



Parish Times

Special Graduation
Issue

MAY 2018

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The Black Knight, Avalon's mascot, stands in front of The Avalon School's new location, The Saint Catherine Laboure campus in Wheaton.

The Avalon School Moves to Wheaton Campus

The Avalon School, an independent Catholic boys school established in 2003 in Montgomery County will relocate its current Gaithersburg campus to the school facilities and grounds of St. Catherine Laboure in Wheaton, Maryland. The move is scheduled for July, 2018, and will allow Avalon's 220 students to begin the 2018-2019 school year in a larger, refurbished building.

Avalon will continue to operate as an independent, Catholic school for boys in grades K-12.

The campus is comprised of a building with 22 oversized classrooms, lab space, and a large auditorium and stage, as well as a field and a gymnasium. An added advantage is that St. Catherine Laboure Church offers two daily Masses and has an Eucharistic Adoration chapel.

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Vote for Justice

By Chuck Short

Blessed spring! This is the final issue of Our Parish Times for this year. The stressed publishers and appreciated volunteer parish editors need the summer to prepare for next year's edition. Traditionally, we use this issue to thank the many individuals who enrich our parish life through service. Whether in schools, sports events, liturgical services, social concerns, or other acts of love, parish life is only as inspiring as the people who work at it. So, thank you reverend clergy, deacons and seminarians for spiritual guid-



Chuck Short

Continued on page 11



St. Elizabeth School's eighth-grade students are excited to be heading to so many wonderful high schools in the fall.

The Order of Malta and Our Lady of Mercy Parish Study the Refugee and Migrant Crisis

By Sister Pat Mensing

The Federal Association of the Order of Malta, in conjunction with Our Lady of Mercy parish, conducted a year-long focus on the plight of migrants and refugees. Using the context of the SEE/JUDGE/ACT method of studying a topic, the 2017-2018 meetings of Malta were used to SEE what is happening in the migrant and refugee crisis throughout the world. The Order wished to use this time to respond to Pope Francis' invitation to "see with new eyes, listen with new ears, and to understand more deeply."

Under the direction of Dames of Malta Nancy Clark and Constance Battle, the monthly meetings, took place from September to May on Wednesday mornings after the 7 am Mass. The Order extended an invitation to all parishioners to hear the wide range of speakers from Catholic Relief Services, the Jesuit Relief Service, the Center for Migration Studies in New York, Georgetown University, and Cedar Lane Universalist Church in Bethesda. The various speakers provided educa-



Nancy Clark introduces speakers at the Simple Supper, which was sponsored by the Knights of Malta Immigration Speaker Series.

tion on global migration; the Syrian and Calais, France refugee crises; the dilemma of undocumented university students, and reflections on an experience of deportation, death, and detention in the Arizona desert.

Aside from the monthly meetings, the

Continued on page 10

A Critical Time in Montgomery County

By Fr. Enzler

I always look forward to this issue of Our Parish Times because we read so much about upcoming graduations, celebrate with our young people their many achievements over the past few years, and look forward to new beginnings.

This particular year marks what in many ways is also a new beginning for Montgomery County. There is a sea change coming as term limits have forced many of our present councilmembers to step down. There will be a whole new crop of leaders taking office next January from the County Executive to the makeup of our County Council. This is a critical election, and I urge you to become involved, familiarize yourself with the candidates and the issues and be sure to vote. It's our right and responsibility, and it's also a great example to our graduates and all of our young people to see us engaged as citizens and Catholics.

My fellow priests and I have to be very careful and avoid endorsing particular candidates, but I do want to encourage you and everyone to not wait until November but start getting involved now ahead of the primary election coming up on June 26. (Early voting is also available.) Montgomery County leans so strongly towards the Democratic Party that the primary is especially important.

As president of Catholic Charities in



Fr. Enzler

Continued on page 6

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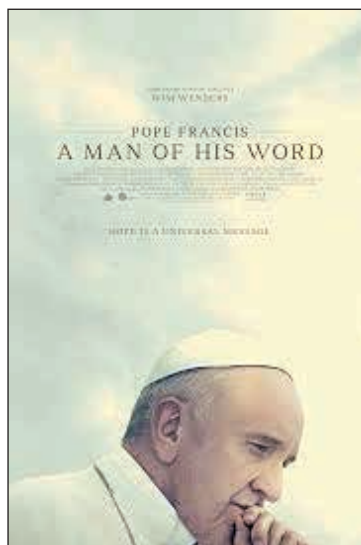
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In theatres May 18

Pope Francis – A Man of His Word

A new film entitled "Pope Francis – A Man of His Word" opens a unique window onto the Holy Father's ideas and his encounters with people from all walks of life. "Pope Francis - A Man of His Word", written and directed by three-time Academy Award nominee Wim Wenders, is intended to be a personal journey with Pope Francis, rather than a biographical documentary about him.

Msgr. Dario Edoardo Viganò, Prefect of the Vatican Secretariat for Communication, set the project rolling when he invited Mr. Wenders to make a film with the



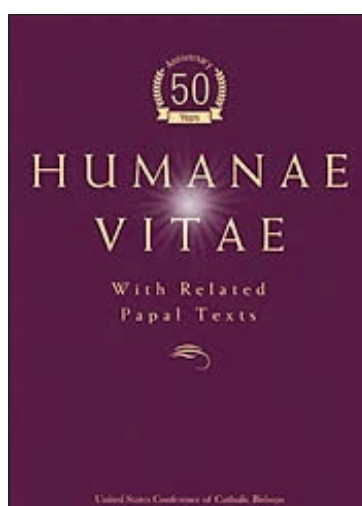
Holy Father. The result was a rare co-production between Focus Features and the Vatican.

Pope Francis' ideas and message are central to the film, which presents his work of reform and his answers to today's global questions regarding death, social justice, immigration, ecology, wealth inequality, materialism, and the role of the family.

Pope's many encounters

The film's direct-to-camera visual and narrative concepts place

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50th Anniversary Edition of *Humanae Vitae*

In honor of the 50th Anniversary of Blessed Paul VI's encyclical letter, *Humanae Vitae* (*On the Regulation of Birth*), the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops is making available a special 50th anniversary edition that includes reflections from succeeding popes on the prophetic teaching that honors the spiritual and sensory elements found in conjugal love.

Originally published in 1968, Blessed Paul VI's letter promotes the whole human person in the context of marital love that respects both the spiritual and physical dimensions of man and woman. Considering the human person as a whole, it also presents the practical social implications if the document's conclusions—based on the

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Religious Freedom Week
June 22-29

Catholics across the United States are encouraged to pray and act in support of religious liberty at home and abroad during **Serving Others in God's Love: Religious Freedom Week 2018**, which begins on June 22, the Feast of Saints Thomas More and John Fisher, and ends on June 29, the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul. People of faith are committed to serving others in God's love in healthcare, child welfare, migration and refugee resettlement, education, and more. Religious freedom protects the space in which we can continue to serve.

The chair of USCCB's Committee for Religious Liberty, Archbishop Joseph Kurtz of Louisville, states: "Religious freedom allows the space for people of faith to serve others in God's love in ministries like education, adoption and foster care, health care, and migration and refugee services. We encourage people of faith to reflect on the

Continued on page 10



A group of Holy Cross students arrives for a day of service at the Father McKenna Center, a nonprofit organization serving the poor and homeless located in the basement of the former St. Aloysius Church in downtown Washington.

Day of Service Sends Holy Cross Students into the Community

On Monday, April 23, The Academy of the Holy Cross entire school community left campus to perform a Day of Service as part of the 150th Anniversary. The event celebrated the deep commit-

ment the founders of the Academy, the Sisters of the Holy Cross, have to social justice. Groups traveled to 18 different locations in Maryland and Washington, DC to complete numerous different service activi-

ties such as cleaning, gardening, preparing and serving meals, organizing donations of food, clothing, toys, and housewares, greeting veterans, and visiting with residents.

Continued on page 16

Good Counsel High School Receives National Recognition

Named a distinguished school for STEM and career learning program

Our Lady of Good Counsel High School has been recognized as a Project Lead The Way (PLTW) Distinguished School for providing broad access to transformative learning opportunities for students through PLTW Engineering. It is one of just 133 high schools across the U.S. to receive this honor. PLTW is a nonprofit organization that serves millions of K-12 students and teachers in over 10,500 schools across the U.S.

"When we started just a few short years ago, I knew we had the talented teachers it takes to build a STEM program," said Dr. Paul Barker, President of Our Lady of Good Counsel High School. "Our graduates are getting into select schools like CalTech and MIT. Now, we are proud of being named among the top 1% of Project Lead The Way schools nationwide. It's a recognition of a lot of hard work."

The PLTW Distinguished School recognition honors schools committed to increasing student access, engagement, and achievement in their PLTW programs. To be eligible for the designation, Our Lady of Good Counsel High School had to meet the following criteria:

- Offer at least three PLTW courses;
- Have 25 percent of students or more participate in PLTW courses,



or of those who participated in PLTW, at least 33 percent took two or more PLTW courses;

- Have 70 percent of students or more earn a Proficient or higher on PLTW End-of-Course Assessments, or 10 percent of students earn the AP + PLTW Student Achievement.

Through PLTW programs, students develop STEM knowledge as well as in-demand, transportable skills that they will use both in school and for the rest of their lives, on any career path they take. PLTW Engineering™ empowers high school students to step into the role of an engineer and adopt a problem-solving mindset. Students

engage in collaborative, real-life activities like working with a client to design a home, programming electronic devices or robotic arms, and exploring algae as a biofuel source.

"It is a great honor to recognize Our Lady of Good Counsel High School for their commitment to students," said Vince Bertram, President and CEO of PLTW. "They are a model for what school should look like, and they should be very proud of ensuring students have the knowledge and skills to be career ready and successful on any career path they choose."

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St. Martin's Parish News

By Gabriel Amores, Eighth Grader,
and Emily Moldiz

Confirmation Retreat

In March eighth graders from St. Martin of Tours Parish and Mother Seaton Parish went on a Confirmation Retreat at the Sandy Hill Camp and Retreat Center. There they learned about the Catholic faith and what it means to be Confirmed.

The eighth graders listened to talks hosted by Brother Pierre Toussaint and Brother Gabriel, Cindy and Maria, Josh, and Todd about their experiences with

Confirmation. They also talked about life experiences and conveyed a lesson from the stories to the students.

The friars, Josh, and Todd encouraged the students to sing religious songs. The lyrics were displayed on a large screen, and the staff played the music and sang. One time, the students choreographed a song. All the songs were beautiful, and the staff did a great job of motivating the students to sing.

The eighth graders also participated in many activities. One highlight of the Confirmation Retreat was the Confirmation Retreat Trivia. Each gender had five representatives that competed against each other. There were questions from many different subjects, including karaoke, world places, spelling, acting, theme songs, and other categories. The students had lots of fun with this activity, and the girls won the competition.

On Saturday evening, the eighth grade Confirmants experienced a Eucharistic Adoration. They were surprised when they were given letters written by their parents. The letters were very touching and encouraging. In the middle of the room, there was a recreation of the burning bush that glowed. The Eucharist came around to each of the students, and they had the chance to look at the host and pray. The camp staff sang religious songs

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St. Martin's School News

By Emma Leath and Brian Amugi,
Eighth Graders

Family STEM Night

April 18 was an exciting night at St. Martin's as we hosted our annual Family Stem Night. This event encourages students to become more interested in science, technology, engineering, and math in cool, fun ways. Each class in the school had projects they worked on and performed many experiments. That evening, the students had opportunities to try activities from chemical reactions to chromatography, optical illusions to math palindromes,

Continued on page 13



Family STEM Night was an amazing event of discovery, exploration, and creativity for the whole family. Photo courtesy of St. Martin's School

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More St. Martin News
on Page 13



Congratulations to our talented St. Martin's School Band for receiving a Superior Rating at the 56th Annual Archdiocese Music Festival! Photo courtesy of St. Martin's School.

St. Martin's Catholic School



Class of 2018

Academy of the Holy Cross

Isabella Cabanillas
Colleen McNulty

Clarksburg High School

Briana L. Montiel
Max Anthony Sanchez
Teeya Sahni
Richard Garcia Velasco

Gaithersburg High School

John Antonetti
Elijah Bonanno

Our Lady of Good Counsel

Walther Alvarenga
Gabriel Amores
Brian Amugi
Anne Cooksey
Andrew Dris
Freddy Orantes

Quince Orchard

Emma Leath
Sylvia Pastran

St. John's College
Ian Gabriel Javelosa

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Kayla Bello
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Abbas Ali
Alexandria, VA
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Hyattsville, MD
Drexel University



Benjamin Borzekowski
Takoma Park, MD
Oberlin College



Joshua Brogi
College Park, MD
Wabash College



Frederick Buchanan
Hyattsville, MD
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute



John Cerritelli
Bethesda, MD
St. John's University (MN)



Kevin Clark
Washington, DC
The College of William & Mary



Samuel Cohen
Washington, DC
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute



Luke Craver
Hyattsville, MD
SUNY Binghamton



Marcus Domson
Arlington, VA
Randolph Macon College



Fitzhugh Elder
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Sewanee-The University of the South



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Conor O'Connor
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St. John's University (NY)



Maximillian Patten
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Emmanuel Tamrat
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Middlebury College



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Konrad Wampler
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Tulane University



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PAX IN SAPIENTIA

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Author and Educator Julia Harrell (center) poses with students (from left to right) Cam Mayfield (2), Jordan Grosh (3), Natalie Yang (7), and Sean Kenny (6) during her recent visit to The Woods.

How to Be a Hero

We were thrilled to welcome Mrs. Julia Harrell to a recent Monday Morning Chapel.

Mrs. Harrell is the author of *How to Be a Hero: Train with the Saints*, which was released last year.

In her book, Mrs. Harrell teaches

us how we can develop the virtues that saints of the Catholic Church have displayed for 2000 years.

An elementary school teacher turned stay-at-home mom and freelance writer, Mrs. Harrell works in curriculum development and contributes to blogs and publications.

She writes about theology, education, books, faith, and parenting.

Learning stories about the “super heroes” of the Catholic Church was a fitting way to kick off Spirit Week festivities at The Woods.

OPT

Supporting Kids with Comfort Cases

By Martin Gaszner, Grade Seven

Recently, during National Volunteer Week, The Woods Academy collaborated with Comfort Cases, a charity founded to support kids in foster care. We chose Comfort Cases because we wanted to show our love for the foster kids who are often forgotten by our fast-paced society. Comfort Cases helps support kids in the foster system by distributing backpacks filled with supplies we often take for granted. A typical case is filled with a toiletry set, a blanket, a stuffed animal, a notebook with writing utensils, and a book. The kids who receive these cases are ecstatic because they get to call something their own and have a device in which to carry their supplies instead of trash bags.

Over the course of two weeks, The Woods Upper School students collected these supplies in bins located in their advisories. In each advisory, ambassadors were elected to support and advocate on behalf of Comfort Cases.



Above, 180 cases were packed during the April 20 “Packing Party” at The Woods Academy. Thank you to all of the student and parent volunteers who made this possible.

At right, Grade Seven student Martin Gaszner was one of the several student ambassadors that led the Comfort Cases supply collection during National Volunteer Week.



Emails were sent out detailing websites and stores where you could buy supplies and flyers were handed out to remind students to bring in supplies. Though the first week was a little slow, the Upper School came through in the second week and brought boatloads of supplies.

On Friday, April 20, after our campaign to collect supplies, a “Packing Party” was held in the gym to assemble cases. We were thrilled that Rob Scheer, the Founder of Comfort Cases, was able to join us for this event.

There was a great turnout and

sorting the supplies went quickly. After sorting the supplies, we organized them on tables. We then lined up to assemble backpacks. You could see the happiness radiating from any given student when they assembled a backpack because of how proud they were to be supporting children in the foster system. When we ran out of supplies, we had completed 180 cases. As we were leaving, we couldn’t have been happier because we knew that our efforts had such a large impact on the lives of children throughout the foster system.

OPT

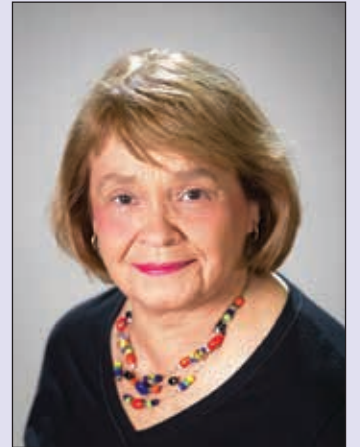
Celebrating 34 Years of Service: 1984-2018 Longtime Woods Teacher Kathy Piwko to Retire in June

After 34 years at The Woods, seventh and eighth-grade Language Arts Teacher and High School Placement Coordinator Kathleen Piwko will be retiring at the end of this school year. For as long as anyone can remember, her “sweet, melodious voice and soft, dulcet tones” have danced through the Upper School hallway at The Woods Academy.

While we are delighted for Kathy as she begins a new chapter in her life and beyond thankful for all of her contributions to The Woods community over the decades, we will certainly miss her. However, we are reminded by Dr. Seuss, “Don’t cry because it’s over. Smile because it happened.” And, smile we will. Kathy has done so much for The Woods to make us smile.

We are making plans to celebrate Kathy for her accomplishments and service to The Woods. Honoring Kathy’s wishes, we will not host a formal community celebration. Therefore, we ask you to join us in showing Kathy our tremendous appreciation in other ways.

First, we encourage students, parents, alumni, parents of alumni, and the greater Woods community to contribute a memory, a message of best wishes, gratitude, or the like, and/or photos to the Memory Book which will be presented to her



Kathy Piwko, Seventh and Eighth-Grade Language Arts Teacher and High School Placement Coordinator

at the end of the school year. Messages and photos can be sent via e-mail to jshoemaker@woodsacademy.org or by mail to Jodie Shoemaker at The Woods Academy. To ensure that your contribution is included in the book, it must be submitted by May 21.

We also invite you to make a gift to The Woods Academy in her honor. Your gift will help establish The Kathleen Piwko Merit Scholarship. Please visit woodsacademy.org/give to donate.

Please join us in offering our congratulations and thanks to the renowned Kathy Piwko.

OPT

ENZLER

Don't from page 1

this region, I also want to let you know how important the leadership of both the County Executive and County Council are to the success of our programs here in Montgomery County. Our agency spends close to \$10 million annually just in the county, and over \$3 million of that comes from the government. The county contracts with us to provide services to the vulnerable in our community, subsidizes medical and dental programs at our McCarrick Family Center in Silver Spring and assists with our growing Latino population, especially in Gaithersburg.

Montgomery County also recently subsidized a new program in four of our parishes to help with the growing prevalence of gangs among our youth. Catholic Charities is partnering with St. Catherine Laboure in Wheaton, St. Martin's in Gaithersburg, St. Camillus in Silver Spring and St. Andrew's in Silver

Spring to establish youth programs, particularly for our Latino youth.

I can tell you firsthand that the county has been a wonderful partner with us and often asks us to deliver services on their behalf.

That makes this primary election important to Catholic Charities and to me personally, but it really is important to every one of us. Please make every effort to look carefully at all the candidates and vote for those who might be particularly supportive of the values we hold as a Church and community. A few of the candidates who are seeking election have been great friends to the Archdiocese, and some are members of your local parish.

In a world where politics brings a great deal of disdain from the average citizen, we have the opportunity in this upcoming election to make a big difference to those who are most in need. I plan to vote during the primary early voting the week of June 14-21. I hope you will as well – for yourself, our county, our young people and those who need our help.

OPT

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THE WOODS ACADEMY

Congratulates the Class of 2018



The Class of 2018 has been accepted to the following High Schools:

Academy of the Holy Cross • Bishop Denis J. O'Connell High School
Bullis School • Connelly School of the Holy Child • DeMatha Catholic High School
Georgetown Preparatory School • Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School
Gonzaga College High School • Holton-Arms School • Landon School
McLean School of Maryland • Our Lady of Good Counsel High School
Pingry School (NJ) • Sidwell Friends School • St. Andrew's Episcopal School
St. John's College High School • Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart
The Heights School

The Class of 2018 has been awarded \$140,000 in merit scholarships.

Holy Cross Students Excel at 2018 Montgomery County Science Fair

As a follow-up to Holy Cross' impressive 2018 Middle School Science Fair, 12 of its 54 middle school students competed in the Montgomery County Science Fair, sponsored by *ScienceMONTGOMERY*, on Saturday, March 10, 2018. For these 12 students, it was yet another chance to show off their creative projects. The students were judged on how well they conveyed the various steps of their experiments and explained if the data from their science fair experiments supported their original hypotheses. Holy Cross believes that its own Middle School Science Fair and the Montgomery County Science Fair challenges students and helps them learn how to plan over an extended period, a valuable skill to develop early.



The judges and those visiting the Montgomery County Science Fair were given a glimpse into the future through a group of young minds that are beginning to take shape! All students entered in the Montgomery County Science Fair must be sponsored by an adult scientist. At Holy Cross, this responsibility goes to their highly dedicated science teacher, Mrs. Shari Connor.

Mrs. Connor recently stated that, "Win, lose or draw, competing at Montgomery County Science Fair is a great experience for students, and I'm thrilled so many at Holy Cross are willing to take a risk, put themselves out there, and give it a try. I am so proud of all these kids, and thankful for their families helping to make it all happen!" On Sunday, March 11, 2018, the following Holy Cross students were recognized as winners at the 2018

Montgomery County Science Fair.

Division Winners:

- Michael Ryan (1st Place, Behavioral Science)
- Cata Stiehm-Conrad (1st Place, Behavioral Science)
- Grace Fogarty (2nd Place, Behavioral Science)
- Cole Rodia (2nd Place, Biology)
- Croix Harris (3rd Place, Behavioral Science)
- Mykel Bailey (Honorable Mention, Behavioral Science)
- Brady Heaftiz (Honorable Mention, Behavioral Science)
- Jessica Kotchenreuther (Honorable Mention, Behavioral Science)

- Lilly Weaver (Honorable Mention, Behavioral Science)

- Diego Lopez (Honorable Mention, Physics)

- Maegan Mathews (Honorable Mention, Physics)

Community Awards:

- Mykel Bailey (Outstanding Achievement Certificate in an Atmospheric or Earth Science) from American Meteorological Society (DC Chapter)
- Croix Harris (3rd Place). Rockville Science Center Certificate for Excellence in Communication of Science, Invitation to exhibit his display at the 29th Rockville Science Day on Sunday, April 22, 2018 at the Rockville Campus of Montgomery College

- Diego Lopez (Honorable Mention). Rockville Science Center Certificate in Excellence in Communication of Science, Invitation to exhibit his display at the 29th Rockville Science Day on Sunday, April 22, 2018 at the Rockville Campus of Montgomery College

- Michael Ryan (Certificate for Middle School Projects demonstrating excellence in Math, Applied Science, Technology, and Engineering) from Broadcom MASTERS, plus a chance to win a trip in October 2018 and up to \$25,000.

- Michael Ryan (2nd Place). Rockville Science Center Certificate for Excellence in Communication of Science, Invitation to exhibit his display at the 29th Rockville Science Day on Sunday, April 22, 2018 at the Rockville Campus of Montgomery College

- Cata Stiehm-Conrad (Certificate for Middle School Projects demonstrating excellence in Math, Applied Science, Technology, and Engineering) from Broadcom MASTERS, plus a chance to win a trip in October 2018 and up to \$25,000

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CRISIS

Con't from page 1

parish also had two other opportunities to interact with people who are directly affected by the immigration dilemma. On February 23, the Order was the host organization for Mercy's annual Simple Supper/Speaker/Stations event. In addition to ADW Catholic Charities' Msgr. John Enzler and Fr. Jacek Orzechowski, who spoke on the role of Catholic Charities assistance with refugees and immigrants, a woman under Temporary Protected Status also shared her story about her concern for her and her family as they face future deportation back to their home country. The annual Bilingual Stations held on



Langley Park and Mercy participants enjoy a meal of tamales and pupusas after the bilingual Stations of the Cross.

March 23 also provided a chance to pray together the Stations of the Cross in the Church. Fr. Bill Byrne, pastor of Our Lady of Mercy, and Fr. Erik Lopez of the Catholic Community of Langley Park, led the two congregations in both English and Spanish, respectively. Following the Stations people from both parishes shared a meal of pupusas and tamales made by the women of Langley Park and were entertained by the Central American music provided by the Langley Park DJ.

The year of learning about the issue of migrants and refugees

concluded with a presentation on May 9 by Sister Pat Mensing, SSJ, OLOM Pastoral Associate for Social Justice/Social Concerns. Sister Pat's Powerpoint presentation wove in excerpts from Pope Francis' latest exhortation *Gaudete et Exsultate* ("Rejoice and Be Glad"), which pointed to the Pope's invitation to live the Gospel message of the Beatitudes through serving those who are powerless in the immigration crisis. Following the presentation those in attendance shared their reflections about what they have learned from the presentations as well as how they feel the Order and parish are being called to act in specific steps regarding this issue for the coming year.

OPT

FRANCIS

Con't from page 2

the audience face-to-face with the Pope, creating a dialogue between him and the world. Pope Francis responds to the questions of farmers and workers, refugees, children and the elderly, prison inmates, and those who live in favelas and migrant camps. All of these voices and faces are a cross section of humanity that join in a conversation with Pope Francis.

This "symphony of questions" provides the backbone for the film,

which also shows the Holy Father on his many journeys around the world. It features footage of him speaking at the United Nations, addressing the Congress of the United States, and mourning with those gathered at Ground Zero and at Yad Vashem, the World Holocaust Remembrance Center in Jerusalem. He speaks to prisoners in correctional facilities and to refugees in Mediterranean camps.

Throughout the film, Pope Francis shares his vision of the Church and his deep concern for the poor, his involvement in environmental issues and social justice, and

his call for peace in areas of conflict and between world religions. There is also a presence of Saint Francis in the film, connecting back to the Pope's namesake, through accounts of legendary moments in the Saint's own life as a reformer and ecologist.

Lives what he preaches

In an era of deep distrust of politicians and people in power, Pope Francis - A Man of His Word shows us a person who lives what he preaches and who has gained the

trust of people of all faith traditions and cultures across the world.

The film is produced by Mr. Wenders with Samanta Gandolfi Branca, Alessandro Lo Monaco (The World's Smallest Army), Andrea Gambetta, and David Rosier (The Salt of the Earth). The film is a production of Célestes Images, Vatican Media, Solares Fondazione delle Arti, PTS Art's Factory, Neue Road Movies, Fondazione Solares Suisse, and Decia Films.

WEEK

Con't from page 2

importance of religious freedom so that we might have the space to carry out our mission of service and mercy, and we invite everyone to pray for our brothers and sisters who face intense persecution in other parts of the world."

Resources for Religious Freedom Week and other religious liberty resources can be found at www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek and www.usccb.org/freedom.

OPT

OPT

I am a thinker, an athlete, an artist.

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SHORT

Con't from page 1

ance and sacramental service and to those who have provided inspiring music, ceremony, and worship space. Thank you to parish council and school board members for wise counsel. Our parishes are more loving thanks to the many volunteer ministries caring for the poor, the elderly, sick, unemployed, and disabled. New Catholics are more informed, newly-weds better prepared and confirmed Catholic more aflame thanks to nurturing of volunteers in these ministers. We are grateful to school and religious education staff and volunteers who foster our children's faith and learning, preparing future Catholic leaders, and to those who lead athletic and youth social activities. Thanks to those who volunteer for justice through their parish. Our buildings and grounds are beautiful and safe because of diligent maintenance and landscape staff. And all coordinated by dedicated, multi-tasking rectory staff. Some of you will be off this summer, some not. In every case, please know of our sincerest appreciation for what you do.

Special thanks to the publishers of Our Parish Times, Lawrence and Kathleen Hamm. Many readers may be unaware of the uniqueness of this periodical. OPT is one of the only papers of its kind. It is a fully independent Catholic newspaper reporting the good news and activities occurring in the Montgomery County parishes of the Archdiocese of Washington. Most parishes participate, and all parish editors are volunteers along with those who contribute articles or columns for the paper. OPT was envisioned by its founder, Paul Zurkowski, in 1991 as a vehicle to promote Catholic unity by building proactive education and service-centered Catholic communities working together for good. Zurkowski's vision seems very much like that of his namesake, St Paul, known for his work to unify the early Christian church. The Hamm's have built mightily on both Paul's visions and today OPT has grown in content and readership. We are grateful to the Hamms for helping build a more unified Catholic community here.

Let's continue celebrating by acknowledging Judge Marielsa Bernard, St Raphael's, who recently retired as a County Circuit Court judge and was recognized earlier this month by St Ann's Center for Children, Youth and Families with its esteemed Mary McGrory Award for Advocacy. For over 150 years, St Ann's, a mission of the Daughters of Charity, has served young women, many of them mothers, who are in critical need of assistance and housing. For more than two

decades, Judge Bernard heard cases involving abused and neglected children, often teen girls. She pressed the system to provide better protective services, treatment and housing alternatives and compassionate care to guide struggling youth to navigate enormous challenges. We also celebrate PCR's 22nd Patricia Sullivan Dinner at which over 600 PCR members, families, friends, and supporters gathered to celebrate and raise funds to support its important mission to promote inclusive lives for people with developmental differences. This year PCR honored Vince Burke, Lizzy Demaree, Aidan and Kate McLoughlin, Natelli Homes, Inc., and Mark Rosenfeld.

We celebrate the life of retired Msgr. James Beattie who died last month. Msgr. Beattie was the beloved pastor of St Bartholomew's parish for twenty years. He served at St Camillus and as pastor at St Catherine Laboure.

Before breaking for summer, there is one important responsibility I urge you to fulfill. Please vote in the coming local primary election on June 26th (early voting begins on June 14th). It may be easy to forget or skip a primary election, especially one that is noon presidential and has been moved from the more familiar fall season to June. Yet, local elections are critically important to our quality of life and the moral direction of our community. As a county with a lopsided Democratic majority population, many of the decisions made in the June primary elections will be sustained in the general election in November. So, to make a difference for the future of our county, vote in June primary elections. By doing so, we render unto Caesar his due. By casting our votes for candidates that seek to unify our communities in love, justice and goodness, we render unto God the things that are God's. We should be very proud of the leadership of the Justice and Advocacy Council of Montgomery County, a Catholic advocacy group which recently planned and conducted a well-attended and informative debate including candidates for the important office of County Executive. Msgr. John Enzler ably served as moderator. For the many who attended, it was an opportunity to ask specific questions of the candidates and to testify to the enduring principles of Catholic social justice. To paraphrase the late Cardinal Hickey, as you prepare to vote, our foremost concern should not be about how we are faring, but rather are we and our public policies fair to the poor and vulnerable in our community.

OPT

Have a safe, holy and restful summer and,
God Bless!
Chuck Short

AVALON

Con't from page 1

"We are excited to move Avalon to a formal school facility, and to have access to the services at St. Catherine Laboure' on our doorstep", says Barry Stohlman, Chairman of The Avalon School Board of Trustees. "In addition, this expanded facility offers Avalon the exciting opportunity to attain its goal of 350 students and grow the community life of the school."

Avalon currently is consulting with Rev. Francisco E. Aguirre, Administrator of St. Catherine Laboure', and the Archdiocese

on a plan to update and refresh the school and campus; work will begin this summer. To facilitate a smooth transition in September, Avalon will offer free shuttle service next school year from its current site in Gaithersburg, from Milestone Center in Germantown, as well as from the Wheaton Metro, and plans to add additional shuttles from other areas as needed.

St. Catherine Laboure' closed its K-8 parish school in 2013 but provides a Catholic education program for more than 1,100 students and adults each week which will continue under the direction of St. Catherine's.

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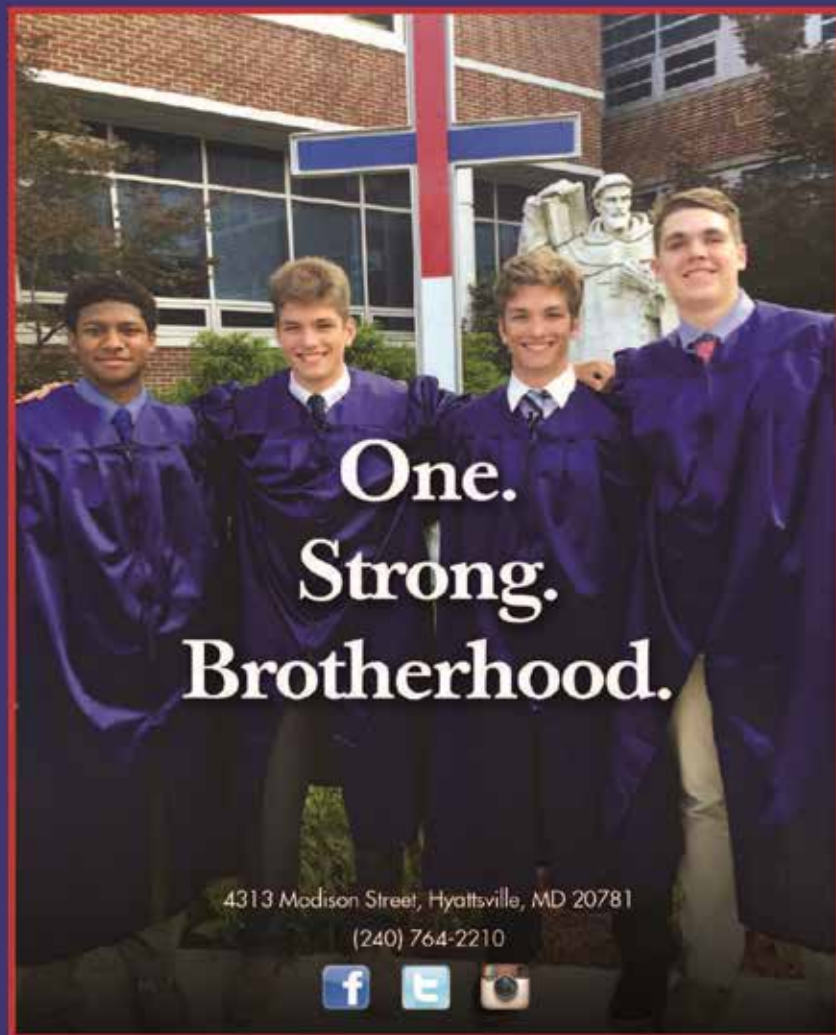


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Adult Faith Formation Program Changes the Parish Landscape

By Melissa Montealegre Egan

In groups of four or five, the parishioners stood at the altar at St. Francis of Assisi Church, all eyes on them. One person held a poster board high and swiveled slowly, so Mass attendees could read what was written: 'Void and empty.'

Flipping the poster board, the parishioner displayed the other side: 'Fulfilled and overflowing.'

Such was the scene March 4 during the 11:15 am Mass, when graduates of *Sharing Christ* were commissioned. With St. Francis of Assisi Church having recently adopted the ChristLife Series (*Discovering Christ*, *Following Christ* and *Sharing Christ*) as its main adult faith formation program, the 14 *Sharing Christ* graduates joined a small, faith-filled group that had completed the final course.

Medy DeAusen, coordinator of the ChristLife Series at St. Francis, said having graduates offer their "cardboard testimony" on how their relationship with Christ had changed before and after taking the series' three courses offers a powerful message to the parish community.

"You become witnesses to how the parish is changing," she said. "[The ChristLife Series] changes the landscape of the parish."

Created 23 years ago by Catholic lay leader Dave Nodar, the ChristLife Series offers a context in which parishes can help form missionary disciples within their church communities. In January 2015, St. Francis collaborated with two ecclesial communities (Couples for Christ and Mother of God) to kindle the parish's evangelization process by offering the foundational course, *Discovering*

Christ. Since then, the parish has facilitated two completions of the three-part series.

Over the three-and-a-half years since St. Francis began offering the series, ministry leaders have gleaned important lessons. For example, instead of consecutively offering the seven-week courses, coordinators now space them out, offering *Discovering Christ* at least twice a year, and the other courses less frequently.

Doing so builds a bigger base of people from whom coordinators can tap to help at subsequent offerings of *Discovering Christ*, DeAusen said. Depending on the number of participants, each seven-week course requires about 20 people to operate it, including people to serve food, greet, serve as worship leaders, and facilitate small groups. St. Francis initially relied on core team members from its Couples for Christ Ministry to mentor recent graduates, but now people have gained their own experience.

"That's a reason why we can't move very fast," said DeAusen, noting that graduates typically take 20-22 months to complete the entire series given limited human resources.

Christine Lee, a parishioner at St. Francis of Assisi for 20 years, stood alongside her fellow graduates on March 4. Recently widowed, Lee described herself as feeling very much alone and deciding to try *Discovering Christ* when she felt ready to seek out a small community.

"I no longer feel lost or alone," Lee said. "I found a community and I made one very, very good friend. We always say it's amazing the

Continued on page 13



St. Francis parishioners who completed the *Sharing Christ* course discuss their "cardboard testimony" March 4 after they were commissioned at the 11:15 am Mass.



St. Francis children rehearsing for the First Communion Liturgy on April 28 bring up the altar cloth on April 26.

Basketball Fundraiser Evolves into Community Building Event

By Melissa Montealegre Egan

Since 2012, the Hoops for Haiti annual basketball fundraiser has emerged on the St. Francis calendar as a fun event where people could have a whole-

some family night. But, on April 14, thanks to targeted outreach, the fundraiser evolved into a celebration of community, camaraderie and tradition.

Continued on page 17



Members of St. Francis of Assisi's Joyful Greeters basketball team, Greeters Got Game, take a break between games on April 14.

Parishioners Lighten the Load of a County Homeowner

By Melissa Montealegre Egan

On April 28, about 15 St. Francis parishioners received a double dose of validation

after volunteering to repair and improve the home of a vulnerable Montgomery County homeowner – the gratitude of the residents and the camaraderie shared through the parishioners working toward a single service goal.

The service work was part of the mission of Rebuilding Together, a Gaithersburg-based nonprofit organization that matches groups willing to do repairs and renovations for vulnerable county homeowners who may not have sufficient funds or resources to do the work themselves.

The St. Francis group worked on a home in Silver Spring, where, among other things, the group

Continued on page 13

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PROGRAM

Con't from page 12

Lord put us together.”

In *Discovering Christ*, participants learn they need to belong to a community. So, program leaders at St. Francis introduce participants to other ministries and small groups that attendees can join to stay connected and foster that sense of community. St. Francis offers the Christian Life Program organized by Couples for Christ to married couples for the renewal and strengthening of Christian fam-

ily life. In addition, St. Francis has an active adult women group called Handmaids of the Lord, also organized by Couples for Christ. After completing the Christian Life Program, parishioners belong to a ‘household,’ a small group of three to four couples or four to six adult women. These households provide a more intimate environment for personal growth and support in the Christian life.

“We want to see where the Holy Spirit leads the parish,” DeAussen said. “That’s the beauty of what we do.”

OPT



Participants of St. Francis of Assisi's Rebuilding Together team pose on the steps of the house they helped repair on April 28.

HOMEOWNER

Con't from page 12

helped repair and paint walls; raked, weeded and trimmed the yard; laid 60 bags of mulch in the garden and helped create a children's playroom by moving furniture and installing wall-to-wall carpet, said Rebuilding Together Ministry Coordinator Mike Rogewitz.

Volunteers also served on the church grounds, scraping, painting and washing windows at the Rectory; replacing broken fence

posts; cleaning up the Stations of the Cross area; and cutting and removing fallen trees brought down by a recent wind storm.

Pete Carlson, who helped install the carpeting and repaired and reinstalled vents, said he wanted to take part in Rebuilding Together because he enjoys working with his hands and finds it's a good way to put those skills to use.

“The team that participates from St. Francis [is] so much fun to work with,” Carlson said. “They all enjoy helping out to get the job done.”

OPT

SCHOOL NEWS

Con't from page 4

properties of flying planes to properties of racecars. The event has evolved and expanded to filling most of the classrooms with several stations in each room. Close to 400 people attended, and it was fun for people of all ages, parents and students alike.

The eighth graders, along with volunteers, alumni, teachers, and parents were in charge of various stations for the kids to learn

from and enjoy. Some of the students' projects were Colleen and Ian's Creamery where you made ice cream, ASCII Names where people made cool necklaces and bracelets in code of their names, and Xpandin' Foam where they made overgrowing cups of foam. Some of the adult's stations were Harmonics by Bob McMichael, father of alum, and Traveling Water Experiment by Aaron and Mark Milton, and alum and his father, where they found out who was able to transfer water the furthest with the least amount spilled. Another

fun station was Build a Better Paper Airplane by alum Freddie Stamper where students used engineered a plane that flies farther by using science.

At the end of the night many cool prizes were given out such as a periodic table tote bag, a 3D model of the school, and many science books. This turned out to be a great and educational evening for all.

Eighth-Grade Day Out

On March 26, our whole class went to Catholic University for 8th-grade day out. It was an inspiring

day for everyone, as there were two speakers, one for boys and girls. The boys' speaker was Marlon Smith, an Amazon best-selling author and world-renowned inspirationist. As in accordance with my gender, I was one of those listening to him. Mr. Smith was very animated and was able to talk to us with honesty from his own experiences, which were not actually that different than what we might experience later in life. Some of the topics he made a point on were thinking before you act and random acts of kindness.

The girls' speaker was Julie

Marie Carrier, a popular speaker and television personality. Being a boy, I wasn't there myself to hear her speech myself, but I was able to talk to the girls and they gave very enthusiastic reviews of her speech. From what I found out, she spoke about being self-confident, loving yourself just the way you are, and understanding that you're unique. She gave all the girls her book, “Be-YOU-tiful.” At the end of the day, all the 8th graders loved it and planned to use what they learned that day in their day-to-day life.

OPT

St. Martin of Tours



Deacon Bill Vita fielded many important questions from 2nd graders preparing for their First Holy Communion. Photo courtesy of St. Martin's School.

PARISH NEWS

Con't from page 4

in the second half of the Adoration.

The Confirmation Retreat was a memorable experience that combined learning about Confirmation with activities. I would say that we left more prepared and enlightened for Confirmation!

RCIA

The Church grew a little bigger on the holiest of nights as St. Martin of Tours welcomed 88 new members into the Catholic Church at the English and Spanish Vigils.

Deacon William Vita who served at the English Easter Vigil said “Every year you see the peace and holiness on the faces of the candidates.”

He continued by saying that over the years, St. Martin's has become more and more diverse in culture but this night shows the blending as one universal church.

At the English Easter Vigil, 16 children received Baptism and their First Holy Communion and 14 teens and adults received Baptism, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion. There were also 6 adults who fully entered the Church



A young parishioner receives First Holy Communion. Photo courtesy of St. Martin's Church

by receiving their First Communion and Confirmation.

At the Spanish Vigil Mass, 6 teens and adults were baptized, confirmed and received their First Holy Communion. 21 Children were baptized and several of those children received their First Holy Communion. 18 Adults received their First Holy Communion and were confirmed and 7 adults were fully initiated in the Church with

the sacrament of Confirmation.

All of these candidates prepared for this night throughout the course of the year. Deacon Vita who has been involved in the RCIA program for more than 20 years said it is inspiring to watch each person's journey in their relationship with Christ.

“God touches each of their lives and we just plant the seeds,” said Vita.

OPT



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Undecided



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St. Bernadette Tuesday Club Boards the bus on their way to The Museum of the Bible in Washington, DC. Photo by Jan Petros

A Couple of Tours of Biblical Proportion

By Mary Ann Fitzgerald

In March, St. Bernadette's Tuesday Club seniors gathered aboard a motor coach for a trip to the new Museum of the Bible in Washington DC. Everyone was greatly impressed with the museum. The always changing and moving ceiling was quite engaging. The interactive displays brought the bible to life; in particular, the one in the synagogue with an actor playing the role of a rabbi was especially well done. Although one can bring their own lunch, there is a Mediterranean style cafe available, plus some vending machines. Although the museum is not yet providing docents for groups, there was no problem getting around the museum without assistance and elevators are available between the floors. Afterwards, the Tuesday Club ventured to the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception to view the newly completed dome. We were awed by the beauty and spectacular workmanship.

Our second religiously themed excursion for this year will be an eight-day trip from

October 14-21. We will be going to the "Great Passion Play and Holy Land Tour" in Eureka Springs, AR followed by The Ark Encounter and Creation Museum" in Kentucky. From there, we travel on to see "Our Lady of the Snows" in Illinois with the trip wrapping up in Branson, MO for four fun-filled shows. We are extending an invitation to everyone to join us on this trip as it is not limited to St. Bernadette's club members or parishioners. The package price is \$1,479 for double occupancy (\$475 additional for single). Included is the travel by motor coach, 7 nights lodging, 7 breakfasts, and 7 dinners; a dinner cruise on the Branson Belle; admission to all events, plus all taxes, gratuities, and tips. This will be a unique and exciting trip, so we encourage you to get together with your family and friends and not miss this wonderful opportunity. For further information and reservations, please contact: Mary Ellen Hudson at 301-593-3622, or Lewis Hicks at 301-593-0414.

OPT

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The Buzz from The Hive

St. Bernadette's Friday Night on the Field

By Emma Gallagher, Grade 7 and Riley Peake, Grade 7, St. Bernadette School Student Council Directors of Public Affairs

If you are ever looking for something to do on a Friday night, St. Bernadette has it all! For entertainment, Grades Kindergarten through Grade Two plays T-ball. Older kids love to come and cheer on the players. In both the fall and the spring, we have a movie night under the stars after the games are over. If you get hungry, there is a snack shack serving delicious hotdogs and hamburgers fresh off of the grills cooked by our dedicated team of volunteers as well as beverages, candy and popcorn. An ice cream truck can usually be found in the parking lot providing dessert. If you are considering joining our school community, coming to the field on a Friday night is a great way to meet people and get a sense of who and what we are all about. Parents can socialize while children can play. The activities on the field begin at 5:30 PM and last until around 8:00 PM. We hope to see you at a Friday Night under the lights!

OPT

More St. Bernadette News on Page 17

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Maryland Catholic Conference Wraps Up 2018 Legislative Session

The 438th legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly adjourned its 90-day session in April. Lawmakers considered more than 3,100 introduced bills and approved nearly 900 measures. Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. (R), along with Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr. (D-27) and Speaker of the House Michael E. Busch (D-30A), signed 114 bills into law yesterday during a ceremony in the State House.

The Maryland Catholic Conference advocates the Church's

public policy positions for the more than one million Catholics living in the state. Many of the initiatives addressed by the Conference during the 2018 legislative session resulted in a successful outcome.

"As so many legislative leaders have noted, the General Assembly worked in a bi-partisan manner to solve many key issues this session," said Mary Ellen Russell, executive director of the Maryland Catholic Conference. "As advocates for those most in need, we are pleased that a number of issues passed that

will help to improve lives and build a safer and more just society."

Among the measures the Conference supported that successfully passed both chambers are bills to expand the Earned Income Tax Credit (SB 647/HB 856), and to increase funding for child care subsidies (SB 379/HB 430) and Head Start programs (SB 373/HB 547). Additionally, the Conference supported the Tyrone Ray Safe Streets Initiative (HB 113), which requires the Governor to include \$3.6 million in his budget each

year, allocated to Baltimore City, for the disbursement of grants to violence prevention or intervention programs operated by a community-based organization in a neighborhood affected by violent crime.

The Conference was a lead agent in advocating for the Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today (BOOST) program, which has been funded at \$7.6 million, an increase of approximately \$1.6 million for this popular and growing program. For the 2018-19

Continued on page 26

DAY OF SERVICE

Con't from page 3

The sponsoring organizations were extremely grateful for the assistance and offered much praise to Holy Cross for the project.

The experience left an impact on the all involved. One student who volunteered with the Honor Flight greeters remarked that a Vietnam veteran told her that he remembered coming back from the war and people were booing and yelling at them. "He said he appreciated our cheering and smiles and signs." A representative at Crossway Community noted of the experience, "We really enjoyed having the girls participate in community life here at Crossway. They worked very hard, were very cooperative with our staff, and were a pleasure to host." A representative from the Salvation Army: Harbor Light location said, "Your students' work saved us over \$700 that we otherwise would've had to spend to hire a landscaper. That money can go to our programs instead!"

Organization for the Day of Service began before the start of the 2017-2018 school year and has been the yearlong project of Emily Teter, Director of the Holy Cross Social Justice program. She orchestrated all details to ensure smooth operation of the day, which included an introductory and closing program on campus for the girls.

OPT

VITAE

Con't from page 2

full respect of the totality of persons—are ignored. Recognizing the fullness of the marital union as total, faithful, and exclusive, the encyclical proclaims the path of grace and true happiness for married couples under the abiding yoke of Christ.

Rediscover the beauty of the matrimonial call to be open to human life with this 50th anniversary edition of Blessed Paul VI's Encyclical *Humanae Vitae*. Read the encyclical for yourself to understand the wisdom of the Church on artificial birth control.

This 50th anniversary edition includes the full encyclical, with excerpts from Blessed Paul VI's successors affirming the teachings of *Humanae Vitae*. Also included are selections from the 1968 US Catholic bishops' statement, *Human Life in Our Day*.

The 50th anniversary edition of *Humanae Vitae* can be ordered online for \$9.95 at <http://store.usccb.org/humanae-vitae-50th-anniversary-edition-p/7-596.htm>.

OPT



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Our Parish Times

FUNDRAISER

Con't from page 12

Organized by St. Francis' Haiti Ministry and FRED, the parish's youth group for high school-aged students, the event has revolved around a basketball game between adults – The Ol' Saints – and teenagers – The Swole Saints. This year, Haiti Ministry Coordinator Dan Cardile and FRED Core Team Member Wendel Hall aimed to host an inaugural 3-on-3 tournament before the main game to build community among St. Francis parishioners and help fill the bleachers at the Our Lady of Good Counsel High School gym, where the fundraiser is held.

The two men reached out to St. Francis' nearly 100 ministries to gauge their interest in playing – and many answered. Ten groups, including the 11:15 am choir, a men's prayer group, the Haiti Committee, food pantry, the Health Ministry, coffee sellers, greeters and Couples for Christ ministers, all formed teams to play in the single elimination tournament.

Michael Mikula, a St. Francis parishioner for 11 years, said, when he and his son heard basketball teams were forming, they looked at each other and said, 'Who's our third player?'

Michael's son, Jack, reached out to a fellow altar server to play. Michael, in turn, tapped a friend from childhood to round out the team of three, plus a substitute. They played for St. Francis' Joyful Greeters Ministry on a team named Greeters Got Game.

"It was awesome – it was such a cool thing," Mikula said. "I got to play with my best friend, who I've played thousands of hours of basketball with, and my son, who I enjoy playing with most now."

The event, which drew about 100 people, had many such highlights. For Hall, one was the public recognition of St. Francis parishioner Meghan Jones, who invited Cardinal Donald Wuerl to the event and received a response from his Eminence. Hall presented Jones with a framed copy of her letter to the cardinal.

As for the main game, the Ol' Saints won a close game, 60-55, against the Swole Saints, on a team largely comprised of members from the Singles for Christ Ministry. All told, the event raised about \$6,000 after expenses, Cardile said. The monies will be used to rebuild the roof of Conversion of St. Paul's Parish in Leon, Haiti, the church with which St. Francis of Assisi has been twinned since the late 1980s.

Hall said he believes the appeal of the event stems from service to Haiti being entwined with the parish's identity, Hoops for Haiti allowing people to both serve and have fun and good promotion.

"I don't really have a good explanation," he said. "It just fits who we are as a parish."

OPT

St. Bernadette



At left, Sodality of St. Bernadette Parish gathered at the Washington Retreat House for a day of reflection with Fr. John Marshall from the diocese of Portland, Oregon. The Sodality Union is celebrating its 100th Anniversary this year. The day emphasized Faith, Hope and Love.

At right, on May 4, 2018, St. Bernadette School welcomes all grandparents and special friends to join our students for the afternoon to see what The Buzz is all about!



Congratulations

Blessed Sacrament's Class of 2018!

(from bottom left) Iko Ayamunongo, Chloe Lee, Lauren Conley, Josie Loveland, Bridget Reap, Grace Trifilo, Mavis Anning-Gyan, Abby Jacobs, Hailey Angier, Jasmine Chavez, Lily Sood, Kate Mason, Krista Adusei, Ila Atkinson, Maeve O'Keefe, Maggie DiMaio, Cate Madden, Madison Dias, Elizabeth Clark, Peter Pirone, Ronan Larkin, Tommy Dombo, Tommy Rowan, Charlotte McGill, Megan Pfohl, Adin Snowling, Teddy Knight, Michael DiLorenzo, Jack Bukowski, Nicolas Grabarz, Benji Kemp, Leif Hagerup, Flynn Howard, Henry Smith, Dalton Burke, Matthew Dowd, Brennan Delaney, Aidan Kiley, Greg Lynett, Luke Galvin, Colin Brady, Josh Robinson, Ryan McCarthy, Bergin Russell, Grace Bottner, Maggie Brach, Darwin Denny, Stephen Connors, Walker Leonard, Bobby Spallone, Mac Albert, Kyson Taylor, Miles McNair, Max Lindenberg, Michael Powers, Quinn Coughlan (not pictured).

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

Faith and Action at Saint Francis International



A recent first communicant from SFIS crowns a statue of Our Lady of Vietnam as part of a special May Crowning celebrated by Bishop Dorsonville.



The SFIS choir helps to welcome Cardinal Gregorio Rosa Chavez in a pastoral visit to support immigrants from El Salvador.



Above, seven SFIS students were baptized this year, this is the seventh group of students to be baptized at school mass.

The mission of Saint Francis International School is to nurture children to become instruments of God's peace, scholars, and global citizens. This mission is born from our Catholic faith and a Franciscan spiritual lens that has a unique call to find God in the moments of every day and to make God present in every place!

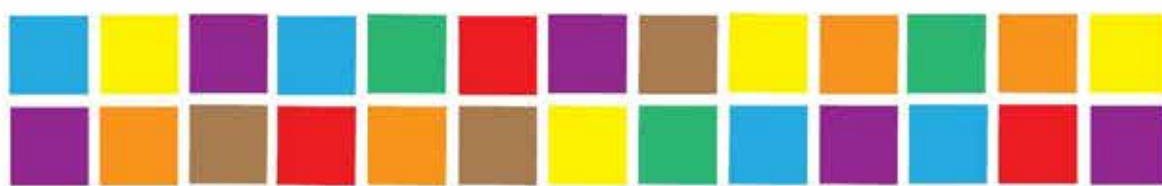
Saint Francis is a vibrant school family that seems to always have something exciting and dynamic going on. Sometimes what is going on happens in the church and follows traditional rituals and sometimes it happens in the gym or the cafeteria or dozens of classrooms and seems far more ordinary or worldly to the

average person, but from a Franciscan perspective all the moments in all of the places are chances to encounter God and make God present in a world that is imperfect.

On the one hand, the Saint Francis family has experienced students being baptized, making first penance, and making first communion during this Easter, and will soon see many eighth graders be confirmed, which are all clear sacramental encounters with God's grace, but throughout Lent and up to Mother's Day the students also held an almsgiving project that raised \$851.05 to help send local volunteers to Puerto Rico next month to help with hurricane recovery and \$3,152.50 to help the Holy

Continued on page 54

NPR personality Cokie Roberts (a Stone Ridge alumna), below, spoke with students about her book *Ladies of Liberty*.



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Spring Brings Renewal to our Parish

Now that the weather finally feels like Spring, the activity level at St. John the Evangelist also feels like Spring! The school is certainly bustling with renewed activity. Our initiation sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion were beautiful. The entire parish community experienced a call for renewal of our own Baptismal vows.

Just like Mother Earth springing forward, new projects and new ideas are popping up all over school. Our sixth grade Science class celebrated Earth Day by cleaning up our little corner of the planet. They made a renewed effort to limit our



The eighth grade performed a Mexican dance choreographed by one of their classmates, Isabella Rodriguez, for the school Cinco de Mayo celebration!

carbon footprint.

Now that it is May, our school has rededicated itself to the Blessed Mother. Following the valuable lessons taught to us by our founders, Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate

Heart of Mary, we pray the rosary together, ask for Mary's intercession every day, and celebrated her annual May crowning. All students processed down the aisle at church to bring their flower offerings to the

Blessed Mother before the crowning.

Another annual Spring celebration at our school is Cinco de Mayo. Each grade from first through eighth performed a song or dance in Spanish. The eighth graders completed the

festivities with their colorful dance, complete with flowing skirts and sombreros!

OPT



This year's Confirmation class gathers in front of the altar with our Pastor and the Bishop after receiving the sacrament of Confirmation on April 27th. The confirmandi completed six months of preparation prior to receiving the sacrament.



The school's crowning of Mary took occurred at the First Friday mass. Eighth graders led the mass and collected the flower offerings from the younger grades.

St. John the Evangelist Parish

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

Rev. Joseph Calis, Pastor

St. John the Evangelist School

Mrs. Margaret Durney,
Principal

301-681-7656

Monica M. Bradford, OPT Editor
bradford2@comcast.net



Francis Burgess
Good Counsel HS



Ellie Campbell
Georgetown Visitation



William Carey
St. John's College HS



Joseph Comello
Good Counsel HS



Lilly Comello
St. John's College HS



Lucy Droege
St. John's College HS



Matthew Dukes
Gonzaga College HS



Daniel Francis
Winston Churchill HS



Herman Genis
St. John's College HS



St. John the Evangelist CLASS OF 2018

We Congratulate You!

Rev. Joseph Calis, Pastor
Mrs. Margaret Durney, Principal
Miss Emily Pacconi, Eighth Grade Teacher



Molly Gilgunn
St. John's College HS



Amelia Haywood
St. John's College HS



Clayton James
St. John's College HS



Anna Johnson
Academy of the Holy Cross



Coletta Digital



Kathryn Kelyman
St. John's College HS



Joshua Meesala
DeMatha Catholic HS



Isabella Rodriguez
Academy of the Holy Cross



Sophia Skinner
Academy of the Holy Cross



Grace Sogbo
Elizabeth Seton HS



Riana Tadonki
Academy of the Holy Cross



Femi Tanimowo
Good Counsel HS



Joseph Wartack
Good Counsel HS



Charlotte Zarzecki
Elizabeth Seton HS

Love of Learning Faith in God Service for Others



Giulia Balestrieri
Visitation



Lucas Barsantini
Gonzaga



Sophia Bertozzi
St. John's



Ava Brooks
Stone Ridge



Marco Davila
Walt Whitman



Isabel DeSouza
Bethesda-Chevy Chase



Abraham Dibba
Gonzaga



Thad Felten
St. John's



Graham Greenan
Gonzaga



Bridget Keon
Visitation



Christopher LaFrankie
Gonzaga



Stephen Ledet
St. John's

Graduating Class of 2018



Robert Marshall
Walt Whitman



Mary McBeath
Visitation



Aidan McElhennon
Good Counsel



Campbell McVie
Gonzaga



Carmen Parada
St. John's



Leonard Schweizer
Georgetown Prep



Christina Steinki
Stone Ridge



"Bearing the Light of Christ"

Mother of God School Congratulates the Graduating Class of 2018



Cody Alessio-Bunnell
Our Lady of
Good Counsel



Charles Bryner
St. John's
Catholic Prep



Alejandro Gonzalez
St. John's
Catholic Prep



Nicole Guzman
Our Lady of
Good Counsel



Nicholas Hassan
DeMatha Catholic
High School



Annan Kebede
Gaithersburg
High School



Emily Lombardi
Urbana
High School



Seth Martin
St. John's
Catholic Prep



Alberto
Trejo-Arismendy
Don Bosco Cristo Rey



Delya Umanzor Lovo
Magruder
High School

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AVALON'S GRADUATES

Brett Edmund Peter Black
Malik Emanuel Niko Bleau
Zawadi Kadar Bryant
Samuel Ignatius Downey
Richie Robert Goslee, Jr.
Qu'ran William Edward Hughes
Adnan Abdurahman Hussein
Irving Joseph Hyde
William Patrick McIntyre
Alfie Jack Fensom Moore
Antonio Enrique Negron
Rafael Antonio Negron
Christopher Kenneth Nerstheimer
Derrick Keith Newman

Justin Osadayi Okoh

Yan Pan

Michael Anthony Rhodes

Kristopher Lerick Ricks

Sanie Ibrahim Samura

Maxwell Tyler SantaRita

Gabriele Scivetti

Noah Taylor

Daniel Martin Tobin

Chu-Yang Tsai

Jermaine Waller

Yinghui Wang

Tyler John Ward

Theodore Cortlandt Williams

Jiaxin Yan



Congratulations CLASS OF 2018



COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

Ave Maria University • Bard College • Baylor University • Belmont Abbey College • Belmont University • Benedictine College • Boston College • Catholic University of America • Christendom College • Connecticut College • CUNY-Baruch College • Denison University • Dickinson College • Fordham University • George Mason University • Grove City College • Hillsdale College • Hood College • Indiana University of Bloomington • Kenyon College • Loyola University Maryland • Loyola University New Orleans • McDaniel College • Marymount University • Michigan State University • Mount St. Mary's College • Mount Holyoke College • Penn State University • Salisbury University • Salve Regina College • St. Francis University • St. Mary's College of Maryland • SUNY-Albany • SUNY-Fashion Institute of Technology • Stetson University • Temple University • Towson University • University of California, Davis • University of California, Santa Cruz • University of Dallas • University of Dayton • University of Massachusetts, Boston • University of Maryland, Baltimore County • University of Maryland, College Park • University of Richmond • Virginia Tech • Washington College • Wofford College •



BROOKEWOOD'S GRADUATES

Lisa Bongiovanni

Lily Boogaerts

Sophia Hannah Coombs

Francesca DeMarchi

Gillian Elizabeth Giangrande

Melissa Gilardi

Hannah Katherine Jensen

Chantel Ruth Patrice Lenhardt

Hoang Trieu Ngoc Nguyen

Seohyun Park

Erin Elizabeth Pleet

Andrea Preciado

Ziwei Qin

Isabelle Grace Rakow

Sophia Teresa Sorensen

Mary Kaylor Stroot

Haotian Sun

Eva Maria Waaks

Sophia AnnWagner

Carolyn Rose Wood

Mass of the Lord's Supper at St. Jane de Chantal Church

As part of the Triduum, the most important time of the liturgical cycle, St. Jane Frances de Chantal Church celebrated the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday together with the St. Louis de France French Parish, which shares St. Jane de Chantal church. In a beautiful ceremony celebrated in both English and French with hymns in Latin, St. Jane pastor Fr. Giese (second from left) and the other clergy of St. Jane de Chantal Parish con-celebrated mass with Fr. Vincent (right), the pastor of St. Louis de France and other priests from that parish. It was a great way to get into the spirit of the season and the communion of the church in preparation for Easter.



St. Jane's Environmental Committee – Let There Be Light

by Maureen Wilkerson

On a grey Sunday, after morning Masses, parishioners at St. Jane Frances de Chantal were treated to an exchange event where either incandescent or CFL lightbulbs were turned in for new, dimmable LED bulbs. The St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish Environmental Committee, a recent addition to the parish to raise awareness of the role of community in the stewardship of God's creation and preservation of the natural resources award-

ed to us from God's love, had arranged this free event with the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Ms. Johnson, who works with the DEP, provided much useful information not only about the lightbulbs, but also about a variety of other energy related programs that our county provides, i.e. a free home energy audit which can also include free LED bulbs. She brought a lightbulb display which lit the various types of bulbs to demonstrate their comparative strength, and hues. Children as well as adults were fascinated by her presentation.

Members of the Committee felt that her presentations were also helpful

to raise awareness conserving energy use and conservation, a laudable goal expressed by all recent popes, and most recently by Pope Francis in *Laudato si*.

Continued on page 26



Ms. Johnson (left) of the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection and St. Jane de Chantal parishioners and Environmental Committee members Eve Marie Szczepanski (middle) and Maureen Wilkerson pose for a photo at the Lightbulb Exchange event.

St. Jane de Chantal Second Graders Go Back in Time

by Mrs. Catherine Skibo

The second grade of St. Jane de Chantal School made their annual visit to the Seneca Creek School House. Students went back in time to the mid-1900's to see what it is like to live during that time as school child. The trip was complete with chores, games, and lessons. Boys had to bring in wood to feed the fire, while other students brought pails filled with lunches. Only the boys were allowed to play outside for recess. The lessons were memorized and read out of early primers, and even the dunce hat may have been used once or twice! This is always a favorite field trip for the second grade students. Afterwards, some second graders decided they wanted to go back in time, but most were happy to return to their modern day schooling experience!

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
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Cast members from the sixth grade class of St. Jane de Chantal School filled the stage of Christopher Hall with song, dance and fun-filled dialogue from the play Mary Poppins JR., as shown here from various scenes captured during the performance.

Mary Poppins JR. Lands at St. Jane de Chantal School

The St. Jane de Chantal School was vibrating with excitement from the sixth graders as they prepared for the class' upcoming production of Mary Poppins JR., which was performed at the end of April in Christopher Hall. Everything about the play was "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" and extraordinarily professional.

The production was headed by Shannon Cron, Olga Morales, Tina Maxwell, and Claire Shea. Together they auditioned the 46 sixth grade students and prepared them for their singing, speaking lines, dancing, choreography, and much more. Students in the audience were also able to participate in the magic of Mary Poppins JR. with their very own light wand that they waved during the performance. It was a wonderful treat for everyone, and the entire school community was very proud of this outstanding accomplishment.

OPT

ST. JANE DE CHANTAL SCHOOL

Congratulations Class of 2018



Emily Blackstone
Visitation
"Everything you ever wanted is on the other side of fear."



Katherine Blackstone
Visitation
"When nothing goes right... go left."



Courtney Blomquist
Holy Cross
"To be the best, you must be able to handle the worst."



Peter Burkart
Gonzaga
"You have got to hand it to short people... we usually can't reach it anyways."



Grace Carr
St. John's
"Be the type of person you want to meet."



Kate Celeste
Holy Child
"I'm on a seafood diet. I see food and I eat it."



Quinn Connolly
Gonzaga
"You have to be able to accept failure to get better."



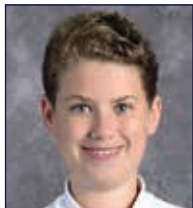
Charlotte Covell
Holy Cross
"The two most important days in a person's life: the day they are born and the day they find out why."



Lizzy Cresswell
Holy Child
"My brain is like the Bermuda Triangle: Information goes in, and then it's never found again."



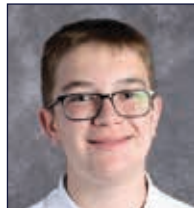
Matthieu Croquez
Lycee Rochambeau
"If I won the award for laziness, I would send somebody to pick it up for me."



Conor Crowley
Georgetown Prep
"Life does not have hands, but it can sure give you a slap sometimes."



Massimo D'Avella
Gonzaga
"If Cinderella's shoe fit perfectly, then why did it fall off?"



Patrick Emerson
Georgetown Prep
"Do or do not, there is no try."



Shawn Flynn
Walter Johnson
"Don't give up on your dreams. Keep sleeping."



Maggie Gleeson
St. John's
"If a dream is worth dreaming, then it's worth chasing."



Jazzlynn Goldstein
Good Counsel
"Those we love don't go away. They walk beside us every day."



Braden Groce
DeMatha
"When you do common things in an uncommon way, you will command the attention of the world."



Nicholas Kaiser
St. John's
"Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard."



Phillip Karas
Winston Churchill
"Marry someone who has a different favorite cereal than you so they don't eat yours."



Michell Lide
Holy Cross
"I'm not weird. I am limited edition."



Courtney MacDonald
Visitation
"I would lose weight, but I hate losing."



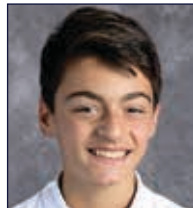
Gabriel Manzano
Walter Johnson
"Basketball is not a sport; it's an art form."



Emma Maynard
Visitation
"I'm not short, I'm just more down to earth than other people."



Shea McCarthy
Holy Child
"They call me Bubbles in the classroom because I am always rising to the top."



Christopher McDonough
Magruder
"Common sense is like deodorant: The people who need it the most never use it."



Patrick McKean
Undecided
"The best things in life are actually really expensive."



Michael Merola
Winston Churchill
"Whoever is trying to bring you down is already below you."



James Miller
DeMatha
"I am faster than 80% of all snakes. Just the other day, I outran a Black Pepper snake."
- Dwight Schrute



Ashley Nails
Holy Cross
"Difficult roads often lead to beautiful destinations."



Ryan O'Keefe
Gonzaga
"Oh good, you haven't started either?"
- Ryan O'Keefe, two days before every project ever



Sarah Owens
Holy Cross
"I am ready to face any challenge that is foolish enough to face me."



Matthew Pimenta
The Heights
"When life gives you avocados, make guacamole."



Nora Pottker
Holy Cross
"Don't get upset over bad spaghetti."



Will Quinn
Georgetown Prep
"The most terrifying words in the English language are: I'm from the government, and I'm here to help."



Mateo Rhoe
The Heights
"Behind every great man there is a woman rolling her eyes. Thanks, Mom."



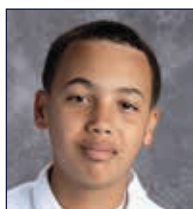
John Smithdeal
Gonzaga
"The ceiling is the roof."
- Michael Jordan



Katie Stach
Holy Cross
"My bed is a magical place where I suddenly remember everything I forgot to do."



Will Stancik
Good Counsel
"Success isn't just about what you accomplish in life. It's about what you inspire others to do."



Zachariah Staples
The Heights
"When you reach the end of your rope, tie a knot in it and hang on."



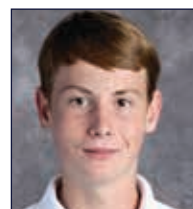
Isabella Totia
St. John's
"What goes right and wrong is your life, but how you handle it is who you are."



Lily Valaik
Holy Child
"I enjoy long, romantic walks to the fridge."



Nicolas Varanelli
St. John's
"It's a good thing Russia doesn't exist anymore."
- Michael Scott



Michael Veith
Gonzaga
"Never argue with stupid people; they will drag you down to their level and then beat you with experience."



Jessica Vincent
Walter Johnson
"Hannah Montana says nobody's perfect, but here I am."



St. Mary's students in preschool through eighth grade are gearing up for our fifth annual Mustang Marathon fun run. Donations supporting excellence in education at St. Mary's School can be made at www.bidpal.com/mustangmarathon2018.

INTERAGES Program at St. Mary's School and Sunrise Assisted Living

Residents at Sunrise Assisted Living were invited to St. Mary's School for an end of the year celebration

of the INTERAGES program. Kindergarten and seventh-grade students visit with the residents of Sunrise throughout the school year. Seventh-grade students interviewed the residents about their lives on earlier visits to Sunrise, and residents had been most generous in sharing their wisdom and experiences. Later, the students wrote introductions for each of the residents to share what they had learned at their year end celebration. St. Mary's loves the relationship their students can form with the residents of Sunrise Assisted Living through this wonderful program which teaches us about the love and respect for all human life.

OPT

St. Mary's Parish

520 Veirs Mill Road
Rockville, MD

Msgr. Robert Amey,
Pastor

301-424-5550

St. Mary's School

Mrs. Debby Eisel, Principal

301-762-4179

Maureen Stiles, Parish Editor
301-990-4329

May Procession and Crowning



Above, parishioners and students of St. Mary's School gathered for this beautiful devotion to our Blessed Mother on Sunday, May 6 following the 12:30 Mass.

Above right, Children from the parish and school who received their First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 5, participated in the procession honoring Mary. Marian hymns were sung by the participants and the St. Mary's Choir.

At right, at the close of the devotion, children brought their flowers to the feet of Mary, our Mother and patroness of our parish. St. Mary's was also blessed with the presence of the Archdiocesan Tilma of Our Lady of Guadalupe from May 5 through May 8.



Class of 2018
St. Mary School
Rockville, MD

Congratulations!

Students attending the following high schools:

Academy of the Holy Cross, Churchill High School, Northwest High School, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Richard Montgomery High School, Rockville High School, St. John College High School, and Sandy Spring Friends High School

Congratulations, St. John's Class of 2018!

This year's senior class collectively earned more than \$32 million in scholarships.

Kidus Abebe
Semhal Haile Abebe*
Cooper Ferguson Adams
Deborah Denise Alexander*
Tangwan Afor Ambe
Edward Kelly Ambrosi
Joy Burgin Anderson*
Alexandra Elaine Archer*
Miles Rajesh Arthur
Emily Gabriella Ayala*
Helene Ayverdi-Natali*
Zoe Robinson Barnes*
Daniel Gerard Barteldes*†
Ryan Christopher Bateman
Claire Marie Beins
Aidan Reed Block
Brandon Malaciah Booker
Olivia Rose Booth
Olivia Pearl Boykin
Charles Anthony Briscoe III
Molly Kathryn Brock*
Derek Justin Brown*
Dorian Khalil Brown*
Simone Victoria Bucany*†
Nicholas Matthew Burke
John Harding Burns*
Gwyneth Caintic Busog
Kathleen Robinson Butler*
Alexia Brianna Camacho
Michael Darwin Campbell
Thomas William Canary*†
Ethan Francis Cannistra
Karren Angel Cao*†
Owen Winston Carey
Jaylin Tere Carodine
Mark Anthony Carvajal
Johe Abreu Castillo
Clayton Johnston Castle
Pierson Hughes Castle
Nithidon S. Catalan*
Rafael Maurice Checa
Victor William Chupka*†
Dana Catherine Cleary*
Owen Jenks Cleary
Benjamin Hazen Colvin*
Aidan Youngmin Connolly*
Elizabeth Crist Cornelius*
Christina Rose Costopoulos
Daniel Gregory Cotten
Elizabeth Joann Coughlin*
Silvia Elizabeth Coulon
Christian Phillip Crawford*†
Caroline Elizabeth Marie David*
Miguel Christopher Davis, Jr.*
Ellis MarcAnna Davis
Jacques de la Croix-Vaubois*
Gavriel Miguel Del Villar
Aaliyah Nichelle Demas
Grace Elaine Deye*†
Sophie Marie DiBiase*†
Jalen Alexander Dickerson
Abigail Marra Dodge*
Jackson James Dolge
Matthew Alfred Doellgast Donahue*
Caitlyn Dorrer*
Patrice Marianne Dour*†
Kevin Michael Doyle, Jr.
Peter Malcolm Dunn
Cameron Reese Du Pont*
Anthony Jean-Marc Estime*
Sainphorine Ewale*
Arthur John Fairclough
Jorge Eduardo Familiar Avalos*†

William Mangan Farrell
Greta Claire Felten*†
Annamaria Lei Figueroa*
Gracen Imani Fling
David Walter Fricke III*
Haley Elizabeth Friel*
Rebecca Noguera Frye*
Ashleigh Nicole Fultz
Audrey Alice Garrett
Jamal Emanuel Gay*
Benjamin Girardi*
Heaven Charlay Glass
Daniel James Gletner*†
Ezekiel Joseph Gongola
Cameron Noel Goode
Alexander Maximilian Grant*
Kathryn Madison Gray
Haley Lafferty Griffin*†
Shalvit Grimes
Amalia Maria Grobbel*
Ian Hunter Michael Groom*
Abigail Grace Gunawan*
Timothy Gnatek Harper*†
Maxwell John Hayes*†
Stephanie Anne Heffron*
Ryley Liam Stanley Hembruff*
Taria Evelyn Herbert*
Ronald Alexander Hernandez
José Gonzalo Hernández-Ferrufino*
Cassidy Christina Herndon*
Brandon Jesse Hines*
Julia Marie Hippchen
Andrew Thomas Holly
Matthew Grant Holt
Thomas Matthew Howe
Dylan Henson Hunter*
Oluwajomiloju A. Ibirogba*
Joseph Vincent Inglima
Virgil Michael Isola II
Alfredo Jose Izurieta*
Dominique Danielle Jackson*
Samori Jaali Jackson*
Camille Marie Jefferson*†
Joshua David Jefferson
Kelliann Olivia Jenkins
Lorenzo Romero Johnson
Clara Patricia Joyce*
Peter Rex Kalinski*
Patrick Michael Kawahara
Sebastian William Erdmann Keefer*†
Sarah Elizabeth Kelly*
Elizabeth Barbara Kemper*
Chadd Gabriel Kerr
Thomas Robert Kestel
Jacob Robert Kolevar*†
Antonia Mahalia Leopoldine Kristinus*
Joseph Alexander Kuta
Elizabeth Kelsey Lander*
Catherine Logan Latessa*
Nicole Marie Lawson*
Rory Michael Lawson*†
Michelle Alexis Ledet*
Lillian Selwyn Leibel
Abigail Chase LeNoir
Kallah Tariq Leonard
Nicholas Sergei Boehler Levy
Cedric Lee Lewis II
Maya Olivia Lewis*†
Philippa A. Lincoln Lenderking*†
Sarah Luigard*
John Charles McCormack*†
Jansen Michael Mahon
Cole Andrew Maner*

Thomas Michael Mangan
Wesley Scott Manning
Trinity Lauryl Marshall
William Baldwin Martin
Curtis Craig Mathews
Emma Grace McAndrew
Aidan Thomas McAndrews
Maura Leslie McCormick
Timothy Joseph McDonough, Jr.*
Sarah Dominic McDuff*
Aidan Gerard McLoughlin*
Scott Winston Merrick*
Paige Elizabeth Merz*
Owen Timothy Meyers*†
Brooke Ashley Milligan*
Bronwyn Curran Missar*
Amelia Grace Mitchell*
Carter Alexander Monroe
Aneisha Emerlyn Moore*
Eric Scarbeck Moran*
Sabrina Scarbeck Moran*
Nicholas Ryu Mori*†
Grace Elizabeth Morin*
Henry Francis Morin
Megan Suzanne Murphy
Pablo Alberto Musalem
Matthew James Musselman*†
Richard Chidi Njoku
Erin Elizabeth O'Connell*
Brendan Kieran O'Donnell
Sarah Bridget O'Donnell*†
Mary Kate O'Donovan
Peirman Thomas O'Keefe*
Okechukwu Ifeanyi Oboh
Whitney Tracy Octavious*
Ebunoluwa Olubukola Odusanya
Caleb C. Okechukwu
Brandon-Michael Chukwuma Osazuwa
William Marshal Cole Osborne
Nicholas Richard Oswald*
Matthew Dylan Ourand
Marcelo Alfredo Palacios
Casey Angelo Patti†
Naomi Michele Pearson*
Julia Teresa Pennanen*†
Michael Thomas Petrizzo*
William Joseph Pfeifer*
Erica Christine Pifer*†
Michael Riley Place*†
Magdalen Victoria Polkiewicz
Elissa Marie Poole*
Lily Anne Puchalla
Molly Kathryn Quinn*†
Anamaria Racanelli
Nicholas Wilson Rachlin*†
Alejandra Ramirez
Ashley Margarita Ramos
Jacob Christian Ray*
Chasetn Drew Emanuel Reed
Emerson Woodham Reed
Nathaniel Edison Reistetter*†
Michael Diego Reyes
Moises Antonio Reyes*
Robert Byron Reynolds*
Matthew Cecil Rhodes
James Kenton Rippetoe
Ricardo Emilio Roberts III
Aaron Roberts
Diana Teresa Rodriguez*
Jonathan Brett Rogers
Annabella Ilaria Ronca*
Luis Felipe Rubio*†
James Benjamin Rurka*†

Caitlin Elizabeth Ryan*†
Qwanzi Edward Samuels, Jr.
Joseph Anthony Sanchez
Tracy Analuisa Santizo*
Baylen Giovanni Sass
Daisy Dyer Scarvell*
Matthew Ryan Schneider*†
Asha Nicole Scott
Grace Virginia Segreti*†
Jennifer Nicole Sella*†
Samuel Eduardo Serrano
Michael Jacob Shaffer*†
Abigail Erica Nicole Sharp
William Douglas Shenk
Andrew James Sheridan
Spencer Shoch Simmons
Dané Cecelia Simms*
Jillian Ray Sliwinski*
Garrett Maxwell Smith
Zachary Deryck Spooner
Molly Grace Starkenburg*
Jacob Daniel Steinberg
Daniel L. Stockmal*
Neil J. Stockmal
Regan Cierra Swann*
Luke Aubrey Symer
Somer Arnette Taylor*
Talbot Chen Taylor*†
Julius R. Terrell
Craig Michael Thomas, Jr.
Joseph Michael Thompson*†
Hanna Elizabeth Timm*
Anyia Leigh Trudeau*†
Alexander William True
Zachary Michali Tsakounis
Mary Teresa Tundo
Brendan Rhys Vaughan
Thomas Roland Veith, Jr.
Mark Myrtel F. Villegas
Nicholas William Wade*†
Malcolm Thomas Waesche*
William Thomas Waggoner*†
Grace Marie Walsh*
Ryan Christopher Walsh*†
Margaret Elizabeth Warnick*†
Timothy Robert Wasel*
Piers David Alexander Watson
Emily Elizabeth Weintraub
Julia Marie West*
Devin Connor Whalen*†
Robert Patrick White*†
Lucy Anne Wilkerson*†
Aliya Elaine Williams
Bennett Neill Williams
Alison Steffens Willsey*
Devin Cecilia Willsey*†
Madeline Mary Wilson*†
Philip Andrew Balingit Wines*†
Alexsandra Nicole Wolfe
Spencer E. Wood
Sydney Marie Wood*
Tre Leo Wood
Jackson Wolfe Woolard
Lindsey Mae Wright
Eden Koki Yonas*
Benjamin Patrick Zanger
Leonardo Estaban Zelaya

† De La Salle Scholar

* National Honor Society

Two Graduates



Joshua R. Seaton



Katherine Lamoreaux

By Katie Holland, OPT parish editor, with parishioners and proud mothers Benita Seaton and Liz Weiss

Joshua Seaton graduated from West Virginia University May 11, 2018 with a Bachelor of Multidisciplinary Studies and has since been interviewing to get his dream job in the construction industry with emphasis on Business, Landscape and Sustainable Design. Josh was a long-time volunteer, in many capacities, at Christ the King. He graduated from Our Lady of Lourdes in 2008 and from St. John's College High School in 2012. He played freshman football, JV and Varsity Lacrosse, Soccer and Rugby while at SJC and was a proud member of the

JROTC. He continued ROTC at WVU but did not commission. Josh has played on the WVU Men's League Soccer Teams for the last three years.

Katherine Lamoreaux is graduating this year from St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas with an economics degree. Kate too was a long-time volunteer, in many capacities, at Christ the King. She was a 2010 graduate of Our Lady of Lourdes Elementary School and a 2014 graduate of Holy Cross Academy. She is the daughter of Liz Weiss and Etienne Lamoreaux and the twin sister of Paul Lamoreaux.

OPT



Christ the King Choir centered in the Sanctuary

A Reenactment of The Passion of Christ

By Katie Holland, OPT parish editor, with Liz Weiss, parishioner, and Jean Barrioneuva, parish office administrator

This year at Easter Christ the King Parochial Administrator, Fr. Steve Carter, OFM, Cap. surprised the parish by moving the choir to front and center, from the side alcove area, in front of our statues of St Therese and St Anthony, to the area between the Tabernacle and the altar, within the Sanctuary. The acoustics have been a problem for the choir; a fundraiser has been put into place to improve the sound system. This move



Jesus arrives at Christ the King

will put the choir directly in front of the parishioners who have been encouraged to contribute to the Fund!

On Palm Sunday, between the conclusion of the 10:30am Mass (in English) and just prior to the 12:30pm Mass (in Spanish), Jesus arrived on a donkey processing from one side of the Church (west parking lot) to the other (east parking lot). Jesus was portrayed by parishioner Francisco Carcamo. In the Colonial Room Palm Sunday there was a live reenactment of the Passion of Christ.

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Upcoming Events

- The Charismatic Renewal Group of Christ the King will host a three-day retreat in Spanish on September 7, 8 and 9 in a retreat house in the mountains near Philadelphia. Contact the Rectory for enrollment and

directions.

- a Prayer event on the Vigil of Pentecost May 19 will be held 5:30 pm to midnight, with guest lead Fr. Francis Russo, OFM Cap. (in Spanish).
- Fr. Steve Carter is beginning a Young Adults Book Study Group (in English) in the Rectory Tuesdays 7pm, starting with "The Purpose Driven Life" by Rick Warren.
- Mrs. Isidra Molina, Christ the King's Director of Religious Education is also working to establish a Literacy Program, together with Catholic Charities, its announcement is coming soon.

OPT

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

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

Katie Holland,
OPT Editor
kh7@georgetown.edu

SESSION

Con't from page 16

school year, a portion of funding will be directed to assist students with special needs, while continuing to provide scholarships to low-income students.

In light of the attention paid to school safety this session, the General Assembly also increased funding for the Nonpublic Aging Schools Program to \$7 million for capital improvements to Catholic and other nonpublic schools as part of the FY 2019 capital budget. The allocation will continue to provide \$3.5 million for deferred maintenance and infrastructure repairs and renovations, as well as an additional \$3.5 million to assist schools in making their schools safer for their

students.

Students who attend Catholic and other nonpublic schools will continue to utilize the direct savings on textbook and technology costs through the Nonpublic Textbook and Technology Program which was again funded this year at \$6 million.

The Conference also supported several measures to reduce gun violence, including a bill passed by the General Assembly (SB 707/ HB 888) to ban a rapid-fire trigger activator, commonly referred to as a "bump stock," in the state of Maryland. Additionally, the Conference supported a bill (HB 96) to remove financial barriers that may prevent someone from becoming a living organ donor by creating a subtraction modification against the State income tax for up

to \$7,500 of the qualified expenses incurred by a living organ donor.

While immigration continues to be a priority issue for the Conference, several bills failed to pass this session that the Conference had promoted, including a bill to facilitate the process through which an immigrant can obtain a U-Visa, and measures to tighten regulations on foreign labor practices and expand the state's DREAM Act. The Conference also joined other advocates in promoting a bill that failed to receive a committee vote that would have expanded the state's fetal homicide law.

The Maryland Catholic Conference represents all three dioceses with territory in the state – the Archdiocese of Baltimore, the Archdiocese of Washington, and the Diocese of Wilmington.

OPT

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COMMITTEE

Con't from page 22

It was also encouraging that Ms. Johnson indicated that the St. Jane de Chantal parish had the largest turnout she had seen doing this type of event at a congregation! She distributed approximately 200 lightbulbs and collected even more.

Other parish organizations might consider taking advantage of Ms. Johnson's presentations and programs. The St. Jane de Chantal Environmental Committee would welcome input from not only de Chantal parishioners, but also from any similarly oriented groups in other parishes.

OPT

Bishops Support Legislation Keeping Kids First in Adoption and Foster Care

On May 1, the start of National Foster Care Month, numerous faith leaders and nonprofit organizations sent a letter to House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Kevin Brady urging the committee to give a high priority to the enactment of the Child Welfare Provider Inclusion Act of 2017 (H.R. 1881) this year.

The Inclusion Act protects child welfare providers from being discriminated against by federal or state government entities due to the providers' religious beliefs or moral convictions.

The letter states that "keeping kids first involves protecting the birth mother's choice to place the child with the family she feels is best," and it quotes a birth mother who chose to work with a Christian adoption agency "because their values match mine."

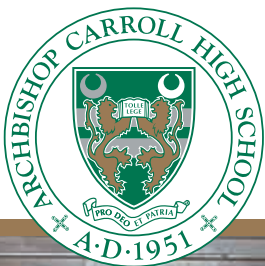
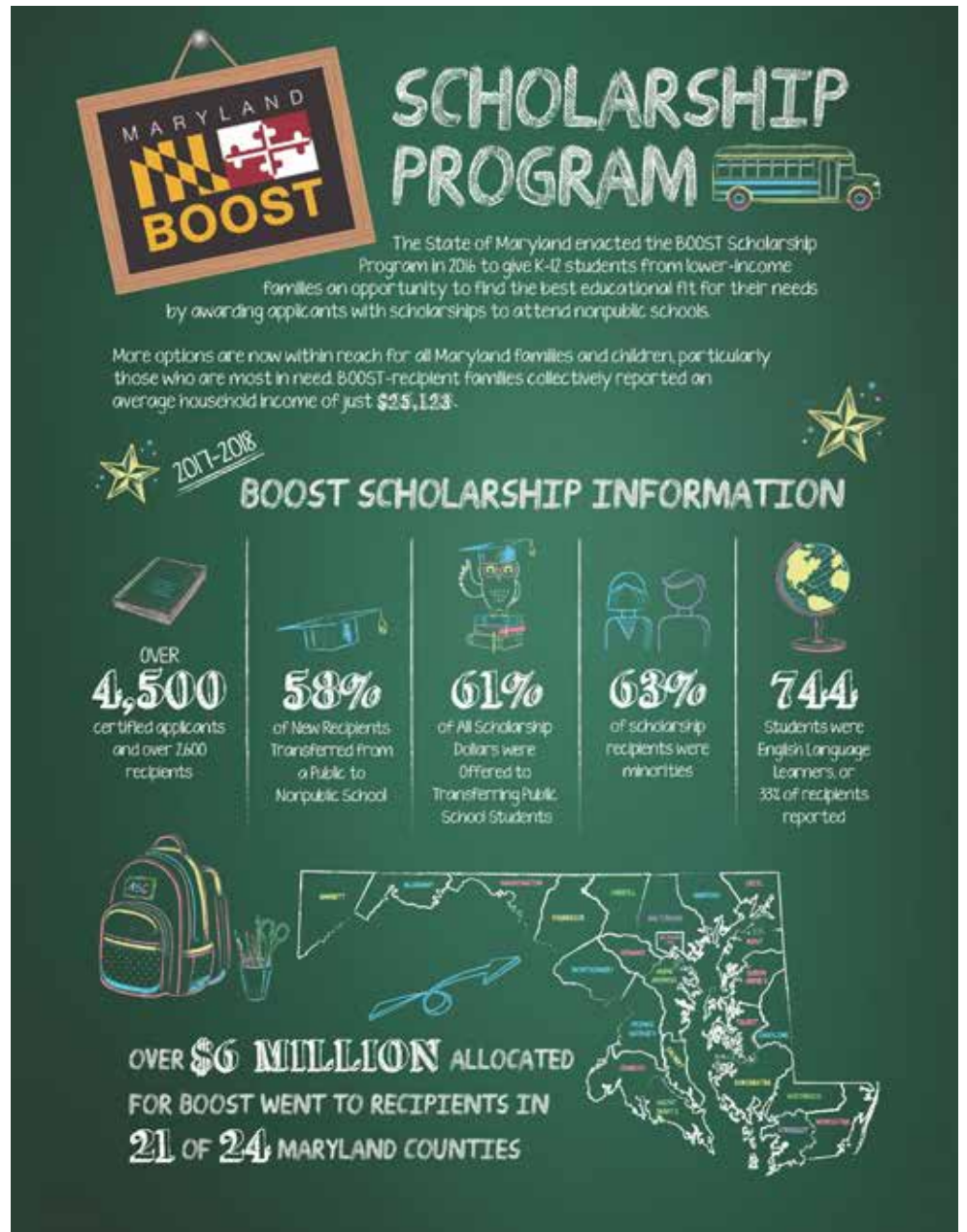
The letter continues: "At a time when the opioid crisis is driving more children into foster care and adoption, we need all available agencies to assist with placing vulnerable children in stable homes. Faith-based agencies in particular excel at recruiting good families who can provide stability for children in crisis; that excellence is propelled by both the faith-driven mission of these agencies as well as their connections to houses of worship where they can recruit



prospective foster and adoptive parents."

In addition to three bishops, each a chair of a USCCB committee, signatories of the letter included Bethany Christian Services, Catholic Charities USA, Buckner International, Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, Assemblies of God, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, and many other organizations concerned about the freedom of adoption and foster care providers to serve children in need of loving homes.

OPT



Congratulations
TO THE **2018**

GRADUATING CLASS OF ARCHBISHOP CARROLL HIGH SCHOOL



2018 First Communion at Holy Redeemer

Spring is the Season of Sacraments!

The second graders at Holy Redeemer Catholic School celebrated their First Holy Communion on Saturday, April 28. There were 65 children celebrating from the school and CCD program. The children were nervous and excited to finally meet

Jesus!

A few quotes from the day:

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

"It was the best day of my life!"

"When I got the Body of Christ it felt like

a magical moment!"

On Wednesday, May 16, over seventy eighth graders from both the school and the Parish will be confirmed. These young men and women have worked hard all year preparing for this big day through their prayers,

studies, and community service. May the Holy Spirit guide them as they finish their elementary years and move on to high school.

OPT



Second Annual Holy Redeemer PaintNite!

A happy group of Holy Redeemer parents, teachers and parishioners painted the night away in the school's auditorium at the Second Holy Redeemer PaintNite on April 25. Participants followed the PaintNite instructor, step by step, in the creation of a landscape featuring the Washington Monument in a moonlit sky. The PaintNite company makes the lesson a breeze, providing detailed instructions and all the supplies needed to complete one's masterpiece. Many a talent for painting was

revealing and toasted with a sip of wine and beer. Lots of laughs, lots of fun and great fellowship again marked this event.

The HR PaintNite is run by HR's Arts Festival committee as a fundraiser for the school's Arts Festival in May. The festival takes place over two days during which students participate in various arts-only workshops and activities. The Arts Festival has become one of the most anticipated events by the entire school community.

OPT

Artists at this year's PaintNite show off their masterpieces.

Cardinal Connection

By Magda Mooers

Located in close proximity to The Catholic University of America (CUA) has its benefits. Currently, there are six CUA graduates on the faculty and staff at Holy Redeemer and two others

with past connections to the campus. Who knows if it's because both schools have the Cardinal as their mascot but whatever the reason it is a nice coincidence.

PreK-Grade Four teacher Sharon Morin Bretting graduated in 1998 and studied early childhood education. Some of her best memories were living in Conaty Hall and Centennial Village Quinn House. She enjoyed going to the DuFour center and watching the men's basketball games. A standout memory was an article in the yearbook about how she and her roommate lived together all four years. She loved walking up to O'Boyle Hall to the education department. Mrs. Bretting loved all her student teaching experiences and her advisor, Dr. Taylor. She feels so lucky to have

stayed so close to her dear CUA friends.

One of our fifth-grade teachers, Pam Manfreda August, graduated in 1991 with a BA in elementary education. Dr. Barton is the teacher she remembers most. "Dr. Barton taught us how to teach math. She gave us riddles almost every day as examples of how to get kids thinking, forcing us to figure out a problem, some of them taking almost a whole class period." Mrs. August brings her love for math into the classroom every day.

Cory Hudson, who teaches PE, graduated in 2009. Mr. Hudson was a member of the CUA baseball team. His most favorite memory is winning back-to-back conference championships. Mr. Hudson brings his enthusiasm for sports to our stu-

dents every day. His most memorable class was Poetry of Rock where he studied different rock bands and their influence on poetry.

Colleen Boyd teaches fourth grade. She graduated in 2016 with a BA in Elementary Education. Ms. Boyd's Favorite memories are attending Luaupalooza and Freshman Retreat, a great opportunity to grow in her faith and meet new people. Spring of her freshman year Ms. Boyd received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Her favorite teacher was Dr. Agnes Cave, head of the Education Department. "Dr. Cave prepared us for the real world. The education department, elementary education specifically, is such a small group that I truly got to know and care about each of my classmates and

I felt that my teachers really got to know me."

Meredith Eib, a 2017 graduate, received a Bachelor's of Music in Musical Theatre and an interdisciplinary minor she created entitled "Music as a Form of Education in Service." Currently, she teaches music and heads the drama department at Holy Redeemer. Two professors who meant the world to her while she was at CUA (and still today) are Dr. Rachelle Fleming in Musical Theatre and Dr. Rosalind Flynn in the drama department. Meredith actively studies voice with Dr. Fleming and Dr. Flynn helped her set up her classroom! Ms. Eib was the recipient of CUA President's Award and worked directly with President Garvey as a

Continued on page 31

Holy Redeemer Parish

9705 Summit Avenue
Kensington, MD

Rev. Mark Hughes
Pastor

301-942-2333

Holy Redeemer School

Mrs. Colleen Ryan,
Principal

301-942-3701

**Tess Elisabeth Boone**

Academy of the Holy Cross
"How the turntables..."
 Michael Scott

**Madeline Grace Bowman**

Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart
"I have not failed. I've successfully discovered 10,000 things that won't work."
 Thomas Edison

**Donald Patrick Carmody II**

St. John's College High School
"Very nice."
 Borat

**Rose Elise Daignault**

Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School
"Be somebody nobody thought you could be."
 William Chapman

**Paige South D'Albora**

Academy of the Holy Cross
"You never know how strong you are until being strong is the only choice."
 Bob Marley

**Brennan Elizabeth Flynn**

Academy of the Holy Cross
"The roof is not my child, but I will raise it."
 Anonymous

**Patrick Vincent George**

Gonzaga College High School
"It's not whether you get knocked down; it's whether you get up."
 Vince Lombardi

**Margaret Cecile Gormly**

Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School
"The best things in life aren't things."
 Robideau

Congratulations
HR HOLY REDEEMER
 CATHOLIC SCHOOL
 Class of 2018 Graduates

Father Mark F. Hughes, *Pastor* • Mrs. Colleen Ryan, *Principal*

**Christian James Holtzapple**

Our Lady of Good Counsel
"If God wanted us to play soccer, he wouldn't have given us arms."
 Mike Ditka

**Owen Henderson Kirvan**

Gonzaga College High School
"Happiness can be found in the darkest of times if one simply remembers to turn on the light."
 J.K. Rowling

**Theresa Celine Lucas**

Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School
"Ask for forgiveness, not permission."
 Jorge Garayta III

**Katherine Rose Monahan**

St. John's College High School
"Don't worry about the world coming to an end today. It's already tomorrow in Australia."
 Charles Schulz

**Claire Emily Morin**

St. John's College High School
"Don't worry about failures, worry about the chances you miss when you don't even try."
 Jack Canfield

**Kaitlin Patricia Morin**

St. John's College High School
"To us, family means putting your arms around each other and being there."
 Barbara Bush

**Grant Timothy Noyes**

Gonzaga College High School
"If you can dodge a wrench, you can dodge a ball."
 Patches O'Houlihan

**John Patrick O'Donnell III**

St. John's College High School
"When's lunch?"
 Patrick O'Donnell

**Therese Michelle Osborn**

St. John's College High School
"When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace."
 Jimi Hendrix

**Gabriela Elizabeth Ramirez**

Academy of the Holy Cross
"My bed is a magical place, where I suddenly remember everything I forgot to do."
 Unknown

**Rafael Antonio Rodriguez**

St. John's College High School
"I hated every minute of training, but I said, 'Don't quit. Suffer now and live the rest of your life as a champion.'"
 Muhammad Ali

**Nelson Abraham Rosales**

St. John's College High School
"My bed is a magical place, where I suddenly remember everything I forgot to do."
 Unknown

**James Milton Smith**

St. John's College High School
"Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, but today is a gift. That is why it is called the present."
 Oogway, Kung-fu Panda

**Maraki Theodros**

St. John's College High School
"Don't tell me I'm too much when you're not enough."
 Anonymous

**Bridget Paige Trebon**

Our Lady of Good Counsel
"There are no limits to what you can accomplish, except the limits you place on your own thinking."
 Brian Tracy

**Colin Rorke Trigiani**

St. John's College High School
"Whatever you are, be a good one."
 Abraham Lincoln

**Olivia Josephine Tropea**

Connelly School of the Holy Child
"I'm not convinced that I know how to read, I've just memorized a lot of words."
 Anonymous

**Andrew Joseph Trybus**

Georgetown Preparatory School
"Winning solves everything."
 Tiger Woods

**Samuel John Trybus**

Georgetown Preparatory School
"Winners never quit, and quitters never win."
 Vince Lombardi

**Ella Hamilton Turgeon**

Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School
"To leave the world a little better than you found it. That's the best one can ever do."
 Paul Auster

**Nicholas Robert Waits-Cabrales**

Georgetown Preparatory School
"It is nice to be important, but it is also important to be nice. Never forget that."
 Sacha Baron Cohen

**Timothy Patrick Walsh**

Georgetown Preparatory School
"The present is theirs; the future, for which I really worked, is mine."
 Nikola Tesla

**Beckham John Weltler**

Georgetown Preparatory School
"When you reach the end of your rope, tie a knot in it and hang on."
 Franklin D. Roosevelt

**Kevin Patrick Whitty**

St. John's College High School
"Good, better, best. Never let it rest. Until your good is better and your better is best."
 Tim Duncan



St Patrick School News



St. Patrick's Parish

4101 Norbeck Road
Rockville, MD

Rev. Msgr. Charles J. Parry

Pastor

301-924-2284

St. Patrick's School

Ms. Christie Anne Short,
Principal

301-929-9672

Parish Editor

New Volunteer Needed
Contact rectory to apply

Library Theater Returns

Above, the third-grade play "The Enchanted Bookshop" was the culmination of a yearlong "Library Theater" program, a feature of the regular Library curriculum. Students experienced the art of storytelling, performance, and drama basics in a six week workshop this past fall. Then for eight weeks this spring, led by Mrs. Swanda and Mrs. Guarini, third-grade students prepared their roles in this 35-minute play which required memorization of lines, costuming, and stage blocking. We are very proud of the cast of this "Library Theater" play!

Spring into Service

At right, St. Patrick's School has been busy with two important service projects this spring. First, our fourth-grade class, in partnership with the Kindergarten students, conducted their annual Lenten service project to make bagged lunches for the Men's Shelter on Gude Drive in Rockville. In four weeks, they made 1,824 sandwiches. Lunch bags were filled with sandwiches and fruit and the bags were decorated with prayers and encouraging messages. In April, there was a school-wide drive to benefit S.O.M.E. (So Others Might Eat). The school collected hundreds of diapers, granola bars, and adult socks—enough to fill three large car trunks!



**More St. Patrick's News
on Page 31**



St. Patrick's Class of 2018!



"All You Need is Faith, Trust, and a Little Pixie Dust"

At left, St. Patrick's School recently finished a weekend of performances of its second annual school musical, "Peter Pan, JR." More than 60 students in grades five through eight formed the cast and crew of the production. The play was directed by Mrs. Gina Swanda and Mrs. Jill Fecko with Mrs. Cindy Ladd leading the stage crew.

On Top of The World!

Congratulations to eighth-grader Aaron Siegle, at right, who finished in Fourth Place in the Maryland State Geography Bee. Following his 4-peat victory as the St. Patrick's School champion, Aaron represented the school again this year at the state competition, a qualifying round for the National Geography Bee held in Washington DC.



CONNECTION

Con't from page 28

member of his President's Society. She played Jo March in Little Women the Musical main stage production. Additionally, she was able to perform at the Kennedy Center, sing for singer/songwriter Audrey Assad and had many more musical opportunities. "CUA certainly shaped me and I'm ever grateful for it!" Ms. Eib is currently directing the HR spring musical, Godspell, Jr.

Librarian, Mrs. Ann Enkiri, attended Catholic University's Campus School from 2nd through 8th grades. "We benefited from CUA's education department: Student teachers interned at our school and they also used the students to sample many national standardized tests. Mrs. Enkiri made her First Holy Communion in the Crypt Chapel and her Eighth Grade Graduation was held in the Basilica. Mrs. Enkiri has many fond memories of Campus School and of the Shrine.

Other notable Catholic University connections and alumni are in the front office. Admissions Director, Ms. Lynn Doyle worked at CUA for 19 years and all of her children attended the school. Ms. Doyle has fond memories of helping and working with the students in the registrar's office. Assistant Principal, Mrs. Magda Mooers, attended Catholic University in the 1980's. She was involved both intercollegiate and intramural sports. Her favorite memories are attending football games in the "bowl", keeping score for the men's basketball team, and going to 10pm mass in the bottom floor of Gibbons Hall. "My favorite class was Biomedical Ethics with Father Mohan. He challenged our thinking and prepared us for the debates of life." Mrs. Mooers returns every year to CUA for Homecoming and is in contact with many of her CUA classmates."

Holy Redeemer is blessed to have this connection to Catholic University and thankful for all the wonderful CUA alumni in the building. Go Cards!

OPT



Congratulations CLASS of 2018

Xavier Arguello Maduro
David Chimsom Agwamba
Connor Ford Anderson
George Brooks Beall
William Alexander Bonadio
Robert Paul Bowell, Jr.
Joseph Peter Brach
Carlos Arthur Brooks
John Anthony Buono
Thomas Joseph Byrne
Lucas Fernando-Johannes Maria Cremers
Joseph George Crnkovich, III
Thomas Frederick Davis
John Paul DeAgostino
Joel Benjamin Defensor
Marc Bosco deSa
Cameron Allen Dezio
Andrew Vincent Dougherty
Nicholas James Dujmovic
Paul Thomas Egan
Anthony Francis Esquivel

Ryan Joseph Ewing
James Michael Fairbanks
Anthony Pasquale Falcone
Nathan Gregory Feldman
Isaiah James Fowler
James Kevin Gilday
Michael Patrick Gilday
Alexander Bishop Greehan
Nelson Humberto Guachamin
YuFeng Guo
Stephen David Herrick
James David Higgins
Thomas Edwin James
Patrick Richard Kelley
Maximilian Joseph Kolasch
Isaac Shimon Liang
Thomas Henry Malouf
Maximilian Karol McCabe
Dayton Matias McCarthy
William Edward McFadden
Brian Austin McGovern

Maximilian Kolbe Miller
Thomas Aidan Moriarty
Timothy Quentin Naegele
Joseph Alexander Pakaluk
Antonio Pancorbo
Kevin Douglass Pointer, Jr.
Alvaro Jose Ramos
Matthew Edward Reilly
Kevin Thomas Reim
Henry Gustav Reinhardt
Victor Nabil Rizkalla
Andrew John Francesco Ryland
John William Schindler
Michael Paul Schmidt
Demetrius Tyrone Shepard-Lewis
Aidan Lewis Smart
Raphael Alexis Soria
Joseph Sergei Spalding
Peter Thomas Spence
Wyatt Steele Vance
Joseph Thomas Willard

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

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

Ave Maria University ■ Baylor University ■ Boston College ■ Bowdoin College ■ Bucknell University ■ University of California at Berkeley ■ University of California, Los Angeles ■ Carnegie Mellon University (Carnegie Institute of Technology) ■ Case Western Reserve University ■ Catholic University of America ■ University of Chicago ■ College of Charleston ■ The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina ■ Clemson University ■ Claremont McKenna College ■ Colgate University ■ Columbia University ■ Cornell University ■ University of Dallas ■ Dartmouth College ■ Davidson College ■ Denison University ■ Dickinson College ■ Fordham University ■ George Mason University ■ The George Washington University ■ Georgetown University ■ Georgia Institute of Technology ■ Gettysburg College ■ Harvard University ■ University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign ■ James Madison University ■ Johns Hopkins University ■ The Juilliard School ■ Loyola University Maryland ■ Marymount University ■ University of Mary Washington ■ University of Maryland, College Park ■ Miami University, Oxford ■ University of Michigan ■ Mount St. Mary's University ■ University of Navarre ■ New York University ■ The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill ■ Northwestern University ■ University of Notre Dame ■ University of Pennsylvania ■ Pennsylvania State University, University Park ■ Pepperdine University ■ Princeton University ■ Providence College ■ Rice University ■ University of Southern California ■ Stanford University ■ St. Joseph's University ■ Texas A&M University ■ Tulane University ■ University of Vermont ■ Villanova University ■ Virginia Military Institute ■ Virginia Tech ■ University of Virginia ■ Wake Forest University ■ Washington and Lee University ■ Wesleyan University ■ College of William and Mary

THE HEIGHTS SCHOOL

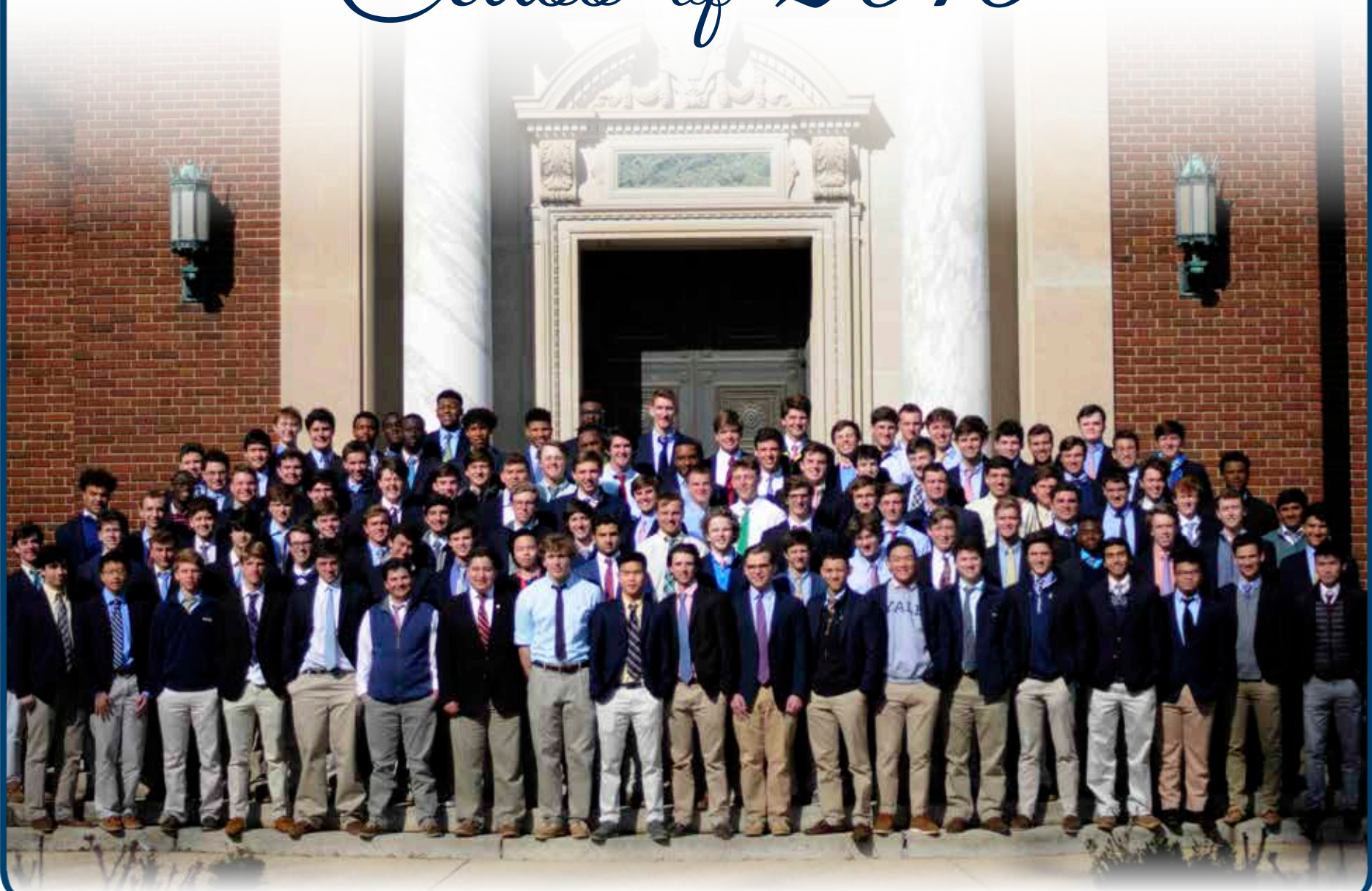
THE HEIGHTS IS AN INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL FOR BOYS IN GRADES 3-12 LOCATED IN POTOMAC, MD

10400 SEVEN LOCKS ROAD POTOMAC MARYLAND 20854 T: 301.765.2093

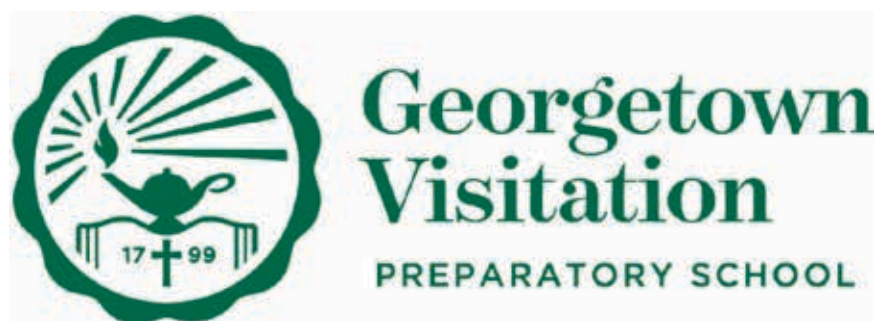
www.heights.edu



Congratulations to Georgetown Prep's Class of 2018



WWW.GPREP.ORG



CONGRATULATES THE CLASS OF 2018!



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



MoN Class of 2018 pictured with Mary following May Crowning Mass

School Community Celebrates Patroness at May Crowning

Each year the Mary of Nazareth School community honors Mary, our patroness, with a Mass and May Crowning. In gratitude for her many graces and the intercession of our Blessed Mother, the eighth-grade students crown

Mary and make an offering of flowers. This year's May crowners were eighth grade students, Fiona O'Connell and Eduard Ioana. Each individual grade also honors Mary with a classroom May Crowning and prayer service.

OPT

MoN Hosts Rest Stop Along Bike Tour in Support of Veterans

2018 marks the sixth year that Mary of Nazareth School has hosted a rest stop on its campus for the Face of America bike tour. The Face of America tour consists of a 110-mile ride from the Pentagon to Gettysburg and is one of the largest annual non-competitive bicycle rides in the Washington, D.C. region.

Participants ride together to honor US troops and inspire injured veterans. Mary of Nazareth students and families welcomed riders to the school's 190+ acre campus, cheering them on and handing



Second-grade student Lucas Phommachanh pictured with Col. Gregory D. Gadson at MoN's Face of America Bike Tour rest stop.

them refreshments. Second-grade student Lucas Phommachanh had the opportunity to meet and speak with Col. Gregory D. Gadson, a double amputee and graduate of Georgetown University's Public Policy Institute, while the FOA riders took a break from their two-day ride in route to Gettysburg. The event, created and organized by World T.E.A.M. Sports, celebrates its eighteenth race this year.

Race day events were organized by Mary of Nazareth's Social Concerns Committee, which works during the academic year to provide classroom instruction and volunteer opportunities that raise students' awareness of their responsibility to act as good stewards within their communities.

OPT



Seventh graders explain and discuss their STEM projects with judges.

MoN Holds First Ever STEM Fair

Middle School Science teacher Ms. Jennifer Massey put a new spin on the MoN Science Fair

this year. As in previous years, seventh-grade students were required to select a project, conduct research, plan an experi-

ment, analyze results, and draw conclusions. This year, however, the project had to be problem-

Continued on page 53



The cast of Seussical Jr. joined together following the production's opening performance.

Students Celebrate the Arts with Spring Musical

This March, Mary of Nazareth held the first Spring Musical to be debuted in 15 years, *Seussical Jr.* Students in grades five through eight were invited to audition for parts in the musical and spent several months preparing. The school was extremely energized by the outpouring of volunteerism from both parents and teachers in preparation for the play.

The production offered students an authentic experience in performing arts, not only with opportunities to perform as part of the cast, but also as members of the production staff.

Parent volunteers Mrs. Roxanne Stone and Mr. John Feeney served as the Executive Producers. Mrs. Stone, who has worked in the theatre onstage and off for nearly 40 years, says of her experience,

"Along the way, I've learned so much from these kids. Their creativity, joy, and excitement have been a source of inspiration and fuel to keep us going."

In total, there were four showings of *Seussical Jr.*, all of which were well attended by family and friends of our school. Congratulations to all participants on your hard work, dedication, and creativity!

OPT

Mary of Nazareth

Roman Catholic School
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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.



Jennifer Alberio



Sebastian Aliaga



Dillon Armstrong



Mercy Asamoah



Claire Beucher



Paul Carvajal



Peter Chamoun



Sabrina Di Marzio



Matthew Dirlam



Stephanie Duque



Ava Echeandia



Robert Eloshway



Madalyn Engel



Alexa Fabi



Sofia Guillamon



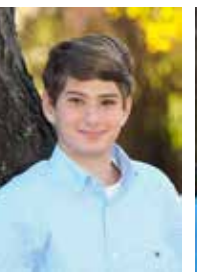
Noelle Hailu



Michael Hennies



Caitlin Hofmann



Eduard Ioana



Evan Kelly



Samantha Kidwell



Emily LaRochelle



Peter Le



Joseph Loberiza



Jade McCourt



Christopher McDanald



Declan McNerney



Margaret McIntyre



Elizabeth Miller



Daniel Murphy



Fiona O'Connell



Tiernan O'Rourke



Brenden Pauline



Alexander Perrin



Aidan Rafferty



Dylan Richards



Kiley Rutland



Trent Sanders



Mackenzie Saum



Andrew Schaefer



Hannah Schneider



Garrett Schuppner



Kendra Soewandi



Nicholas Sofia



Jack Staton



Swashik Sudarsan



Angela Tran



Rebekkah Vandegrift



Patrick Vassallo



Maya Yapur

**Congratulations
Mary of Nazareth
Class of 2018**

Confirmation and First Communion at Mother Seton Parish

By Dominique Seraphin

On April 13, 2018 our parish welcomed Bishop Mario Dorsonville as he confirmed 90 of our Confirmation Candidates. The candidates had a nervous excitement before Mass as they gathered in the parish center. As they sat and waited for Mass to begin, Bishop Dorsonville, on his way from the rectory to the Church to vest before Mass stopped by the parish center to address the confirmandi. During his time with confirmandi he reminded them that their lives would no longer be the same and that although they might not feel a difference after Confirmation the gifts of the Holy Spirit would manifest themselves throughout their lives in the good times and bad times. The confirmation Mass was definitely filled with the Holy Spirit. We pray that our candidates recognize and respond to the workings of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

On Saturday May 5, 109 children received Jesus for the first time. Fr. Lee and Fr. Ben spoke to the children about what it is like to receive Jesus. He nourishes us to help us live our lives according to his will. We should continue to come to Mass to receive Him as often as possible especially on Sundays. The children looked beautiful in their dresses and suits. After processing into the church, and in their seats, they looked in awe about what was happening. They have worked hard and prepared for this day and everyone was excited.

OPT



Above, Mother Seton First Communion 2018. Below, Mother Seton Confirmation 2018.



Fr. Benjamin Garcia gives the children Holy Communion



Receiving Jesus for the first time

Daughters of Mary Breakfast

By Laurie Saenz

The Daughters of Mary Breakfast was held at the Holiday Inn on April 29. The annual event is sponsored by the Sodality of Our Lady at Mother Seton Parish to honor the Blessed Mother while evangelizing about her. The day is all about Mary including table decorations with a statue of the Blessed Mother surrounded by flowers. Books and religious articles are given to the children in attendance all having to

Continued on page 39



Susan Conroy's joyous lecture

RCIA Mass at Mother Seton Parish April 7

By Brenda Rosado

Mother Seton Parish joyfully received Angelyn Pineda, Elizabeth Padilla, Wilmer Benavides, Nelson Benavides, and Michael Numa into the Catholic faith on Saturday, April 7. All the children were prepared through the Rite of Christian Initiation and received the Sacraments of Baptism and Holy Eucharist; Nelson and Michael also received the

Continued on page 39



Sodality members celebrate together

Mother Seton Parish
19951 Fr. Hurley Boulevard
Germantown, MD

Fr. Lee Fangmeyer
Pastor
301-924-3838

Brenda Rosado
OPT Editor
Bulletin@Mothersetonparish.org

Knights of Columbus Host St. Nicholas Breakfast

Over 150 hungry guests spent a snowy December morning enjoying the annual "Breakfast with St. Nicholas" in the Parish Center.

In addition to the delicious pancake breakfast prepared by the Knights of Columbus and their spouses, supported by members of the eighth-grade Confirmation class, the Bauer family (Ron, Raelene and Marla) again brought excitement to the children by generously donating over 130 toys and stuffed animals.

Fr. Joe remarked, "It was a



Above, there is a fourth smile under the beard!

At left, the Bauer family prepares to distribute gifts to the children.



great day for the parish and a joy to be part of it with you all. Thanks to all the Knights for a momentous morning and blessed occasion for our families to prepare for the Birth of the Lord."

OPT



The Hurley Irish Dancers are featured entertainers every year.

St. Patrick Honored in March

By Rus Wester

One hundred and thirty-five, fun-loving Irish folk of SJN gathered for their annual feast of corned beef and cabbage, whiskey chicken, soda bread, dark ale and the Hurley Irish Dancers. No SJN Irish party would be complete without the "not-so-wee", KofC Leprechaun/Emcee, Tom Firestone and our resident Irish raconteur, Father Peter Sweeney.



Father Peter Sweeney brings Irish wisdom and humor to the party honoring St. Patrick.



Knights of Columbus Leprechaun/Emcee Tom Firestone keeps the party flowing.

In his opening comments this year, the good Father Sweeney pledged to be on hand each St. Paddy's Day at least until his 90th birthday. He began his remarks with a hand-out for all: a European Celtic map which confirms that the Celtic peoples did exist. And from that beginning, the

history and traditions of the Emerald Isle did grow through unbounding Irish wisdom and humor, which Father Sweeney provides and never seems to run out.

"This will probably be the larg-

Continued on page 39

Rummage Sale Success Funds Picnic

By Mary Beth de Ribeaux

When the organizers of the parish yard sale asked our priests, Fr. Joe and Fr. Bill, for the use of their garage for a month, they granted it willingly and parked their cars outside in rain or shine, while their garage gradually filled with donations from parishioners. When they were asked to pray for good weather, they willingly did that, too – and their prayers were answered.

April 21 and 22 kicked off a spectacular spring weekend, and the giant rummage sale held at the Neumann House was a huge success in raising money to fund the upcoming parish picnic.

Many hands helped the sale bring in nearly \$9,500: The Spanish-speaking community and Goshen Enterprises put up tents; the men's group loaded and delivered a large truck of furniture and other items stored in the priests' rectory garage. Meanwhile, a small army of dedicated volunteers got us unpacked and set up for the sale. We opened the doors for business with welcoming smiles, lots of treasure for sale and prices that pleased everyone. Best of all, many community members learned about our parish and the friendliness of its members as they were invited to find the Real Treasure...across the street in our church.

OPT



Dan Arnold & Swing Theory Jazz Band – that's SJN parishioner, Joe Whitney, on saxophone.

St. Valentine's Dinner Dance

A little snow never held our parish back from dinner and dancing. The first social event of the year, celebrating our 40th Anniversary Jubilee, took place with an accumulation of 2.6-inches of snow that fell between 2 and 10pm of the event day, February 17.

"It was pretty amazing to see 135 people unbundling at the door to reveal their dancing clothes, and yes, they had their dancing shoes on," said event organizer, Cheryl Harskowitch. "Father Joe welcomed all with a champagne toast,

Chef Luis Jovel prepared a scrumptious dinner, over 30 volunteers set up a beautiful and romantic environment, and Dan Arnold & his Swing Theory Jazz Band made great music the entire evening."

Father Joe was pleased with the diversity of parishioners attending and was grateful for the many donations that resulted for the school children of Jerusalem. It allowed him to deliver a generous check to the Latin (Roman Catholic) Patriarchate from the people of SJN parish.

OPT



Elizabeth Rodas and Felix Fernandez raising their glasses as Father Rogers welcomed guests with a champagne toast.

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

Fr. Joseph Rogers
Pastor

Rus Wester
OPT Editor

Resurrecting the Family

Helen Alvaré is a George Mason University Professor and speaker and delegate to various UN conferences concerning women and the family. Sodality and Knights of Columbus were honored to host Helen speaking about *Resurrecting the Family... for the good of all people and the restoration of Holy Families*. One of Helen's messages that resonated with the group was to keep doing what you are doing – show what strong marriage looks like. Children are the beneficiaries of such a marriage.

OPT



(L-R): Mike Watson, Anna Derry, Helen Alvaré, Jan Rathgeber, Gina Witt, Larry Boesch



St. Raphael Sodality recently enjoyed a pilgrimage to the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes in Emmitsburg. The Sodality members walked Corpus Christi Lane and Stations of the Cross, as well as Rosary Lane. They visited the Glass Chapel of St. Mary's on the Hill, the Grotto Cave Area, Visitors Center and gift shop. They ended the day with lunch at the Carriage House Inn.



*Congratulations,
Class of 2018!*

Natalia Adams

Academy of the Holy Cross

Brian Bromley

St. John's College High School

Matias Camp

Thomas S. Wootton High School

Max Edmonds

Gonzaga College High School

Alex Gerbstadt-Smolarczyk

Georgetown Preparatory School

John Grintzias

St. John's College High School

Alexandra Gunz

Academy of the Holy Cross

Tomas Hurtado

Colegio Everest (Chile)

Mick Kaibni

Our Lady of Good Counsel

Connor Kearns

Richard Montgomery High School

Conor Kelly

Gonzaga College High School

Erin Madruga

Academy of the Holy Cross

Sean McGlasson

Winston Churchill High School

Carmen Moreno

Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart

Ben Navabi

Georgetown Preparatory School

Tony Orr

Our Lady of Good Counsel

Isabella Pineda

Academy of the Holy Cross

Caleigh Rose

Academy of the Holy Cross

Maggie Sullivan

Georgetown Visitation

Katherine Tylor

Academy of the Holy Cross

Tamara Vargas

Sherwood High School

James Washko

St. John's College High School

Annabella Zara

Academy of the Holy Cross

Benjamino Zelaya

St. John's College High School



St Raphael School News

**St. Raphael School Presents
"Shrek the Musical Jr."**

By Nina Cardillo

Hard work, diligent rehearsal, and the blend of individual talents and personalities culminated in an uplifting presentation of "Shrek the Musical Jr." by the St. Raphael School Performing Arts Program. The middle-school cast and crew, led by music teacher Karen Shantz, delivered the Shrek message that "what makes us special makes us strong" with enthusiastic singing and dancing, and through the portrayal of misfit characters working together for a greater good and ultimately finding true love and happiness in the deeper layers beneath the surface.

Many teachers, parents, and vol-

Continued on page 39

**St. Raphael Parish
St. Raphael School**

1513 Dunster Road
Rockville, MD

Rev. Michael Salah, Pastor

Teri Dwyer, Principal

**MJ Zafis-Garcia,
OPT Editor**

301-762-2143

www.straphaels.org
www.straphaelschoolmd.org

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram:
@SRSRockville



ST. RAPHAEL SCHOOL: 1513 Dunster Road, Rockville, MD 20854 | 301-762-2143 | www.straphaelschoolmd.org

SCHOOL NEWS

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unteers contributed their time and talent to bring this tale to life with colorful costumes, sets, and props, as well as behind-the-scenes logistics. We are grateful to those who came out to support the show and to all who were involved, especially the "Shrek" cast, whose convincing performance that everyone indeed has a unique story and that beauty is truly more than skin deep made us all want to sing out loud, "I'm a Believer!"

Sacraments and Spring Celebrations

The sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation were received with great joy this month at St. Raphael Catholic Church, where 105 First Communicants and 128 Confirmandi across the parish reached these milestones in their Catholic faith journey. The parish welcomed Bishop Herbert Bevard, bishop of St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, who celebrated Confirmation Mass along with our pastor, Fr. Mike Salah, and our parochial vicar, Fr. Dave Wells. Congratulations to all the children, as well as the parents, teachers, catechists, and priests who made this spiritual step possible!



St. Raphael School second-graders mark a milestone as they celebrate their First Communion May 5. Photo by Tom Carrington

With anchors aweigh, this year's nautical-themed SpringFest transformed SRS's Trumpet Room in sailing splendor as the community gathered for an evening of fun and fundraising. Silent and live auctions benefited the school while everyone aboard enjoyed live music, a buffet

dinner, and the popular cornhole tournament. Thank you to all of the volunteers and participants who made this year's event a shipshape success!

SRS also hosted its annual Girls' Night Out, a spring shopping boutique. This one-stop shop had it all—fabulous vendors and great raffle, appetizers and drinks, and an emporium filled with SRS family and friends.

And finally, SRS school moms enjoyed a heartwarming morning with their children at the Mother's Day celebration. This annual tradition began with Mass, during which Our Blessed Mother was crowned with a beautiful wreath honoring Our Lady as Queen of May, followed by a light reception. The children's video messages and gifts made for precious keepsakes and loving memories from this day.

End-of-School Events

May 22: St. Raphael Nursery School Picnic and Basket Raffle closes out the nursery school year with a fun-filled family celebration. Tickets are now available for the annual basket raffle that benefits the preschool.

June 1: Eighth Grade Graduation



SRS student Benjamino Zelaya stands proudly with Bishop Herbert Bevard, left, and Pastor Mike Salah. St. Raphael School's eighth grade class received the sacrament of Confirmation on May 5. Photo by Cindy Zelaya

wishes all the best to our SRS Angels who are ascending to new heights and preparing for high school.

June 4: Father's Day Prayer Service brings together SRS dads and their children for prayer and a light reception.

June 12: Field Day and June 13:

Closing School Mass mark the end of the school year and start of summer break.

For more information about our school, visit our website at www.straphaelschoolmd.org. Have a blessed and safe summer!

OPT



Mick Kaibni portrays Shrek and Maggie Sullivan plays Princess Fiona in St. Raphael School's production of "Shrek the Musical Jr." The cast performed for a packed house April 27 and 28. Photo by Tom Carrington

BREAKFAST

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do with our Blessed Mother. The Sodality is celebrating 25 years at Mother Seton Parish this year, and their motto is: "To Jesus through Mary."

Susan Conroy, the speaker at this year's breakfast, spoke of Mary, particularly about Mother Teresa's devotion to her, but mostly Susan, a writer, speaker, and TV host on EWTN, spoke of her 11-year friendship with Mother Teresa, now St. Teresa of Calcutta. Susan, at age 21, traveled alone to Calcutta to work alongside Mother Teresa and her Missionary Sisters of Charity in Calcutta, and later in the Harlem

district of New York.

Joy and grace radiated from Susan as she shared pictures and spoke of Mother Teresa and her Sisters, as they lovingly and joyfully care for the poor and orphans. Susan told the 150 guests who attended the breakfast that in order to join Mother Teresa's Missionary Sisters of Charity three qualities were necessary: willing hands, a loving heart, and most important of all, a spirit of joy. Guests at the breakfast were spell bound by Susan's presentation, and were thrilled to be able to meet her afterward as she signed their books. To learn more about Susan Conroy, to buy her books, or schedule her as a speaker, go to her website: www.susanconroy.com.

OPT

RCIA MASS

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Sacrament of Confirmation. Their sponsors, parents and other family members were there to share with them this wonderful occasion, along with parishioners who were asked to pray them all through the month of April. May God continue to bless them all throughout their lives.

OPT

Fr. Lee Fangmeyer baptizes the children



ST PATRICK

Con't from page 37

est fundraiser of the year for the Knights," said Tom Firestone. "In the words of one who should know, Father Sweeney said the food was excellent! Add to that the wonderful Irish dancers, and it's easy to see why our guest-list was so strong and growing. We really had a terrific time celebrating the feast day of St. Patrick."

Circle the March 2019 date on your calendar, because you don't want to miss even one of these annual gatherings!

OPT

A Retirement Celebration at OLOM

It is with both joy and sadness that we announce the retirement of Eileen Grams, Director of Mercy's Inclusion Program for 19 years, and of Mary Lou Coughlin, our Kindergarten teacher who has been with Mercy for 41 years!

To recognize their work and goodness to all in our community, we will be hosting a Mass in their honor on Monday, May 21, at 8:30 am. The celebration will be followed by an outdoor reception. Families, past and present, alums, and our parish community are encouraged to join us! Please RSVP to Lynne Rutland at lrutland@olom.org.

In honor of their professional dedication to excellence in Catholic education, we have established a continuing education fund in their names. This fund will be used to support Mercy faculty in their efforts to follow the life-long commitment of both of these women to learning and teaching. If you would like to make a donation, a special page has been set up on the school website www.schoololom.org/Page/1698. Donations and notes will also be accepted in the school office.

OPT

Seventh Grade Explores the Chesapeake Bay

Mercy seventh graders, along with Mrs. Thomas (Principal), Mr. Treadwell (P.E. and Athletic Director), and Mr. Sharp (Science) had the exciting opportunity to attend the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) Karen Noonan Center for an additional Outdoor Education experience this year. This is a special opportunity for Mercy because Karen Noonan was a Mercy graduate who perished in the 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland. This center offers an outstanding hands-on educational program that supports our science program.

The Center is situated on 20 acres of marsh in southern Dorchester County, Maryland. Watermen communities, pine forests, underwater grass beds, and native oyster reefs surround the center. Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, one of the largest tidal wetlands on the East Coast, is also close by.



Mercy seventh graders enjoy a three-day outdoor ed adventure on the Chesapeake Bay.

Students and staff members filled their three-day adventure with incredible activities including: crabbing, dredging for oysters, hiking, field investigations, canoeing, sunset dinners, and much more.

OPT

Our Lady of Mercy Parish

9200 Kentsdale Drive
Potomac, MD

Fr. William Byrne, Pastor

301-365-1415

Our Lady of Mercy School

Ms. Deborah Thomas, Principal

301-365-4477

Gerry Burgess, OPT Editor

301-330-5676

**More Our Lady of Mercy
News on Page 42**

Geometry at Mercy

A New Educational Extension Opportunity

In December a new enrichment opportunity was offered to students participating in eighth grade math. Due to the enthusiasm and interest of students and faculty members, a high school level Euclidian Geometry course was designed. In addition to taking Algebra I during the academic day, participants gather twice a week after school to explore the world of

Geometry.

Course content includes theorems and proofs on congruency and similarity of polygons, parallelism, circles, areas and volumes, coordinate geometry and trigonometry. Additionally, students have been challenged to apply geometry principles to real world problems. Students work collaboratively to integrate algebraic skills to

find missing measures of geometric angles and figures. State and national standards are used as a guideline, and skills are continuously evaluated.

We are proud of the participants who have extended their learning in the field of mathematics.

OPT

Congratulations Our Lady of Mercy Class of 2018!

**The Class of 2018 has been accepted to
the following high schools:**

Academy of the Holy Cross
Connelly School of the Holy Child
Georgetown Preparatory School
Holton Arms

Churchill High School

Georgetown Visitation

St. John's College High School

Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart

Walt Whitman High School

Landon School

St. Andrews Episcopal

Gonzaga College High School



Back Row (L-R): Annelise Molina, Isabelle Serrano, Lucy Wright, Kylie Donohoe, Haley Summers, Zoe Somerville, Yara Haddad, Ashley Donatelli, Gabriella Haddad, Jia-Rong Tsao, Erin Dougherty

Front Row (L-R): Lachlin Gooch, Jay Cuddapah, Colin Yavinsky, Gabriella Ward, Nicholas Payne, Michaela O'Connor, Andre Haddad, Tyler Schlosser, Reese Finnell



Our Lady of Mercy School
9222 Kentsdale Drive
Potomac, MD 20854
301-365-4477

www.schoololom.org



Congratulations Class of 2018!

College Matriculations

American University
 Belmont Abbey College
 College of William and Mary
 Columbia University
 Duke University
 George Mason University (2)
 Hillsdale College (2)
 James Madison University
 Marymount University
 Roanoke College
 Saint Mary's College
 The Catholic University of America (4)
 Thomas Aquinas College
 University of Dallas (2)
 University of Mary Washington
 University of Maryland, College Park (2)
 University of Virginia (3)
 Virginia Tech (4)

1619 Crowell Rd., Vienna VA 22182

Oakcrest.org

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



Members of Our Lady of Lourdes School's Class of 2018 pose in their high school sweatshirts.

Lions' Roar Kate Truax 5K 2018

The sun hid behind the clouds and kept the temperatures perfect for the runners in the Tenth Annual Lions' Roar Kate Truax 5K at Our Lady of Lourdes School. As the last two runners arrived at the finish line the sun popped out, and the day was perfect for a picnic. Over 600 registered for the event, and enjoyed the run, great food, moon bounces, music by a deejay, and great company!

Kate Truax taught at Lourdes for seven years. She was loved by all. A beautiful young woman who shared her love of books and history with her students, Kate made an impact on every child in the school. Kate died in 2013 after a fierce battle with cancer. She is remembered with love each year as the community comes together



Above, Ava and Liana prepare to run in the 10th Annual Lions' Roar Kate Truax 5K.

in the spring. Kate's mother and her sister run in the race every year. They will always be a part of the Lourdes community.

OPT

At left, Alumni Alex Ballestero, James Gnecco, Augustine Orrego, Tyler Collins and Cristian Rodas served as Race Marshalls for the Lions' Roar Kate Truax 5K.



The excitement before First Holy Communion is almost unbearable! Louise Harang, Cameron Smith, Karla Rojo, Graciella Lang, Alexis Brennan-Rothschild and Audrina Giron-Page have prepared themselves well for the big day.

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

7500 Pearl Street
Bethesda, MD

Msgr. Edward Filardi,
Pastor
301-654-1287

Patricia Kilroy McGann
Principal
301-654-5376



Our Lady of Mercy

Our Lady of Mercy School News



The five Mercy Character Pillars: Caring, Trustworthy, Respectful, Faithful, Responsible

Verso L'Alto Character Program

The school kicked-off the Verso L'Alto Character Program on March 19. Each week, students and staff focused on one of five character pillars. Students participated in school-wide activities designed

to heighten how that week's pillar could be lived. The five Verso L'Alto Pillars are: Caring, Trustworthy, Respectful, Faithful, Responsible. Students concluded the Pillars Initiative with a final celebration on April 27.

Continued on page 60

Programs Offer Opportunities for Growth in Religious Formation

Religious Formation at Mercy is offering three new programs. Taking place now are two video Bible study series. The programs are part of the Jeff Cavins Video Bible Adventures. The Acts of the Apostles (Part 2) is offered on Sunday mornings from April 22 to June 10, from 9:50 to 10:50 AM in the Enzler Room. The focus of the program is Acts: the spread of the Kingdom and it shows how the early church was enlivened by the Holy Spirit.

The second video series is Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible. It is an eight-part study that will help participants to "uncover the story woven throughout Scripture so you can get the "big picture"

of the Bible and understand what it is all about." This program is offered on Tuesday evenings beginning April 24 through June 10 from 9:50 AM to 10:50 AM in the Enzler Room. To register, email alanave@olom.org

Starting June 26, OLOM will present the Tuesday Summer ALPHA Film Series. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. It will take place Tuesday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 PM in the Youth Room/Parish House. Teens and adults are welcome. You can come every week or when you can. Contact Anna at alanave@olom.org if you are interested.

OPT

Mercy U

Mercy U is a Lay Theology Institute that is a partnership of Our Lady of Mercy and the Pontifical Faculty of the Immaculate Conception, (Dominican House of Studies). The goal of the institute is to "equip graduates to engage the world with reason informed by the teachings of the Catholic Church." Registration for 2018-2019 course offerings will open on August 1, 2019.

Fall 2018: God and Man in Thomistic Philosophy; the instructor is Dr. Brian Carl

Classes meet on Saturdays, September 22 and 29 and October

13 and 20, 2018.

Winter 2019: Reason and Revelations (Systematics); the instructor is Rev. Brian Chrzastek, O.P. Classes meet on Saturdays January 19 and 26 and February 2 and 9, 2019.

Spring 2019: Theological Anthropology in Augustine's Confessions (Systematics); the instructor is Rev. Andrew Hofer, O.P.

Classes meet on Saturdays March 23 and 30 and April 6 and 13 2019.

For more information on the certificate program and to register, go to www.mercyu.org

OPT



OUR LADY OF LOURDES SCHOOL

Congratulations Class of 2018 GraduatesPatricia McGann, *Principal* • Rev. Msgr. Edward Filardi, *Pastor***Sofia Appolonio**

Bethesda Chevy Chase High School

"It has been magical... but the world is calling me."**Amanuel Beniam**

Undecided

"Do what is right, not what is easy."**Andrew Cabrera**

DeMatha Catholic High School

"When you are determined to learn no one can stop you."**Merid Daniel**

St. John's College High School

"Pursue your talent even if others may not believe in it."**Claire Deausen**

Academy of the Holy Cross

"Commit to the Lord whatever you do and your plans will succeed."**Ian Eskenazi**

St. John's College High School

"And will you succeed? Yes! You will indeed 98 3/4% guaranteed."**Gabriella Fernandez**

Academy of the Holy Cross

"Use your knowledge and your heart to stand up for those who can't stand, to speak for those who can't speak."**Natalie Goodman**

Academy of the Holy Cross

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."**Drake Greene**

DeMatha High School

"For with God, nothing will be impossible."**Diego Guevara**

The McLean School

"If you can dream it, you can do it."**Christian Hansen**

Bethesda Chevy Chase High School

"They laugh at me because I'm different; I laugh at them because they are all the same."**Nicholas Hessick**

St. John's College High School

"Efforts and courage are not enough without purpose and direction."**Guyer Kopplin**

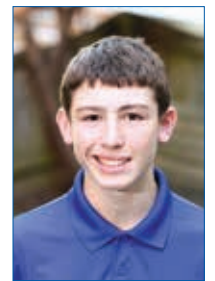
Gonzaga College High School

"Find a way forward or make one."**Caroline Krauth**

St. John's College High School

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."**Sean Lacey**

St. John's College High School

"Not all those who wander are lost."**Quincy Long**

Georgetown Preparatory School

"Don't fear failure. Not failure, but low aim is the crime. In great attempts, it is gracious even to fail."**Grace O'Hanlon**

Undecided

"I liked Lourdes so much, I came back to finish middle school here after being away for five years."**Taryn O'Leary**

Academy of the Holy Cross

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

Georgetown Preparatory School

"Wherever you go, go with all your heart."**Andres Peterkofsky**

Bethesda Chevy Chase High School

"Imagine with all your mind. Believe with all your heart. Achieve with all your might."**Tess Polis**

The Connelly School of the Holy Child

"Just because my path is different, doesn't mean I am lost."**Sean Quinn**

St. John's College High School

"Baseball is ninety percent mental and the other half is physical."**Christopher Riviere**

Our Lady of Good Counsel High School

"The only way to discover the limits of the possible is to go beyond them into the impossible."**Emma Robinson**

Elizabeth Seton High School

"To the world you may be one person, but to one person you may be the world."**William Smith**

Walter Johnson High School

"It's better to have a great team than a team of greats."**Yonathan Solomon**

St. Albans School

"I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination."**Jack Squier**

Georgetown Preparatory School

"Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while you could miss it."**Max Stan**

Bethesda Chevy Chase High School

"If you can't fly, then run, if you can't run, then walk, but whatever you do...you have to keep moving."**Otto Troxler**

Our Lady of Good Counsel High School

"Go out to explore the world but remember to come back and thank the ones who taught you how to do it."**Ashley Tsozock**

Connelly School of the Holy Child

"It always seems impossible until it's done."**Noah Vetter**

Gonzaga College High School

"Today you are you! That is truer than true! There is no one alive who is youer than you."**Seamus Walsh**

The Heights School

"Within the covers of the Bible are the answers for all the problems men face."

A conversation with St. Bartholomew's new permanent Principal, Frank English

Bringing a tidal wave of positive energy, Frank English has been named permanent Principal of St. Bartholomew School in Bethesda. English, who has 32 years in Catholic education, combines a plain-spoken approachability with a deep passion for education and religious instruction. He holds a Bachelor's in Finance from St. Francis College, a Master's in Guidance and Counseling from Trinity University, and an Advanced Certificate of Study for Education Administration from Notre Dame of Maryland University. Before beginning the year as Interim Principal, he was Assistant Principal at Our Lady of Mercy.

• Tell us about your early life.

I'm the oldest of three children, born in Washington, DC. My Dad was from Pennsylvania, and my mother was from Galway, Ireland. They moved to Rockville and were one of the founding families at St.



Mr. Frank English, St. Bartholomew's new permanent Principal

Jude's. I went to school at St. Jude's, and then St. John's High School. I loved it. I had some incredible teachers give me good direction and good advice. They were a great

influence on who I was to become and how I am as a teacher. In high school, I was always influenced by people who I knew in the Peace Corps, so after college, I served in the Dominican Republic. I returned with a new view of the world. I appreciated our country. The Peace Corps had a great influence on my life.

English's first teaching job was at St. Bernadette's in Silver Spring. He then taught at St. John's, also coaching basketball, football, and baseball.

• How does coaching influence your approach to education?

Coaches have to explain ideas and inspire people. I can teach kids and I can coach kids, but I can get them really far if I can convince them how much I care about them. If you have a relationship with the kids and they say, "Wow this guy really cares about me," you can take

them far.

• What has made an impression on you at St. Bart's?

The kids embraced me. They walk by my office on their way to math, and I say 'hello' 25 times. I love the feeling of knowing I'm at a good place, and that makes me work harder. I'll do anything I can to make this school better. It's the same with our faculty. They're dedicated. We have an incredible faculty.

• Many people feel children today are under a lot of pressure. How can you help them cope?

Success for people is different things. A lot of time with academics we shouldn't focus on the result, we should focus on how hard they tried. I know people who got straight A's. It was a gift they had. I've never been a great student. I

struggled. With students like me, I can look them in the eye and tell them that you do come out on the other side. The people who truly achieve things in life are those who can say, "Oh my gosh, it was tough, but I worked really hard and I didn't quit."

• What are your goals for St. Bart's?

I would like to get a few more kids into a few more classes, but I want to continue to offer small group instruction. Our math might have eight or ten people in a class. That's an incredible ratio. I also want to make sure teachers push themselves in terms of professional development. I want an incredible art room, a big music room, a new computer lab, and leadership training for fifth, sixth, and seventh grades. We can add to what we have. What we have is really good.

OPT



St Barts Homeless Project: Liza Jane Triandafilou and Jack Gallagher with Principal Frank English and their Promise Packs

Two St. Bart's students lead effort to help the homeless

A Lenten Service Project organized by two St. Bartholomew seventh graders made an immediate impact on those in need. Students Jack Gallagher and Liza Jane Triandafilou collected 'Promise Packs' for Catholic Charities to distribute to children who are in and out of homeless shelters.

St. Bart's provided more than 70 backpacks and bags filled with school supplies, blankets, dental supplies, socks, gift cards and per-

sonal notes of kindness. Seven of the packs saw immediate use when they went to a family that lost its home in a fire.

"Service at St. Bart's is really important," said Gallagher. "We learn to give back to those in need." Adds Triandafilou, "I think this will mean a lot to the kids who get a backpack, and that makes me feel really good. For the first year of doing this project, I think it turned out very well. Next year I hope we can collect 100 packs!"

OPT

Academic support available at St. Bartholomew this summer

Students in the Bethesda area can keep their academic skills sharp this summer by taking advantage of St. Bartholomew School's summer enrichment program. Taught by the school's certified and experienced teachers, classes range from Pre-K Prep and Enrichment, all the way to advanced academic skills for seventh and eighth graders. Specialty classes include STEM & Robotics, plus standardized test prepa-



Teachers Anne-Marie Coakley and Ellie Tehan are organizing a large-scale summer enrichment program at St. Bart's

ration for students planning to apply to private high schools. Classes are available from July 9-20. Sessions range from 30 minutes to two hours.

Options are available for all-day enrollment, including aftercare. Students need not attend the parish school to take advantage of enrichment classes. For more information and a complete list of classes, contact Mrs. Coakley or Ms. Tehan at acoakley@stbartholomew.org or etehan@stbartholomew.org.

OPT

Mother-Son Mass and Brunch an Afternoon to Remember

St. Bart's Held a Mother-Son Mass and Brunch on Sunday, March 11. The afternoon started with a special Mass featuring music from the St. Bart's "Rock Band" that provides music at the 8:00 p.m. Sunday Mass. Immediately after the Mass, participants headed down to the "Jazz Hall" to enjoy a catered brunch buffet and a performance from a talented high school quartet. Moms and Sons of all ages were welcome and had a wonderful time.

Organizer Amy Smith told OPT, "Our first annual Mother-Son Brunch was a great success! Mothers and sons of all ages came to pray, sing, and enjoy a catered brunch and two omelet chefs! Music at Mass was provided by the 8pm Rock band, and while eating, attendees were serenaded by a stellar jazz quartet."

OPT



St. Bart's "Mothers and Sons" enjoy a catered brunch buffet and music from a talented quartet at St Bartholomew Parish. Photo by Amy Smith

St. Bartholomew Parish

6900 River Road
Bethesda, MD 20816

Rev. Mark Knestout
Pastor

301-229-7933

St. Bartholomew School
Frank English, Principal
301-229-5586

Frank Maguire, OPT Editor
202-512-8226

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School
issue
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August 29

More St. Bartholomew News on Page 50



CLASS OF 2018 GRADUATES

St. Bartholomew School



Reverend Mark D. Knestout, **Pastor** • Mr. Frank English, **Principal**



**Gesina Catharina
Carter**

WALT WHITMAN
HIGH SCHOOL

*"The only time you
should ever look back
is to see how far
you've come."*

—Anonymous



**Lauren Nicole
Chamberlin**

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE
HIGH SCHOOL

*"Every moment
wasted looking back
keeps us from
moving forward."*

—Hillary Clinton



**Joshua Mendoz
DeAusen**

CHURCHILL
HIGH SCHOOL

*"The lesson is
that you can still
make mistakes
and be forgiven."*

—Robert Downey Jr.



**Arielle East
Fausnaugh**

WALT WHITMAN
HIGH SCHOOL

*"The best and most
beautiful things in the
world cannot be seen or
even touched—they must be
felt with the heart."*

—Helen Keller



**Tyler Chase
Harmon**

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE
HIGH SCHOOL

*"Life moves fast.
If you don't stop
and look around
once in a while,
you could miss it."*

—Ferris Bueller



**Madeline Karin
Haverback**

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE
HIGH SCHOOL

*"Walk tall or baby
don't walk at all."*

—Bruce Springsteen



**Samuel David
Henry**

OUR LADY OF GOOD
COUNSEL HIGH SCHOOL

*"Time flies,
so be the pilot."*

—Marques Brownlee



**Gabrielle King
Hughes**

STONE RIDGE SCHOOL
OF THE SACRED HEART

*"Success isn't about how
much money you make,
it's about the difference
you make in people's life."*

—Michelle Obama



**Alyssa Renee
Johnson**

ANNAPOLIS AREA
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

*"If my life is going
to mean anything,
I have to live it myself."*

—Rick Riordan

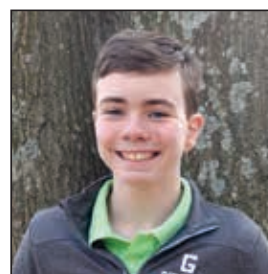


**Camilla Nicole
Karns**

HOLY CROSS
HIGH SCHOOL

*"Keep your face always
toward the sunshine
and the shadows
will fall behind you."*

—Walt Whitman



**Kevin Patrick
Kiernan**

GONZAGA
HIGH SCHOOL

*"Man believes in the
possible, God believes
in the impossible."*

—Ray Lewis



**Daniel Kronick
Nakshin**

ST. ANSELM'S
ABBAY SCHOOL

*"Push yourself,
because no one else
is going to do it
for you."*

—Anonymous

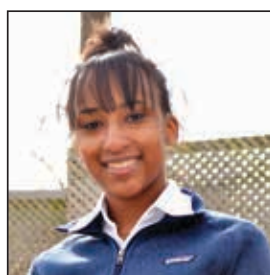


**Devin Claire
Ryan**

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE
HIGH SCHOOL

*"You must do the thing you
think you cannot do."*

—Eleanor Roosevelt



**Jennifer Joelle
Shanklin**

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE
HIGH SCHOOL

*"Don't pray for life to be
easy, pray for yourself
to be strong."*

—Anonymous



**Maya Brooks
Solomon**

HOLTON-ARMS
SCHOOL

*"No matter where
life takes me,
find me with a smile."*

—Mac Miller



**Kyra Nyrvana
Velasquez**

UNDECIDED

*"Strive not
to be a success,
but rather
to be of value."*

—Albert Einstein



**Michael Beville
Ward**

WALT WHITMAN
HIGH SCHOOL

*"Me shooting 40% at the
foul line is just God's way
to say nobody's perfect."*

—Shaquille O'Neal

Congratulations CLASS of 2018



The University of Alabama • American University • Arcadia University • The University of Arizona • Auburn University • Baylor University • Boston College • Butler University • The Catholic University of America • College of Charleston • Christopher Newport University • Clemson University • University of Colorado at Boulder • Columbia University • University of Delaware • Denison University • University of Denver • Dickinson College • Drew University • Drexel University • Elon University • Emerson College • Emmanuel College • Fairfield University • Florida Atlantic University • Florida Gulf Coast University • Florida State University • Frostburg State University • Furman University • George Mason University • Georgetown University • University of Georgia • Gettysburg College • Goucher College • High Point University • College of the Holy Cross • University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign • Illinois Wesleyan University • Indiana University at Bloomington • Ithaca College • James Madison University • King's College • Lesley University • Lincoln University • Louisiana State University • Loyola University Chicago • Loyola University Maryland • Loyola University New Orleans • Marist College • Marquette University • Maryland Institute College of Art • University of Maryland, Baltimore County • University of Maryland, College Park • Marymount University • Massachusetts College of Art and Design • University of Massachusetts, Amherst • Mercyhurst University • Miami University, Oxford • University of Miami • University of Michigan • University of Mississippi • Morgan State University • Mount St. Mary's University • Muhlenberg College • Neumann University • Northeastern University • University of Notre Dame • Ohio University • Ohio Wesleyan University • Otterbein University • Pennsylvania State University • Providence College • Purchase College State University of New York • Purdue University • Radford University • University of Rhode Island • Roanoke College • Rollins College • Rutgers University-New Brunswick • Saint Francis University • Saint Joseph's University • Saint Vincent College • Salisbury University • University of San Diego • University of San Francisco • Santa Clara University • Savannah College of Art and Design • Sewanee: The University of the South • University of South Carolina • University of Southern California • Southern Methodist University • St. John's University - Queens Campus • Stevenson University • Syracuse University • Temple University • University of Tennessee, Knoxville • Texas Christian University • The New School • Towson University • Trinity College • Tulane University • Union College (New York) • The University of the Arts • University of Vermont • Villanova University • Virginia Commonwealth University • Virginia Tech • Virginia Wesleyan University • Wagner College • Wake Forest University • Washington College • Webster University • West Virginia University • Widener University • College of William and Mary • Wingate University • The College of Wooster • Xavier University



CONNELLY SCHOOL OF THE
**HOLY
CHILD**

301.365.0955 • admissions@holychild.org • www.holychild.org



Melina Anschutz
Stone Ridge School
of the Sacred Heart



Sonia Backe
St. John's College
High School



Riley Bain
St. John's College
High School



Jada Bakshi
St. John's College
High School



Jonathan Barrow
Thomas S. Wootton
High School



Victoria Beresford
Connelly School of
the Holy Child



Osvaldo Borges
St. John's College
High School



Kayla Brennan
Our Lady of Good
Counsel High School



Alexis Bruce
St. John's College
High School



John Burch
Our Lady of Good
Counsel High School



Aiden Burke
Quince Orchard
High School



Rafael Carbonell
Winston Churchill
High School



Anna DeMino
Connelly School of
the Holy Child



Bridget Diaz
Walter Johnson
High School



Alexander Donato
Our Lady of Good
Counsel High School



Marcos Egan
Gonzaga College
High School



William Evans
Blake High School
School of Humanities
and Fine Arts

St. Elizabeth Catholic School

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2018

Mr. Vincent P. Spadoni *Principal*

Monsignor J. Wilfrid Parent *Pastor*



Angelina Gagliardi
Richard Montgomery
High School



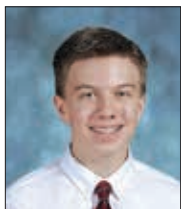
Caroline Girard
Our Lady of Good
Counsel High School



Nadia Green
Connelly School of
the Holy Child



Christina Greene
Connelly School of
the Holy Child



Luke Harless
Our Lady of Good
Counsel High School



Colin Harney
Our Lady of Good
Counsel High School



Lauren Hurt
Our Lady of Good
Counsel High School



Martenna Joseph
Academy of the
Holy Cross



Aidan Kearns
St. John's College
High School



Emilio Lavarte
Gonzaga College
High School



Olivia Linus
Our Lady of Good
Counsel High School



Megan Loupe
Academy of the
Holy Cross



Haley Lutz
Connelly School of
the Holy Child



Adrian Magdaleno
St. John's College
High School



Kaitlyn Maloney
St. John's College
High School



Megan McCarthy
Winston Churchill
High School



Margaret McHugh
Stone Ridge School
of the Sacred Heart



Evelyn Meale
Georgetown Visitation
Preparatory School



Patrick Morales
St. John's College
High School



Benjamin Mulford
Our Lady of Good
Counsel High School



Brigid Murray
St. John's College
High School



Grace Murray
Stone Ridge School
of the Sacred Heart



Sean Nash
St. John's College
High School



Gabriela Perez-Thomas
St. John's College
High School



Luke Peterson
St. John's College
High School



Jacob Petruzzelli
St. John's College
High School



Ryan Rodriguez
Georgetown
Preparatory School



Chloe Roh
Winston Churchill
High School



Jack Rushing
Our Lady of Good
Counsel High School



Marina Saad
Stone Ridge School
of the Sacred Heart



Abigail Scheibel
Georgetown Visitation
Preparatory School



Jack Schrier
Gonzaga College
High School



Abigail Shaw
Connelly School of
the Holy Child



Emily Shioutakon
Our Lady of Good
Counsel High School



Ricardo Silva
St. John's College
High School



Ryan Splaine
Gonzaga College
High School



Charles Strzelec
Our Lady of Good
Counsel High School



Nicole Szabo
St. John's College
High School



Madeline Tan
Our Lady of Good
Counsel High School



Tyler Tanner
Clarksburg
High School



Rachel Tartal
Our Lady of Good
Counsel High School



Veronica Velarde
Our Lady of Good
Counsel High School



Emily Yang
Georgetown Visitation
Preparatory School



Lauren Zorc
Bishop O'Connell
High School



St. Elizabeth students had a ball climbing on all kinds of different trucks on our Annual Truck Touch Day.



Hats off to all of our St. Elizabeth students for the wonderful spring musical performance of Alice in Wonderland, Jr.



At left, congratulations to our Catholic Business Network Essay winners. (L-R) Evelyn Meale, Maggie McHugh, Alexis Bruce, Luke Peterson, Rafael Carbonell, and Marcos Egan.

At right, we had a wonderful Donuts for Dads celebration.



Congratulations to Mrs. Wolfgram, our Archdiocese of Washington Golden Apple Teacher!



Rockville project to bring a Wegmans, jobs, homes

Developer B.F. Saul has reportedly signed a lease with Wegmans, a family-owned supermarket based in Rochester, New York, to build a store in Twinbrook Quarter on the roughly 18-acre site along Rockville Pike north of Halpine Road. This would be the first Wegmans in southern Montgomery County. The site, across from Congressional Plaza, is now occupied by one-story box stores, including Party City, CVS and others.

There is no projected date for when a new Wegmans would open, but according to the developer, it would be in the first section.

Wegmans

Saul is proposing constructing 11 buildings along Rockville Pike. When completed, the overall project could result in more than 3,450 jobs, 1,865 homes, retail, a 1.1-acre central green and two dog parks – one for small dogs, one for big dogs.

Saul's development team presented the project to City of Rockville officials on Monday, April 30. The overall project could take a quarter century to complete.

OPT

Yet more development for downtown Bethesda

The Montgomery County Planning Board today approved, with conditions, a sketch plan for redevelopment of 8000 Wisconsin Avenue (bounded by Woodmont, between Cordell and Fairmont) to construct a 200-foot-tall tower to replace a surface parking lot and adjacent low-rise buildings. The tower would have up to 441 housing units and

20,000 square feet of retail space. The developer is Aksoylu Properties.

Two abutting properties are currently being developed: a 17-story apartment complex at 7900 Wisconsin Avenue and a condominium building at 8008 Wisconsin Avenue.

OPT

St. Elizabeth Parish
917 Montrose Road
Rockville, MD

Msgr. J. Wilfrid Parent
Pastor
301-881-1380

St. Elizabeth School Principal
Vincent P. Spadoni
301-881-1824

Gerry Moore,
OPT Editor
202-887-6475



Our 5th grade students performed "Gifts for the King", a beautiful retelling of Henry Van Dyke's "The Other Wise Man".

150 Years

The Academy of the
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St. Bartholomew

Youth Group Preparing to Spring into Summer!

The ever-energetic St. Bart's Youth Group has had a busy Spring, with Sky Zone on March 11, Scavenger Hunt on March 18, Mini Golf on April 15, and Capture the Flag & Pizza on April 29. The Middle School Youth group has been going on trips (they visited the Bible Museum), serving the homeless of the DC area (they assembled packages for Cup of Joe) and playing plenty of outdoor games (they have played capture the flag, kick the can, and more). The group will keep enjoying the warm weather and will go on several adventures this summer. Please contact Maria Archer (32kaufmann@cua.edu) to join their mailing list!

OPT



St. Bart's Youth Group Members go Rock Climbing in February. Photo by of Maria Archer

"Cookies for a Cause" Successful at St. Bart's



"Cookies for a Cause" at St. Bart's on Sunday evening, April 15. Photo by Dan Keen

As part of St. Bartholomew Parish's "Serve Before Service" activities on Sunday nights, the parish held "Cookies for a Cause" on the evening of April 15. Parishioners were urged to bake cookies and bring them to the church hall on Sunday Night, before the 8:00 p.m. "Rock Band Mass," where the cookies were combined with others for variety, then put in single-serving plastic bags for delivery the next day to homeless shelters run by Catholic Charities.

Organizer Dan Keen advised that this activity also took place last July and that "it was a lot of fun." Dan commented: "Plus, baking together is a great way to spend time with loved ones. And, of course, you get to do quality control by sampling what you make." Dan, however, noted that store-bought cookies were "OK too."



Msgr. John Enzler, President and CEO of Catholic Charities Washington and resident at St. Bart's, blesses parishioners outside the church on Palm Sunday.

Holy Week is Lovely, Reverent, and Standing Room Only



Father Mark Knestout and Deacon John Class at Easter Sunday Mass at St. Bart's

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Pastoral Leaders of Young Adults Meet in D.C.

Over 130 pastoral leaders in the field of young adult ministry representing 53 Catholic archdioceses and dioceses, and 26 national organizations, movements, and apostolates are attending the National Young Adult Ministry Summit this week, May 15-17, at the St. John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, D.C.

Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, OFM Cap. of Philadelphia and Chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, said, "During these months in anticipation of the global Synod on 'Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment,' it is essential that Catholic leaders gather together to discuss and advance the Church's work with young adults."

The Summit is an invitation-only gathering focused on peer conversation and networking around best practices and emerging models of ministry with young adults, especially in view of the Synod and the increasing number of religiously-disaffiliated young adults in their 20s and 30s.

The ad-hoc National Advisory Team on Young Adult Ministry was developed in



2016 to assist the USCCB Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth with efforts related to serving the field of young adult ministry in the United States. The Summit has been organized by the National Advisory Team in their work to advance this mission.

The May 2018 gathering will also be live-streamed so that those unable to attend can still participate in plenary discussions and

engage in an online dialogue. This digital opportunity is supported by the Catholic Apostolate Center, which is also providing generous financial support to the Summit.

For more information about the event or the live-streaming, contact the USCCB Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth at 202-541-3040 or email yam@usccb.org.

OPT



Elizabeth Seton High School

5717 Emerson Street,
Bladensburg, MD 20710
301.864.4532



Congratulations to the Class of 2018

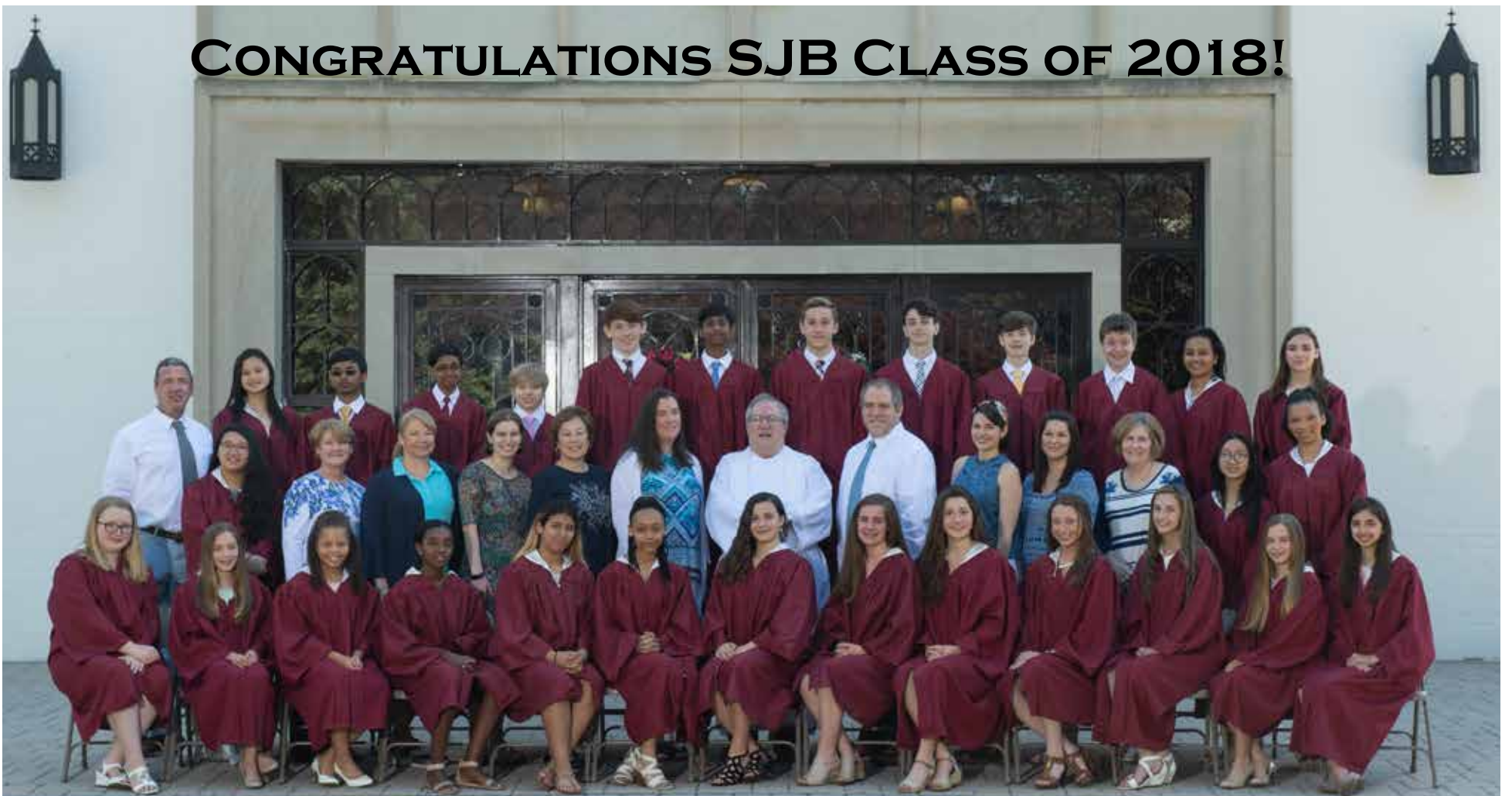
Brittney Ajayi
Tyler Alexander
Mari Alves
Cheyenne Asong
Charity Ayebae
Lauren Baker
Atim Bedell
Cheney Bethea
Quianna Blanc
Cara-lynn Blount
Brianna Boston
Ngan Bui
Elizabeth Busch
Remi Butler
Sarah Caimona
Madisyn Campbell
Maiya Chapman
Sahara Chapman
SaMiyah Chisley
Taylor Clayborne
Marisa Cofie
Georgia Coleman
Paris Cooke
Katherine Copeland
Keniece Corsey
Kayla Crawford
Raquel Creef-Meza

Alexandra Curry
Jasa Curry
Keyona Curry
Isabelle Dang
Jordan Daniels Wiley
Amirah Darnaby
Sydney Durrah
Lalah Egerson
Hallie Eggleston
Mackenzie Esposito
Syanne Ganthier
Cerenity Green
Kaitlyn Griffith
Phoenix Harper
Tailor Hayling
Cameron Hernandez
Anitra Howard
Alexandra Jackson
Takiya Jackson
Aja Johnson
Mackenzie Jones
Madison King
Suzanne Kmetz
Skylar Lama
Kennedy Leslie
Jocelyn Lewis-Johnson
Elise Lindsay

Alicia Lisier
Kayla Little
Michaela Logan
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Bobbi Makins
Kayla Marable
Caroline Mastel
Madeleine Mayuga
Linda Miller
Kalyn Nelson
Lauren Norwood
Ugona Nwafor
Masai Oakes
Ciara O'Brien
Delaney O'Gilvie
Jamie Okonkwo
Oluwamayowa Olojo
Nnenna Onuma
Jasmine Orange
Kirsten Parker
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Grace Reavis
Clara Reilly
Aneya Richardson
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Leonida Robinson
Danielle Rochester
Rachel Salmon
Kai Shanklin
Samaiah Sivills
Makayla Smith
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Bepherly Turcios
Joanna Uduefe
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Victoria Whatley
Faith Wheeler
Alexis Wilkerson
Alexis Williams
Brandi
Williams-Munford
Jordan Wilson
Myanna Wilson
Rae Wynter
Hana Yoseph
Jewellia Zerega

CONGRATULATIONS SJB CLASS OF 2018!



SYDNEY BRANCH
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CHEYENNE DEGROSS
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TESS GARDNER
ZAKHAR GAWDIAK

ALEXANDER GOMES
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CHRISTINE NGUYEN
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RYAN ROZARIO
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STEVEN STRAZZA
SAM SWARNA
VIVIAN TRAN
DYLAN TUEL
BLAIN YOHANNES

Celebrating the Sacraments at the Shrine of St. Jude

The Joy of Easter Sacraments

The community of St. Jude prayed at the Easter Vigil, "Grant that we may share in the gladness of our brothers and sisters who at Easter received their Baptism..." And we did rejoice with the 18 people who were baptized! The candidates came from four continents (Africa, Asia, South

America, and North America) and included members of five families. We were also blessed with 12 adults who completed their Christian Initiation receiving the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.

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Confirmed in the Holy Spirit! Congratulations to the sixty-seven youth of the Shrine of St. Jude who were confirmed in the Holy Spirit by Most Rev. Mario Dorsonville (center) on April 14, 2018. Photo by Tom Roach



Baptized in in the Lord! St. Jude Pastor, Father Paul Lee, with assistance from Deacon Nathaniel Cordova baptizes Herly Lastarria, whose children were also baptized while his wife was Confirmed and received First Communion during the Shrine's Easter Vigil.



Welcome to the Lord's Table! On Saturday, May 5, 130 young people in grades two through seven of the Shrine of St. Jude parish received their First Communion at one of two masses: 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Photos by Tom Roach

Great Minds Think Alike

by Michelle Ardillo

On March 18, 2018, two teams of middle school students from St. Jude Regional Catholic School (SJRCs) participated in the Maryland/DC State Tournament for Odyssey of

the Mind. The tournament was held in Washington, DC, and was open to all MD/DC Odyssey of the Mind teams.

At the tournament, the SJRCs Team B placed first in the Division 2 (grades six through eight) Spontaneous Only Category. Team B members were sixth-graders Christina Argyros, Naomi Barish, Austin Lambert, and Tim Sanders. Team A participants were eighth-grader Nathaniel Barish, seventh-grader Daniel Landry, and sixth-graders Rachel Shrestha and Lily Weiksner. Other SJRCs who are registered in the weekly program are Alex Condori, Joshua Hoffman, Ethan Mendes, Marco Duran, Eldad Berhanu, Esha Tamang, and Morgan Hough.

"The Odyssey of the Mind program is a unique augmentation to the standardized educational cur-

Continued on page 53



Sodality Sponsors Annual Anniversary Mass and Breakfast

Fr. Shaun Foggo blessed the Shrine of St. Jude couples celebrating 25, 40, 50 and 60 years of marriage at a very special Anniversary Mass on Sunday, April 29. Afterwards, Our Lady of the Wayside Sodality treated the couples to a delicious breakfast in Madigan Hall where Fr. Paul Lee joined them and wished them countless blessings for many more years together. Pictured from left to right along with Deacon Nick Sholtz and Fr. Shaun Foggo are James & Anna Mae Mulquin (60 years), Eileen & William Barrett (60 years), Carmen & Nathaniel Cordova (60 years), Isabella & Richard Donnelly (60 years), and Judith & Emlin Roseman (50 years). Not pictured are Bernard & Hyacinth Wikramanayake (60 years), Englebert & Martha Sedegah (40 years), and James and Clare Kuzma (25 years). Photo by Tom Roach

Shrine of St. Jude Parish

12701 Veirs Mill Road
Rockville, MD

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

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

Maureen Martin,
OPT Editor
MaureenCMartin@verizon.net

MINDS

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riculum. The value of the program is immense in that it allows all children involved to develop and perfect the ability to not only learn but to think. Through the program, children develop and implement important life-long skills, including but not limited to critical thinking

skills, divergent thinking skills, and interpersonal communication skills," explains SJRCS program coordinator Teresa Sutherland. The SJRCS chapter is in its tenth year, and Sutherland meets with the participants once a week.

The Odyssey of the Mind website further defines it as an "international creative problem-solving program that engages students in their learning by allowing their knowledge and ideas to come to life in an exciting, productive environment. Participants build self-confidence, develop life skills, create new friendships, and are able to recognize and explore their true potential. Odyssey of the Mind proves that students can have fun while they learn."

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St. Jude Regional Catholic School's Odyssey of the Mind Team B placed first in Division 2 (grades six through eight) Spontaneous Only Category at this year's Maryland/DC State Tournament. Pictured left to right are SJRCS Program Coordinator Teresa Sutherland, Austin Lambert, Tim Sanders, Naomi Barish, Christina Argyros, and SJRCS Principal Glenn Benjamin

SJRCS National Junior Honor Society

Congratulations to the following students who were inducted into the St. Jude Regional Catholic School National Junior Honor Society on March 14: Christina Argyros, Coralie Arias, Naomi Barish, Isabella Grijalba, Michael Nicholas, Timothy Sanders, and Rachel Shrestha.

The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) is one of the nation's premier organizations established to recognize outstanding students. More than just an honor roll, NJHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, Character, and Citizenship. Chapter membership not only recognizes students for their accomplishments but challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service.

OPT

STEM

Con't from page 34

based, requiring students not only to experiment, but to take their ideas a step further and engineer possible solutions. Among many noteworthy projects, the following students were recognized with honorable mention for their work:

Breana Alcantara
Maria Ayoub
Tin Cheatham
Paige St. Clair
Michaela Dailey
Timothy Gorman
Nicholas Laffey
Andrew Long
Amelia Maffeo
Habib Najjar
Kate Nonnenkamp
Charlie Scherer
Ian Stewart
Meghan Stone

Parent volunteers from within the MoN community were invited to serve as STEM fair judges. Multiple judges commended students on their displays of innovation and problem solving. Students reported having enjoyed the experience of designing and/or improving products to address a specific problem.

OPT

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATES OF 2017!



We are . . . St. Jude!



Principal: Mr. Benjamin
Pastor: Father Lee



Nicolas Abreu
St. John's College High School



Emeli Araniva
Brookewood



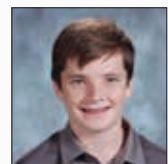
Nathaniel Barish
The Heights



Noel Belardo
Georgetown Prep



Angelica Marie Braswell
The Academy of the Holy Cross



Matthew Byrne
The Heights



Paula Cherre
Our Lady of Good Counsel



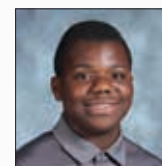
Alex Condori
Don Bosco Cristo Rey High School



Ashleigh Dansker
The Academy of the Holy Cross



Mateo David
DeMatha High School



William Etti II
St. John's College High School



Joshua Hoffman
Kennedy High School



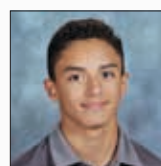
Kacy Horne
Covenant Life School



Bridget Junghans
The Academy of the Holy Cross



Kur Kur
Undecided



Joseph Lozada
Undecided



David Mayora
Don Bosco Cristo Rey High School



Nagomi Myers
St. John's College High School



Daniel Rojas
The Heights



Diego Sarca
The Heights



Leslie Ventura
Northwood High School



James Weiksner
Rockville High School



Margaret Young
The Academy of the Holy Cross

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Congratulations to the Confirmation Class of 2018! May the Holy Spirit continue to guide you and bless you.

Service Opportunities on Display at Spring Fling

St. Michael the Archangel Parish is in a “Year of Service” declared by Monsignor Tolentino as an attempt to get more parishioners involved in service, both community service and service to the church.

In Lent, all parishioners were asked to sign a Service Pledge card. On Sunday, April 15th, St. Michael’s followed up by hosting a Spring Fling where many of the different committees — Service, Worship, and Communications to name a few — were represented with booths of posters and flyers advertising different ways parishioners could get involved.

As many know, service is near and dear to St. Michael’s Deacon Carlos Hernandez, whom was severely injured in a car accident over a year ago. Though Deacon Carlos



Parishioners learn about the new Crafts Ministry in our parish.



Saint Michael’s Service Committee highlights the service opportunities available in our parish and the larger Silver Spring community.

is still recovering, he celebrated the 11a.m. mass that morning to encourage parishioners to give of their time to serve others.

With a warm personal announcement from Msgr. and strong support from all clergy and Parish Council, the room buzzed with parishioners signing up to volunteer and fellowshiping over coffee and treats provided by St. Michael’s Young Adult group.

The Spring Fling was a success, and more St. Michael’s parishioners will be hitting the streets to serve the community around them.

“As I have loved you, so you must love one another.” John 13:34

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Celebrate Our Multi-Cultural Faith This Summer

Everyone is welcome to join St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Silver Spring for a multi-cultural mass and our annual SummerFest Fundraiser event. Celebrate with us at 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 2nd, with a mass celebrating the diversity of the Church’s flock and the singularity of our faith.

Immediately following we will have a special SummerFest event featuring live music, dancing, karaoke, food, and games starting at 7 p.m. at St. Michael’s Parish located at 805 Wayne Avenue in Downtown Silver Spring.

Tickets for the event are \$25 and include live entertainment, hors d’oeuvres, desserts, and soft drinks (children ages 6 to 13 are just \$10, and those 5 and under are admitted for free). Beer and wine will be available for purchase. All funds raised at this event will be used to support the various ministries of St. Michael the Archangel Parish as we serve those in need in our local community.

For more information and to register for this event, please email St. Michael’s Parish at smacc.fundraiser@gmail.com. We also welcome anyone to join us in our Year of Service and reach out about volunteer opportunities too.

SummerFest 2018
 Saturday June 2, 2018 | 7PM - 9:30PM
 St. Michael the Archangel | Williamsburg Room

TICKETS	
Adults:	\$25/person
Youth (under 13):	\$10/person
Kids (under 5):	FREE

Purchase tickets on Eventbrite

- LIVE MUSIC
- DANCING
- KARAOKE
- FOOD
- RAFFLE
- GAMES
- WINE & BEER (cash/credit)

Bring the whole family for food, fun, games, and live music!

ACTION

Con't from page 18

Family Hospital in Bethlehem to provide care for Palestinian mothers and their newborn babies. Both of these examples, receiving grace and being instrument of God’s grace, are celebrated at Saint Francis as important parts of the core mission as a Catholic school.

Other moments, like when The Music in Me Foundation brought a hip hop infused rally to Saint Francis to sing about ways to fight bullying or when students got up to sing, dance, and play music for the eighth-annual talent showcase, were just as much encounters with God and God’s grace and opportunities to live the school’s mission. Moments like An Open Book Foundation bringing noted news commentator and author Cokie Roberts to speak about women in American history or the eighth graders producing the musical *Aladdin* as their final class project certainly address academic curricula but they are also chances for students to better understand what it means to

be a good human being and to find God in history, art, literature, and performance and to make God present through those acts too.

It’s a commitment to be excellent because in living our lives to the best of our ability Franciscan spirituality says we can be instruments of grace and peace. This is why the Saint Francis school band playing concerts or winning trophies or the school choir singing for Cardinal Rosa Chavez or taking the stage at the Kennedy Center are not just proud moments, they are *holy* moments. The Franciscan heart of Saint Francis International School challenges members of the school family to not just teach our faith in religion class but to teach and live the faith in the lunch line, in math class, and on the playground! Saint Francis strives to be vibrant not just because it will help students learn the information and skills necessary for success in life, but because as Catholics in the Franciscan tradition it is vital to make every moment in every place an opportunity to experience the peace and joy of God’s love and presence!

OPT

St. Michael's Parish

805 Wayne Avenue
Silver Spring, MD

Rev. Msgr. Eddie Tolentino,
Pastor

301-589-1155

Edwin Méndez,
OPT Editor

301-589-1155



Christ is risen! Parishioners join together to celebrate Easter at Saint Michael the Archangel in Silver Spring.

A Fruitful Lent at Resurrection Parish

By Amy Horn

If Fr. John Barry could help it, there would be no parishioner left wondering how to make this year's Lenten journey a meaningful one. The calendar throughout the month of February and March at the Church of the Resurrection in Burtonsville was filled with programs and services to offer spiritual growth and reflection. There were many opportunities to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, pray the Stations of the Cross (including the outdoor service on Good Friday afternoon), and attend Eucharistic Adoration. The popular Lenten Program *Soup and Spirituality* raised funds for the social services organization, Eastern Montgomery Emergency Assistance Network (EMEAN) as parishioners dined on soup and bread while listening to Fr. Barry lead a talk on



Busy women take an evening off to attend Fr. Frank DeSiano's Resurrection Parish Renewal Mission talk on Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*. L. to R. Martha Smith, Mary Ellen Howarth, Marie-Jose Richard, Helene Stever, Kathleen Plunkett, Paula Kerris, Jeanne Folstrom

The Five Acts. This year's three-day Parish Renewal Mission, was a look at Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*

in order to renew our own joy in Christ's message. It was led by Fr. Frank DeSiano, CSR, who is also a frequent celebrant at the Church.

But there were also new programs. For the six weeks of Lent, parishioners were invited by email or in gatherings on Saturday mornings to read, discuss, and listen to Father Barry's synopsis of the book *Resisting Happiness* by author and founder of Dynamic Catholic, Matthew Kelly. The adult choir provided reflective musical selections at an evening meditation service on "The Seven Last Words of Christ" with reflections by Father Barry and moments of silence. Paulist Seminarian Rich Whitney introduced a Thursday evening program called "The Journey" discussing the different roles Jesus plays in our lives.

Father Barry led two pilgrimages during Lent. The first was to the National Geographic Museum exhibit on the Tomb of Christ followed by a visit to St. Matthew's Cathedral downtown. The sec-

ond was to the Saint John Paul II National Shrine and then to the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America for a *Journey to Easter* retreat.

In Acts of Charity, the parishioners of Resurrection participated in Catholic Charities and the Archdiocesan Lenten Food Drive. Finally, the Parish Homeless Men Lenten Mission Program allowed many volunteers to touch the lives of people in our midst who were in need during the cold winter.

Great journeys begin with a single step and thanks to Father Barry, there were plenty of opportunities this Lenten season to journey closer to God and our neighbor. It was a time full of spiritual growth, great blessings and gifts of the Spirit for the people at Resurrection. Reaching Easter was made all the more joyful!

OPT



Thirty-two first graders received the Sacrament of Holy Communion at the Church of the Resurrection, April 21.



Forty young people of Resurrection were anointed by the Holy Spirit, May 3. The Most Reverend Herbert Bevard was the celebrant for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Resurrection Homeless Men Lenten Mission Program

By Susan Ahearn

Parishioners at the Church of the Resurrection reached out to homeless men during Lent with the Resurrection Homeless Men Lenten Mission Program. Parish Council member Kristina Peachman says Resurrection worked with the Laurel Winter Shelter to house homeless men from Laurel from March 18-March 25. This was the first year for the effort. "The parish council had been wanting to restart some of our social justice programs and thought that this may be a good place to start. In addition, it seemed like a good fit for Fr. Barry's vision of evangelization in the community so it fulfilled two purposes," explained Peachman in an email.

According to Peachman, "We served 19-22 men per night for a total of 133 warm beds & 371 meals," during the Homeless Men Lenten Mission Program. She said the program was supported by over 150 volunteers from Resurrection and its Riderwood community, and received food donations from over 117 individuals.

She described how the program worked. "The men were bussed from the Laurel area every night around 6:45 and left every morning ...at 6:30am." The only exception was on Wednesday, when a snow storm meant that the homeless men stayed at Resurrection until weather conditions improved. "Because of the heavy snow we ended up being open from 6:45 on Tuesday night until 6:30 on Thursday morning. We had wonderful volunteers step up and offer to come and volunteer during the snow. Several walked through the snow to help. In addition, the Knights of Columbus had

donated extra food so that we could serve a hot lunch that day," said Peachman.

Peachman said hosting the Homeless Men Lenten Mission program was a positive experience for the parish. "Not only did we serve the homeless, but many volunteers stated that they really enjoyed meeting other members of the church that they had not met before. It has brought back a sense of community to the church and a greater sense of service that has been missing over the last several years," explained the parish council member.

Peachman said members of the parish provided food, financial and spiritual support. They also gave help with dental, job coaching, medical, and legal issues. In addition, Resurrection parishioners donated haircuts, security assistance, clothing, shoes, glasses, personal cards and gift bags. According to Peachman, one of the homeless men praised the program this way. "Many places fed and sheltered us but it was very rare and special when a group made us feel like we had a home. Your group

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Church of the Resurrection Parish

3315 Greencastle Road
Burtonsville, MD

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

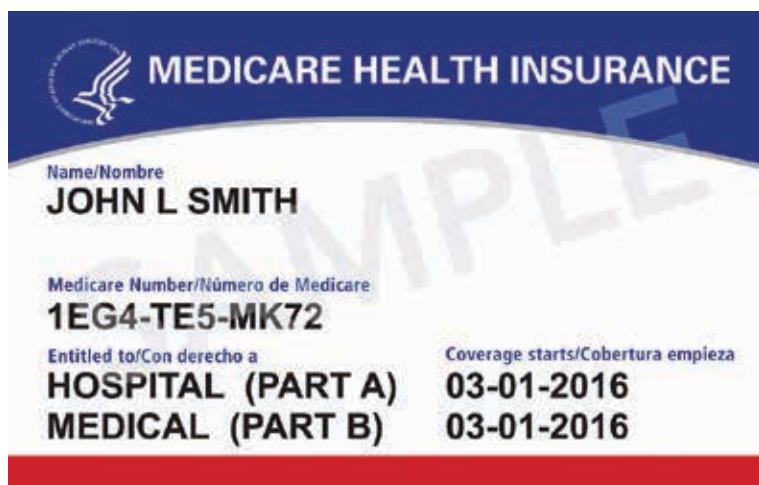
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Susan Ahearn
Parish Editors
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New Medicare cards are in the mail

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3 things to know

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2. Your new card will automatically come to you. You don't need to do anything as long as your address is up to date. If you need to update your address, visit your My Social Security account (www.ssa.gov/myaccount/).
3. Once you get your new Medicare



Your new card will look like this

card, destroy your old Medicare card and start using your new card right away.

Watch out for scams

Medicare will never call you uninvited and ask you to give us personal or private information to get your new Medicare Number and card.

Scam artists may try to get personal information (like your current Medicare Number) by contacting you about your new card.

If someone asks you for your information, for money, or threatens to cancel your health benefits if you don't share your personal information, hang up and call us at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

SOAR Summer Trips!

The Montgomery County Department of Recreation has released its Summer 2018 Senior Outdoor Adventures in Recreation (SOAR) travel program for active adults age 55 and over. Each activity or trip requires substantial walking and/or physical exertion. Program participants should be in good physical condition and consult with their physician if they have any concerns before registering or participating in an activity. Programs are held rain or shine; participants should dress accordingly.

You may register for a SOAR trip in any of four ways. The fastest and easiest way is to use the internet and go to ACTIVEMONTGOMERY.ORG. You may also mail your trip application, fax it to 240-777-6818, or register in person at 4010 Randolph Road.

If you have questions about the registration process, please call 240-777-6840. If you have questions or require more information about a specific trip, call the SOAR Coordinator at 240-777-4926. Unless noted, all transportation is provided on restroom-equipped motor coaches.

Summer SOAR trips include:

Sailing Trip on Chesapeake Bay
May 31 • \$80

White Water Rafting Trip on the Shenandoah River
June 7 • \$85

Marine Corps Evening Parade and Band Concert
June 15 • \$30

Sex, Scandal, and Sinners on Embassy Row
June 20, 21 • \$40

Annual Catered Baltimore Crab Feast
July 19 • \$83

Skipjack Sailing on Bay and St. Michaels
July 26 • \$64

Boat Trip to Tangier Island on May
August 2 • \$84

Boat Tour of Chesapeake Bay Lighthouses
August 8 • \$80

Sacred Spaces – Cathedrals in Washington
Aug. 15, 16 • \$50

Continued on page 58

Surprises Are For Birthdays



At Victory Housing, you're guaranteed our straight-forward and all-inclusive assisted living rates. No surprises tomorrow or in the months ahead. This includes no extra charge for medication management and additional personal care.

You'll also discover enhanced staffing, spacious suites, and individualized care in a heart-warming setting. It's the ideal combination that seniors and their families have appreciated for over 30 years. Call or visit us today.

Discover Assisted Living In Your Neighborhood



A Non-Profit Organization, Victory Housing is an Affiliate of the Archdiocese of Washington

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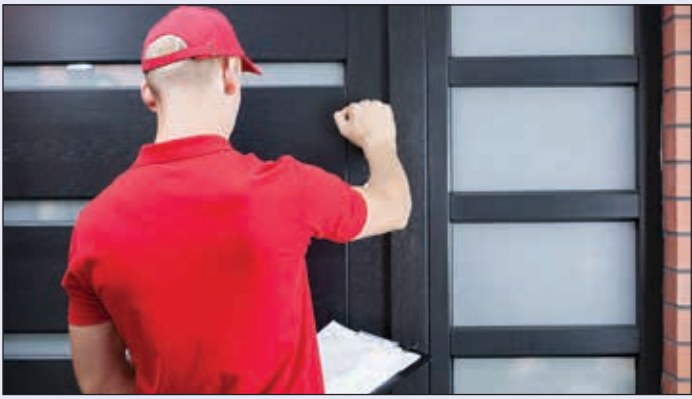
Malta House
Hyattsville • 301-699-8600

Marian Assisted Living
Olney/Brookeville • 301-570-3190

Raphael House
Rockville • 301-217-9116

www.VictoryHousing.org





Door-to-door scammers are back

Montgomery County Office of Consumer Protection (OCP) director, Eric Friedman warns that door-to-door scammers posing as PEPCO, WSSC or EPA representatives are back, just like last spring.

PEPCO scammers lead the consumer into thinking PEPCO is offering new deals and programs when, in fact, the consumer is being misled into signing up with an unknown supplier who will have the billing serviced by PEPCO. Oftentimes, the consumer is slammed into the contract even after saying no and not realize that his or her provider has changed until

receiving a monthly bill and see that the rates have dramatically increased.

WSSC or EPA scammers pretend to test your water for contaminants and then offer to sell you expensive filters to clean up your water. These folks are neither with the EPA nor with WSSC. Moreover, the equipment doesn't filter out the contaminants even if they were in your water.

If you think you've been scammed or hear of any new scams, you can report them to OCP via the anonymous tip Line: 240-777-3681 or email: consumerprotection@montgomerycountymd.gov

OPT

Engage at Every Age

May is Older Americans Month

Engage at Every Age, the theme of Older Americans' Month 2018, emphasizes that you are never too old (or too young) to take part in activities that can enrich your physical, mental and emotional well-being and celebrates the many ways older adults make a difference in our communities.

The following websites offer information and tools to help you Engage at Every Age.

A big part of the new way to age is a focus on physical and mental wellness.

- Falls Prevention
- Go4Life
- Healthy Eating as We Age
- Long-term Care Planning
- NIA Health Information
- Sleep and Aging
- What is Brain Health

www.ncoa.org/healthy-aging/falls-prevention/
<https://go4life.nia.nih.gov/>
www.choosemyplate.gov/older-adults
<https://longtermcare.acl.gov/>
www.nia.nih.gov/health
www.nia.nih.gov/health/good-nights-sleep
<https://brainhealth.nia.nih.gov/>



Many people are redefining aging by trying new careers, classes, and hobbies.

- Arts and Aging Toolkit for Organizations
- Directory of Creative Aging Programs
- Ready for Your Second Career?
- Participating in Activities You Enjoy

www.artsandaging.org/
<https://creativeaging.org/resources/toolkits/>
www.aarp.org/work/career-change/
www.nia.nih.gov/health/participating-activities-you-enjoy

Offering your wisdom and experience to the next generation, seeking the mentorship of someone with more life experience than you, participating in activities that promote mental and physical wellness – those are just a few examples of what being engaged can mean.

OPT

Extended summer library hours

There will be extended weekend hours during the summer at two library branches in our area – Connie Morella/Bethesda and Rockville Memorial – beginning Friday, June 1 through Saturday, August 25. The branches will be open Monday-Saturday 10 am to 9 pm and Sundays from 1 to 5 pm.

OPT

To enrich resident lives in meaningful ways, we offer exclusive marks of distinction:

High staff-to-resident ratios

Pocket programming

Family & friends meals on the house

ASK FOR DETAILS!

Kensington Park Family & Friends Brunch

Share a meal with our loving assisted living family amidst the welcoming surroundings of The Woodlands

Sunday, June 3, 2018 • 10:30am-1:30pm • RSVP to (301) 946-7700
3618 Littledale Drive, Kensington, MD 20895

A good meal together brings loved ones closer, so we host dining events routinely.

We've reserved a place at our table for you and your family to join us.

We are a community of happy hearts, endless hugs and profound professionalism.

We cherish the fact that every single day, we get the chance to contribute care, attention and friendship to our residents who need assisted living care.

We have plenty more to share with you and someone you love, too.

Introduce yourself to us. Tell us your story. We are listening.



KENSINGTON PARK
A Senior Living Community

(301) 946-7700

The Woodlands | 3618 Littledale Road, Kensington, MD 20895

www.KensingtonParkSeniorLiving.com





REINVENT YOURSELF

Today, older Americans are living longer and more healthfully than ever before. What does this mean for our notions of life after a career? Many retirees are finding new inspiration in second careers, helping others, discovering new interests, and pursuing dreams. Reinventing yourself can be fun and rewarding. Even better: it is also good for your mental and physical well-being.

Whether you are planning for retirement or simply looking to get involved in new activities, start by thinking about your skills, dreams, and passions.

By 2029, more than **20%** of Americans will be of retirement age.

THE BENEFITS:

- Helps keep your mind active
- Helps maintain physical health
- Provides structure and routine
- Connects you with the community
- Promotes social activities
- Helps prevent isolation
- Provides income in some cases

FOLLOW YOUR PASSION, USE YOUR SKILLS

- Careers after retirement can be rewarding, personally and financially.** First, determine whether you have the skills needed for a new venture. If so, update your resume and start looking at job posts. If not, seek out classes and training—online or at a local college. Remember to ask whether financial assistance is available.
- Express yourself through the arts.** Learn to paint or draw, dust off those dancing shoes, or put your musical talent to use. Take a class in stand-up comedy or acting, or finally write that story. Even if you never felt artistic, everyone has the ability to be creative. As a bonus, studies show that the arts can improve brain health.
- Keep learning and growing!** Learn a new language or take a computer class. Or, maybe you have always wanted to travel and discover other cultures. No matter what you choose, pursuing a new interest will help keep you happy, healthy, and connected.
- Consider using your years of experience to serve others.** Volunteers meet a range of community needs, from mentoring at-risk youth to providing job training to helping families recover from disasters. Find opportunities by visiting a local organization or charity or go to www.nationalservice.gov/serve.

NEED HELP DECIDING WHAT TO DO?

Connect with a local senior center, community college, or library to find programs in your community.



More resources: oam.acl.gov/resources.html



World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

The United Nations (UN) has designated June 15 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD). World Elder Abuse Awareness Day brings together senior citizens, their caregivers, and governments to combat the problem of elder abuse.

The day aims to focus global attention on the problem of physical, emotional, and financial abuse of elders. It also seeks to understand the challenges and opportunities presented by an ageing population, and brings together senior citizens, and their caregivers, national and local government, academics, and the private sector to exchange ideas about how best to reduce incidents of violence towards elders, increase reporting of such abuse, and to develop elder friendly policies.

Background

Currently, the world is undergoing significant demographic changes. Estimates indicate that by 2050, the global population of people above the age of 60 will exceed the number of younger people. These changes have led



to a worldwide recognition of the problems and challenges that face the elderly. Research has shown that elderly abuse, neglect, violence, and exploitation is one of the biggest issues facing senior citizens around the world. World Health Organization data suggests that 4 to 6 per cent of elderly suffer from some form of abuse, a large percentage of which goes unreported.

The purpose of the WEAAD is to encourage communities to recognize the problem of elderly abuse, and for countries to create policies that foster respect for elders and provide them the tools to continue to be productive citizens.

OPT

Select homes available

Declare Your Independence!

Self-Governance Means You Make the Decisions

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

Own Your Home and Make It Your Own

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

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

Schedule your appointment to discover the difference 301-530-0500.



SOAR

Con't from page 56

Cruise/lunch aboard Paddlewheeler on the Choptank plus tasting at Blackwater Distilling Co.
August 23 • \$79

Tour of Port Deposit
Aug. 29, 30 • \$69

Sailing on Schooner Sultana in Chestertown
Sept. 6 • \$85

Walking Tour of holiday White House
Dec. 11, 12 • \$45

Major League Baseball

Seats are located in gallery/upper box seats. There is walking and step climbing required at each game.

Orioles vs. Boston Red Sox (4:30pm)
June 13 • \$60

Orioles vs. New York Yankees (4:30pm)
July 11 • \$60

Nationals vs. NY Mets (4:30pm)
July 31 • \$60

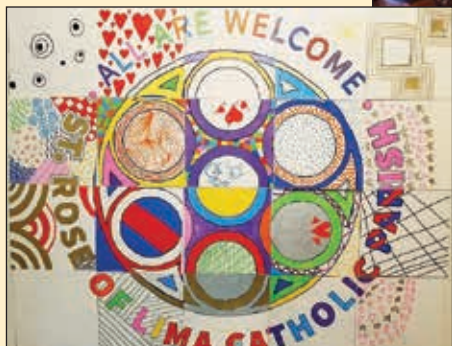
St. Rose Lock-In Held May 4-6

Twenty-five St. Rose Youth attended an overnight Spring Retreat Lock In, May 4 - 5. The retreat's theme was Joyful Noise. Psalms were the scriptural inspiration.

At the Lock In, noted Mike Tenney led St. Rose youth in worship. Tenney is a noted worship



At the Lock In, Mike Tenney, a noted Catholic speaker and musician led St. Rose Youth in worship and song.



Mural made by participants at the St. Rose Lock In

leader who incorporates traditional hymns and modern songs into the worship experience.

Additionally, retreat participants at St. Rose created a mural that highlights St. Rose's theme, "All are Welcome."

OPT

Help Send St. Rose Youth and Young Adults to Ecuador!

This summer, a group of seven youth and young adults from St. Rose of Lima Parish will travel to Guayaquil, Ecuador for a Retreat Immersion program with Rostro de Cristo.

St. Rose youth & young adults will live work and pray in an impoverished community visiting neighbors and local non-profits to learn from and be with those in the community. It hoped these experiences, young people will touch, taste, smell, see and feel how the developing world lives and be forever changed. The retreat program with Rostro de Cristo in Ecuador is devoted to inspiring life-long commitments to service, faith and social justice in every young person that comes to visit our Ecuadorian neighbors.

Molly Herrera will lead this



In 2011, Molly Herrera served in Ecuador as a year-long volunteer with Rostro de Cristo.



In Ecuador, Herrera helped with an after-school program in called Semillas de Mostaza, "Mustard Seed."

year's trip to Ecuador. In 2011, Herrera spent a year as a volunteer, with Rostro de Cristo. Rostro de Cristo is a Catholic program that provides spiritual and educational opportunities for people of faith to live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ with the people of Ecuador. The English translation of Rostro de Cristo is the Face of Christ that calls for a new awareness and desire to love others in the likeness of Christ.

To learn more about the St. Rose mission trip, including a documentary of the community and organization Rostro de Cristo in Ecuador, visit the YouCaring website: www.strose-parish.org/ecuador.

One-hundred percent of donations goes towards the cost of the retreat immersion trip for participants. Anyone who would like to donate on behalf of a specific St. Rose youth/young adult's trip, please include their name in the 'message' box when completing your donation.

OPT



St. Rose Youth fundraising for Ecuador Trip. Photo by Molly Herrera

The Holy Spirit Lives at St. Rose!

By Molly Gradowski Herrera

I've always known St. Rose of Lima was a happening place. Recently, I awestruck anew of just how special St. Rose is. Most days and some week nights, I'm usually at my St. Rose office. At St. Rose I've noticed, there is always something happening and the parking lot is full.

This past Sunday, there were three Masses in English: one in French, one in Spanish and one in Filipino/Tagalog (accompanied

by bilingual concerts at hospitality and the Filipino celebration). Over the past three days at St. Rose our Youth Ministry held a Lock In and a fundraiser for youth to go to Ecuador, this coming summer. Next Saturday, St. Rose celebrating huge First Communion & Confirmation Masses, a group Baptism and a wedding. Then there's the regular 5 PM Mass.

St. Rose is on fire in the best possible ways. I'm so grateful my husband, Juan Carlos & I get to call St. Rose home.

OPT

Passion of Christ Reenactment

By Mary Zoccola

Each year at St. Rose Youth perform the Passion of Christ at the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Palm Sunday Masses.

The St. Rose Youth's performance of the Passion of Christ takes Palm Sunday worshippers back to the time of Christ's crucifixion. At the Masses, St. Rose worshippers visually relive Jesus's death on the cross via the live portrayal of the last days of Jesus's life in Jerusalem.

St. Rose Youth's powerful, live dramatization of the chain of events that ultimately led to Christ's crucifixion reminds worshippers of the liturgical meaning of the Triduum, observed later in the week. Hopefully, the dramatic



Members of the St. Rose Youth rehearse the crucifixion of Christ.

rendition of the Passion of Christ conveys a rejuvenated sense of faith to all that lasts long past the Easter season.

OPT

**Back to
School issue
prints
August 29**

St. Rose of Lima
11701 Clopper Road
Gaithersburg, MD
Fr. Agustin Mateo
Pastor
301-948-7545

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

Resurrection



Intrepid young people and adults from the Parish attended an overnight retreat at Cedar Ridge Adventures in Western Maryland. The weekend included fun teamwork, rope challenges, zip lines, campfire, song, prayer, Mass, and memories!



Three boys beam with joy before Mass on the day of their First Holy Communion.



Resurrection celebrated fourteen neophytes into our Catholic faith on the Easter weekend. An excited young woman is baptized by Fr. Barry at the Easter Vigil.

PROGRAM

Con't from page 55

made us from the first night feel like we had a home."

Peachman said the Homeless Men Lenten Mission Program also had a big impact on parishioners. "Not only did we serve the home-

less, but many volunteers stated that they really enjoyed meeting other members of the church that they had not met before. It has brought back a sense of community to the church and a greater sense of service that has been missing over the last several years.

Peachman expects Resurrection will continue to be involved with

the Homeless Men Lenten Mission Program next year. "We have had such a great response and so many people want to help again next year that we will be continuing this event. Next year, if the Laurel Winter Shelter has a need, we will also be looking to also house homeless women in addition to the men."

OPT



Fifth grade celebrates International Day with costumes, presentations, and delicious food representing countries all over the world.

OLOM NEWS

Con't from page 42

Mercy Celebrates International Day

The Fifth Grade transformed the Kennedy Room into the Hall of Nations last Thursday, April 19. Wearing the colorful clothing that represented their chosen countries, fifth graders impressed staff, parents, and fellow students with their presentation skills and informative visual displays. After the presentations, the students and staff enjoyed a table filled with international foods prepared by the students and parents including shepherd's pie, empanadas, tamales, bratwurst, spaetzle, and more.

Camp Mercy Annual Party – A Big Success!

The 2018 Annual Party and Auction was held on Saturday, March 24. More than 175 happy campers attended, and thanks to their incredible generosity, the

event raised almost \$75,000! This is more than double the proceeds from 2017. Money raised will be used to fund STEM programs, teacher development in STEM curriculum, and general school operating expenses. We are grateful to all of the committee members and parent volunteers for their hard work, and to the many staff, parent and community members who donated items for the auction. Now that the campground has been cleared, we're getting started on a theme for the 2019 party!

Mercy Summer School Programs

Mercy has launched its 2018 Spectrum of Education – Summer Enrichment Class registration. Classes are open to everyone and will offer fantastic learning opportunities such as: Math, Reading, Study Skills, STEM, Music, and many more! To take a look at the schedule just go to the Mercy website www.schoololom.org, click on Parents, and Summer Spectrum.

Grandparents' and Special Visitors' Day

One of the most highly anticipated traditions at Mercy is the Grandparents and Special Visitors Day, held on Friday, May 4. This event offered grandparents, relatives and special guests a chance to share part of their loved ones' school day, including classroom visits, a concert by students, and a school Mass. Many special memories were made during this wonderful event.



Making Mercy memories on Grandparents and Special Visitors Day



Meet Zélie! The newest member of the Mercy community

A New Puppy at Mercy!

After losing his beloved dog Roo in January, Mercy's Pastor, Father Bill Byrne knew it wouldn't be long before he would want to bring a new companion into the community. Much to the delight of the students (and staff), he decided on an English Lab puppy and named her Zélie, after Saint Zélie (Marie-Azélie

Guerin), mother of Saint Therese the Little Flower. This mischievous puppy has quickly endeared herself to everyone; happily following Father Bill wherever he goes.

OPT

It pays to advertise in
Our Parish Times

In final preparation for their First Holy Communion, students met on Saturday, April 14, for a day of retreat. The students learned to make unleavened bread, took a tour of the church led by Deacon Dave Cahoon and learned the history of our parish and took a first-hand look at the sacred vessels used at mass. They finished the day making banners for their pews for First Communion.



Vocations Visit

Young men from across the Archdiocese gathered for a day of prayer, sports, talks and dinner on Sunday, April 15. They travelled to Barnesville for an afternoon Eucharistic Vigil in St. Mary's Church. This was followed by a wonderful fried chicken dinner provided by the parish. The event is sponsored annually by the Office of Vocations.



2018 Confirmation Class of St. Mary's Church and Shrine

Seventeen young people were confirmed in the Holy Spirit on Saturday, April 28, by Bishop Herbert Bevard of the Diocese of St. Thomas, USVI. Bishop Bevard is a good friend of St. Mary's Church, visiting us for the past three years. (L-R): Casey Wheeler, Henry Brill, Perrin Chalk, Aria Grimsby, Brett Mate, Anna Stanoyevitch, Jennifer Owen, Caeley Lynch, Claudia Colon Del Valle, Bishop Bevard, Spencer Goldberg, Sean Donohoe, Andrew Schaefer, Lilah Colbert, Lucy Ehart, Liam Mullins-Mitchell, Rosie Ballmann, Jessica Rothenberg, Megan O'Brien and Father Kevin O'Reilly.

St. Mary's Tenth Annual Haiti Festival

St. Mary's tenth annual Haiti Festival for the benefit of their twinned parish of St. Joseph's in Carcasse, Haiti was both fun and informative. The blue grass band led by parishioner Jim Clark, featured singers from the parish along with local professionals. The always delicious dinner, prepared by local residents Katherine White and Connie Golleher consistently exceeds all expectations. The silent auction boasted an array of gift items and outings near and far. From tastings at local wineries, to a week at the Caretta Research Project and fine china to original art work, there was truly something for everyone!

This year's Festival was also a homecoming for Paul Stevens, a longtime parishioner at St. Mary's before moving to Virginia. Paul,



Jim Clark and Friends with St. Mary's youth singers.

CEO of Vanguard Light Gauge Steel Buildings (manufacturer of metal construction members for

small housing to large hotels) is the designer and manufacturer of

Continued on page 63

Brides for Haiti Dress Shop Opens in Frederick

This past Spring St. Mary's Parish in Barnesville opened a dress shop in Frederick specializing in wedding dresses and special occasion dresses to help raise funds to build a new church for its twin parish in Haiti, St. Joseph's in Carcasse. The Haitian church and other buildings in the community were destroyed by Hurricane Matthew in 2016.

St. Mary's, under the Facebook name St. Philomena's Brides for Haiti, is selling gorgeous designer wedding dresses for \$199, and special occasion dresses from \$30 to \$50 on the second and fourth Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and occasional Friday evenings.

The "Brides For Haiti" Bridal Show in January hosted at St. Mary of the Mills in Laurel Maryland, which also twins with St. Joseph's Church in Carcasse Haiti, was a huge hit with brides who travelled from as far as New Jersey to get their dream dress at a bargain price. After that, the Brides For Haiti fundraising team knew they needed a permanent storefront where brides and other dress shoppers could easily find them on a Saturday morning. A spacious suite was obtained rent free at 92 Thomas Johnson Drive in Frederick Maryland through a family whose late parents were lifelong parishioners of St. Mary's.

"We draw brides from all over Maryland and the DC Metro Area and even beyond to our Frederick shop because we offer high quality wedding gowns at a flat rate of \$199, and our vintage wedding gowns are only \$25. We also have very reasonably priced veils and accessories. Most of our gowns are sample dresses in mint condition while others have been lovingly donated to us by individual brides. Still others we have purchased from international sellers to make sure we have a large inventory spanning sizes 0 to 26. Now that we have this beautiful storefront we can more easily help our twin parish," said Susan Jamison, who helps operate the store with other parishioners including friend Patti Bohr and daughter Laura Wright.

The famous Kleinfelds and many other shops including Love It At Stella's, Ann's Bridal Boutique, and Global Bridal Gallery have donated generously to St. Mary's.



This Bridge stood out. She volunteered any hours over many years helping rebuild a church in New Orleans that was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. She found out about us from an ad on Facebook and now the proceeds from her gown will help build another church (destroyed by a different hurricane) for the people in Carcasse, Haiti. God at Work. So cool

"Brides have been delighted to find beautiful dresses with labels from Maggie Sottero, Casablanca, James Clifford and many others, and to know that they are helping Haiti when they buy a dress, belt, shoes or veil from us," says Jamison

Type in "St. Philomena's Brides for Haiti" to find the parish group on Facebook. The volunteers are proud of their all 5-star reviews and they are accumulating a fair number of followers and even some page advertisers. The Facebook page is named after the group's patron saint, St. Philomena, an early Christian martyr who is called "Powerful with God," and died at a young age.

For new clients mentioning Brides For Haiti at first contact, Capitol Pool Service, Inc., a DC Metro Area pool service and restoration company, has promised a \$300 donation when a seasonal contract is signed. John Jamison, a local real estate agent and the son of Susan Jamison, has similarly promised \$500 when a new client commission is earned. More advertisers are welcome.

Brides are encouraged to wear fitting clothes under their normal clothes in order to easily change in and out of wedding dresses. Interested buyers, donors, and advertisers can look for them on Facebook or call Susan Jamison at 301-525-1555.

OPT

**Back to School
issue
prints
August 29**

St. Mary's Parish
18230 Barnesville Road
Barnesville, MD 20838
Rev. Kevin O'Reilly,
Pastor
(301) 972-8660
www.stmaryonline.com

More St. Mary News on Page 63

Polish Saturday School students and teachers display the beautifully hand-crafted traditional palms they made for Palm Sunday at Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish on March 25, 2018.



Rev. Jerzy Frydrych, Pastor of Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish, prays over and blesses the beautifully decorated food baskets on Holy Saturday, March 31, 2018, which parishioners and friends brought in keeping with Polish traditions.

On April 8, 2018, the Feast of Divine Mercy, Our Lady Queen of Poland's multigenerational parishioners gathered to share an Easter dinner, "Swieconka," at the parish. Pictured here is Elizabeth Speidel with Anna Kajkowska who brought her grandchildren to the dinner.



On Sunday, April 22, 2018, the Parish of Our Lady Queen of Poland & St. Maximilian Kolbe received and venerated the relics of Blessed Fr. Jerzy Popieluszko (1947-1984), a martyr priest also known as the "Solidarity Chaplain." He was murdered by the Communist secret police because of his courage in standing up to the Communist authorities and advocating for truth and freedom. His faith and courage inspired others. One of his quotes was, "It is not enough for a Christian to condemn evil, cowardice, lies, and use of force, hatred, and oppression. He must at all times be a witness to and defender of justice, goodness, truth, freedom, and love. He must never tire of claiming these values as a right both for himself and others." Another quote is, *Zło dobrem zwyciężaj*, "Overcome evil with good." After Mass, parishioners stayed to view a documentary film about Bl. Fr. Jerzy Popieluszko.



OLQP Parishioners Serve Wednesday Night Polish Dinner to Catholic Terps

by Bozenna Buda, ED

On May 2, a group of Our Lady Queen of Poland parishioners sponsored the Wednesday Night Dinner for the Catholic Terps at the Catholic Student Center (CSC) at the University of Maryland in College Park. The Wednesday night dinners at the CSC are a recurring event during the Fall and Spring semesters and are sponsored by local parishes and groups to feed the university students, many of whom also attend the Holy Mass which precedes the dinner. This time, the group from OLQP prepared and served a delicious Polish meal consisting of Bigos (hunter's stew), Pierogi (dumplings), vegetables, bread, and assorted home-made desserts. They also showed a documentary film about St. John Paul II during the dinner. This was a labor of love to which many people and groups from OLQP contributed, including (pictured) Joanna Roberts, Ola Zeleznik, Renata Zeleznik, Andy Michaels, Bozenna Buda, Adam Hawiger, Dr. Edwarda Buda-Okreglak, and Szymon Suchcicki. Other supporters were Edyta Szemiel, Basia Wojcik-Betancourt, Zbyszek Okreglak, Maciej Poltorak, Terrell Roberts, and Bradley Ortins. We thank everyone for their prayers and hard work!



Many parish groups took part in the festive Holy Mass on Sunday, May 6, 2018, at Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish celebrating our Parish Feastday and commemorating the Polish Constitution of May 3, 1791. OLQP Pastor, Rev. Jerzy Frydrych, is surrounded by the Knights of Columbus, members of Polish Saturday School, Lectors, altar servers, and Polish Scouts. After the Mass, parishioners and friends enjoyed a tasty parish picnic with a DJ and games for the children.



On Sunday, April 29, 2018, the OLQP Polish Scouts traveled to Baltimore, MD, to participate in the commemorative and wreath-laying ceremonies at the Katyn Memorial. Pictured, in front of the Katyn sculpture, is Scout Leader Bozenna Buda and scouts Gabrysia, Artyom, Daniel, and Hania.



Lucas Kulczycki, (1911-2018)

R.I.P. Lucas Kulczycki, M.D.

by Bozenna Buda, ED

Our Lady Queen of Poland long-time parishioner Dr. Lucas Kulczycki died on May 3, 2018, at the age of 106. He always had a ready smile for everyone.

He was born in Poland and was a WWII veteran. He received his medical degree in Edinburgh and lived and practiced in Canada before coming to the United States, first to Harvard Medical School and then to the Washington, DC,

area.

In addition to being a renowned pediatrician, Dr. Kulczycki also was an expert on cystic fibrosis, and a pioneer in the area of cystic fibrosis. He retired from Georgetown University Hospital.

He was a founding member and the first president of the Polish American Health Association in Washington, DC, and was involved in Polish American organizations.

May he rest in peace! Wieczny odpoczynek racz mu dac, Panie!

OPT

St. Mary - Barnesville



Scout Sunday

Scout Sunday was celebrated on April 15 at the 9:30 am Mass in St. Mary's Shrine Church. All scouts present were awarded their Scout Sunday patch. Cadette Troop 2239 hosted a God is Love medal workshop at St. Mary's. Daisy Scouts from Troop 32009 attended. The girls from Troop 2239 planned and implemented the workshop and put together a box of supplies and instructions to be loaned out to other troops in earning the God is Love medal. These activities completed the Girl Scout Silver Award for Troop 2239.



St. Mary's, the Official Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima for the Archdiocese held its annual May Crowning, May 6, after all the Masses. The adults and children honored Our Blessed Mother with flowers and prayers after each mass at the outdoor shrine. This picture shows children and adults along with the Knight of Columbus, 4th Degree honor guard following the 9:30a.m. Mass.



Youth and adult volunteers prepare to serve dinner.

FESTIVAL

Con't from page 61

the new church St. Mary's is spearheading for our twinned parish of St. Joseph's in Haiti. The new church is engineered to withstand category 5 hurricanes and be resistant to earthquakes. It will have a water collection system to store valuable water from the roof and a passive air circulation system that will pass cooler air from under the foundation slab to the interior and vent hotter air through the roof. The end product will be a comfortable, safe, and beautiful worship space and a secure shelter from the storms which frequently batter Haiti during hurricane season.

Reflecting on St. Mary's ten year relationship with Carcasse, Deacon

David Cahoon recounted a conversation with members of St. Joseph's parish council and representatives of St. Mary's. An elderly lady first thanked Father Verdieu, pastor of St. Joseph's then said "St. Mary's has changed our lives." Only six words, yet so much was said.

St. Mary's tenth annual Haiti Festival raised more than \$23,000 to support our twinned parish of St. Joseph's. This and other fundraisers throughout the year pay for teacher salaries, health services, support for local farming and fishing industries, and now a new church. The St. Mary's Haiti Twinning Committee is deeply appreciative to our volunteers who make the Festival possible and to the many contributors who support our brothers and sisters in Haiti.

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