



Parish Times

Back to School
Issue

AUGUST 2014

Living the Faith Together

FREE

New Head of School at Holy Child

A new era begins at Holy Child as its tenth Head of School settles in to her role. Shannon Gomez, EdD, was selected after a nationwide search this past January, a unanimous selection of the search committee. After numerous fact-finding visits this spring, she officially took the reins on July 1.

Dr. Gomez comes to Holy Child with deep experience in Catholic education at the

Continued on page 12



Dr. Shannon Gomez, the new Head of School at Connelly School of the Holy Child

New Uses for Old Places



Chuck Short

Welcome back! The many parish contributors, publishers Lawrence and Kathleen Hamm and everyone associated with this unique Montgomery County Catholic community publication look forward to another informative and inspiring

year together. There are few independent publications like OPT in the United States that focus entirely on parish life in a local community with goals of celebrating Catholic community accomplishments; information sharing among parishes; and encouraging active engagement among parishioners in parish life. I'm grateful to be part of the team!

Welcome to the new pastors, associates and deacons assigned to OPT parishes. We are fortunate to have several of the newly ordained men assigned to our communities. New ideas with enthusiastic action help to engage and inspire all of us. Welcome also to

Continued on page 31

St. Jane Choir Goes to Paris



Members of St. Jane de Chantal Children's Choir visited Paris, France this summer

In July, the St. Jane de Chantal Children's Choir joined 7,000 children from other countries in Paris, France. The choir, under Olga Morales, belongs to the group Pueri Cantores. This group was founded after WWII with the mission of bringing children

of all nations together to sing for peace. Each summer, the group holds a Congress in a different country.

The De Chantal choir has participated in four of these gatherings: Rome, Spain, Washington D.C., and France. This year, the

group consisted of 23 children and 27 adults, including the pastor, the principal and two teachers from the school.

They began their tour in Normandy, France where they sang at the Memorial and took

Continued on page 7



Rev. Jan Fiedurek (3rd from left) and his brother priests at the picnic after concelebrating Rev. Fiedurek's thanksgiving Mass on the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood at Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish, Silver Spring, on May 18, 2014: Rev. Adam Muda, Rev. Marcin Nowicki, Rev. Radek Pasztaleniec, Rev. Tomasz Rekiel, Rev. Marek Stybor, Rev. Andrzej Totzke, Rev. Tomasz Zwiernik.

Rev. Jan Fiedurek celebrates 25th Anniversary

By Bozenna Buda, OLQP editor

On Sunday, May 18, 2014, the birthday of recently canonized Saint John Paul II, parishioners and friends of Our Lady Queen of Poland & St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish in Silver Spring, Maryland, celebrated the 25th anniversary of Pastor Jan Fiedurek's ordination to the priesthood.

After a thanksgiving Mass concelebrated with seven of his fellow priests,

some of whom were originally from his home parish in Poland, Rev. Fiedurek and the congregation were greeted by Parish Council President Izabela Macander who presented Father with a bouquet of flowers. Members of several groups from the parish and from Polonia (among them lectors, ushers, Polish School, drama group, Polish Scouting Organization, Friends of John Paul II Foundation) expressed their appreciation to Rev. Fiedurek. Children

Continued on page 30

St. John Baptist Welcomes New Associate Pastor

How Fortunate We Are

Father D'Souza's odyssey to the priesthood began 20 years ago as a young man in India. Father felt his first call to religious vocation at 10 years of age, while

Continued on page 13



Father D'Souza is ordained by Cardinal Wuerl on June 21, 2014, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

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Continued on page 30

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Index

Catholic Business Network	2
Christ the King	27
Classifieds	39
Holy Cross	26
Holy Redeemer	5
Mary of Nazareth	29
Mother Seton	28
Our Lady of Lourdes	31
Our Lady of Mercy	23
Our Lady Queen of Poland	30
Resurrection	10
Seniors	18-19
Sports	39
St. Andrew Apostle	32
St. Bartholomew	33
St. Bernadette	8
St. Elizabeth	6
St. Francis International School	34
St. Francis of Assisi	22
St. Jane de Chantal	9
St. John Neumann	12
St. John the Baptist	13
St. John the Evangelist	7
St. Jude	25
St. Martin of Tours	38
St. Mary	11
St. Michael	14
St. Patrick	15
St. Raphael	35
St. Rose of Lima	36

Requiescat in Pace: Louis Charles D'Addio

Lou D'Addio, a long time parishioner of Our Lady of Lourdes in Bethesda, passed away on July 14, 2014 at the age of 98. One of 8 children, he was born in Brooklyn to Italian immigrants from the town of St. Agatha (near Naples) who came through Ellis Island. He moved to Washington, DC in 1950 and joined Holy Rosary parish. Throughout his entire life, he had a great love for Fr. DeCarlo and Holy Rosary.

Lou, as everyone called him, had a long and distinguished career at the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), from which he retired. Throughout his life, when he saw an injustice he acted against it. Lou was always for the underdog or those that were disadvantaged. He was a notable figure in the Washington, DC area in the civil rights movement and the Catholic interracial apostolate at St. Peter Claver Center and the Madonna House. He once walked out of a café with the group he was seated with when they refused to serve one of their group who was a black man. The Maid of Honor at his wedding was a black woman, quite startling for 1952.

Lou later got involved in the pro-life movement and was once arrested through nonvio-



Lou D'Addio at his 98th birthday party on November 15, 2013

lent civil disobedience which closed down an abortion clinic as part of Operation Rescue. He frequently said the rosary in front of abortion clinics. At the end of his life he joined the Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation which works to improve the plight of Palestinian Christians. At that time, he made 3 trips

to the Holy Land. He also was a volunteer at the Catholic Information Center which operates under the Archdiocese of Washington, DC. A highlight of his life was a visit to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico. He brought back a full length image of Our Lady of Guadalupe which he framed and which graced his apartment for the rest of his life. He attended daily Mass. His favorite restaurant was the Pines of Rome in Bethesda.

Lou D'Addio passed away peacefully at the Bartholomew House Assisted Living Facility (a facility built and managed by Victory Housing, the housing development arm of the Archdiocese of Washington, with his loving daughter, Terry, at his side. One of the last things he said was,

"People need to love each other. People need to love each other more."

OPT

Centro Tepeyac Pregnancy Center Wins Suit against County

By John Naughton

In 2010 the Montgomery County Council (MCC) passed an ordinance requiring pregnancy centers to tell potential clients in their first words and with posted signs that they were not a medical facility and there was no medical professional on staff. The purpose of this ordinance was to send more women to abortuaries because pregnancy centers were saving many women from abortion.

The MCC willingly passed the ordinance at the behest of NARAL Pro Choice Maryland who produced a report claiming that pregnancy center personnel were misleading women by telling them abortion presented many surgical and post abortion risks, which is the truth. The MCC was repeatedly presented with medical proof of such risks and they were told that over the years four preg-



Matt Bowman, Senior Legal Counsel for Alliance Defending Freedom (left) and Mark L. Rienzi, associate professor at The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law. The lead attorneys in the suit against the MCC flank Mariana Vera at a celebratory luncheon of the victory over the County Council.

 **Parish Times**

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Continued on
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Holy Redeemer Ushers in New Staff and Transitions

By Michelle Ardillo

In her “back to school” letter to the school community, Holy Redeemer Principal Colleen Ryan announced new staff and new positions for existing staff members. The Blue Ribbon award winning school welcomes the following new staff members and congratulates existing staff on the following transitions:

Mrs. Magda Mooers has been promoted to Assistant Principal. Mooers joined HR’s staff three years ago, holding various positions, most recently second grade teacher. She is a native Washingtonian with a BA from Catholic University, and is currently working on a MA in special education at Marymount

University. Prior to coming to HR, Mooers was on staff at Holy Trinity School for eleven years. She is known throughout the school for her positive attitude and strong sense of community. Outside of HR, Mooers enjoys time with her husband Donald, and their children Stephen, Johnny, and Annie. She also enjoys reading and writing, swimming and watching her children compete in swim meets, and listening to music and watching movies.

Replacing Mooers as second teacher is Mrs. Meghan Rivera. Rivera joined the HR staff last year as first grade teacher and is excited to be moving up with her rising second graders. Mrs. Rivera will be profiled in a future article.

Filling the first grade position will be Mrs. Jennifer Mahoney, who will be bringing along her three children to the school: Katie, Billy, and Eileen. Mahoney is originally from Stamford, Connecticut, and has lived in the DC area since 1995. She holds a BA from Loyola University of Maryland, a MA in teaching from Trinity, and licensure in special education from UVA. Mahoney previously taught second grade at Saint Francis De Sales and first grade at Mount Daniel Elementary in Falls Church. She looks forward to working with the faculty and staff of HR and is excited about getting back in the classroom. Mahoney enjoys spending her free time with her husband Stephen and their three children.

Current staff member Mrs. Veronica Rozier will also be on the move as school begins. Having served as a kindergarten aide for the past nine years, she will now be known as “Señora Rozier” as she becomes the school’s Spanish teacher. Rozier, who is completely bilingual, was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, to a Cuban family. She graduated from American University with a BA in international business and moved to Maryland upon her graduation. She and her family have lived in Kensington and have been a part of the HR parish for 22 years. Rozier and her husband John have three children, all graduates of HR. She enjoys cooking for her family, traveling and learning about other cultures, and reading in both English and Spanish. Holy Redeemer looks forward to Senora Rozier’s enthusiasm and passion for teaching the students of HR both the Spanish language and about the culture of Spanish-speaking countries. Señora Rozier takes the helm of the Spanish department from Señora Cofiño, who retired in June after teaching Spanish at Holy Redeemer for 45 years.

Taking over as kindergarten aide is Mrs. Erin Morin, a familiar face in the HR hallways as her five children are all current students at the school, and her husband Vinnie is an alum of HR. A lifelong resident of the area, she studied physical education at the University of Maryland, having previously attended St. Mark’s and Elizabeth Seton High School. Morin is looking forward to bringing her enthusiastic attitude to the kindergarten classroom and is excited to be working with children again after having taken time off to have and raise her own children. She enjoys reading and spending time with her family.

The front office of HR will also have a new face, Ms. Lorrie Ricca, who has been hired as an administrative assistant. Ricca, a third generation resident of Montgomery County, attended the Academy of the Holy Cross and Montgomery

College. She worked for many years in the advertising and broadcast media field, with companies such as WJLA, WMAL, MIX 107.3 and 94.7 FRESH. Ricca has two sons, Ryan and Patrick. She looks forward to meeting the students, teachers, and parents of HR, and along with her long ties to the community, she will also bring to the job an enthusiastic attitude and sunny personality. Ricca enjoys going to the beach with family and friends, attending and volunteering at Maryland Special Olympics events, and traveling.

Also joining HR staff this year will be Mrs. Genny Gilday, who will be an assistant to Mrs. Hirsch in the four-year old program of the HR nursery school. She holds a BA from the University of Maryland but has been a stay at home mom raising her four children, all who have attended the HR nursery school with Mrs. Hirsch. Gilday and her husband have been a part of the HR community for twenty years, giving her a wealth of knowledge about the neighborhood and the school. When asked what she looks forward to in the coming year, Gilday said, “I am looking forward to working with the 4’s; they make me laugh and smile!”

Mrs. Ashlie McGinnis joins the HR faculty as 6A homeroom where she will also be teaching sixth and seventh-grade English and sixth-grade literature. McGinnis, a native of Dayton, Ohio, has been in the DC area since 2007. When asked about her education, McGinnis said

Continued on page 16

Congratulations to the Graduates

By Michelle Ardillo

Holy Redeemer is pleased to announce the completion of graduate programs by two of its existing faculty members. Ms. Danielle Trotta, 8B homeroom and middle school science teacher, graduated in May from her alma mater, West Virginia University, with a Masters in Secondary Education with a Science Emphasis. Trotta graduated from WVU with a BA in English in the spring of 2007 and began teaching at HR that fall. She obtained MSDE certification for grades 7-12 in English through a graduate program from what is now Notre Dame of Maryland University. She is also certified in grades 5-9 in science. Obtaining the MA from WVU while teaching full-time was challenging but Trotta looks forward to implementing the teaching practices and projects she developed in the program with her middle school students.

Trotta, a graduate of Our Lady of Good Counsel High School, was born in New Rochelle, New York, lived briefly in Italy as a young child, returned to NY for a short period, and has lived in Maryland ever since. A former winner of the HR Teacher of the Year award, Trotta brings endless enthusiasm and a passion for teaching to the middle school hallways, moderating and participating in many of the school’s activities and clubs, such as student government, the Astronomy Club, and the Drama Club. She and her family are active long-time parishioners of St. Peter’s in Olney.

Mrs. Teri Gosine completed her Masters of Education in Reading Education in July from Towson University. Gosine joined the HR faculty during the 2007-2008 school year as a fifth-grade teacher. After teaching fifth grade for two years, Gosine moved to fourth

grade where she remained for four years. Last year, she joined the resource department, where she will continue this fall, using the tools and methods she acquired during the graduate program. Gosine, a Silver Spring native and graduate of OLGCHS, holds a degree in elementary education from Frostburg State University. She comes from a “football family”, her father and two brothers all being football coaches, and grew up attending or watching University of Maryland football games. Gosine met her husband of two years, Suren, playing soccer on a co-ed college team. After college she coached soccer, including several years on the coaching staff of The Academy of the Holy Cross, until she began graduate school, but continues to help coach the MSI kindergarten clinic. Her hobbies now include running, reading, and dining out with her husband and friends.

OPT

Go Red – Respect Everyone Daily

By Michelle Ardillo

The commencement of the new school year will mark the start of a school-wide program designed to build a Christ-centered community characterized by courtesy, compassion, and commitment, which will be anchored by the Four C’s Cornerstone Prayer. Faculty, staff, and students use this Morning Prayer to dedicate themselves to Jesus and to petitioning for His help throughout the day. At each grade level, students will explore developmentally appropriate ways to act with courtesy, show compassion, demonstrate

commitment and serve the community. The Four C’s inform teaching across the curriculum and serve as behavioral standards throughout school life. Holy Redeemer School’s new rallying cry, “**Go RED—Respect Everyone Daily!**” is an encouraging cheer and affirmation for personal conduct that exemplifies **courtesy, compassion, commitment, and community service**. Whether in the classroom or on the athletic field, in church or on stage, a Holy Redeemer student who acts with courtesy, shows compassion, demonstrates commitment, and serves the community is doing the “RED” thing.

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A New Face for the School Lobby and Auditorium

By Michelle Ardillo

While the classrooms have been empty over the summer, the front lobby and Herb Young Auditorium were bustling with activity as a long awaited renovation took place. When completed, the HYA will sport new ceiling and floor tiles, new insulation,

new storage space for the folding tables and chairs, new heating and air conditioning equipment, and a new sound and lighting system, including theatre lights for the stage. Old wall mounted television monitors have been removed and will be replaced with basketball goals so that the HYA can be used for the school’s popular basketball

program. Parents, students, and visitors to the school will step through the front doors into a beautifully re-decorated front lobby complete with new recessed lighting, drywall to cover the concrete block interior walls, custom display cases, and several other finishing touches coordinated by parishioners Gloria Capron and Renee Molina.

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Parish Kicks Off its 50th Anniversary Celebration

St. Elizabeth Parish, which was founded in June, 1964, by declaration of Patrick A. O'Boyle, Archbishop of Washington, began with its Masses held in the Pike Theater in Rockville until its sanctuary and school were completed in November 1966. Its founding pastor, Frederick Bloom, brought the parish along for the first 28 years, retiring in 1992 and turning the reins over to the parish's current pastor, John Macfarlane.

Many of the surrounding communities were being built at this same time. Old Farm, North Farm, Walnut Woods, Hickory Woods, all beautifully wooded and landscaped neighborhoods today, were once houses sitting on naked lots of what were bare farmland fields sold to developers to meet the burgeoning demand for housing in the Washington Metropolitan area. A good many of those earliest homebuyers were members of St. Elizabeth and a handful of those suburban pioneers remain to this day.

St. Elizabeth grew from 310 families, when the church was dedicated, to over 1600 families today. Celebrating alongside the parish community is St. Elizabeth School, which, in its 50 years, has graduated over 2,000 students, practically all of whom have gone on to higher education, marriage and successful lives.

It is with great joy and justifiable pride that the St. Elizabeth Parish



community should celebrate this milestone in the parish's history. So to begin a year of celebration pastor Msgr. Jack Macfarlane began with a Kick-off Carnival on June 8 on the parish grounds, attended by more than 700 adults and children. Rides, games, lots of good food and fellowship made for a delightful afternoon.

In addition to recognizing the several founding parishioners in attendance, Msgr. Macfarlane also used the opportunity, to recognize the parish's pastoral associate, Kathryn Swartz, who was given

an Archdiocesan 75th Anniversary medal by Msgr. Macfarlane to honor her for her 25 years working for the Archdiocese as his assistant, the first three when they were both at Resurrection and the last 22 at St. Elizabeth.

The coming year will include special events each month through May 2015, including special recognition of the various lay ministries during a weekend Mass. In June, CYO coaches, and Scout leaders were recognized and honored; last month on the 13th, Homebound Ministers and Senior Drivers were honored at a Mass where there was also a special anointing of the sick. This month, on August 23, the Social Concerns, Justice & Service and Legislative Network ministries will be recognized during a bilingual Mass and a buffet supper that has been arranged to celebrate the parish's partnership in working with the Hispanic community of Langley Park. Special guests will include the Langley Park Folk



Some of the parishioners in attendance at the St. Elizabeth Carnival who were also at the parish's first Mass fifty years ago: Muriel & John Mann, Barbara Weidenbruch, Alex Dromerick, Joe & Mary Zauner, Marie Dromerick (hidden) and Lynore Hill

group, which will provide both the music during Mass and at the dinner following.

Coming events will include special liturgies, including one in November celebrated by Cardinal

Wuerl; John Allen speaking on the topic of the Pope, concerts; a DC Hood basketball game; parties and a 5-kilometer run/walk. Further details will be provided as these events grow near.

OPT



St. E's pastor, Msgr. Jack Macfarlane presents Pastoral Associate Kathryn Swartz with an Archdiocesan 75th Anniversary medal to recognize her 25 years of working for the Archdiocese as his assistant, 22 of them at St. Elizabeth's.



For the kids, there were field games, a moon bounce, a Monster Obstacle course, snow cones, and more. Here, they are participating in tug-o-war.

St. Elizabeth Parish

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Gerry Moore,
OPT Editor

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How Are Priests Assigned? Questions Answered

Whenever a parish priest is reassigned, the questions are inevitable: why is our pastor leaving, why

can't he stay in our parish forever and how are priests assigned anyway? Below is some information to explain how the process works.

Who assigns priests?

In the Archdiocese of Washington, Cardinal Wuerl consults closely with a Priest Personnel Board, which meets almost monthly to advise him on priest assignments.

Do priests have term limits?

Not exactly. Canon (church) law permits a conference of bishops to establish guidelines for the length of pastor appointments. In the United States, that term is six years, renewable for another six years. A pastor may be moved prior to that time, or may be kept on longer, depending on the bishop's assessment of the pastoral needs within the parish and diocesan-wide.

Why do priests get reassigned?

The most common reason is an opening for a pastor because of retirement, grave illness, death or other serious pastoral need. A priest

is assigned to fill that opening, but then his old position needs to be filled and so on. In fact, there can be a domino effect with one opening resulting in several priest moves as parish needs and priest gifts are matched.

What criteria are used to assign a pastor?

A pastor is chosen after careful consideration of three criteria: (1) needs of the parish; (2) the gifts of particular priests in the diocese; and (3) availability of priests.

Each parish has different needs, including size, diversity and the complexity of its ministries, and each priest has different gifts and experience. The goal is to match the parish needs with a priest's experience as much as possible. This can be a challenge at times as priests retire and fewer priests are available for the needs. At the same time, the Archdiocese of Washington is blessed with an active vocations program, which brings great hope for the future. The archdiocese currently has nearly eighty men in

seminary. Seven men were ordained priests on June 21.

There seem to be a lot of changes right now. Is that unusual?

Not really. Priest assignments can either be made over several months or at one time, as is being done this year. The reasons for the current changes include retirements, ordinations and the return of priests from assignments outside of the archdiocese.

We love our pastor and don't want him to move. Does he have to?

It can be difficult to learn a much-loved parish priest has received a new assignment. Such feelings are a sign of the good work he did in the parish. Yet, a priest is not ordained for a parish, but for the diocese. Sometimes it may be necessary for a bishop to move a priest to a new parish or ministry that has a need for his gifts and pastoral care.

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Administrative Changes at SJE

Msgr. John Pennington Retires

Effective July 31, Msgr. John Pennington retired. After meeting with Cardinal Wuerl, Msgr. Pennington was granted permission for early retirement in order to concentrate on his cancer treatments without having the additional stress of being a pastor. Msgr. Pennington will continue to reside at St. John's and, as his

health allows, will participate in pastoral ministry.

Father Mark Tucker Moves on

Fr. Mark Tucker recently moved from St. John the Evangelist Church to live in residence at Nativity Parish in Washington, DC. Father Mark will continue to serve as a full-time Judge for the Tribunal Office of the Archdiocese of Washington. St.

John the Evangelist was blessed with Father Mark's compassionate service for the past twelve and a half years.

Father Joseph A. Calis Appointed Pastor

As of July 31, St. John the Evangelist welcomed Father Joseph Calis as its new pastor. See the letter from Father Calis below.

OPT

St. John's Welcomes New Pastor, Father Joseph A. Calis

Dear Friends,

During a recent meeting with His Excellency, Donald Cardinal Wuerl, he informed me that it was time for me to move to another parish so I could shepherd them the way I have with my beloved parish, Holy Face. When I was told that I would be coming to St. John the Evangelist Parish and School in Silver Spring, I must admit I was excited and humbled. I asked His Excellency if there was anything special he wanted me to do; he told me simply to love the people at St. John and take care of the school. I thanked His Eminence for sending me to my new home and I promised him that I would do my best with the help of God to shepherd my new family. I look forward to being a part of your lives.

My family and I came to Rockville, Maryland from the Holy Land in 1973 when I was 16 years old. My dad, may God rest his soul, was born in Jerusalem and my mom was born in Bethlehem. I enjoy spending my free time with my mom, my brother, two sisters, three nieces, and two nephews. I graduated from the University of Maryland with a degree in Business Management and Accounting. I had two wonderful careers; managing hotels in the Washington, DC area and working at George Washington University as a senior financial aid counselor. I had always heard the call to the priesthood, but it became stronger at age 37. I attended Blessed John XXIII in Weston, Massachusetts, where I received my seminary formation and a Masters Degree in Divinity.

I was ordained on June 12,



Fr. Joseph A. Calis

1999 at St. Matthew's Cathedral, Washington DC by His Eminence James Cardinal Hickey. I was the only one to be ordained that year for the Archdiocese. I have spent the past 15 wonderful and productive years blessed to be a part of amazing parishes. My first assignment was at Sacred Heart Parish in LaPlata, Maryland, as Associate Pastor. From there, I was at St. John the Baptist Parish in Silver Spring, as an Associate Pastor. My next journey was at Ascension Parish in Bowie, where I served for five years as a Pastor. For four years, I also served as the Moderator of the Sodality Union of the Archdiocese of Washington.

I come to you now from Holy Face Church and Little Flower School in Great Mills, Maryland, where I have been the pastor and school administrator for the past four years. I am thankful for our parishioners, staff and school fam-

ilies who helped me energize our parish community and with God's grace we were able to stabilize our school and keep it open.

Last week, when I visited my new home of St. John the Evangelist, I received a gracious welcome by Msgr. Pennington, Fr. Amoah, and the parish staff. I also had the pleasure of visiting with our Principal Sr. Kathleen and the Sisters at the Convent. I am so thankful for their vocations and presence in our community.

As Msgr. Pennington hands the baton for this beautiful parish and school, I pray that God will give me the strength and wisdom to do His will. I am looking forward to getting to know each of you, being a part of your lives, and working together to continue to nurture and grow our parish and school.

Your brother in Christ,
Fr. Calis

OPT

St. John the Evangelist Parish

10103 Georgia Ave.
Silver Spring, MD
301-681-7663

Rev. Msgr. John R. Pennington
Pastor

St. John the Evangelist School
Sr. Kathleen Lannak, I.H.M.,
Principal

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CHOIR

Con't from page 1

part in a wreath-laying ceremony. This was a meaningful experience for the children and many of the visitors, who were moved by their performance.

As they sang, their backs were to Omaha Beach and they faced 9,780 white crosses representing American soldiers who died that historical day. Father Giese, the pastor, said a private Mass at Chapelle de Soeurs du Bon Secours in Paris. During the week, the children sang at Notre Dame, as well as other

beautiful churches in the parks in the city. They dined in different cafes, visited the Louvre, Versailles, and had a city tour of Paris. They went up the Eiffel Tower after dark and saw the twinkling lights and the beautiful city of Paris.

A French family who had spent nine years at De Chantal before moving back to France invited the group to their Paris apartment to celebrate the friendships that were made over the years.

These experiences have been very meaningful for the children. They have met children from around the world and share common memories. They sang beside

other choirs from France, Korea, Germany and Spain. Mrs. Morales has been instrumental in arranging these journeys and preparing the children to sing music in French, Spanish, Italian and Latin. The children have had the challenge of mastering security in various airports, learning different cultures, dabbling in foreign languages, and eating a variety of foods. But in the end, they have come back home knowing that wherever they have traveled, the children of the world are just like them, and no challenge is too great. The next trip will be in December 2015 to Rome, Italy.

OPT

Fall Gala & Auction, "Come Fly with Me"

Date: Saturday,

October 25, 2014

Time: Early bird

"Rat Pack" entry:

6:30 pm, Regular

entry: 7:00 pm

Location: The

Ballroom at

Wheaton Glen

in the Wheaton

Volunteer Rescue

Squad, 2400 Arcola Ave., Silver

Spring, MD 20902

This biennial parish event is

always an exciting night to remem-

ber for parishioners old and new!

The Fall Gala & Auction includes

unique live and silent auction

items, delicious food and drink,

and of course, the sparkling conver-

sation and company of our very

own St. John's community. This

year's theme celebrates all things

mid-century American cool. We're

going back to 1950 to commemo-

orate when St. John's was first estab-

lished!

The Fall Gala & Auction pro-

vides important financial support

to the parish as one of the big-

gest fundraisers. It's also great way

to meet your fellow parishioners

and build some community spirit.

Parishioners are urged to solicit

donations and ads from local busi-

nesses they regularly patronize for

the auction. But most importantly

— grab your best gal or pal and

ATTEND!

Rat Pack – Early Admission

This exclusive swingin' club is for those who want an opportunity for early entry at the event to peruse the silent auction offerings before the doors open at 7 pm for regular admission. Pay a little extra for this advantage and enjoy a lot of other fun extras that come along with being a Rat Pack member, especially the smooth stylings of SJE's very own Frank Raines.

Tuscany Culinary Escape for Two

Buy a chance at \$100 for this



vacation for two which includes 5 nights in Tuscany and 2 nights in Rome. The cost of airfare, hotel and rental car are included. Enjoy a private cooking lesson, olive oil and wine tours and tast-

ings and more. Only 200 tickets to be sold so no matter how you do the math, your odds look pretty good!

Online Registration

We are pleased to once again offer online registration for this event at: <https://jes.ejoinme.org/ComeFlywithMe>. Parishioners can purchase individual tickets (including Rat Pack), buy their Tuscany Trip raffle tickets, choose to be a sponsor, donor or advertiser. There are many price points to accommodate various economic levels, so we urge you to choose the level of support you can give to this important parish fundraising event. Don't delay; buy your Gala tickets today!

Dress

We encourage you to come dressed to impress. Guys, put on a tux if you own one, or a suit with a skinny tie and your granddad's fedora. For the ladies, it's time to raid the dress-up trunk. Don some long gloves and cat glasses, a poofy skirt or wiggle dress with your best heels. Let's have fun with the theme and conjure up the mood of the late 50s/early 60s.

Questions?

Visit the parish website at sjeparish.org for links to all of the above. Need more information, contact your Come Fly with Me! Gala & Auction Committee at: sjauction@gmail.com.

Your Auction Team: Annemarie Bruckwick, Kate Comello, Denise Culkin, Kate Droege, Maureen Hathway, Beth Klein, and Maggie O'Neill

OPT

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Many Hands Make Light the Work

"I started helping with sandwich making in 2000. I am a light weight compared to Laurie and Joe DeRosa who have been here for twenty-four years!" said St. Bernadette parishioner and Sandwich Sunday team member, Karen Warnick. "Back then, Stan Kowal, Sr. bought all the supplies and we made 1200 sandwiches in 4 hours!"

"Stan and Ann Kowal raised 10 kids and they all went to St. B's school. Stan, Jr. still helps out with sandwich making," Warnick said.

After Kowal's health declined, several parish members pitched in to keep the program going.



St. Bernadette students Catherine O'Donoghue, Grace Rawlins and Ben Tran assemble sandwiches to be donated to Martha's Table.

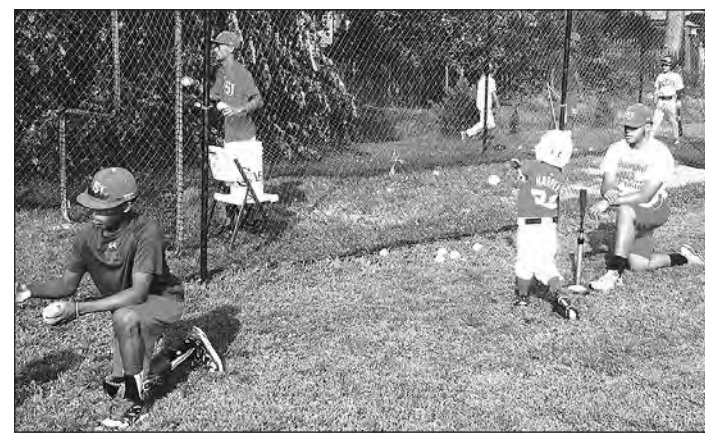
However, it was when Joe and Laurie DeRosa, stepped-up to purchase the supplies and Warnick started emailing monthly reminders to volunteers that the program really got back on track. As supply prices began to rise, the parishioner free-will offerings didn't go as far as it used to, and the group dropped back to 600 sandwiches per month. "Then 3 or 4 years ago, Martha's Table asked us to use higher quality bread, meat and cheese. They would rather provide better nutri-

tion, even if it meant making fewer sandwiches. We now make approximately 300 sandwiches a month." Said Warnick. The DeRosa's records indicate 2013 sandwich total of 5,500 sandwiches donated to Martha's Table. On average, St Bernadette parish members donate \$130 per month. All financial donations are used to pay for supplies (sandwich bags, bread, meat, and cheese.) In addition, some members contribute their own sandwiches.

Volunteers come and go. A low month is when 4-6 volunteers show up. Generally eight to twelve volunteers are on hand. Some volunteers make sandwich assembly and bagging a family event. A number of the helpers are students needing service hours. Some are very active for a few years and then they get busy with other things. "I have seen as many as 25 show up this past year. We finished in 30 minutes that day," Warnick said.

Those interested in making a

Continued on page 16



St. John's joins with St. B's on the field.

A Midsummer Night's Dream



St. Bernadette's Boys of Summer enjoy time on the diamond.

By David Bierwirth

The children taking part in the Saint Bernadette's Boys of Summer Baseball got a real treat when players and coaches from Saint John's College High School's championship baseball program spent an evening with them on the

Continued on page 16

St. Bernadette Parish

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Pastor

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Swingin' on a Star

Teachers Samantha Valentine and Michael Pryor wed July 11; a full Catholic Mass was held at St. Joseph's Parish in Fort Edward, New York. Afterward family and friends were invited to celebrate the union at the Saratoga Hilton Hotel in Saratoga Springs, New York.

The new Mrs. Pryor will begin her second year teaching St. Bernadette's fifth grade this fall. Mr. Pryor, who teaches second grade at St. Bernadette and is a part-time crooner, is also a professional boxer. In a bout benefitting Ovarian Cancer, Pryor will be boxing August 15 in Saratoga.

Mr. and Mrs. Pryor will make Takoma Park their new home.

OPT



SBS second grade teacher, Michael Pryor, raising funds to honor his mother, Cecelia Pryor, in her fight against Ovarian Cancer.

Kindergarten Amazes and Entertains with Peter Rabbit

On April 30, the kindergarten students of St. Jane de Chantal performed their annual production of *The Tale of Peter Rabbit: An Operetta*, complete with their own bunnies, songs and words!

Dedicated teachers Sandy Hughes (who retired this spring after a long tenure in the St. Jane kindergarten) and Mary D'Antonio directed the kindergarten children as they told the heart-warming story of a little rabbit who snuck into Mr. McGregor's garden, narrowly escaped being caught, lost his new blue jacket with large brass buttons, and fortunately made it home in time for blackberries, sugar, and cream before bed.



Kindergarten students had a great time performing Peter Rabbit for their friends and family.

The kindergarten children performed a beautiful show and did an impressive job learning their lines and songs. *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* is truly one of the high-

lights of the year and remains a delightful tradition at the start of each spring season at St. Jane de Chantal.

OPT

CYOpen a Success

It seemed as if prayer made all the difference in May when pouring rain stopped just in time for St. Jane de Chantal's 17th annual CYOpen golf tournament at Falls Road Golf Course. Thanks to the work of committee volunteers and the tournament's many generous sponsors, it was a big success.

Tournament chair Art Harris says he called pastor Rev. Samuel Giese a few days before the tournament – when forecasts called for a 100 percent chance of rain – and asked the good father to pray for better weather. Pray Fr. Giese did (he was scheduled to play, after all), and the sun came out just in time for tee-off. Just one problem: three and a half inches of standing water on the course, which doesn't have a continuous cart path all the way around. That meant golfers had to walk through the mud the whole time, but out of 93 registered golfers, 88 toughed it out and ended up having a great time on the links with friends.

The tournament set a new fundraising record of \$33,000 and was won by Dan Jay, Joe Nalls, Tom O'Keefe, and Brian Haug. Committee members, who worked for months organizing the day, were: Art Harris (Chairman), Brian Sheehan, Tom O'Keefe, Kevin Maynard, Henrik Weng, Leo Dimond, John Nalls, Matt Chalfant, Matt Dugan, Joe Welsh, Max Maxwell, Gerard McLoughlin.

Harris also sent special thanks to many behind-the-scenes volunteers, especially Shannon Harris and Julie MacDonald, and all the sponsors

and golfers who make the day so successful.

The 2015 CYOpen is scheduled for May 15, 2015; visit dechantal-cyopen.org for details.

OPT



Golfers enjoyed a miraculously sunny day at falls road golf course, helping raise \$33,000 for CYO sports at St. Jane de Chantal.



Newly-installed officers of the Rock Creek Council Knights of Columbus celebrate Corpus Christi at St. Jane de Chantal, joining the state deputy at church.

Organist from Notre Dame de Paris visits St. Jane's

On Sunday, May 4th, St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish welcomed Parisian organist, Mr. Johann Vexo. Mr. Vexo offered two musical performances that day. The first was at the 10am Solemn Mass, where he served as guest organist. The liturgy, which was celebrated by Rev. Samuel Giese, Pastor, was accompanied with music inspired by the tradition of liturgical music at La Cathédrale Notre Dame de

Paris. In keeping with the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, the prescribed sung antiphons (proprs)

Continued on page 14



Johann Vexo Performed an organ concert at St. Jane de Chantal Church in May.

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

Kim Fernandez, OPT Editor
kim@kimfernandez.com

More St. Jane de Chantal
News on Pages 1 & 39

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Sister Rita Leaves Resurrection for New Post

Sister Rita Ricker, R.J.M., who served as Director of Social Justice/Outreach at Resurrection Church for 14 years, has left the parish to serve her religious community full time.

Sister Rita has been elected to the Leadership Team for the Religious of Jesus and Mary in the U.S. Province, a position in which she will help minister to the 84 sisters of her religious community living in the United States, specifically California, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Maryland and

Haiti. She will continue to reside in College Park, Maryland.

When she joined the Resurrection Staff in August 2000, Sister Rita was asked to start a Social Justice program, which now includes a wide range of activities to assist the hungry and homeless; advocate for health, peace, justice and environmental protection; and unite the parish in "twinning" efforts to help a sister parish in Haiti.

Many, many parishioners now participate in a number of social justice events and programs,

such as Rebuilding Together with Christmas in April; Habitat for Humanity; Health Awareness and Blood Pressure Screening; Shepherd's Table Soup Kitchen; AIM (Action In Montgomery); EMEAN (Eastern Montgomery Emergency Assistance Network); Gospel of Life; Giving Tree and C-4; Holiday Basket Program for Thanksgiving and Christmas; JUSTFaith and JUSTMatters programs; Justice and Advocacy of Montgomery County; Pax Christi Burtonsville; Environmental Committee - Caring for God's Creation; Haiti Twinning with Gros Morne; and the parish's own Food Pantry.

In celebration of her years of service to the Resurrection community, parishioners held a mid-summer food drive to support the parish food pantry and other food pantries in Washington, D.C., especially those supported by the John S. Mulholland Family Foundation.

A formal farewell celebration for Sister Rita will be held at Resurrection on Sunday, September 14 at the 10:30 a.m. Mass, followed by a reception in the Amadeo Room.



The annual Blessing of the Animals was one of the many activities Sister Rita helped coordinate while at Resurrection Church for the past 14 years.



'Caps,' 'Caterpillars' and 'Creation'

About two dozen youngsters in the Resurrection Preschool 2014 took to the stage May 30 to perform their versions of "Caps for Sale," a popular children's story by Esphyr Slobadkina about a cap seller and a monkey; the "Days of Creation," a song by Sharon Broome of the seven days of creation; and "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle, a story about a caterpillar who eats its way through a variety of foods -- such as apples, pears, strawberries, cake, ice cream and a leaf -- before becoming plump and eventually emerging as a beautiful butterfly. The three works were adapted by Preschool Director Susan Quinn for the performances, which were attended by the children's parents and friends.

OPT

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87 Service Work Campers Lend Their Hands at Resurrection

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and purity." 1 Timothy 4:12

With the words of St. Paul's letter to Timothy as their inspiration, a total of 87 high school and middle school youth from Resurrection Church "lived out their discipleship and made a difference" during three Summer Service Work Camps during June and July.

During the first of the three camps from June 23-27, about two dozen high school work campers participated in service projects for Women Veterans at a VA Hospital, environmental projects, helping single parents, the SHARE food network, and Ellie's Hats for Children with Cancer, among other activities.

There also was a little time for fun as the youth watched the USA vs. Germany World Cup soccer match and engaged in some "Monster Mini Golf." Their motto for the week was, "We only give back to God what God has first given us" (1 Chronicles 29:10-14).



About two dozen high schoolers participated in the Resurrection Summer Service Work Camp from June 23-27. One of their environmental projects was sprucing up the church's main courtyard and planting dozens of flowers. Photo by Cat Halpin

The first of two service camps for middle school youngster followed during the week of July 7 - July 11, with the group's motto being, "Take up the cross daily, lose life to gain life" (Matthew 10:37-39).

During the week, the youngsters participated in service to Women Veterans in VA Hospital, the Montgomery County Weed Warriors, and Ellie's Hats for Children with Cancer.

The third service camp was held the week of July 14-July 18. The motto for the group was "Give your coat, Walk the extra mile" (Matthew 5:38-48).

Campers participated in service for Women Veterans in VA Hospital, the Montgomery County Weed Warriors, residents at the Riderwood Community, Ellie's Hats for Children



At the third of the three Resurrection Summer Service Camps, from July 14-18, middle-school youngsters completed a "Blessing Chain" that was delivered to residents at the Riderwood senior community. Photo by Cat Halpin



More than two dozen youngsters participated in the first of two camps for middle schoolers, from July 7-11. One of their projects was to prepare Breakfast Bags for the Catholic Charities Cup of Joe program to help feed homeless men. Photo by Cat Halpin

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with Cancer, and the Catholic Charities Cup of Joe program, which provides breakfast food for many area homeless. Kevin O'Brien, coordinator of the Cup of Joe program, assisted the Resurrection youngsters in their project.

One of the projects the group completed was a "Blessing Chain" that contained a blessing each of the campers came up with, and the chain was delivered to residents at the Riderwood senior community.

The camps were conducted under the direction of Helene Stever, Director of Religious Education/Faith Formation, and Adult Leaders Cat Halpin and Kimberly Wilhelm.

Stever said the youth attending the camps "are a great witness of living out their faith as they make a difference in many lives."

OPT



The kindergarten class planted a garden in June so the incoming class can enjoy cherry tomatoes and mini peppers for snack! Squash and pumpkins will be ready in the fall as well! Look how much it has grown over the summer!



The St. Mary's class of 2014 gathers for a photo after graduation. In a matter of days, these graduates will be reporting as freshman in some of the area's most accomplished high schools. Congratulations and good luck!

Join the Club

If you have an interest, St. Mary's has the club. As school year 2014-15 opens, the school is proud to offer an array of extracurricular activities for its students. Highlights include:

- Scratch club for computer enthusiasts
- Drama and Choral Arts with choral arts performances at National Christmas tree and Keys games
- The 100 Mile Club and Mustang Marathon in addition to sports teams
- Newspaper, Yearbook and Art club
- Award winning Robotics Club

And more! St. Mary's believes in fostering the whole child and these clubs are but one compo-



Boy Scouts from St. Mary's at this summer's camp out.

nent of that philosophy. Plus they are a great way to make friends and have fun!

OPT

Bicentennial Wrap-up

The Parish marked the close of their Bicentennial year with Mass on June 15th. The year was truly a celebration of all that has made the Parish the heart of Rockville and the center of Parishioners lives for 200 years.

Events touched on every segment of Parish life with outreach, spiritual education, opening Mass with Cardinal Wuerl and many social events including the magnificent gala and Rockville 5k and parade.

Co-chairs Gary and Clare

Funkhouser, George and Linda Griffin and Victor and Lilly Muzzatti as well as social chairs Pat and Karen Gilroy worked tirelessly to coordinate a wonderful year-long celebration.

This occasion gave parishioners of all ages a chance to come together when normally they may never have crossed paths. The gala saw several generations of parishioners gather for an evening of dining, dancing and reminiscing. The Greg Gannon Food Drive was an over-

whelming success with children, adults and senior citizens joining forces to collect a staggering amount of canned goods.

St. Mary's wants to thank all the volunteers and participants that made this celebration so special. The parish remains committed to continuing the tradition of providing Catholic faith and support to the community as it moves into the next century and that is truly worthy of a celebration every day.

OPT

Social Concerns Corner

Summer may be time for vacations but Social Concerns does not rest! This summer has been a busy one including:

- School supply drive to benefit local elementary schools and Stepping Stones Shelter in Rockville
- Food collection for ROCKVILLE/HELP
- Initiative to form parish teams to prepare and serve meals once a month at a Rockville shelter

OPT

St. Mary's Parish

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Rockville, MD

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Pastor

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

Maureen Stiles, Parish Editor
301-990-4329

St. Mary's Rockville to host 200th Anniversary Concert

And yes, "Washington's gift to opera" singer Jessica Stecklein will be joining us to usher in this great event. The talented singers Cecelia Galczynski and Jacqueline Manger, the St. Mary's Choir and the "Belles of St. Mary's" will be also performing. And to top it all off, former child piano prodigy and our very own Msgr. Amey has agreed to tickle the ivories. If you have never heard him play the piano you don't know what you are missing.

Sign up early as this is sure to be the Catholic entertainment event of the year. Refreshments will be served after the concert. Tickets are 20 dollars for adults and 10 dollars for children 12 and under. Tickets can be reserved by going to our web site - stmarys-rockville.org - and clicking bicen-



Lyric coloratura soprano Jessica Stecklein

ennial concert under news and events or calling Lacy Prebula at 301 762 8750 and leaving your contact info.

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Who doesn't love a parish picnic? The air was filled with the aroma of good food, abundant laughter and children's shouts of approval as they challenged their friends in fun games. And the summer afternoon lingered on with the Celtic and Bluegrass folk music from the parish's favorite musical group, Sligo Creek.



How many people does it take to have a GREAT parish picnic?



ALL of them! But it also takes wonderful food, music, fun and peaceful relaxation. Thank heaven for the gorgeous weather, the Knights of Columbus and all who volunteered to help this year's picnic be a **GREAT DAY!** Photos by Jerry Kelley

OPT

St. John Neumann Crab & Shrimp Festival

To some in the parish, Sunday July 27th was just the seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time. For others, it was the three-month anniversary of the canonization of two favorites: St. John Paul II and St. John XXIII. But for a number of thankful parishioners, it was also the day SJN became the "seafood restaurant-of-choice" in Gaithersburg!

No telling how many crabs and pounds of shrimp were doled out to eager seafood lovers that day in the Parish Center, but by all measures,



Maryland boiled crabs and shrimp were the food of the day during SJN's First Annual Seafood Festival.



the very first festival of its kind in the parish was a pure Maryland Summer delight.

"The festival was a fundraiser for the Religious Education Program," said Cecelia Dayao, one of the organizers of the event. "We're always looking for new, fun stuff for the parish—to bring the people together, and at the same time, bring awareness for Religious Education."

For the Religious Educations folks, it's been a busy summer. "In early May, we had a nice turnout for another fundraiser, 'Family Spirit Night' at Chick-fil-A in the Kentlands," recalled Mrs. Dayao. "And, of course, the highlight of our year came with First Communions and Confirmations in May for over 55 young people."

OPT

Expanding Our Home

By Rus Wester

Been in the parish long? Remember our early, modest beginnings? Thirty-five years ago Whetstone Community Center served as our first church. A village town-house became the rectory. In 1982 land was donated for building our current church. Thank you Father Torsiello, Mary Ann Samorajczyk and all the devoted, early parishioners who guided "our birth" as a faith community.

Time has now come to consolidate the parish physical footprint by creating new work and education spaces...all to ensure a vibrant environment for future parish generations.

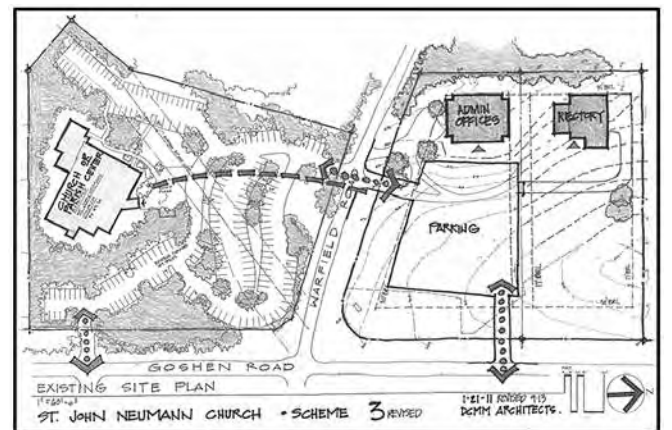
Our Pastor, Father Joe Rogers, confirmed recently in his progress update, the successful capital campaign *Expanding Our Home* will fund this SJN expansion. Five-year parish pledges have reached the \$2.46 million mark, offered by 497 parish households. "I would like

to express my gratitude to all who have made a pledge...this is an extraordinary expression of generosity and commitment to the parish," said Father Joe. "I would also like to mention, that if parishioners were unable to contribute to the fundraising campaign previously, but would like to participate, pledges of any size are welcome...the Lord sees the heart."

As campaign pledges continue to be honored by parishioners, numerous *Expansion* tasks keep Father and his staff working diligently. "The first priority of our campaign is to pay off the Neumann House mortgage," said Father Joe. "We're over half way there!"

Considerable hours are being spent by the rectory on the rezoning process of the Neumann House property and other church land. "Let's keep praying that we are successful in getting the county approvals for the building and development we need and have planned," said Father Joe.

OPT



Responding to the parish capital campaign, *Expanding Our Home*, 497 households have pledged \$2.46 million to perpetuate the growth of the parish. Plans are moving forward for realizing new physical facilities (see accompanying architectural sketch).

HOLY CHILD

Con't from page 1

elementary, secondary, and college levels, both in the United States and abroad, as a teacher and an educational leader. She most recently served as Principal at La Reina High School (Thousand Oaks, CA), an all-girls Catholic high school sponsored by the Sisters of Notre Dame.

Dr. Gomez holds a BS in Education from Bowling Green State University, an MS in Education from CSU Fullerton, and a PhD in Educational Leadership for Social Justice from Loyola Marymount University.

The new head, who spent several days on-site during the interview process, says, "I am extremely honored to be given this great opportunity. Everything that I saw while

visiting the Holy Child campus was so impressive. From the sisterhood that was clearly demonstrated, to the support from the parents and alumnae, and the professionalism and energy of the faculty and staff. Holy Child is a warm and welcoming place that exemplifies what it is to live life with 'joy, zeal and compassion.' My family and I are so blessed to be welcomed into this truly dynamic community."

Dr. Gomez builds upon the strong foundation laid at Holy Child over twenty years of outstanding leadership by Maureen Appel, and is already making plans to further strengthen all departments within the school. This is a very important time in the history of Holy Child, and the entire community is excited about the opportunities for even greater success, for students, alumnae, and parents alike.

OPT

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A Talk with St. John the Baptist's New Principal

On July 1, St. John the Baptist welcomed our new Principal, Mr. Brian Blomquist. From his roles as Teacher and Vice Principal to Coach, Mr. Blomquist brings with him a rich history of leadership. The following is an excerpt of from Mr. Blomquist's first interview.

"Looking back, it seems like everything I've done has been to prepare me for becoming principal at St. John the Baptist."

"I am a husband, father, coach, teacher, and vice principal. I spent my last seven years as the eighth-grade homeroom teacher, middle-school language arts teacher, and vice principal at St. Ann's, in DC. I taught third and fifth grades at Raymond Elementary in Petworth, and Gage-Eckington in LeDroit Park."

"Teaching is my second career. I worked for 17 years as a newspaper reporter. What I liked about being a reporter was knowing that every day would be different."

"I covered the White House for the New York Post, D.C. Mayoral activities for the Washington Times, local college and high school sports for the Washington Post, and the Maryland legislature and Congress for newspapers in eastern and southern Maryland."

"I grew up in Bethesda, was baptized and received First Holy Communion at St. Jane de Chantal. I graduated from Gonzaga High School and went to West Virginia Wesleyan College, where I met Trish, my wife of 24 years. We have four children: Abby, 21; Bo, 20; Nate, 16; and Charley, 15. They all attend Blessed Sacrament."

"One of my passions is sports. I played football in high school, and enjoy playing in adult basketball leagues. Coaching youth sports has brought me great joy."



Brian Blomquist, St. John's New Principal

I ran Saturday basketball clinics for first through fourth grades at Blessed Sacrament. I coached youth football at the D.C. Police Boys Club, Maplewood, and Blessed Sacrament. Some of our teams went undefeated, and some struggled. The most rewarding part of coaching was watching players as they learned to trust each other."

"For some time, I've heard about the great community of students, teachers, and families at St. John's. Last spring, Marianne Moore and I had a long conversation about coming to the Parish. She had the same comforting, uplifting impact on me that she had on St. John's children. She reminded me that if God wanted me to lead the School, it was because God knows I am able -- but not on my own. I know that prayer and trust in the people around me will be the only way to succeed. I am grateful to SJB teachers and families for the positive welcome I have received. Because of them, every day that I wake up and get to come to SJB, I am happy. They have made it feel like home."

We are indeed fortunate to welcome Mr. Blomquist as our new Principal and look forward to getting to know him even better throughout the years!

OPT

St. John the Jogger 5K Raises \$30,000

By Molly DiPippo

On May 10, St. John the Baptist Parish held its 5th annual St. John the Jogger 5K race. "St. John the Jogger was founded in 2010 to raise money for the growing needs of the scholarship fund," said Sheila Maloney, Co-Race Director. "The 5-K course is certified, so runners at all levels can participate. We want to bring the neighborhood and the surrounding community together for healthy family fun," continued Sheila.

"The fund was created to help make a Catholic education affordable to families who wish to offer their children an excellent education, but find themselves in difficult financial circumstances", said Marianne Moore, former SJB Principal, who retired in June, 2014.

The race began and ended in St. John the Baptist's parking lot, and the course ran through the wooded Martin Luther King Park nearby. The weather was dry for 275 finishers and hundreds of event attendees. Runners returning to the finish area were met by a festival atmosphere



Runners take off from the St. John the Jogger Starting Line.

and cheering crowds. Highlights included a visit from "St. John the Jogger" himself, a DJ blasting popular hits, food, prizes, raffles and vendors selling flowers, jewelry, bags, honey and more.

This year, St. John the Jogger introduced a new event, an optional 1K Obstacle Course. Designed and built by a team of parents, the race took place on St. John the Baptist's athletic field and included chal-

lenging elements including a lawn mower push, tire jump, rope crawl, car seat leap, and a maze.

"This has been the best event ever", said SJB parishioner Ursula Iannone. "All the events on this beautiful spring day were fantastic!"

The sixth annual St. John the Jogger event will be held on May 2, 2015, and promises to be an even bigger and better event!

OPT

Enriching Vacation Bible School held in Philadelphia

A Week at St. Veronica's Parish

By Alison Fram

From July 5-12, a group of 37 teens and adults from St. John the Baptist and St. Peter's Parish in Olney came together to help a very special community in North Philadelphia. We traveled to St. Veronica's Parish to conduct a Vacation Bible School Camp for children in Pre-K through 9th grades, all of whom live in this very impoverished area of the city. The pastor of St. Veronica's, Fr. David Vidal, worked closely with St. John's and St. Peter's to bring the camp to life. In addition to Fr. David,



Continued on page 14

Philadelphia Service Trip Participants

NEW PASTOR

Con't from page 1

serving as both as an altar boy and choir boy.

Father was ordained by Cardinal Wuerl on June 21, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, during a 10:00 Mass of Ordination. He arrived at St. John's on July 7.

Father's devotion and humility are evident as he introduces himself to the community: "My name is Tony D'Souza. I was born on December 22, 1980, in a village called Sanamotto in the Southwest region of India. I have five sisters, three older and two younger. My Mom is a widow. I was born and brought up in a traditional Catholic family. Our mom taught

us to revere and to love God, and others as well. As a family we prayed the rosary every evening. Since my early childhood days I was very much involved in different activities of the Church such as catechism classes, children's groups, youth group, and the parish choir. I discovered my Vocation when I was an altar server. It was not on my agenda, but God manifested it clearly when I was 16. I joined the seminary in India at the age of 18 and then, a few years later, I was sent to the Redemptoris Mater Archdiocesan Missionary Seminary of Washington, DC in 2006. At present, I am assigned as a Parochial Vicar to St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Silver Spring. I am happy to be at St. John the Baptist and desire to serve this Church as best as I can."

Father D'Souza also found inspiration in St. Francis Xavier, a 16th century Spanish Jesuit who served as a missionary to India. St. Francis Xavier's body is enshrined near Father D'Souza's childhood home. "I always wanted to be somebody - to do something with my life. St. Francis Xavier gave up everything

for the Lord. His example inspired me to follow the promptings of the Lord", said Father.

Father now particularly looks forward to "reaching out to families and youth who are far away from the Church and minister to them and bring them back to the Lord." He said the best part of his ministry

will be "to stand at the altar and transform the bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ."

On his arrival at St. John's, Father said "I made myself available to go where the Lord would send me, and He sent me here."

How fortunate we are.

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St. Michael the Archangel Knights and Sodality Ministries Saving "Musical Chairs" for All Occasions

By Charles Hayes, PGK and Stephen Holowenzak, GK

Have you ever gone to a church function and sat on a chair with the stuffing falling out? No? Then you haven't been to a Knights of Columbus, Sodality or other Parish Ministries' events at St. Michael the Archangel. It happens - due to over use at hundreds of events occurring over many years. The so called "seat-ability index" was getting really bad and in many cases was indeed dismal.

The St Michael the Archangel Knights of Columbus (K of C) Council 15084 jumped at the opportunity to enhance the quality

of seating life at our parish events - by refurbishing 90 chairs.

Thankfully, this experience is now only a bad memory because of a volunteer effort by the Knights of Columbus and the Sodality to re-upholster the "ailing" chairs.

Brother Knights Rolando Villars and Ramon Melendez led the effort with their skill and experience in this work. The rest of the K of C and Sodality volunteers worked to remove cushions, re-install to make ready, and recover each seat cushion - with durable - long lasting covering material.

Impact: Making a difference. The Council 15084 of Knights work activity will impact most, if not

all of St. Michael the Archangel Church / Parish Ministry Programs and Services of worship, education and enjoyment, for, example, our upcoming "Shrimp Lover's Feast" and hundreds of other parish events in the years ahead. Our St. Michael the Archangel Parish is proving that volunteerism is in itself a channel of Evangelization.

"Our Faith is Our Courage" to do what is needed to do for our Lord and His people - their needs, the good of the Order and each Parish Community - wherever they are. Good deeds do truly strengthen the bonds of our parish community and help to make God's House our spiritual and Loving Home.

OPT

St. Michael's Anticipates Annual Michaelmas Celebration!

By Jose Romero and Pat Ryan Garcia

St. Michael the Archangel will hold its annual Michaelmas celebration on Saturday, September 27, 2014 in downtown Silver Spring. The event, which takes its name from medieval custom of celebrating the fall harvest on the Fest of the Archangels, evolved from what had been an annual parish picnic. St. Michael's parish community decided to expand the picnic into day-long celebration of their faith, their culturally rich community and their dedication to serving others as Disciples of Christ.

The celebration begins with a morning prayer service at 9:00 a.m., after which volunteers gather for service projects.

At 4:00p.m., the community gathers again for a Multi-cultural Mass in honor of their patron saint. The Mass will include music from the culturally rich St. Michael's



SMC Caribbean Ministry celebrating SMC feast day at Michaelmas 2013

community. The Mass, parishioners and guests are invited to a Pot Luck Dinner featuring International Cuisine from St. Michael's parish family.

All interested members of the community are welcome to partici-

pate. For more information please contact June Dublin at jsumnerdublin@yahoo.com or if you are interested in working on a service project contact Aimee Valenzuela at arb80@hotmail.com.

OPT

Christmas Bazaar at St. Michael's Parish

By Jose Romero

Bazaar 2014 starts on Friday December 5 thru Sunday morning December 7. The weekend event will include a Friday night preview with silent auction. Saturday and Sunday will

include raffles and sale of jewelry, household items, religious, sports memorabilia, children, men and women's clothes, sports memorabilia and much more. Bake sales, and snackery items will be available. Weekend will include visits from Santa!

For more up to date information visit our parish web-site at: www.stmichaelsilverspring.org/, and Facebook page at www.facebook.com/St.Michaels.Silver.Spring.



Visitation Alums assist and Gina Baldini, assist Visitation alum and SMC parishioner, Joanie Heavey of St. Michael's at Bazaar 2013

Please email stmichaelbazaar2014@gmail.com for more information or call Peggy Hannah at 301-587-8338.

OPT

Celebrating Msgr. Tolentino

On Saturday, June 14 St. Michael's parish community celebrated Msgr. Tolentino's 30th Anniversary of Ordination and 10 years as Pastor of St. Michael's Parish. There was a multi-cultural Mass on Saturday followed by a reception Saturday evening and a reception after each Mass on Sunday.

All parish ministries contributed to a wonderful weekend celebration.



VBS

Con't from page 13

three Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matará lent their enthusiasm to camp activities. The Sisters worked tirelessly behind the scenes all week, and spent quality time with our teens. Fr. David's generous hospitality and the Sister's ongoing jokes and pranks made us feel like part of the parish.

During our work at the Vacation Bible School Camp, we learned that many of the children at St. Veronica's came from families in which having food each day was never a certainty, and in which they were separated for years from siblings or parents. Despite so many struggles at an early age, the children were quick to form bonds with the teens and adults who were there to serve them.

A highlight from the week occurred when we were at lunch with our classes. The theme for that day was "God is Giving," and we emphasized this point as many children vied for a spot in line to get second helpings. After waiting a long time in that line, one of the 5th grade students came back to the table empty handed. When asked where his food was, he said he gave it to another boy who needed it more. It's a small example, but one that shows that camp had an immediate positive influence.

Camp attendees and adult volunteers agreed that we gained more than we provided during the week. The community was quick to make us feel loved, and the children weren't the only ones crying on the last day of camp. We look forward to returning to St. Veronica's next year!

OPT

ORGANIST

Con't from page 9

for the day replaced generic hymns (GIRM ii; 48). The congregation fully participated in the singing of the sung responses. Organ improvisation was interspersed throughout the liturgy, evoking a sense of the French "Vox Dei", the Voice of God, tradition. The liturgy ended with the congregational singing of the 'Regina Caeli' and was followed by a May Crowning ceremony in the Parish's Mary Garden.

Later that day, at 4pm, Mr. Vexo performed an organ recital on the church's Lively-Fulcher pipe organ. This event attracted more than 400 attendees from around the community and marked the culmination of musical concerts and recitals celebrating the parish's new pipe organ. Mr. Vexo performed works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Marcel Dupre, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and Charles-Marie Widor. A festive reception followed, sponsored by the Parish Life Committee.

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A Life-Changing Experience?

By Bernadette McConville

After returning home from a week in Montrouis, Haiti spent with Life Connection Mission and members of the St. Patrick's community, I spoke with many of my friends and co-workers about the wonderful people I met in Haiti, and the seemingly infinite obstacles they face on the journey to a hopeful future.

Nearly 80% of the Haitian people live in extreme poverty. They lack access to basic services like electricity and plumbing and face a daily struggle to find food and clean water. The effects of these conditions are visible all along the two-hour drive from Port-au-Prince to Montrouis.

I am proud to report to my friends back home the many, many things LCM has done, and continues to do, to dramatically improve the lives of the people of Montrouis. The mission maintains fresh-water wells, runs a medical clinic, and continues to fund expansions and improvements to a school that offers the children of Montrouis their best chance at a brighter future. These are just a few examples of the mission's valuable work to support the village.

Because I speak so passionately of the week I spent in Haiti, friends often comment, "Sounds like you had a life-changing experience." And it's true that the mission trip feels like one of the most important



Bernadette and daughter, Molly, pause for a quick picture after delivering a bed and goat to the little girl they sponsor through Life Connection Mission.

things I've ever done.

While in Haiti I experienced emotions that echoed what I'd felt at other pivotal times in my life. When delivering meals to families at a homeless shelter in Archia I felt the same exhausting sadness I felt twenty years ago caring for my dying mother. When we brought a struggling family bags of beans and rice - and received big smiles in return - I experienced pure joy that reminded me of what I felt when I married my husband and four wonderful step-children. So there's no question that the trip to Haiti affected me deeply. But will the time I spent in Montrouis actually be life-changing? Will it change the

way I live my life?

I hope so. As an American, it's all too easy to ignore the unimaginable poverty experienced by much of the rest of the world. Less than a week after my return from Haiti, as I drive carpool in the comfort of my climate-controlled car, a bottle of cold spring water in the cup holder beside me, I already fear that the images I have of the Haitian people will fade from my mind. I worry that my desire to dedicate a part of my life to making their lives better will drift away.

The question of whether or not the trip to Haiti was in fact a "life-changing" experience depends entirely on what I choose to do now.

What I hope is that I will work, every day, to keep the people of Haiti present in my mind. That I will think of the children of Montrouis while choosing school shoes for my children, and buy our Haitian family shoes, too.

I hope that when I go to the grocery store I will think of the mothers in Haiti, and buy only what our family needs, keeping money aside to buy our Haitian family rice, beans, and chickens.

I hope that when I am tempted to spend an exorbitant amount of money on a designer purse, I will remember how far that money would go in Haiti, and send it to our Haitian family instead.

At the end of our week in Montrouis, we were encouraged to tell our families, friends, and co-



The group from St. Patrick's delivered rice and beans to this older woman and her great grandbaby now happy to be able to feed her family. Living high up in the mountains, the only way for this woman to find food is a 3-5 mile walk one way.



At the annual summer giveaway, this little boy walked out with clothing, shoes, hygiene products and even a toy baseball bat! All the donations have come from the St. Patrick's community.



The finished home of Madam Sonia. The house was built from start to finish in one week. Sonia, a 70 year old woman, lived on the porch of a home so that her 8 grandchildren could sleep inside. Now there is enough space for all inside!



The mission team prayed with, offered medical assistance, and fed hundreds of men, women, and children at an abandoned building that has become a "homeless shelter."

workers back home about what we saw on our trip - to share with others the passion we'd developed for Haiti. It's easy to do that now, when the memories are fresh. I hope I will continue to speak passionately about Haiti for months and years to come.

I hope that, years from now,

when my friends say, "Sounds like you had a life-changing experience," I can answer, "Yes. It was."

This prayer, offered by Don Kisicki at our morning spiritual gathering in Montrouis, is a helpful reminder to keep others' needs in our hearts.

OPT

Yard Sale October 18

The annual yard sale benefitting Life Connection Mission will be held at St. Patrick's on Saturday, October 18. This HUGE event brings in \$25,000 + every year so that LCM is able to build and provide more to the community of Montrouis, Haiti. Please come and support their efforts.

Life Connection Mission would like to thank the St. Patrick's and Our Lady of Mercy communities for their continued support and love. Through prayer, financial contributions, and hard work the children in Haiti have greater hope and more opportunities for a better life.

Bondye beni ou! (God Bless you)

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Labor Day Statement Focuses on Unemployment Among Young People

Reiterates Pope Francis' call for an inclusive economy

Says college debt, lack of stable jobs keeping young people from starting families

Calls for increased solidarity, more and better jobs, immigration reform

The high unemployment rate of young adults, both in the United States and around the world, is the focus of the 2014 Labor Day Statement from the chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, Archbishop Thomas Wenski of Miami. The statement draws on Pope Francis' teaching against an "economy of exclusion" and applies it to the millions of unemployed young adults in the United States.

"For those fortunate enough to have jobs, many pay poorly. Greater numbers of debt-strapped college graduates move back in with their parents, while high school graduates and others may have less debt but very few decent job opportunities," wrote Archbishop Wenski. "Pope Francis has reserved some of his strongest language for speaking about young adult unemployment, calling it 'evil,' an 'atrocious,' and emblematic of the 'throwaway culture.'"

Archbishop Wenski added,

"Meaningful and decent work is vital if young adults hope to form healthy and stable families." He noted that in other countries unemployment among young adults reaches as high as three to four times the national average.

Archbishop Wenski said policies and institutions "that create decent jobs, pay just wages, and support family formation and stability" help honor the dignity of workers. "Raising the minimum wage, more and better workforce training pro-

grams, and smarter regulations that minimize negative unintended consequences would be good places to start."

Archbishop Wenski noted that Pope Francis has called young people a source of hope for humanity. "We need to do more to nurture this hopefulness and provide our young adults with skills, support, and opportunities to flourish," Archbishop Wenski wrote.

He also called for greater solidarity: "Since each of us is made in the image of God and bound by His love, possessing a profound human dignity, we have an obligation to love and honor that dignity in one another, and especially in our work."

OPT

DREAM

Con't from page 8

field. These young men showed why they are true role models, as they worked with the St. B's kids, leading them through hitting, fielding and throwing drills. The Boys of Summer community shares a big THANK YOU to the student-athletes from SJC, and wishes them continued success.

Additionally, the St. B's children have been blessed with the presence of Fr. Shaun Foggo (www.dcpadres.com/25-shaun-foggo/) the last two weeks, as a guest coach. Fr. Foggo spent time in the batting cage and on the field, giving tips to the players. He also generously shared how the camaraderie, hard work and sportsmanship lessons he took from his baseball playing days at Catholic University shaped his life and continue to influence his work as a priest.

OPT

NEW STAFF

Con't from page 5

she graduated from "THE Ohio State University (Go Buckeyes!)" with a BA in English. She furthered her education with a Masters of Education from the University of Maryland. McGinnis has taught for Prince George, Frederick, and Montgomery County public schools in grades 9-12, as well as an overseas stint teaching English in Taiwan. She looks forward to bringing her love of reading and lots of energy to the HR community. In her free time, she enjoys reading sci-fi, fantasy, and horror genres, along with watching old silent movies, and spending time outdoors with her husband and dogs.

OPT

HANDS

Con't from page 8

contribution may place funds in the Sandwich Sunday collection basket (next to the lectern podium on the altar). Martha's Table wish-list items include fresh fruit, fresh vegetables, and cookies.

"Our hope for this ministry is that we can continue to serve the needs of Martha's Table and help others recognize the hunger that is in our own back yard." Laurie DeRosa said.

Warnick agreed, adding – "I hope that the students that come for service hours will see the adults working and will realize that service to others is a lifetime cause, not just something you do to get through school."

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For more information, contact the Department of Special Needs Ministries
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Potomac Community Resources, Inc. is proud to support this initiative of the Archdiocese of Washington.

Hyperthermia: Too hot for your health

Advice on heat-related illness for older adults

During the summer, it is important for everyone, especially older adults and people with chronic medical conditions, to be aware of the dangers of hyperthermia. The National Institute on Aging (NIA), part of the NIH, has some tips to help mitigate some of the dangers.



Hyperthermia is an abnormally high body temperature caused by a failure of the heat-regulating mechanisms in the body to deal with the heat coming from the environment. Heat stroke, heat syncope (sudden dizziness after prolonged exposure to the heat), heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat fatigue are common forms of hyperthermia. People can be at increased risk for these conditions, depending on the combination of outside temperature, their general health and individual lifestyle.

Older people, particularly those with chronic medical conditions, should stay indoors, preferably with air conditioning or at least a fan and air circulation, on hot and humid days, especially when an air pollution alert is in effect.

Heat stroke is a life-threatening form of hyperthermia. It occurs when the body is overwhelmed by heat and is unable to control its temperature. Heat stroke occurs when someone's body temperature increases significantly (above 104 degrees Fahrenheit) and shows symptoms of the fol-

lowing: strong rapid pulse, lack of sweating, dry flushed skin, mental status changes (like combativeness or confusion), staggering, faintness or coma. Seek immediate emergency medical attention for a person with any of these symptoms, especially an older adult.

If you suspect someone is suffering from a heat-related illness:

- Get the person out of the heat and into a shady, air-conditioned or other cool place. Urge the person to lie down.
- If you suspect heat stroke, call 911.
- Apply a cold, wet cloth to the wrists, neck, armpits and/or groin. These are places where blood passes close to the surface of the skin, and the cold cloths can help cool the blood.
- Help the individual to bathe or sponge off with cool water.
- If the person can swallow safely, offer fluids such as water or fruit and vegetable juices, but avoid alcohol and caffeine.

OPT

Cutting-edge research into Alzheimer's disease genome funded

Scientists will analyze genome sequence data to identify gene risk, protective factors

Teams of scientists will use support from the National Institutes of Health to conduct research into the genetic underpinnings of Alzheimer's disease, analyzing how genome sequences—the order of chemical letters in a cell's DNA—may contribute to increased risk or protect against the disease. The NIH awarded grants for using innovative new technologies and computational methods for the analysis. The scientists also will seek insights into why some people with known risks do not develop the disease.

The awards, expected to total \$24 million over four years, go to eight academic medical centers that have been at the forefront of research in Alzheimer's genetics: University of Pennsylvania,



Philadelphia; Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland; University of Miami; Columbia University, New York City; Boston University; University of Washington, Seattle; Washington University in St. Louis, and University of Texas, Houston.

The investigators will analyze the genome sequencing data gener-

ated during the first phase of the Alzheimer's Disease Sequencing Project (ADSP), an innovative collaboration that began in 2012 between the National Institute on Aging (NIA) and the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI), both part of NIH. The first phase of the project determined the order of all 3 billion letters in the individual genomes of 580 participants. It also generated whole exome sequencing data (focused on the proteins influencing the disorder) of an additional 11,000 volunteers—6,000 with Alzheimer's compared to 5,000 controls. Funds supporting the new analysis come from fiscal 2014 additions to the NIA budget directed at intensifying Alzheimer's research.

OPT

Maryland Senior Olympics Registration Underway

Go for gold in the 2014 Maryland Senior Olympics and qualify for the 2015 National Senior Games in Minnesota. Registration is now open via online and mail-in.

In its 34th year, MSO offers 23 sports and over 100 events at locations in Baltimore city and Baltimore, Montgomery, Howard, Anne Arundel and Queens Anne counties. The Maryland Games will be held



throughout August and September.

September competitions include: Archery, Badminton,

Basketball, Billiards, Bocce, Bowling (10-Pin), Croquet, Golf, Horseshoes, Lawn Bowling, Racquetball, Running (10k), Shuffleboard, Softball, Swimming, Table Tennis, Tennis, and Track & Field.

Get your 2014 MSO Information and Registration Guide by going to www.mdseniorolympics.org and clicking on the image of the Registration Guide or by write to info@mdseniorolympics.org and a copy will be mailed to you. The guide contains dates, times, locations, rules, forms — everything you need for participating in MSO. If you have any questions about registration, drop MSO a line at info@mdseniorolympics.org or call 410-396-2920.

OPT

Select
homes available

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

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Unlike most communities, Maplewood residents own their own homes. In addition, there are several tax and financial benefits that you won't find anywhere else. With a wide selection of residences, which you can customize to suit your style, you'll find it easy to bring your treasured belongings with you — including your beloved pets!

Best of all Maplewood Park Place allows you to declare your independence by giving you the freedom to enjoy life and let our professional and caring staff take care of the details. Enjoy Maplewood's full calendar of lively events and social activities, as well as fine dining, indoor swimming & fitness center, workshop, on-site medical clinic — just to name a few of our services. Plus, on-site assisted living and skilled nursing — if and when you need it.

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Maplewood
PARK PLACE

We the People
Article 1



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SOAR Fall Trips!

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

Walking Tour of Historic New Castle

Original Capital of Delaware
Trip No. 377312
Thursday, September 4
Fee: \$73
Leave 7:15 am; Return 5:30 pm

Sailing Trip on the Schooner Sultana

Full-scale reproduction of an 18th century Royal Navy schooner
Trip No. 377314
Wednesday, September 10
Fee: \$80
Leave 7:30 am; Return 5:30 pm

Walking Tour of Hagerstown, Maryland

The Hub City, established in 1762
Trip No. 377315
Wednesday, September 17
Trip No. 377316
Wednesday, September 18
Fee: \$62
Leave 8:45 am; Return 5:00 pm

71st Annual Homes Tour and Crafts Festival

Village of Waterford, Virginia
Trip No. 377318
Friday, October 3
Fee: \$49
Leave 8:45 am; Return 5:00 pm

Walk 'Pickett's Charge' at Gettysburg Battlefield

With retired Park Service Chief Historian Ed Bears
Trip No. 377319
Wednesday, October 8
Trip No. 377320
Thursday, October 9
Fee: \$69
Leave 7:45 am; Return 5:00 pm

Re-Enactment of the Battle of Baltimore

Aboard Ship in Baltimore Harbor on its 200th Anniversary
Trip No. 377322
Tuesday, October 14

Fee: \$75
Leave 8:45 am; Return 4:00 pm

Western Maryland Scenic RR Trip

Allegheny Mountains at Fall Foliage Time
Trip No. 377324
Thursday, October 16
Trip No. 377325
Wednesday, October 22
Fee: \$70
Leave 7:45 am; Return 6:00 pm

Guided Walking and Riding Tour of Historic Harrisburg

Capital of Pennsylvania

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

The Amish Experience

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

Guided Tour of Carlisle, Penna.

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

Christmas at Oatlands Plantation and Morven Park Mansion

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

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Olney/Brookeville • 301-570-3190

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Rockville • 301-217-9116



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 <p>GEORGETOWN VISITATION PREPARATORY SCHOOL Founded 1799</p> <p>Daniel M. Kerns, Jr., Head of School Mary Kate Blaine, Principal Janet Donnelly Keller, Director of Admissions</p> <p>Tel: 202-337-3350 Fax: 202-342-5733 www.visi.org 1524 35th Street, NW • Washington, DC 20007</p>	<p>Girls</p> <p>Educating women of faith, vision, and purpose for over 200 years. Extensive array of co-curricular activities, sports, and performing arts; dynamic Christian service program. Independent School League</p> <p>Cubs • Gold & White</p>	<p>Special Programs</p> <p>Bridge programs with Georgetown University, AP & Honors Courses, Competitive athletic program & lively performing arts opportunities</p>	<p>Open House</p> <p>Saturday Oct. 18, 2014 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Entrance Exam HSPT (Offered at Visitation Dec. 6, 2014)</p>	<p>Freshman Application Deadline Dec. 5, 2014</p> <p>Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Jan. 5, 2015</p>	<p>Freshman Notification of Admission Feb. 26, 2015</p> <p>Registration Deposit Due Mid-March 2015</p>
<p>Freshman Class Size: 125 • Tuition: \$26,500 • Financial Aid: Janet Keller @ 202-337-3350 ext. 2241</p>						


 <p>OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL HIGH SCHOOL</p> <p>A Xavier Brothers Sponsored School 17301 Old Vic Boulevard, Olney MD 20832 Paul G. Barker Ed. D., President • Thomas Campbell, Principal Kevin Collins, Director of Admissions • 301-365-0955 www.olgchs.org</p>	<p>COED</p> <p>Offering a comprehensive college prep curriculum which includes The IB Program, AP & Honors courses, STEM program and the Ryken Program.</p>	<p>Home of the Blue & Gold</p> <p>Extensive co-curricular activities, 43 sport teams, Performing Arts, Speech & Debate and over 30 cultural and academic clubs. Member of the W.C.A.C.</p>	<p>Open House</p> <p>Sunday, Oct. 19, 2014 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM</p>	<p>Prospective Parent INFORMATION</p> <p>NIGHT Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2014 7:00 PM</p>	<p>Freshman Application Deadline Dec. 12, 2014</p> <p>Freshman Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Dec. 12, 2014</p>	<p>Freshman Notification of Admission Late Feb. 2015</p> <p>Freshman Registration Early March 2015</p>
<p>Tuition \$18,800</p>						

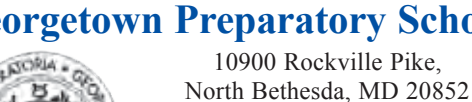
 <p>CONNELLY SCHOOL OF THE HOLY CHILD</p> <p>9029 Bradley Boulevard, Potomac, MD 20854 Shannon Gomez, Ed.D. Head of School Patricia Harden Director of Admissions • 301-365-0955 www.holychild.org • admissions@holychild.org</p>	<p>Girls 6 - 12</p> <p>Field Hockey, Cross Country, Soccer, Tennis, Volleyball,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

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

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

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

 <p>ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL Est. 1891</p> <p>Mr. Jeffrey W. Mancabelli, President Bro. Michael Andrejko, FSC, Principal Mrs. Susan Hinton, Director of Admissions 202-363-2316 • www.stjohnschs.org 2807 Military Road, NW, Chevy Chase, DC 20015</p>	<p>Coed</p> <p>Coed: ice hockey, crew, cross country, golf, rifle team, swimming, track; Female: basketball, field hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis, volleyball; Male: baseball, basketball, football, lacrosse, soccer, tennis, wrestling, rugby.</p>	<p>Special Programs</p> <p>De La Salle Scholars Program • Benilde Program • 1:1 Technology Program (iPads) • Optional top-ranked JROTC Leadership Program • Outstanding Band and Theater Programs • James V. Kinsey Science & Technology Center</p>	<p>Open House</p> <p>Sunday, Oct. 26, 2014 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Entrance Exam Archdiocesan test results are required.</p>	<p>Application Deadline Dec. 12, 2014</p> <p>Financial Aid Appl. Deadline Feb. 2, 2015</p>	<p>Notification of Admission Feb. 26, 2015</p> <p>Registration Deposit Due March 14, 2015</p>
<p>Tuition: \$17,200</p>						

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

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


Catholic High School Open House Dates

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

WESLEYAN

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


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


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


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

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

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

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

Vacation Bible Camp 2014

By Susan Anderson, Director of Religious Education

Vacation Bible Camp is a highlight of summer for many children, teens and adults at St. Francis of Assisi Parish. During the last week of June every year, our Parish Center is transformed to create an environment of faith and fun. This year, we were surrounded by a variety of delightful creatures and an array of color as we shared prayer, music, lessons and activities outlined in *Weird Animals Totally Catholic VBS*, from Our Sunday Visitor at <http://vbs.osv.com/weird-animals>. Seventy-eight children participated, learning that "... Jesus' love is one-of-a-kind."

Kathleen Mantua, in her fifth year as VBC Director, opened each day by introducing the day's theme. Teen and adult volunteers then led the children in groups as they rotated through five activity centers:

With costumes and sets, teens

engaged the children at the "One-of-a-Kind Bible Adventures" center as they told Bible stories about Jesus' great love for us. Throughout the week, the children were introduced to five saints and learned how the lives of the saints model ways to follow Jesus.

At the "Untamed Games" Center, the children enjoyed fun activities and games that teach and celebrate the "one-of-a-kind" love that Jesus has for each of us.

Colorful crafts made at the "Craft & Play" center were "take-home" reminders of all that they had learned.

In the "Sing and Play Stampede" Music Center, the children learned songs to help them remember the important lessons of faith taught each day.

Even the snacks shared at the "Critter Cafe" were chosen to reinforce the lessons of faith taught each day.

On Thursday evening, children, staff and families gathered for a program featuring songs, and a recap of each day's theme and activities. Teens from the Bible Center presented a brief biography about each of the five saints met during the week and led us in prayer. Continuing a long-standing tradition, the evening concluded with an Italian ice social for all.

This year's VBC invited children to demonstrate love of God and neighbor through prayer, action, and raising funds for the children of our Sister Parish, St. Paul's in Leon, Haiti.

OPT

Concert to Benefit St. Francis Medical Mission

By Deirdre Sweet, Director of Music Ministry

LYRA, a professional vocal ensemble from St. Petersburg, Russia, will be returning to St. Francis on Saturday, September 20, at 7:00 p.m. They will be presenting a rich repertoire of Russian Coral Music – ancient songs of the Orthodox Church, well-known classics by Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff and Stravinsky, and traditional Folk songs, presented in costume, with an animated performance.

St. Francis first hosted LYRA in 2004. Rave reviews prompted a return in 2006. This 2014 LYRA event promises an evening of memorable Eastern European music and culture, in a friendly "welcome back" to St. Francis. Tickets are \$15, and are available at the St. Francis Parish office, or at the door. The proceeds will go to benefit the St. Francis Haiti Medical Mission.



OPT The 2014 LYRA Vocal Ensemble

Seminarian Gains Valuable Parish Life Experiences

By John McCarthy

We were blessed to have Archdiocese of Washington (ADW) seminarian, Stephen Wyble, in residence at St. Francis during June and July. This was part of the ADW program to give seminarians experience of parish life from the inside, as part of their formation. Stephen entered the seminary in 2009, and for the past two years has been studying theology at the North American College (NAC) in Rome. He will be returning to NAC in September for another two years of study, after which he

indicated, "God willing, I will be ordained to the priesthood in June 2016."

Commenting on his two months here, he said, "They



Seminarian Stephen Wyble after morning Mass

kept me very busy and I learned a lot". He was especially thankful for Father John's instruction how a parish works and the role of an assistant pastor. Also appreciated was the warm acceptance by the parishioners. He was a special favorite of the daily Mass regulars, where performed Acolyte duties each day.

Other experiences were: hosting of Father Robert Barron's New Evangelization Documentary Series, chaperone at the teen Encounter of Gospel week, communion calls at Casey House and the homebound, attending the various parish meetings and helping with the Vacation Bible Camp. He also found time to help at the ADW Vocation Camp (Quo Vadis Camp) of high school men considering the Lord's call.

Stephen is a native of Maryland, and the third of six children. His elementary school years were at Holy Redeemer parish, in Kensington, after which the family moved to Potomac. It was during his second year at Catholic University of America the he said "yes" to the call to serve the Lord. Stephen can count on many of us keeping him in our prayers. We hope that he will come back and pay us a visit.

OPT

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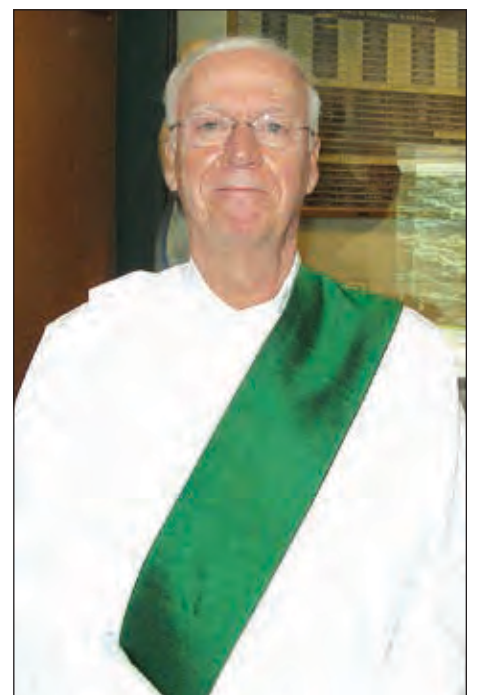
Welcome to Our New Deacon

By John McCarthy

We were pleased to receive word the end of May that Deacon James (Jim) McCann was assigned to St. Francis of Assisi. He joins our existing permanent Deacons, Dan Finn and Jim Datovech, to help serve the ever expanding needs of our parish.

Ordained in 1991, he served in several ADW parishes, and in parishes in Fond du Lac, WI and Wilmington, NC. His service has been varied – RCIA, marriage preparation, spiritual direction, AIDS primary care, mental health, campus ministry and at St. Martin's Soup Kitchen. In his introduction to the parish, he said, "All of these ministries have been a blessing. My focus at St. Francis will be in health ministry". He also hopes to be able to provide spiritual direction to a few parishioners.

His professional career has been in nursing, with stints in the Navy, with the U.S. Public Health Service and in academia. For the last eight years he has been dean of schools of nursing in Wisconsin and North Carolina. He currently is on the faculty of the School of Nursing at Catholic University. He has received a warm welcome from the parishioners, our Pastor and his fellow Deacons.



Deacon James (Jim) McCann after a recent Mass at St. Francis

OPT

**More St. Francis of Assisi News
on Next Page**

Mercy Second Graders Discover Cultural Heritage

Peggy Lannan, who is now entering the third grade, and her mother Maura Lannan proudly pose with Peggy's Discover Your Cultural Heritage project. Through the Internet, fiction and nonfiction books, videos, and music, in the spring students were introduced to the historical event of immigration to America, specifically through Ellis Island. As a follow up activity, students were encouraged to explore their own cultural identity at home with parent help. Students enjoyed sharing family history with their classmates.

OPT



Our Lady of Mercy Parish

9200 Kentsdale Drive
Potomac, MD

Rev. John Dakes
Pastor
301-365-1415

Our Lady of Mercy School

Ms. Joan Hosmer
301-365-3104

Gerry Burgess, OPT Editor
301-330-5676

St. Francis of Assisi



St. Francis Teens and Chaperones at 2014 Catholic HEART Work Group. Back row: Daniel Gomes, Andy Hall, Susan Lea, Wendel Hall, Anna Hall, Michael McCoy, Michelle Hoang and Alicia Church. Middle: Michael Pierre, Elisabeth DeMarco, Carolina Temerario, Christian Flores, and Wendel Hall. Front row: Yasmine Pierre, Fatimah Seyed-Ali, and Samantha Perez

St. Francis of Assisi Teens – Summer of Love 2014

By Susan Lea, Director of Youth Ministry

St. Francis youth group participates in two service work camps each summer — Catholic HEART work camp (CHWC) and Encounter the Gospel of Life (Encounter).

CHWC operated 52 camps this summer and St Francis youth participated in the Magnolia, DE location in June. At the camp over 350 young people and adults served at

Continued on page 24



St. Francis Teens, with Seminararian Stephen Wyble, at 2014 Encounter Week. Pictured in Alphabetical order are: Mikaella De Leon, Easley Del Rosario, Christian Flores, Daniel Gomes, Sarah Gonzales, Dylan Jordan, Sean Jordan, Sue Lea, Nick Mastrangelo, Kevin Merrel, Patrick Obrien, Michael Pierre, Michael Pierre, Yasmine Pierre, Michael Riedford, and Stephen Wyble.



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Statement from Catholic Bishops of Maryland

We Need Compassion in Addressing Needs of Vulnerable Immigrant Children

The familiar words of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew, "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me," speak compellingly to us today as we witness the plight of the more than 50,000 unaccompanied children fleeing to our country to escape the violence and desperate poverty of their homelands. Here in Maryland the Catholic Church stands ready to answer Jesus' call to embrace the needs of these children and their families as we offer our welcome and assistance.

We cannot turn our back on these children. They are fleeing



to us because they know there are warm hearts and helping hands in America – and for so many immigrants, a home in the Catholic Church, no matter where their journey takes them. We must not prove them wrong.

We also cannot ignore the complexities faced by national and local elected officials in determining a just and sustainable response to this humanitarian crisis. A delegation of U.S. Bishops traveled to Central America in November 2013 to learn firsthand about the conditions causing this crisis, and have developed a resource that provides helpful back-

ground on this issue titled, Mission to Central America: the Flight of Unaccompanied Children to the United States, available at www.usccb.org.

Eradicating the root causes prompting this crisis – most especially the uncontrolled and terrifying violence of criminal gangs – demands challenging international solutions. Ensuring that local communities in the United States are equipped to provide immigrant children and their families appropriate services, whether on a temporary or more long-term basis, will require a significant increase in available

financial and human resources, and unprecedented cooperation among government and religious and non-profit agencies.

We support efforts at the federal level to increase funding to provide the social and legal services necessary to serve the children seeking asylum. We too share a concern about the risk in sending these children back to uncertain or even dangerous situations in the lands they have fled.

We are also grateful that Governor O'Malley and other elected officials in Maryland have expressed a willingness to welcome to our state children who need assistance. Through our Catholic Charities and other social service agencies, our parishes, and the generosity of the many parishioners who call us daily asking how they can help, we will do all within our capacity to offer our longstanding expertise and support in helping these children and their families. Providing such help is no different than what the Church has done without fail for centuries in Maryland to help those in need.

As our national and local governments continue to grapple with this difficult situation, we are hopeful that partisan differences will not stand in the way of finding a just and humane response to this urgent need. We pray that our country will be able to look back proudly at how we answered this call, and ask God to touch the hearts and minds of the people of Maryland and throughout America with compassion and generosity. Most importantly, we entrust these children to God's providence, for we know "You do see, for you behold misery and sorrow, taking them in your hands. On you the unfortunate man depends; of the fatherless you are the helper." (Psalm 10)

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SUMMER OF LOVE

Con't from page 23

more than 40 sites in the area. The CHWC Mission is to share the love of Christ as we serve the neglected, brokenhearted and the marginalized, and to foster the Catholic Faith of each participant.

Our Encounter was at the University of Maryland in July. There were 350 young people and adults served at 35 different locations in the DC/MD area. Encounter's camp focuses on "Direct-Relational" ministry opportunities, where you actually work with and get to know the people you serve. The sites included places like homeless shelters, soup kitchens, children's day camps, senior and special care settings and a few legislative and advocacy sites. An added bonus this year was having our seminarian in residence, Stephen Wyble, with us as a chaperone. Both camps were exhausting, uplifting, and amazing!

OPT



St. Jude kids love Vacation Bible School!

St. Jude Youth are Circus Stars!

By Marilyn Mullan

Vacation Bible School campers at St. Jude were treated to a visit by four saints—St. John Bosco, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Teresa of Avila, and St. John Vianney—who visited the campers to instruct them about the importance of balancing “Work, Rest, Play, and Pray.”

During the week, the campers rotated through various stations—Missionaries in Motion,

Games, Arts and Crafts, Music, Playground, and Snacks—staffed by a dozen adult volunteers, several of whom have worked VBS for almost a decade. Without their dedication, the young campers (ages 4 through 4th grade) would not have the opportunity to grow closer to God in such a fun environment.

On the last day, campers attended Mass and performed for their parents the songs they had learned. Additionally, the

middle-school-aged Captains put on a circus. The Grand Finale was the appearance of Our Blessed Mother, who encouraged each camper to pray the rosary given to each and to learn about the life of her son, Jesus, through the mysteries. Campers then played carnival games and enjoyed a hot-dog lunch, closing out another successful VBS. Special thanks goes to the numerous people who made this program possible.

OPT

Welcome Fr. Ken Gill and Farewell to Fr. John

Welcome Fr. Kenneth Gill, the Shrine of St. Jude's newest parochial vicar who was ordained on June 21. Originally from Florida, Fr. Gill came to Washington to work as an information specialist. During that time he began discerning a priestly vocation with the help of prayer, pilgrimages, and volunteer charitable ministry. He entered the Pope Saint John XXIII National Seminary in Weston,



Fr. Ken Gill, Shrine of St. Jude parochial vicar

Massachusetts. Having experienced happy priests in his childhood, Fr. Gill hopes to bring that same joy to the faithful at St. Jude.

Farewell and thank you to Fr. John Nguyen, who served St. Jude Parish for four years. Fr. John was assigned as administrator of Our Lady's Church in Medley's Neck, St. Mary's County. We will miss Fr. John and wish him well in Southern Maryland.

OPT

Thank You to Senior Altar Servers

Congratulations to the following senior altar servers from the Shrine of St. Jude parish: Saron Araia, Chris Barahona, Katie B. English, Alexa Louis, Brandon Tull, and Alex Wasel.

These young men and women have served the parish since they were in 5th grade. Thank you for your service and God bless you as you head off to college or other endeavors.

OPT

St. Jude Embarks on New Evangelization Initiative

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has built upon the work of Saint John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI and called all the faithful to a New Evangelization. Specifically, in his recent Apostolic Exhortation, “Evangelii Gaudium,” Pope Francis states “the New Evangelization calls for personal involvement on the part of each of the baptized. Every Christian is challenged, here and now, to be actively engaged in evangelization; indeed, anyone who has truly experienced God's saving love does not need much time or lengthy training to go out and proclaim that love.”

Cardinal Wuerl also empha-

sized the importance of the New Evangelization in his pastoral letter: “This is our mandate: to witness to others so that they reawaken to—and rediscover—the vital and inexhaustible friendship of Jesus Christ.”

In response to these calls, the St. Jude Pastoral Council is coordinating a parish Evangelization Initiative.

The primary objectives of this initiative are to:

■ Enrich the spiritual development of all parishioners.

■ Reach out to our community to share the Good News of the Gospel.

■ Ensure the long-run sustain-

ability of the Shrine of St. Jude faith community.

A full launch of the initiative is planned for Fall 2014. As this initiative will involve a “total parish” effort, please prayerfully consider actively volunteering your time, talent, and treasure to spread the Good News and bring more souls to Christ.

To be a part of the New Evangelization Initiative committee, please contact Doug Arkin, chair of the Shrine of St. Jude Parish Pastoral Council, at 301-340-1550 or Lou Kratz at 301-460-9406.

OPT

St. Jude Youth Group Northern Pilgrimage

By Deacon Paul Schmitt

I have always thought about going on a Pilgrimage...to Jerusalem or Rome...to tread the steps of Sts. Paul or Peter or even Christ. It never occurred to me to make a Pilgrimage here in the United States so close to home. It is in this context Fr. Raul DeLeon, parochial vicar at the Shrine of St. Jude, introduced the idea to the Youth Group he directs at the parish.

On Sunday, June 29, after Mass and confession, 20 parishioners—mostly youth and some adults—began this Pilgrimage. Fr. Raul spoke to the group to prepare their minds and hearts, reminding all we would sleep on church hall floors in sleeping bags, travel a lot, be tired, and a little hungry. Along the way we would pray and be mindful of the sacrifices our own North American martyrs made to bring us closer to Christ and to draw others as well.

That first night we bedded down at St. Columba in Newark, NJ. On Monday, we left for Auriesville, NY, to see the Shrine of the North American martyrs (St. Kateri Tekakwitha among others) near the St. Lawrence River (martyr and deacon). Fr. Raul spoke of several of the martyrs from New York and throughout New England, and we celebrated Mass. The ride up and back was long but it gave us time for

rosaries and getting to know each other better. Monday night we were back in New Jersey to enjoy a barbecue, fellowship, and even celebrate a birthday.

Tuesday we visited the Shrine of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, the Patron Saint of Immigrants, in New York City. Her story captured the attention of the group as many of them were not US born, but now call the US home. Her acts of love and devotion to people much overlooked could only be inspired by the love Christ bore for us all through His selfless sacrifice. To end the day we saw “Les Misérables” on Broadway. What a way to conclude our trip by experiencing a story of redemption, humanity, sacrifice, freedom, and selfless love.

As we headed back home after the show what began as great expectations of fun and excitement were memories washing over sleepy heads. The pilgrims were happy but also grateful for their time together and the prayers they shared. I thought also of my journey, like the kids, not knowing what to expect. It was my pilgrimage too, but it would not have been the same without seeing it through their eyes. I guess that's what Pilgrimages do ultimately, take you to someplace you have never been. But they are not new—as they always lead us to Jesus.

OPT



Youth from the Shrine of St. Jude parish make a stop on their recent pilgrimage to shrines in New York. Pictured along with the youth are Deacon Paul Schmitt, back left, and Fr. Raul DeLeon, front, who both lead the Youth Group at St. Jude.

Goodbye Christine Couch, Organist and Music Teacher

Christine Couch, organist for the Shrine of St. Jude and music teacher for St. Jude Regional Catholic School, has accepted a position as organist at St. Luke Catholic Church in Middleburg, Florida.

Christine was the pianist for the parish's Spirit Choir since 2004, and took over as director and pianist of the Spanish Choir two years later. She began accompanying the Adult Choir and playing organ at parish Masses in 2007, the same year that she earned her Master of Music degree in piano pedagogy from Catholic University. This past school year, she also taught music at St. Jude Regional Catholic School. Although this new position allows

her to be much closer to her family, the parishioners at St. Jude will miss her and wish her well.

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

New Faces and New Places

Holy Cross students will see a familiar face in an unexpected place when classes resume in August. Ashley Sherman, our beloved Kindergarten aide has accepted the position as our new Third Grade teacher, and she is thrilled. "It was a blessing being welcomed so warmly into the Holy Cross community last year. I hope to continue to grow and learn from the talented staff." She explained that her students will be "encouraged to think outside the box, ask questions and grow in their faith."

Replacing Ms. Sherman in Kindergarten is Claire Marcus, a recent graduate of Virginia Tech. Our Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Stavish is happy to work alongside Ms. Marcus. "The children will love her! She will bring the same

enthusiasm and loving care to our students that Ms. Sherman shared with our Kindergarten students last year."

Also joining the staff as the aide in Second Grade is Riley Fisher, a 2011 graduate of St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia and an alumna of Holy Child. "I am so excited to be joining the Holy Cross community! I cannot think of a better environment to begin my teaching career."

"Holy Cross is blessed to have such a dedicated and gifted faculty," Holy Cross principal, Lisa Kane said. "Ms. Sherman, Ms. Fisher, and Ms. Marcus will be a wonderful addition to the staff, and I am confident that they will enrich the lives of our students."

OPT

Holy Cross Teacher Selected as Siemens STEM Institute Fellow

Holy Cross Middle School science teacher, Shari Connor, is one of only forty-nine educators selected from over one-thousand applicants nationwide as a 2014 Siemens STEM Institute Fellow, an initiative made possible through the partnership of Siemens Foundation, Discovery Education, and the Oak Ridge Associated Universities. The goal is to promote hands-on, real-world integration of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) in classrooms at all levels.

In August, Mrs. Connor participated in a week-long professional development event, hosted at the world headquarters of Discovery Communications in Silver Spring. In addition to networking with her Fellowship peers from around the nation, Ms. Connor met and collaborated with leaders and innovators who work across STEM disciplines, and who are at the forefront of shaping STEM education. The goal is to change the way science and mathematics are presented to students, in a way that encourages collaboration, critical thinking, creativity, community and helps students curate – or organize – their knowledge and resources in an authentic way. Mrs. Connor described the week as "humbling and enlightening – and invigorat-



This summer, Shari Connor, Middle School science teacher at Holy Cross and a 2014 Siemens STEM Institute Fellow, participated in a week-long event hosted by Discovery Education in Silver Spring.

ing."

Siemens Institute Fellows have access to an abundance of resources, ongoing networking opportunities, and educational assets to use and share with colleagues. Mrs. Connor will be an ambassador at Holy Cross, working to implement the STEM philosophy with the faculty. "I am so excited to share my experience, the ideas and teaching resources with everyone at Holy Cross," Mrs. Connor began. "STEM is a way of thinking, a redesign in the dynamic of the classroom. We want children to ask questions, to work together to test ideas and answers – and to fail. That sounds startling, but it's ok to fail if you think of failure as simply a first attempt – and success as the result of perseverance. I was inspired during the week at the Siemens Institute, and I can't wait to collaborate with the Holy Cross faculty to implement ways to inspire our students."

OPT

Jewish-Catholic Dialogue Pledges to Build Peace, Understanding Between World's Faith Communities

Violent acts against Christians and Christian sites across the world are a mounting concern to leaders of Catholic and Jewish communities in the United States, according to a joint statement issued August 14 by the Jewish-Catholic Dialogue sponsored by the National Council of Synagogues and the Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

"We deplore all acts of religious persecution no matter their target," the joint statement said.

"Church communities have been subject to persecution, attack, expulsion and even murder. As a result, these same communities have often seen their numbers decrease, especially as their populations are dislocated from centuries old homes."

The statement was first developed at a June 25 meeting of the dialogue, which is co-chaired by Rabbi David Straus, chairman of the National Council of Synagogues, and Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan, archbishop of New York.

The statement called for effective measures against such violence. Members of the dialogue pledged to promote better understanding and respect among the world's faith communities, a foundation for world peace rooted in the command to "love our neighbor as ourselves, as found in Jewish, Christian and Muslim sacred texts." They also urged political and religious leaders to condemn "acts of aggression, intolerance and violence" against religious communities and their sacred sites.

OPT

U.S. Supreme Court Upholds Religious Liberty

The Supreme Court of the United States' ruling in *Burwell, Secretary of Health and Human Services, et al. v. Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc., et al.* and *Conestoga Wood Specialties Corp. et al. v. Burwell* released on June 30 protected fundamental religious liberty and rights of conscience.

In ruling that the HHS mandate substantially and impermissibly burdens the Hahn and Green families' exercise of their religion in violation of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, the Court affirmed that people of faith do not lose their fundamental religious rights and liberties when they enter into the



public arena and start a family business that employs others.

Although today's decision does not directly resolve the legal challenges to the HHS mandate brought by religious non-profit entities,

the fundamental principles regarding religious liberty which were adopted by the Court provide the Archdiocese and its related entities great hope that their right to operate in accordance with their religious beliefs will be similarly vindicated.

For more information about the separate lawsuit brought by the Archdiocese and its co-plaintiffs, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Washington, et al. v. Burwell, Secretary of Health and Human Services, et al., D.C. Cir. case no. 13-5371, please visit www.PreserveReligiousFreedom.org.

OPT

Catholic Schools Start Year with Opening Mass and Awards

Catholic school principals, teachers and staff from across the Archdiocese of Washington gathered at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on August 18 to open the school year with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Barry C. Knestout, auxiliary bishop of Washington.

"The work of encountering Christ and sharing his love and the story of his good news with others unfolds in a special way every day at the 95 Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Washington," said Bishop Knestout. "In an ever increasing secular world, our teachers and principals live and teach the faith through their strong witnesses both in the classroom and in their everyday lives. They help lay a foundation in faith and academics that allows their students to meet any challenges they may face in the future. That foundation is on the



Bishop Barry C. Knestout

rock, that is, upon Christ."

"Just as parents choose Catholic education for their children, these teachers and principals have chosen Catholic education as their

vocation," Bishop Knestout continued. "It is a privilege to recognize the milestone anniversaries being celebrated today as they illustrate the Archdiocese of Washington's faith-filled history of passing on Christ's Gospel from generation to generation through Catholic education."

Following the Mass, interim Superintendent of Catholic Schools Kelly Branaman recognized teachers and principals celebrating more than 25 years of service as well as schools marking significant anniversaries.

Catholic elementary schools in the Archdiocese of Washington open on Monday, August 25. There are 95 early learning, elementary and secondary Catholic schools serving more than 27,000 students in the District of Columbia and Calvert, Charles, Montgomery, Prince George's and St. Mary's counties in Maryland.

OPT

Holy Cross Parish

4900 Strathmore Avenue
Garrett Park, MD

Rev. Msgr. Cary Hill, Pastor
301-942-1020

Holy Cross School

Lisa Maio Kane,
Principal
301-949-0053

Lurana Hogan,
Parish Editor

l.hogan@hcross.org

Social Concerns Commission in Action

By Sue Gordon, Commission member

Christ the King closed out the month of August with its Social Concerns Commission continuing to collect school supplies for the Interfaith Works, as well as for the students of Christ the King. As there is one week left in August at the time of publication, the Commission says, "All supplies are (still) welcome." Most needed each year are backpacks, lunchboxes, pencil containers/boxes, notebooks, lined filler paper, markers, pencils and colored pencils, folders, pens, scissors and glue sticks.

The collection basket and supply lists in the back of the Church have made it simple for donors. Additionally the Poor Box, a project of the Commission, selected Mary's Center as recipient for August. Founded in 1988, Mary's Center is a Federally Qualified Center that

offers health care, family literacy and social services to individuals whose needs too often go unmet by the public and private systems. Mary's Center operates four clinics in Maryland and the District of Columbia.

In July Social Concerns added A Wider Circle, to the Poor Box Collection. This Silver Spring charity supplies basic furniture and home goods to people in need. Also in July Social Concerns was able to donate 50 pounds of food to Manna Food Center. This was in addition to its collection for the parish Food Pantry on every fourth Sunday. Most needed items at this time: spaghetti sauce, peanut butter and jelly, fruit and fruit juice, soup, cooking oil, sugar, salt and paper goods. The fourth Sunday in August falls on the 24th, coinciding with parish distribution of Our Parish Times.

OPT

St. Patrick

Apology to My Brothers and Sisters in Developing Countries

By Joyce Rupp

To my brothers and sisters in developing countries:

While I was deciding which oat bran cereal to eat this morning, you were searching the ground for leftover grains from the passing wheat truck...

While I was choosing between diet and regular soda, your parched lips were yearning for a sip of clean water...

While I scanned the ads for a bargain on an extra piece of clothing, you woke up and put on the same shirt and pants that you have worn for many months.

While I built a fourteen-room

house for the three of us, your family often found shelter in a one-room hut...

My brothers and sisters, forgive me for my arrogance and my indifference. Forgive me for my greed of always wanting newer, bigger, and better things. Forgive me for not doing my part to change the unjust systems that keep you suffering and impoverished. I offer you my promise to become more aware of your situation and to change my lifestyle as I work for the transformation of our world.

Taken from *Out of the Ordinary*, Copyright 2000 by Joyce Rupp. Used by permission of Ave Maria Press. All rights reserved.

OPT

SUIT

Con't from page 3

nancy centers served over 120,000 clients without a single complaint.

Centro Tepeyac sued the MCC claiming the ordinance was a violation of their First Amendment freedom of speech rights. On March 7, 2014 US District Judge Deborah Chasnow ruled in favor of Centro Tepeyac and issued a permanent injunction prohibiting the Council from enforcing the ordinance. Subsequently, the MCC decided not to appeal and accepted defeat. Judge Chasnow ordered the MCC to pay \$375,000 to CT's lawyers who did the legal work for CT pro bono.

Judge Chasnow cited Montgomery County's "lack of evidence". She said, "Quite simply, the County has put no evidence into the record to demonstrate that [CPCs'] failure clearly to state that no doctors are on premises has led to any negative health outcomes." And concluded, "[W]hen core First Amendment interests are implicated, mere intu-

ition is not sufficient. Yet that is all the County has brought forth: intuition and suppositions."

Even an expert witness for the MCC, Dr. Ulder Tillman, Health Officer for Montgomery County and Chief of Public Health Services, testified "she had never received a complaint from someone who sought service at a [CPC] in Montgomery County."

Not content with just winning a major law suit, Mariana Vera, Centro Tepeyac executive director, along with the CT Board of Directors, decided to extend Centro Tepeyac services to local abortion facilities by purchasing a mobile pregnancy center complete with an ultrasound machine to show women heading for an abortion a sonogram picture of their babies and tell them about the pre and post natal support Centro Tepeyac offers. A high percentage of women choose life when they see their babies in a sonogram. The mobile PC will be available for inspection at the CT Gala at the Shrine of St Jude on September 20.

OPT

Farewell to Our Seminarian

By Katie Holland, CTK editor

Giovanni Gemmani came to Christ the King for his Seminary's required "year abroad" helping the priests at Christ the King. He worked hard, and successfully, to train our altar servers. He returned in July to the FSCB Seminary in Rome to finish his studies. While here he used his engineering expertise and education to teach Physics to students at The Avalon School. Two "bon voyage" gatherings were held for him, one in the Rectory after the daily Mass on July 8 and another after the Sunday 10:30am Mass July 13.

Giovanni will be ordained a Deacon in two years, and in four he will be ordained a priest in



Left to right: altar servers Andy Proal, Alain Asaba, Manuel Ochoa, Kyle Abreu, Leslie Asaba, Joseph Forbin and seminarian Giovanni Gemmani

Rome. Christ the King parishioners wish him well and hope he

will someday return to our little parish.

OPT

The New Evangelization, part 2

By Katie Holland, CTK editor

Christ the King's Pastor, Fr. José Maria Cortes, F.S.C.B., wrote in his weekly Bulletin column recently, "there are many obstacles to evangelization. The so-called 'new rights' proclaims that the happiness of the individual would be fulfilled if laws were changed and rights guaranteed to all." Such "ideology" paired with those who simply do not know their Faith, and the New Evangelization has more than a few difficulties.

This "New Evangelization" can be lost on many who bump up against "professional Catholics", a term used by Pope Benedict in

2010 to define those who make their living working for the Church but have faint understanding of the Faith. Such people without fervor for the Faith, yet represent the Church, diminish the enthusiasm of the everyday Catholic for this new effort. A thorough review was well laid out July 24 by the St. Michael Media ChurchMilitant.TV online program, The Vortex. That entire week of daily programs outline some of the difficulties Catholic face sharing their Faith in an atmosphere which does not encourage sharing.

You have to know the Faith, to share the Faith. And, with that in mind, Christ the King parish is making available classes for all levels

and all age groups to learn the Faith. Setting aside WHY people have come to not understand or know their Faith, Christ the King is moving forward to enable parishioners to get to know this one Church Christ established.

A 6-week adult Faith formation program, "Prayer" begins September 2. Also the RCIA classes invite those Catholics in Full Communion who would just like to learn more about their Faith. The calendar parallels the Religious Education program for our parish children. With these "tools", Christ the King's will then be prepared to go out, spread the Gospel and fully participate in the New Evangelization.

OPT

News of Note at Christ the King

After a summer hiatus, the young adult group will be restarting their monthly brunches on Sunday, August 24, after the 10:30am Mass. All young adults (20-something) are invited to meet in the Colonial Room for fellowship, a short reading/discussion lead by Fr. Jose, and a brief planning session for future events. This month will be potluck, so please bring a breakfast dish to share!

Christ the King will host a program of Faith Formation for adults called "Prayer" – a minimum of 12 attendees is required to set this in motion. The classes will be held every Tuesday September 2 through October 7, from 7- 9pm. Coordinating the classes is Fr. Ettore Ferrario who can be reached by phone at (301) 589-8616 or by email: directk13@gmail.com or christ.the.king.church.md@gmail.com. The religious education program will be registering students for the 2014-2015 school year through the first week of September. Volunteers to be

Catechists are sought. The classes will be taught at two separate times so that families can attend Mass together with their students prior to the preferred Mass time, that is, 9-10:20am and 11am-12:20pm.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is a program for adults who have never been baptized, those who have been baptized in other faith traditions, those who have not completed the Sacraments of initiation, usually Confirmation, those who have been away for a long time who would like to be updated on Church teaching and Catholics in full communion who would just like to learn more about their Faith. Christ the King will be offering these classes from September 2014 to June 2015. If you are interested, please fill out the survey form placed at the vestibule of the Church or online at: <http://rc.net/washington/ctk/> and drop them at the office or the offertory basket.

OPT

Save the Dates

The CTK Picnic is Coming!!!

When: Sunday, September 14, from 1:30 to 5:30pm

Where: Rosensteel Knights of Columbus Council, 9707 Rosensteel Avenue, Silver Spring

All are welcome. Bring a side dish to share! The Knights generously will provide the grill, the grill-meisters, the burgers, the fixings and the beverages!

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

When: Sunday, November 16, from 8am until 3pm

Where: Msgr. John J. Dressel Colonial Room

Volunteer coordinators are currently being sought. Please help setup.

Christ the King

2301 Colston Drive
Silver Spring, MD

Rev. Jose Maria Cortes
FSCB Pastor

Katie Holland, OPT Editor
301-495-4812
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Three New Staff Appointments at Mother Seton Parish

Mother Seton Parish is pleased to welcome three new staff appointments. They are: Dominique Seraphin, our new Director of Religious Education, Amy Massey, our new Director of Music, and Toni Woods, our new Social Concerns Coordinator.

Mrs. Seraphin graduated from Long Island University with a degree in Criminal Justice but experienced a major conversion during her junior year while attending a Youth 2000 New York retreat, a monthly Eucharist-centered retreat for young people held by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. After graduation, she became a Novice in the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal in New York as she sought to discern a call to religious life. Dominique later served as manager of The Shrine of the



Mother Seton Parish welcomes three new staff members. They are (l to r): Dominique Seraphin, Director of Religious Education, Toni Woods, Social Concerns Coordinator, and Amy Massey, Director of Music.

Unborn for John Cardinal O'Connor in the Archdiocese of New York; assistant to the Dean of Academic Affairs at Ave Maria University; she was chaplain to 4,000 students at Kellenberg Memorial High School in New York while simultaneously directing a trilingual religious education program. Most recently, she was Director of Evangelization at St. Andrew Apostle Parish in Silver Spring, Md.

Mrs. Massey comes to us from The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Washington, D.C., where she has been a part of the music staff since 2003 in the capacity of accompanist, choir director, and Mass coordinator. Originally from Morgantown, W. Va., she received her Bachelor of Music from West Virginia University. Amy relo-

cated to the DC area in 2002, and has since earned a Master of Music in piano pedagogy from The Catholic University of America. In addition to being a church musician, she also has a thriving piano studio. Amy and her husband, Aaron, look forward to being a part of the Mother Seton community.

Mrs. Woods, as Social Concerns Coordinator, will be addressing direct assistance requests such as issues with food, housing, utilities, and basic needs that come into the parish. She'll also be coordinating the parish's charitable outreach programs like the school supplies drive, holiday baskets, and recruiting volunteers for community organizations. Toni will be providing opportunities for parishioners to put their faith into action.

OPT

Multi-Parish Middle School Service Camp

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, He has sent me to bring good news to the afflicted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, to release the prisoners. Isaiah 61: 1

This quote from Isaiah was the theme of a week-long middle-school service camp held in July and attended by students from seven parishes. MAC Week (Mission, Action & Compassion) was held at the Middle Creek Bible Retreat Center in Fairfield, Pa. 58 middle school students participated from St. Elizabeth, Mother Seton, St. Raphael, St. Mary, Little Flower, St. Paul, and Church of the Resurrection in Ellicott City. We were very blessed to have high school student mentors and 20 adult volunteers from the different parishes stay with us and offer support in everything we did. Our mission would not have been possible without assistance from the staff and volunteers at Adams County of the Aging, South Central Community Action Program, The Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Joseph Ministry, Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve, Adams Rescue Mission, and Gettysburg College. God was truly present in the lives of the teens and adults throughout the week.

The teens participated in different service projects every day. They picked fruits and vegetables in community gardens, unloaded deliveries, bagged groceries and handed out the food out to families at the



The tired out teens are proudly standing on the just-completed foot bridge.



MAC Week was cleverly spelled out with fabrics by the teens at the Thrift Store.

food pantry. They enjoyed playing games, going on walks, and attending Mass with the elderly. Sorting

across a stream at the retreat center. God worked in us and through us all week, and the personal relation-

ships that were made with everyone we encountered changed lives. While spending their days at their assigned service sites, the afternoons and evenings were filled with outdoor games, a night at the pool, Adoration and Confession, and an amazing talent show led by the teens. Being able to celebrate Mass several times during the week was a constant reminder of God's unending love for us. In addition, Mike Tenney, of St. Mary of the Mills in Laurel, Md., our program leader, fed us with his spiritual nourishment and we "traded in our sorrows" as we praised and worshiped God with our hearts as we sang.

Groups of teens prayed in the Basilica at the Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg, Md.

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While spending their days at their assigned service sites, the afternoons and evenings were filled with outdoor games, a night at the pool, Adoration and Confession, and an amazing talent show led by the teens. Being able to celebrate Mass several times during the week was a constant reminder of God's unending love for us. In addition, Mike Tenney, of St. Mary of the Mills in Laurel, Md., our program leader, fed us with his spiritual nourishment and we "traded in our sorrows" as we praised and worshiped God with our hearts as we sang.

Brian Werth, the Youth Minister at St. Elizabeth has a true passion

for working with young people and has done a middle school service camp for several years. It was a true blessing to be a part of his team this year as we successfully organized our very own middle school service camp. Thanks to everyone's unending prayers and support that helped us to make our week possible. We plan to make MAC Week a tradition with our churches and the communities of Emmitsburg, Md., and Gettysburg and Fairfield, Pa. If you are interested in helping us plan for our trip next summer, or just want more information, please contact Brian at bwerth@stelizabethchurchmd.org or Jill Brodrick at mspyouth09@gmail.com.

OPT

Mother Seton Parish

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Fr. Lee Fangmeyer
Pastor

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Joyce McCarthy
OPT Editor

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Jack Brodrick of Mother Seton Parish helps unload a food pallet delivery during MAC week for the soup pantry in Gettysburg, Pa.



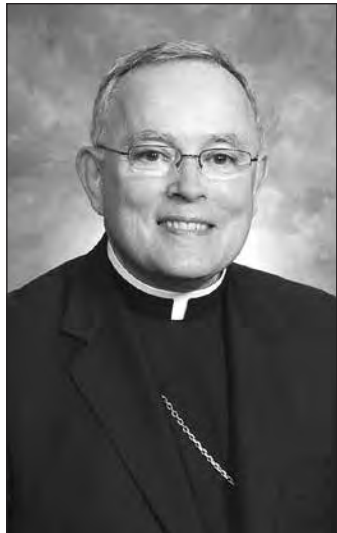
It was lots of fun for the girls trying on wedding dresses at the Adams Rescue Mission.

Philadelphia Prelate Endorses The Giver

Excerpt from a column by Archbishop Charles Chaput

One of the most popular youth and young adult novels of the past 20 years — Lois Lowry's Newberry Award-winning *The Giver* — comes to movie screens tomorrow, August 15, thanks to Walden Media. Walden is the same family-friendly production and distribution company that released *The Chronicles of Narnia* films. Lowry's book has sold more than 10 million copies.

Some parents have found the novel too troubling or controversial for young children because of its subject matter. The story portrays a tightly controlled society of the future that runs on "Sameness," where memories and strong emotions are discouraged, conscience is virtually unknown, and defective infants, the elderly and dissenters are methodically sent to "Elsewhere" — in other words,



Archbishop Charles Chaput

killed. One young man, chosen by the community to train as its "Receiver of Memories," is repelled by the secrets at the heart of the utopia. He sets in

motion an awakening the human spirit.

This is a wonderful film. Nothing in the movie version of *The Giver* will offend a family. Just the opposite. It's an intelligent, absorbing, beautifully crafted film everyone should see. This is a major production of a great story, well above standard "family" fare in quality, rendered by an excellent cast — Meryl Streep, Jeff Bridges, Katie Holmes, Taylor Swift and others. It shouldn't be missed.

Please pray for the suffering Christians of the Middle East. And then contact your federal elected officials to press this administration to act vigorously, in every way possible, to defend Iraqi and Syrian Christians from the campaign of violence against them.

Source: Zenit.org

OPT

A Business Catechism

Guide to Social Teaching of the Church

How to reconcile ethical principles with the exigencies of running a business has long been a cause for debate. A new book looks at this from the perspective of the social teaching of the Catholic Church.

Edited by Andrew V. Abela and Our Lady of Lourdes parishioner Joseph E. Capizzi, the book, "A Catechism for Business: Tough Ethical Questions and Insights from Catholic Teaching," (Catholic University of America Press), proposes 114 questions regarding business ethics.

The editors explained in the introduction that they have not set out to provide a definitive answer to each question, given that ethical matters are often very complex. What they have done is to propose a series of quotes from various Church documents on each of the questions to enable readers to reflect on the issues raised.

They commented that sometimes the quotations appear to be in tension with one another. "Apparent tensions and even contradictions are a challenge to our understanding, and a call to engage more deeply and fully in the teachings of the Church," they said.

They also pointed out that the documents developed over more than a century and were written to respond to a variety of social and economic issues prevalent at the time, even though the underlying principles remain the same.

The editors also insisted on the need to pray and meditate on the documents and to seek further information. There is a need, they explained, to internalize the teaching and to avoid the mistake of

thinking that being Catholics in the business world involves simply the mechanical application of some key points.

Point of departure

"The selection of teachings contained here are points of departure, not destinations," Abela and Capizzi insisted.

In a section on the teaching authority of the social doctrine of the Church the editors commented that it is not some kind of imposition on business life. All Catholic moral teaching is social, they noted, and is meant to help us to be better followers of Christ.

The Church, they continued, does not affirm some special authority regarding how a business should be managed. Above all the Church's teaching is meant to promote the human person and the wider community.

"Put simply, employers and employees alike will do better when they treat each other as persons, created in the image and likeness of God," they added.

The questions themselves cover a broad range of topics. On the subject of the right to private property both the right to such property is made evident, but at the same time a quote from the Catechism of the Church points out that the goods of the earth are destined for the use of all.

Then, the question arises as to how we are to use our private property. The logic of property and that of the equal distribution of goods do not contradict each other if their relationship is well ordered, explained a quote from Benedict XVI.

On matters related to the organization of business the texts quoted in the book point out various elements, such as the role of work in serving the common good, the vocation of business leaders in a role of stewardship, and the building up of the Kingdom of God.

It isn't consistent to profess our beliefs in Church on Sunday and then during the week to engage in business practices contrary to those beliefs, one of the texts noted.

"This split between the faith which many profess and their daily lives deserves to be counted among the more serious errors of our age," the Vatican II document *Gaudium et Spes* said.

Dignity of the human person

One question examined what are we to do in terms of applying Catholic principles in a workplace shared with non-Catholics. The Church's social doctrine is based above all on the nature and dignity of the human person, one of the texts commented.

Therefore, it is not a question of imposing on non-believers a vision based on faith, one of the texts authored by Pope St John Paul II, explained, saying, "but of interpreting and defending the values rooted in the very nature of the human person."

Apart from these more general questions the book raises a number of very pertinent issues.

What happens when law or company policy obliges people to do something evil? The end doesn't justify the means, the quotes pointed out.

At the same time the choices

Continued on page 31

Lemons to Lemonade at Mary of Nazareth School

This past January Mary of Nazareth School experienced a devastating flood from a burst pipe during the polar vortex. The chapel, library, and preschool sustained extensive damage requiring a complete renovation of an entire wing of the school. Although classrooms became inaccessible and teachers were displaced, a cooperative spirit prevailed amongst the faculty, staff, students, and parents. The result of our community's enduring stewardship and generosity is a beautiful new library, state of the art media center, enlarged chapel, and renovated preschool.

Mary of Nazareth School eagerly awaits the opportunity to rededicate

the James Cardinal Hickey Library and bless the new chapel this fall. A huge note of gratitude is in order to our parents who 'Raised the Paddle' for \$32,200 at our Annual Benefit Gala and to the Tom and Glory Sullivan Foundation whose \$8580 grant helped refurbish the chapel. Additionally, the school received a \$12,000 donation toward technology in the media room in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Don Heck. Mr. Steve Munzer did a superior job overseeing and managing the renovation from the onset. His time and talent during this process was invaluable — without him, the lemons would not have been juiced so expertly.

OPT

Welcome to the Mary of Nazareth School Family

Every year as we welcome our students back into the classroom, Mary of Nazareth School also has the opportunity to welcome new faces to our team of faculty and staff. This year is no exception. We are excited for the opportunity to open our arms to our newest team members.

Our elementary school hallway has two exceptional additions. We are pleased to announce that Ms. Victoria Jensen will be teaching fifth grade religion, science, and math and fourth grade math. Ms. Jensen received a degree in Elementary Education with a minor in Psychology at Belmont Abbey School in Belmont, North Carolina. Upon graduation this winter, she was hired by Belmont Central Elementary School as an interim teacher in the second grade. Victoria attended Oakcrest School in McLean, Virginia and she is extremely excited to be working in a Catholic school next year. Ms. Jensen is a bright, hard-working, and creative young woman and is characterized several times as a leader who captained her college volleyball team to a conference championship in her senior year.

We are also pleased to welcome Mrs. Joan Dziedzic as our new fourth grade teacher. She joins our faculty

with over twelve years of teaching experience and will be teaching religion, science and math to our fourth grade students. Ms. Dziedzic received her B.S. in Special Education from Geneseo State University College of New York and her Master's in Education from Walden University. Her passion for math and innovative teaching methods will deliver the curriculum to all types of our student learners. We are confident she will be a superb asset to our elementary school team.

Congratulations to our third grade teacher, Victoria Posner, and her husband. Vicky gave birth this spring to Samantha, a beautiful and healthy baby girl. Best of luck to Tiffany Grimes, our kindergarten assistant, and Emily Chesterton, our middle school Spanish teacher as both are expecting their baby girls in the very near future.

"We are gratified that we were able to attract such a qualified and competent group of professionals as an addition to our faculty and staff," says Mr. Michael Friel, Mary of Nazareth School Principal. "We are confident in their ability and are happy to welcome them to our team."

OPT

Mary of Nazareth School Open House Schedule

Thurs., October 9, 2014
9am-11am

Sun., January 25, 2014
1pm - 3pm

PARKLAWN CEMETERY

Rockville, MD
Garden of the Way
Lot 271, Block 3
4 BURIAL SITES

\$6,500

704-726-3425

jfenlon@carolina.rr.com

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

Principal: Mr. Michael J. Friel

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

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Website:

www.maryofnazareth.org

Affiliated with the following parishes:
Mother Seton, Germantown; St. John Neumann, Gaithersburg; St. Mary's Shrine, Barnesville; St. Rose of Lima, Gaithersburg; St. Paul, Damascus; Our Lady of the Presentation, Poolesville; Our Lady of the Visitation, Darnestown.



Polish School students recited poems and verses in honor of Rev. Jan Fiedurek's 25th Anniversary in the Priesthood on May 18, 2014, at Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish, Silver Spring, MD. From left: Konrad and Kamil Niwa, Anna Khabyev, Aleksandra Bilinski, Agata Czaja, Julieanne Cieciewicz-Elias, Pastor Jan Fiedurek, Sebastian Bilinski

FIEDUREK

Con't from page 1

from the OLQP Parish Polish School recited poems and verses in honor of Fr. Fiedurek. A picnic, overseen by Edyta Szemił and the Parish Council, rounded out the festivities after Mass. Sisters Julia and Mireille Lechlitter played several selections on their violins at the picnic. Parishioners and friends continued to express their warm wishes to Fr. Fiedurek throughout the afternoon.

Reverend Jan Fiedurek was born and raised in the Lublin area in southeastern Poland. He was in high school when Cardinal Karol Wojtyła became Pope John Paul II. This event inspired the young high school student to examine aspects of his faith and to open himself to the possibility of a vocation to the priesthood.

He met Pope John Paul II in Warsaw on the Pope's first pilgrimage to Poland. Shortly afterwards, he decided to enter the Seminary of the Society of Christ to prepare for the priesthood so as to minister to Polish emigrants abroad.

Rev. Jan Fiedurek was ordained on May 16, 1989, in the Archdiocese of Poznań, Poland, by Bishop S. Napierala. His order, the Society of Christ, was founded in 1932 by Cardinal August Hlond, then Primate of Poland and now Servant of God, to work with the Polish diaspora. The co-founder and first Superior General of the order was Servant of God Rev. Ignacy Posadzy.

Father Fiedurek's first assignment was in Poland. Then, he was sent to North America. In the United



Rev. Jan Fiedurek, Pastor of Our Lady Queen of Poland & St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish, Silver Spring MD, celebrating the Mass of thanksgiving on the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood, on May 18, 2014

States, he has served in parishes in the Detroit MI area, in Los Angeles CA, Miami FL area, Houston TX, and in Chicago IL, prior to coming to Silver Spring, Maryland, in 2007.

Rev. Fiedurek has worked tirelessly and prayerfully to help the faithful on their journey to God. His fervent wish is that the parish continues to be a community of faith and love.

In his message to parishioners and friends, Father Fiedurek noted that Pope St. John Paul II has been, and still is, a constant source of inspiration for him.

We thank God for Rev. Fiedurek's gift of his vocation to the priesthood and we thank Rev. Fiedurek for his continued pastoral care and spiritual guidance. Bog Zaplac and Szczesc Boze!

Polish Saturday School starts Sept. 20

The Polish Saturday School of Our Lady Queen of Poland & St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish will begin its new school year on Saturday, September 20, 2014, at 10:00 A.M., at St. John the Baptist Catholic Community. Interested persons may contact School Director Eva Chlebowska for additional information.

OPT

On Mothers' Day, May 11, 2014, twelve children received their First Holy Communion at Our Lady Queen of Poland & St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish in Silver Spring, MD, from Pastor Jan Fiedurek: Mateusz Anders, Maia Barrett, Alexandra Cieciewicz, Nina Czerbniak, Carolina Konieczny, Alicja Maliszewska, Antoni Pazgier, Gabrielle Pope, Barbara Psurek, Marta Stolorz, Veronica Sulima, Kasper Syski.



Members of the Polish Scouting Organization, Maryland-Washington DC Chapter from OLQP, formed an honor guard at the commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising on August 1, 2014, at the Kosciuszko Foundation in Washington, DC. From left: Scout Sophie Botto, commemoration organizer Pawel Stefanski, Scout Leader Bozena Buda.



OLQP Polish School students in Goral heritage outfits meet U.S. Secretary of Defense (and guest of honor) Chuck Hagel and Ambassador of the Republic of Poland Ryszard Schnepf on Freedom Night, celebrating Polish Constitution Day at the Ambassador's Residence on May 21, 2014. The Dobosz siblings along with other Polish School students were helping to greet the arriving guests.

SAN MIGUEL

Con't from page 2

education can seem out of reach.

At San Miguel School, we operate under a different mindset: All children, regardless of economic background, deserve quality education. Our belief stems from the teachings of the De La Salle Christian Brothers and their founder, St. John Baptist de la Salle.

Founded in 2002, San Miguel is an independent Catholic school offering a tuition-free education to Latino boys grades 6 to 8. Once located in the basement of a church in Columbia Heights, today we occupy a larger facility on Georgia Avenue in Sheppard Park. Currently, our student body is 70 – the largest in the school's history.

San Miguel educates children from low-income homes. Nearly

100% of our students meet the federal poverty guidelines for a free or reduced-price lunch through the National School Lunch Program. Most students enter San Miguel two to three grade levels behind in reading and math.

San Miguel offers an effective model of Catholic education for "at risk" students. Our program includes a nine-hour day, a year-round schedule and extended hours for language arts (reading, writing, etc.) and math. Classes are intentionally small with a 12:1 student-teacher ratio.

In total, 172 students have graduated from San Miguel. All of our recent graduates have been accepted to private/college preparatory schools and are attending excellent area high schools such as St. John's, Don Bosco Cristo Rey, Georgetown Prep, and DeMatha. 98% of our alumni have graduated or are pursu-

ing a high school diploma. This is well beyond the national and local graduation rates for Latino males of 58% and 46%, respectively. Alumni have gone on to college, joined the workforce or entered the military.

San Miguel is not operated by any other school or by the Archdiocese. True to our Lasallian tradition, we provide an education that is academically rigorous, socially enriching, and steeped in Gospel values. To do so, we raise all funds to run the school. More than 50% of our funding comes from individuals and student sponsors. The remainder comes from foundations, anti-poverty programs, and other organizations.

Please visit San Miguel and witness firsthand our life-changing mission. Website: sanmigueldc.org

OPT

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SHORT

Con't from page 1

new Catholic school teachers, parish staff and others who assist us to live our faith in our greatly blessed communities.

As the school year and post vacation period begins, I'm thinking about renewal. Several times a year we focus on renewing ourselves in one way or another. We start the new school year with energized goals and we return from summer vacation refreshed and inspired with new ideas. We renew ourselves at New Years, Lent and Easter. For me, preparing for summer means renewing my waistline every spring! Each of these renewals helps us to grow in mind, faith and body enhancing life's journey in service to God and our ultimate salvation.

As the Archdiocese celebrates its 75th anniversary, many of us, especially those who have lived in this area a long time, have reflected back on the history of our parishes, schools, churches and other buildings. Throughout their history, these brick and mortar components of parish life have often played important roles in cementing together the spiritual, educational and physical activities along life's journeys for many of us. As many of the "baby boomer buildings" reach their sixties, I thought we might reflect on these structures from the perspectives of renewal and transformation, (similar to the perspectives we baby boomers reflect upon ourselves!). Our reflection is aided with some great examples of facilities that have been successfully renewed.

Many pastors and parish councils are thinking about reuse of parish facilities these days. That's a good thing because it offers the opportunity to fill the parish mission with "new wine". Christ taught we cannot put new wine in old containers, so, expanding on the parable, it is necessary to transform older and tired properties into new and relevant ones in order that they can once again become Christ's vessels of Christian growth and service. As I describe a few examples of renewed buildings, consider how one or more of your parish's properties might be renewed.

The story begins with Cardinal Francis O'Boyle, well known as the first Archbishop of Washington, lesser as a real estate genius. Just look at the location, location, location of parishes in Montgomery County. Modern real estate developers would pay a fortune for many of the sites. Parish properties are often ideally located for multiple uses. As the demand for convents, large schools, and new parish facilities diminished in the 1970's, more

space become vacant. Fr Ralph Kuehner was an innovator in the reuse of these spaces. Actually, I consider him more a prophet! In the early 1980's he created Victory Housing, Inc. with the mission of providing affordable housing for seniors, especially those who needed assisted living, using "surplus" parish facilities or land when possible. The first assisted living facility opened at historic St Mary's in Rockville in which the vacant convent above the bustling elementary school was transformed into affordable homes for 15 frail elders. Other parishes were inspired and decided to offer vacant parish owned land to Victory Housing to construct similar residences. With the help of the county, state and federal governments and supportive financial backers, homes were built at St Bartholomew's, Our Lady of Mercy, St Raphael's and St Camillus. **New homes for old friends.**

Today, vacant parish space at St Martin's is used as a daily "soup kitchen" for the poor and homeless in Gaithersburg. **New space for Christian love for the poor.**

St Rose of Lima used vacant land to construct a group home for people with developmental differences and went on to create Rosario Communities, Inc. to further this mission. St John the Evangelist has a home and St Patrick's in Rockville and Our Lady of Mercy are considering opening homes as well. **New space for inclusionary living.**

When Catholic Charities and The Archdiocese needed a facility in Wheaton to serve the poor, they identified surplus Church owned land on New Hampshire Avenue and traded it to a Lutheran congregation in Wheaton which needed to move. This enabled Catholic Charities to renew the Lutheran church as Catholic Charities' major social services center in the County. **New space for renewed hope and economic justice.**

When Our Lady of Sorrows School in Takoma Park closed, it was transformed into the Don Bosco Cristo Rey Catholic high school serving moderate income students who work part time to obtain job experience and earn part of their tuition costs. **New space for innovative educational opportunity.**

St Catherine Laboure and St Michael's schools are closed. What "new wine" might fill them?

Does your parish have underutilized space or property that could be renewed in its service to Christ? A space inventory and analysis might be a good project for your parish council.

God Bless!
Chuck Short
cshort5@verizon.net

SOCIAL TEACHING

Con't from page 29

people have to make can be very difficult and even require sacrifices in terms of a career.

The payment of taxes, what is a just wage, what limits exist in terms of the products a business can pro-

vide, the ethics of advertising, and the provision of healthcare benefits to cohabiting companions or same-sex partners are just a few of the many other issues addressed.

As the editors explained their anthology of texts is a point of departure, but a very valuable one which provides a great deal of material for reflection.

Zenit.org

Changing the Future

The other day I was talking to a young teacher. She told me that after watching the news about all the children suffering around the world, and all the tragedies that befall families in other countries and in our own, she felt like she wasn't doing her part to make the world a better place. Raised in a large Catholic family, having attended Catholic elementary and high schools, she learned well that she has a responsibility to share her gifts with the world – to have a positive impact on the future.

She teaches fourth grade. Each year she welcomes 26 fourth graders who will never have another fourth grade teacher – not in their whole lives will they get to do fourth grade over. She will make a mark on the lives of those 26 children. She will have an impact on the future by being their teacher. Every conversation, every correction, every push to do more, every pat on the back, every shared prayer will make a mark on every fourth grader's heart. Fourth-grade teachers throughout the Archdiocese will be changing the lives of fourth grade children every single day this year. Their colleagues will do the same with their students.

Everyone knows that Catholic schools will provide students with excellent academic preparation for their futures. Everyone knows that Catholic students will learn to hold the door, say good morning, and be responsible about doing homework and chores. Everyone knows that Catholic schools and their teachers will provide children with a safe place to learn and grow and play.

Unless you have been a part of Catholic education, and maybe even



Last year's third grade after discussing the challenges of fourth grade with their teacher Ms. Jakovics

if you went to Catholic schools a while ago, you may not know that the true value and purpose of Catholic education is to provide children with a strong foundation in their faith. We are in the business of preparing our students to live faith-filled lives in a secular world that will challenge their values in myriad ways. It's our job to give our students the tools they will need to survive and thrive in a world we cannot even imagine. They need to know, with clarity and certainty, that when things seem to be falling apart they can trust that they are not alone. They need to have prayers in both pockets to sustain them when the challenges seem insurmountable. They need to learn to be grateful when things are going well, and to understand that God is the source of all that is good in their lives.

So, while it can be challenging

to make sure that all of our students know their math facts, can tell the difference between a helping verb and a gerund, and will always be able to recite the Gettysburg Address; our true challenge is the passing on of the Catholic faith. As Catholic schoolteachers we partner with parents and religious, and we accept this incredible responsibility with smiles on our faces, and prayers in our hearts. We have an opportunity, every day in our Catholic schools to change the future, not only of our Church, but of the world. No one will work harder, and no one will make more of a difference than we do this year, from the moment we welcome our students into our classrooms on August 25, until we wave goodbye in June.

How lucky we are to be a part of Catholic education!

OPT

Plans and Projects at Our Lady of Lourdes

During the summer, many school administrators oversee repairs and renovations in school buildings that are aging, or already pretty old. It can be difficult to keep up with the work that needs to be done, but when school starts in a couple of weeks the results will be worth the headaches – at least we hope they will!

This summer at Our Lady of Lourdes we repaired our roof, and so far there are no brown spots

on the ceiling tiles upstairs. With the proceeds from the Fifth Annual Lions' Roar Kate Truax 5K we were able to install air conditioning in our cafeteria/all purpose room. We are looking forward to trying it out at Back to School Nights!

We also had great plans to build a large wooden patio outside of our cafeteria. The area has suffered erosion, and the tree roots and uneven terrain are the cause of many a bumped knee. Unfortunately, the

permitting process has so far proven to be an immovable object in the way of our progress. Now we hope to have a strong fence around the area, and a lovely drawing of what it may someday look like by the beginning of school. Once again we are gently reminded that our elaborate plans will not always proceed as we think they will. Clearly, we were in need of a lesson in humility!

OPT

Calling All Alumni!

Michela Donohue has joined the staff of Our Lady of Lourdes School as the Assistant Director of Development. This summer Mrs. Donohue submitted the names of 3,000 alumni to a company to have the information updated. She has also completed all the plans for our Annual Fund Kickoff Cocktail Party, which will be held on October 3. Invitations will go out in early September.

Plans are underway for a "Young Alumni" reception for members

of the classes of 1997-2007 on the Wednesday evening before Thanksgiving. Finally, our first edition of the alumni newsletter will go out in just a few weeks.

If you are a Lourdes alumnus, you can find us on the web at www.bethesda-lourdes.org, and you can email us your contact information at mdonohue@bethesda-lourdes.org or pmcgann@bethesda-lourdes.org. We look forward to being in touch with you soon!

OPT

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Msgr. Edward Filardi, Pastor

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Patricia Kilroy McGann, Principal

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From left: Tony Girolami, Calixte Paul, Renee Bond, Mary Deere, Michael Cerullo, Kyle Amann, Nikhel Medina and Matthew Bond enjoy time at Encounter.

Encounter the Gospel of Life

This summer, several members of the St. Andrew Apostle Youth Group participated in the annual Encounter the Gospel of Life program at the University of Maryland in College Park. More than 300 young people from parishes and schools from dioceses throughout the area participate. During the week they worked with organizations that feed the homeless, distribute clothing, and serve children, the elderly, physically challenged and infirmed. The teens attended Mass each morning and evenings were filled with discussion, prayer and song.

Those who attended Encounter felt that they were part of something much bigger than their small group. Tony Girolami, who served at a United Cerebral Palsy Facility, said "It was an eye opening experience. It was a joy to serve others and to meet new people. I saw Christ at work in many different ways. It was a great week".

Deacon Mike Bond and Alisa Zacharia served as adult leaders. Alisa commented that "encounter was an uplifting experience in which I was able to meet Christ serving others".

OPT

School News and Parish Events

While many have been enjoying a relaxing summer, St. Andrew Apostle School has been a hub of activity. For the second consecutive summer, significant improvements have been made to the facilities and infrastructure. Phase two of the new school entrance, establishing a single point of entry and a more secure building, is complete. New flooring has been installed in the main hallway, all-purpose room and kitchen. Several exterior and interior doors have been upgraded and almost every wall surface freshly painted. Upgrades have been made to the electrical system and new flat screen TVs added to every classroom.

The school community continues to grow. When school reopens on August 25, we will welcome seventy-one new students.

September is a busy month and our calendar is filled with activities. Brief descriptions of four follow. Please visit the parish website, <http://st-andrewapostle.org>, for more detailed information about these and other parish activities.

Father Richard McAlear will

conduct a mini mission entitled "The Mercy of God, the Gift of Forgiveness" Monday and Tuesday September 8 and 9. Prayer and teaching will be offered after morning Masses and again in the evening at 7:00 p.m.

Financial Peace University is coming to St. Andrew Apostle! If you're tired of having too much month at the end of the money and dream of being debt free, plan to attend a preview in the Rectory on Tuesday, September 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday September 18, 19, 20 Sherry Weddell, author of "Forming Intentional Disciples: A Path to Knowing and Following Jesus" will be coming to St. Andrew's and will lead a mission. A bestselling author, Sherry has helped Catholics discern the specific, practical ways they are called to be as she says "a powerful channel of God's redeeming presence in the world".

The community Carnival and Picnic is scheduled for Sunday, September 21 from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

OPT

Give us this Day Our Daily Bread

St. Andrew Apostle Parish gratefully acknowledges and thanks the management and employees at Panera Bakery in Wheaton for their continuing generosity to the hungry poor in our region. Every evening parish volunteers pick up unsold bread and baked goods to deliver to charitable organizations serving

those in need. Charities receiving donations include The Little Workers of the Sacred Heart in Hyattsville, a day care center for low income children, the Men's Shelter at Holy Name Parish in downtown Washington and Shepherds Table in Silver Spring.

OPT

St. Andrew Apostle Parish Honors Monsignor Hart

Kevin T. Hart was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Washington July 20, 1974. On July 20, 2014 now Monsignor Kevin T. Hart celebrated the fortieth anniversary of that momentous day. With a standing room crowd in attendance, accompanied by the combined choirs of St. Andrew Apostle and St. Patrick, Monsignor Hart offered a Mass of Thanksgiving. Joining him on the altar were Father Dan Leary, pastor of St. Andrew Apostle, Father Michael Paris, parochial vicar at St. Patrick's, Father Timothy Daniel, newly ordained parochial vicar at St. Bartholomew's and Deacon Jim Nalls of Catholic



Monsignor Hart with his sisters and brother: Carol Lema, Silver Spring, Md.; Jim Hart, Oakland, Md.; Maureen Condon, Salisbury, Mass.

Charities. At a luncheon reception following Mass, Monsignor Hart greeted, reminisced with and received good wishes from relatives, friends and many parishioners, both current and former, who traveled from near and far to be with him on what was a beautiful and joyous day.

During his forty priestly years, Monsignor Hart has served in several parishes within the Archdiocese and worked in a number of administrative positions at the Pastoral Center. He has been pastor at St. Mary, Piscataway (the first parish assign-

ment of newly ordained Father Dan Leary!), St. Ann in Tenleytown, DC and, most recently, at St. Patrick in Rockville. In residence at St. Andrew Apostle since December 2013, Monsignor Hart has become involved in numerous parish activities and serves the Archdiocese as Advisor to the Archbishop for Central Administration Affairs. One of his current responsibilities is to assist parishes and archdiocesan offices in implementing the statutes of the recently concluded Archdiocesan Synod.

A true Renaissance man,

Monsignor Hart holds a doctorate (J.C.D.) in canon law, is a gifted homilist, talented musician, gourmet cook and a gardener who is expert in growing deer proof herbs and flowers! Reflecting on coming to St. Andrew Apostle, Monsignor Hart said that he cherishes the warm reception he's been given by Father Dan and the parish community. He's happy to be part of an active parish with a school and enjoys visiting classes when time permits.

Congratulations and best wishes from your parish family!

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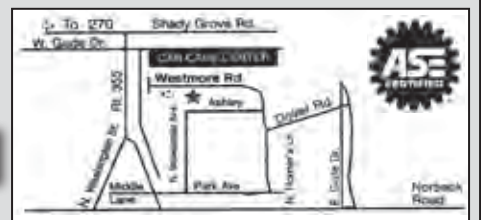
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St. Bart's Hosts Seminarian for the Summer

This summer, St. Bart's Parish hosted Archdiocese of Washington seminarian Stefan Megyery. Stefan, who was born in West Berlin, has had a long road to St. Bart's. After studying for a double degree in Modern History/Psychology, he wrote his dissertation about the alliance policy under Presidents Truman and Eisenhower.

In 2012 and 2013, Stefan completed a "research stay" in Washington, Kansas, and Missouri, at the National Archives and Presidential Libraries. Stefan was an altar server in childhood and faith has always played an important role in his life. During his stay in the United States, his vocation to the priesthood became strong and he decided to apply at Saint Blessed John Paul II Seminary in Washington, where he has been a seminarian since August, 2013.

In the little free time that he has, Stefan likes to go running or swimming and to play tennis and chess. Stefan told OPT that the most surprising thing he's found in America is how the Catholic faith is flourishing here and "how much the people



Seminarian Stefan Megyery prepares for St. Bart's Day "Run for Funds" in May.

love the priesthood." He said that this is "a total contrast" to the situation in his native Europe. **OPT**

Father Timothy Daniel Appointed Parochial Vicar at St. Bartholomew

Father Timothy Daniel, ordained at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on June 21, has been assigned to St. Bart's Parish as Parochial Vicar. Father Daniel is a local product, a graduate of St. Mark the Evangelist School in Hyattsville and DeMatha Catholic High School. He attended the University of Maryland and spent a year abroad studying in Japan.

Father Daniel grew up in a devout Catholic home and recalls being inspired by the faith and "many sacrifices and hard work" of his parents. At DeMatha he played baseball and soccer and worked on the school newspaper. He was inspired by the lay teachers there, who "treated their teaching as a service, a vocation." At the University of Maryland, he found the Catholic Student Center to be an "oasis of faith," where he was able to



Father Timothy Daniel greets parishioners after his first Saturday Mass at St. Bart's.

experience the contrast between the Church and the World and to grow in his faith, "precisely because it was challenged on the outside."

His experience in Japan played a "pivotal role" in deciding to become a seminarian for the Archdiocese of Washington. He saw in the Japanese people "an almost tangible search for something more than what the secular world promises." This made him even more grateful for his gift of faith and led him to recognize the need to share the Gospel with

others.

While a seminarian, Father Daniel studied at the Pontifical North American College in Rome, where he gained an appreciation for the universality of the Catholic Church. He has also learned from the example of Pope Benedict, whom he described as a great teacher and "a very holy man," and of Pope Francis, whom he described as "a pastor at heart."

(Significant text in this article courtesy of Catholic Standard, June 19, 2014.) **OPT**



The starting gun for the St. Bart's Day "Run for Funds" begins a day of fun, food, and celebration.

St. Bart's Day Huge Success

St. Bartholomew Parish held its annual parish celebration on Saturday, May 17. The day included a morning 5K "Run and Walk for Funds" to benefit the Santiago Vesperoni Memorial Fund, set up in memory of Santiago Vesperoni, St. Bart's Class of 2014, as well as Cup of Joe, a program dedicated to providing meals for the homeless in Washington area shelters. The Run for Funds was "sold out" with over 150 registrants. In the afternoon, a large crowd was treated to a performance of "Hairspray Junior," by St. Bart's School students, described by crit-

ics as "an absolute hit."

The evening started with a Redication Mass, at which parishioner Anne-Marie Economopoulos received the Archdiocese of Washington's 75th Anniversary Award. Later in the afternoon, a spirited basketball competition took place in the Reddy Center Gym. The day ended with food, fun, and music in the church courtyard. Many thanks and much congratulations went to the St. Bart's Day organizing committee, Judy Arcidiacono, Maria El-Khoury, Julie Panaro, and Bonnie Perkins. **OPT**

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More St. Bartholomew News on Page 34



Six new St. Stephen Ministers were commissioned on June 15 at St. Bartholomew Parish: Jesús M. Berard, Fulvia Veronese, Joe Del Balzo, Lucy Yépez, Bertha Luz Arango, Anne de Kemmeter, with Sylvia Shaffer, a St. Stephen Ministry Leader.

New St. Stephen Ministers Commissioned

On Sunday June 15, after having completed 50 hours of intensive training during 20 weeks, six St. Bart's parishioners were commissioned by Father Mark Knestout, Pastor of St. Bartholomew Parish, as St. Stephen Ministers. They join a group of 12 previously commissioned Ministers. St. Stephen Ministry, a Christian ministry to individuals with personal crises, has been working at St. Bartholomew Parish for about 2 years.

The Ministry's motto is "Christ Caring for People through People." It employs solid theology and sound psychology to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care to individuals in the parish and community who are facing a crisis or difficulty, which could include, for example, loss of a loved one, hospitalization, divorce or separation, a terminal illness, or any other personal, medical, or spiritual difficulty or crisis.

This ministry of love and com-

passion, has already provided hundreds of hours of pastoral care to a number of St. Bart's parishioners going through difficult times, experiencing painful losses or temporary crises in their lives. Deacon Julio Blanco-Eccleston told OPT, "It puts into everyday practice Our Lord's Commandment, 'Love one another as I have loved you'."

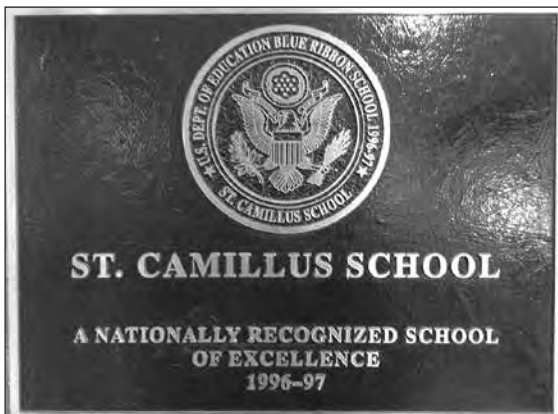
Persons who may be interested in St. Stephen's Ministry can contact Deacon Julio at 703 821 1654 or at jublec18@earthlink.net. **OPT**

Sixty Years of Catholic Education at St. Camillus

A parish school was one for the first ministries that the young Saint Camillus Parish established at its new campus in Silver Spring. This year will mark the 60th year that Saint Camillus has conducted school in that building built in 1954.

Initially, Saint Camillus School was founded by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur who staffed the school until the mid-1980s. The school building itself went through two expansions in the 1960s and '70s. In 1985 the parish added a preschool program to their educational ministries.

Saint Camillus School's reputation as a place of excellence was



Saint Camillus School Blue Ribbon plaque

solidified in 1997 when the United States Department of Education recognized it as a Blue Ribbon School. Thousands of alumni have been blessed by their education at

Saint Camillus including Oscar winner Mercedes Ruehl.

In 2010 Saint Camillus School merged with Saint Mark the Evangelist School to form the new Saint Francis International School. Today, Saint Francis International is honored to carry on the legacy of Saint Camillus School.

On Wednesday, November 19th, Fr. John Dakes (a graduate of Saint Camillus) will celebrate mass in honor of

the Sisters of Notre Dame. Alumni and their parents of Saint Camillus School are warmly invited to join the Saint Francis school community for this special mass!

OPT

Saint Francis International Summer Academy

Usually when one hears the words "summer school" there is dread and disappointment. That was not the case this summer for the students who attended one of Saint Francis International School's four different Summer Academy programs during the month of July. Students ranged in age from 5 to 12 and attended either the Get Ready for Kindergarten or Get Ready for First Grade, enrichment classes, or STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math). Each program catered to the needs and interests of the nearly sixty students attending. Each student received a light morning breakfast and lunch, had times of learning and times of relaxing or playing pick-up games of soccer or basketball. Most of the students in the summer program are current students attending Saint Francis International School, but there were students from other schools, as well.

Enrichment classes for students entering 2-8 in the 2014-15 school-year included an hour of mathematics, an hour of reading/writing and an hour of intensive reading or using technology to improve reading and math skills. Students entering Kindergarten and First grade were given a taste of what will be expected of them when the new school year starts. Fun, social/emotional skills and academics were combined and students enjoyed the camaraderie of new friends and different teachers. Teachers for the Enrichment program, the Get



Mr. Miehl measures chemicals with one of the STEAM students.

Ready for Kindergarten and Get Ready for First Grade are teachers at SFIS.

This year was the first year for the STEAM program which had 15 students in it. These students were required to have had A's or B's in their core subjects to be enrolled and were taught by St. Camillus parishioner Mr. Michael Miehl, who is an advanced science teacher for Montgomery County Public Schools. Students in this program met a Master Bee Keeper, observed how liquid nitrogen freezes objects, and discovered how solar panels

worked. They also made trips to a local stream where water was tested and an accounting of different animal and plant life was taken. At the end of the program, students held a symposium for fellow students and interested adults where they displayed many of the other projects they did including "earthquake proof" structures, extracting chemicals from a solution, chemical reactions, roller coasters, videos and artwork created by students reflecting the plant and animal life seen at the stream.

OPT



Summer Academy students say the Pledge of Allegiance on WGTS radio.

St. Bartholomew



St. Bart's Youth group members enjoy pizza while planning future activities.

St. Bart's Youth Group Has Exciting Summer

The St. Bart's Youth Group barely slowed down this summer, enjoying several outdoor activities after the long, cold winter. Special events included a bonfire with smores, a hiking trip to Rock Creek Park, a canoe trip at Black Hill Park, and a go-kart expedition in August. They will be playing miniature golf later

in August and then a "big opening event" at the beginning of September.

The group is excited to implement various ideas they had throughout the summer and are always seeking new group members. Check the parish bulletin for future events and contact information.

OPT



Camp Director Cindy Flores (right) and teen volunteers wash cars to raise funds for Sacred Heart Camp at St. Bartholomew Parish. In its 42d year, Sacred Heart Camp is an institution at St. Bart's. High school and adult volunteers from St. Bart's plan, organize, and staff the one-week camp at St. Bart's for the children of Sacred Heart parish in Washington. Prior to the camp, volunteers engage in intensive fund-raising, including a car wash and bake sale.

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St. Raphael School Alive in the Moment

As another school year begins this year's theme at St. Raphael School is Alive in the Moment. The goal as a school is to move through the year in a purposeful, intentional way that maximizes our opportunities to intersect creating bonds and a real sense of family as well as attempting to pause to appreciate the gifts that are woven into each day.

For the 2014-2015 school year we are also welcoming some new staff: Julie Mahon to our Nursery School as she takes the lead in after-

noon enrichment classes, Lorene Moutanabbih will work with Frida Glakas in our 5 AM 4-year-old program and Kristin Rich is teaching Kindergarten. Ryan Klein will be working with Maura Chongpinitchai in the Math program and Molly Donnellan will be teaching our Spanish program for grades 4-8.

Professional opportunities for our staff to continue our work with brain research directing instruction to meet gender differences in the classroom and to guide relationships which empower students to be self-confident, respectful, and positive influences in dealing with each other.

New this year: Goal setting for our Middle School with a guest speaker to help organize our approach and make a manageable transition from the elementary grades to middle school.

Important dates to remember at St. Raphael School this fall:

■ Angels on the Run is September 13.

■ Grandparents Day, September 26, is an intergenerational celebration beginning with Mass, visits to the classrooms, and a shared meal.

■ The St. Raphael Golf Tournament will be Wednesday, October 29. Please visit the SRS website for details www.straphael-schoolmd.org

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Less is More

The members of FOOFs (Fraternal Order of Fasting Fathers) at the final weigh-in of a biggest loser weight competition. Both churches competed to see which team could lose the most weight. St. Raphael won the first round, and St. Mary's won the second and overall pot. In a show of charity and sportsmanship, St. Mary's split the winnings with St. Raphael and both teams donated the money to their church and schools.

(L to R) Center: Michael Rose of St. Raphael

Parish and Victor Muzzatti of St. Mary's Parish holding the championship belt (that now fits!); 1st row: Dave DeSalle, Jose Carbonell, Mo Rowe, Tom Antonucci, Chuck Bartlett, Jeff Hannapel, Phil Aldridge; 2nd row: Mike Donahue, Bobby Maggio, Mark Hannan, Terry Kernan, Tim O'Connor, Chris Rascher; 3rd row: James Conway, Kevin Rowe, Paul Lidberg, Bob Scanlon, Paul Witt, Tommy Sullivan; not pictured: Ed Healy, JT Triandafilou, Bob Stephens. Photo by Michelle Aldridge

OPT

Pope Francis' Korean Surprises

As Expected, Pontiff Breaks With Itinerary during His Apostolic Visit

During his apostolic voyage to South Korea, the Holy Father has not lost his ability to surprise.

Yesterday, the 77-year-old Pontiff not only opted to take a high-speed train from Seoul to Daejeon rather than the scheduled-helicopter, but he also called in on Jesuits in the capital.

To reach Daejeon after celebrating Mass on the feast of the Assumption, the Pope gave up the helicopter and preferred to board the KTX high-speed train, despite never having been on a high-speed train before.

The train left the station shortly before 9am and covered the 90 miles between the two cities in 50 minutes.

According to the South Korean news agency Yonhap, the Pope traveled in the train's fourth car, in first class, but near the economy class, where he surprised no less than 500 passengers on board the train.

Though the change of plan was said to be due to the presence of fog, a spokesman for the visit's organizing committee, Hur Young-yup, didn't rule out another motivation: that by taking the train, the Holy Father had the opportunity to meet locals.

Later in the day, after speaking to young Asians at the Shrine of Solmoe, he surprised again by



Pope Francis

making a stop at Sogang University on his way back to the nunciature. The institution was founded by the Jesuits in Seoul in 1960.

Present at the encounter was Father Antonio Spadaro, director of La Civiltà Cattolica who told Vatican Radio, there was "an incredible simplicity: a sense of home, of family, of normality."

The relaxed and informal meeting was like a big celebration, Father Spadaro said, and the Jesuit Pope talked about the need for priests to bring consolation to people, rather than castigate them for their sins.

God's people are seeking and needing to be consoled, Pope

Francis stressed, and noted that the Church has many wounds, some of them caused by priests and practicing Catholics.

Often, he said, "our clerical attitudes have done much damage to the Church."

But, he added, "there are no wounds that cannot be consoled by the love of God and priests are called to tend to these wounds, with the certainty that God will always bring forgiveness and hope."

The Holy Father reflected: "Priests are not state altar boys, but they are pastors" and he urged those present "to act like pastors with people who come to Confession. Be merciful, he exhorted them, and always remember that God never tires of forgiving us."

In other surprising gestures, Vatican Radio reported that that a 22 year-old Korean girl who overcame anorexia asked the Holy Father if she could come to lunch with him when she's in Rome. The Pope reportedly didn't hesitate for a moment before saying yes.

He gave a blessing to a couple who can't have children and agreed to baptize a Korean man who asked him. The Pope will perform the baptism himself in the chapel of the nunciature on Sunday morning.

Source: Zenit.org

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Father Mateo celebrates Mass on Pentecost Sunday.

Staff Transitions at St. Rose of Lima



(L-R) Chris Jeffrey joins the St. Rose staff as the leader of the Liturgy and Adult Faith Formation Ministry. Laura Lowery recently celebrated her 20-year anniversary working at St. Rose. Rosemary Holt directs the grades 6-12 Religious Education/Confirmation/Youth Ministry. Remi Bauer is the new Music Director. Photo by Mary Zoccola



Sherry Moitoza leads the Social Concerns Ministry. Photo by Anna Moitoza

Celebración Divino Salvador del Mundo

In El Salvador there is a celebration of El Divino Salvador del Mundo, the Divine Savior of the World. El Divino Salvador del Mundo is a feast day widely known among those from El Salvador. In El Salvador, it is a four day celebration during which no one works and everybody simply worships El Divino Salvador del Mundo. In the Washington area, there are seven parishes that celebrate El Divino Salvador del Mundo. St. Rose is one of the participating parishes, as well as the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception at Catholic University in Washington.

The celebration is held on August 6 every year. This is the first year that St. Rose had a large committee dedicated to the celebration of El Divino Salvador del Mundo. Past celebrations were smaller and had fewer people involved in the preparation.

OPT



A highlight of the feast is a procession with a statue of the Divine Savior with Salvadoran parishioners in traditional dress.



St. Rose Bible Camp participants show off superhero tattoos at the St. Rose Bible Camp, this past summer. The camp's theme was The Sacraments. Superheroes were used to make a connection with the sacraments. Photo by Kathryn Heetderks

St. Rose to Hold Annual Fiesta

By Doreen Heath

On September 27, St. Rose will hold its annual Fiesta Celebration with a host of activities for people of all ages.

At 8 a.m., Fiesta kicks off with a huge Flea Market. The Book Nook offers a wide variety of books, CDs, and videos. At the Country Store, visitors can purchase homemade bake goods, hand crafted items, Fiesta Tee shirts and lots of novelties. The World Village showcases the multi-cultural nature of our par-

ish community.

Other events on the church grounds include a silent auction of gorgeous gift baskets; the raffle of St. Rose's awarding winning quilt, and a live auction.

For the children, there will be a moon bounce, and a swing. Children can get their faces painted and can paint pumpkins.

Throughout the day, on the Center Stage local talent sing, dance, and play music for our enjoyment.

And food...from the grill to a variety of ethnic offerings...the aromas delights the senses. Enjoying the food provides a chance to enjoy the culture and delicious offerings that the St. Rose Fiesta has to offer.

At 5:00, Fiesta concludes with a magnificent multi-cultural Mass. The combined choirs numbering about 150 members (multi-cultural, children and adults) will lead the congregation in making a joyful noise to the Lord as St. Rose celebrates the many blessings we have a community.

OPT



St. Rose Youth Encounter the Gospel of Life

In 1998, Encounter the Gospel of Life, Inc. (Encounter) was started by a few local parishes and organizations, in cooperation with the Archdiocese of Washington Office of Youth Ministry. Through justice and service experiences, Encounter provides opportunities for formation and transformation for young people, young adults and adults. Encounter is an intense work camp and a deeply spiritual retreat, as well as engaging, exciting and fun catechesis all rolled into one.

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St Rose youth at this summer's week long service camp, Encounter the Gospel of Life

Additional Youth Encounter photo - next page

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Cardinal Wuerl Celebrates Mass to Pray for Peace in Iraq

In the face of this systematic, organized and well-funded push by extremists to drive Christians and others from their homes, we cannot remain idle bystanders."

Cardinal Donald Wuerl, archbishop of Washington, celebrated Mass on the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary to pray for peace and stand in prayerful solidarity with the Christians of Iraq.

"Every day we learn more about the atrocities perpetrated against Christians and others in Iraq and other parts of the Middle East," Cardinal Wuerl said in his homily during the Mass at the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle. "In the face of this systematic, organized and well-funded push by extremists to drive Christians and others from their homes, we cannot remain idle bystanders. First and foremost as people of faith, we turn to God in prayer on behalf of all of those who are suffering so much in this present crisis. But we need also to raise our voices in solidarity with our Holy Father as he calls on all people of good will to recognize this overwhelming human tragedy, to speak out against it and to urge all to proclaim that this inhuman behavior is unacceptable." Cardinal Wuerl also referred to the Wednesday letter of Pope Francis to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, in which the Holy Father renewed his urgent appeal to the international community "to take action to end the humanitarian tragedy now underway."

"We are gathered here today in prayer as a sign of our own communion with our



Cardinal Donald Wuerl

Christian sisters and brothers and all those in Iraq who suffer so cruelly at the hands of these extremists," Cardinal Wuerl continued. "We pray first for all those who suffer so mightily at the hands of terrorists and extremists. We also pray that the international community stir itself to find ways to protect the innocent. And we also pray that peoples' hearts be touched in that troubled part of the world so that toleration and religious freedom become accepted characteristics of whatever political order is established."

"Peace can only come when there is mutual toleration among and between differing religious groups and when there is the recognition of religious freedom, religious liberty," Cardinal Wuerl concluded. "On this Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who is also the Queen of Peace, we pray as an expression of human and Christian solidarity. We also pray that our hearts be touched with compassion and courage. But we must never allow intolerance, bigotry, viciousness and hatred to infect us and our response to it."

Following the Mass, Cardinal Wuerl hosted an interfaith service for peace at the St. John Paul II National Shrine. At the request of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, local Catholics will join a national day of prayer for peace in Iraq on Aug. 17 in parishes throughout the archdiocese.

The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary commemorates the death of Mary and her bodily assumption into Heaven. It is celebrated annually on Aug. 15 and is a Holy Day of Obligation.

OPT

YOUTH ENCOUNTER

Con't from previous page



St. Rose youth entertain others as part of Encounter's house band. The Encounter House Band is a regional band of youth and adults, from all different parishes that is both a faith community and a ministry. It provides an avenue for reaching out to the rest of our community—especially other youth—through the gifts of music and witness.

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St. Martin's Enters the Summer Zone

By Therese De Leon, Eighth Grader

Two cups of science, one cup of math, one and one-third cups of art, one cup of prayer, and a boat-load of fun makes the perfect summer camp. Summer Zone was a two week summer camp at St. Martin's School that began on June 16 and ended on June 27 that was run by Mrs. Redmond and Mrs. Nichols. Children from grades Pre-K through 8 were able to do fun activities while learning. The projects and activities were focused on S.T.E.M (science, technology, engineering, and math) and art.

A day at Summer Zone usually started off with an art project that required the child's imagination and creativity. Campers recreated Vincent Van Gogh's "Starry, Starry Night" on black construction paper using a double barrel paint technique. They



Campers enjoy a robotics activity at the Summer Zone. Photo courtesy of Helene Redmond

used oil pastel and tinted paper to finish their masterpiece. Campers also painted a scene of water lilies that was inspired by Monet's work on canvas and experimented in batik, name mobiles, fauve self-portraits, multi-media sculpture, and more.

Continued on page 39



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St. Martin's Boy Scouts Honor a New Eagle Scout

By Catherine Cooksey

Dylan Prentice, surrounded by his extended family, stands in front of a garden at St. Martin's Parish. At the far right, the reconstructed and repaired railings surrounding the garden, which resulted from his Eagle Scout service project, can be seen. Photo courtesy of Greg Cooksey

On Saturday, June 21, St. Martin's Boy Scout Troop 926 held an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Dylan Prentice. Dylan is the 35th Scout to receive the rank of Eagle Scout from Troop 926.

The road to his Eagle advancement started years earlier as a courtesy to his cousin who was working on the requirements for a First Class Scout, one of which is bringing a friend to a Boy Scout meeting. Dylan enjoyed the meeting and decided to join the troop. What followed were several years of fun, adventure, skill building, and

Continued on page 39

School Community Enjoys Its Traditions, Activities, and Events

By Grace Schuler, Eighth Grader, and Catherine Cooksey

The 2013-2014 school year was a great year at St. Martin's. It was a busy year filled with fun activities, lot of interactive clubs, and school celebrations.

Some were traditions: Halloween Parade, Break-Feasts, Knitting for a Cause, the Mitten Tree, Family Math



The Third Grade class won the 2014 City of Gaithersburg Mayor's Book Club Reading Competition by reading an impressive 28,162 pages during one month! Students from Ms. O'Keefe's class were recognized at the Annual Gaithersburg Book Festival on Saturday, May 17.

Continued on page 39



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St. Jane's sixth-grade JV softball team earned the school its first championship title in the sport since 1974. Pictured here, front row left to right: Kylie Sanders, Emma Nalls, Molly Maynard, Isabella Steadman, Mary Daniels, Emma Wallinger, Jenny McIntyre; back row left to right: Veronica Vincent, Anna Owens, Coach Neal Owens, Lily McKinnon, Sofia D'Avella, Emma Tarquinio, Camy Corcoran, Cady Hyde, Allison McCord, Kelly Miller and Coach Chris Miller

CYO Athletes Excel, Are Celebrated

More than 300 people gathered at the Knights of Columbus Rock Creek Mansion last spring to celebrate another successful year of sports. Attendees enjoyed a barbecue, awards ceremony, and lots of great company in a night that was a fitting cap to a great year of play.

Fr. Samuel Giese led the group in prayer, and performers from St. Jane de Chantal's annual sixth grade musical sang the National Anthem as the celebration got underway, celebrating eight championship teams and four undefeated teams, recognizing the accomplishments of individual players, and distributing DeChantal hoodies to graduating eighth graders.

Award winners were:

Student Athlete Award

Taylor McCarthy
Nick Lynch

Hourigan Award for Sportsmanship

Arianna Penney
Thomas Nalls

Pastor's Award

Genevieve DiBari
Jack Lee

Coach of the Year

John Nalls

Bollwerk Service Award

Tim Coogan
Many congratulations to all of them!

In other CYO news, St. Jane's sixth grade JV softball team were champions this spring, finishing the season with 13 wins and no losses after a very tough season. The girls, coached by Neal Owens and Chris Miller, outscored their opponents 212-40 over the course of the season, and scored St. Jane its first CYO softball championship since 1974, wrapping up the season with an error-free championship game. All along, they displayed beautiful sportsmanship and style. St. Jane is very proud of all of its athletes!

COMMUNITY

Con't from page 38

Night, Living Stations of the Cross, the Drama Club play, Field Day Pool Party, volunteering at the Lord's Table, and, let's not forget, the annual food drive during which we brought in over 11,000 cans of food.

New activities included: after-school clubs for cooking, mileage, books, soccer, homework, engineering, robotics, rosary, creativity, and careers; sending letters to the

troops through Operation Gratitude; and raising money to help rebuild a school in Philippines that was damaged by Typhoon Haiyan.

The school year also brought us some memorable events. In the fall, author Joe Vevens taught us about writing and illustrating with his book *Chunky* and the O-Beast. During Catholic Schools Week, the Washington Performing Arts Society performed an amazing percussion concert. We even had to opportunity to try out some of their instruments. Oh the places we went with Dr. Seuss Night. We will always be proud

of Mrs. Redmond receiving the Golden Apple Award, the Advanced Band earning an Excellent in the Archdiocese Annual Band Festival, the JV Boys basketball team winning the Holy Redeemer Shootout, second place in the Good Counsel Math Competition, and Emma Leath becoming the Junior Mayor.

With only a few weeks left until the new school year begins, we look forward, in eager anticipation, to the traditions, activities, and events that bring so much joy, laughter, and pride to our St. Martin's community.

OPT

SUMMER ZONE

Con't from page 38

Campers participated in S.T.E.M projects that helped exercise the child's the knowledge on science, technology, engineering, or math. They designed with Lego Robotics and competed with unique marshmallow catapults. A favorite challenge was Brownie Blunder. Campers discovered what would happen if an ingredient was missing from a recipe. When the brownies were missing the eggs, the water and oil separated during cooking, and the oil sat on the surface. Campers also created Brain Savers,

a vessel designed to protect an egg when it was dropped off the roof. With Solar Cookers, campers fashioned an "oven" out of a cardboard box, foil, and black construction paper. Add graham crackers, marshmallows, and chocolate; cover the box with plastic wrap; leave out in the sun for about 30-45 minutes; and then campers enjoyed solar-cooked s'mores!

Learning about our faith was incorporated into the daily activities. We gathered each day to learn about our saint of the day. Some saints we learned about at Summer Zone included: St. Teresa of Avila, St. Bridgette, and St. Catherine Labouré. We also created candle

holders for our home prayer space.

According to Summer Zone campers Ian (5th grader) and Thea (3rd grader) Javelosa, both St. Martin students, they loved camp and would absolutely come back to Summer Zone camp. "I liked how Mrs. Nicholas and Mrs. Redmond taught us new things such as the batik and solar cookers that I could show and teach my friends how to do next year at school," said Thea. "I would come back to Summer Zone so I could learn new projects and spend some summertime with Mrs. Redmond and Mrs. Nichols." Summer Zone was a true blast for everyone, and we hope Summer Zone comes back next year!

OPT

EAGLE SCOUT

Con't from page 38

comradery, all of which served as training to prepare him to take on his Eagle Scout project.

Dylan's project involved refurbishing a garden located between St. Martin's Church and the Parish Office. In addition to weeding and planting, the railings surrounding the garden needed reconstruction and repair. To accomplish this task, Dylan had to develop a written plan, which needed approval from the leaders of St. Martin's and numerous Boy Scout representatives. He then

served as project manager, arranging for supplies and tools and coordinating the volunteers that put his plan in action.

Maria-Rose Cain and Rick Gomez, who were guest speakers at Dylan's Court of Honor, spoke about Dylan's good spirit, flexibility through the numerous iterations of his project's plan, and perseverance. These qualities demonstrate the leadership and character befitting of an Eagle Scout and role model for younger scouts as well as the St. Martin's community.

Eagle Scout is the highest advancement rank in Boy Scouts. Approximately 7% of all Boy Scouts in a given year achieved this rank.

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For the last two years, Governor O'Malley has invited Maryland's faith communities to join their counterparts in the District of Columbia, Virginia and West Virginia to focus on giving back to their communities in an initiative called Day to Serve. The initiative aims to bring together non-profit organizations and religious groups – churches, youth groups, and religious affiliated schools – and their respective members to engage in service activities focused on caring for our elderly, feeding the hungry and restoring our environment.

You can sign your event up here on the Day to Serve website: <http://daytoserve.org/>

Create an Event to Serve in Your Community

Due to their works of service throughout the year, Maryland's faith communities are best situated to promote the common good of our state. The Maryland Catholic Conference, in conjunction with

Maryland's diocesan Catholic Charities and Catholic schools, encourages your parish, school, or organization to participate by taking an act of service out into your community or even by hosting an event. As Catholics, we are called to serve our elders in need, feed the hungry and preserve the environment that God created for us. We hope this day will inspire Catholic community members to continue to serve others on a daily basis and be thankful that we have the freedom to serve!

Some Ideas for Volunteering:

For the Elderly

- School visit to a local hospital
- Volunteer at a local nursing home
- Volunteer for Meals on Wheels

For the Hungry

- Serve food at a soup kitchen or Catholic Charities
- Host a food drive at your parish
- Ask a grocery store to host a

food drive

- Live a day as a hunger victim, donate funds to soup kitchen

For the Environment

- Clean a stream by contacting local conservation groups
- Plant a tree or gardens in your neighborhood

See more event ideas and what other organizations are doing at daytoserve.org/maryland.html.

Questions?

Contact:

- Garrett O'Day, Associate Director, Education & Family Life, garrett@mdcathcon.org
- Andrea Garvey, Associate Director, Respect for Life, agarvey@mdcathcon.org
- Kathy Dempsey, Director, Communications, kdempsey@mdcathcon.org

"[A]men, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40)

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