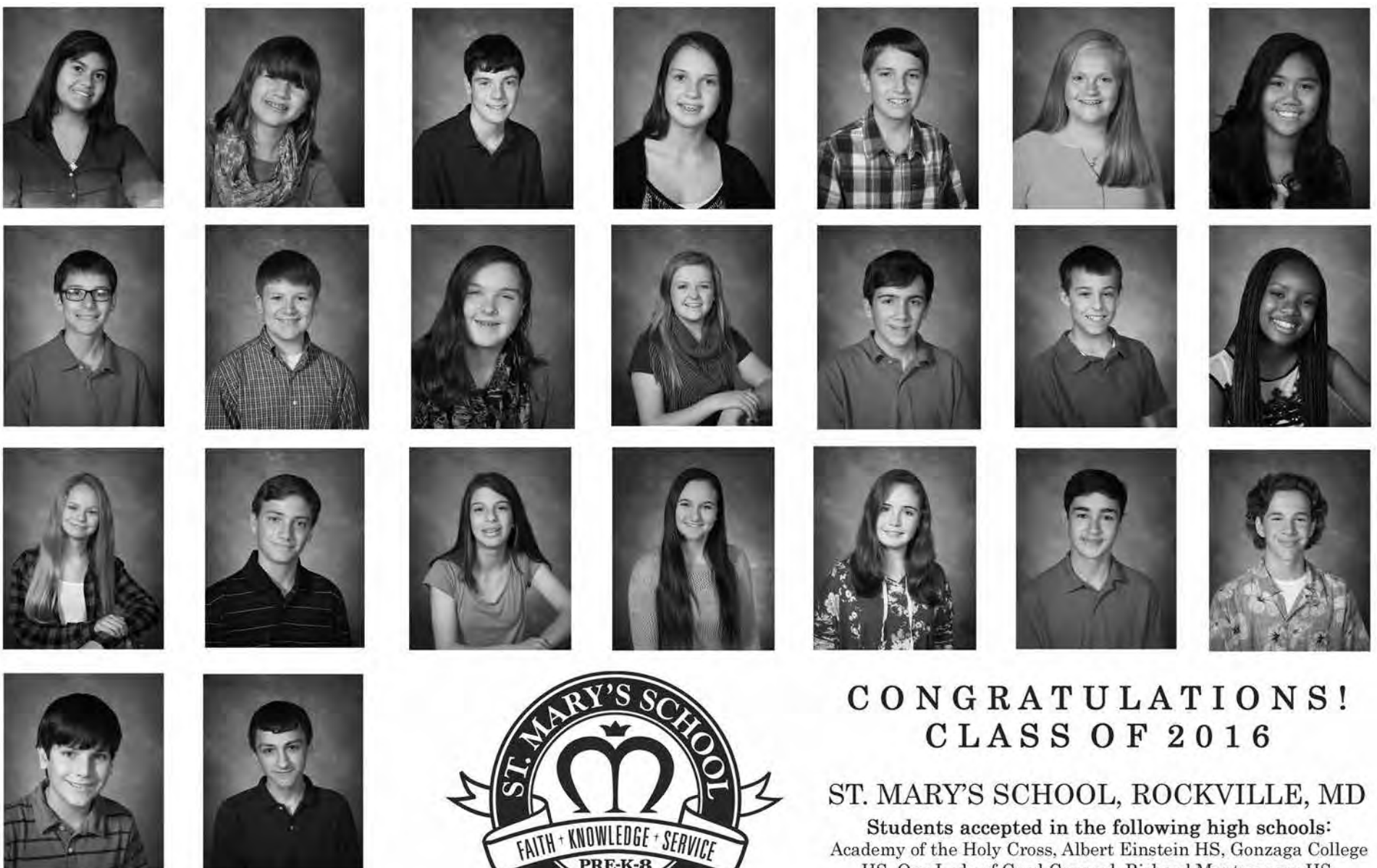
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CLASS OF 2016**

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Students accepted in the following high schools:
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HS, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Richard Montgomery HS,
Rockville HS, Sherwood HS, South River HS, St. John's Catholic
Preparatory HS, St. John's College HS, Walter Johnson HS

Joyfully Preparing for First Communion

The last few weeks of sacrament preparation for the First Communicants included some particularly joyful events. On April 16 the students and their parents attended a retreat during which they were led in Adoration by Father Dan Leary, made unleavened bread, made banners with symbols of their sacramental journey, and practiced the hymns for their First Communion mass. Both the children and the adults were very enthusiastic about the experience. The retreat was facilitated by parish priests, catechists and a number of parishioners who gladly volunteered their time in support of the program.

The First Communicants have been joined in their sacramental journey by Prayer Buddies from the St. Andrews Seniors Group. Since Reconciliation in early February, the students and their Senior buddies have exchanged several notes.



Congratulations and blessings to Saint Andrew's First Communion Class of 2016

The students wrote about what they were learning in their sacrament preparation, and the Seniors enthusiastically supported them, telling the children that they were regularly in their prayers. Both the children and the Seniors were very excited to receive their "mail"! On Friday May 6, the Seniors invited the First Communicants to their monthly breakfast where the buddies had a chance to meet. After serenading the seniors and enjoying donuts and

juice, the children received a small gift in remembrance of their First Communion.

On Saturday May 7, forty-three St. Andrew's children received First Holy Communion. It was a beautifully reverent celebration. In song the children prayed to become a "Sanctuary" for the Eucharist. Following the mass, the parish priests, Father Dan Leary and Father Bill Wadsworth conferred a blessed scapular on each Communicant. It

was another unforgettable step in their sacramental journey. The following day, the First Communicants were invited to return in their First Communion attire to participate in the Parish May Crowning. Through their preparation, receiving of the Sacrament, and participation in the parish celebration of Mary, these young Catholics have come to understand that they are an active part of the parish family.

OPT



First Communicants and Father Dan Leary honor Mary, Our Mother during the Parish May Crowning

She Makes Reading Exciting

In this world of technology, instilling in children a love of books and reading can be a challenge. For many years, St. Andrew's has been fortunate to have had an awesome librarian, Mrs. Lorraine Bentley, to help with the process. The "guest author visit" is just one example of her many contributions.

With a goal of exciting children about reading and writing by introducing them to the people who create books for them, Mrs. Bentley invited a local author to visit. Thanks to support from the parent's association, what began as an irregular occurrence in the 1990's, has become a much anticipated annual event.

There have been two book related events this school year. In February, Africa-American Master Storyteller, Baba Jamal, Koram, "The Story Man", visited the school and shared personal stories and traditional folktales with Grades 3,4, & 5 and then with Grades 6,7, and 8. The rhythmic sound and calm tone of his voice and the sharing of his own personal life experiences and favorite stories captivated his audience. The second event, this one for Grades K, 1, 2, & 3 was May 11. Henry Cole, now an author as well as an illustrator, made a second visit to St. Andrew's and talked about his newest books: Spot the Cat, The Somewhat True Adventures of Sammy Shine, Unspoken, Big Bug, and the process of both writing and illustrating a book.

As always, the children were excited about meeting both Mr. Koram and Mr. Cole. Their thoughtful questions were obvious proof of their interest in the books and folktales.

Although "retired", Mrs. Bentley continues to work one day a week to help us stay current and keep books alive. Thank you Mrs. Bentley!

OPT



Congratulations and blessings to Saint Andrew's Confirmation Class of 2016, confirmed by Bishop Martin Holley, April 16.

Parish Notes

The Spiritual Adoption Program began again the weekend of May 14/15. Parishioners, family and friends are encouraged to put love for new life into action by "spiritually adopting" a newly conceived baby who is in danger of being aborted. You may "adopt" a child individually or as a family and are simply asked to pray of him or her each day. Look for the pink and blue "pledge" cards in the pews and

in the Narthex. Then, check the bulletin weekly to follow the growth and development of your "adopted" child. When it's time for these precious babies to be born, near the Epiphany, there will be a celebratory baby shower.

The May bottle drive continues. Over three hundred baby bottles have been taken by parishioners, to be returned filled with spare change. One hundred percent of the proceeds will be used to support Centro Tepeyac's MetroStork Bus, a mobile unit offering free sonograms, pregnancy tests and counseling.

OPT

St. Andrew Apostle Parish

11600 Kemp Mill Road
Silver Spring, MD

Rev. Daniel P. Leary,
Pastor

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St. Andrew Apostle School

Susan M. Sheehan,
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Gabriella
Dorsey



Matthew
Dymowski



Erin
Freeman



Keara
Friel



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Lauren
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Ellie
Givens



Charles
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William
Griffith



Timothy
Hong



Philip
Hong

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Congratulates the Class of 2016

May God be with all of you on your paths to holiness



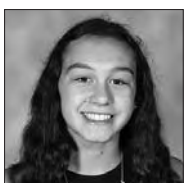
Calvin
Huisentrui



Brady
Kerrigan



Julia
Kokotakis



Lauren
Kosiorowski



Michael
Landis



Taylor
Leach



John
Macheras



George
Mack



Joseph
Martinez



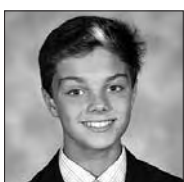
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McLaren



Payton
O'Keefe



Reilly
O'Leary



Carter
Ruppert



Olivia
Scuderi



Aidan
Shortley



Sarah
Small



Jack
Songer



Cierra
Touma



Michael
Wurz-Sardelis



Jack
Zaremba

It Wouldn't Be Summer Without Scamp

Mercy's week long summer day camp for about 40 children from a Washington school sponsored by the Archdiocese will take place from June 20 to June 24. SCAMP is a program that is loved by both the campers and the counselors and volunteers. Proof of

this is that this year is the twenty-seventh year that children will be treated to a week filled with activities and fun.

Donations of children's books are being collected at the Parish House. The SCAMP campers are very happy to get books to take home.

OPT

Memorial Day Mass

This year, a Memorial Day Mass will be held at St. Gabriel's Cemetery on Monday, May 30, 2016. The reading of names will begin at 9:00 AM. In case of inclement weather, the Mass will be held in the church at 9:00 AM. St. Gabriel's Church and Cemetery was

established by C&O Canal workers and their families. The church was abandoned sometime in the 1920's and burned down about 10 years later. A number of years after Our Lady of Mercy church was established, some parishioners began to be buried in the cemetery.

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Ms. Deborah Thomas, Principal
301-365-4477

Gerry Burgess, OPT Editor
301-330-5676

More Our Lady of Mercy News on Page 52 & 63

International Day Fun

By sixth-grade student writer Zoe Somerville

"Hola," "Bonjour," and "Hello!" This year Mercy's fifth-grade class was back at it again, celebrating the annual International Day. Every year this day is dedicated to better understanding other countries around the globe. For many weeks, this year's fifth grade students each focused on one country of choice and researched facts, like the country's history and geography. Christine Green, the students' home room teacher, collaborated with many other fifth-grade

teachers to offer the students an interdisciplinary approach to the project. After compiling a great deal of research, the students shared all that they had learned in the school's common room which they had transformed into the "Hall of Nations."

Students displayed their knowledge on tri-fold boards full of facts about each culture, such as the politics, sports, food, and languages. They dressed in the traditional clothing of their countries to further explain the information on their boards. At the end of the presentations, stu-

Continued on page 42



Fifth-grade students represented countries from all around the world at International Day



The Lannan family enjoying the Shrine

Our Lady of Mercy Pilgrims visit Holy Door, Shrine

By Anna LaNave

On April 30, Father Bill Byrne and 75 parishioners traveled to the Basilica of the Shrine of Immaculate Conception seeking the Jubilee of Mercy Plenary indulgence.

After leading the rosary on the bus, Father Bill said Mass at the Our Lady of Mercy altar in Our Lady of Rosary Chapel – in honor of St. Catherine's Feast Day on April 29.

Continued on page 55

Pastor
Rev. Bill Byrne

Our Lady of Mercy School Congratulates the Class of 2016

Principal
Mrs. Debbie Thomas

Students Earn 100% Acceptance to First Choice High Schools!



Top Row: Evan Ridgway, Andrew Gans, Michael Conlan, Drew Meadows, Annie Morris, Nina Vito, Olivia Castle, Charlie Ward

Middle Row: Erin Donohoe, Kylie Donatelli, Nora Gibson, Maggie Baker, Ellie Brewer, Rachel Illig, Alex Shallow, Santi Canedo, Henry Sullivan, Peter Phelan

Seated: Emma Horrigan, Mary-Kate Mulera, Gordon Kern, Claire Rhoa

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CLASS of 2016

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ChristLife Series to begin at St. Raphael in the fall of 2016

In January the Archdiocese of Washington gathered people from interested parishes for a one-day presentation on an evangelization program called **ChristLife**. Over the past 20 years, the ChristLife program has achieved great success in the Baltimore area and beyond. St. Raphael staff members attending the ADW presentation were convinced of the importance of an evangelization program and decided to purchase ChristLife for use in their parish. To prepare for the work of implementing the program, St. Raphael pastor, Rev. James P. Meyers, sent five people to the National ChristLife Training Conference held in late April. St. Raphael also applied for and received a



grant from the Archdiocese of Washington to implement this program.

So just what is ChristLife? ChristLife is a three-part series of gatherings (seven weeks each unit) that works to equip Catholics for the work of outreach and evangelization. The founders

developed the ChristLife Series to help all people discover, follow, and share Jesus Christ as members of the Catholic Church. People who have completed the series have experienced a deeper personal relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. They tell how the program has energized parishioners to become engaged in their parishes and serve them with great love.

St. Raphael is planning an Information Night for parishioners curious about the program. It is scheduled for Monday, May 23, 2016 at 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. in the Duffy Center at the parish. Additional organization and planning will occur throughout the summer to culminate with the launching of the ChristLife "Discovering Christ" unit starting in October. The remaining two units, "Following Christ" and "Sharing Christ," are scheduled for 2017.

If you are looking to provide your parish with a great program, visit the ChristLife website at www.ChristLife.org or contact Michael Owens, Coordinator of Evangelization, Archdiocese of Washington at 301-853-5347 or owensm@adw.org for additional information.

OPT

St. Raphael Parish
St. Raphael School
 1513 Dunster Road Rockville, MD
Rev. Jim Meyers, Pastor
 301-762-2143
Teri Dwyer, Principal
 301-762-2143
tdwyer@straphaels.org
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 301-762-2143
mjgarcia@straphaels.org
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Dedicated Sodality

An active Sodality is a blessing to any parish, and St. Raphael's is fortunate to have a very dedicated group of women. Sodality's mission is a devotion to Our Blessed Lady that manifests itself in personal holiness. The Sodality group at St. Raphael's takes this mission seriously, as evidenced in their various activities.

One group, in particular, that stands out is the Rosary Makers. They are the silent evangelizers of our parish who may not always get the recognition that they deserve. The Rosary Makers are a group of St. Raphael's

Continued on page 59



Sodality Prefect Janet Leonard-Walker (left) poses for a photo with Dr. Morrison (center) and Anna Derry, Spiritual Life Chairperson.

St. Raphael's Celebrates 50 Years in Faith

By Nina Cardillo

Celebrating 50 years in faith, St. Raphael Parish commemorated its milestone anniversary this month by reminiscing about past Masses and events, and giving thanks to the priests and people who support our church, school, and community, all while enjoying fellowship with one another and casino-style fun. Those who have gone home to the Lord or have

moved away were remembered with affection for the special ways they touched our community.

For new parishioners and lifelong members alike, as well as those who may have just passed through for a single occasion, it was evident that St. Raphael's has been a source of faith to countless people and families, enriched the events of our lives, and made for many wonderful memories over the last 50 years.

OPT

A Month of Sacraments and Honoring Mary

Helping our community grow in the riches of the sacraments, Bishop Martin Holley celebrated Confirmation Mass on May 1 as 128 members were sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit. In addition, over several Masses, 114 members received First Holy Communion.

St. Raphael's parish-wide May Procession was also held to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Holy Queen. First Communicants were invited to wear their Communion outfits to participate in the crowning of Our Lady. This St. Raphael

Continued on page 59

Congratulations, Class of 2016!



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Alexander Aubourg
 St. John's College H.S.

Antonio Baptista
 Our Lady of Good Counsel

Isabela Camp
 Georgetown Visitation

Ciara Culligan
 Richard Montgomery H.S.

Kaleigh Flood
 Our Lady of Good Counsel

Kathryn Gagolin
 Academy of the Holy Cross

Kathryn Henley
 Wootton H.S.

Brooke Hilliard
 Richard Montgomery H.S.

Ana Kaibni
 Academy of the Holy Cross

Robert Kearns
 Richard Montgomery H.S.

Theresa Kelly
 Academy of the Holy Cross

Brandon Lyne
 Our Lady of Good Counsel

Alison Manning
 Academy of the Holy Cross

Ryan McKee
 Our Lady of Good Counsel

Anastasia Micich
 Academy of the Holy Cross

Sophia Monte
 Richard Montgomery H.S.

Gabrielle Nerstheimer
 Brookewood School

Katherine Rose
 Academy of the Holy Cross

Gabriel Vasconcellos
 St. John's College H.S.



Congratulations to Georgetown Prep's Class of 2016



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Rev. Jerzy Frydrych, Pastor of Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish in Silver Spring, and parishioner Bozenna Buda met President Andrzej Duda of the Republic of Poland (center) at the Polish Embassy in Washington, DC, on March 30.



OLQP Pastor Rev. Jerzy Frydrych officiates at one of several blessings of the Easter food baskets throughout the day on Holy Saturday, March 26, 2016, at the parish in Silver Spring. This is an annual Polish tradition.



RIP Zofia Marczyńska (1925-2016). On May 7, 2016, parishioners and friends gathered at Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish, Silver Spring, MD, to bid farewell to the mother of parishioner Jacek Marczyński. OLQP Pastor Jerzy Frydrych was the celebrant of the funeral Mass. Mrs. Marczyńska, who graduated from Warsaw University Law School and served as Juvenile Court judge in Poland prior to her retirement, will be buried in Poland. May she rest in peace! Wieczny odpoczynek racz Jej dać Panie!

**Our Lady
Queen of Poland**
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Silver Spring, MD

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Bozenna Buda, OPT Editor
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Parish Feast Day and Picnic

By Bozenna Buda, ED

Despite the wet ground outside, our spirits were not dampened on Sunday, May 1, 2016. We celebrated the OLQP Parish Feastday, the 1050th anniversary of Poland's Christianity, and Polish Constitution Day of May 3, 1791.

During the commemorative Mass at Our Lady Queen of Poland & St. Maksymilian Kolbe Parish in Silver Spring, MD, celebrated by Pastor Jerzy Frydrych, we welcomed another relic to our parish. We now have the relics of St. John Paul II, St. Maksymilian Kolbe, and St. Faustyna Kowalska.

After Mass, everyone came to the parish hall for an indoor picnic. Five nuns, led by Sr. Sophia, from the Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matara (www.ssvmusa.org) from the Juniorate House of Studies in Washington, DC, were welcomed warmly into our midst. They are also big fans of St. John Paul II. They were very popular with all the parishioners.

OPT



At top, procession with the offertory gifts and the relics of St. Maksymilian Kolbe at Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish in Silver Spring on May 1.

At center, The Honor Guard at OLQP on May 1, 2016. Veterans Marian Mols and Edwarda Buda-Okreglak, MD, and scouts Klaudia Weidlich and Bozenna Buda stand near the picture and relics of St. John Paul II.

At left, The Sisters, Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matara, with their young OLQP fans, holding pictures of St. John Paul II, at Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish, Silver Spring, on May 1. Sr. Sophia is at the far right.



OLQP Polish Saturday School students recited poems for Mother's Day on May 8, at the parish. Pictured are Angela Giller, Sebastian Bilinski, David Khabiyev, Anna Khabiyev, Tomek Kolodziej, Virginia Giller, Oliver Bilinski. Not pictured is Aleksandra Bilinski, who sang a beautiful song.

FUN DAY

Con't from page 38

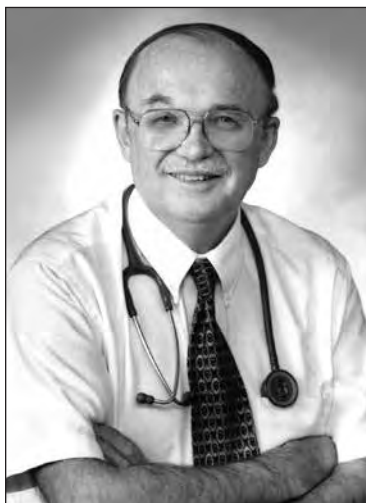
dents sent visitors on their way with fact sheets to help them remember all that they had learned. Finally, when the crowds died down, the fifth graders sat around a table together and enjoyed traditional dishes from all of the countries

they had studied. This year students savored dishes like Chinese orange chicken, homemade pita bread, creme brulee, pizzelles, Filipino sponge cake, and many more exotic specialties.

Students, teachers, and parents all loved International Day because they gained knowledge about many countries and their respective cultures. People enjoyed their time as

they admired all the students' hard work. They opened their imaginations to traveling all over the globe, to countries they had never heard of, and to countries they would love to know better. All participants enjoyed this amazing International Day, and they can't wait for it to come again.

OPT



Ralph M. Coan, M.D., RIP

Our Lady of Lourdes parish and school community was saddened to learn of the death of Ralph M. Coan, M.D., on April 19 at his home in Kensington.

Dr. Coan was a parishioner of Our Lady of Lourdes in Bethesda since 1973 and the husband of Jessica Coan, current DRE at OLOL. All five of their children are graduates of OLOL School.

He served on the Parish Council countless times, ran the Track & Field program, started the Sunday night meal for the homeless, among many other wonderful things he did for the parish.

May he rest in peace.

OPT

Lourdes on the Run

This year, the third through eighth grade ladies at Lourdes participated in our inaugural season of Lourdes on the Run. Led by teachers - Ms. McGann, Ms. Jakovics, Ms. Skelly, Ms. Sheehey, and Mrs. Maurer, a group of thirty girls trained for our annual 5k fundraiser: the Lions' Roar.

Through the wind, rain, cold, and occasional sun, we ran sprints, long distances, and relays on the nearby Capital Crescent Trail. The girls built both their endurance and confidence, and each run was made more fun with lots of cheering and high-fives. We finished off our season with T-shirt-making and relay contests—leap frog, speed-walking, wheelbarrow races, crab walks, skipping, and, of course, running.

We ran our 5k on Saturday, April 23, and the girls were all smiles despite a rainy morning. All teachers and students involved in Lourdes on the Run had a blast, and we can't wait to do it again next year. Lourdes on the Run is SO much fun!

OPT



Students and teachers of Lourdes on the Run

Project-Based Learning at Our Lady of Lourdes

Nature Theme (K-3)

Students in grades kindergarten to third grade at Our Lady of Lourdes School in Bethesda, MD have spent the past several months participating in a Project Based Learning program based on nature. This project is a three pronged program centered around an environmental theme with a focus on plant life, recycling, and natural habitats. The goal of the Project Based Learning is to expose and educate students on the importance of nature in our daily lives.

For the first unit, students learned about the importance of growing their own plants. Each grade planted a class pizza garden. All of the students helped to plant basil, tomatoes, oregano, and parsley in the garden. Students learned about not only the needs of a plant, but also the process and responsibility of growing a healthy plant. In addition, the students learned about the parts of a plant and the plant life-cycle. They especially enjoyed getting their hands dirty in the soil! We are looking forward to making our plants into a pizzas!

To celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd, students learned about one of the most beneficial things they can do to help keep God's world beautiful; recycling! Students learned

about what types of materials are recyclable, and they had the opportunity to see recycling in action when they visited the Montgomery County Recycling Center in Derwood, MD. While visiting the center, students were able to get a firsthand look at the recycling process from start to finish.

For the final unit, students are beginning to learn about different animal habitats around the world. The students are learning about each habitat, the characteristics of each, and about the animals that live there. The students will also spend time learning about the adaptations of different plants and animals that allow them to survive and thrive in their habitats. In a few weeks, we are planning to take a trip to Locust Grove Nature Center to have a hands-on experience and delve into the world of habitats. It should be fun, educational, and memorable. The students are learning to not only enjoy nature, but to appreciate it too!

OPT

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

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Bethesda, MD

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Patricia Kilroy McGann, Principal
301-654-5376

More Our Lady of Lourdes News on Page XX



OUR LADY OF LOURDES SCHOOL

Congratulations Class of 2016 Graduates

Patricia McGann, *Principal* • Rev. Msgr. Edward Filardi, *Pastor*

7500 Pearl Street
Bethesda, MD 20814
301-654-5376



Quincy Allen

Undecided

"Don't wish for it, work for it."



Finn Anderson

DeMatha High School

"Don't go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."



Tyler Collins

DeMatha High School

"Some people want it to happen, some people wish it would happen, others make it happen."



Mencia de la Torre Linan

Nuestra Señora del Recuerdo

"Laziness may appear attractive, but work gives satisfaction."



Kalaya de Leon

The Academy of the Holy Cross

"The difference between ordinary and extraordinary is that little extra."



Miller Dunbar

Boulder High School

"Nothing is impossible, the word itself says, 'I'm possible!'"



Rafael Espina

Wooten High School

"Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard."



Sasha Franco-Carmona

The Academy of the Holy Cross

"If you're not doing what you love, you're wasting your time."



Justin Fronda

Gonzaga College High School

"A person who never made a mistake never tried anything new."



Heidi Guevara

Connelly School of the Holy Child

"How lucky am I to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard."



Jocelyn Hamilton

The Academy of the Holy Cross

"Art does not exist only to entertain, but also to challenge one to think, to provoke, even to disturb, in a constant search for the truth."



Bea Ieronimo

Our Lady of Good Counsel

"No matter what anybody tells you, words and ideas can change the world."



Grayson Joyner

DeMatha High School

"I never lose, either I win or learn."



David Koffi

Georgetown Preparatory High School

"The greatest pleasure in life is doing what people say you cannot do."



Henry McInerney

Walt Whitman High School

"Life is a journey, not a destination."



Chloe McLean

Connelly School of the Holy Child

"People don't do anything until they are inspired, but once they are inspired there is almost nothing they can't do."



Kathleen Monahan

Bethesda Chevy Chase High School

"Success is not final; failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts."



Antonella Nicolacci

St. John's College High School

"There is no pressure when you're making a dream come true."



Jennifer Palma

Undecided

"Everyone wants happiness, no one wants pain, but you can't have a rainbow without a little rain."



Lauren Pels

Georgetown Visitation Preparatory High School

"He who is not courageous enough to take risks will accomplish nothing in life."



Brendan Quinn

St. John's College High School

"You miss 100% of the shots you don't take."



Adrianna Robinson

Connelly School of the Holy Child

"Do small things, with great love."



Cristian Rodas

Archbishop Carroll High School

"It is because we are all different, with different capabilities and identities that we are all unique. This is what makes us special, and this world a special place to live."



Martin Stan

Bethesda Chevy Chase High School

"During my seven years at Our Lady of Lourdes, I had great teachers. It's not only the teachers who make a school great, but also the students."



Aimee Sunnier

Rockville High School

"What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."



Alyssa Vetter

Academy of the Holy Cross

"We are shaped by our thoughts; we become what we think. When the mind is pure, joy follows like a shadow that never leaves."



Max Walsh

The Heights

"If we ever forget that we are 'One Nation Under God', then we will be a nation gone under."

Solo in 1986 Movie

Annick said she went to the Grammys twice with them and sang a solo in the 1986 movie “Belizaire the Cajun,” for which BeauSoleil did a lot of the music. The movie, which was screened at the 1986 Cannes Film Festival, chronicles the story of a village healer in Acadiana, La., in 1859, who becomes entangled in a violent conflict between Cajuns and the new Anglophone arrivals to southwest Louisiana.

In addition to winning Grammys in 1998) and in 2010, BeauSoleil has 12 Grammy nominations, the latest being their 2009 release “Alligator Purse.” They are regular guests on Garrison Keillor’s “A Prairie Home Companion,” where Keillor has dubbed them as “the best Cajun band in the world.” The enthusiastic crowd at Resurrection certainly seemed to agree.

As for including BeauSoleil in the concert series, Annick says: “The culture of French Louisiana is very important and should be preserved, particularly the language and the music of this group of people who traveled hundreds of miles to find a place where they could settle and preserve their heritage. I have lived in Louisiana for a number of years and would love to share that wonderful culture with those who attend our concerts.”

Although he is fascinated by music of all kinds, Michael Doucet “is defined by his deep connection with, and dedication to, the music of the sacred French-Cajun culture,” she added.

The next concert in the Resurrection series, scheduled at 4 p.m. May 22, will be “Music of the Greatest Generation,” featuring songs from the 1940s and afterward. A highlight of last’s year’s show was the Singing Nuns of Resurrection.

OPT



Msgr. Kazista Celebrates—Twice

Monsignor Francis G. Kazista, a retired pastor who has served at Resurrection Church the past several years, celebrated his 80th birthday recently. (Father William Brailsford, left, was among the well-wishers at the party.) Another big celebration will be held May 22 in the parish’s Amadeo Room to mark the 50th anniversary of Msgr’s Kazista’s ordination as a priest. A native of Old Forge, Pa., and a U.S. Army veteran, Kazista was ordained in 1966 as a priest for the Diocese of Scranton, Pa. He then taught at a seminary in California for three years and at St. Mary School of Theology in Baltimore for one year. Prior to his retirement, he was pastor for 24 years at St. John the Baptist Parish in Silver Spring. In the Washington Archdiocese, he also has served at Holy Spirit Parish in Forestville, St. Hugh of Grenoble Parish in Greenbelt and as pastor at St. James Parish in Mount Rainier.

OPT



The initial “Resurrection’s Got Talent” show featured 11 acts in four performing categories, including the Holy Trinity Choir in the Over-20 category and a 3-year-old singer-dancer in the youngest category. Photo by John Small

‘Resurrection’s Got Talent’ on the Rise

Perhaps dreaming of starring on a bigger stage or television, a number of performers did their best to impress the audience (and the judges) in the inaugural “Resurrection’s Got Talent” show on May 7.

As host of the show, Bill Ratcliffe of the sponsoring Knights of Columbus Council 9808 did his best to imitate Nick Cannon of the popular reality TV show “America’s Got Talent.”

And although their TV careers may be a few years down the road, the winners in the four performing categories each received a well-deserved \$50 cash prize for their crowd-pleasing efforts.

The youngest winners (in the 3-to-6 year-old category) were Brinly and Harper Hornbostel, with guest star Weston Ratcliffe rounding out the talented trio of singer-dancers.

Continued on page 61

Choir Director Stars in BeauSoleil Performance

By John Small

The April 3 performance in the Living Arts Concert Series at Resurrection Church featured by far its most famous act yet – the esteemed Cajun group BeauSoleil of Louisiana.

Not only that, but the two-time Grammy-award winning band had as its “guest star” the Resurrection music director, Annick Kanter-St. Hubert, whose connection to the group actually goes back to the late 1970s. At the Resurrection concert, she sang four songs in French, to the delight of the crowd of nearly 300 attending the event.

Continued on page 61



Resurrection music director Annick Kanter-St. Hubert stole the show with her guest performance April 3 with Cajun band BeauSoleil, a Louisiana group she started singing with in the 1970s. — Photo by John Small

35 Receive First Communion at Resurrection

Nearly three dozen youngsters received their first communion at Resurrection Church, all but two of them at a special mass celebrated Saturday, April 30.

One youngster, Kassandra Pougoum, was baptized and took first communion a month earlier on March 26. Another, Agnes Tankoua, was baptized and took first communion on April 23.

Thirty-three others received their first communion at the April 30 mass. They are:



Thirty-five youngsters received their first communion at Resurrection Church during masses in March and April. Photo by Edward J. Kelly

Church of the Resurrection Parish

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Parish Editor, John Small
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**More Resurrection News
on Page 61**

Chisom Abii, Stephanie Agbonhese, Kamilah Aguilera, Ean Ayuk, Sylvester Basondole, Nicole Blow, Alisara Chitvaranund, Alvin Dedegbe, Grace Dedegbe, Shelby Djeuga, Raoul Edwards, Michael-Tedy Fonju, Garviel Garraway and Isabella Giang.

Also, Caroline Goodman, Fallon Gyapong,

Continued on page 61

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Students enjoy hosting their grandparents during St. Martin's School's annual Grandparents Day celebration. Grandparents enjoyed a brunch, visits to their grandchildren's classrooms, and a school mass. Photo courtesy of St. Martin's School

Mrs. Redmond invited to discussion with U.S. Secretary for Education

By Anne Gemunder

On March 14, St. Martin's middle school teacher Helene Redmond, along with thirteen teachers from across the United States, was invited to a tea-time conversation with Secretary of Education John B. King, Jr. to discuss the need to create safe spaces for students in our country's schools. As part of Secretary King's priority to support educa-

tors, he took the opportunity to listen to teacher's first-hand accounts about situations of student discrimination, needed supports to promote equity for all students, and strategies practiced to elevate student learning, accessibility, and college readiness. Through the discussion, teachers gained insight into student needs and learned about successful programs in place in other districts.

Mrs. Redmond, as a middle school teacher from St. Martin's,

represented Catholic Schools. She spoke about the cultural and economic diversity in Catholic Schools and programs in place to support the educational and social needs of this diverse community. Mrs. Redmond highlighted grants St. Martin's has in place to provide after-school academic support and art and STEM enrichment opportunities. These supports allow students to be successful in school and to discover new talents and experiences.

Following the tea, teachers continued the discussion in a Twitter chat about access, affordability, and completion of higher education.

OPT



Eighth grade teacher, Helene Redmond, participates in a teatime conversation with Secretary of Education John King, Jr. Mrs. Redmond represented Catholic Schools among the group of teachers. Photo courtesy of U.S. Department of Education

More St. Martin of Tours News on Page 55



Bishop Holley anoints a student during Confirmation at St. Martin's Church. Photo courtesy of Carlos Monzon.

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St. Martin of Tours School *Class of 2016*



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Caroline Crown
Elizabeth Walsh

Clarksburg High School

Jessica Brown

Gaithersburg High School

Faith Antonetti
Bella Gonzales

Georgetown Prep School

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Felix Mediavilla

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Isaac Cooksey
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Undecided

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Cattleya Nora
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115 S. Frederick Ave. Gaithersburg, MD 20877

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Phone: 301-990-2441



Confirmation

St. John the Evangelist Confirmation candidates with Bishop Barry Knestout and Bishop Joseph Osei-Bonsu, visiting from Ghana.

American Legion Auxiliary Essay Contest

The Silver Spring Women's American Legion Auxiliary sponsored an essay contest on what Abraham Lincoln meant when he said we are to care "for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan." Fifth graders Maddie Hoefling, Mary Grace Hathway, and Nora Torp took the top three prizes in their age category. Seventh grader Eamon Lalley was awarded first place and received a second-place award at the district level. They are pictured here with Auxiliary officers and SJE English teachers Anna Davitt and Emily Pacconi.



St. John the Evangelist Parish

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Rev. Joseph Calis, Pastor

St. John the Evangelist School
Mrs. Margaret Durney, Principal
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An Award-Winning Tea

By Maura Mockeridge and Caroline Hathway

One of the many awards a Girl Scout can earn is the Silver Award. It is the second highest award for a Girl Scout in the United States and is the highest award possible for a Cadette. So, last spring, we decided to organize the Brownie Troop's Senior Tea for our parish, which has been held annually for 16 years. We are so glad that we got to share what we did as Brownies with the younger girls. We taught the girls songs, made posters with them, and taught them how to properly host a tea.

The tea was a great success! There was a huge turnout, and everybody thoroughly enjoyed themselves. We hope that the girls learned many skills. We learned the skills of leadership and responsibility, and that no matter what age, people love to chat (that's how we knew the seniors and brownies would hit it off). Our hope is that we helped lead the tea and taught the Brownies social skills that represent the Girl Scouts of America.



Caroline Hathway and Maura Mockeridge with three of the SJE Brownie scouts preparing for the Senior Tea

OPT

Lessons of a First-Year Principal

By Margaret Durney

The children in my school are not the only ones who have grown this year. As my first year as principal rapidly comes to a close, I look back at all the lessons I have learned, and those who have been my teachers.

When I became the principal at St. John the Evangelist School, I began to understand the importance of a solid foundation—academically, financially, spiritually. I had the good fortune of succeeding Sister Kathleen Lannak who had nurtured the school for 35 years. With a rock solid base, I have learned to take the time to observe, evaluate, and reflect. Now we are ready to take those important steps to move the school forward.

I have learned how important it is to have a partner in my pastor. Father Joseph Calis is the school's biggest fan and my sounding board. It is invaluable to be able to share ideas, concerns, and hopes with someone whose vision and goals I share.

I have learned that teachers inspire teachers. This becomes crystal clear when one has a collaborative staff that is open to new ideas. New, enthusiastic teachers and knowledgeable, experienced teachers make a powerful combination.

I have learned that multiple heads are better than one, and the Archdiocese



Principal Durney surrounded by many of the school children who shared her journey of learning.

of Washington's Catholic Schools Office offers lots of brainpower! Being able to tap into additional perspectives and resources allows you to make better, more informed decisions. And fellow principals are your allies on the front line.

I have learned that parents not only offer valuable perspectives but they also provide the necessary extra manpower to help the school run smoothly. They demand the best for their children, which is exactly what the teachers want to deliver.

I have learned that parish members provide a wealth of experience to the school. When I needed extra math tutors, parishioners filled the bill. When I needed additional lunch and playground supervision, parishioners were there for me. But perhaps the most valuable contribution the parishioners make is the relationships they foster with our students. The children light up when

they see these good friends at school and delight in meeting them at church on Sunday.

With parents, faculty, and parish working together to move the school forward, we certainly have a winning strategy. However, the most important lesson I have learned is that the children are the best teachers. When I am low on energy, a trip to the Kindergarten class reenergizes me. When my spirit is uninspired, my third graders' pure celebration of God's love renews me. When I wonder if we are providing our students with the tools they will need, I listen to my eighth graders integrate and synthesize their learning to solve new problems.

This year has been a journey, obviously with its ups and downs, but I have learned that God will provide the people I need to ensure the school's success, and for this, I have learned to be grateful.

OPT

My Baptism on Holy Saturday Night: A Magical Experience

By Robyn Fobouo

At 15 years of age, I am not the typical baptismal candidate. Yet on Holy Saturday Night, I eagerly waited to receive the 3 sacraments of initiation, with my mother and sister sitting right by my side. It was with them that I had begun my journey as a Christian, and with them that I would be accepted into the Catholic Church.

The night began with The Service of Light, where the crackling fire and the soft voice of Father Calis had hushed the crowd standing outside of the church. The smell of incense tickled my nose, and the chilly air chipped away at my jacket. I was incredibly aware of my surroundings—my senses heightened by the beauty and surrealistic atmosphere of the service.

While the congregation filed back into the church, those receiving sacraments dutifully followed Sister Roberta, assembling into the formation we had practiced earlier in the day. Walking down the aisle filled me with excitement, the flickering candles forming a warm glow that calmed my nerves. The Liturgy of the Word began promptly and the soft voice of the reader combined with the lovely music, lulled



Robyn, Erin, and their mother, Sally with Fr. Calis at the reception following the Easter Vigil and Sacraments of Initiation

me into a half-stupor, broken only when it came time for my baptism.

I stood with my family, a term that had grown to include Nene and Monica, the respective godmothers of my sister Erin and me. We knelt for some time on the altar steps, and I could feel my heart pounding with every breath. When it came time to stand, we did, with our sponsors following right behind. When I felt the water touch my face, I knew that I had been cleansed of all my sins, and the feeling was

incredible. We all received a "Scarf" embroidered with our Christian names. The scarf would receive the falling drops of water from our necks and hair.

With the baptismal ceremony came the renewal of Baptismal Promises. This was one of my favorite parts of the mass, for it included the entire church. The sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist came soon after and I received both. During the presentation of the gifts, I walked up the aisle a second time to deliver the bread and wine to Father Calis with Erin and Diana, who had been a recipient of baptism as well. After the congregation received Holy Communion, the final blessing was bestowed, and the Mass was concluded.

There was a reception afterwards, and I received many well wishes from very kind people. I received many gifts as well, and so I must thank my teacher Mrs. Jardeleza, Sister Roberta, my amazing godmother Monica, and Nene. I would also like to thank my mother, who wanted this for my sister and me so very much. I am very excited to continue my spiritual journey with Christ by my side.

OPT



Kindergartners Have Lunch with the Pastor

One class at a time, Father Joseph Calis invited the school children into his home for a tour and lunch. After showing them where he lived, Father's tour ended with lunch and Father's famous basket of treats. Father asks the children if they had any questions—and they had lots and lots!



The Catholic Business Network (CBN) Scholarship

CBN invited students to write about someone they knew who lived out the words of Pope Francis of how faith is shown through small daily acts of God's loving spirit. Writing about her former principal, Sr. Kathleen Lannak, Teresa Knestout captured the essence of Sr. Kathleen, and won a \$1500 scholarship. Teresa is pictured with her mom at the CBN luncheon where the scholarship was presented to the winners.



S. Andreas
Einstein HS



M. Bayeh
St. Vincent Pallotti HS



N. Boursiquot
Northwood HS



E. Bruckwick
Georgetown Visitation



C. Bundi
DeMatha HS



A. Campbell
Georgetown Visitation



B. Campion
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Holy Cross HS



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St. John's HS



C. Garagusi
Gonzaga HS



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Miss Emily Pacconi, Eighth Grade Teacher
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H. Hoang
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Undecided



Colella Digital



K. James
St. John's HS



T. Knestout
St. John's HS



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C. Larios
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N. Niglio
Good Counsel HS



M. Phan
Holy Cross HS



V. Vestergaard Mursal
Nora Prep HS



E. Williams
DeMatha HS



B. Zajac
Good Counsel HS

Hawaiian Splendor Yields Fundraising Success



Fourth-Grade Parents Enjoying Hawaiian Splendor



Parents learn hula moves

“Who doesn’t like fruity drinks, coconuts and hula skirts!” This question from Jennifer Hazleton, Co-Chair of SJB’s Spring Gala, sums up the approach to Hawaiian Splendor, this year’s gala theme. This year’s gala, held on April 16th, was a huge success. The gala exceeding its fundraising goal to exceed last year’s gala which raised \$34,000. The event raised over \$47,000. The money raised will be used for need based scholarships and to purchase science kits for grades K-4.

Parent Vivian Diokno co-chaired the gala with Mrs. Hazleton, another SJB parent. They partnered with other parents, Kelly Brown and Carmen Jenkins, who co-chaired the auction portion of the fundraiser. Mr. Damon Smith acted as the Master of Ceremonies. Mrs. Hazleton says she loves event planning and helping the school, so acting as a co-char is “a no brainer”.

The auction portion of the fundraiser is run on line in the weeks leading up to the event and then live during the gala. Certain items are reserved for live bidding only. This year the live auction featured a professional auction caller. In addition to the talents of a pro-



SJB moms say 'aloha'

fessional auctioneer, the gala also welcomed a troupe of Hawaiian dancers who performed traditional dances and taught dance techniques to gala attendees. As Mrs. Hazleton explained, “We want the Gala to appeal to the parents and staff at SJB while raising money for the causes that are designated. And we want people to have fun!”

“I am still in awe at the generosity of so many SJB parents. Between giving their time, their talent or raising a paddle to donate money, Saint John the Baptist has an amazing

community!” Mrs. Hazleton sums up the fundraiser perfectly! **OPT**



Third-Grade dads Anthony Ribas and Damon Smith at the gala



SJB parents Marianela Peralta and Ed McCormack

FESTIVAL

Con't from page 8

declared Fr. Stan’s homily, on the power of the Word, their favorite part of the Arts Festival.

The Arts Festival kicked off on Sunday May 1, with a delightful performance of *La Fille Mal Gardée* by Ballet Petite. In 2005, teacher Mary Del Bianco established the Arts Festival as a way of giving students a deeper art making experience than the weekly 40-minute Art class allows. The Arts Festival brings local artists, musicians, and volunteers to the school for a variety of hands-on workshops. Students explore the fine arts, dance, music, and even

martial and culinary arts over a two-day period focused solely on the Arts.

The Festival is organized around three elements: a Catholic value, a core subject area, and the designation of a corresponding Catholic organization as the beneficiary of a small fundraising effort. This year’s theme, *the power of the Word*, explored communication, the literary arts, and theater. Fr. Stan Fortuna’s eloquence and talents as a musician and songwriter were brought into play when middle school students participated in his workshops titled *Jazz and The Art of Improvisation* and *Songwriting*. The entire student body was treated to a short performance at the close of day that featured the rap song written and composed by the fifth

graders, titled *Cheese*, accompanied by Fr. Stan Fortuna on bass guitar, and guest musician Con Foley on drums. Students raised money for the *Mustard Seed Communities*, an organizations dedicated to caring for the most vulnerable, especially those with disabilities.

Thursday morning guests Delaney Dunigan and Peter Mullins, two amazing young people out to help change how the world views and treats people with disabilities through the program *Spread the Word* addressed the student body. They challenged students to always treat people with disabilities respectfully.

Middle school students then tried their hand at Calligraphy, hand typography, woodworking, word pointillism and word art. Lower

school students created puppet theaters using Aesop’s fables, creation stories from the Pacific Islands, and fairy tales from around the world as a starting point. They wrote Haiku poems, made letter sculptures, created patriotic cards for American troops overseas, and fashioned prayer ribbons in honor of the crowning of our statue of the Blessed Mother. Students also learned a Marian song in sign language.

The school day closed with Holy Redeemer alum Sean Gaiser, owner of GIGS (Gaiser Insider Guitar Studio) performing for the entire school. He invited GIGS-and-Holy Redeemer-students Elizabeth Clarke, Nick Bruno, and Meghan Toner, among others, to share their talents on stage with him.

The Arts Festival capped off with Gallery Night, an opportunity for families to view the artwork created throughout the Festival. Food trucks made it an easy night out for moms who graciously volunteered at school over the past two days. The night concluded with a lively vocal performance by music teacher Kristin Brown’s Honors choir.

At closing, the Holy Redeemer community took the opportunity to thank parent chair Mrs. Sheila Dinn, graduating out, and teacher Mary Del Bianco, retiring, at the end of this academic year, for their joyful and selfless contributions that make the Arts Festival one of the crowing jewels of Holy Redeemer.

Creative Approach Honors Teacher

What do a talking book, 54 singing and dancing opera patrons and a 10x25ft plastic drop cloth all have in common? They were all important pieces of this year's spring musical at St John the Baptist School. Historically, the spring musical has been directed by Erin Tervo, an SJB teacher whose sudden death in the fall left a huge hole in the heart of SJB. To honor Mrs. Tervo, the school decided to develop a new musical that tied together many of her previous programs.

To combine a variety of past musicals (Annie, Beauty and the Beast, Phantom of the Opera, Pocahontas, Wizard of Oz, Cinderella, Oliver, and Aladdin), Mrs. Esco Williams, this year's director and SJB's Music Teacher, thought "that having a talking book as the central character would be fun". A good friend of Mrs. Williams, Ms Jean Barile, helped her write the script. They started work in January and finished in March. Mrs. Williams was pleased that "the student chosen to play the part of the talking book, really embraced her role".

Combining so many stories into a central play "called for some creative thinking to figure out an efficient way to change sets with a limited amount of space backstage to store scenery" according to Chrissy Leishear, SJB's Art Teacher and Set Designer. Into the Book

Continued on page 59



The cast of Oliver



"Be Our Guest" with Beauty and the Beast



"It's a Hard Knock Life" for Annie at SJB



Main characters from SJB's "Into the Book"

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2016
WE ARE SO PROUD OF ALL YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Good luck in achieving your goals in the next 4 years!

<p><i>Elizabeth Ann Seaton</i> <i>Academy of the Holy Cross</i> <i>James H. Blake</i> <i>DeMatha Catholic</i></p>	<p><i>Georgetown Preparatory</i> <i>Gonzaga</i> <i>Loyola Blakefield</i> <i>Mt. de Sales Academy</i> <i>Our Lady of Good Counsel</i></p>	<p><i>St. John's College HS</i> <i>Sidwell Friends</i> <i>Springbrook</i></p>
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Spring Gala a Success

Thank you to Hilary Bednarz, Development Director, and her team of volunteers for a wonderful Night in Black and White Gala to support St. Bernadette Parish School. Pictured from Left to Right: Mr. and Mrs. Rodriguez, Monsignor K. B. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Ewanciw and Mr. and Mrs. Sloan



National Math Champs

Congratulations to our Algebra I team who took 1st Place in the National Catholic Math League Competition Division 5, and 2nd Place overall in the Nation out of 108 schools. They are Champions! We are so proud of our math students and program! Out of 1,394 students in Catholic Schools around our nation, Ryan and Grace tied for 7th, Tommy received 12th place and Fiona placed 138th. Congratulations!! Thank you to our great teacher, Mr. Glass! Pictured from left to right: Cheri Wood, Principal, Mr. Glass, Fiona Sheridan, Grace Milller, Tommy Hodgkins, Ryan Luetjen, and Mr. Ewanciw, Assistant Principal

St Bernadette First Communion

Congratulations and blessings to our First Communicants from St. Bernadette Parish and School. Thank you to all that prepared them for this sacrament. It was a beautiful ceremony filled with joy and grace.



St. Bernadette Parish

70 University Blvd., East
Silver Spring, MD

Rev. Msgr. K.
Bartholomew Smith
Pastor

301-593-0357

St. Bernadette School
Mrs. Cheri Wood, Principal
301-593-5611

SHORT

Con't from page 1

educating the future members of our Church.

We honor those who are retiring from parish service. I want to especially note the retirement of my pastor, Msgr. John MacFarlane from St Elizabeth's. During fifty years as a priest, Fr Jack established Resurrection Parish in Burtonsville and for twenty five years has served as the inspiring shepherd of St Elizabeth's where he established a successful grade school, large religious education ministry, an array of social concerns ministries with special emphases on Haiti, the poor in Langley Park and isolated elderly people and a network of inspiring homilists at Sunday Mass. He assures us that while he will no longer lead a parish, he will remain active as a local priest. We wish him health and joy and much golf in his richly deserved "semi-retirement".

May is dedicated to mothers. St Ann's Center for Children and

Families in Hyattsville (formally St Ann's Infant and Maternity Center) celebrates the month by holding its annual awards gala, **Hope Blossoms**. St Ann's is named for Ann the mother of Mary. It was another wonderful event this year honoring Monica and John Thompson III with the Mary McGrory Award for their efforts assisting needy children. Sharon von Pollaro, founder of Urban Petals, was honored with the Michelle Heidegger Award. Urban Petals provides therapeutic flower arranging workshops at area women's shelters, USO Warrior and Family Centers, and organizations serving homeless youth, including St. Ann's Center. The high light of the evening came from Ebony, a former St Ann's resident. Being a mother is hard; being a single mother is harder; being a single mother of twin boys is hardest. Ebony spoke of her experience at St Ann's beginning in 1995. She was an unmarried pregnant young woman rejected by friends and family with no place to turn. She happened upon St. Ann's where she was assisted by her "angels". After giving birth to healthy twins while

at St Ann's, Ebony finished school, received counseling and career guidance and help finding her own home. Today she is an independent woman, proud of her two sons serving in the military. A humble story from a brave young mother.

Devotion to our Blessed Mother Mary has diminished in recent decades. Seems that while much good came out of Vatican II in the nineteen-sixties, the historically profound devotion of Catholics for Mary diminished during this reform period. Mary's mystical, historic and spiritual roles apparently worried some who were concerned that she was becoming too prominent a figure (talk about a "glass ceiling"!). I was heartened by Pope Francis on the Feast of the Solemnity of Mary as he reflected on the lines of an old hymn: "Hail Mother of mercy, Mother of God, Mother of forgiveness, Mother of hope, Mother of grace and Mother full of holy gladness" and he said, "In these few words, we find a summary of the faith of generations of men and women who, with their eyes fixed firmly on the icon of the Blessed Virgin, have sought her

intercession and consolation..."

Mary's month may be a good time to reflect on the role of Mary in our own spirituality. An inspiring place to begin is reading the Litany of Mary (<http://campus.udayton.edu/mary/prayers/bvm.html>). Here we find an articulation of human virtues worthy of emulation. Or connect with Mary in more modern terms, as a strong woman who crossed a vast desert while nine months pregnant; who was a successful single mother to a likely precocious son; who courageously witnessed the most unimaginable suffering and death of her son at the foot of the cross; a paragon of faith saying yes to an angel making an incomprehensible request to her on behalf of an unseen God.























































There's something about Mary. Beyond being venerated by Christians, she is admired by millions of non-Christians. Mary, the mother of Jesus, is the only woman named in the Muslim Quran, in which she is venerated fifteen times. The Prophet Mohammed names Mary as one of the "four spiritually perfected women of the world..."

who will lead the souls of blessed women to Paradise". In India, where only about two percent of the population is Christian, millions of Hindus venerate Mary for her motherly tenderness and nurturing qualities. As in the Muslim world, there are many Marian shrines at which Hindus and Christians pray to Mary for intervention and miracles. In the Jewish tradition, Mary's humanity is most featured. She is portrayed as a strong first century Jewish woman asserting herself as a disciple of the rebellious Jesus. No woman in history has achieved such universal respect.

Whether focusing upon Mary's historic, mystic or spiritual qualities, our faith will be strengthened, our lives enhanced when we spend time reflecting on her meaning in our own lives. **"Remember, anyone who ever fled to her protection, implored her help or sought her intercession was left unaided"**, from the Memorare.

Blessed Summer
Chuck Short

St. Bernadette School - Class of 2016

					
Declan Acosta <i>DeMatha</i>	Jackie Adedokun <i>St. John's</i>	Vincent Baker <i>Blair</i>	Jack Boyle <i>Avalon</i>	Kaitlyn Burgess <i>Walt Whitman</i>	Brendan Burns <i>Gonzaga</i>
					
George Clifford <i>Gonzaga</i>	Stephen Cyrus <i>Good Counsel</i>	Aidan Dempsey <i>St. John's</i>	Caroline Dollymore <i>St. John's</i>	James Dollymore <i>St. John's</i>	Kiley Dollymore <i>St. John's</i>
					
Darren Forbai <i>Blake</i>	Anna Ford <i>St. John's</i>	Darren Green <i>Springbrook</i>	Alexander Greenleaf <i>Blair</i>	Colleen Haanes-Olson <i>Holy Cross</i>	Cormac Herlihy <i>St. John's</i>
					
Thomas Hodgkins <i>St. John's</i>	Dylan Hoefer <i>DeMatha</i>	Leslie Holt <i>Seton</i>	Anna Irwin <i>McNamara</i>	Jordan Jeanty <i>DeMatha</i>	Annette Johnson <i>Holy Cross</i>
					
Roselynn Kamara <i>Seton</i>	Katherine Kernan <i>Holy Child</i>	Colin Langevin <i>DeMatha</i>	Ryan Luetjen <i>Gonzaga</i>	Aidan McLaughlin <i>Gonzaga</i>	Benhur Micael <i>Undecided</i>
					
Grace Miller <i>Holy Cross</i>	Sean Mohs <i>Good Counsel</i>	Andrea Moreland <i>St. John's</i>	Jack Morelli <i>Gonzaga</i>	Colin Mullaney <i>Gonzaga</i>	Matthew Murphy <i>DeMatha</i>
					
Michael Murphy <i>St. John's</i>	Andrea Nigro <i>Tennessee</i>	Chimdalun Offiah <i>Undecided</i>	Alexander Polston <i>St. John's</i>	Phillip Riazzi <i>St. John's</i>	Jamison Rodgers <i>Stone Ridge</i>
					
Alex Russ <i>Blair</i>	Anthony-Lee Sanchez <i>DeMatha</i>	Fiona Sheridan <i>Holy Cross</i>	Libby Sippel <i>St. John's</i>	Beza Solomon <i>Holy Cross</i>	Carson Stallings <i>St. John's</i>
					
Chase Stallings <i>St. John's</i>	Nobert Tita <i>Undecided</i>	Joseph Wall <i>Blake</i>	Mary Beth Warnick <i>St. John's</i>	Rose Weisgerber <i>Holy Cross</i>	Anna Werwinski <i>Holy Cross</i>

Our Lady of Mercy

Mercy Gets Moving

By sixth-grade student writer Annelise Molina

Every year Our Lady of Mercy has a Get Moving Expo that encourages students to get moving and be healthy. The expo is officially called the Joan McCabe Get Moving Expo and honors our former school nurse, Joan McCabe, who died in 2009. She believed that people need to get involved in activities they love in order to stay both mentally and physically healthy. So the expo includes a wide variety of activities. This year, for example, students had the opportunity to play golf, hockey,

and corn hole, hold a variety of pets, and make friendship bracelets.

Another favorite station this year was the smoothie station, run by Mrs. Tetteh, one of Mercy's school nurses. She used healthy, fresh ingredients, like kale, spinach, and bananas. Picky eaters might not think these foods sound too appetizing, but blended together they made a delicious smoothie. This year, the Get Moving Expo fell on Earth Day and so there was a station where you could plant a flower or vegetable in a cup and take it home with you. The gardener gave students helpful tips on how to take care

of plants and encouraged them to make gardening a life-long hobby.

But the expo is not solely for your physical health; it challenges your brain as well! One table had chess boards because chess is very stimulating for your brain. There were other activities, too, like an arts and crafts table and a station where Mercy's gym teacher was giving away baseball cards to spur interest in both baseball and collecting. One sixth grader, Nicholas Payne, said, "The games there were really fun and it was very generous of our gym teacher, Mr Ligon, to bring in his baseball cards for the students." All in all, this year's Joan McCabe Get Moving Expo was a great success!



OPT

Mercy students learn how to care for new plants at the Get Moving Expo

St. Patrick



How to Save a Life

Seventh-grade Reading students at St. Patrick's School enjoyed a presentation by Montgomery County Fire and Rescue members as part of their novel study of *Red Kayak* by Priscilla Cummings. This novel features a 13 year old boy who uses his knowledge of CPR and first aid to save a drowning child. Students learned basic CPR techniques, how to assist someone who is choking, and were introduced to the use of an AED device. Many thanks to the firemen and paramedics who spent part of their busy shift teaching our students.



Math is a SNAP

On Wednesday, April 20, St. Patrick's School held the first ever SNAP Math Fair in the school's history. This is also one of the first SNAP Math Fairs to ever be held in a school in the United States. SNAP signifies Student-Centered, Non-Competitive, All-Inclusive and Problem-Based.

The first SNAP Fair was designed in 1997 at the Math Department at the University of Alberta (Canada). St. Patrick's Odyssey of the Mind Coordinator, Teresa Sutherland brought the idea to St. Patrick's School in the hopes of encouraging students to improve their problem-solving skills and to pro-

mote "outside of the box" thinking. Groups of seventh and eighth-grade students were assigned math-logic puzzles to solve. Student teams then designed their project based on an Earth Science theme (specifically geology, weather, and world biomes) with a hands-on application for the puzzle. Students became experts in solving their puzzle and then designed presentations for the Snap Fair guests. Students differentiated their logic puzzles so that both younger students and parents could solve the puzzles at their own levels.

Seventh grader Azure Onyewu commented that the experience

"encouraged us to think creatively." She enjoyed working with eighth grade students in adapting the puzzle for many levels and incorporating their theme. Mrs. Teresa Sutherland organized the event to showcase Math applications in a fun, interactive atmosphere. She commented that students "became experts and were able to teach others the math concept they learned in a hands-on way they designed themselves." She hopes that St. Patrick's School will continue to sponsor this innovative approach to applying math for many years to come.

DAWES

Con't from page 1

team in 1992 in Barcelona, 1996 in Atlanta, and 2000 in Sydney.

Ms. Dawes was greeted enthusiastically by the student athletes and their parents. Ms. Dawes shared her experiences about the time, effort, and challenges during her extraordinary gymnastics career. She explained that she endured failures and encountered challenges during her gymnastic journey to success. Ms. Dawes encouraged the student athletes to not be afraid to fail or lose. She stressed athletic failures and losses actually help athletes improve and become better competitors. Ms. Dawes emphasized moments of failure can also provide athletes with perspective. She recalled her own failures which led her to focus and work harder as an athlete. Ms. Dawes explained she was very hard on herself while she trained. However, whenever her coach – Kelli Hill – would tell her to work even harder, Ms. Dawes would get angry because she thought her effort was "good



Dominique Dawes poses with Kendra Cole, a third grader at St. Patrick's School.

enough" and better than most of her competitors. But, in time, Ms. Dawes realized "good enough wasn't enough" to reach her potential. And, once this important fact was recognized, she achieved much more success in gymnastics.

What may have been equally remarkable as Ms. Dawes gymnastics journey was her journey to Catholicism. Ms. Dawes spoke about the special affinity she has for St. Patrick's Catholic Church. She explained after long hours of training at Hills Gymnastics in Gaithersburg, she would pass St. Patrick's. As she waited at a stop light, Ms. Dawes would hear the bells ringing at St. Patrick's. She would look over at the church, and felt drawn to St. Patrick's. One evening after practice, Ms. Dawes pulled into the parking lot, walked into St. Patrick's Church, sat down in a pew, and began to reflect and pray. Ms. Dawes decided she wanted to attend a Sunday mass at St. Patrick's. Ms. Dawes humbly admitted she was not familiar with mass as she was Baptist. However, at the mass she felt welcomed by the parish community. Ms. Dawes humbly described these experiences at St. Patrick's

as the beginning of her journey exploring the Catholic faith. Ms. Dawes, under the guidance of Father Michael Paris and the St. Patrick's RCIA Program, converted to Catholicism in May 2013.

Ms. Dawes spoke candidly about her husband, who is a teacher at a local Catholic high school, and their two young daughters. Ms. Dawes stated her marriage and being a mother have helped deepen her Catholic faith. She attends daily mass and cites prayer as essential to her life. In essence, faith helps her to focus as a wife and mother. She added that her faith guides her daily as she encounters difficulties and challenges. Ms. Dawes expressed that she feels blessed on being able to draw on her faith in both good times and bad.

Ms. Dawes ended by saying that the difficulties she faced and the largest defeats of her career helped her become a great competitor not only in all phases of gymnastics but in the arena of life today. Ms. Dawes said her Catholic faith is what sustains and drives her to be the best person she can be not only for herself but for others.

OPT



Illustrations of the works of Eric Carle

Celebrating the Works of Eric Carle

Eric Carle has been the Author of the month in Pre-K at St. Patrick's. We have focused on a different book each week. The books have been integrated into all areas of learning in our classroom.

In science we watched "The Tiny

Seed" and we planted sunflowers for this summer. As we move from the garden and into the ocean we have discovered that the only male animal to deliver babies is Mister Seahorse.

In Math, we have measured our

bodies with the length of The Very Hungry Caterpillar. We have been Very Busy Spiders counting, adding and subtracting bugs.

In Religion as we talked about Noah's Ark we found the reason

Continued on page 62

"Lovely Lady Dressed in Blue"

Second-grade students at St. Patrick's School participated in the annual May Crowning. Students presented flowers to Mary and the eldest boy and youngest girl in the class adorned Mary with a flower wreath. Afterwards, the students recited the poem "To Our Lady." The May Crowning occurred on at the first school Mass following First Holy Communion weekend, so the students dressed in their finery for the event.

OPT



Brand New Rockville Catholic Summer Program

St. Patrick Church in Rockville is excited to announce their brand new summer camp, the Rockville Catholic Summer Program! Modeled after a very successful program at St. John's in Hollywood, Maryland, youth ministers Mike McHugh (St. Patrick's) and his wife Annie McHugh (St. Raphael's) are launching a new Catholic camp for kids ages 4-14 hosted at St. Patrick Catholic Church in their new parish center. The goal of the Rockville Catholic Summer Program is to provide a fun, faith filled environment for kids at an affordable cost while at the same time hiring and ministering to a staff of high school and college age instructors.

What is unique about the Rockville Catholic Summer Program, is the wide range of classes and activities offered to campers as well as the age range of young people being served and ministered to. Children can experience many different classes over the course of the summer, whether it is Lego Robotics, basketball, bakeless baking, American Girl or Minecraft to name just a few! These classes will be taught by paid high school and college age staff who are serving as positive role models of young Catholics living their faith. The instructors attend Mass each morning to start their day, are in

charge of all planning and teaching of their classes, and have a theology lesson and holy hour of Eucharistic Adoration each day! This solid faith formation then is woven into their classes and lessons, helping to evangelize to their campers!

Rockville Catholic Summer Program runs for 7 weeks this summer in 2016 and already averages 75 kids a week! Our rates are the lowest in the area with before and after care available. Not only can we offer a great low rate, we have discounts for multiple children! Got questions? Call Mike McHugh at 301-924-2285, ext 316 or email at rockvillecatholic-summer@gmail.com. Check out our program at www.rockvillecatholic-summer.com for more information or to register online!

OPT

St. Patrick's Parish

4101 Norbeck Road
Rockville, MD

Rev. William E. Foley
Pastor

301-924-2284

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

301-929-9672

Parish Editor
New Volunteer Needed
Contact rectory to apply



Other News around St. John Neumann Parish

Lent and the Easter Season were filled with ways to draw nearer to being a Catholic this particular year. In addition to our usual liturgies, we have enjoyed a full lineup of Jubilee Year of Mercy Events.

Bookends surrounding Easter this year were first, the Lenten Parish Mission, led by Missionaries of the Most Holy Eucharist, Fr. Sean Davidson and Fr. Barry Braum. On the other side of the Triduum came the parish's second Divine Mercy celebration, which began Good Friday with a Divine Mercy Novena and culminated on Divine Mercy Sunday, the week after Easter Sunday.

"All of these gatherings were strongly attended, and we hope many will continue to be drawn to the Lord's Mercy every Sunday at Mass," said Fr. Joe Rogers. "On Easter Sunday, we released the Second Printing of the book we published last year entitled 19 Ways

to Love and be Loved, a collection of 19 stories from SJN parishioners as they converted to the Catholic faith, or as they returned to Catholicism."

Vocations Ministry...The SJN John Paul the Great Vocations Society staged their annual Bake Sale, this year to fund our SJN seminarians going to World Youth Day in Poland this summer. Through the generosity of our parishioners, the early tally suggests checks totaling \$1,500 will go to the three seminarians making the trip.

The Vocations Society and SJN Youth Group collaborated to host April's Mother/Daughter Tea with the Religious Sisters. Members of three different Religious Orders joined nearly 40 mothers and daughters for a delightful tea party of scones, fruit, tea sandwiches, cookies and other sweets as all learned more about the Consecrated Life.

OPT



Warm Up for SJN Parish Lenten Mission

A busy weekend schedule of preaching, confessions, prayer and visiting with SJN Parish Ministries kept our guest priests busy as they began warming up for the four-day Parish Lenten Mission in March. Leaders/presenters, Fathers Sean Davidson and Barry Braum, Missionaries of the

Most Holy Eucharist joined members of the John Paul the Great Vocations Society at their monthly dinner meeting to share stories of their "calls to the Priesthood" and a sneak preview of the Parish Lenten Mission.

OPT

Sacramentals for Every Home

By Rus Wester

In Cardinal Wuerl's last Pastoral Letter there was a call for greater "Catholic Identity". SJN is supporting this idea by educating our community and helping our families, in our homes—the domestic church, to show that we are Catholics.

Yolanda Caraballo, coordinator of the SJN Sacramental effort, explained how we are participating: "Fr. Joe is very interested in our parish having the opportunity to purchase sacramentals for their homes.

Through the evangelization we have done with families and couples, not only in the English-speaking community, but also the Spanish, we see that many lack the basic sacramentals: a crucifix, an image of the Blessed Mother, a Bible, a Catechism, even a Rosary. Also, we know that the devotions of the church have diminished: praying of the rosary, prayers of Divine Mercy, our praying for the things that are needed in our families.

Our aim is to offer religious items,



Parishioner, Yolanda Caraballo, displaying an extensive selection of religious items in the SJN church lobby for Mass-goers to choose and have blessed--hundreds of statues, rosaries, medals, sacred art, crucifixes, Divine Mercy items and more.

to help bring families the opportunity to have something in their homes that has been blessed by our Priests, reminding them daily of their Catholic identity, as they enter their homes and as they grow in their

faith. Our modest prices also mean modest profits that come from offering these sacramentals after weekend Masses, which we use to support several parish-wide events during the year."

OPT

St. John Neumann Parish
9000 Warfield Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20882

Fr. Joseph Rogers,
Pastor

Rus Wester,
OPT Editor
301-330-0047

GRAND PIANO FOR SALE

Kawai KG-1D Beautiful one owner piano in like new condition, inside and out. Lovingly cared for, lightly used. Ideal piano for a church or school. Satin walnut finish. Asking price \$6500.

ST. JOHN NEUMANN

Year of Mercy Events

Everyone is encouraged to join us for the Jubilee Year of Mercy

MARCH 12, 13, 14, 15

Father Sean will preach at weekend Masses, with Mission talks in main church at 7pm MON/TUES

PARISH LENTEN MISSION

Adoring the Face of Mercy: The Eucharist and the Saints

Presented by Fr. Sean Davidson
Missionaries of the Most Holy Eucharist

MARCH 25 THRU APRIL 2

Divine Mercy Novena

Good Friday at 3pm the parish-wide Divine Mercy Novena begins

APRIL 3 — 3-4PM

Divine Mercy Sunday

Join us for this hour of infinite mercy of God

JULY 2 — 8AM-4PM

(SEE SUMMER BULLETINS FOR DETAILS)

Parish Pilgrimage

Bus pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception: Jubilee Year plenary indulgence, pass through the Holy Door, Mass at Basilica, visit Shrine of Pope St. John Paul II, lunch, tour Franciscan Monastery.

OCTOBER 21, 22

10/21—7-9PM FILM VIEWING

10/22—8:30AM-12:30PM
FAMILY MISSION

Full of Grace : Movie / Family Mission

Full of Grace tells the story of the Blessed Mother's final days on earth. "A breathtaking film and celebration of faith. I have not been moved by a film like this since *The Passion of the Christ*." — Fr. Peter John Cameron, O.P., Editor-in-Chief, Magnificat

NOVEMBER 17, 18, 19

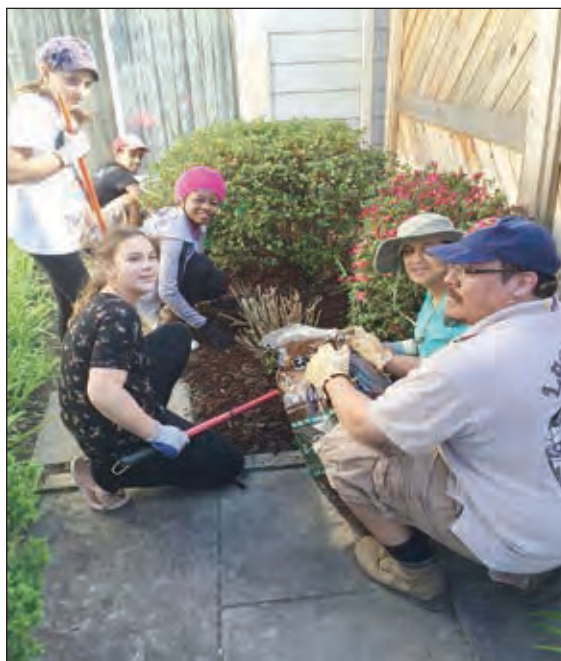
17th—7pm Talk/Healing (SPAN)

18th—7pm Talk/Healing (ENG)

19th—8:30am-3pm RETREAT (ENG)

PARISH ADVENT MISSION The Mercy of God Brings Us to Trinitarian Delight

Presented by Fr. Philip Scott
Founder, Family of Jesus the Healer



The SJN Youth Group Gardening Team sent on another mission to clean, shape, trim, mulch and beautify a parishioner yard for the summer: (front R. to back L.) Parent Supervisors Miguel & Gloria Galvez and Youth Workers Sarah Stoolmiller, Cecilia Rodriguez, Getrude Akunlibe and Cristian Galvez.

SJN Youth Gardeners Beautify Parish Homes

By Rus Wester

In less than three hours, a great team of SJN Youth Gardeners transformed a parishioner's over-grown backyard and patio into a lush, flowering garden... ready for outdoor summer gatherings, cookouts and peaceful sunsets.

"It's amazing how our young people in the parish have adapted to their new titles as 'horticulturists'," said one satisfied customer. "We were grateful they came over to help us. They brought determination and a great deal of skill to the yard tasks. And they did their work joyfully!"

"The whole idea of offering the parish 'Spring yard work' came from my student leaders earlier this year," said Gina Nino de Nightingale, SJN Youth Minister. "It was a lot of work to organize the pairings of our teens and Parent Supervisors, but the word is out and people are volunteering every day. We currently have 12 homes on board for our gardening crews to weed, plant, cut and beautify parish yards."

Free-will donations are accepted for all yard work done by the Parish Youth Group, with all proceeds going to the funding of their summer work camp, evangelize/ leadership camp and vocations retreat.

OPT

One Family under Mother Mary

Each spring Saint Francis International School carries out a May Crowning Ceremony honoring Mary as that Queen of Heaven and Earth. Traditionally, the students who recently received their first communions attend May Crowning in their beautiful white dresses and dress clothes and lay flowers at the feet of a statue of the Blessed Mother. The oldest girl among the group of first communicants has the honor of carrying the crown to place on the statue's head. At SFIS, the youngest students — the three year olds in Pre-K --- also lay flowers at Mary's feet.

The celebration of Mary's queenship also includes the praying of the rosary led by the middle school students. Typically at SFIS it is an "international rosary" prayed in languages representing the heritages of the student body. This year the Our Fathers, Hail Marys, and Glory



Second Grade students bring flowers to the Blessed Mother at May Crowning.

Bes were prayed in six languages: English, Vietnamese, Spanish, Bangla, French, and Amharic.

For this year's May Crowning, there was a special intention for the recitation of the rosary. The SFIS community prayed their

rosary in thanksgiving for the life and ministry of Cardinal Donald Wuerl who has been the Archbishop of Washington for 10 years. This year Cardinal Wuerl is also celebrating 50 years as priest!

OPT



Franciscan Fr. Mike Johnson baptized five SFIS students this year.

Formed in Faith at Saint Francis

Our Catholic faith is the driving force behind all the hard work that occurs at Saint Francis International School. As a mission-driven school, SFIS sees its ministry as a response to the Great Commission that Jesus gave to his followers at the time of his Ascension: "Make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them all which I have commanded you" (Matt. 28:19-20).

Everything that we do at SFIS is geared toward the belief that it is through Jesus' Gospel that human beings find their greatest success and joy and that the world can be transformed to the Kingdom of God when we follow the Gospel. Because of this the culture and curriculum at SFIS starts with the effort for every child entrusted their care to be exposed to Jesus' loving presence and to hear his Gospel consistently.

The Great Commission calls on the Church to welcome those who seek Christ through baptism and the

sacraments of initiation. Each of the last five years SFIS has worked with parents to welcome students into the Church in the sacrament of baptism celebrated at school masses. This year, five students were baptized at a school mass during the Easter season. Leading students into deeper relationships with Jesus continues in the other sacraments of initiation. In April, 28 SFIS students received Eucharist for the first time and in May many eighth graders will be confirmed.

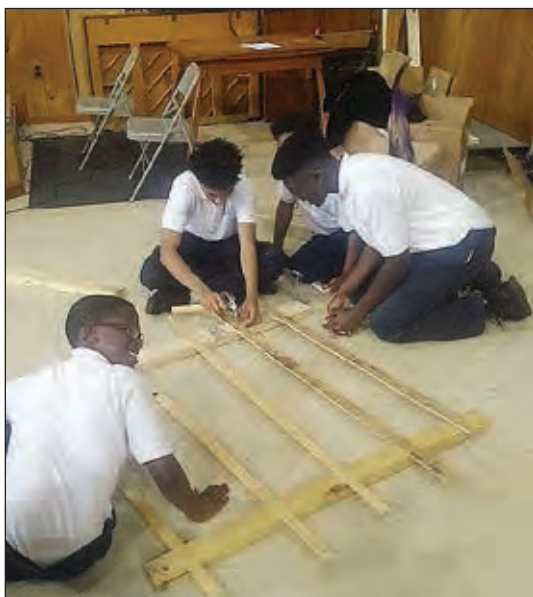
The process of teaching students about Jesus' message continues throughout every year at SFIS with weekly school masses, daily communal prayer and religion classes, and regular opportunities for the sacrament of reconciliation. Helping students understand Jesus' commands also includes use of the Responsive Classroom framework throughout the school for teaching healthy social-emotional skills and self-regulation, as well as the national award winning peacebuilding skills program that SFIS initiated this year.

OPT

The Theater Arts in the Spotlight

Over the years the role of drama in the middle school curriculum at Saint Francis International School has steadily grown. It began with staging *Romeo and Juliet* followed by *Alice in Wonderland*. Last year the students upped the ante by choosing a musical, *The Sound of Music*. This year the tradition continues with a production of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr.*

School plays are common in many schools, but at SFIS the school play is not optional and serves as the capstone to the language arts curriculum. Every eighth grader at SFIS has to help produce the annual spring play. This not only includes serving as the actors but all of the technical roles from running the sound to operating the spotlights are done by eighth graders. But, that's not all, the students are expected to learn and



Eighth-grade students build sets for *Beauty and the Beast* at SFIS.

develop some old fashioned skills like sewing, painting, and carpentry so that they can build sets and prepare costumes.

The project is designed to be

multi-disciplinary and to hone many skills in the students before they head off to high school. Art, music, dance, and public speaking combine to help develop memory, performance, and time management skills all in the service of putting together a fantastic play as a community.

Other middle school students who are members of the SFIS Drama Club get the chance to help the eighth graders and see the process behind the curtains so that they can be leaders when their class takes their turn producing a play as they finish up their career at SFIS in eighth grade. The entire process, which is previewed for the entire student body as well as the

St. Camillus Parish Festival before two evening paid performances also serves to entertain many people and inspire the younger children at SFIS to one day take the stage too!

OPT

St. Martin of Tours

The second-grade class runs tests on their STEM project — containers to safely protect an egg from impact. Photo courtesy of St. Martin's School



SFIS offers a Summer Academy July 5 to 29 — ALL ARE WELCOME!

VISIT

Con't from page 38

Then there was time for confessions, praying for the intentions of the Pope, and a walk through the Holy Door. After lunch and a tour of the Shrine, the group ended the day with a visit to the beautiful gardens of the Franciscan Monastery.

The pilgrimage was very memorable, and participants hope the parish can make a prayer pilgrimage an annual event.

OPT

St. Francis International School

www.saintfrancisinternational.org

Tobias A. Harkleroad,
Principal

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

St. Mark Campus
7501 Adelphi Road
Hyattsville, MD 20783

World's older population grows dramatically

The world's older population continues to grow at an unprecedented rate. Today, 8.5 percent of people worldwide

(617 million) are aged 65 and over. According to a new report, "An Aging World: 2015," this percentage is projected to jump to nearly

17 percent of the world's population by 2050 (1.6 billion).

"An Aging World: 2015" was commissioned by the National

Institute on Aging (NIA), part of the National Institutes of Health, and produced by the U.S. Census Bureau. The report examines the demographic, health and socioeconomic trends accompanying the growth of the aging population.

"An Aging World: 2015" contains detailed information about life expectancy, gender balance, health, mortality, disability, health care systems, labor force participation and retirement, pensions and poverty among older people around the world.

"We are seeing population aging in every country in every part of the world," said John Haaga, Ph.D., acting director of NIA's Division of Behavioral and Social Research.

"Many countries in Europe and Asia are further along in the process or moving more rapidly, than we are in the United States. Since population aging affects so many aspects of public life—acute and long-term health care needs; pensions, work and retirement; transportation; housing—there is a lot of potential for learning from each other's experience."

Highlights of the report include:

- America's 65-and-over population is projected to nearly double over the next three decades, from 48 million to 88 million by 2050.
- By 2050, global life expectancy at birth is projected to increase by almost eight years, climbing

Continued on page 58

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World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is June 15

Millions of older persons are abused, neglected, and exploited. Once a year on June 15, communities and municipi-

palities around the world plan activities and programs to recognize World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD). It's an opportunity to share information and spread awareness about abuse, neglect, and exploitation in later life.

Everyone can make a difference, but together, we can unite as one nation. Take a stand against elder abuse!

Every year an estimated 5 million older Americans are victims of elder abuse, neglect, or exploitation. And that's only part of the picture: Experts believe that for every case of elder abuse or neglect that are reported as many as 23 cases go unreported.

With such a complex issue, there is only one way we can address it: United together.

The Administration for Community Living (ACL), partnered with the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA), encourages individuals and organizations across our nation, states, and local communities to take a stand and to raise public awareness about elder abuse. Your voice can speak out against ageism, combat isolation, and bolster education efforts one person and community at a time.

Find the Tools & Tips you need to get started at ACL.gov.

<http://acl.gov/newsroom/observances/WEAAD/Tools-Tips-Resources/Index.aspx>

OPT

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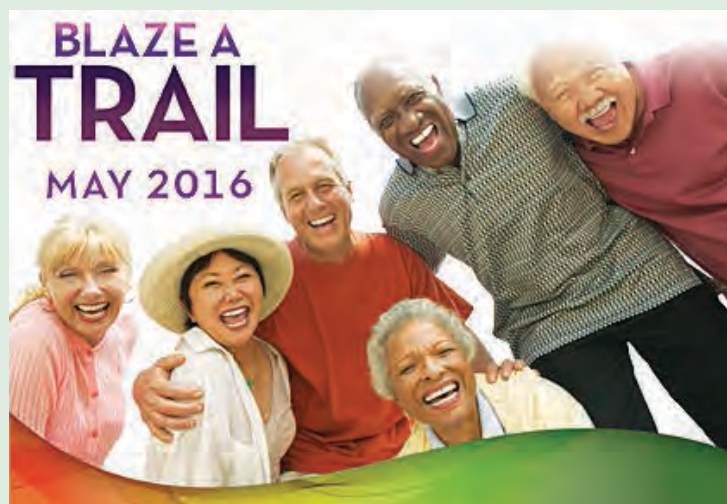



May is Older Americans Month

May is a month of fresh beginnings. Perennials bloom once again, blazing a trail of bright color. May is also when we celebrate Older American's Month (OAM), acknowledging the perennial contributions of older adults to our nation.

Older adults are a growing and increasingly vital part of our country. The contributions they make to our communities are varied, deeply rooted, and include influential roles in the nation's economy, politics, and the arts. From 69-year-old NASA Administrator Charles Bolden, Jr. to 84-year-old actress Rita Moreno to 83-year-old Ruth Bader Ginsberg, who took her seat as a Supreme Court Justice at age 60, older adults are blazing trails in all aspects of American life.

In 1963, we began to acknowledge the contributions of older people by using the month of May to celebrate Older Americans Month (OAM). Led by the Administration for Community Living, the annual observance offers the opportunity to learn



about, support, and celebrate our nation's older citizens. This year's theme, "Blaze a Trail," emphasizes the ways older adults are reinventing themselves through new work and new passions, engaging their communities, and blazing a trail of positive impact on the lives of people of *all* ages.

Be a trailblazer! Highlight the ways that older Americans are advocating for themselves, their peers, and their communities.

Promote activities, inclusion, and wellness for older Americans in your community

The Administration for Community Living encourages all to use this opportunity to raise awareness about important issues facing older adults. Resources – logos, posters, badges, information tip sheets, and more – are available at <http://oam.acl.gov>.

OPT

2016 Maryland Senior Olympics Registration Now Open

The 2016 Maryland Senior Olympics will be held from May 4 through Oct. 2 at venues in Montgomery County, Howard, Prince George's, Anne Arundel and Frederick counties.

This year is a qualifying year for the 2017 National Senior Games in Birmingham, Ala. There are over 140 events in 22 sports on the state level, including non-qualifying participatory sports billiards, bocce, croquet and lawn bowling.

To participate, you must be aged 50 and above. Maryland is open to out-of-state athletes, too. Registration deadline is one week prior to your event. Get everything you need to know about MSO and registration through our **2016 Information and Registration Guide**. You can download the guide or request one via mail by emailing your name and address to info@mdseniorolympics.org or by calling 240-777-4930.

Registration is now open! Teams and individuals can register online or by mail-in. Maryland athletes have a fast, easy and convenient way of registering and paying quickly online. There is a \$5 processing fee for each online registration. Payment is through PayPal but you don't need an account, you can pay by credit card. For more



information, visit: www.mdseniorolympics.org

OPT



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ELDER ABUSE

Con't from page 56

from 68.6 years in 2015 to 76.2 years in 2050.

- The global population of the "oldest old"—people aged 80 and older—is expected to more than triple between 2015 and 2050, growing from 126.5 million to 446.6 million. The oldest old population in some Asian and Latin American countries is predicted to quadruple by 2050.
- Among the older population worldwide, noncommunicable diseases are the main health concern. In low-income countries, many in Africa, the older population faces a considerable burden from both noncommunicable and communicable diseases.
- Risk factors—such as tobacco and alcohol use, insufficient consumption of vegetables and fruit, and low levels of physical activity—directly or indirectly contribute to the global burden of disease. Changes in risk factors have been observed, such as a decline in tobacco use in some high-income countries, with the majority of smokers worldwide now living in low- and middle-income countries.

The report was prepared by Wan He, Ph.D., and Daniel Goodkind, Ph.D., of the International Programs Center in the Population Division of the Census Bureau, and Paul Kowal, Ph.D., of the World Health Organization's Study on Global Aging and Adult Health

OPT

NIHSeniorHealth makes aging-related health information easily accessible online at <http://nihseniorhealth.gov> for older adults and family members and friends seeking reliable, easy to understand health information.

NIHSeniorHealth features authoritative and up-to-date health information from Institutes and Centers at NIH. In addition, the American Geriatrics Society provides expert and independent review of some of the material found on NIHSeniorHealth. Health topics include general background information, open-captioned videos, quizzes and frequently asked questions (FAQs). New topics are added to the site on a regular basis. NIH extensively tested NIHSeniorHealth with adults age 60 to 88 to ensure that it is easy for them to see, understand and navigate.

The website's senior-friendly features include:

- Consistent site-wide navigation
- Topics consistently organized into logical chapter headings and



Health and wellness information for older adults from the National Institutes of Health

NIHSeniorHealth

sub-headings

- Dark font against a light background
- Large, sans-serif font
- Ability to enlarge text and change contrast
- Easy-to-click links, including search results

In addition to making up-to-date healthcare information available by topic, NIHSeniorHealth offers users tips on healthy aging, health videos, peer-to-peer exercise stories, and training tools.

Exercise Stories

People of all ages and physical conditions benefit from exercise

and physical activity. Exercise stories feature older adults and the diverse activities they enjoy. If you are age 60 years or older and exercise regularly, you are invited to send NIHSeniorHealth your story.

Free Tips on Healthy Aging

NIHSeniorHealth provides free tips on healthy aging via email. Sign up here for free tips on healthy aging from NIHSeniorHealth. To sign up at NIHSeniorHealth, you just enter your e-mail address and then click "Submit." You will receive the tips no more than twice a week.

Health Videos

Many of the NIHSeniorHealth health topics feature short videos that complement the information in the topic. The health videos offer up-to-date medical information, tips for healthy living, and inspiring stories of older adults who are coping with diseases or conditions of aging.

Training Tools

At NIHSeniorHealth you may browse the Trainer's Toolkit free, easy-to-use training materials to help older adults find reliable, up-to-date online health information on their own. The training features three websites from the National Institutes of Health — NIHSeniorHealth.gov, MedlinePlus.gov and Go4Life®. Trainers can use the toolkit with beginning and intermediate students of the Web.

NIHSeniorHealth was developed by the National Institute on Aging (NIA) and the National Library of Medicine (NLM) both part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Elder Abuse Prevention

The first step in elder abuse prevention is awareness. The International Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse established World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) in 2006. The day is recognized annually on June 15th. The purpose of this day is to increase understanding of issues surrounding elder abuse. Many advocates of older adults utilize this day to conduct outreach and distribute informational material to their community.

What is elder abuse?

- **Physical Abuse** - Is the use of force causing harm or pain to an individual, which includes but not limited to) hitting, kicking, pinching, slapping, shoving, shaking, and burning. Other forms of physical abuse involve the inappropriate use of medication or physical restraints.
- **Financial Abuse/Exploitation** - Involves wrongfully taking or using an older adult's funds or property through theft, scams, fraud, or predatory lending.
- **Psychological Abuse** - Causing emotional pain through verbal assaults, threats, or harassment. Perpetrators intimidate, humiliate, or attempt to isolate their victims.
- **Sexual Abuse** - Is non-consensual sexual contact of any kind including, contact with an individual unable to consent to such contact - for instance, if they suffer from dementia and are unable to understand.
- **Neglect** - Is an individual failing to meet the needs of an older adult who is under their care. This includes not providing essential things a person needs, such as food, water, shelter, clothing, or personal hygiene.
- **Self-Neglect** - Involves failure of a person to meet vital self care needs, putting them at risk of harm for their safety and/or health.



Photo courtesy of International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse

To report suspected abuse or to get help...

In the community

Montgomery County Department of Social Services
401 Hungerford Dr, Rockville, MD 20850
301-217-3500

In Nursing Homes or Assisted Living Facilities

Ombudsmen for Assisted Living and Nursing Home Residents (An Ombudsman is an independent advocate who provides information and works to resolve problems that the resident would like addressed. All conversations are confidential unless permission is given to use a person's name.)

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OPT

SODALITY

Con't from page 40

parishioners who meet on a monthly basis to create rosaries. Most of the rosaries are given to parishioners upon request, but the rosaries are also delivered to NIH and military personnel. St. Raphael's Spanish Ministry and Prison Ministry have also distributed these rosaries. In 2015, the group created and delivered over 700 rosaries.

Another important Sodality group is the Hospitality Committee. They recently organized an afternoon with Dr. Grace Morrison. Dr. Morrison is a former St. Raphael's parishioner who has been the Prayer

Vigil leader in front of the late-term abortion facility in Germantown for the past few years. The prayerful presence of witnesses and counselors at this site has led to approximately 300 mothers who have chosen life for their unborn babies. Dr. Morrison spoke passionately about her mission, and then joined the group for a potluck lunch. Donations were collected for the Germantown Pregnancy Center.

In addition to these ministries, the Sodality group will continue to grow their faith with their upcoming pilgrimage to Baltimore. The group will visit The Baltimore Basilica (America's First Cathedral), as well as the Mother Seton House.

OPT



On the occasion of their First Communion, second-graders at St. Raphael School pose for a group photo.

BASKETBALL

Con't from page 1

ages enjoyed competing in friendly games of "Knock-out" or trying a chance at winning raffle tickets to a Wizards game. The event organiz-

ers were very proud that altogether the event raised almost \$2,000 for Special Olympics of Montgomery County. A great time was had by all, and of course one of the highlights was cheering on Maria Guadalupe, one of Mercy's own Special Olympics players.

OPT

TEACHER

Con't from page 49

called for 11 different sets, most of which would only be used once. As Mrs. Leishear explains, "We decided to try a new direction this year and project our background images onto a screen so I could change the background with a click of a button on my laptop. Front-projection would not work because if we mounted the projector in front of the screen, you would see the shadows from the cast members."

Fortunately, SJB has talented parents and friends who are willing

and able to help. Kevin Trebel and AJ Leishear helped to hang a piece of 10x25ft plastic drop cloth sheeting at the front of the stage. This acted as the screen. SJB rented a short-throw projector and projected from behind the screen so that there were no shadows from the student performers. Mrs. Leishear compiled background images in a PowerPoint presentation and clicked to a new slide each time she needed the backdrop to change.

What began as an idea to honor a beloved teacher produced a new and innovative way to enhance the production of the Spring Show at SJB.

OPT

MONTH

Con't from page 40

tradition brings together the rebirth of spring and the promise of spiritual renewal as we all grow closer to Jesus through Mary.

When You Wish Upon a Star...

Makes no difference who you are, the St. Raphael School musical, "My Son Pinocchio Jr.," delighted all ages with its classic tale of honesty, self-giving, and love. Cast and crew worked hard on their presentation of this time-honored play featuring music and dance choreography, creative costumes, and spectacular sets that brought the story of a wooden boy to life. We are proud of all the "stars" who made these school play memories possible!

And on a clear and cool evening under the stars, SpringFest — St. Raphael School's newest event — welcomed everyone for a night of community building and school fundraising. The courtyard was

transformed into a giant backyard party, which included live music, a fiercely fun cornhole tournament, and food trucks serving lobster rolls, barbeque, sweet and savory crepes, and more. We are grateful for all the support through donations, volunteering, and participation!

Wrapping up the School Year

The gift of motherhood is especially recognized in SRS tradition as mothers were invited to spend a special morning with their children at a beautiful Mass followed by a reception. The student choir led everyone in song and praise, and Our Blessed Mother was honored with a crown of flowers, placed by our second-graders, who wore their Communion best. At the reception, a moving video was presented, featuring loving thoughts and wishes from each student, which certainly touched the heart of every mom in attendance.

St. Raphael Nursery School students and their families came together for the annual picnic to say goodbye for the summer. The ever-

popular basket raffle had something to please everyone — from the latest Apple devices to the greatest cottage getaways — and raised funds for the school. Openings in the 3's program are still available for the 2016-17 school year. For more information about the SRNS early-childhood program, visit our website at www.srnsmd.org.

Year-End Events

May 26: Eighth-Grade Graduation bids the Class of 2016 a fond farewell and many blessings for success in high school. Congratulations, graduates!

June 6: Father's Day Celebration honors fatherhood with a prayer service and reception for SRS fathers and their children.

June 13: Closing Mass marks the end of the school year and beginning of summer vacation.

Visit our website at www.straphaelschoolmd.org for information about our school, and keep up with us over the summer on Facebook at www.facebook.com/straphaelschool and Twitter at www.twitter.com/SRSrockville.

OPT

Christ the King

McCLOSKEY

Con't from page 14

even a McCloskey Road in the area, named for Paul's uncle. Paul had a wicked sense of humor. One day he gave another parishioner and me a ride home from the November Mass of Remembrance. The other passenger thanked Paul as he got out of the

car, mentioned how lovely the Mass was, how he hoped to one day be remembered at the Mass. Paul gave me a mischievous look, asking if he should run over the man to hasten the day"— classic Paul McCloskey. To quote another parishioner, "Paul was a wonderful, affable and good humored man of Faith who will be sorely missed by everyone who knew him. *Requiescat in pace.*"

OPT

YEAR OF MERCY

Con't from page 14

The Year of Mercy talks have been held on Saturdays in the Religious Education Building from 5-6:30pm. The one on May 7, "God, Rich in Mercy, encyclical of St John Paul II" was by CUA Associate Professor and Dean, J. Steven Brown, also a member of Communion and Liberation. The series will end Saturday, June 11, with "Mercy and Justice in the Social Teaching of the Catholic Church," 5-6:30 pm in the Religious Education Center. The guest speaker will be Rev. Roberto

Amoruso, F.S.C.B. No registration is required. All events are at Christ the King Church, 2300 East-West Highway in Silver Spring.

With May being the month of Our Lady, weekly devotions began Thursday, May 5, 6:30 pm with Marian hymns, the rosary, and the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary, preceding the usual 7 pm Thursday Benediction throughout the month.

Christ the King's RCIA concluded its last meeting of the year having begun in October 2015. This program used texts, the Compendium to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the USCCB Catechism for Adults as well as photocopied material.

OPT

Aid to the Church in Need, a charity focused on suffering Christians

By Chris Tan, former Christ the King editor for Our Parish Times

On the evening of April 29, Fr. Ettore Ferrario and several parishioners travelled to the Franciscan Monastery near Catholic University to participate in Vespers and to hear a talk given by Bishop Mathew Hassan Kukah of the Diocese of Sokoto, Nigeria. Bishop Kukah was the guest of Aid to the Church in Need, which invited him to the United States to shine a spotlight on the suffering but vibrant Church in Nigeria. Nigerian Catholics are suffer-



Jacqueline Stines and Bishop Mathew Hassan Kukah. Photo by Maria Kendall

ing under the constant threat of Boko Haram as well as other forms of Islamic fundamentalism. Bishop Kukah leads the Sokoto diocese in the northern part of Nigeria. He is an author of several books on interfaith relations and civil society in Africa. He has also served on several commissions on human rights violations and on conflict resolution. Aid to the Church in Need is a papal agency which supports persecuted and suffering Christians around the world, www.churchinneed.org.

OPT

Each Child is a Gift from God

By Michelle Ardillo

After twenty-nine years of teaching, HR fourth grade teacher Debby Hannan did not hesitate when asked what she would say to a new teacher just starting out: "Each child is a gift from God, but wrapped differently. You have to get the same information into each of them." The sweet, tender smile that followed these pearls of wisdom is indicative of Hannan's teaching style.

Debby Hannan joined the Holy Redeemer faculty in 2012 but has made a lasting impression on those fourth graders who have passed through her door since then. This year's fourth graders are no different. In fact, they had plenty to say about Mrs. Hannan. Luke said, "She always gives you an extra chance to get things right." Catie said, "She always helps you figure out the right answer." Will shared, "She never yells at you, even when you do something wrong."

She acknowledged that retirement is bittersweet. She looks forward to slow-

ing down, reading for pleasure, painting with watercolors, reconnecting with family and friends who have been neglected in lieu of grading and lesson planning. However, she knows that come August, she will miss that special moment when a teacher just knows that a connection has been made with a student, which she called, "Such a reward." She will also miss former students coming back to visit, like former Miami Dolphins player Joey Haynos, Robert Kilner who is currently in the seminary, or the military veteran who came back to speak to her students.

Along with working on her bucket list and doing some traveling, she also looks forward to concentrating on her health and spending more time with her grandchildren, a number which will soon be seven. One of the obstacles of teaching is balancing work with family life. She conceded that sometimes over the years her classroom kids got a bit more of her than her own five children.

All but two of her years of teaching have been in ADW schools, spending twenty-

three years at St. Jude. There she created Maryland Day, a celebration to end a large unit on state history, which she also initiated at HR.

Hannan will miss the comradery of faculty and the many clergy and religious that she worked with over the years. She will also miss the many ways each day that the children in her class touch her heart. "Children always humble you," she said, adding, "Teaching is very rewarding in ways other than financially; it is truly a vocation, not a profession."

OPT



More Time to Make Art

By Michelle Ardillo

When asked what she was looking forward to most about retirement, Holy Redeemer Catholic School technology teacher Mary Del Bianco responded with a short answer, "Spend more time making art." While she has been the technology teacher since 2006, Del Bianco is first and foremost an artist, working primarily in ceramics. Retiring from teaching will mean she will have more time in her home studio, more time to focus on her own art with the hopes of having her work recognized by her peers and professionals in her field. And, with four lively granddaughters, she also looks forward to spending more time with them.

Mary Del Bianco's long career in education began in 1988 as an art teacher at Our Lady of Victory. In 1990 she transferred to Holy Redeemer, splitting her time between HR and St. Martin's so that she could be a full-time art teacher. After establishing herself here at HR and "getting her toehold", she instituted Art Day, one day a year where students were able to spend the whole day learning new things and creating art, going from booth to booth carnival-style, experimenting and experiencing new forms of art. She still cherishes those early Art Days while the concept has grown and changed into HR's annual arts festival, now two days of students getting to try out new forms of art and other ancillary disciplines such as dance and cooking.

Becoming HR's part-time technology teacher in 2009 and relinquishing art classes to another teacher, Del Bianco's spirit of creativity is still present as she guides



the middle school students in computer classes. Whether it is networking or coding, creating something is ever present in her classes. While it seems that there is never enough time in the school day to get it all in, Del Bianco recalls most fondly those times when a student has an "Aha Moment" and the look on their face says it all to her, "I get it, I get it!" These are the things she will miss when she closes out this chapter of her life at the end of the 2015-2016 school year. She hopes to be able to continue to work with young students through volunteer work in an after-school program, something that has interested her since she completed a graduate certificate in the Out of School Time Learning program at Johns Hopkins University in 2010.

Her talents in the field of education have been recognized outside of the HR

community as well, having been named Knights of Columbus Maryland State Teacher of the Year Award in 2004 and the prestigious Tim Russert Outstanding Teacher Award for the Archdiocese of Washington in 2007.

Always wanting to network and connect with others, Del Bianco said that new teachers just starting out in education need to "stay fresh, keep up with professional development, and network with colleagues". Reflecting back on her twenty-eight year career in Catholic education, Del Bianco says that she has loved being at HR for so long and particularly enjoyed working with the families of the HR community, always feeling blessed by the supportive faculty and parents. Pensive for just a moment before responding with a final comment, "Delightful, just delightful," she mused.

OPT

Allergies and Scrapes and Bumps, Oh My!

By Michelle Ardillo

Holy Redeemer school nurse Dianne O'Neill will be retiring soon, with the hopes of spending more time with the two people she calls "the light of my life", her two young grandchildren. Until the last day of the 2015-2016 school year, her work days are filled with a never-ending stream of young people coming to the health clinic for band-aids, icepacks, inhalers, and most often, just a reassuring pat and kind words.

O'Neill began her nursing career with a BS in Nursing from Villanova and worked for eight years as an ER nurse at Georgetown Hospital. In 1992 she joined Holy Redeemer as a part-time school nurse, going full-time in 1996.



In the course of the ensuing twenty-four years, much has changed. "Food allergies have skyrocketed, and there is so much food in an elementary school, it is really a challenge to keep students with allergies safe," she said. Her years as an ER nurse greatly helped her with the demands of being a school nurse to over 400 students, however, as early on she mastered the important skill of triage, still a critical tool today in the school's health clinic.

Her relationship with the children and how it developed over the years with their parents and siblings is one of the things she cherishes most from her long career at Holy Redeemer. Guiding children with chronic health issues through the daily rigors of school, recess, field

trips, classroom parties, and other school events, has been challenging but very rewarding in seeing them fully participate in the life of the school. When asked what her most memorable day was, the answer was quickly given: "An unresponsive student being taken away by ambulance with a different ambulance arriving an hour later to take another student away with a severely broken leg. That was a day for the books."

With her medical career behind her, O'Neill will be able to focus on those two grandchildren in Annapolis, as well as indulging herself in her other passions, musical theatre and Georgetown and Villanova basketball. Holy Redeemer says goodbye to Mrs. O'Neill with gratitude for many years of compassionate and excellent medical care.

OPT

Resurrection



23 Confirmed at Resurrection

Twenty-three young members of Resurrection Church received the Sacrament of Confirmation during masses in March and April. One youngster, John Basondole, was baptized, received first communion and was confirmed on March 26. The others were confirmed at a mass celebrated April 12 by Auxiliary Bishop Mario E. Dorsonville-Rodriguez of the Washington Archdiocese; Resurrection Pastor Jeffrey Defayette; and Deacon Chuck Bieberich. Receiving the sacrament were Ikenna Ajene, Cheyenne Asong, Sidney Azigi, Lillianne Blaise, Arika Forte, Christine Gomes, Javier Hernandez (also received first communion), Ashley Kalou, Porschderek Kargbo, Matthew Kiras, Kenneth Lara, Samir Matin, Katie Melgar, Sunshine Messi-Benoit, Amarachi Nwogu, Sian Puckerin, Joseph Randiki, Nathan Quinn, Estelle Rego, Grace Rose, Brianna Sanidad and Nicole Ude. Preparing the youngsters for confirmation were Helene Stever, Director of Religious Education and Youth Ministry; Lisa Peacock, Sacramental Catechist; and Arnold Dadie and Kathlyn Lo, High School Catechist Assistants. Photo by Phil Powell

COMMUNION

Con't from page 44

Roscoe Leon Hines IV, Portia Igwebuike, Lillian McFarland, Collin McHale, Aiyah-Lynn Messi-Hamid, Ulrich-Freid Kapodjo Moukam (who was baptized April 17), Rachel Mullen, Dozie Okonkwo, Chidera Orimilikwe, Izunna Orimilikwe, Isabella Pham, Walter Pineda Jr., McKenzie

Puckerin, Christopher Robinson, Luca Rigato, Savannah Sanchez and Elianna Zuniga.

The mass was celebrated by Father Jeffrey Defayette, pastor of Resurrection Church; Father William Brailsford; and Deacon Chuck Bieberich.

Preparing the group for First Communion were Helene Stever, Director of Religious Education and Youth Ministry; Mirna Bonilla, Phyllis Bottegall, Clarice Poole and

Pat Sellner, Sacramental Catechists; and Angie Blow, Alex Diaz, Vinnie Ford and Emmanuela Kodjo, High School Catechist Assistants.

One of the readings was Luke's Gospel telling the story of five loaves and two fishes feeding a crowd of more than 5,000 people.

The church was decorated with brightly colored signs bearing the names of the First Communicants, and a reception was held in the parish hall following the mass.

OPT

BEAUSOLEIL

Con't from page 44

Many of those attending the lively show spent the night whirling around the Amadeo Room, generally a somewhat quieter place featuring Knights of Columbus dinners and after-mass coffee and donuts get-togethers.

The current members of BeauSoleil, which means "Beautiful Sun," are: Michael Doucet, fiddle and accordion; his brother David Doucet, guitar; Billy Ware, percussion; Tommy Alesi, drums; Mitchell Reed, fiddle and accordion; and Bill Bennett, bass and

sound engineer.

Annick, a native of Belgium, explained how she got started with the group. "I arrived in Lafayette, Louisiana, at the age of 20 and moved to the small town called Scott (outskirts of Lafayette) a year later. My first husband became the religious education director; I started a choir and we moved to the convent since the sisters left the parish. We had a small chapel in our house -- convenient for choir practices!"

"Michael and David Doucet also lived in Scott, so we met. They had a band called Coteau, but that group had disbanded. Michael started playing guitar with me at church, but he also taught me some of the

Cajun tunes he used to play with his band.

"We started to play at a few venues, just Michael and I, around Lafayette but also in New Orleans. Eventually, his brother came back and played with us, and also Billy Ware.

"The rest is history. When the band started to become really famous and to travel overseas for several weeks at a time, I had to stop since I had a son, then a daughter by that time. I did go to the Montreux Jazz festival with them (Switzerland) and the band came and visited my family in Belgium."

OPT

GOT TALENT

Con't from page 44

Noah Martinez, 7, singing the "Star-Spangled Banner" and "America the Beautiful," captured the 7-10 category prize. Other spirited performances in that group were given by dancer Camila Martinez, 8, and saxophone player Afanwi Lum Neba, 10.

In the highly competitive 11-13 age group, Naomi Midtudila was awarded first place for her exquisite flute solo of the French song "Romance."

Providing stiff competition in that age group were three other talented acts -- including beautiful numbers by violin players Madifa, 11, and Darren Ambe, 12; singer Christina Anderson, 12, performing her version of the Miley Cyrus country pop hit "The Climb"; and singer Abigail Aronne, 13, doing a spirited version of "I'm Only Human."

Like any well-choreographed show, "Resurrection's Got Talent" saved the best for last, which was a four-song set of spiritual songs by the Holy Trinity Choir from the parish's Cameroon community.

They easily took first place in the 20-and-over category.

The singer-dancers in the Holy Trinity Choir were: Armel Femnov, Sam Orock, Marietta Senge, Linda Tubuo, Fausta Tabe, Felicia Akoh, Emmanuel Tanyi, Henry Nkikum, Hyginus Bedtad and Lionel Bongkiyung.

Ratcliffe said the parish's enthusiastic response to the show provided a strong indication that the Knights of Columbus should bring "Resurrection's Got Talent" for a second season. And the performers dreamed bigger dreams.

OPT

HOPE

Con't from page 1

"God wants me to share [my story] and help others, and to give hope to those who have no voice."

Over the last four years, Mike has been using a letter board and, more recently, a keyboard to "speak." With concentration and fortitude, Mike is able to communicate with anyone, finding the other person's rhythm over a short period of time. With some it is quicker, and with others it takes a little longer, but always it is a gift to communicate. This communication was not always possible for Mike. Having been taught using applied behavior analysis (the use of techniques to bring positive change in behavior) since he was 2 years old, Mike could not always complete the tasks he was being asked to do. Although he understood everything and wanted to respond correctly, he physically couldn't. No one knew what he was thinking, or even if he was thinking. Through all the struggles and many challenges, he persevered, and so did his family — his mother, Lori, father, Eric, older brother, Jake, and younger sister, Samantha.

A source of inspiration and advocacy for her son, Lori came to know about Soma Mukhopadhyay, a woman in Austin, Texas, who was researching treatments for nonverbal children, and, in 2012, Mike was introduced to Miss Soma. And so it began, the arduous process of spelling out words on letter stencils and Mike finally being able to share what was inside his mind. He describes his nonverbal world in an essay, "My Escape from Prison," which he wrote in fifth grade. In the essay, he describes how he felt when he "told" his mom that he missed his family and couldn't wait to see them again. "This was the best moment of the escape," he wrote, "like the joy of a prisoner emerging from Alcatraz."

For Mike, and other children like him, this long and silent journey has a new hope and unique sound. The Nemours Pediatric Speech Research Center in Wilmington, Delaware, is using sounds, particularly vowel, as well as word approximations that Mike can make, and merging them with a donor voice to create more natural speech output. Breaking through the paradigm of computer-generated voices and by way of Bluetooth technology, the Nemours method of generating speech will soon be Mike's new voice as he types on his iPad — his own custom sound to vocalize the words from his fingers.

A donor voice is not something most of us are familiar with; we may donate food, clothing, even blood,

but our voice? The concept was not something that Trey McCloskey knew anything about when the mission to help Mike gain a voice began at St. Raphael's, but, he says, "When I understood what it was, and that I was doing something good to help Mike, I wanted to do my best." In seeking a voice for Mike, the Keller family auditioned young volunteers from St. Raphael's Confirmation group — boys about the same age as Mike. On a Sunday afternoon in the church, "American Idol"-style, the boys presented their voices by repeating sentences and sounds as Mike narrowed down the donor selection to Trey. Delighted to be a chosen voice donor, Trey was also struck by the courtesy and gratitude that Mike extended to all the volunteers, telling them of his appreciation and reassuring them that it was not his desire for anyone's feelings to be hurt through the elimination process. In the end, Mike was seeking a match to the sound of his own voice he hears when he sleeps.

Using a special microphone, Trey, as well as Mike's brother, Jake, have been recording hours of words, sentences, and sounds. Words are broken down so that donor consonant sounds may be blended with the vowel sounds that Mike is able to make, producing speech that is uniquely and realistically like his own if he were able to speak. By recording at the same time each day, the voice donors help ensure consistent voice quality and rate; special effort is given to match the donor voices with Mike's voice frequency. The gift of voice from Trey and Jake, along with his own, and the breaking and blending of sounds, words, and word parts, all work together in the goal of achieving the voice of Mike's dreams.

In sharing his story and giving a voice to those who do not have one, Mike hopes that others may be open to understanding the hidden minds of those who cannot speak. His path toward speaking through a letter board, keyboard, and soon with a new voice, bears the beautiful fruits of patience and perseverance toward reaching goals; the riches of a firm foundation based on family and faith; and the gifts of community, working together, and charity of others. He looks forward to speaking with his new voice to say The Lord's Prayer before family and friends at his cousin's wedding in June. Using his keyboard Mike asks, "Please pray for those who have no voice." Like the heavens that declare God's glory by the continuous dawning of day and coming of night — There is no speech, no words; their voice is not heard: Psalm 19:3 — Mike's journey in silence and speech is witness that those who have no voice have a special purpose and plan.

OPT



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Earthquake Relief

In response to the recent earthquake in Ecuador, St. Rose community and staff collaborated to get donations for earthquake relief supplies for Ecuador. All and all, thousands of pounds of supplies were gathered at St. Rose, which was one of several earthquake relief sites in the region. All the donations within the Washington, Maryland and Virginia area were consolidated at a central facility and flown directly to Ecuador by the Ecuadorian Air Force.



St. Rose of Lima Youth Ministry teens re-enact the Passion of Christ during the Palm Sunday Masses. Photo by Mischa Bolton



St. Rose children celebrate their First Communion.

St. Rose Adaptive Religious Education Students Celebrate the Sacraments!

This year 12 students and 20 teen faith mentors participated in our Adaptive Religious Education Program, which offers catechesis to students who have special needs in a small group or a one-on-one setting that optimizes their learning. Three students received Confirmation and eight received First Communion at the 5 p.m. Mass on April 9.



On April 24, St. Rose celebrated the 110th anniversary of Our Lady of Sorrows following the 1 pm Mass. The anniversary recognizes numerous miraculous apparitions of the Virgin Mary at St. Gabriel's Academy, a Jesuit community in Quito, Ecuador. Those who witnessed the miracles reported feeling strongly moved by grace and drawn to the practice of virtue. Photo by Felipe Teixeira



All St. Rose Religious Education Prek-5 classes made tissue paper flowers to be used for the May Crowning of Mary. This is a picture of Class 1, Sundays. Catechists are Shannon Phelan and Steven Dubin.

CARYLE

Con't from page 53

Why Noah Chose the Dove and have practiced peace and being humble in our class. As we have learned this year, kindness towards others can help in many ways; we

will teach this to our big buddies when we act out A Home for Hermit Crab.

And of course in Language Arts we have learned to read and write simple words, relate the days of the week on the calendar with the book Today is Monday, as well as review and retell stories.

As we prepare for what next

year has to bring we have seen that When Rooster Sets off to See the World things can be scary but we always have home to go back to.

In Art we have used our imaginations to illustrate each book....Can you guess which stories we have read with the artwork in the photo?

OPT

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Our Lady of Lourdes

Eighth Annual Lions' Roar Kate Truax 5K is a Huge Success

On Saturday, April 23, students, teachers, and OLOL families and friends came together for the eighth annual Lions' Roar Kate Truax 5K/1K. The race, named for beloved Lourdes teacher Kate Truax, is Lourdes' biggest fundraiser, and all proceeds go to supporting the current and future students at the school.

Still full from the previous night's spaghetti dinner, runners arrived first thing Saturday morning with raincoats and umbrellas. Despite the rain, the race began, as scheduled, at 9AM. Lourdes students from pre-K to the eighth grade participated in the race, with Kai Shaw, Marco Nicolacci, Lily Capizzi, and Julianna Capizzi all placing first in their age groups. Mrs. Paula Pels repeated and placed first in the women's category and sixth grader Nicholas Palazzo won first place



Nick Palazzo finished far ahead of the pack in the 8th Annual Lions' Roar Kate Truax 5K in 19:14.

overall with a remarkable time of 19:14!

Twenty-five Lourdes graduates served as volunteer road marshals and helped with set-up and take-

down on the day of the race.

After the race, Lourdes families and friends gathered in the school cafeteria for coffee, donuts, and bagels as the raffle basket winners were announced, and trophies were awarded. The Alarcon-Lopez family won the basket donated by the teachers, which included a bookshelf and their favorite books. Students danced to music played by the DJ and jumped on the moon bounce while families enjoyed a pizza lunch. We were especially honored to welcome Kate's mom, Carla, and her sister Sara, as well as many of Ms. Truax's dear friends who came from far and near. It was a wonderful day for the Lourdes community, and a great reminder of Ms. Truax's positive spirit and dedication to the children of Our Lady of Lourdes School.

OPT



Mr. Long congratulates sixth grader Andres Peterkofsky for finishing third overall.

Our Lady of Mercy

Eleven Mercy School Class of 2012 Grads Will Play Collegiate Athletics

Six Recognized As All-Mets By The Washington Post

In the spring and summer of 2003, Monsignor John Enzler, Pastor of Our Lady of Mercy Church, and Joan Hosmer, Principal of Our Lady of Mercy School, faced a unique challenge. Requests for admission to the new kindergarten class that would become the Our Lady of Mercy Class of 2012 were significantly higher than in the preceding years. Monsignor Enzler and Mrs. Hosmer decided that for one class year, Our Lady of Mercy School would support two classes of a single grade. Thus, the Our Lady of Mercy "bubble" class was formed with fifty-two students.

During the "bubble" years, Our Lady of Mercy Church's CYO program produced two JV championships in basketball and soccer, a varsity championship in soccer and only the second CYO varsity baseball championship for Our Lady of Mercy in fifty years of competition. In 2012, Our Lady of Mercy School competed for one year in the Mid-Atlantic Private School Swim Tournament placing fourth for girls and fifth for boys out of fourteen schools competing in the tournament.

The Class of 2012 went off to high school and their athletes continued to compete for their high school teams. Of the forty-eight graduates of the Our Lady of Mercy Class of 2012, eleven of them will continue to participate in collegiate sports and six were recognized as All-Mets by the Washington Post in the fall and win-

ter sports (spring sports have not yet been announced). They are:

Caroline Fowler	Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School	Lacrosse	Colby College
Kelleigh Haley	Stone Ridge School Of the Sacred Heart (Washington Post All-Met Honorable Mention)	Swimming	Georgetown U
Nico Jenkins	St. John's College HS	Baseball	LaSalle U
Brian Johnson	Gonzaga College HS (Washington Post All-Met Second Team)	Football	Virginia Tech U
Tommy Keane	Gonzaga College HS (Washington Post All-Met First Team)	Soccer	Gettysburg College
William MacDonald	Gonzaga College HS	Wrestling	Univ. North Carolina-Chapel Hill
Matthew McCann	Gonzaga College HS (Washington Post All-Met Honorable Mention)	Soccer	Fordham U
Matthew Mulligan	Gonzaga College HS	Lacrosse	Washington and Lee University
Bailey Ogilvie	Gonzaga College HS	Rugby	U of Oklahoma-Norman
Lilly Paro	Connelly School of the Holy Child (Washington Post All-Met Honorable Mention)	Basketball	Tufts University
Colin Smyth	Winston Churchill Sr. HS	Football	U of Delaware

Congratulations to these athletes and their Mercy classmates as they graduate from high school. We wish the entire Our Lady of Mercy Class of 2012 great success in college and in their lives.

OPT

Christ the King

Katharine Holmes, Olympian among us

By Bettie Grabam, Christ the King parishioner (and fellow fencer under coach Finkleman)

Katharine Holmes will be one of four women on the US Epee Fencing Team representing the United States at the 2016 Summer Games in Rio de Janeiro this August. Holmes started fencing at age 9 in the Chevy Chase Fencing Club's youth program at the Chevy Chase Community Center. A program of the DC Department of Parks and Recreation, the Chevy Chase Fencing Club has produced many national and international competitors. Under the training of Fencing Master Raymond Finkleman and his wife, coach Jean Finkleman, Holmes was ranked number one in the United States in every age group as she grew older. By the time she left for Princeton at age 18 she had won silver in the Cadet (age 17 and under) 2009 World Championships in Belfast, Ireland, silver in the Junior Team at the 2010 World Championship in Baku, Azerbaijan, and represented the US at the Youth Olympics in Singapore. Holmes took two years off from Princeton to train and qualify for her first Olympic Games. She has had



Katharine Holmes, gold medalist at the 2015 Pan Am Games in Toronto

one of her most successful years on the World Cup circuit, earning four top 16 results as well as a bronze medal at the 2015 Pan Am Championships and a gold at the 2015 Pan Am Games. She and her family were members of the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament where she and her sister attended religious education classes, when they were young and the family lived closer to the Church. Even with her international travels and heavy training schedule, Katharine Holmes attends Mass on a regular basis.

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