



Parish Times

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

OCTOBER 2016

Living the Faith Together

FREE

Living Francis's Message



Chuck Short

In a moment, we'll reflect on a model parish. First I want to honor a model parish priest, Fr. Don Worch who died in August. Fr. Worch spent most of his fifty years as a priest serving Montgomery County parishes, as pastor at St Francis of Assisi, associate at St Elizabeth's and at Our Lady of Mercy at the time of his death. Those who knew Fr. Don often use the same few words to describe him; gentle, kind, humble and caring. He touched the heart of everyone he met. While Fr. Don's absence leaves emptiness in the halls of Mercy school where he cheerfully greeted students each day, there's no lack of joy and gratitude for the loving life of Fr. Don Worch.

It's been a year since Pope Francis's visit to Washington. My faith continues to thrive on the memories of his arrival at the airport; the motorcade to his residence where he arrived visibly fatigued from his journey yet arose the next morning to cheerfully greet students thrilled to be face to face with their hero. We were inspired to see him with the President and later by his address to Congress and Bishops at St Matthews. Then there was that parade...one of the most joyful and exciting events Washington has ever seen. Taking a moment now and then to reflect upon Francis's visit, his words, actions and holiness, can recharge us along our spiritual journeys.

Aptly, I suggest we reflect upon a local parish that very clearly lives the messages Pope Francis brought to us. St Camillus Parish in Silver Spring is unique. While it is an Archdiocese of Washington Parish, it is administered by the Franciscan Friars. The Friars came to the parish years ago as it was evolving into a more economically and culturally diverse parish with increasing needs, especially for outreach into its growing immigrant communities. The parish membership includes long time parish families as well as new arrivals from Central America, Africa, Asia and the Caribbean Islands. Parishioners are lawyers, doctors, government employees, large and small business owners, as well as domestic workers, professional care givers, and micro business innovators. Regular Masses are offered in English, Spanish, and French as well as African Masses. It's hardly a typical parish, but it is representative of the direction in which many parishes are evolving.

St Camillus is the model Pope Francis calls all Catholic parishes to be. Here's why. Led by a small, but determined group of Franciscans, St Camillus is an Inclusive Catholic community. Beyond offering multi-lingual Masses, the parish seeks and welcomes new members of diverse cultures. St Camillus actively cares

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St. Francis World Youth Day pilgrims meet up with group from St. Mary's of Annapolis in Prague

A Life Changing Pilgrimage to World Youth Day and More

By Susan Lea, Coordinator of Youth Ministry, St. Francis of Assisi Parish

In July, a group of St. Francis teens and adults, including Father John, went on a 15 day pilgrimage that concluded with attendance at

the 2016 World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland. The pilgrimage included visits to Shrines, Cathedrals and other holy places in Rome, Assisi,

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St. Jude Ladies Sodality at the Shrine of St. Anthony in Ellicott City. Pictured are (l-r): Louise Whitsell, Jenny Ruiz, Grace Stover, Rose Campbell, Barbara Nolan, Nancy Biggin, Sabina Kisulu, Kathy Dobson, Clare Kuzma, Peggy Barbera. Fr. Dennis, a Friar at the Shrine of St. Anthony, is in the back row. Present but not pictured were Helen Toussaint and Fr. Ken Gill.

St. Jude Sodality Pilgrimage to Shrine of St. Anthony

In mid-August, 11 ladies from the Sodality at the Shrine of St. Jude in Rockville, Md., joined Fr. Ken Gill, parochial vicar at the Shrine of St. Jude, on a pilgrimage to the Shrine of St. Anthony in nearby Ellicott City, Md. The group spent a beautiful summer day walking through the Holy Doors and attending

confession and Mass, which is said every day at 12 p.m.

Fr. Ken concelebrated Mass and served as a great guide and leader for the group. Fr. Dennis, a Friar at St. Anthony, gave a beautiful reflection on Mercy and told the history of the Shrine. The group was

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Fr. Burney enjoys recess with the St. Jane de Chantal School Pre-K Class.

Getting to Know St. Jane de Chantal's New Parochial Vicar – Fr. Keith Burney

When parishioners at St. Jane de Chantal learn that I'm from Southern Maryland, they often remark that living now in Bethesda must be quite a change for me. Certainly, there are some things that are different – there's definitely more traffic! – but for the most part, things are very much the same. Babies are being born and growing up, children are going to school, parents are working hard to support their families, young professionals are beginning their careers and socializing, older couples are retiring and

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Catholic Business Network of Montgomery County

Come to the next monthly Networking Breakfast Meeting on Friday, October 14, at 7:30 a.m. at Timpano Italian Chophouse, located in the Montrose Crossing Shopping Center at Rockville Pike and Montrose

Parkway. Parking is conveniently located outside the restaurant. Please register to attend at www.cbnmc.com

Support Catholic Education
 Annual Gala on Friday, November

18. Honored at the Gala will be the Business Person of the Year, John Treseler, and the Community Leader of the Year, Mike Ridgeway. Please support Catholic education. Tickets can be purchased at www.cbnmc.com

OPT



Photo: (L-R) President Kathleen Prebble, Julia Urban, Brittany Menjivar, Jessica Falcinelli, Emmie Stratakis, Principal Melissa Huey-Burns

Holy Cross National Merit Semifinalist and Commended Students Announced

The Academy of the Holy Cross recognized 2017 National Merit Semifinalist and National Hispanic Scholar Brittany Menjivar '17 and Commended Scholars Jessica Falcinelli '17,

Euthymia "Emmie" Stratakis '17, and Julia Urban '17 at the conclusion of the all-school Holy Cross Day assembly on Friday, September 16. About 1.6 million juniors

entered the 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2015 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), which served

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Justice & Advocacy Council of Montgomery County Take the Bishops' Quiz and See for Yourself that "Everything is interrelated"

By Anthony Bosnick

The Bishops of the United States have a twenty-question quiz on their website which is intended to help us test our knowledge of issues facing us as citizens. It is also intended to help us consider in light of Catholic social and moral teaching those public policy issues that challenge Catholics as we act in the public square.

Pope Francis says "Everything is interrelated"

Pope Francis, in his "environmental encyclical" *Laudato Si*, calls (perhaps we should say "challenges") Catholics to recognize that "everything is interrelated." By this he means that Catholics (and all people, really) will understand life



Anthony Bosnick

and our existence better when we consider and respect the unity and

interrelationship in the way things function and interact. So, for example, in his challenge to Catholics to faithful citizenship, he would have us understand that "concern for the protection of nature is also incompatible with the justification of abortion" (*Laudato Si*, 120).

Pope Francis states eloquently and persuasively (in LS, 120) his belief that if we can ignore the value and dignity of new human life, we can easily ignore the value of anything. Thus, we in the Montgomery County Justice and Advocacy Council of the Archdiocese of Washington are called to embrace the full teaching of the Church when we advocate for issues. This also applies to all Catholics as we decide on those for whom we will

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Catholic Coalition for Special Education Awards *Believe in Me!* Program Grants

Three Catholic Schools Awarded \$81,000 for Inclusion Programs

More schools are recognizing that inclusive education benefits the whole classroom – the children with disabilities and the children without, the faculty and the broader school community. If our Catholic schools welcome the body of Christ, then they must also embrace the same teachings and ultimately show the wider community how to build a just society.

The three Catholic schools receiving grant awards this year are



examples of schools that have embraced inclusive education and children of all abilities.

"The continuing efforts by our grantee schools to provide quality, inclusive education are admirable and hopefully their success will demonstrate to other schools that they can welcome children of all abilities too," said Fernand Lavallee, Esq., Board Member and Chair of the Grants Committee.

This year, CCSE has awarded

nearly \$81,000 in *Believe in Me!* program grants to three schools in three different Maryland counties. The 2016 recipients are:

The Academy of the Holy Cross in Kensington: This grant will continue to help fund the salaries of the special education teachers serving the Moreau Options Program. The program, created two years ago, provides its students with inclusion in regular classes along with small group instruction. CCSE commends the Academy of the Holy Cross, which has grown its program to 10 students this academic year.

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Ursuline Academy Class of 1966

The Ursuline Academy Class of 1966 held a three-day reunion on September 16, 17 and 18 to celebrate its 50th anniversary of graduation from the school. Although the school has been closed since 1976, the '66 class planned a weekend reunion with dinners, picnics, mass and a tour of the French International School, which was originally Ursuline Academy. Many of the alumnae returned to celebrate memories of the fun times that they had together and to continue the spirit of sisterhood that they have maintained for many years. The highlight of the weekend was the celebration of mass together at St. Jane de Chantal church and the singing of a favorite hymn of the school, "Let All Things Now Living." This song brought back many happy memories and a few tears were shed. Fr. John McKay celebrated the mass and

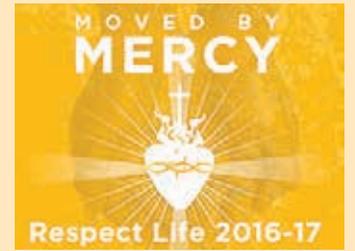


touched upon the fact that his sister also attended Ursuline Academy. On Sunday the former classmates had a tour of their old school and

ended their reunion celebrating a brunch together.

OPT

October is Respect Life Month



The right to life is the first and most fundamental principle of human rights; it is this principle that leads Catholics to actively work for a world of greater respect for human life and greater commitment to justice and peace. Society suffers when we fail to respect human life at any stage, whether it is an elderly woman in need of medical care she can't afford, a teenager in a coma, an unborn child in her mother's womb, or a

tiny embryo in a test tube. Respect for Life considers issues affecting the inherent value and dignity of human life at all stages. Personal Respect for Life topics include issues affecting pre-born human life,

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Kathleen & Lawrence Hamm
PUBLISHERS

Danny Gannon
Michael Roseleigh
DISTRIBUTION

Prepress by Electronic Ink
www.eink.net



Parish Community Services, Inc.

5212 Goddard Road Bethesda, MD 20814

Phone: 301-706-9684

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PUBLISHED IN ALTERNATE MONTHS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR.



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October 16, 2016 · 12:00-2:30 PM

LOWER & MIDDLE SCHOOLS (Preschool-Grade 8)

November 11, 2016 and January 6, 2017 · 8:45 AM



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St. Bernadette School Has Greater Love!

St. Bernadette School is pleased to embark on the fifth year of our unique, school community created social outreach initiative called Greater Love. Greater Love was founded in 2012 by two school parents. The ideas for causes to support are entirely student generated with local and global organizations receiving the collected funds or resources. What sets the St. Bernadette Greater Love program apart is



that every student and staff member is involved with executing one or more social outreach activities annually. Kate Rodgers, Greater Love co-founder and St. Bernadette School Director of Marketing, Enrollment and Alumni observes, "It is beautiful to witness the generosity of spirit, level of empathy and depth of compassion contained within the hearts of our students. We are honored to teach the life skill of giving back in such a hands on way."

Additionally, Greater Love has a special component called The Angel Network that provides support that may be needed for our very own St. Bernadette School families through a confidential and reliable network of donors who act in anonymity to one another and the recipient family in need. To supplement the efforts of the network itself, St. Bernadette students also collect Angel Pennies to add to the resources of aid provided by The Angel Network to instill the understanding of the power to provide relief

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St. Bernadette School lent support for Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in September by standing with The Lilabeau Foundation for Pediatric Brain Cancer Research founded by The Giroux Family, a member of the St. Bernadette School community, in their #11for11 campaign.

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St. Bernadette School welcomes new staff members (L-R) Andrea Patton (Grades 6-8 P.E./Health and Resource), Amanda Haberkorn (School Counselor), Amy Hyre (Grade 4), Stuart Wilson (P.E./Health and Technology Support Grades K-5), Kate Rodgers (Director of Marketing, Enrollment and Alumni) Mia Miller (Grade 1 Teaching Assistant) and Molly Bugge (Grade 2 and SBS '07 alum!).

SBS: Building Today for Tomorrow

Through our Annual Fund efforts, St. Bernadette School has embarked on a two-year digital initiative beginning in 2015 and culminating in 2017. The goal of this campaign is to raise funds to acquire additional age-appropriate classroom devices for use by all K-8 students to support and augment our ongoing technology strategic plan.

To date, this campaign has raised \$48,386 purchasing 40 iPads, 18 HP Probooks and 14 HP Tablets. "Our goal at the conclusion of this campaign is be device 1:1 in our middle school and 1:2 in grades K-5, said Ted Ewanciw, St. Bernadette School Assistant Principal, "And we are halfway our goal." Hilary Bednarz, St. Bernadette School Director of Development, shares, "The new technology in the classroom is vital as we continue to build and grow our school program today to prepare our boys and girls for tomorrow."

Our students are delighted with the new resources that enhance their classroom



St. Bernadette First Grade Students: Catherine Wilson and James Dooley

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ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL
ENTREPRENEURIAL CENTER
for INNOVATION & LEADERSHIP

Open House

October 23, 2016
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

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○ ○ B R A I N S T O R M ○ ○

○ ○ T E A M W O R K ○ ○

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○ ○ C R E A T I V I T Y ○ ○

○ ○ L E A D E R S H I P ○ ○

○ ○ E X P L O R A T I O N ○ ○

○ ○ I N S P I R E D ○ ○

"A Lasallian education must continually challenge itself to be creative while remaining faithful to its origins."

– St. John Baptist de La Salle

ENTREPRENEURIAL CENTER INFORMATION SESSIONS:

11:45 a.m. | 12:45 p.m. | 1:45 p.m.

Leading with Tradition in a Milestone Year

By Nina Cardillo

St. Raphael School opened its doors for the new year in a celebratory spirit marking the 10-year school anniversary, 47 years for the nursery school, and 50 years for the parish. Students, families, and staff filled the church for opening Mass, which preceded classroom visits and outdoor festivities. With 10 years of student life, academia, and enrichment, and numerous occasions behind us, this year began with events now grounded in SRS tradition.

At press time, the St. Raphael community and friends were preparing to come together for the eighth annual Fr. Bill Finch Memorial

St. Raphael Golf Classic, scheduled for this year at Lakewood Country Club. SRS, led by principal Teri Dwyer, continues to fulfill one of Fr. Bill's last works in progress prior to his passing, along with the steadfast support of the parish, shepherded by Pastor Fr. James Meyers. Among many memorable moments planned for this year's event was the ever-popular "Beat the Pro" hole with PGA caddie Mike "Fluff" Cowan, where golfers were to have a chance to tee off with a local professional. We are always grateful to the many sponsors, participants, and volunteers who remember Fr. Bill every year and support our school in a day of golf and evening memorial reception.

St. Raphael Parish St. Raphael School

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Coming up

For information about the following events and more, visit our school website at www.straphaelschoolmd.org.

- **Oct. 17: SRS Open House** invites interested parents to visit our campus and learn more about our school (Note: This open house is for K-8; our double open house for St. Raphael School & Nursery School is Jan. 9).
- **Oct. 29: Haunted Trail** offers spooky fun for all ages with proceeds benefiting the American Red Cross.
- **Oct. 29: Angels on the Run 5K** encourages everyone to come out for the festivities; Halloween costumes welcome!

OPT



Eagle Scout candidate Xavier Garcia spearheaded the Butterfly Garden on the campus of St. Raphael School. Shown with Xavier are SRS students Connor and Meredith Kearns, two of the volunteers who helped construct the garden. Photo by MJ Zafis-Garcia/St. Raphael School

Making a Home for Monarchs

Labor Day weekend had special significance to 15-year-old, parishioner Xavier Garcia, who worked all day Saturday to create a monarch butterfly garden as part of his goal to achieve Eagle Scout ranking. Accompanied by sev-

eral assistants—including SRS students Connor (grade 7) and Meredith Kearns (grade 4), SRS alumni Ryan McKee and Robbie Kearns (both SRS '16), and Boy Scouts from Troop 944 and Troop 1449—

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Building Boardwalks

Striving to make our campus not only more aesthetic but also more usable, boys who participated in the Leadership Training Program led by the Legionaries of Christ collaborated on a service project to design and build a boardwalk over a woody path that was in need of maintenance. What began as an Eagle Scout service project a few years ago, the "Angel Path," as it is known, was also known for a muddy and messy portion after rainstorms. Working under the invaluable motivation and leadership of Fr. Zachary Dominguez, Br. Luke Rawicki, and Deacon Andrew Gronotte (who joined this school year), about 14 boys (grades 5-8) worked together to bring the concept of an Angel Path boardwalk to a reality.

Six boys paired up to pitch design ideas and, with the guidance of two engineering and building-expert dads, Rich Baum and Kyle Lyne, were able to finalize a design

Continued on page 27



SRS kindergartners happily make use of the new boardwalk along Angel Path in the woods on the campus of St. Raphael School. Several SRS students helped construct the boardwalk, which solved the problem of muddy patches after rain. Photo by Carole Matteo, St. Raphael School



Author Melanie Rigney (second from the left) poses with Sodality members after discussing her book *Sisterhood of Saints: Daily Guidance and Inspiration*.

St. Raphael Sodality

St. Raphael's Sodality is back on the calendar continuing to provide fellowship and support to our parish and community. A few of the group's Works of

Mercy from last year include assisting with clothing repair for Raphael House residents, providing food for the mothers at Shady

Continued on page 27



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Fall Open House
Saturday, October 22
2:00 - 5:00 pm

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3

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Sunday, November 13
2:00 - 4:00 pm

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Fr. Scott Garrett, Alaska's Flying Priest, Welcomed at St. Bartholomew Parish

Fr. Scott Garrett, a priest of the Archdiocese of Anchorage in Alaska, visited St. Bartholomew Parish on September 17-18, asking for support for his mission work of the Church in Alaska. Fr. Garrett is a pilot whose ministry requires him to fly to 30 small, isolated villages within 100 miles of his "mission base." Fr. Garrett's blog, <http://sacred-heartwasilla.org/blog/Fr-Scotts-Blog>, advises:



Fr. Scott Garrett describes his dangerous Alaskan mission, which requires him to fly to isolated outposts in desolate regions of Alaska.

Father Scott Garrett started flying for the Archdiocese of Anchorage in November of 2005. After six years of flying in the Bristol Bay Area, he moved to Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Wasilla, Alaska in August 2011. The Cherokee Warrior II aircraft he flies is parked at the Wasilla Airport. As the canonical pastor for several parishes, including Talkeetna, Trapper Creek, Big Lake, and Willow, he uses his Cherokee to stay connected with the surrounding Church. Fr. Garrett told St. Bart's mass-goers that

his ministry might be considered "a little dangerous," due to frequent poor conditions such as high winds and "ice fog." In fact, Fr. Garrett's predecessor in his mission, Fr. James Kelly, was killed in a crash. Fr. Garrett, however, has taken to heart St. Paul's directive, "Take the Gospel to the ends of the Earth." He asked St. Bart's parishioners for prayers and financial support.

OPT

Potluck Packs 'Em In at St. Bart's!



St. Bart's Pastor, Fr. Mark Knestout (right), joins parishioners at a Potluck to mark the new school year.

On September 10, after 5:00 p.m. Saturday Mass, the St. Bart's community, including school, parish and CYO families and alumni, joined in a Potluck feast to mark the beginning of the new school year. The celebration, which was organized by several volunteers, including Home and School Association President Jen Bautista, packed the Parish Hall and featured mountains of food, a raffle, music, and many good friends!

OPT



Hungry Parishioners work the food line at St. Bartholomew Parish's Potluck on September 10.

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Stephen Lamont, Principal
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More St. Bartholomew News on Page 25 & 27



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Mary of Nazareth School Spotlight: Students Who Serve

By Kylie Ly, Mother Seton Parish, Grade 8

For the past two years, beginning at the young age of 11, current eighth grade student, Kylie Ly, has been volunteering at Sunrise Senior Living in Gaithersburg, Maryland. Kylie holds a musical show every second Saturday of the month for two hours, sharing her God-given talents with the elderly by singing and playing the piano.

Kylie shares of her experience,

“The elderly expressed to me how grateful and appreciative they are that, at such young age, I am able to deliver classic songs that bring back memories. I did not realize that my passion for playing piano and singing can bring so much joy to people, especially the elderly. I have learned that spending even a small amount of time listening to the elderly sharing their life experiences gives them much happiness, which I can see in their eyes!”

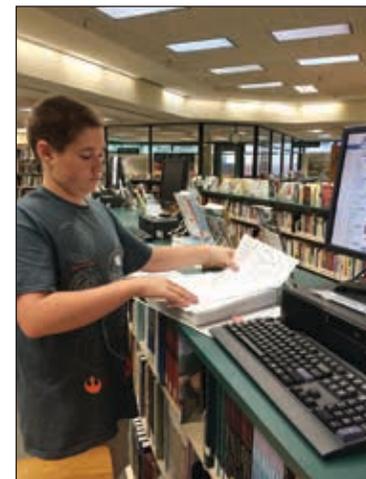
Kylie states that her service work has led her to a full understanding of the meaning behind commitment and dedication. In order to prepare for and deliver a good show, she spends no less than ten hours a week practicing and preparing her programs, script, choice of songs, and piano pieces. Kylie is especially thankful to God for this opportunity, which she says, “gives her a different perspective in life, which strengthens my relationship with my family, especially with my grandparents.”

Hackett Rascher, Our Lady of the Visitation Parish, Grade 8

Eighth grade student, Hackett Rascher spent every Wednesday and Friday this past June and July working as a summer volunteer at the Montgomery County Public Library in Potomac. Hackett completed approximately 40 hours of service helping young library patrons sign up for summer reading and track their progress, assist-



Eighth grade student, Kylie Ly, shares her God-given talent for music with residents at Sunrise Senior Living each month.



Hackett Rascher dedicated part of his summer vacation to serving Montgomery County Public Library patrons.

ing with summer reading events, helping patrons put books on hold or find books, cataloging the children’s library, and sorting through the many donated books that are given to our libraries.

Hackett made a difference by giving the library staff the extra help they need and serving the community. He enjoyed interacting with the many different people that come to our libraries. According to

Hackett, one of the highlights of his service experience was “hearing the types of questions people ask when they need help and the range of interests people have.” Hackett learned that his education at Mary of Nazareth School really

pays off when a patron was looking for a book about the current Prime Minister of Canada but didn’t know his name. Hackett recalled Justin Trudeau from Social Studies class!

OPT

Mary of Nazareth Roman Catholic School
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Assistant Principal: Mrs. Rosemary Adams
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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.

Mary of Nazareth School Remembers Beloved Teacher and Colleague

It is with heartfelt sadness that the Mary of Nazareth School community comes together to mourn the loss of beloved teacher and colleague, Mrs. Robin Field. Mrs. Field passed away on Saturday, September 18, 2016 after a courageous battle with ovarian cancer. Mrs. Field dedicated fourteen years to Mary of Nazareth School, serving both as an elementary homeroom teacher and middle school math teacher.



Mrs. Robin Field

league, Robin always listened with an open mind and offered fruitful, constructive feedback and sage advice. Robin was also extremely dependable and willing to lend a helping hand at a moment’s notice.” Other members of the community recall Mrs. Field’s conscientious and calm demeanor, dedication to her students, and high standards and accountability in the classroom.

Long time coworker and friend, Jennifer Massey, recalls of her time teaching alongside Mrs. Field, “As a col-

Mrs. Field will be greatly missed, as the Mary of Nazareth School community continues to pray for her and her loved ones.

OPT

Parents Tell All

What Our Families Want You to Know About Mary of Nazareth School

Collective experiences shared among the Mary of Nazareth School community are what make ours an outstanding environment for children to learn and grow. Here’s what our families want you to know about our school:

“When choosing a school for our children we knew we wanted a faculty that cared about the wellbeing of our children not just academically but emotionally, physically and faithfully. The faculty



Families from all seven upper Montgomery County member parishes share how the Mary of Nazareth School community has shaped their children’s educational experience.

Continued on page 27

Come Meet Our Mary of Nazareth School Family



Fall Open Houses:
Wednesday, October 12 9-11 am
Tuesday, November 8 9-11 am
www.maryofnazareth.org

SJN Youth Group practicing the Gospel through Mass

By Sylvia Granados-Maready

SJN's youth group has broken some new ground. With our new youth group minister, Gina de Nightingale bringing forth many activities, events and retreats to our youth, they can also add a youth group mass to their repertoire. This year the mass has expanded from just a summer mass to a year-round mass! The 5pm mass is celebrated with either of our priests, but the only difference is that the lectors are teens, the choir is a band that infuses both liturgical hymnals and Praise and Worship songs, the Altar servers are teens, and so are the ushers.

If you haven't gotten the hint, this mass is led and prepared by youth



Youth group members as altar servers processing out.

group members. They are involved in the preparation for mass, be it as understanding Sacristan duties, choosing the hymns and songs for mass, greeting parishioners and more. Another exciting aspect of this mass is that the teens also requested for the mass to be bilingual. Many of our youth group members are either Hispanic or of Hispanic heritage and they knew that many of their family members would feel comfortable attending a mass with some Spanish in it too. This has been a fruitful experience for the whole parish to see God's work through the teens.

Catherine Hiles, a youth group member and faithful parishioner, describes her involvement with the Youth group mass, "My sister and I were ushers (last year), and this year I began singing in the band. I prepare during the week by listing

Continued on page 31

Ten years and "Bendecidos!"

By Sylvia Granados-Maready

Father Joe always likes to ask, "Como estan?" (how are you) before he starts his homilies at the Spanish mass, and the whole congregation happily replies, "Bendecidos" (blessed), and blessed we are! On September 18, SJN celebrated its 10-year anniversary of the first Spanish language mass which marked the beginning of the life and work of the Hispanic community at our parish!

What a celebration that was! Despite the threat of rain showers, the day turned out to be a beautiful and sunny day, and not to mention really hot! We had the honor of our mass being celebrated by the Most Reverend Bishop



The Hispanic Food Committee smiling before cooking and preparing all the food that was served for 640 parishioners.

Dorsenville. Father Joseph Rogers, Father David Wells, and Father Connolly were con-

celebrants with the assistance of Deacon Andy Davy, and Deacon Carlo Caraballo.

The celebration began with a heavily attended mass of about 640 people in the congregation; it was a sight to remember. The Spanish Choir was bigger than usual with former singers returning to sing with the current members to commemorate the special day, and the surprise of Mariachi's singing the recessional hymn.

After the mass, parishioners were heading their way to the Neumann house which was covered in festive colored balloons

Continued on page 31



Honorable Reverend Dorsenville speaking to the congregation about the importance of celebrating the 10 years of SJN during his homily.

St. John Neumann Parish

9000 Warfield Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20882

Fr. Joseph Rogers,
Pastor

Rus Wester,
OPT Editor
301-330-0047

More St. John Neumann
News on Page 31

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GRANTS

Con't from page 3

"As we enter our third year with now 10 students in the Moreau Options Program, I am thrilled to observe our upperclasswomen in the program emerging as leaders for the new students – helping them feel welcome, teaching them how to use technology, and sharing with them all their favorite aspects of Holy Cross," said Emily Montgomery, Director of the Moreau Options Program.

St. Louis School, Clarksville (Howard County): St. Louis is a new CCSE grantee school. It first spent the past year with CCSE planning, attending faculty workshops, receiving technical assistance and preparing the faculty and community to welcome its new students. The

school is using its grant to help fund the salaries of one special education teacher and one paraprofessional in the establishment of its new St. Louis IX Program.

St. Philip the Apostle, Camp Springs (Prince George's County): Another new CCSE grantee school, St. Philip is using its grant to help fund salaries and expand its current inclusion program. Lavalley said, "This is St. Philip's first request to CCSE for grant funding. St. Philip's establishment of a program on its own to serve students with intellectual disabilities is both commendable and an inspiration."

Many Catholic schools would like to serve all their families and educate all their children, but don't think they have the resources or staff to educate students with devel-

opmental or intellectual disabilities. For the past eleven years, CCSE has been there to provide professional development, technical assistance, public awareness, family support and to help fill the funding gap at schools, granting nearly \$900,000 to 29 schools in eight Maryland counties.

Through CCSE's *Believe in Me!* program, Catholic schools located in Washington, D.C. or Maryland may receive seed grants to expand or create sustainable programs enrolling two or more students with cognitive disabilities. Funding may be used to hire and train special educators, purchase equipment and materials, or provide appropriate accommodations and modifications to the curriculum.

OPT

LOVE

Con't from page 4

one penny at a time. The mission of the program is based on John 15:13, "Greater Love has no one than this, that one lay down one's life for their friends."

During the 2015-2016 school year, the Greater Love social outreach efforts of our students and school families completed 22 activities raising a combined total of \$3,144.31 supporting 22 local and national partner organizations. In addition to the collection of funds through tag days and bake sales, our students donated 100 pounds of candy for a local homeless shelter and for our service men and women fighting bravely abroad. They built

30 Thanksgiving dinners for families in distress in the DC area. They delivered 154 warm coats to those in need. They prepped 250 bagged lunches for Martha's Table and packed 3,700 diapers for new mothers and assembled 130 bags of food through The Parish Lenten Food Drive.

As for the pennies, the St. Bernadette students contributed \$332 or 33,200 pennies to the available funds for The Angel Network. Rodgers says, "We love the energy that we see surrounding the students' commitment to our Angel Penny bucket. It is a clear demonstration that it is often the smallest contribution that makes the biggest difference." St. Bernadette School is proud to help spread so much Greater Love!

OPT

BURNEY

Con't from page 1

enjoying themselves, and so on. Moreover, everyone is experiencing the joys and sorrows that come with our lives.

Wherever we are, Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow, and his ministry in Bethesda is the same as his ministry in my hometown of Hollywood, Md. He has called me to preach, to teach, and to lead his people to him through the sacraments. I'm humbled to baptize, to celebrate the Eucharist, and to reconcile his people to him in his name, so that our Lord Jesus may use me for the salvation of souls here, as he does through his priests throughout the world. I'm so thankful to the people of the parish for their warm welcome to me, and for their constant prayers, which with God's help, I may fulfill the great task he has entrusted to me.

OPT

NATIONAL MERIT

Con't from page 2

as the initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state. Finalists are selected from the Semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship competition and will be notified in February.

Every year, the National Hispanic Recognition Program recognizes approximately 5,000 of the 250,000 Hispanic/Latino juniors who take the PSAT/NSMQ.

National Merit Commended Students placed among the top five percent of students who entered the 2017 National Merit competition. Although Commended Students do not continue in the competition for National Merit Scholarships, some of these students do become candidates for special scholarships sponsored by corporations and businesses.

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Holy Cross students enjoying a healthy snack after the Mileage Challenge on Friday, September 23.

Family Mileage Challenge at Holy Cross

Friday, September 23, kicked off our Second Annual Family Mileage Challenge. Ten families representing Pre-Kindergarten through Fourth grade walked or ran laps around the field for one hour to earn a shoelace token that

looks like a leaf. Participants earn one token for every five laps, and some participants earned six tokens on Friday!

A Mileage Challenge is hosted every month through the year, with each month having a different theme and token. Black cat tokens can be earned in October, Pilgrim hats in November, and gift boxes in December. Participants who run at least fifteen laps at each monthly event will have run a Marathon by May.

P.E. teacher, Mrs. Stephanie Kolevar hosts the events and provides healthy snacks and water for all who participate. Reflecting on last year's events, Mrs. Kolevar said, "Last year we had over one hundred students participate, and two accrued enough laps that they ran a Marathon."

OPT

Holy Cross Parish
4900 Strathmore Avenue, Garrett Park, MD
Fr. Robert Buchmeier, Pastor
301-942-1020
Holy Cross School
Lisa Maio Kane, Principal
301-949-0053
Lurana Hogan, Parish Editor
l.hogan@hcross.org



Two Holy Cross First Grade students enjoy cotton candy together at the Back-to-School Picnic.



Members of the Holy Cross Parish entertain picnic goers with a capella songs.

A Fun-Filled Start to a New School Year at Holy Cross

The Home & School Association of Holy Cross School organized a spectacular welcome-back-to-school picnic for school and parish families. Over five-hundred people attended the event, enjoying grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, sal-

ads, and desserts.

A number of activities kept all in attendance entertained. A balloon artist kept the children entertained, as did the cotton candy booth! Adults even braved the suspended, collapsible seat of a dunk tank, as young picnic

goers practiced their aim at hitting the target. An a cappella singing group, made of of Holy Cross parishioners, shared their talents as they strolled through the crowds. Tents were also set up, to allow the sharing of infor-

Continued on page 36



A Holy Cross family stops at the balloon artist's tent.



Holy Cross students smile for the camera at the Back-to-School Picnic.



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Students, parents, faculty, and friends had a wonderful time at St. Elizabeth School's annual Back to School Picnic!



NBC's National Investigative Correspondent, Jeff Rosen, makes a visit to St. Elizabeth School to kick off Today's "Back to School Checklist", a special Rossen Reports series with tips to keep students safe during the new school year!



St. Elizabeth School welcomes back our students for the start of an exciting new school year. We are #600Strong!



St. Elizabeth School's Junior Kindergarten chefs!



Congratulations to St. Elizabeth School's newly elected Student Council officers: President, Luke Garner; Vice-President, Caroline Worch; Secretary, Adriana Varea; and Treasurer, Dani Buckley!



St. Elizabeth School welcomes our new pastor, Monsignor Parent. We are looking forward to many great years to come!

We congratulate and salute our Mr. Nilo Abril, who celebrates 35 years of service at St. Elizabeth School. Mr. Abril was honored by Cardinal Wuerl at the Opening Mass for Teachers and Staff at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Monday, August 22nd. We love you, Mr. Abril, and thank you for ALL you have done and continue to do for our school family!



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Pastor
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St. Elizabeth School Principal
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I am a Lady of the Academy.

Meet Mrs. Joanne Cooke, Our New Fifth-Grade Teacher

By Erin Cuddy and Eleanor Droege, SJE fifth-grade students

Mrs. Joanne Cooke, SJE's new fifth-grade homeroom and sixth grade language arts teacher, brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to her position. In addition to her teaching credentials, she has a Master's degree and certification in Guidance and Counseling Education. She has taught fifth and sixth grades in Montgomery County and at St. Peter's School in Olney. She has piloted and implemented a grade-school enrichment program. Most recently, Mrs. Cooke was at the Academy of the Holy Cross as the Director of their Christian Service

Commitment program.

Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Morgantown, West Virginia, home of West Virginia State University (the Mountaineers).

How big is your family?

My husband and I have three nearly grown sons and no pets. I also have two sisters and one brother.

Where did you graduate elementary school, high school and college?

I graduated both elementary and high school from St. Francis School. For college I attended West Virginia University.

Did you always want to be a teacher or did some inspirational



Mrs. Cooke joins SJE as our new fifth-grade homeroom teacher.

reason/person lead you to teaching?

I always wanted to work with kids growing up. Some 20 years ago a good friend of mine told me that I had the gift of teaching.

How many years have you been teaching?

I have been teaching for 23 years now – since 1993.

What about teaching makes it rewarding for you?

I really enjoy seeing students engaged in a subject. Believe it or not, I also love middle schoolers' sense of humor, which some might see as a bit of a challenge.

Is there anything special/unique about working at SJE?

I think there are several things that make St. John the Evangelist unique. There is only one class per grade level, it's a small school that is very close to the parish, and the faculty and staff are also terrific.

Are there any hobbies/interests/vacations that you enjoy?

In my free time I love to read, crochet, do counted cross stitch and roller blade. I like to vacation at the ocean. We like to go to Ocean City, Md.

What's your favorite holiday?

My favorite holiday has got to be Easter. My mom's side of the family is Polish and the Polish Easter traditions are amazing. I think it's such a happy holiday!

OPT

Books are Alive and Well at SJE

The first week of school can be a busy one for parents, educators and kids alike. To help kids ease into being back at school, SJE hosted its annual Literary Day on Friday, September 2.

Small groups of students, led by teachers and parent volunteers, discussed their assigned summer reading books. Students chose from a host of books including: *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen, *The War that Saved My Life* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley, *I am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* by Christina Lamb and Malala Yousafzai, *The Crossover* by

Kwame Alexander, and many more titles. Themes ranged from women in 18th century English nobility, war and overcoming prejudice, to recent true events inspired by the story of Malala Yousafzai, a Pashtun girl from Pakistan's Swat Valley who was born of an illiterate mother and grew up in her father's school.

Published author and former parishioner, Eric Andreas talked to the students about the process he went through when writing his book, *Origins Rising*. Mr. Andreas was inspired to write the young-adult novel when his younger daughter, Sophie, asked him if humans could evolve.

The dystopian book's premise is that an asteroid nearly destroys all life on earth and erases technology. The few remaining survivors must adapt to survive in this harsh new world. Mr. Andreas also explained to the students the many steps required to get a book published. Andreas, the father of three SJE graduates, Tristan, Julia, and Sophie, is an environmental and natural resources attorney who works in Washington, DC. Signed copies of *Origins Rising* were generously donated to SJE and raffled off to 15 lucky SJE students.

Grades One & Two completed an author

Continued on page 36



Emily Pacconi, eighth-grade homeroom teacher, leads students in a book discussion during Literary Day.



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Parishioner's Prayers Answered and Olympic Dream Fulfilled

My name is Thea LaFond. I am 22 years old and a member of Saint John the Evangelist parish. This year, 2016, marks my first year out of The University of Maryland and my Olympic debut.

I am from a small island in the Caribbean named Dominica (no, not Dominican Republic). So small in fact that we had only one Olympic qualifier, a male jumper. Since every country is allowed at least one elite male and female athlete, I was selected to go to Rio.

It had been a rough year leading up to the Olympics. I hit multiple personal bests, and came very close to the Olympic automatic qualifier.



Olympian and St. John the Evangelist parishioner Thea Fond

Unfortunately, I got injured soon after and was forced to switch legs in order to compete with less pain. I remember coming home from an international trip and asking God for guidance and to help relieve the pain. The next day I got the call from my association, "You're going to Rio." I immediately yelled for my mom and told her the good news. We called my dad who was at work. "Well," he said, "looks like we're going to Brazil."

I landed in Brazil a month later, feeling pain free and excited. To walk into the Olympic Village was like stepping into a rainbow of nationalities: Netherlands in bright

Continued on page 39

Encountering Christ in Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

St. John the Evangelist Parish is one of only two parishes in southern Montgomery County to offer Eucharistic Adoration twenty-four hours per day. Parishioners and others may stop into Our Lady's Chapel any time, day or night, to pray before the Blessed Sacrament and to meet Jesus in the simplicity and

silence of their hearts. The chapel is unlocked between the hours of 6 a.m. and 5 p.m.; outside of those hours, adorers enter a combination into locks on both the outside and the inner doors. Entering through our parish library, adorers sign in before proceeding into the chapel. They may

Continued on page 36

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More St. John the Evangelist News on Page 37

By Michelle Ardillo

“Concert Position, Voices Off”

Holy Redeemer Catholic School welcomes Peter Smith to the faculty as its new music teacher. A native of Toronto, Canada, Smith moved to the DC area in July, 2015, after spending five years in Paris where his wife was posted with the United Nations. When wife Laura’s work took the Smiths to Washington, DC, Smith began looking for jobs in the field of his first love, music, where he could share his “very fortunate and privileged immersion in music at an early age.”



HR music teacher Peter Smith with newly revitalized HR Middle School Honors Choir

While he holds a degree in computer science and math from the University of Toronto, in grades 3-10 Smith attended Toronto’s St. Michael’s Choir School, which is one of only a few choir schools in the world affiliated with the Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music in Rome. He performed in one of the four boys’ choirs for St. Michael’s Cathedral in Toronto and obtained certifications from the Royal Conservatory of Music in both piano and organ. Father of three adult children, outside of the music world, Smith enjoys basketball, ice hockey, travel, and volunteer work.

While living in Paris, Smith was music teacher and choir director

at several international schools, founding a number of choirs for all ages at those schools. He was also a member of Le Choeur de l’Orchestre de Paris.

Smith brings to Holy Redeemer not just a love of music of all genres, but also over 25 years of experience as choir director and orchestra conductor, as well as accompanist, working mostly with adults but in recent years with young children and adolescents. One of his fondest memories was when a very shy high school sophomore joined his choir and went on to get a lead sing-

ing role in the end of year theatrical production. At Holy Redeemer, he looks forward to “growing all students musically and opening their eyes to the world of music.” He is already impressed with the students in grades pre-K through 8th who are “demonstrating remarkably capable vocal talents.”

At the first middle school choir practice of the school year, an energetic group of almost thirty boys and girls filled the music room. This alone is remarkable as in previous years it has been difficult to encourage middle school boys to

participate in choir. However, in just a few short weeks of music class with Mr. Smith so far this year, enthusiasm has spread and the boys have stepped up to join. With a soft voice, Mr. Smith gave one gentle command, “Concert position, voices off,” and instantly hands dropped to their sides and a hush fell over the room. As any teacher would know from this masterful display of respect and classroom management, great things are sure to follow! Mr. Smith coming to Washington is a blessing indeed!

OPT

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9705 Summit Avenue
Kensington, MD
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Pastor
301-942-2333
Holy Redeemer School
Mrs. Colleen Ryan,
Principal
301-942-3701

Student Government Leads Go RED! Assembly

This year something new was added to the first weeks of school at Holy Redeemer. The Student Government Officers, led by their moderators and teachers, Sharon Kennedy and Joe Criscuoli, organized

an assembly for the whole school to inform the students about uniform do’s and don’ts and to energize everyone behind the school’s GoRed! Campaign.



Holy Redeemer Student Government Kicks off the School Year with an Assembly

Led by SGA President Ellie Dunn and Vice President Mollie Morin the entire school community was entertained with a fashion show that gave examples on how to show respect for the school dress code by wearing the uniform properly at all grade levels. Also included in the fashion show was what to wear on free dress, theme, and tag days. The student models showed the student body how to show respect for school dress code on these special out of uniform days.

The second half of the assembly was dedicated to the school’s Go RED! campaign. Led by Religious Life Representative Claire Morin the assembled audience was led to recite the school’s Four C Cornerstone Prayer and then invited to sign the school’s new Go RED! banner. Each student’s signature was a sign they were pledging and committing themselves to be contributing members of the school community by Respecting Everyone Daily and to show courtesy, compassion, commitment in their school work and in all of their actions.



Student Government Officers invite students to renew their pledge to Go RED

The GoRed! Campaign was adopted in the 2013-15 school year and each year the school enhances the program. GoRed! Stands for Respect Everyone Daily and we ask our students to Go RED! every day in and out of school. This is Holy Redeemer’s rallying cry, encouraging cheer, and affirmation for personal conduct that exemplifies and

Continued on page 37

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Open House on Sunday, November 6, 11am to 3pm

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



A St. Mary's pre-school class gathers for story time.

St. Mary's Pre-School: A Lesson in Success

By Maureen Stiles

For years, St. Mary's administrators dreamed of growing their pre-school program to include all day sessions in order to meet the needs of the parish and community at large. Space constrictions, the rigors of licensing and budget concerns were but a few of the obstacles preventing expansion. Yet, with some creative space allotment and a healthy budget, the school found itself in a position to begin the licensing process this past spring. "Once, we started, it all came together quite quickly," said Principal Debra Eisel.

Quickly indeed! Just a few months after embarking on the road to licensure, the facility was approved and as Pre-School Administrator, Caroline Conway, says, "we had a waiting list by August."

Hours expanded to include options for half-day and full day sessions for both the three's and Pre-K program. "There was no denying the desire for high quality preschool education that also offers full and extended days to meet the need of families in our school, parish & community. The response was greater than we even expected," says Conway.

And what life these additions have brought to the school, "It is quite a sight to see the kindergarten children gingerly walking the lower halls in the afternoon, very conscious that the pre-school has nap time. They are so considerate of their younger counterparts," recounts Eisel.

This is but one of the projects on the board for the overall expansion and improvement of the school, proving their motto that St. Mary's is a great place to grow!

Back to School for Parents Too!

We all know the students have a hard time getting back in the groove of a new school year, but what about the poor parents? Somehow, the school year always seems to sneak up on us. St. Mary's made that transition easier for parents with several social events. A Welcome Coffee was held the first day of school giving parents a chance to get reacquainted and catch up on summer activities. Representatives from the Home and School Association (HSA) were on hand to greet new parents and introduce them to their new community. The second social was a Pop-Up Party held September 23rd open to current school families as well as alumni. Hosted by the HSA and School Advisory Board, the party boasted "NO fees, NO volunteer requirements and NO reason not to come." And come they did. A graduate from the Class of '59 even came back to mingle with fellow parents and alumni. As attendee Debbie Beins explained, "There is nothing better than having generations of St. Mary's families in the same place. I saw parents from each of the classes of my three alumni kids."

OPT



Eighth Grade students with their Little Buddies after the first School Mass of the year. The Little Buddy program is one of St. Mary's most treasured traditions!



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Rockville, MD
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St. Mary's School
Mrs. Debby Eisel, Principal
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Calling All Couples

Passion and Purpose for Marriage Coming to St. Mary's

Dynamic Catholic and Dr. Allen Hunt are coming to St. Mary's in October 2016!! Dynamic Catholic speaker and author Dr. Allen Hunt will bring his *Passion and Purpose for Marriage* event/seminar to St. Mary's on Friday, October 21, at 7pm (7-10:45pm). This event is for married and engaged couples, as well as singles discerning marriage. Singer/songwriter George Lower will also perform.

Discover key ingredients to a healthy and happy marriage at *P&P for Marriage*!! Tickets are only \$25 and can be purchased through the parish website at www.stmarysrockville.org. If you have questions you may email: duncanaw@gmail.com

OPT

ADW 7th Annual
White Mass
November 20 at 10:00AM
(see back page)

Tribute to Fr. Don Worch

By Mike Goggin

Fr. Don Worch called ten churches home during nearly 50 years of priestly ministry, but only the parishioners of one of those churches had the privilege of calling him Pastor. So when news of his death came on August 27, many of his former parishioners at St. Francis of Assisi were moved to tears.

From his arrival in 1985 to his move down the road to St. Patrick's at the end of 2001, Fr. Don reminded us that we were important to him and to the Lord. He remembered our names, presided at our family weddings and funerals, baptized our

children and years later came to their soccer and basketball games. In gestures both simple and grand, he steadfastly built the kingdom of God in zip code 20855, and revealed it to be a place of welcoming and acceptance. People were drawn to his compassionate leadership, growing the parish from 300 families at the time of his arrival to 1800 at the time of his departure. The parish is cited in Gary Wills' *Excellent Catholic Parishes: The Guide to Best Places and Practices* (2000.)

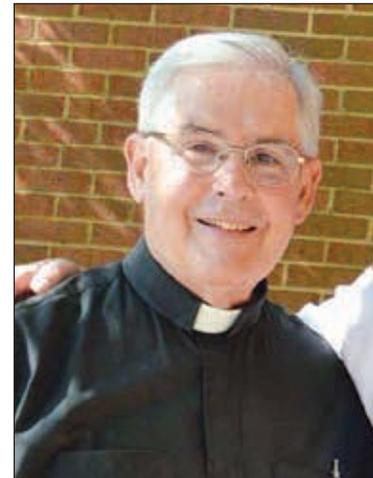
I had the privilege of joining Fr. Don's staff on September 1, 1994 as Youth Minister. As a younger priest, Fr. Don had done a fair bit of youth ministry himself and made the role

a priority in his parish. In a field where the average youth minister remains in a parish for a mere 18 months, I stayed 6 1/2 years because of the support and love that I experienced from Fr. Don. He supported my efforts to launch a weekly Youth Mass, create summer workcamp experiences for teens, build a tradition of weekend retreats and offer post-confirmation religious education. All of those efforts remain hallmarks of St. Francis' youth program now a full generation later.

I saw Fr. Don for the final time on Saturday, July 23 at Manor Care in Potomac. The nurses said that I should not plan to stay for more than ten minutes, but Fr. Don with

his usual hospitality welcomed me for nearly an hour. I asked him what he felt the future held in store for him, but he was making no long term plans that day. As he insisted on standing to hug me as I departed, although unsteady on his feet, I felt the embrace of a loving father – truly the One that he had been directing us to all along.

Twenty-two years to the day after I went to work for Fr. Don, I attended his Mass of Christian Burial at Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Potomac. An overflow crowd quite literally give him a standing ovation for the nearly 50 years of his dedicated priesthood. We are so grateful that God called him to share



Father Don Worch

so much of that time with us at St. Francis.

OPT



St. Francis WYD Pilgrims in Venice. Left to right front: Wendel Hall, Diana Mussino, Emma Modick. Back: Father John Dillon, Guido Frega, Arleen Hall, Susan Lea, Caroline Temeraio

WORLD YOUTH DAY

Con't from page 1

Padua, Oberammergau, Venice, Prague, Krakow, Auschwitz and Wadowice. We were blessed with daily Mass and catechesis, a Papal welcome ceremony, live Stations of the Cross, a pilgrim walk and vigil with the Holy Father.

The culmination of the trip was a Mass celebrated by Pope Francis for more than 2.5 million. It was a life changing event. We prayed for the parish throughout the trip and are still unpacking the spiritual gifts we received.

OPT

St. Francis of Assisi Parish
6701 Muncaster Mill Road
Derwood, MD
Rev. John J. Dillon,
Pastor
301-840-1407
Rose Attig and John McCarthy,
OPT Co-Editors
240-447-2286
jfmamm@gmail.com

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for boys

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1-3 P.M.

200 W Diamond Ave., Gaithersburg, MD 20877
301-963-8022 www.avalonschools.org

For more information, contact Caleb Glaser, Director of Admission, at cglaser@avalonschools.org

the Avalon School 

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1-3 P.M.

10401 Armory Avenue, Kensington, MD 20895
301-949-7997 www.brookewood.org

For more information, contact Helen Williams, Director of Admission, at hwilliams@brookewood.org

Brookewood SCHOOL

for girls



QUIZ

Con't from page 3

vote this November in the presidential election and in other elections such as those for our U.S. Senator and representatives.

Interrelated questions we cannot ignore

Let's begin with the bishops with **Question 1:** "How many unborn children have lost their lives to abortion since Roe v. Wade legalized abortion in 1973?" **Answer:** 53 million. This destruction of life illustrates a serious lack of understanding of the dignity of life.

Let's turn to another question showing lack of understanding of

the dignity of life by looking at **Question 4:** "How many U.S. children live in a household that is 'food insecure,' which means it can't provide enough food for its members at some point during the year?" **Answer:** 16.2 million. If we care about these children, as we should, why not care about the 53 million children in Question 1? As Pope Francis says, "Everything is interrelated," in this case through God-given human dignity.

How about these questions related to immigrants? They too are based on the dignity of the person (and other social and moral issues as well.) **Question 13:** "Unauthorized immigrants take advantage of our welfare system to their own advantage and at the taxpayer's expense."

Answer: False. **Question 14:** "Undocumented immigrants pay taxes." **Answer:** True. **Question 15:** "Studies show that unauthorized immigrants provide a net gain of how much to the Social Security system each year?" **Answer:** \$7 billion. (The bishops have a well-thought out position on immigration. Search "USCCB, 'Catholic Church's Position On Immigration Reform.'")

These are just five of the twenty questions in the quiz. We do not have space to look at all twenty questions here but you can find them and the answers on the USCCB website by searching "Faithful citizenship quiz". These questions complement the Bishops' recent document *Forming Consciences*

for *Faithful Citizenship*. You can find that document and supporting materials by searching "USCCB faithful citizenship."

A sense of God's glory

Our tendency can be to ignore the Church's teaching and just accept what a particular political party or candidate gives us that we may already agree with. "Social justice types" tend to focus on the social, economic, and environmental issues while "pro-life types" focus on abortion issues. Pope Francis would have Catholics embrace the interrelationships in the Catholic understanding of profound social and moral issues.

When we sense the interrelatedness or interconnectedness of

these public policy issues, we begin to see more clearly the beauty of God's gift of life, love, and justice which Catholic teaching reflects. The truth expressed by the Church is appealing and convincing when we understand it and embrace it.

Pope Francis introduces a mystical element which can inspire us and lift our spirits. "At the end, we will find ourselves face to face with the infinite beauty of God (cf. 1 Cor 13:12), and be able to read with admiration and happiness the mystery of the universe, which with us will share in unending plenitude.... Eternal life will be a shared experience of awe, in which each creature, resplendently transfigured, will take its rightful place and have something to give those poor men and women who will have been liberated once and for all." (LS, 243).

You might want to ask your pastor to include these questions and answers in your parish bulletin as has Fr. John Dillon, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi in Derwood. These questions are bound to lead to some interesting and fruitful discussion.

OPT

Anthony Bosnick has been a member of the Montgomery County Justice and Advocacy Council since it was founded. He is also Minister of Social Concerns at St. Francis parish in Derwood.

RESPECT LIFE

Con't from page 3

individuals approaching the end of their lives, and those incapable of making medical decisions for themselves. Social and economic justice Respect for Life topics include issues affecting pregnant women in need, people with disabilities, and human trafficking.

Maryland's public policies should protect human life from conception until natural death, with special emphasis on protecting the members of marginalized communities in our society. Specifically, public policies should seek to:

- Provide for the safety and support of women and children (especially those facing crisis pregnancies),
- Protect the sick and elderly from efforts to artificially hasten physical deterioration, or undermine efforts to provide them with life-saving medical opportunities, and,
- Ensure society's most vulnerable populations are protected from policies that seek to further marginalize them.

"All life has inestimable value even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect." — Pope Francis, July 28, 2013

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Source: Maryland Catholic Conference. Visit: www.mdccathcon.org/respectforlife

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Daily Mass a Vital Part of Parishioners' Lives

Coffee to most people is a vital routine in the morning and a positive reason to get out of bed. But to a growing number of people in the Resurrection Catholic Church neighborhood, daily Mass is an essential part of their day. People come by car and on foot and many get dropped off at the bus stop conveniently located a block away at Greencastle and Old Columbia Pike. The parish church bell chimes two minutes before Mass is scheduled to start but all are welcome any time as they travel the Route 29 corridor.

The rosary is said at 8:30 AM before the 9:00 AM Mass and many take advantage of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel for quiet prayer. Sacristan Brenda Garcia reminds folks to, "Please turn off all cellphones,"

Continued on page 27



Hearts of Joy after Mass L-R: Jim Fowler, Barbara Fowler, Mary Ellen Howarth, Jeanne Folsom

Winterfest at Resurrection

When the morning chill signals fall is upon us and Halloween is on the kitchen calendar, our thoughts inevitably turn to the challenge of Christmas shopping. How can we purchase something more unique than last year's flavor-fusion water bottle or incorporate our enlightened knowledge of fair trade practices as we shop? For sixteen years on the first weekend in December, the Church of the Resurrection in Burtonsville, Maryland has been offering answers to these growing questions by holding Winterfest and



All in the Family The Halpins at the Bake Sale

Craft Fair.

This free event is the Parish's major fundraiser of the year and has become a favorite Resurrection and community tradition. There are over 75 vendors offering quality hand-made crafts and unique goods. Shoppers can support small business people who have paid the parish to show their items. That money is used for debt reduction on the Robert F. Keffer Parish Life Center, home to many of the educational, social and outreach activities of the

Continued on page 39

Preschool at Resurrection

Tucked away in the lower level of the Parish Life Center at Church of the Resurrection is a small oasis of industry. On an electric blue carpet with several squared boundaries containing pictures and letters, a small group of children, 4-year-olds, are quietly stacking blocks and moving plastic vehicles along cardboard roads. In another room, words beginning with the letter A are being introduced under the guidance of Susan Quinn, the director of this faith-based preschool operated by the parish and under the guidance of the Archdiocese of Washington. The children who attend are getting a head start on becoming good citizens of the world, future architects or teachers, engineers or nurses.

Mrs. Quinn along with two assistants introduce the children in a positive way to the rhythm and routine of their first school environment. They are taught age-appropriate



Quiet Industry



A is for Apple Susan Quinn and preschool

learning skills, cooperation, listening, and sharing during weekday morning hours. Three-year-olds meet twice a week, 9:30-12:00 and four-year-olds meet three times a week, 9:30-1:00. There is also opportunity to go five days a week. Open to all faiths, the children are encouraged to grow in their love of God, neighbor and learning! For more information see the Church of the Resurrection website at <http://bit.ly/2cE0wkN> or contact Susan Quinn, Preschool Director at 301-288-4665 or email preschool@resurrectionadw.org

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CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

2016

Winterfest & Craft Show

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2nd: 3:00 pm–9:00 pm
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3rd: 9:00 am–3:00 pm

Over 75 Crafters & Vendors

Homemade Goodies

Food & Dinner Specialties from the Knights of Columbus #9808

Silent Auctions

Raffles

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Church of the Resurrection

3315 Greencastle Road
Burtonsville, Maryland 20866



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— HIGH SCHOOL —

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

 Archbishop Carroll HIGH SCHOOL Mary Elizabeth (Beth) Blaufuss, President Katy Dunn, Principal Elana Gilmore, Vice Principal Tiffani D. Scurlock, Director of Admissions 4300 Harewood Rd., NE Washington, DC 20017 www.achsdc.org	Catholic Serving students from 35 zip codes, 40 nationalities, 68 feeder schools Rigorous International Baccalaureate College Prep	Joyous spiritual formation and a zeal for social justice WCAC Athletics, Theater, Music, Robotics, STEM	International Baccalaureate OPEN HOUSE Sunday October 30, 2016 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm www.achsdc.org	Priority Application Deadline Dec. 15, 2016	Know. Love. Serve.
	Coed • Freshman Class Size: 100 • Tuition: \$13,146 • Admissions Information: Tiffani D. Scurlock @ 202-529-0900, x135				

 the Avalon School Richard B. McPherson President Kevin J. Davern Headmaster Caleb Glaser Director of Admission 200 W. Diamond Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD 20877 301-963-8022 www.avalonschools.org	Boys Grades K-12 Soccer, Football, Basketball, Baseball Black Knights Black & Gold	SPECIAL PROGRAMS Small Classes • Personal Attention • Content-Oriented Curriculum • Advanced Placement (AP) Courses • Latin • Spanish • Advanced Mathematics Program • Full Religion Program • Actors Guild • Poetry • Journalism • Dress Code • Transportation • Intra-School Sports • Co-Ed Kindergarten	Open House Saturday, November 5 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Steps to Admission: • Application • Shadow Visit • Teacher Recommendation • Transcript • Family Interview	Application Deadline Rolling Admission	Notification of Admission Rolling Admission
	Avg. Class Size: 15 • Academic Half-Day Kindergarten \$4,000; Primary School Gr. K-2 full day kindergarten \$8,000 Gr. 3-5 \$12,750; Middle School \$14,250; Upper School \$15,000					

 Brookwood School Richard B. McPherson President and Headmaster R.J. Hawley Executive Director Helen Williams Director of Admission 10401 Armory Avenue, Kensington, MD 301-949-7997 www.brookwood.org	Girls Grades 1-12 Basketball, Field Hockey, Lacrosse, Soccer, Volleyball Bengals Blue & White	Special Programs 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	Open House Saturday November 12 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Steps to Admission Shadow Visit Application Transcript Recommendation Family Interview	Application Deadline Rolling Admission	Notification of Admission Rolling Admission
	Average Class Size: 13 • Tuition: Grades 1-2 \$8,000 Grades 3-5 \$11,700 Grades 6-8 \$13,150 Grades 9-12 \$14,000 • Financial Aid: Helen Williams 301-949-7997					

 DeMatha Catholic High School 4313 Madison Street, Hyattsville, MD 20781 Fr. James Day, O.S.S.T., President Dr. Daniel McMahon, Principal Mr. Tommy Paolucci, Admissions www.dematha.org • 240-764-2210	Boys Wide range of co-curricular activities including 15 competitive interscholastic sports teams, and numerous clubs and organizations moderated by faculty. Stags Red, White & Blue	Curriculum College Prep, Honors, Advanced Placement level courses to meet needs of a diverse student body.	Open House Sunday, Nov. 6 11:00 a.m.	Entrance Exam: Archdiocesan HSPT required	Freshman Application Deadline December 15	Freshman Notification of Admission Feb. 2017
	Freshman Class Size: 250 • Tuition: \$16,975 • Application / Financial Aid: Admissions Office 240-764-2210					

 Elizabeth Seton High School Sr. Ellen Marie Hagar '74 President Melissa Davey Landini '99 Dean of Admissions 5715 Emerson Street Bladensburg, MD 20710 301-864-4532 www.setonhs.org	Girls Basketball, soccer, volleyball, softball, golf, swimming, crew, cross country, lacrosse, indoor and outdoor track, tennis, field hockey, cheerleading and dance. Washington Catholic Athletic Conference Roadrunners Scarlet, Gold, and White	Pre-Career Programs Engineering & Design Law, Health Science / Pharmacy AP & Honors Courses Scholars Program Small classes and personal attention • 1:1 MacBook Air devices	Open House Sunday, November 6 11:00 am – 2:00 pm	Entrance Exam Archdiocesan test results required. Schedule a Shadow Day Online	Application Deadline December 8	Notification of Admission February 16
	Registration March 10 & 11 Archdiocesan Financial Aid Application Required					

 Georgetown Preparatory School 10900 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda, MD 20852 www.gprep.org 301-493-1215 Rev. Scott Pilarz, S.J., President John Glennon Jr., Headmaster Brett Graham '92, Admissions Director	Boys 15 Interscholastic Sports Over 20 Clubs and Organizations Hoyas Blue & Gray	College Placement: Virginia • Yale Notre Dame Georgetown Harvard U.S. Naval Academy Boston College Duke • Princeton Penn • Stanford	Open House Sunday, October 16 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm REGISTER ONLINE	Admissions Process: Please visit www.gprep.org to set up your admissions account. Also, be sure to set up your Hoyas-for-a-Day visit	Application Deadline Jan. 6, 2017	Notification of Admission Feb. 24, 2017
	Tuition: Day: \$34,245 Boarding: \$58,445 • Forming Men of Competence, Conscience, Commitment & Compassion; Men of Faith, Men for Others since 1789					

 Gonzaga College High School 19 Eye St., NW, Washington, DC 20001 Rev. Stephen W. Planning, S.J., President Mr. Thomas K. Every II, Headmaster Mr. Andrew Battaile, Dean of Admissions 202-336-7101	Boys 7 Freshman, 16 Junior Varsity, and 17 Varsity Sports Washington Catholic Athletic Conference Eagles Purple & White	Special Programs Comprehensive advanced placement, band, choral arts, internet applications, earth systems, science laboratory.	Open House Sunday, November 20 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Entrance Exam Archdiocesan test results are required.	Application Deadline December 9	Notification of Admission Feb. 23, 2017
	Freshman Class Size: 245 • Tuition: \$21,475					

 OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL HIGH SCHOOL A Xaverian Brothers Sponsored School 17301 Old Vic Boulevard, Olney MD 20832 Paul G. Barker Ed. D., President • Thomas Campbell, Principal Kevin Collins, Director of Admissions Admissions@olgchs.org www.olgchs.org	COED Offering a comprehensive college prep curriculum including the IB Program, AP and Honors courses, the STEM Program, and the Ryken Program.	Home of the Falcons Extensive co-curricular activities, 43 sport teams, Performing Arts, Speech & Debate and over 50 cultural and academic clubs. Member of the W.C.A.C.	Open House Sunday, Oct. 16, 2016 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM	Prospective Parent INFORMATION NIGHT Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2016 7:00 PM	Freshman Application Deadline Dec. 9, 2016	Freshman Notification of Admission Feb. 23, 2017
	Tuition \$20,675					

 Dr. Thomas Powell, President Marc Minsker, Principal Michael Schultz Executive Director of Advancement 3989 Buckeystown Pike Buckeystown, MD 21717 E-mail: mschultz@saintjohnsprep.org • 301-662-4210	Coed Small class size • College preparatory 100% College Applicant Acceptance Rate Dual Credit, AP, & Honors Classes • Program for students with learning needs • Bus Transportation	VIKINGS Green, Gold & White Founded in 1829	OPEN HOUSE Sunday, November 6 1:00-3:00PM	HSPT Entrance Exam Saturday, December 3 8:30AM Registration 9:00AM Testing begins	Application Deadline Rolling Admissions	8th Grade Acceptance Day Feb. 17, 2017
	Freshman Class Size: 80 • Tuition: \$15,785 • Financial Aid: Michael Schultz @ 301-662-4210 • www.saintjohnsprep.org					

Catholic High School Open House Dates

Class of 2021 - Courtesy Catholic High Schools & Our Parish Times

 Bishop McNamara High School 6800 Marlboro Pike, Forestville, MD 20747 Dr. Marco Clark, President Dr. Robert Van der Waag, Principal Mrs. Abigail Greer, Admissions (ext. 113) Mr. Jeffrey Southworth, Admissions (ext. 102) www.bmhs.org 301-735-8401	Co-ed 20 sports teams Freshmen, Junior Varsity and Varsity In the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference Mustangs Maroon & Gold	Special Programs: Fine Arts Diploma Endorsement Orchestra 5 Choirs & 11 Bands Dance & Theater Arts St. Joseph Program Internships • Concurrent college enrollment • Advanced Placement Courses • Scholarships	Open House Sunday, Nov. 13, 2016 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Entrance Exam High School Placement Test (HSPT) required	Application Deadline Dec. 15, 2016	Notification of Admission late Feb 2017
	Freshman Class Size: 235 • Tuition: \$14,540					

 Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School Daniel M. Kerns, Jr., Head of School Mary Kate Blaine, Principal Janet Donnelly Keller, Director of Admissions Tel: 202.337.3350 Fax: 202.342.5733 • www.visi.org 1524 Thirty-fifth Street NW Washington, DC 20007	Girls 9-12 A Catholic High School and Pioneer in Women's Education since 1799 • Small Class Sizes • 100% College Acceptance • Bridge Program at Georgetown University • AP & Honors Courses • ISL Champion Athletics • Lively Performing Arts • Robust Service & Retreat Programs • More Than 50 Clubs Cubs • Gold, White & Green	OPEN HOUSE Saturday Oct. 15, 2016 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.	Entrance Exam HSPT (Offered at Visitation Dec. 3, 2016)	Freshman Application Deadline Dec. 2, 2016	Freshman Notification of Admission Feb. 23, 2017
	Financial Aid: Kevin Davern @ 301-963-8022				

 The Academy of the Holy Cross 4920 Strathmore Ave., Kensington, MD 20895 Kathleen Prebble, President Melissa Huey-Burns, Principal Louise Hendon, Admissions www.academyoftheholycross.org 301-942-2100	Girls Basketball, cross-country, field hockey, ice hockey, golf, lacrosse, poms/cheer, soccer, softball, volleyball, swimming and diving, tennis, track, crew, equestrian. Washington Catholic Athletic Conference Tartans • Lavender & White	Special Programs IB Diploma Programme AP & Honors Courses 1-to-1 iPad Program Senior Project Internship	Open House Sunday, November 6 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Entrance Exam HSPT (Offered at Holy Cross Dec. 3, 2016)	Application Deadline Dec. 12, 2016	Notification of Admission February 2017
	Freshman Class Size: 120 • Tuition: \$22,425 • Financial Aid: 301-942-2100					

 OAKCREST SCHOOL 850 Balls Hill Road, McLean, VA 22101 Dr. Mary T. Ortiz, Head of School Carolina Agostini, Director of Admissions Cecilia Marquez, Academic Dean 703-790-5450 Oakcrest.org • admissions@oakcrest.org	Academic Excellence 2017-2018 6:1 student-teacher ratio Rich Liberal Arts Curriculum 14 AP Courses	Faith-Character Daily Mass 1-to-1 mentoring Virtue-Based Workshops	Extracurriculars 16 Teams 9 Sports Potomac Valley Athletic Conference Director's Cup Winner Show Productions 25 Clubs	Rising 9th Graders: Veritas Leadership Scholarships Bus Transportation available from Maryland and Virginia	Application Deadline Jan. 17, 2017	Open Houses Saturday October 22 2:00 to 5:00 pm Sunday November 13 2:00 to 4:00 pm October 14: Be an Oakie for the Day
	An independent school for girls in grades 6-12 • Freshman Class Size: 41 • Tuition: US \$23,905 / MS \$22,780 Moving Fall 2017! 1619 Crowell Road, Vienna, VA					

 ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE COLLEGE LUGE SCHOOL Est. 1851 Mr. Jeffrey W. Mancabelli, President Mr. Christopher J. Themistos, Principal Mrs. Susan Hinton, Director of Admissions 202-363-2316 • www.stjohnscollege.org 2607 Military Road, NW, Chevy Chase, DC 20015	Coed Coed: ice hockey, crew, cross country, golf, equestrian team, rifle team, swimming, track; Female: basketball, field hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis, volleyball; Male: baseball, basketball, football, lacrosse, soccer, tennis, wrestling, rugby. WCAC Cadets Scarlet & Grey	Special Programs Scholars Program • Benilde Program • 1:1 Technology Program (iPads) • Cadet Corps (optional) • Entrepreneurial Center for Innovation & Leadership • New Visual & Performing Arts Wing • New Student Center (now under construction)	Open House Sunday, Oct. 23, 2016 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Entrance Exam Archdiocesan test results are required.	Application Deadline Dec. 9, 2016	Notification of Admission Feb. 23, 2017
	Tuition: \$18,465					

 ST. VINCENT PALLOTTI HIGH SCHOOL 113 St. Mary's Place, Laurel, MD 20707 Mr. Jeff Palumbo, President/Principal Ms. Lindsay Dively, Director of Admissions 301-725-3228 Ext. 2202 www.pallottihs.org	Coed 17 varsity athletic teams; Maryland Athletic Association (MAAA) - Men; Interscholastic Athletic Association of Maryland (IAAM) - Women 20 Clubs & Organizations	Grades 9-12 College Prep Curriculum Honors & AP Courses 99% College Placement One-to-One Technology Program Visual & Performing Arts Program Learning Center	Open House Sunday, Nov. 6 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Visit the web site for 2017-2018 application! 19:1 Teacher Student Ratio	Admissions Application Deadline Dec. 16, 2016	Financial Aid Application Deadline Jan. 2, 2017
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 ST. ANSELM'S ABBEY SCHOOL 4501 SOUTH DAKOTA AVE, NE WASHINGTON, DC 20017 Bill Crittengerger Headmaster 202-269-2350 Peter Young, '01 Director of Admissions 202-269-2379 admissions@saintanselms.org www.saintanselms.org	Boys Soccer, Cross Country, Basketball, Wrestling, Tennis, Baseball, Track, Lacrosse, Golf, Fencing Potomac Valley Athletic Conference Panthers Maroon & Grey	Special Programs Challenging academic program for students of above average ability in grades 6-12	Open House Sunday November 6 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Entrance Exam Dates November 19 December 10 January 14 Exam also offered by appointment	Application Deadline Rolling	Notification of Admission: March 3, 2017
	Freshman Class Size: 45 • Tuition: \$25,900 Middle; \$26,900 Upper • Financial Aid: Ms. Ieva Young @ 202-281-1656					

 Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart Catherine Ronan Karrels '86, Head of School 9101 Rockville Pike • Bethesda, MD 20814 301-657-4322 www.stoneridgeschool.org	Girls PS-12 (Coed PS-K) Basketball, cross country, equestrian, field hockey, golf, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, squash, swimming/diving, tennis, track & field and volleyball	Special Programs Honors/AP Courses 1:1 Laptop Social Action Student Exchange Stem Certificate	Open House Upper School (Grades 9-12) Sunday, Oct. 16 12:00 – 2:30 pm	Required Entrance Exam: SSAT Register at www.ssat.org (School Code: 7494)	Application Deadline Dec. 2, 2016	Financial Aid Deadline Jan. 15, 2017	Notification of Admission Late February Registration Deposit Due Early March
	Freshman Class Size: 100 • Tuition: \$32,300 • Financial Aid Available						

 THE HEIGHTS SCHOOL 10400 Seven Looks Rd., Potomac, MD 20854 Alvaro J. de Vicente, Headmaster Richard S. Moss, Director of Admissions 301-765-2093 • admissions@heights.edu www.heights.edu	Boys 3-12 The Heights forms "men fully alive" through a rigorous curriculum implemented with a highly personal approach to education and character. Cavaliers Red & White	Challenging liberal arts; innovative science and math; small classes; individual mentorship; 13 varsity sports; extensive extracurriculars; rich sacramental life.	Open House Sunday, October 30 2:00 to 5:30 p.m.	Admissions: Call us any time or visit our website at www.heights.edu/admissions for an overview of our application process.	Admissions Deadline for Full Consideration Jan. 6, 2017	Notification of Admission Feb. 23, 2017
	Freshman Class Size: 65 • Financial Aid: Phil McGovern (CF0) 301-365-4300					

Mother Seton Parish Picnic

By Amy Tolan

Mother Seton Parish in Germantown, Maryland, celebrated its Annual Parish Picnic on Sunday, September 18 at Black Hill Regional Park. The weather was great and the rain held off. About 600 parishioners attended the picnic. We had hot



Fun with balloon animals

dogs and burgers and everyone brought a side dish or dessert to share. Many brought their four legged friends, including Fr. Lou Faust with his dog Zach, and they all enjoyed making new friends and praying someone would drop some food on the floor for them.

The Pastoral Council did an outstanding job of organizing and putting on the picnic. The Knights of Columbus and Sodality were also a great help, we thank them

and all the volunteers who help out. There was soccer with Fr. Santiago Martin and hula hoop with Fr. Lee Fangmeyer. Many kids and adults also participated in volleyball.

The highlights for all the children were face painting and a clown who made balloon animals. It was a great day to celebrate our parish community being together.



Fr. Lee Fangmeyer with future volunteer



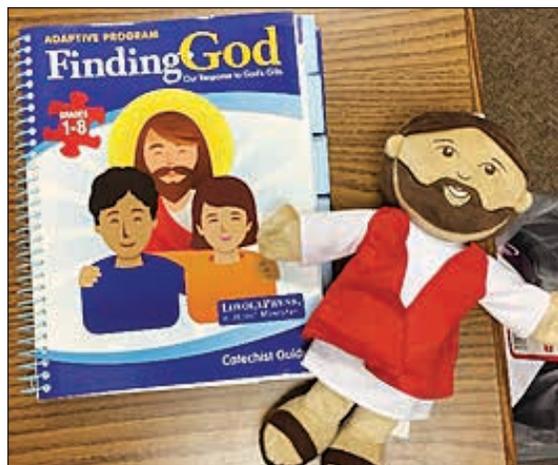
Mother Seton Parish Picnic



Enjoying hot dogs and hamburgers

OPT

Adaptive Finding God Program



By Mary Beth DeLuzio

On Saturday September 17, we launched our new program of faith formation. This program is adapted faith formation learning that is one on one or small group religious education for children with autism, ADHD, hearing impairment, vision impairment or any other developmental delay, that requires a calm, quiet and less

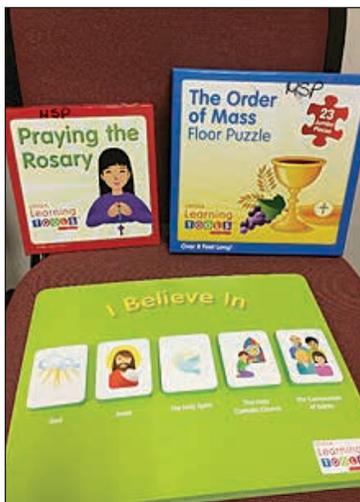
distracting atmosphere using multisensory learning. We are using the Loyola Press Finding God Adaptive multisensory program.

We are starting the year off with seven students. We are using a teen mentor approach to build positive relationships with each student. Our catechist plans the lesson and together with the teen mentor, the lesson is presented to the student in a way they can learn about their faith. Our goal is to help the parents and student on the journey towards full initiation into the Church. We want everyone to be able to participate as fully in parish life as they desire.

We started off with a prayer and song. The students, catechist and teen mentors went off to their learning spaces while the parents participated in the parent group. We are encouraging parents to stay for the group so they can also build

relationships with the other parents. When the lessons were finished, the teen mentors escorted the students back to their parents and reviewed the lesson and how they can reinforce this until the next time we meet.

OPT



Blood Pressure Screenings

The first weekend of the month we do blood pressure screenings for our parishioners. We started for the year on Sept 11. Twenty-nine people visited us after Mass that day. It is so great to see everyone and help them keep track of their health. Our screening days will be October 2, November 6 and December 4.

OPT

Blue Mass at Mother Seton

On Sunday, September 25, Mother Seton Parish celebrated a Blue Mass at 12:30 PM, to honor, recognize and show our gratitude to all the individuals who work in law enforcement. Each officer was presented with a Prayer Card and visor clip of St. Michael the Archangel to help protect them while on duty. Also, the children in School of Religion made thank you cards for the officers.



Fr. Lee Fangmeyer with Montgomery County police officers

A reception followed with lite refreshments.

It is an honor and privilege for us to appreciate and celebrate our Germantown Police department. We thank them for all their protection of our parish and commu-

nity. We also thank the following businesses for their contributions: Wegmans, Giant, Dunkin Donuts, Corner Bakery, Buca di Beppo and Woodside Deli.

OPT

Mother Seton Parish
 19951 Fr. Hurley Boulevard
 Germantown, MD
Fr. Lee Fangmeyer
 Pastor
 301-924-3838
Juliana Ordoñez
 OPT Editor
 Bulletin@Mothersetonparish.org



Principal Mrs. Hamilton greets all students on their first day back and poses for an individual back-to-school photo as each student enters the school.

St. Jane de Chantal School Starts New School Year with a “Fish Philosophy”

On August 29th, St. Jane de Chantal School welcomed back hundreds of families to begin a new school year. There were new backpacks, lunch boxes, and many smiles as students paraded in on the Monday morning to greet their beloved principal, Mrs. Hamilton, and meet their new teachers. The first week concluded with flip flops, a half-day, and the last long weekend of summer. The school welcomed a new seventh grade teacher, Mr. Ian MacInnes, who recently moved back to the area from Los Angeles to pursue a teaching career at St. Jane de Chantal School. Mr. MacInnes is a former de Chantal student, who is very excited to be back at the

school to teach junior high math and lead the seventh grade home-room classes.

Each year the school chooses a new theme to guide the school’s community to living a more Catholic life-style, and to strengthen its relationships as a community. This year’s theme is called the “Fish Philosophy”. There are four main parts to this philosophy that encourage a positive school environment: (1) Choose Your Attitude; (2) Be There; (3) Make Their Day; and (4) Play. Teachers and students will be striving to live out the “Fish Philosophy” this school year to foster a Christ-like environment for all to flourish.

OPT



Kindergarten students, accompanied by their parents on the first day of school, got to meet classmates and play in their new classroom.

More St. Jane de Chantal News on Page X

Fifth Grade Sails into the New School Year with an Exciting Field Trip

The 5th grade class traveled to Chestertown, Maryland, to learn about and experience the Chesapeake Bay watershed through the Sultana Education Foundation. Students enjoyed sailing on a replica of the smallest schooner in the British Navy, the Sultana. After sailing, they were able to tour Chestertown, play games from the revolutionary war time period, and learn about animals that live in the Chesapeake Bay. Students were able to hold turtles, catfish, and hogchokers. It was a fun day for all to step back in time and experience history!



School news report courtesy of Catherine Skibo.

OPT



St. Jane de Chantal Parish
9601 Old Georgetown Road
Bethesda, MD
Fr. Samuel C. Giese, Pastor
301-530-1550
St. Jane de Chantal School
Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton
301-530-1221
Susana and Mario Cerritelli,
OPT Editors

11th ANNUAL
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
Sponsored by the Home & School Association for the Benefit of the School

St. Jane de Chantal School
Saturday, November 12th
9am-4pm

Unique items from more than 30 vendors with jewelry, home decor, accessories, personalized gifts and much more! Plus a thrift shop, children's book fair, food trucks, bake sale, and raffles!

Free pictures with Santa!

9525 Old Georgetown Rd, Bethesda
www.dechantal.org/bazaar

Santa will be visiting from the North Pole!

FREE PARKING & ADMISSION



St. Jane de Chantal Hosts Time and Talent Fair

One weekend during every September, the St. Jane de Chantal Parish hosts a Time and Talent Fair after each weekend mass to showcase all the activities that go on in the Parish, and to invite new members to join the different committees. Members from about 20 different committees were on hand to explain and encourage Parishioners to participate. From the display, it was obvious the wealth of talent and willingness of the many volunteers to contribute their time and energy to the greater mission of the Parish.

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YOUR VOTE MATTERS

NIH award expands landmark Alzheimer's biomarker study

Maryland Absentee Voting

Information and Instructions for the 2016 Presidential Elections

In Maryland, any registered voter may vote by absentee ballot. The website of the Maryland State Board of Elections provides answers to the most frequently asked questions about absentee voting:

- Who may vote by absentee ballot?
- How do I request an absentee ballot?
- What is the deadline to request an absentee ballot?
- How do I know if my request for a ballot was received and processed?
- Can I have someone pick up my ballot?
- How will I receive my absentee ballot?
- How do I vote my absentee ballot?
- How do I return my voted ballot?
- Can I have help voting?
- What should I do if...

Visit www.elections.state.md.us/voting/absentee.html

The Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative (ADNI)—the long-running National Institutes of Health-supported study investigating brain and fluid biomarkers of the disease—enters a new phase of discovery with the launch of ADNI3. With the recent NIH award of approximately \$40 million over the next five years—coupled with anticipated private sector contributions of \$20 million through the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH)—ADNI3 will use cutting-edge technologies in brain imaging as it recruits hundreds of new volunteers. Expansion of the groundbreaking study, now in its 12th year, will further develop ways to speed clinical trials by providing researchers the biomarkers needed to detect the onset and track the progression of Alzheimer's disease.

The study matches changes in clinical and cognitive testing with Alzheimer's-related changes in biological markers detected in blood, cerebrospinal fluid and DNA samples donated by volunteers. Brain scans identify changes in brain volume, white matter integrity, functional connectivity between brain regions, glucose metabolism and the buildup of amyloid protein plaques—a hallmark of the disease. ADNI3 will add brain scans that detect tau protein tangles, another indicator of the disease. Blood, cerebrospinal fluid and DNA samples also enable scientists to better understand Alzheimer's-related chemical changes and how genes influence the disorder.



stand Alzheimer's-related chemical changes and how genes influence the disorder.

By identifying and validating such biomarkers as abnormal levels of amyloid protein, ADNI has led to insights on who may be at risk for the disease and how Alzheimer's-related brain changes correspond to clinical findings. In recent years, these game-changing discoveries have advanced clinical trial design and led to the testing of promising interventions at the earliest stages of the disease.



"ADNI3 will move the bar higher still in this collaborative effort to gain a clear understanding of the subtle Alzheimer's-related brain changes in volunteers, long before symptoms appear, and the biological changes that mark its progression," said NIA Director Richard J. Hodes, M.D. "These insights are vital to researchers and clinicians working worldwide

in their selection of clinical trial volunteers and the testing of promising interventions."

ADNI3 recruitment starting in the fall of 2016 will seek up to 1,200 volunteers, over the age of 55, to join about 800 current participants at 60 sites in the United States and Canada. The volunteers represent the full trajectory of the disease, including those with normal cognition, mild cognitive impairment (often a precursor to Alzheimer's), and Alzheimer's dementia.

"We are thrilled to embark on this next phase of discovery, enhanced by sophisticated new technologies and computational methods that we could only dream about when we launched the study in 2004," Weiner said. "ADNI has made a profound difference in clinical trials, developing and refining the biomarker tools needed to see Alzheimer's-related brain changes in the living brain—even in people free of symptoms. ADNI3 will play an even more influential role as these biomarkers are enlisted in the search for treatments for this devastating disorder."

Study sites will begin recruiting in the fall. If you are interested in learning more about ADNI3 and joining the study, sign up at <http://adni.brainhealthregistry.org/> join or call 1-888-2-ADNI-95 (888-223-6495).

OPT

New Rule Preserves Nursing Home Residents' Right to Sue Nursing Homes

It's an experience millions of Americans go through each year, the difficult decisions we face when considering a long-term care facility for a loved one. We want to know that our family member will be safe, properly cared for, and receive the highest quality of care.



On September 28, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S.

Department of Health and Human Services, finalized new rules to pro-

Continued on page 25

Select homes available

Maplewood

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NEW RULE

Con't from page 24

tect and empower residents of long-term care facilities.

Commitment to Person-Centered Care for Long-Term Care Facility Residents

Last year, CMS began offering consumers and families the ability to easily compare facilities based on successful discharges, unplanned emergency visits, and re-hospitalizations through a five-star website. However, the rules of the road for long-term care facilities haven't had a comprehensive update since 1991. The rules announced by CMS in September are a major step forward to improve the care and safety of the nearly 1.5 million residents in the more than 15,000 long-term care facilities that participate in the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

The new rules set high standards for quality and safety, while providing facilities with important flexibilities that will assist with the preservation of quality of life and quality of care, and are grounded in the concepts of person-centered care.

Protecting Residents Rights

The rules make important changes to strengthen the rights of residents and families in the event that a dispute arises with a facility. Historically, many facilities require residents to agree to binding arbitration clauses when they are admitted to these facilities. These clauses require the resident to settle any dispute that may arise using arbitration rather than the court system. The final rule prohibits the use of pre-dispute binding arbitration agreements. This means that facilities may not require residents to sign pre-dispute arbitration agreements as a condition of admission to that long-term care facility.

Facilities and residents will still be able to use arbitration on a voluntary basis at the time a dispute arises. Even then, these agreements will need to be clearly explained to residents, including the understanding that these arbitration agreements are voluntary, and that these agreements should not prevent or discourage residents and families from talking to authorities about quality of care concerns.

The requirements in the new rules set high standards for quality and safety in long-term care facilities and will provide residents – and their families – with greater protections.

OPT

Source: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

For more information on today's announcement, please visit the CMS website at: <https://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Press-releases/2016-Press-releases-items/2016-09-28.html>.

It pays to advertise in Our Parish Times

St. Stephen Ministry Flourishes at St. Bartholomew Parish

On Sunday, Sept. 11, at the 10:00 a.m. Mass, St. Bartholomew Parish conducted a commissioning of new St. Stephen Ministry leaders and ministers as well as the renewal of vows by current ministers and leaders.

Stephen Ministers are lay men and women of the parish, trained to provide one-to-one care to people experiencing a difficult time in life, such as – but not limited to – grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, convalescence, empty nest, loneliness, or relocation due to job transfer or military deployment.

St. Bart's Deacon Julio Blanco-Eccleston told OPT, "Currently we are 21 Ministers and Leaders actively committed to serve as com-



St. Stephen Ministry leaders are honored at St. Bartholomew Parish on September 11.

panions in caring for our sisters and brothers going through difficult times, struggles in their lives. In less than two years, the ministry

has provided almost 1600 hours of care to members of our parish. The weekly physical, spiritual and emotional presence of the ministers

makes a real difference in their lives."

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November is National Family Caregivers Month

“Family members, friends, and neighbors devote countless hours to providing care to their relatives or loved ones. During National Family Caregivers Month, we recognize and thank the humble heroes who do so much to keep our families and communities strong.”

—President Barack Obama, NFC Month Proclamation

National Family Caregivers Month is a time to recognize and honor family caregivers across the country.

Celebrating Family Caregivers during NFC month enables all of us to:

- Raise awareness of family caregiver issues
- Celebrate the efforts of family caregivers
- Educate family caregivers about self-identification
- Increase support for family caregivers

The theme for National Family Caregivers Month 2016 is *“Take Care to Give Care.”*

The first rule of taking care of others: take care of yourself first. Caregiving can be a rewarding experience, but it is also physically and emotionally demanding. The stress of dealing with caregiving responsibilities leads to a higher risk of health issues among the Nation’s 90 million family caregivers. So as a family caregiver, remember to pay attention to your



own physical and mental wellness, and get proper rest and nutrition. Only by taking care of yourself can you be strong enough to take care of your loved one. You really do need to *“take care to give care!”*

Caregiving can be a stressful job. Most family caregivers say

they feel stressed providing care for a loved one. With all of their caregiving responsibilities – from managing medications to arranging doctor appointments to planning meals – caregivers too often put themselves last.

The stress of caregiving impacts

your own health. One out of five caregivers admit they have sacrificed their own physical health while caring for a loved one. Due to stress, family caregivers have a disproportionate number of health and emotional problems. They are twice as likely to suffer depression

and are at increased risk for many other chronic conditions.

Proper nutrition helps promote good health. Ensuring that you are getting proper nutrition is key to help maintain your strength, energy and stamina, as well as strengthening your immune system. Maintaining a healthy diet is one of the most powerful things you can do to take care of yourself and keep a positive attitude overall.

Ensuring good nutrition for your loved one helps make care easier. As many as half of all older adults are at risk for malnutrition. Good nutrition can help maintain muscle health, support recovery, and reduce risk for re-hospitalization – which may help make your care of a loved one easier.

Remember: *“Rest. Recharge. Respite.”* People think of respite as a luxury, but considering caregivers’ higher risk for health issues from chronic stress, those risks can be a lot costlier than some time away to recharge. The chance to take a breather, the opportunity to re-energize, is vital in order for you to be as good a caregiver tomorrow as you were today.

During National Family Caregivers Month, we remind family caregivers that to be strong enough to care for your loved one, you must

Take Care to Give Care!

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MILESTONE YEAR

Con't from page 6

The return to the school routine is also a time when we at SRS return to our roots, honoring the older generation that contributes to the lives, values, and success of the students. At Grandparent's Day, our special guests gathered with the children for Mass, toured classrooms, and enjoyed a light reception. In building up the SRS library over the past years, many books have been donated to us by grandparents, and we are

very blessed to have these reading resources for the years to come!

Also coinciding with the beginning of a new school year is the Feast of the Archangels (Sept. 29), around which the annual St. Raphael Parish Picnic is typically held. This year's event marked the parish's 50th anniversary, and many parish families, friends, and clergy gathered to reminiscence and enjoy each other's company as well as great barbecue, entertainment, and games for the children. At SRS, we join in celebrating this golden anniversary with St. Raphael Parish!

OPT

MONARCHS

Con't from page 6

Xavier said his garden will provide educational opportunities for SRS. This project also memorializes the parish's 50th anniversary and includes a bench with a commemorative plaque marking this milestone.

Additionally, the butterfly garden

project aligns with Pope Francis' encyclical letter "Laudato Si" (On Care for Our Common Home) by contributing to the protection of God's creation. In researching this project, Xavier realized that the monarch butterfly population has declined by more than 90 percent. To provide a suitable habitat for the monarchs, this beautiful garden offers the milkweed and nectar

needed for the butterflies to populate.

The benefits of Xavier's monarch project were quickly realized; only a week after the garden was established, numerous caterpillars could be seen feasting on its plants. We hope these first signs of the project's success are just the beginning of the fruits of his labor and that many monarch butterflies will soon be gracing our community!

OPT



Monarch caterpillars have already found a home in the new Butterfly Garden on the campus of St. Raphael School. Photo by MJ Zafis-Garcia/St. Raphael School

BOARDWALKS

Con't from page 6

for a strong structure and develop a materials list. Working alongside his grandfather, Isaac Baum (grade 6) created a prototype and, with several other boys, presented the path problem and boardwalk solution to Fisher Lumber in an effort to obtain materials needed for the project. Fisher Lumber responded generously by donating most of the materials needed to complete the 4x120 foot boardwalk, and the remaining materials were purchased through donations. Henley Construction contributed by picking up, cutting, and delivering all of the materials neatly stacked to SRS.

Facilitated by the Legionaries and other missionaries, the boys divided into groups to ensure all of the project steps were completed: laying the foundation beams, joists, solid bridging, and ultimately building the boardwalk. They also mentored the younger boys on their

days off. While much of the work was finished under rainy conditions in May, the final extension of the boardwalk was recently completed in September. Many fathers also came to help and support their sons in the boardwalk construction, making this service project even more memorable.

For the second year, SRS is host to the after-school Regum Christi's Leadership Training Program, which is dedicated to virtue and faith formation, and building leadership skills in youth through mentoring, teamwork, sports, and service projects. The completion of the Angel Path boardwalk project reopens the popular trail for a quick run to burn off some energy or a leisurely walk in quiet reflection. At SRS, we are thankful to everyone who contributed time, materials, and hard work to make this possible! A slideshow of the Angel Path boardwalk project is viewable on the SRS Vimeo Channel at www.vimeo.com/user6358160.

OPT

St. Bartholomew

St. Bart's Youth Group Roars into Fall, with Service, Sports, Movies, and Pizza

The St. Bart's Parish Youth Group, led by Maria and John Archer, are having a busy fall with hiking, sports, movie night ("My All American") with a pizza dinner, and a service project at the VA Medical Center. The Middle School Youth Group are sixth, seventh, and eighth graders interested in serving our neighbor, playing together, and getting to know our Lord Jesus Christ. All are welcome. For more information, contact John and Maria Archer, 32kaufmann@cardinalmail.cua.edu.

OPT



St. Bart's Youth Group prepares donations for the VA Medical Center. Photo courtesy of Maria Archer

DAILY MASS

Con't from page 19

so a prayerful atmosphere is maintained. When asked about the habit of daily Mass, one young woman who frequently traveled for business said she had found comfort and familiarity in attending daily Mass in each new city and continues the effort when she is home. Newly retired parishioner, Bill Auld feels that the daily Mass and the time spent in prayer helps him stay

closer to God. He was inspired to start the habit after reading about Jack McKeon, a renowned baseball manager and devout Catholic who attends daily Mass. Others welcome the respite that daily Mass creates in their busy lives and since there is no music, there are generous moments of silence and stillness.

Although diverse in culture and background, there is a strong sense of community offering care and concern if a familiar face is missing from their usual pew in the church or who offer friendly smiles and

waves during the sign of peace. Hands reach across pews and the Church is joined together during the 'Our Father.' The Mass generally lasts just 30 minutes but many stay longer after the candles on the altar are blown out to pray or to visit in the narthex. Bill joins a group of gentlemen who jokingly call themselves ROMEO, 'Retired Old Men Eating Out,' to plan where to meet later. They have completed the most important part of their day - participating in the sacrifice of the Mass. Now it's time for coffee!

OPT

SODALITY

Con't from page 6

Grove Pregnancy Center, and purchasing books for the students at St. Augustine Catholic School. The group also donated to FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students), Centro Tepeyac

Women's Center, and Seminarian Matt Norwood.

Sodality kicked off the new year in September by hosting Melanie Rigney, local author of Sisterhood of Saints: Daily Guidance and Inspiration. Rigney is a passionate speaker and she led a wonderful discussion about a few of the powerful female saints of the Catholic

church.

Upcoming events include a potluck lunch with Father William Byrne on October 18, and guest speaker Father Charles Cortinovic on November 15th. Please contact Janet Walker-Leonard at 301-315-0863 for more information.

OPT

MoN SCHOOL

Con't from page 8

at every level has prepared our children to be members of their community and to use all of their God Given talents to the fullest. Thank you Mary of Nazareth." The Shea Family, Our Lady of the Visitation Parish

"As parents, we work very hard to raise our children with Catholic morals and values. Mary of Nazareth has been a wonderful support system, both reaffirming and building upon our teachings. Our oldest daughter was a rising 5th grader when our family moved from California to Maryland. The Mary of Nazareth community opened their arms and hearts and welcomed her in immediately. Upon graduating this year, she was left with amazing friends, an excellent academic foundation, and a solid appreciation and love for her Catholic faith." The Rohde Family, Our Lady of the Presentation Parish

"We feel strongly about the importance of faith as part of our daily lives, and Mary of Nazareth School reinforces the spiritual foun-

dation we desire for our children. It is wonderful to hear our daughters speak freely about religion with their friends, and to emphasize the importance of prayer for them. We also love the rigor of the academic programs offered and we know that MoN provides the best education for our children." The Preciado Family, Mother Seton Parish

"Enrolling our children at Mary of Nazareth was a great decision which has allowed our children to thrive at school, while strengthening their faith. In addition to continuing to grow academically, they have developed great friendships and have had opportunities to participate in a range of activities, including soccer, basketball, horseback riding, and girl scouts. All of this while learning how to live lives of service in a community of shared values." The Weyer Family, St. Paul Parish

"Our family is so thankful for Mary of Nazareth School and its role in our daughter's life. Having just finished kindergarten, she has been accepted for who she is and feels like a valued member of the Mary of Nazareth community as a whole. She is surrounded by

teachers who excel at teaching academically but also lead by example - being kind, respectful, and always trying their best. The Mary of Nazareth students and families have been so welcoming and helpful to us as a new family at the school. We are confident that the lessons she learns in the coming years at Mary of Nazareth School will help her be a good student and a compassionate person. It is a special place full of special people." The Cruz Family, St. Rose of Lima Parish

"I have a 8th grader and 4th grader currently at the school. My kids both started at MoN when they were in K. It has been one of the best decisions my family has ever made. Campus is beautiful and they provide a challenging academic environment." The Wells Family, St. Mary's Shrine

"An outstanding school, with caring and engaged staff, welcoming families, ample sports and activities to choose from, and a curriculum that keeps students interested and achieving. This was the best choice for our family, and proud to be part of this great school community." The Dyer Family, St. John Neumann Parish

OPT

From Mercy to Holiness

In November of 2015, Pope Francis opened the holy doors of a cathedral in Africa inaugurating the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. Throughout this Year of Mercy, the Church throughout the world has been inviting people to experience God's mercy in concrete ways and to, in turn, show God's mercy to others.

On September 28, the Saint Francis International School community began an effort to give students the opportunity to know God's mercy through the Sacrament of Reconciliation and then to find ways to show that mercy to others. Typically, the students of SFIS participate in Penance Services and have the opportunity for individual confessions during Advent and Lent. This year, as part of the Year of Mercy, the special Penance Services on September 28 focused on understanding God's love and



SFIS students participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

mercy through the lens of the parable of the Prodigal Son. Students were reminded that Jesus describes God as a loving father who desper-

ately desires his children, especially those who have made mistakes and gone astray, to return to him. In fact, in the Prodigal Son, we learn

that God not only desires the return of his lost children but he wants to celebrate their return.

Students were reminded that in

confession the Church offers us the experience of the Prodigal Son. In a follow up to the Penance Services, students are being asked to learn about the many saints that the Church holds up as models of holiness with a specific focus on how the saints experienced God's mercy and shared God's mercy with others. As the SFIS community proceeds towards All Saints Day students are learning about how showing mercy is a key to being holy and growing in relationship with God. At the All Saints Day mass on November 1, students will share stories about the saints' acts of mercy and then will begin a campaign to show mercy in special ways throughout the month of November to be like the saints.

OPT

Nurturing Active Citizens

Part of the stated mission of Saint Francis International School is to nurture children to become instruments of God's peace, scholars, and global citizens. September 12 marked a special opportunity to remind students of what it means to be both peacemakers and citizens in times of great challenge. This year, the United States marked the 15th anniversary of September 11 terrorist attacks. In response to that anniversary, Saint Francis International School received new American and Maryland flags to use each day as part of the K-through-8 morning assembly during which the whole school says the Pledge of Allegiance.

Thanks to the generosity of several retired parishioners of St. Camillus Church, the school purchased the new flags and on Monday, September 12, the school community dedicated the new flags and remembered the 9/11 attacks. The special assembly and prayer service included a reflection on the responsibility of citizens to work actively towards peace by supporting their neighbors like the first responders on September 11, 2001. The assembly concluded



SFIS has new social studies textbooks this including a new focus on civics and economics in eighth grade in an effort to nurture strong citizens.

with members of the SFIS student choir singing "God Bless America."

On October 1, SFIS students were invited to join parishioners and community members in being

active citizens by taking care of the environment around St. Camillus Church for the governor's Maryland Day to Serve.

OPT



Once again this year, SFIS welcomes dog volunteers (and their human friends) from People.Animals.Love who listen to young students read out loud.

SBS

Con't from page 4

instruction. Eighth-grade student, Rowland Kamara offers, "I like using the laptops because it makes class more interesting versus just using a book." Similarly, Sophie Friel, also in eighth grade, agrees. "Using the laptop and other devices is fun. It makes history class not seem so ancient!"

For more information on how to donate to this outstanding effort, please contact: hbednarz@saintbernassetteschool.org



St. Bernadette Eighth Grade Students: Rowland Kamara and Sophie Friel

OPT

NEW FACES

Con't from page 10

as the fourth grade teacher. Before moving to Maryland, she taught second grade at Maternity of Mary St. Andrew Catholic School in St. Paul, Minn. We are lucky Mrs. Elizabeth Cooley also chose to make a cross-country move for us, coming from teaching sixth grade at Endeavor Hall in Salt Lake City as the new Religion teacher for second grade and the middle school. Mr. James Roberts joins us from St. Jude's, but has been around Lourdes for years as a student and later a counselor at A Long Summer Camp. Mrs. Maria Jose Gradillas has been around Lourdes for years as a teaching assistant, substitute teacher, and mom, and is our new Spanish teacher.

We welcome four new teaching assistants: Ms. Paola Palacios in Kindergarten, Mrs. Bridget Launi

in First and Second grades, and Mrs. Maria-Claudia Cruz and Mrs. Fatima Caceres in the Little Group. Ms. Palacios to us from Bethesda Country Day School, where she worked in the preschool. Mrs. Launi joins us from Stone Ridge, where she worked in the upper school library and lower school office. Mrs. Cruz has taught Spanish in many elementary schools. Mrs. Caceres has been a part of our community for a few years as a mom, and used to work as a Kindergarten teaching assistant in DCPS. We are also thrilled to welcome back two teaching assistants as lead teachers: Ms. Molly Carter in the Little Group and Mrs. Alexa Imwalle in fifth grade.

Our new teachers have jumped right into the school community and are quickly discovering what Lourdes is all about. We love the excitement and new ideas that new faculty members bring to our school.

OPT

St. Francis International School

www.saintfrancisinternational.org

Tobias A. Harkleroad,
Principal

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

St. Mark Campus
7501 Adelphi Road
Hyattsville, MD 20783

ADW 7th Annual White Mass
November 20 at 10:00AM

(see back page)

St. Michael the Archangel Celebrates Diversity at Patron Saint Feast

On Saturday, September 24, St. Michael the Archangel Parish in downtown Silver Spring held its Sixth Annual "Michaelmas" celebration in honor of its patron saint. Michaelmas originated in the Middle Ages as a major festival marking both the Feast of the Archangels and the autumnal equinox and harvest time.

This year's Michaelmas celebration was preceded by a presentation of the Parish's 5-year strategic plan from our Pastor, Monsignor Eddie Tolentino, and Parish Council President Douglas Lawrence. The celebration itself began with a rousing choral introduction by our Parish Youth Choir. The multicultural vigil Mass started at 4PM with beautiful spiritual music provided by the St. Michael World Choir. Following the Mass, the Parish enjoyed a standing room only potluck multicultural feast fea-



Young parishioners share a Mexican folkloric dance at Michaelmas 2016

turing signature dishes from Africa, the Caribbean, Europe, Asia, and the Americas.

Diverse entertainment was pro-

vided by our many talented parishioners and included music from the JUAC Band, a Hispanic young adult band that is part of the Youth

Ministry, a stirring trombone solo performance by Conrad Smith, and select performances by the Youth from our Neocatechumenal Way

communities with accompaniment from Fr. Alberto Biondi, who sang Italian classics with gusto. Many energetic dancers were on hand to kick up their heels with African, Salvadorian, Filipino, and Mexican native folkloric and traditional dances as well as classic tap dance routines. The Filipino Community closed out the evening's celebration with the Tinikling traditional bamboo dance. The NCW youth also shared a slide show from their recent World Youth Day visit to Poland.

This day of looking forward to our Parish's future growth, celebrating Mass, food and entertainment was enjoyed by all. The ongoing success of our annual celebration highlights enthusiasm and many contributions of its time and talent of our parishioners.

OPT



Father Saulo with Maryland Pilgrims from the Neocatechumenal Way

A Reflection on World Youth Day 2016

By Juan Xavier Sian

As I embarked on my fourth World Youth Day (WYD) pilgrimage to Krakow, Poland, I knew I was in for a truly life-changing experience. I travelled with a group of over 300 youth and chaperones from the Neocatechumenal Way communities of D.C., Maryland and Virginia.

Each of the remarkable holy places and pilgrimage sites we visited provided me the opportunity to ask God for a grace, while praying for my family, friends, and the parishioners from St. Michael the Archangel who helped make this trip possible. Some highlights included the Cathedral of Trier that holds Jesus' seamless tunic and a holy nail from the cross of

Christ, and Our Lady of Banneux in Belgium, where Mary appeared to a young girl as the 'Virgin of the Poor' in 1933. Our visit to Auschwitz concentration camp was a very somber and reflective moment.

We were blessed to see the famous icon of Our Lady of Czestochowa and visit the Shrine of The Divine Mercy, which houses the tomb of St. Faustina. Throughout the trip, we witnessed concrete examples of God's love for us and how He provides for us. This love was manifested through the families from the town of Glogow, Poland, who provided food and shelter and treated us like family despite the cultural and language barrier. Through daily prayer and a series of catechesis we

were reminded each day of the love and mercy that God has for us.

The pilgrimage does not end at that field in Krakow, Poland. Rather, in the words of Pope Francis's memorable homily, "World Youth Day begins today and continues tomorrow, in your homes, since that is where Jesus wants to meet you from now on." I realized that God's vocation for me is to be a witness of His love to everybody around me, starting with my family, friends, and fellow parishioners. I am very thankful to have experienced this WYD pilgrimage which has helped to reignite my faith, and I am excited to continue this walk with Jesus Christ and see what he has in store for my life.

OPT

Meet Father Alberto Biondi, new Parochial Vicar at St. Michael

Father Alberto was ordained on June 25, 2016 and started his duties as Parochial Vicar after his return from World Youth Day in Krakow. Father was born in Fano, Italy and attended the Redemptoris Mater Diocesan Seminary in Washington, DC.

He shared his path to the priesthood and it began like that of many youths who are non-practicing Catholics. However, at the age of 19, the Lord spoke to him through the community of the Neocatechumenal Way. During the 2002 World Youth Day (WYD) in Toronto, Canada, he started to think about the priesthood. He heard the call from the Lord but did not listen to it.

After the pilgrimage, he went back to living his life and completed a college degree and did everything he thought would make him happy, but in the end he was feeling miserable. In 2005, after what he describes as 3 years of meaningless living, he attended the WYD in Cologne and this time he was ready to listen to what the Lord was saying after hearing the passage from the Book of Daniel, where Daniel is told to stand up and not be afraid. He thought 'Well, Lord, you have certainly been very clear to me,' and that is when he gave himself to the Lord. He believes that is when God gave him life, before he was merely surviving. His advice to young men



Father Alberto Biondi, Parochial Vicar at St. Michaels

considering priesthood is: do not be anxious, have your heart at peace. The Lord will show you everything you need to know. Remember that the Lord wants you to be happy and to be at peace.

Father shared that he is very excited and happy with his first assignment and is learning to manage his time and many new tasks responsibilities. He enjoys being able to preach about how the Lord loves us and how He gave His only son for us. This is proof that when we suffer we are not alone. His best experiences are confessing and forgiving sins as this is a reminder that the Lord has the power to forgive us and that we have the possibility to start all over again is a reason to rejoice.

OPT

St. Michael the Archangel Celebrates its 7th Annual Crab Feast

September 2 was a banner date for the St. Michael the Archangel parish as 130 parishioners gathered to enjoy fellowship and delicious crabs at the 7th annual Knights of Columbus crab feast.

The Knights of Columbus Council of St. Michael the

Archangel sponsored the event as a major annual fund raiser for their works of charity. In previous years, proceeds have been directed to support a Novice and to contribute to the many needed repairs at the church and parish center.

This year, the crab feast was



Parishioners enjoying crab feast hosted by Knights of Columbus

Continued on page 39

St. Michael's Parish

805 Wayne Avenue
Silver Spring, MD

Rev. Msgr. Eddie Tolentino,
Pastor

301-589-1155

Edwin Méndez,
OPT Editor

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Missionary Presence at Christ the King

Christ the King Parish hosted Fr. Ricky Bermas of the Diocese of Legazpi, Philippines at all Masses the first weekend of October. He is a missionary preacher speaking to parishes around the world on the needs of his Diocese, where there are 90 active priests serving a population of 1 million. Their schools and special ministries help the street children there as well as the mentally challenged, families, youth and the poorest of the poor.

The Diocese of Legazpi has developed a five-year plan to build the Catholic community and serve those needs. With donations received, the Diocese is able to help form clergy, religious and its lay people, as well as provide scholarships to poor, but deserving seminarians. Fr. Bermas asked for financial support, and our prayers, as he travels to support the work being done in his Diocese of Legazpi.

OPT

Our New Religious Education Program

The new Religious Education program, for school year 2016-2017, has been announced! It will be focused on Faith Formation and Sacramental Preparation, towards First Holy

Communion and Confirmation. Classes within the program will be on Saturdays from 10am-noon. Children from 6 years and up will have classes in Faith Formation; while preparation for First Holy Communion, classes are for those 7 years and up, Confirmation for ages 11 years and older.

The classes will begin Saturday October 29! At the current time, Christ the King is taking registrations in the Rectory Office on Wednesdays, from 10am-7pm, through October 5. It is an exciting return to Saturday instruction as had been traditional at Christ the King in prior years.

OPT

Christ the King
2301 Colston Drive
Silver Spring, MD
301-495-2306

Fr. Rodolfo Salina,
Parochial Administrator

Katie Holland,
OPT Editor
ctk.parity@icloud.com

Pre Halloween
DINNER and DANCE
for the benefits of CHRIST THE KING church...
Sponsored by: "The Lord Is My Shepherd Prayer Group"



Donation \$ 20.00
October 22, 2016 (Saturday)
6:30 pm - 12:00 am
(COLONIAL HALL)
CHRIST THE KING CHURCH
2300 East West Highway / 2301 Colston Drive
Silver Spring Maryland 20910

For more info please call:
Terry Adula (202) 713-0873
Josie Lacap (202) 910-7514
Nida Legusan (240) 644-7402
Rachel Martinez (571) 699-5665
Linda Basamot (240) 688-3382

Music by: DJ Nicky Anastacio

Silver Spring Catholic

Sunday September 25, Christ the King was treated to an introduction to a widening group of young Catholics in the area, by Silver Spring Catholics member, Leah Favia. Silver Spring Catholic Young Adult Ministry is a regional ministry, active at Christ the King, for Catholics from college-aged to those in their mid-30s living and working around Silver Spring.

SSCatholic hosts regular service, social and spiritual events for Young Adults to grow in relationship with Jesus through peer friendship. In August the group held a goodbye-to-summer Chill & Grill at neighboring St. Michael's, beginning with a Vigil Mass before the cookout. This was their premier event combining the 3 Fs: Faith, Food and Fellowship. All young adults are invited to join the group for future events, to meet other Young Adult Catholics and grow in Faith with



L-R: Kenny Chrzanowski, Courtney Quintos, Sarah Strenio, Astoria Aviles, Nick Trofimoff, Nicole Calaro, Andrew Fernando Espanto Quilpa, Leah Favia (in the "glasses") and Susan Zagar.

the SSCatholic community.

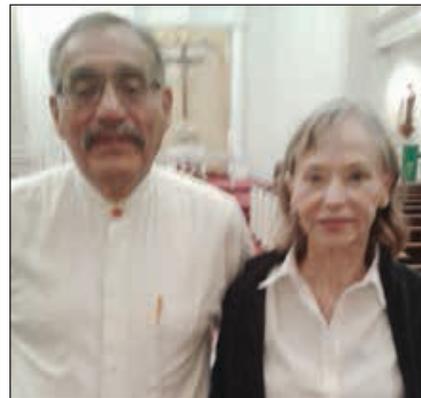
To learn more about upcoming events, check out their Facebook page Silver Spring Catholic or

just email them at sscatholics@gmail.com to sign up for regular event email.

OPT

Music at Christ the King

With five regular (Saturday anticipatory and) Sunday Masses, in two languages, and the Mass on the first Sunday in Tagalog, Christ the King has three volunteer groups who comprise the parish music program. At 8:30am English-language Mass Sundays, the parish has the good fortune of having pianist, Sue Gordan, and Cantor, Jaime Arreguin-Avila, both parishioners who work closely together in selecting the music to fit the Church time of year.



Cantor Jaime Arreguin-Avila and pianist Sue Gordan;

At our Spanish-language Masses, at 5:30pm Saturdays and 12:30pm Sundays, Christ the King has been blessed with the group led by parishioner, Tony Diaz, who with his family members, including his two children, brings together the music for the day. Then, at 4pm Saturday and 10:30am Sunday Masses, in English, as well as the first Sunday of the month Mass in Tagalog, returning to Christ the King is the Lord Is My Shepherd choir led by parish pianist, Froilan Manansala.

OPT



Christ the King Music Makers

L-R: Cantor Jaime Arreguin-Avila and pianist Sue Gordan; (CTKchoir): pianist Froilan Manansala (center, in brown jacket), bass guitarist Gorge Gonzales, Creselda Paclob, Erlinda Basamot, Anlyn Abriol, Lumen Delfin, Lita Dino, Terry Adula, Bernard Delfin, Gina Olly, Aiza Sildo, Apen Juan, and Rafaelito dela Pena.

St. John Neumann



A regular event for the SJN Knights of Columbus, Our Lady of Guadalupe Council staged another successful Food Drive benefitting St. Martin's Pantry in late August. On hand for a good part of the day at the Goshen Giant were Jim Barr, Dan Cipra, Gary Guy, Manny Dayao, Nick Hiles and Terry Waters. Twenty boxes of food were collected, going toward feeding approximately 200 families each week.

Look for 2017 Senior Services Guide in the next issue of OPT
Distribution starts December 7



Bella, a first grader at St. Martin's School, donates \$97, which she earned while running a lemonade stand this past the summer, to the school's Angel Fund. The school maintains the fund for emergency use to help school and community families in crisis. Principal Sahadi and First-Grade Teacher Mrs. Feudale thank Bella (and her mother) for the donation. Photo courtesy of St. Martin's School



St. Martin's third-grade teacher, Mrs. O'Keefe, was the Archdiocese of Washington Teacher of the Week. She was nominated in recognition of her "example of Catholic love without ceasing – she rarely sits down while teaching, is always up and around and making sure that every student has what they need to learn."

St. Martin's Parish Welcomes Fr. Jonathan Vanegas

By Bianca Sanchez, Eighth Grader

Father Jonathan Vanegas is new to the St. Martin's Parish community. Father Jonathan was born in Guayaquil in Ecuador. He grew up with a big family, raised Catholic. When he was 14 years old, he went to a pilgrimage called World Youth Day in Paris, France, which is when he decided to give his life to God. He continued his life and earned a scholarship for college; he studied tourism. After that he spent five years doing missionary work, two in Ecuador and two in Los Angeles, California, and one in southeast Washington. Now living at the Washington metropolitan area, he likes that he has found a family in the St. Martin's community.

Father Jonathan just became a priest 3 months ago, after spending 14 years of training. Father Jonathan's favorite saint is Father Pio, who was a great confessor. He

mentioned that his favorite book is the Bible. He would like to be open-minded to other communities, and he looks up to his priests here and in Ecuador. The hardest thing for him to do is pray like Jesus. He always prays all day, and when he goes to confession, he feels very close to God. Father Jonathan thinks heaven looks like joy. He strives to follow the Lord.

In my personal opinion, Father Jonathan is a great man who has devoted his life to God. He is patient, and understanding to all people. He is bilingual, and that is a great benefit to others who only speak Spanish. Father Jonathan was very kind to share some important facts about his personal life and what really matters to him regarding God. He is a witness to the truth. His goal is to go to heaven and bring many others with him. He quotes "God always will welcome everyone into his kingdom."

OPT

YOUTH GROUP

Con't from page 9

and singing along to some of the songs we sing the most." This mass has allowed the teens to expand on their involvement, and grow in their relationship with God, Catherine adds, "I also prepare by praying and asking God to help me as I sing and attend mass."

For many of the youth group members, this mass has changed their perspective on mass, and have found a newly appreciation and understanding of what happens during mass, as Juan Carlos Ramirez,



Members of our youth group mass choir band smile as they finish another great mass singing praise and worship and liturgical music.

violinist, lector and newly trained sacristan puts it, "What I truly love about the sacristan life though is the fact I am preparing the highest



First youth group mass of the school year well attended by teens, children and adults.

prayer and favor the Church can offer to the Lord. I can see the inner workings of the mass, and service God in a whole new way."

OPT

New Teachers Abound at St. Martin's School

By Aaron Milton, Eighth Grader

I am Aaron Milton, a current eighth grader at St. Martin's School. I volunteered to interview some of our new faculty and staff some basic questions about themselves and their current and future lives at St. Martin's.

I first interviewed our middle school math and science teacher, Mrs. Maria-Rose Cain. Years before, Mrs. Cain worked in our school office, but also taught at Montgomery College in the evenings. She first came to know St. Martin's when her children attended the school and she is happy to be back after two years teaching at another Catholic middle school. She loved the opportunity to teach math and science with the loving St. Martin's community. She had been a part of St. Martin's for 20 years, and she couldn't pass up on the opportunity to come back.

Mrs. O'Hara, is our new eighth-grade language arts and resource teacher. Before she came to St. Martin's, she taught English in a high school in Prince George's County. She found out about St. Martin's from the ADW and St. Martin's website and said she had friends in Gaithersburg who told her great things about the school, and all of these together convinced her St. Martin's was a good school. She is excited to be here; she taught in a large high school for about five years, so she is enjoying working with younger students in a smaller environment. She says it's nice to be able to sit down with students, work closely with them and meet their individual needs. She is also more comfortable in the Catholic environment St. Martin's has to offer, and to quote her first week

here "It's like a breath of fresh air." She finds the community to be like one, big family, and new people such as herself are welcomed hospitably. She says the students are very excited to learn and want to be successful, and that makes her want to put everything she has into her work. She also loves how the emphasis on social, emotional, and spiritual growth is the same as the emphasis on intellectual growth. She hopes to become more involved with extracurricular activities and expand her resource curriculum so all students of all ability levels may thrive in all the core subject areas of the school.

Finally, I interviewed the new school nurse, Mrs. Amy Tolan. She worked in a pediatrician's office for 30 years before she moved to St. Martin's. She responded she was very excited to be working in the school. She loves the school, and finds the students very polite and always so kind. She really enjoys the Catholic environment, and that her fellow staff members have been so supportive and great.

OPT

TEN YEARS

Con't from page 9

everywhere while the Mariachi band sang their way as well. While the people formed a line to receive their burgers, pulled pork and beans, prepared and served by the hard-working Hispanic Food Committee, kids made their way either to the dessert room to eat some cupcakes or to the field to play games such as: tug of war, corn hole, three-legged race, and many more. Bingo and face painting were available as well, with multiple teens and kids winning prizes like toys and gift cards, and kids becoming pirates, Spiderman, princesses and other characters through face painting. Who says fun is just for kids? The adults had their fun with dancing,

and the religious item raffles that kept them on their toes.

Yolanda Caraballo, president of the Hispanic Committee and coordinator of the event reflects on the big celebration, "We are blessed to be part of a church that embraces the Hispanic culture, devotions and traditions. It was a wonderful event that our parish united and celebrated as one church."

There was an atmosphere of joy, pride, and nostalgia. The start of the Spanish language mass changed lives. Within these ten years, the Hispanic community has grown, from 150 people in the congregation in August 2006 to a

solid 400 parishioners attending the 1:30 Spanish language mass daily, and many sacraments have been received in result of the growing community. The parish truly feels, "bendicidos"

OPT



Piñata time! Kids ran to the piñata tree in hopes of getting all the candy inside them. There were 8 piñatas in total for the smaller kids and bigger kids. Many of the piñatas were either donated or made by parishioners.



Father Joe, Father Dave and Bishop Dorsenville posing for the photo booth with families throughout the celebration.



Mariachi's serenading to the congregation traditional Mariachi ballads.

St. Martin of Tours Parish

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Café St. Joe – Strong Coffee from Strong People

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the grand opening of Café St. Joe on October 23! The Café is a collaborative ministry of Saint Joseph's House and Saint Andrew's. Staffed by the youth of Saint Joseph's House and serving coffee and baked goodies, it will be open after the 10:00 and 11:30 Masses on Sundays October 23, November 20 and December 18. Bakers, café volunteers, customers and friends are welcome. If you'd like to be involved, contact Natalie LaHood at SaintJosephsHouse1983@gmail.com.

Saint Joseph's House, a non-profit supported by Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of

Washington and Furnace Hills Coffee, has been serving children and teens with developmental dis-

abilities and their families since 1983. Learn more at www.saint-josephshouse.net.

OPT



Representatives from Saint Joseph's House with a sample of goodies to be available at the Café

School News

The school year is off to a busy and wonderful start.

On September 2, Saint Andrew's School community welcomed two distinguished visitors. Bishop Mario Dorsonville-Rodriguez celebrated the opening Mass and Bill Ryan, Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese, joined the students and faculty in prayer.

In remembrance of the 15th anniversary of 9/11, the school hosted a luncheon for school/parish and local community first responders. The School Choir and the fifth grade students pro-



Fun Time!



Choir Sings for First Responders

vided moving entertainment.

The eagerly anticipated carnival and picnic took place September 25. There was an abundance of food, games and fun activities for every age. Thanks to the generosity of Burt Brinkerhoff and Entertainment Avenue, the field was filled with inflatables. The Moon Bounce, Ironman and Obstacle Course were among the most popular. Representatives of various parish organizations staffed information tables and football fans could follow the game on a wide screen TV under the tent. Thank you to all who devoted many hours to planning and preparing and to the parish families and friends who attended. It was a beautiful afternoon to be outdoors spending time with friend, both old and new.

OPT

New Choir Director at Saint Andrew's

Welcome to Peter G. Smith, our new Choir Director, who fills a position vacant for more than a year.

Although he has a BSc degree in Computer Science and Mathematics from the University of Toronto, his musical training started at age seven at Saint Michael's Choir School (SMCS) in Toronto, which he attended from Grade 3 through Grade 13. Aside from a full and rigorous academic program, the school provided Peter with a rich and unique immersion program in music for boys and young men (choral, piano, organ and strings). He also performed in one of the four boys' choirs for Saint Michael's Cathedral in Toronto. During this time he obtained certification from the Royal Conservatory of Music in Piano and Organ.

After graduating from SMCS and while attending college, Peter continued his interest in music as a conductor of choirs and orchestras of adults and students of all ages, as a piano and organ accompanist and performer, and as a music arranger and composer.

Prior to his move to Washington, D.C., Peter and his wife, Laura, lived in Paris for five years where he taught music, initiated and directed a variety of choirs at several international schools. Also, while in Paris, he was privileged to be a member of Le Choeur de L'Orchestre de Paris.

Peter is honored to be at Saint Andrew's and is looking forward to the opportunity to have a role in growing the music liturgy of the parish.

OPT



The altar at Saint Andrew Apostle during Forty Hours Adoration "In a world where there is so much noise, so much bewilderment, there is a need for silent adoration." Saint John Paul II

Forty Hours of Adoration, Radiating Christ, Praying for Peace

From the start with Mass and Benediction Thursday evening, September 15, to the concluding Benediction and Mass Saturday morning, September 17, a constant stream of visitors came to Saint Andrew Apostle Church to pray for peace during our annual Forty Hours Devotion. A large beautiful Monstrance, recently acquired, was used for the first time at Saint Andrew's. Red and white fabric flowed outward from the Monstrance stand, representing the blood and water flowing from Jesus at His Crucifixion. This is similar to the vision that Saint Faustina described and represented in the picture associated with the Divine Mercy. Volunteer Prayer Captains led prayers at the top of each hour. With technical help from savvy parishioners, the entire forty hours was live streamed on the parish website for those who couldn't be with us in person.

Thanks to the team who made it all possible and a special thanks to Saint Andrew's parish families for their support and dedication to the Eucharist. This was the most successful Forty Hours Devotion to date in our parish. More than 430 participants came to the church and over 330 prayed via the streaming online. Jesus was very happy to see you!

OPT

St. Andrew Apostle Parish

11600 Kemp Mill Road
Silver Spring, MD

Rev. Daniel P. Leary,
Pastor

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St. Andrew Apostle School

Susan M. Sheehan,
Principal

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4K for Cancer: A Personal Reflection

By Carrie McAuliffe, SJRCS '10, AHC '14, UND '18, and Shrine of St. Jude parishioner

Fifty-five days ago, on June 19, 2016, I began what was to be the most unexpected, yet unforgettable, journey of my life. With the 26 other members of Team Baltimore – strangers to me at the time – I crossed the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco and set out for Baltimore’s Inner Harbor – on my feet. In a relay format, my teammates and I spent the next 49 days running across the United States to raise money and awareness for an organization called the Ulman Cancer Fund for Young Adults. Our team would cover anywhere from 50 to 200 miles per day, and each individual would cover anywhere from 6 to 16 miles per day. By the end of our trip, Team Baltimore had run over 4,000 miles and raised close to \$200,000 for



Carrie McAuliffe, Shrine of St. Jude parishioner, shows her joy on a rural road in Dixon, California, on day 2 of her 49-day 4K for Cancer journey.

young adult cancer patients.

My summer was incredible, one that I never saw coming. The lists of places we saw and things we did are endless, and I am grateful for every moment. However, the best part about this

experience, far and away, was seeing what it meant to the cancer community. Whether at a treatment center, in a gas station, at a Dairy Queen, or even just on the side of the road, we heard cancer stories everywhere we went, most of the time from complete strangers. When we told them about the Ulman Fund and the mission behind our run, the gratitude they expressed to us – in words, tears, or both – is something I will never forget. At a time when our news reports are plagued with countless stories of gun violence, political fights, and terrorist attacks, it was an honor to be a part of something that brought such joy to people’s lives. I will forever be grateful to this experience and to my teammates for the best summer of my life, and for teaching me what it means to make a difference.

OPT

Shrine of St. Jude 60th Anniversary Mass, Oct. 23

The Shrine of St. Jude 60th Anniversary Mass and Reception will be celebrated on Sunday, Oct. 23. Cardinal Wuerl, archbishop of Washington, will celebrate the Anniversary Mass, which begins at 10:30 a.m. Following the end of mass, Cardinal Wuerl will bless the new memorial bricks, located at the base of the statue of St. Jude Thaddeus, just outside the main

door to the church. A reception will then follow in the Thaddeus Room.

All current and former members of the parish are invited to attend and celebrate the Shrine of St. Jude, which has served as the Beacon of Christ on the Hill since 1956. Additionally, former priests and school teachers have been invited to attend the events.

OPT



Class of 1976 celebrates its 40th reunion

Over the summer, former classmates from the class of 1976 of St. Jude Catholic School in Rockville, Md., gathered at the home of Lori Botti Kuehl to reminisce about their school days and celebrate their 40th reunion. Pictured above, back row, left to right, are Orlando Docal, Maureen (Rehill) Joyce, Bob Lebosky, Mike Orsini, Daniel Heyden, Charles Hertel, Lori (Botti) Kuehl, and Christine Waters. Front row, left to right, are Austin Conaty, Chris Cangemi, and Steve Kelley.

PILGRIMAGE

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provided a splendid lunch in the cafeteria surrounded by portraits of all the Popes associated with St. Francis’

order (Franciscan) of priests, including Pope Francis (visit the Shrine yourself to get the full story about the Pope). The day ended with time to walk the beautiful grounds, quiet prayer, and a stop in the gift shop. All in all, a great way to spend the final days of summer.

OPT

Novena to St. Jude Thaddeus, October 20-28

Please join the Shrine of St. Jude parish in nine days of devotion and prayer to St. Jude Thaddeus, Oct. 20-28. Novena will start at 8 p.m. except for Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 22 & 23, when Novena will start at 7 p.m. Evening devotion will consist of novena prayers, reflections, confessions, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, and veneration of the St. Jude relic.

‘Fr. Raul de Leon will speak each night on Our Daily Love: A reflection on 1Cor 13:4-7. These four verses from St. Paul’s hymn to Charity have been challenging Christians for centuries. With the help of Pope Francis’ Apostolic Exhortation, “The Joy of Love,” Fr. Raul de Leon will help us put these characteristics of Love into practice. Fr. Raul’s homilies are witty, deeply spiritual, and appeal to many different age groups and



Fr. Raul de Leon

cultures.

Fr. Raul de Leon, who was ordained in 2008, is the pastor of St. Bernadine’s Church in Suitland, Md. He served the Shrine of St. Jude as parochial vicar from 2013-2015. The Shrine of St. Jude is located at 12701 Veirs Mill Road, in Rockville, Md.

OPT

New Mass Times at St. Jude

As of the end of August, the Shrine of St. Jude weekend Mass schedule includes a new Spanish Mass at 12:30 p.m. on Sundays plus a new 5 p.m. Mass on Sundays. The new weekend Mass schedule is:

Saturdays
5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass (English)

Sundays
7:00 a.m. (English)
8:30 a.m. (English)
10:30 a.m. (English)
12:30 p.m. (Spanish)- New!
5:00 p.m. (English)- New!

Shrine of St. Jude Parish

12701 Veirs Mill Road
Rockville, MD

Rev. Paul Lee, STD,
Pastor

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St. Jude Regional
Catholic School

Mr. Glenn Benjamin, Principal
301-946-7888

Maureen Martin,
OPT Editor

MaureenCMartin@verizon.net

SHRINE OF ST. JUDE

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE

60TH ANNIVERSARY MASS AND RECEPTION

+

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2016

MASS 10:30 AM

CELEBRATED BY CARDINAL DONALD WUERL

ARCHBISHOP OF WASHINGTON

RECEPTION IN THE THADDEUS ROOM

FOLLOWING MASS AND BLESSING OF COMMEMORATIVE BRICKS

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ROCKVILLE, MD 20853
WWW.SHRINEOFSTJUDE.ORG

EST. 1956

ST. JUDE REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

4820 WALBRIDGE STREET
ROCKVILLE, MD 20853
WWW.STJUDE.ROCKVILLE.ORG

THE BEACON OF CHRIST ON THE HILL

It pays to advertise in Our Parish Times

An Encounter with the Holy

By Sherry Moitoza, Director of Social Concerns, Adaptive RE Program Coordinator, St. Rose of Lima Catholic Parish

Jason, a freshman in High School, stood in front of a group of parishioners, including his peers after a Lenten Evening Prayer responding to questions. Other peer mentors from the St. Rose Adaptive Religious Education Program on his left and right also shared their experiences from this past year serving as peer mentors of students with

special needs who receive one-one-one catechesis. A question posed was "How have you become a better person through your work as a mentor of students with special needs?" Jason shared that he is no longer timid approaching people who are different. They helped him realize that when we step out in faith and truly encounter another person, what we find is that there are more similarities than differences between us. Jason's new friends have been diagnosed with Autism and Down's Syndrome – together they have encountered Holiness.

Similar insights regarding encounters with the Holy were expressed by the other teen mentors. They shared that they have become more patient, more creative, more loving, and open to new ideas. They learned to have a better outlook on life and rejoice in the little things such as seeing a friend who has severe Autism make the sign of the cross for the first time. Through relationships that have been built with their friends who have special needs – their lives have been changed, because they encountered the Holy.

"People with disabilities are a gift

for the family and an opportunity to grow in love, mutual aid and unity. The Church, God's family, wants to be a welcoming home to families with persons with special needs." (cf. John Paul II, Homily for the Jubilee of the Disabled, 3 December 2000) Last fall, St. Rose began the Adaptive Religious Education Program which offers one-on-one and small group catechesis to individuals who access their faith best in this type of learning model. This program is a comprehensive ministry to families with persons with special needs and involves the participation of various parish ministries. Adaptive RE is not just about inclusion, rather it advocates in an intimate way that weaves persons with disabilities (and their families) into the fabric of the parish at every stage of life, engaging the whole parish to grow in love, mutual aid and unity.

As this ministry begins its second year, the parish is ever mindful of the importance of encounters. Through the mercy of Christ both people are open to life changing experiences.

OPT



Teen Faith Mentors grow in their faith as well as the Students in Adaptive RE. Photo by Sherry Moitoza



Sharing stories and crafts in a one on one model is a key component of the Adaptive RE program. Photo by Sherry Moitoza



Over 30 teens commit time from September to April to mentor 20 students with unique learning styles and special attributes. Photo by Sherry Moitoza

St. Rose and Upcounty Community Resources Collaborate to Help Others

By Jenn Lynn, UCR Executive Director

Upcounty Community Resources, a young non-profit serving adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities, is serving a much larger audience thanks to growth supported by St. Rose of Lima Church in Gaithersburg. The group, which started at St. Francis of Assisi and St. Patrick's parish families in 2011, is growing west into Germantown, Gaithersburg, Damascus and Boyds.

Two recent events have proven this point by the hundreds of people who packed the quaint Woodlands



Attendees enjoy dancing to the tunes of the UCR Rock Band called Neuro-Diversity. Photo by Jack McKinney

Room, which sits just off the very hectic thoroughfare, Clopper Road. The Winter Wonderland Dance and the All Request Dance Party featured two very different themes with equally enthusiastic crowds of hundreds escaping real-life to party just for one night.

The St. Rose Community, Accommodating Hearts Special Needs Ministry, as well as the pastors have embraced our eclectic population with open arms and many, many hugs and tears of joy. While the banging music with the heavy bass is slightly different than the angelic voices that usually float from the main church, our population feels right at home jamming out in this inclusive setting.

The Winter Wonderland Dance warmed up a chilly February evening for more than two hundred people. A variety of ministries were involved in making this event a success, from the youth of the church

Continued on page 35



The UCR Rock Band Neuro-Diversity. Photo by Jack McKinney

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Fiesta!

Adults and kids alike enjoy the St. Rose's annual Fiesta that features food, entertainment, silent auction, flea market for all. Fiesta is highly dependent upon the work of many parish volunteers, shown in orange t-shirts emblazoned with the word Fiesta. Photos by Jack McKinney



People of all ages create artwork at the St Rose Fiesta.



The success of Fiesta is heavily dependent upon the teamwork of committed volunteers.



Fiesta features performances by parishioners as entertainment throughout the day.



At left, face painting at St. Rose's annual Fiesta.



At right, St. Rose youth make cotton candy at the Parish's Fiesta on September 24.



Rev. Robert Nalepka, S.Chr., visiting priest from Poznan, Poland, is pictured with Our Lady Queen of Poland parishioners who are preparing to leave for World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland. Fr. Nalepka celebrated a special Mass for those attending WYD on July 17, 2016



Our Lady Queen of Poland parishioner Dr. Lucas Kulczycki celebrated his 105th birthday on August 19, 2016. Dr. Edwarda Buda-Okreglak is pictured helping him celebrate this special occasion. We wish Dr. Kulczycki many more birthdays! Dwiesciece Lat!



World Youth Day participants from Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish in Krakow, Poland, in July 2016. The OLQP pilgrims included Basia Armstrong, Marysia Armstrong, Julia Lechlitter, Mireille Lechlitter, Natalia Kot, Max Korznan, Laura Migasiuk, Sonia Podloch, John Roberts, and Katie Roberts.



The OLQP Polish Saturday School is now in session for the 2016-2017 year. One of the younger classes is enjoying story time here. The staff of dedicated teachers includes Ms. Violetta Dabrowska, Ms. Malgorzata Firek Khabyeva, Ms. Justyna Sadowska, Ms. Wieslawa Wisniewska, Ms. Ewa Turner, Director Ewa Chlebowska, and Mr. John Armstrong. OLQP Pastor Rev. Jerzy Frydrych, S.Chr., instructs classes in catechism and prepares children for First Holy Communion. For information on the Polish Saturday School, please contact Ewa Chlebowska at 301-680-9573.



Kasper Syski, our young parishioner from Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish, Silver Spring, and Polish Scouting Organization ZHP USA, is presented to the President of the Republic of Poland Andrzej Duda and Mrs. Duda by his father, Eagle Scout Antoni "Buc" Syski, on September 18, 2016, at ceremonies at the American Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. This was the dedication of the Memorial to the Polish Freedom Fighters from Polish anti-Nazi and anti-Soviet and anti-communist underground resistance movements throughout Poland. Our local chapter of the Polish Scouting Organization ZHP-pgK USA is now accepting registrations for the 2016-2017 year which will begin in October. Please contact Bozenna Buda at bbudadc@gmail.com.



OLQP Pastor Rev. Jerzy Frydrych congratulates our newly married OLQP parishioners Ms. Edyta Szemiel and Dr. Maciej Poltorak at their wedding reception on September 10, 2016. Fr. Frydrych had officiated at their marriage ceremony and Mass earlier that day at Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish in Silver Spring. We wish the newlyweds a long and happy life together!



Our late OLQP parishioner Walter Zachariasiewicz (first row) enjoying lunch with his wife Sandy (seated) and friends at the Krakow-in-the-Capital World Youth Day at Catholic University of America on July 30, 2016. Standing are (l-r): Dr. Edwarda Buda-Okreglak, Raymond Glembocki, Bozenna Buda, and Cecilia Glembocki.

RIP Walter Zachariasiewicz (1911-2016)

Our Lady Queen of Poland parishioner and Polonia leader Walter Zachariasiewicz passed away on September 22, 2016, at the age of 104. He was born on November 7, 1911 in Poland. He was active as Director of the Youth Division of the World Organization of Poles Beyond the Borders (Polacy Za Granica) and worked in several posts linking Diasporan Poles to their homeland.

During the Second World War he was incarcerated in Soviet prison camps. Finally arriving in the United States, he worked to aid fellow countrymen arriving in this country. He had a unique talent for working with disparate groups of people who possessed various religious beliefs and political outlooks. This foreshadowed his many leadership roles in Polonian organizations: Walter served as Vice-President of the Polish American Congress; President of the American Council for Polish

Culture; a valued worker in the U.S. government; a commentator for Voice of America; and instrumental in the establishment of the John Paul II Foundation in Rome, and later a network of Friends of the Foundation groups world-wide, including our own local Chapter.

We salute his memory and extend our heartfelt condolences to his wife Sandra and to the entire family. Wieczny odpoczynek racz Mu dac Panie.

OPT

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HELP

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dancing the night away in tuxes and formal dress, to the ministries that paid for the food and refreshments to the church members who assisted with snowman selfies.

The All Request Dance Party was a two-fold success! The venue, decorated in Red, White and Blue, served as the first public performance for the UCR Rock Band called Neuro-Diversity. This group is the epitome

of UCR's inclusive mission as those with special needs share the stage with professional musicians. All attendees then voted for their favorite song by putting notes into the ballot box as the DJ, a young man with autism, spun them on demand. The flashing lights really made it a party atmosphere. All attendees brought a canned good which overfilled the St. Rose pantry to be given to those in need.

These events would not be as successful if it weren't for the generosity and energy of the St. Rose commu-

nity and their participation in these events. Watch for many more events like this in the future. UCR's therapeutic music class looks forward to the annual Cookies and Carols event and another Winter Wonderland dance is in the works to happen just when you need warming up.

If you would like to get involved, please contact Executive Director Jenn Lynn at jennlynn@ucresources.org We offer Student Service Learning hours and are always looking for more friends to party with us.

OPT

Our Lady of Mercy Parish News

Anointing of the Sick

Our Lady of Mercy will provide an Anointing of the Sick on Saturday October 8, at the 5:00 PM Mass and on Sunday October 9 at the 12:30 PM Mass. Anointing is offered to those who experience grave or chronic illness or are seriously ill or infirm. The Sacrament strengthens the bonds of love and faith that are stronger than disease and more powerful even than death. During the ceremony, the priest will anoint the head and hands of the sick.

Adoration and Reconciliation

Weekly Adoration and Reconciliation has resumed at Our Lady of Mercy. They will be celebrated on Tuesdays from 1:45 PM to 2:45 PM and on Wednesdays from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM.

Mercy Health Clinic

The Mercy Health Clinic which provides medical care to the poor and uninsured in Montgomery County is seeking physician volunteers. Their need is acute for specialists in Orthopedics,

Endocrinology, and Primary Care. The clinic is located in Gaithersburg and was founded by a group of Mercy parishioners 16 years ago. If you are a physician who would like to help them, please phone Lauren Cosgrove, MD at 240-773-1158 or email her at Lauren.Cosgrove@MercyHealthClinic.org.

Father Don

We all have a brief message on our phone inviting callers to leave a message when we can't get to the phone. Usually they are short and

pretty generic. Father Don Worch took the time to record a message that was positive and uplifting. He wanted us to know "You are important to the Lord and therefore important to me. God Bless and have a great day."

At Father Don's vigil and funeral Mass, Our Lady of Mercy church was filled to overflowing with just a portion of the faithful from parishes that he had served. His life tribute was such that everyone seemed to have a memory of his kindness, loyalty and faith. Every community

Our Lady of Mercy Parish

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Potomac, MD

Fr. William Byrne, Pastor
301-365-1415

Our Lady of Mercy School
Ms. Deborah Thomas, Principal
301-365-4477

Gerry Burgess, OPT Editor
301-330-5676

has need of someone who can be relied upon for these virtues. Rest in Peace Father Don. We will not forget you.

OPT



Gracing Lourdes Annual Back-to-School Family Picnic September 1 are Rev. Monsignor Filardi and former students who now join other high school students in OLOL's Youth Ministry which meets on Friday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Photo by Angelyn Tugado-Marzan

KICK-OFFS

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petite Mother Teresa during her visit to Washington, D.C. in the mid 1990s. Mother Teresa was just canonized this September 4.

The Catholic Church defines relics as the physical remains of a saint or some items that a saint owned or frequently used like a crucifix or a rosary. According to the Catholic Education Resources Center, "relics summon us to appreciate more profoundly not only the heroic men and women, boys and girls who have served the Master so selflessly and generously, but especially the love and mercy of the Almighty who called these His followers to the bliss of unending life in His eternal kingdom."

Relics can also refer to any object that is touched to a saint or to items owned or used by a saint. Monsignor Filardi, who celebrates his birthday this October 4, is alive and well and does not fall under the Catholic definition of a "relic" although he touched said saints – that is, when they were still alive and witnessing to the world God's love, mercy, and glory. In fact, he told this writer that he feels "pathetic in comparison" when he recalls those awestruck moments when he held the hands of said then would-be saints. Their "appeal of holiness" is what drew Monsignor Filardi to urgently go near them and touch them.

How relevant would these modern day saints be? "They're much needed by all citizens of the world," Monsignor Filardi emphatically

said. "We are all called to be holy," said the OLOL pastor. The Bible says in 1 Peter "... as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in every aspect of your conduct, for it is written, 'Be holy because I [am] holy.'" Such inspiration from the said saints inspires Monsignor Filardi to kick-off his energy and muster needed strength to tend to his diocesan flock and to go about his duties for his current parish (where he has been for more than seven years now), including overseeing the renovation of the OLOL vestibule.

September kept him busy alright, what with his fervent prayers and daily masses plus joining the principal Mrs. Patricia McGann and assistant principal Mr. David Long of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School (a National Blue Ribbon Awardee of the US Dept. of Education) in gracing the school's Annual Back-to-School Family Picnic on September 1 and welcoming parish and school families during the 3rd Annual Italian Dinner September 17.

To have physically touched the hands of saints while they still walked the earth is an experience Monsignor Filardi cannot and will not forget. He knows that after they were declared saints by the Vatican, Pope John Paul II and Mother Teresa are now in Heaven and can see God directly. Aware, indeed, that they are in the direct presence of God, Monsignor Filardi knows that he and the faithful can pray to these saints (and all saints, as well) and request them to ask God to help them with whatever they need.

OPT

PICNIC

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mation related to serving in various Parish Ministries, as well as joining Scouting troops.

Principal Lisa Kane expressed her gratitude for all of the volunteers who made it a success. "We are blessed to have so many talented and hardworking school families and parishioners here at Holy Cross. It was a pleasure to see our entire community enjoying the evening together."

OPT



Several Holy Cross faculty members, in green, share a moment with three of the outstanding and hardworking Home & School Association officers who organized the Back-to-School Picnic event.

BOOKS

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study on Kevin Henkes, writer and illustrator of several kids' books (*Kitten's First Full Moon* and *Olive's Ocean* to name two) while

Grade Three participated in an author study on Allen Say, an Asian American writer and illustrator best known for *Grandfather's Journey*, a children's picture book detailing his grandfather's voyage from Japan to the United States and back.

SJE Literary Day helps students develop life-long reading skills

while having fun. It also builds critical thinking and writing skills, and exposes the students to various types of literary voices and themes. The students took time out from their discussions to celebrate Mass as a school community for the first time after the long summer break.

OPT

ADORATION

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take a rosary, borrow a devotional book, or take one of our guides to Eucharistic Adoration. The Blessed Sacrament is displayed in a special tabernacle with doors which can be closed if no one is in the chapel to adore before the Blessed Sacrament.

While reserving part of the host and keeping it on the altar is a practice that began with the earliest Christians, St. Francis of Assisi is credited with introducing Eucharistic Adoration to Italy in the 12th century. St. Francis believed that adoring Christ in the Eucharist was actually seeing Christ himself, encountering Jesus in a real, immediate, and personal way. From these beginnings, the practice of Eucharistic Adoration was adopted by laypeople throughout Europe. In fact, the Bishop of Avignon, in France, began the practice of perpetual (or continual) adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on September 11, 1226 which continued without interruption until the French Revolution, 550 years later.

Saints such as St. Louis de Montfort, St. Bonaventure, St. Teresa of Avila, St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. Teresa of Calcutta, and St. John Paul II, among many others, had a great devotion to the practice of Eucharistic Adoration and enjoined the faithful to

deepen their relationship with Jesus through it. St. John Paul II said, "The Church and the world have a great need of Eucharistic worship. Jesus waits for us in this sacrament of love. Let us be generous with our time in going to meet him in adoration and in contemplation that is full of faith," (Dominicae Cenae). The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, in a document called "The Saints and Eucharistic Adoration," recounts the story of St. Teresa of Avila who, when hearing someone wish that he had been able to see and talk to Jesus, replied, "But do we not have in the Eucharist the living, true and real Jesus present before us? Why look for more?"

SJE has been inviting parishioners to meet Jesus in this beautiful way of worship for a number of years. Additionally, St. John the Evangelist School students have been taking advantage of the opportunity to participate in Eucharistic Adoration. Students of all ages come to the chapel to pray with their classes on a regular basis. A fourth grader at the school says, "I think that it's good to spend time with Jesus. Everybody needs it because it just helps to calm you down and sometimes you just need to share your thoughts with Jesus. During the day in school, it can be hard to talk with Jesus with all the noise and running around. In Adoration, it's calm and you can

spend time with Jesus before you end the day." Religious Education students also go to the chapel at various times throughout the school year. Finally, to further underline the central importance of the Eucharist in Catholic sacramental life, the parish has instituted Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction after the 9:30 morning mass in the Main Church on the First Friday of every month.

In every week, there are 168 hour-long opportunities to encounter Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament – 168 chances to still the chatter that surrounds us every day, to bring our worries and cares, our joys and our sorrows, our triumphs and our failures, before the Lord. SJE is currently seeking new adorers who will commit to Eucharistic Adoration for one hour per week. Those who cannot make a weekly commitment are encouraged to find creative ways to ensure that Jesus is accompanied 24 hours per day. For example, a group of friends or members of a parish ministry might assume responsibility for a particular hour, and then rotate from week to week. Those who simply want to stop by when they can are also welcome. SJE invites you to encounter Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament – without fear about "what to say" or worries that you won't know what to do. There is no formula for Adoration.

OPT

SHORT

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for the poor. Beyond the poor box for many years the parish economically, socially, educationally and spiritually helps the poorest people living in and around its community. The parish established and sustains a mission, yes a mission in Langley Park much like other parishes support missions in Haiti or Central America, providing weekly Mass, a food pantry, after school care and religious education to hundreds of poor and undocumented people, especially children. In a dramatic example of commitment to its mission, St Camillus was a "first responder" with resources and advocacy to aid the victims of the recent tragic explosion and fire in the Flower Avenue apartments. Fr. Jacek and others were there day and

night to comfort the suffering, provide material and financial support, and to help frightened victims to understand their rights and options. Vigilant on behalf of the poor, St Camillus is a leader in Advocacy for social justice and effective public services. St Camillus seeks affordable housing, child care, health and dental services, quality public education among other services which enable poor people to work their way from poverty.

An example of the parish's sustained advocacy is its on-going vigilance as the Purple Line Transit Way is planned and built. Historically, new major transit routes lead to gentrification and displacement of low income residents and small businesses. St Camillus collaborates with others to seek a just plan of development along the Purple line route. St Camillus is committed to Catholic education

with significant parish support for St Francis International Regional School as well as a large adult and youth religious education program. Lastly, St Camillus is a model of interparish collaboration. When its grade school faced closure, the parish collaborated with nearby St Mark's, in similar difficulty, to establish a parish regional school at St Camillus called St Francis International School. The collaborative has grown to include St Catherine Laboure and Our lady of Vietnam parishes. To meet growing demand for food and volunteers at its mission, the parish collaborates with several parishes including St Elizabeth's, Our Lady of Mercy, Christ the King and St Michaels among others. Working together Catholic parishes accomplish more. It is important to note, that many of the people who benefit from the service and advocacy of St

Camillus parish are not members of the parish, many not Catholic. The commitment of the parish to the poor is not because the poor are members of the parish, but because those who serve are.

The parishioners and Friars of St Camillus bring blessings to those they serve and inspiration to parishes striving to enhance their missions of love, service and advocacy... the ways of St Francis and Pope Francis.

God Bless!
Chuck Short

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St. Patrick's School
Ms. Christie Anne Short,
Principal
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Parish Editor
New Volunteer Needed
Contact rectory to apply

St. John the Evangelist

Summertime with the SJE Young Adult Ministry

Despite summer being a time to cool off from studies and work, the Young Adult Ministry ventured outside to care for the parish grounds. On Saturday, June 25, a few of us gathered to work in Mary's Garden with Jeanne Berman, fellow parishioner and friend. Thanks to her guidance, we learned a lot about the flowers planted in the garden and their special connections to the Blessed Mother. The details she shared drew us closer to Mother Mary and increased the meaning for us of work done in her garden.



Fr. Cusick and parishioners in prayer at St. John's House.

When we are not working in the garden, we are singing praises to God as part of the choirs at Mass.

On Saturday, August 27, we

helped parishioner Margie Cuff with food preparations and barbecue duties at the annual St. John's House Cookout. We were grateful for the presence of Parochial Vicar, Fr. Cusick, who led the party in prayer before we dined on the delicious food and enjoyed the company of the residents, James, David, and Brendan; their caretakers; other parishioners; and friends.



L-R: Simon and Eric lead us in music.



Tatiana, Jackie, Chris, and Catherine take a break from their work. When we are not working in the garden, we are singing praises to God as part of the choirs at Mass.

OPT

GO RED

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includes our 4C's courtesy, compassion, commitment, and community service. Whether in the classroom or on the athletic field, in church or on a stage, a Holy Redeemer student who shows respect every day and everywhere and is a student who acts with courtesy, shows compassion, demonstrates commitment, and serves the community is doing the RED thing.

Rooted in Christian scripture, the following verses are the foundation for Go RED!

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations..." Matthew 28:19

"So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them..." Matthew 7:12

"Honor everyone. Love the community..." 1Peter 2:17

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." Matthew 6:33



HR students sign our Go RED banner to show their commitment to Respect Everyone Daily!

Our Go RED! Campaign is accompanied by the 4 C's and a Four C Cornerstone Prayer which is recited by the entire school every morning. This prayer offers students, teachers, staff, and our school families to dedicate themselves to Jesus and petition for His help as we work together to build a Christ-

centered community characterized by courtesy, compassion, and commitment. School families are also invited to adopt the cornerstone prayer to ensure that we work together – parents, faculty, and parish – to foster student's growth in Christian prayer, values, practices, and service.

At each grade level, students explore developmentally appropriate ways to Respect Everyone Daily and to act with courtesy, show compassion, demonstrate commitment, and serve the community. The 4 C's inform teaching across the curriculum and serve as behavioral standards throughout school life. Faculty, staff, and families are invited to sign the Go RED! 4C Pledge. It is the combined goal to develop an atmosphere of living these words in thoughts and actions thus enriching the school community.

And now we have a visual reminder of our signed banner hanging in the auditorium for all to see that Holy Redeemer students Respect Everyone Daily.

OPT

Greg Gannon Canned Food Drive

*The generous will be blessed,
for they share their food with the poor.*
Proverbs 22:9



Last year's drive brought in over 18,000 cans thanks to all of our volunteers and sponsors.

ST. PATRICK'S
4th Annual
Greg Gannon
Canned Food Drive
Saturday November 12
Rain or Shine

MANY WAYS TO PARTICIPATE — work on a team with friends & neighbors, as a territory leader or helper, or at the collection site.
www.greggannoncfd.org

In the late 1980s, **Greg Gannon** and his friends started an effort to help the needy by collecting canned foods from their neighbors and friends. This labor of love has grown exponentially over the last couple decades.

St. Patrick Catholic Church ■ 4101 Norbeck Road ■ Rockville, MD 20853



St. Patrick Parish Center

Sunday 23 October 2016
9:00 AM through 2:30 PM
Please make an Appointment

TO SCHEDULE YOUR LIFE SAVING DONATION

Contact Our Parish Rep Mary Beiter RN at mtbrhb@verizon.net or 301-460-3971
Provide your e-mail address and phone number
(... OR ...) www.redcrossblood.org

BEFORE your scheduled APPOINTMENT, REMEMBER —

- (1) bring your photo ID; AND,
- (2) at iron-rich foods in advance; AND,
- (3) drink lots of water!

Eligibility concerns: Please call 1-866-236-3276
Additional questions: David.Hull@redcross.org

50th Anniversary Goal = 50 Units

Veterans Supportive Services to Provide Welcome Home Supplies

Over the years, through the Community Fund, Community Service, and Share the Cross, SJB parishioners have reached out to and assisted veterans in a variety of ways: rental assistance, food, letter writing, supplying stamps to name a few. In September 2014, we donated \$500 to A Wider Circle to assist with the services they provide to veterans. Still much more is needed. Most vets come from transitional housing. Some go to single rooms and others to efficiency apartments. They literally arrive only with the clothes on their backs. There are several agencies and organizations working hard to move veterans from homelessness to residence. This is a daunting effort that often requires rental supplement and other support services. The veterans are ecstatic to finally have a place they can call

home, but in many instances it is an empty place.

In November 2015 we started the Veterans Welcome Home Project. SJB partnered with a local Veterans Supportive Services organization providing supportive services to veterans and veteran families who are transitioning from homelessness to a new home. SJB will provide Welcome Home supplies for formerly homeless vets.

Our welcome home kit includes the following items.

Linen & household:

Wash cloths, Face towels, Bath towels
Complete bed set: sheets, pillowcases, comforter and mattress pad
Shower curtain
Hangers
Clothes hamper
Trash can
Alarm clock
Iron

Toiletries:

Body wash & soap
Lotion
Deodorant
Toothbrush, toothpaste, floss
Shampoo/conditioner
Hair brush & comb
Razor & shave cream
Toilet paper/ tissues

Cleaning Supplies:

Dish detergent
Bathroom cleaner
All-purpose cleaner
Bleach
Laundry detergent & fabric softener
Broom & dustpan
Mop & bucket
Trash bags
Paper towels
Sponges
Scrub brush
Toilet bowl brush
Plunger

First Aid Kit:

Ibuprofen, or Acetaminophen, or Aspirin
Alcohol
Hydrogen peroxide



Bandages
Anti-fungal cream
Antibiotic cream

Kitchen Supplies:

Pots and pans
Dishes
Cups/mugs
Glassware, flatware
Mixing bowls, measuring cups & spoons
Ziploc bags, Plastic containers
Dish towels
Cooking utensils
Can opener

Furniture:

Mattress & box spring
Lamp
Night stand
Dresser

Since November 2015 SJB parishioners have assisted over two dozen veterans with everything from toiletries to a bed with bed linen. SJB has partnered with two Veteran Supportive Services agencies to provide many of the basic necessities that are missing when they move in. Many consider me a professional shopper with a keen eye for a bargain. Even I was shocked at how expensive it is to purchase basic items such as soap, deodorant, toothbrush & toothpaste, toilette paper, tissues, cleaning products, etc. Some veterans are in need of bedding while others need a bed and bed linen.

One male veteran we helped was a caterer before he had an accident that put him into rehab for 9 months. When he was discharged, he'd lost his home and all of its contents. He was re-housed but had a bed that was old and gave no support. He also planned to get back to catering. He made my mouth water when he described some of the dishes he and his partner prepared, all from scratch. We got him a queen size bed along with top of the line cooking supplies, some of which only a real cooking connoisseur could identify. He was so happy and blessed as he talked about his 60th birthday the next month. He called to let me know that he'd made it safely back home with all of his new items and promised to bring the special sweet potato pie by the office. The next day, while at church, he had a massive heart attack and died. Everyone was and remains in shock. The only comfort we had was knowing that he knew that someone actually loved him and that he was not alone. We rarely know how our acts of kindness affected strangers we've helped along the way; but we can be sure that our Father smiles when we take that step in faith.

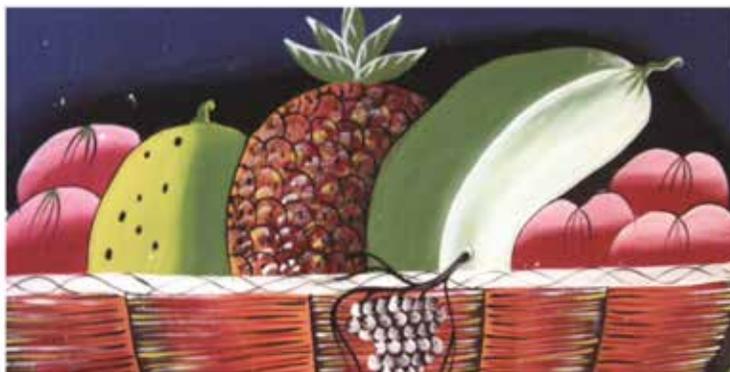
If you would like to help with this very special project, please contact Cynthia Norris at socialconcerns@sjbatholicchurch.com or 301-622-1122, ext. 108.

OPT

**St. John
the Baptist Parish**
12319 New Hampshire Ave.
Silver Spring, MD
**Rev. Y. David Brault,
Pastor**
301-622-1122
**Brian Blomquist,
Principal**
301-622-3076

A Taste of Haiti Saturday, Oct. 15, 6 pm

St. John the Baptist Parish Gym • Free Admission



**Come to a Haitian festival and
Celebrate our Sister Parish,
St. Pierre, in Baradères!**

FEATURING:

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



Special Guest:
**Father Jean-Philippe
St. Aubin, pastor,
St. Pierre parish.**

Help us raise \$8,000 to purchase a new Land Cruiser for St. Pierre parish.



Young Adults – Silver Spring Catholic

Many parishes in the Archdiocese of Washington host young adult communities to enrich the faith life of their young adult parishioners and to invite young adults to contribute to the larger parish community. Silver Spring Catholic is one of the many young adult communities.

To learn more, visit <http://adw.org/young-adult-communities/>



Adoration in Chapel this Friday

Adoration will start on this Friday October 7, 9:00 a.m.-

4:00 p.m. There must be at least three adorers for each of the hourly slots.

There will be sign-up sheets and information available in the Parish Hall after Sunday Masses for those who wish to sign-up for Adoration.



SJB Lecture Series

Peacemaking in a Time of Violence

In response to the violence of our times and to witness to the peace Jesus brings, SJB offers the following lectures.

October 23

Anti-Racism
Sr. Patricia Chappell, SNDdeN

November 20

Nonviolence as Ethic,
Dr. Eli S McCarthy, Ph.D.
11: 45 a.m. – 1: 15 p.m. in the Gym



Forty Days for Life: Take Baby Steps

A nationwide focused, prolife campaign with a vision to access God's power through prayer, fasting and prayer Vigil.

To learn more, contact Joe Peters, 301-351-2481. Visit: 40daysforlife.com



Spiritual Talks

Wednesdays
9:15-10:45 a.m.
Kazista Center

Come any Wednesday morning for informal talks on spirituality and its eminently practical nature.

We also watch DVD presentations by Richard Rohr, Anthony De Mello, Thomas Keating, and others.

St. Jane de Chantal

Bake Sale Helps St. Jane de Chantal Students Compete in Catholic Math League

Students of St. Jane de Chantal School held an extremely successful bake sale to help finance them as they compete in the Catholic Math League. Students in grades three through eight will be competing throughout the year with other local Catholic schools, as well as with schools from across the country, to see who has the best mathematicians.

OPT



Matsiko Orphan Choir Inspires All at St. Jane de Chantal School

The Matsiko Orphan Children's choir, a choir of the International Children's Network (ICN), came to entertain and amaze the students and teachers of St. Jane de Chantal School with their energetic dances, beautiful singing, and positive message of peace, love, and faith. The group consists of children from Indian, South American, and South African cultures who have had difficult lives without family or a



The Matsiko Orphan Choir's performance amazed and entertained the students and teachers of the school.

clothing, school supplies, medicine and other needs for these children, to maximize the effectiveness of their schooling. After the performance, the St. Jane students were able to purchase handmade items to support the choir and exchange addresses to write to the orphan singers abroad as pen-pals. This was an inspiring assembly for all! School news report courtesy of Catherine Skibo.

home. The ICN raises funds to provide educational support, food,

OPT

WINTERFEST

Con't from page 19

Parish and the location for Winterfest. Long time vendors Jane and Adon Phillips of Country Crafters love the well-run event - vendors return again and again. They enjoy the friendly and helpful church volunteers and the palpable community spirit felt throughout the two-day event.



The Quilting Bees

Back Row L-R: Barbara Fowler Suzanne Esparza, Front Row L-R: Pam Carrigan and Sally DeSavage

Planning for Winterfest starts in September. Phyllis Bottegale and Bill Ratcliffe direct a concerted effort by many Parishioners. Members of all ages gather together the week before to set up spacious aisles and festive lights for delightful and easy shopping and assist at other events such as the huge bake sale benefitting the youth projects of the parish.

Even the vendors look forward to the food made to order by the Knights of Columbus. Bargain hunters enjoy Santa's Treasure

Chest offering nearly new items donated by parishioners and sold at a low cost. The Silent Auction is a highlight of the event - sports memorabilia, gift cards, and themed goods are attractively packaged in large baskets as readymade gifts! Every year women in the parish, the Quilting Bees, create a queen size quilt to be raffled and tickets for this and other large prizes can be bought upon arrival. Locals can even share a bit of our nation's capital with distant relatives by purchasing an easily mailed, 2016 White House

Christmas ornament, this year featuring a fire truck.

Winterfest has become much more than a fundraiser. It has fostered community and tradition in a diverse parish, offered positive, alternative shopping to its neighbors in Burtonsville, Silver Spring, and beyond, and has become an example of how a Catholic parish can share its' mission values with others in today's culture.

The Church of the Resurrection is located at 3315 Greencastle Road Burtonsville, Md. on the corner of Green Castle and Old Columbia Pike. It is a free event with free parking and the local bus stop is a block away.

Free Winterfest and Craft Fair, Friday, December 3, 2016 from 3:00-9:00 PM and Saturday, December 4, 2016 from 9:00-3:00PM. See the parish website for more details <http://bit.ly/2cDYL71>

OPT

DREAM

Con't from page 14

orange and yellow, Saint Lucia in blue, Nigeria in green. It was beautiful. For three weeks I trained alongside the best athletes in the world. At the opening ceremony we stood together, cheers ringing through the stadium, with excited smiles as far as the eye could see.

After the Games began, we enthusiastically congratulated athletes as they returned to our temporary homes with medals. I had the joy of sharing the building with

Team Jamaica. I was congratulating a lot. We quickly made new friends as down time was spent hanging out on porches. As we were connecting with each other, trucks drove through the village streets spraying for Zika-carrying mosquitoes. No one seemed to mind the threat. Our goal was to compete at the Rio Olympics and no amount of insect repellent could keep us from that goal.

I quickly learned that many athletes had a similar story to mine—they were young and sacrificing financial opportunities for Olympic dreams. Track and field is not a glorious lifestyle. It is not a sport that

one gets drafted into, oh no! Many times it is pure self-motivation that gets you up to run those morning miles. Stepping on to the track at the Olympic stadium made all the effort worth it. Seeing myself being displayed on the Jumbotron as I made the sign of the cross was, and will always be, a reminder that my creator never fails.

My first Olympic games was an amazing personal experience. Yet, the one thing that I will always remember is that for one month almost all nations were able to live and compete together in unity and love. This is the spirit of the Olympic Games.

OPT

CRAB FEAST

Con't from page 29

complimented with a small articles fair in conjunction with PROJECT GABRIEL. All proceeds were given to this non-profit corporation that has a mission to care for needy expectant mothers.

The Crab Feast participants honored Mr. Jerry Peña of ACTION

FABRICATORS in Hyattsville, Maryland, for their superb craftsmanship in installing 8 new exterior hand rails at the outside steps of the church. This was one of the Capital Improvement projects supported by the Knights.

The Knights raised over \$2,000 from the Crab Feast allowing us to continue help for our church and our community.

OPT

Maryland Sports Medicine Center



David L. Higgins, M.D., P.C.

Sports Medicine
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Please visit Dr. Higgins and our physical therapy office at our new location in Olney

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Email: dhiggins@mdsmc.com

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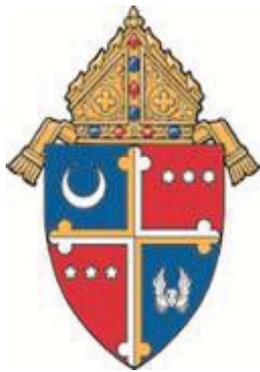
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ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON 7TH ANNUAL
WHITE MASS

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2016
10:00 AM**

Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle

1725 Rhode Island Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036

Principal Celebrant

HIS EMINENCE
DONALD CARDINAL WUERL
Archbishop of Washington

Homilist

REV. MSGR. JOHN ENZLER
CEO, Catholic Charities-DC

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

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

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

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Ample paid parking at Colonial Garage across the street from Cathedral.
For more information, contact specialneedsministry@adw.org or 301-853-4560.

Save the Date 7th Faith, Deafness & Disability Conference
Bishop McNamara High School
Saturday April 1 21st Annual Patricia Sullivan Benefit for PCR
Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference Center

 **PCR** www.pcr-inc.org
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