Enjoying the Process

Parenting advice—books, columns, blogs, talk show experts—could we possibly hear anything new about parenting? “Don’t feed them that; let them decide when and where they’ll eat, play, dress and obey. Get them involved in lots of activities; let them roam the neighborhood; don’t let them out of your sight; put them in your bed; give them their own rooms; sleep eight hours; sleep when they feel like it; go to school at age three; delay kindergarten until your child is eight.” All of this advice is guaranteed to provide us with the “end product” that we should all be seeking—a perfectly behaved, brilliant, self-confident, well-adjusted, popular, very attractive, young person who gets into the best high school in the area, and goes on to a top tier college, where he or she will be exceptionally well-prepared for law or medical school.

Sadly, there are so many parenting “experts” out there that parents can’t help but feel guilty if they don’t grow children who meet the unreachable goals that society has set for them.

Congratualtions, Teri Dwyer, Distinguished Principal of the Year!

At St. Raphael School, Principal Teri Dwyer is known for her strong spiritual leadership and commitment to academic excellence, her dedication to the students, staff, and community, and her passion for civility and lively Catholic faith evidenced through her actions, words, and works. She recently received the Archdiocesan Distinguished Principal of the Year award.

Don’t sit on the sidelines!

Pope Francis says we need to “overcome apathy” and offer “a Christian response to the social and political anxieties” around us. “Good Catholics immerse themselves in politics,” says the Pope. Don’t miss your chance to vote, immerse yourself in politics and make a difference!

St. Jane de Chantal Faculty Welcomes Student Community Back to School

St. Jane de Chantal School faculty welcomed back hundreds of families to begin the new school year. Mrs. Hamilton was on hand to greet each family as they made their way through the door to the halls and to their new classrooms. There were new backpacks, fresh haircuts, and many smiles as the students rejoined our Catholic community. The school’s theme this year is “Be! Be... amazing. Brave. Inspiring. Unstoppable. The Difference!” Members of the school community will spend the school year being the best Catholics they can be through service, learning, and practicing their faith.

Mountain of Work

By Chuck Short

Autumn is a delightful time of year, filled with heartwarming and memorable activities. As a father and grandfather, I fondly recall my children’s CYO soccer games and now enjoy the beautiful October days cheering for my grandchildren during their CYO games. For decades, CYO and its dedicated volunteer coaches have enabled and taught children to play together in Christian spirit. Thanks to coaches, patient referees, parishes, and especially parents for keeping CYO vibrant.

The Montgomery County Catholic community lost a great leader last month when Jim Sullivan died. I have often referred to PCR (Potomac Community Resources) as a model parish initiated program for people with disabilities. Jim and his wife Joan were among a small group of Our Lady of Mercy parents of young adults with disabilities who founded PCR three decades ago. While Jim’s daughter Patricia passed away just as PCR was a model parish initiated program for people with disabilities. Jim and his wife Joan were among a small group of Our Lady of Mercy parents of young adults with disabilities who founded PCR three decades ago. While Jim’s daughter Patricia passed away just as PCR three decades ago.

Archdiocesan Distinguished Principal of the Year Teri Dwyer is joined by her family at the surprise announcement of her award made at St. Raphael School’s Morning Prayer. Ms. Dwyer was praised by Secretary for Education Jem Sullivan and Superintendent of Schools Bill Ryan for her outstanding leadership and tireless commitment to Catholic education. Photo by MJ Zafis-Garcia / St. Raphael School.
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Old St. John the Evangelist Church
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off Forest Glen Rd., Rt. 192

www.tradlatinmass.org
E-mail: JSteis@aol.com


CBN-MC Friday Breakfast October 12

Our Speaker this month is CBN-MC member Larry Tracy, author of Bring Home the Bacon: How to Deliver Persuasive Presentations that get “Buy-in” From ANY Audience.

Date: Friday, October 12
Time: 7:30 to 9:30 am
Please RSVP by advance at www.cbnmc.com by Wednesday, October 10, at noon.

President Ronald Reagan described Larry Tracy as “An extraordinarily effective speaker.” He was an Army colonel assigned to the State Department debating controversial foreign policy issues throughout the country. He is now cited as one of the top presentation skills trainers/coaches in the country in publications such as the Information Please Business Almanac and Sourcebook, published by Houghton-Mifflin. Best of the Best, published by Insight Publishing, and What to Say When You’re Dying on the Platform, pub-


He conducts his Presentation Skills in a Nutshell and Briefing the Boss workshops for corporations and government agencies, and trains corporate teams how to deliver winning oral presentations for government and commercial contracts. His coaching is not derivative classroom theory, but instead flows from his “real-world” experience. He served as Chief of the Defense Intelligence

How to Bring Home the Bacon

Larry Tracy

Agency’s Presentations Branch--the Pentagon’s top briefing team--responsible for daily intelligence presentations to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He supervised and coordinated over 500 of these.

Continued on page 13

Domestic Church Day: Celebrating Humanae Vitae

Join fellow Catholic couples and families for a Domestic Church Day on October 13 from 1:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Saint John Paul II National Shrine. This upcoming half-day family retreat will be on the theme of “Celebrating Humanae Vitae”

Please join us Sunday, October 21, at 12:00 noon for a Witness to Life Mass at St. Jane de Chantal Church. Mass will be followed by a rosary procession to Wildwood Medical Center where LeRoy Carhart’s late-term abortion center is located. Signs and rosaries will be available.

Parish Community Services, Inc.
5212 Goddard Road Bethesda, MD 20814
Phone: 301-706-9684
OurParishTimes@gmail.com

PUBLISHED IN ALTERNATE MONTHS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR.

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PUBLISHED IN ALTERNATE MONTHS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR.

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Justice and Advocacy Council

Charity and Justice go together

By Anthony Bosnick

T he Justice and Advocacy Council (J&A) of Montgomery County is refocusing for a new year. We are guided by the principles of Catholic social teaching and thus support public policies which promote the common good, the dignity of life, and build community.

The J&A Council is an outreach of the Archdiocese of Washington and is a voice of the Church in Montgomery County.

In the coming months, the November 6 elections of a new county council and county executive will receive much attention. The county budget will also be of special concern as it funds the programs which establish a safety net for the poor and vulnerable in Montgomery County. This typically means that J&A Council members will meet with the council members to discuss issues of concern. We will also attend the regional listening sessions, if the new county executive continues them.

Everything is connected, interrelated. Pope Francis teaches that “everything is interrelated,” “everything is connected” (see Laudato Si, n.117, 120). As Francis stresses, this applies to public policies which protect life as well as to issues related to the economy and the environment. We—society and individuals—often prefer, however, to disconnect. The J&A Council is challenged to promote connection and interrelationship.

At a basic level, charity and justice go hand-in-hand. Catholics are generally good at charity (support for food pantries, soup kitchens, pregnancy centers). We are more

Continued on page 22

Our Lady of Good Counsel High School celebrates 60th anniversary

Friday, September 7, was a unique opportunity to mark the school’s historic milestones, honor its traditions, and introduce the theme for the yearlong celebration: “One Community, One Home.”

The day started with an all-school mass in the Kane Center presided by Father Thomas Lavin and alumni clergy and ended with an all campus tailgate event to kick off the varsity football season.

Sixty years ago, the Xaverian Brothers established Our Lady of Good Counsel at the invitation of Patrick Cardinal O’Boyle, as a Catholic high school for boys. With the support of Archbishop James Hickey, Good Counsel announced in the fall of 1986 that it would become coeducational in 1988. Thanks to a growing student population and the need for additional space and fields, in 2007 the school moved to its current location in Olney.

During the 60th Anniversary year, Our Lady of Good Counsel will celebrate:

- 60 years of achieving the extraordinary by providing comprehensive and flexible academic programming that provides students

Continued on page 23

Rwandan Genocide Survivor and Bestselling Author to Speak at Oakcrest School

Immaculée Ilibagiza tells her story of faith, hope, and forgiveness.

On October 10, 2018, New York Times bestselling author Immaculée Ilibagiza will speak at Oakcrest School about finding God in the midst of the horrors of the Rwandan genocide. Ilibagiza will share her odyssey of hope and healing in the wake of tragedy, and explain how she found the strength to forgive those who took everything away from her.

This will be Immaculée’s second visit to Oakcrest. In 2008, she delivered the commencement address for the school’s graduating class.

Immaculée Ilibagiza is a survivor of the 1994 Rwandan genocide that took the lives of nearly one million Tutsis. Men, women and children, including her entire family except for one of her brothers, were massacred at the hands of Hutu marauders. Immaculée found shelter at a pastor’s home, where she and seven other women hid from the

Continued on page 22
First Annual Pride Walkathon

On Thursday, September 20, Mercy students and staff participated in our first ever school walkathon. Every student, Pre K3 through eighth grade, walked! The event was kicked off when each class, wearing team spirit colors and carrying their team banner, marched out to their team song. The students raised over $6,000 in pledges, which will go to the 2018-19 Mercy Fund. The fund helps to enrich our children’s education in many ways including new technology, continuing education for teachers, personalized learning environments, and advanced learning opportunities. By collecting pledges and participating in this walkathon, students had fun with their classmates and played an active role in giving back to their school and community. #MERCYWE

Mercy second graders show their Pride Walkathon spirit!

School Open House

Mercy’s Fall 2018 Open House will be held on Thursday, October 4, from 8:30-10:00 am for Kindergarten thru eighth grades. We are offering a separate session from 10-11 am, specifically for Preschool parents. Spend some time with us and see what makes Mercy so special! For more information or questions, contact the school office at 301-365-4477.

Mater Dei School

Work hard, play hard, pray hard and be a good guy

Open House Mater Dei School
Tuesday, November 13
9:30 to 11:30am
9600 Seven Locks Road • Bethesda, MD 20817
301-365-2700
www.materdeischool.net

Mercy seventh graders participated in a 3-day, 2-night Outdoor Ed program at Echo Hill Outdoor School on the Chesapeake Bay. The three-day excursion offered a wide variety of lessons about the fragility of the Bay and the importance of preserving this remarkable estuary.

Seven-Grade Outdoor Ed

All aboard! Mercy seventh graders learn about the Chesapeake Bay at Outdoor Ed.

Mercy Hosts ADW Guidance Counselor Workshop

Guidance Counselors from around the Archdiocese attended a workshop at Mercy on Thursday, September 27. Mercy’s own counselor, Mrs. Susan Gibeson, facilitated the discussion on best practices, current materials, and the importance of preserving this remarkable estuary.

The End of Summer Marks New Beginnings

Now that the children are back in school and their routine is taking shape, the adults at Our Lady of Mercy have many opportunities for faith and life enrichment. For those who help us to celebrate our liturgy with their musical talent, the Parish Choir will alternate singing at the 9:00 and 11:00 AM services on Sunday and for feast days and other events. They rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Our Handbell Choir meets on Tuesdays from 7:00 to 8:30 PM for rehearsals and performs at the 9:00 or 11:00 AM Mass once a month. The Children’s Choir which draws members in grades 3 through 8 began rehearsals for the 11:00 AM Mass where they will sing once a month.

Adults who want to deepen their faith are signing up for Mercy U, The Lay Theology Institute, where Dr. Brian Carl will lead them in the study of God and Man in Thomist Philosophy. The Emmaus Road Scripture Series will study The Prophets: Messengers of God’s Mercy. They meet on Thursday Evenings from September 27 to November 1. Walking with Purpose, The Modern Woman’s Guide to the Bible started Wednesday, September 26th, with a kickoff talk: “Encounter is the Answer”. In addition, RCIA for adults and teens age 15 to 19 started in mid September. Scouts have begun meeting in the Kennedy Room. The Cub Scouts meet on Monday. Over the past several years, scoutmasters and dedicated adult volunteers have donated many hours of effort to provide wonderful scouting opportunities for the boys of Our Lady of Mercy. The COR Youth Group is starting a new season of fun, friendship and good food. The group meets after the 5:00 PM Sunday Mass.
St. Raphael School News

Start-of-School Celebrations
The 2018-19 school year began with an opening Mass celebrated by Fr. Wells and co-celebrated by Fr. Francisco Aguirre, friend and former parochial vicar of St. Raphael’s now serving as administrator at St. Catherine Laboure. Excited chatter subdued as the teachers’ choir began, and the school, along with all the faithful community, looked forward to the coming year in God’s presence and each other’s company. Still heavy on our hearts was the loss of Patty Quinn, our beloved fifth-grade teacher who passed away in June, and many of the children, parents, and staff members wore “choose kind” T-shirts designed in her honor. After Mass, the community gathered for a tree planting and blessing in Ms. Quinn’s memory. A beautiful crepe myrtle generously made possible by Great American Landscapes. The company’s founder and owner, Kevin O’Neill, whose family was touched by Ms. Quinn’s teaching at SRS, gave a heartwarming tribute to her impact on students’ lives. The tree will remain a splendid reminder of Ms. Quinn’s life and legacy, blooming year after year in her favorite color, purple.

Opening day celebrations continued as students and parents visited classrooms, reunited with old friends, and met new classmates and teachers. Music, festivities, and popsicles helped to melt away back-to-school nerves and sweeten the memories.

Early-Childhood Expansion
St. Raphael Nursery School’s latest addition, Stay & Play, could not be off to a better start. The drop-in program that launched last month offers moms, dads, grandparents, and toddlers a hit with toddlers and parents alike. Opening day celebrations continued as students and parents visited classrooms, reunited with old friends, and met new classmates and teachers. Music, festivities, and popsicles helped to melt away back-to-school nerves and sweeten the memories.

Fall Open House
Sunday, October 21 from 12:30-4:00 pm

The Heights is a private, independent, preparatory school for boys in grades 3-12 located in Potomac, MD.

Visit The Heights Forum for book reviews, interviews, and articles: www.heights.edu/forum

“Be who you are and be that well.”
-St. Francis de Sales

Georgetown Visitation students become their best selves by discovering their God-given gifts and using them for others, preparing them for exceptional lives in college and beyond.

The Heights School

The Heights is a private, independent, preparatory school for boys in grades 3-12 located in Potomac, MD.

Register at www.visi.org/openhouseRSVP

Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School
An all-girls Catholic high school in Washington, DC
Learn more at visi.org

10400 Seven Locks Road Potomac Maryland 20854
T: 301.765.2093 www.heights.edu
Sharing A.J.’s Joy

St. Patrick’s School conducted its first toy drive to benefit the Johns Hopkins Children’s Center in Baltimore. In memory of A.J. Koller, more than 600 toys were collected to be shared with the young patients. A.J. Koller, the son of Kindergarten teacher Melanie Koller, was born in 2004 with Alagille Syndrome, a multi-organ disorder. His childhood was filled with multiple doctor appointments, procedures, and heart surgeries but also trips to the beach, amusement parks, special times with family and friends, and many movie nights. Known for being a loving brother and a good friend, A.J. sadly passed away on September 14, 2014 at the age of ten. To celebrate his memory and share A.J.’s joy with other children battling illness, the Koller family organized this yearly toy drive in 2015. Since that time, more than 2000 toys have been collected and distributed at Johns Hopkins Children’s Center.

St. Patrick’s School SGA Installation

St. Patrick’s School is pleased to announce the officers and representatives who will be leading the Student Government Association for the 2018-2019 school year. The following students are pictured along with St. Patrick’s Pastor, Msgr. Charles Parry, who installed the students in a ceremony at a school Mass on September 19, 2018: John Rizzo (President); Jimmy Troy (Vice President); Makayla Cihlar (Secretary); and Paddy Kirchner (Treasurer). The class representatives are also included: Keira Balaguez and Morgan Shannon (fifth grade); Megan Depman and Joshua Wadja (sixth grade); Ellie Maurano (seventh grade); and Lance Le, Christian Leusch, and Rafi Rubino (eighth grade). Msgr. Parry blessed the new SGA members and called for the “gifts of the Holy Spirit” to guide their leadership and service to their classmates.

St. Patrick’s Welcomes Fifth Preschool Class

This fall, St. Patrick’s School welcomed its preschool class. Opened in 2014, St. Patrick’s Pre-K features a centers-based curriculum with emphasis on math, language arts, and fine motor skills. Fully integrated into the elementary school community, students receive enrichment with Art, Spanish, Music, and Physical Education taught by the elementary school specialists. The theme for this school year is “Camping out with Good Books.” Mrs. Mary Jo Glacken, teacher of the class, creates a “learning environment through play and imagination.” Assisted by a full-time preschool aide, Mrs. Elisa Hall, the class currently has twenty students. The preschool students are teamed up with the fifth-grade class, who serve as mentor “buddies” to the four-year olds. Buddies assist these youngest students with Mass, monthly learning activities, and service projects. A recent addition to the program is the “Mystery Reader” where a parent or grandparent surprise the class by sharing a favorite picture book. The Pre-K offers a daily program with half-day and full-day options, as well as an aftercare program.

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301-924-2284

St. Patrick’s School
Ms. Christie Anne Short, Principal
301-929-9672

Parish Editor
New Volunteer Needed
Contact rectory to apply
On September 8, 1947, St. Bernadette School opened its doors and welcomed our first students onto our campus and into our classrooms. We celebrated our 70th anniversary on September 8, 2017. To commemorate this rich history that has helped create and shape the extraordinary St. Bernadette community of today, we launched our very first Homecoming Weekend in the fall of 2017. We took many of the time-honored and treasured favorite parish, school and community events and made a weekend out of it! It was such a success, that it is now an annual tradition. We are calling all past, present and future members of St. Bernadette parish, school, alumni, neighbors and friends to join us this year for a very family friendly, all members with a connection to St. Bernadette parish or school, collaboration and celebration filled with an exciting slate of choices throughout the weekend of October 12-14, 2018.

On Friday, we will kick off the weekend with our annual Golf Outing sponsored by the St. Bernadette CYO played at Sligo Creek Golf Course. In addition to hitting the links, you will have a chance to try your hand at Blackjack between holes as well. That evening, we will spread out our blankets and set up our beach chairs for a movie under the stars on St. B’s field sponsored by our Home School Association. The snack shack will be grilling its famous fare along with popcorn and ice cream. The movie will begin at dusk.

On Saturday, we will come together as a comprehensive St. Bernadette community and give

**OCTOBER 12-14, 2018**

All past, present and future members of the St. Bernadette School, Parish, neighborhood community and their friends are invited, welcome and encouraged to attend.

**HOMECOMING**

**FRI 12**

9:30 a.m. 5:30 p.m.

CYO Golf Outing Sligo Golf Course (See enclosed flyer)

HSA Movie Night on the Field After CYO soccer games at dusk. Snack Shack serving grilled items, popcorn and treats. Bring a chair or blanket.

**SAT 13**

5:00 p.m. 6-9 p.m.

Homecoming Mass

Homecoming Dinner

SBS Field after Mass $30 per person/$20 if under 21 (see enclosed registration form)

**SUN 14**

10 a.m.-1 p.m. 1-5 p.m.

St. Bernadette School Open House with light refreshments

The St. Bernadette Parish Fall Festival on the Field.

Please visit www.saintbernadetteschool.org for additional registration and payment information.

Please direct all questions to:

Kate Rodgers // krogers@saintbernadetteschool.org // 301-593-5611 x135
Save the Date for the Fourth Annual STEAM Showcase

December 8, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

The STEAM Showcase is interactive hands-on event highlighting The Woods Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics curriculum. Woods families and families from the greater community are invited to campus for a morning filled with robots, building activities, art projects, racing cars, birds’ nests, toothbrush bots, inventions, and so much more. Every day at The Woods our students embark on a journey of exploration, discovery, creativity, and innovation – 21st century ideas at work. The possibilities are endless. Please visit www.woodsacademy.org/steam for more information and to register for this event.

Woods Academy Golf Classic to Benefit Tuition Assistance

On Monday, October 22, parents, grandparents, and friends of The Woods are invited to Kenwood Country Club for lunch and the 14th Annual Woods Academy Golf Classic. This annual event is designed to bring the Woods community together for some good-natured competition and to raise money for the Sharing In Growth Tuition Assistance Program. Please contact Director of Development Traci Grigg (tgrigg@woodsacademy.org) for more information or visit www.woodsacademy.org/golf.

Two Woods Teachers Complete Masters Programs

At The Woods Academy, the professional development and growth of the faculty is regularly celebrated. Nearly three out of four Woods teachers hold advanced degrees and two teachers just helped to improve that statistic. In the spring, Grade 1 teacher Mrs. Ashley Woods earned a Masters Degree in Dyslexia Therapy from Mississippi College. This past summer, Grade Seven and Eight math teacher Mr. Paul Paoletti earned a Masters Degree in Educational Leadership from George Mason University. Mr. Paoletti remarked about the impact of this graduate program, “Now, I am more confident than ever about my purpose in life and my ability to reach students in a profound and meaningful way.”
Members of the St. Jane de Chantal Environmental Committee and parishioners were treated to a bird’s-eye view of one of the gigantic mechanical claws at the Montgomery County Resource Recovery Facility as it lifted and transported tons of collected curbside waste. (Photo Courtesy of Maureen Wilkerson)

St. Jane de Chantal Parish: Pastoral Conversation, Dialogue, & Prayer

On a weekday evening in September, Saint Jane de Chantal Pastor, Fr. Samuel Giese, and other members of the parish staff and school met with over 200 parishioners for a service of prayer, dialogue and healing. This was part of an effort to answer the many questions that every Catholic has after all the turmoil facing the Church, especially our local and national church. For this event, parishioners were invited to submit anonymous questions on forms provided in the church bulletin the previous weeks. For over an hour, Fr. Giese answered many questions and addressed many concerns, ranging from the discipline of celibacy as related to sexual abuse to how to ensure that the money that the parishioners give in Mass collections does not go to pay for abuse settlements and non-disclosure agreements.

Fr. Giese said that celibacy is not the cause of child molestation, as the vast majority of sexual predators are men who are either married or who have a woman partner. Silence, abuse of power and opportunities are some of the causes or facilitators for sexual abuse. As for the money given to church, he explained that donations and bequests specifically directed as gifts to our

Continued on page 22
ELECTION
Con't from page 1

16. To register, visit the Maryland Board of Elections at voterservices.elections.maryland.gov and click on REGISTER TO VOTE at the top.

The Maryland Catholic Conference has surveyed all candidates for Governor, U.S. Congress, and the Maryland General Assembly. Results for all candidates are available at www.mdcatholic.org/elections.

Unlike many advocacy groups, the Catholic Church’s voice does not fit neatly into typical political distinctions, nor does it follow the dictates of popular opinion. We do not speak as Republicans or Democrats; we are too liberal for conservatives and too conservative for liberals. We are not a “single issue” advocacy group, but rather speak out on a broad variety of topics considered by our lawmakers.

We bring to the public square a voice that speaks especially for those who have no one to speak for them—the unborn, the poor and those in need, newcomers to our country, prisoners, those with physical and mental disabilities, the elderly and families struggling to provide their children with a safe home, a good education, and adequate healthcare.

As Catholics and citizens, we have a right and duty to advocate for laws that uphold the common good by protecting the poor, the dignity of life, the value of family, and religious freedom of all.

Everything at St. Mary’s School is more fun with friends!

Kindergarten through eighth grade students attend Mass each Friday. We are thankful to our students who prepare the readings, the prayer of the faithful, bring gifts to the altar and are our altar servers.

I AM A SCHOLAR.
A LEADER.
A JOYFUL HEART.

OPEN HOUSES

GRADES 9-12
Sunday, October 14
12:00-2:30 pm

PRESCHOOL-GRAGE 4
Tuesday, October 16
8:00 - 10:00 am

GRADES 5-8
Monday, November 12
8:00 - 10:00 am

I AM A STONE RIDGE GIRL.

Empowering leaders to serve with faith, intellect, and confidence.

www.stoneridgeschool.org

The single most important thing we do together as a school community is to celebrate the Mass each Friday morning. We are thankful to Monsignor Amey for leading our school and our parish in the faith.

Everything at St. Mary’s School is more fun with friends!

I AM A SCHOLAR.
A LEADER.
A JOYFUL HEART.

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A JOYFUL HEART.

Everything at St. Mary’s School is more fun with friends!
St. Mary’s Welcomes New Parochial Vicar

We are so excited and feel so blessed to welcome a new parochial vicar, Father Kevin Fields, to our parish. Eighth-grade student, Julia, interviewed for Father Kevin to introduce him to our readers.

- What are you most excited about as someone new to the St. Mary’s community?
  Father: This is my first assignment as a priest. I was recently ordained in June. I am excited to be involved and to take part in all of my ministries.

- What have been a few “takeaways” so far from your time here?
  Father: I am impressed that people seek to find Christ in Mass and outside of Church.

- Where are you from/Where did you grow up?
  Father: I grew up in Olney, Maryland. My father was born in Baltimore and my mother was born in New York.

- What are some of your favorite hobbies or interests?
  Father: I am interested in hockey and traveling to historical sites. I enjoy trivia and reading.

- Do you have any siblings?
  Father: I am the middle of three children.

- What is one talent or gift that you look forward to sharing?
  Father: I look forward to sharing the gift of teaching and sharing the love of Christ.

- What made you want to become a priest?
  Father: I had a desire to serve, and God showed me that I could help more people as a priest.

- What school did you attend?
  Father: I attended Sequoyah Elementary in Derwood, and Rosa Parks Middle School in Olney. I attended Our Lady of Good Counsel, when it was back in Wheaton.

- What was your favorite part of school?
  Father: I enjoyed anything that had to do with history, or government.

- When did you feel the call to become a priest?
  Father: I felt the call after graduate school.

- What can we as students do to help you in your ministry?
  Father: You all can pray. For yourselves, your families, the parish, and for us priests. You can find a way to love everyone.

---

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

Where a strong Benedictine tradition grounds values and inspires faith.

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Open House • Sunday, November 4 • 11am to 3pm

Grades 6-12 | 40-Acre D.C. Campus | www.saintanselms.org
St. Bart’s Parasrelationship Reacts to Abuse Controversy with Prayer and Listening

St. Bartholomew Parish in Bethesda held an Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 7:30 – 10:00 p.m. on Friday, September 14. The participants prayed for all victims of abuse of power and position as well as healing in our Church community, and a listening session followed for the people.

The well-attended service began with prayers and informational comments from St. Bart’s Pastor, Fr. Mark Knestout. The event was moderated by Linda MacDonald LaRouche, who is a parishioner and member of the parish council at Our Lady of Mercy parish. Linda is also a doctoral candidate in canon law at the Catholic University of America.

Cali Hackett conducted a “back to school” drive at St. Bartholomew Parish

For the second year in a row Cali Hackett has conducted a “back to school” supplies drive at Saint Bartholomew Parish. Cali organized a “giving tree” collection for Sacred Heart Parish, raising $1,600 dollars and receiving double the amount of supplies she received last year. St. Bart’s parishioners selected an envelope from the giving tree with a suggested amount of school supplies to donate. Cali separated the supplies for individual students and put them in backpacks to give to children at Sacred Heart. She put together a total of 29 backpacks and hundreds of dollars in extra supplies were left over.

A total cash donation of $1,140 was also given by the parish members at Saint Bart’s. Cali also completed a Girl Scout silver award project which was design, build and installation of 14 outdoor Stations of the Cross, which were blessed after the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Saturday, Sept 8.

Ben Petty, the seminarian who was assigned to St. Bart’s this summer, will be returning to Rome at the end of August to continue his studies. St. Bart’s Parishioners wish to thank him for leading a group discussion on Pope Francis’ Apostolic Exhortation, Rejoice and be Glad. Over the 3 weekly sessions, he digested the text and instilled in the group the Jesuit motto, “For the Greater Glory of God.”

Ben also gave interested parishioners a virtual tour of the excavations which revealed the original tomb of Peter underneath St. Peter’s Basilica, where he has worked as an official guide. Others in the community met Ben after weekday or weekend Masses or heard him lifting his voice in song during the liturgy. Ben mentioned that he will be drawn to a social outreach activity in SE Washington, DC before he departs. St. Bart’s wishes him well in his studies and future assignments.

St. Bart’s Says Farewell to Seminarian Ben Petty

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St. Bart’s Cali Hackett Does It Again!

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Linda MacDonald LaRouche, a member of the parish council at Our Lady of Mercy Parish, offers opening comments at St. Bart’s Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on September 14 as Fr. Mark Knestout and St. Bart’s parishioners look on.

Continued on page 24

More St. Bartholomew News on Page 38

Oakcrest School
Open House
Saturday, October 20, 2018 • 2:00 - 5:00 PM

Register at Oakcrest.org

Oakcrest School
An independent school for girls in grades 6-12 guided by the teachings of the Catholic Church
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was getting started, Jim Sullivan remained a dedicated leader at PCR until his death. Jim helped other parishes throughout the Archdiocese to establish programs to serve people with disabilities using the PCR model and was an effective advocate and advisor to the Archdiocese of Washington. Jim will be remembered as a great example of Christian service and as a responsible and respected business leader. Jim Sullivan’s life reminds us that even as our Church is shrouded in the worst of times, there is brilliance in our local parish communities. Montgomery County is home to more than one hundred thousand Catholics, a vast potential force for love and good works, larger than the total population of most cities. Imagine the impact for justice and goodness Catholics could have if we ever got our act together! Our local Church will heal faster and more meaningfully when enlightened people like Jim Sullivan work and pray together recommitting our parishes to the basic teachings of Christ. It is said that time will heal. I prefer another adage, service to others brings healing to those who receive.

October provides two related themes upon which to reflect. Designated as both Respect Life Month and National Disability Employment Awareness Month, we are reminded of our obligations to respect human life from conception to natural death, and that respecting human life includes honoring the dignity and quality of each person’s life. People with severe disabilities often live in the shadows of society. Intentionally or not, they are deprived of opportunities to fully participate in the life-sustaining and dignifying blessings of social, educational, and economic endeavors.

The basic lessons of our faith are found in the Sermon on the Mount. Like so much of Christ’s life, the Mount is an instructional metaphor. Speaking from atop the Mount, Christ illustrates a steep hill for those who wish to follow Him. It’s not enough to love others, we must offer them a slap on the face, we must offer the other cheek. Living Christian is a lot higher hill to scale. Respecting life includes rejecting abortion, the death penalty and euthanasia, but refraining from killing a person is not enough. The steeper hill is our obligation to assure an inclusive and abundant life for others especially those who are vulnerable and not comfortably or easily included among us. People with severe disabilities have made progress toward community inclusion in the past half-century. They live in neighborhoods, attend schools, churches and are included in social activities. Catholics have helped through Victory Housing, the Kennedy Institute at Catholic Charities, Rosario Communities, PCR, Upper County Community Resources, and enlightened Catholic schools aided by the Catholic Coalition for Special Education. But these are not enough. More than seventy percent of people with disabilities are unemployed. It’s a steep hill. In American society, among the most dignifying and essential elements of life is work, our jobs. Since work is a major part of life, lacking work greatly diminishes life. Catholics have affirmed dignity and respect for life making our way up the Mount by welcoming people with disabilities more fully into our lives. To reach to top, that place where Christ sits and from which He promises abundant life for all who seek Him, we must help those with disabilities engage in dignifying employment.

Here are a few ideas for parishes to consider. 1) Each parish could add a ministry for human dignity and opportunity. Perhaps several parishes could work together to promote employment for people with disabilities. Every parish has members who are potential employers. 2) Parishes may want to collaborate in establishing a Project Search, a local job internship and placement program for young adults transitioning from school to work, www.seeconline.org/project-search-montgomery. Several organizations including NII, Montgomery County Government and National Geographic have Project Searches. 3) Every parish should employ at least one individual with disabilities. Full and part-time jobs are needed. 4) Parish volunteers could offer job readiness and mentoring for potential employees and employers like the way some parishes offer English as a Second Language to immigrants.

There are of course other ideas for action. Here are a few resources if you and your parish are interested in scaling the Mount. Transcen, Inc, www.transcen.org/; SEEC, Inc, www.seeconline.org/employment-opportunities; MD Dept of Rehabilitation Services (DORS) https://dors.maryland.gov/Pages/default.aspx; Catholic Charities, Kennedy Institute, www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/kennedyinstitute. Together, let’s respect the fullness of life.

God Bless!
Chuck Short, cshort5@verizon.net

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Speech Class with John Higgins Includes Life Lessons
By Kelly Bromley

Mr. John Higgins has been teaching public speaking to St. John the Evangelist seventh and eighth graders since 2012. As an attorney retired from the National Labor Relations Board (47 years), he has given a few speeches in his life, and he draws on this experience to help teach the tips and tricks of effective public speaking to our students. It doesn’t stop there. In Mr. Higgins’ speech class, children learn much more than how to get up in front of a class and give an oral presentation. He teaches them how to present themselves in all aspects of life.

his students enter his classroom, each one is required to give him a firm handshake and look him in the eye. He prepares his students for high-school interviews and teachings them the proper way to introduce themselves and others in social situations. Mr. Higgins also integrates his love of memorizing poetry into his speech class. Many former students reading this article may recall one of his favorite poems, “The Cremation of Sam McGee.”

Mr. Higgins says his favorite part of teaching at St. John the Evangelist is the opportunity to meet and get to know a fresh group of students each year. He credits his late wife, Frances, a Latin teacher at Evangelist, as part of teaching at St. John the Evangelist School.

Meet the Challenge to Serve in Camden
By Teresa Kaestout

“Aspire not to have more, but to be more.” —Blessed Oscar Romero

I am a graduate of St. John the Evangelist school and a junior at St. John’s College High School (SJJC). This summer, I joined nine other SJJC students in a weeklong Service Immersion trip to Camden, New Jersey. While there, I served the poor and marginalized in and around Camden while learning about the history of the impoverished community. Our SJJC group stayed at Romero Center Ministries, which invites schools from across the country to participate in their Urban Challenge program. Named in honor of Blessed (soon-to-be Saint) Oscar Romero, Camden’s Romero Center Ministries gives students meaningful opportunities to “be more” for the people of Camden and to reflect on their service through prayer, group discussions, and activities.

Throughout the week, I served at five very different organizations: Inglis House, a community for the severely disabled; Abigail House, a nursing home; the Neighborhood Center, an organization that offers summer and after-school programs for children; the Camden Food Bank; and the Camden Soup Kitchen. Each organization taught me more and more about the Camden community and by the end of the week, I developed a huge appreciation for both the people of Camden and the organizations that are dedicated to helping them.

During my daily service, I saw Christ in each person I met when they shared their stories and experiences. When we went to the Neighborhood Center, the children were thrilled to play with new people and compete for our attention. Christ was in all of the people I served, but also in the people I served with. The fearless men and women who run the organizations in Camden truly love what they do and have a passion for helping others. That was evident everywhere in the nurses at the Abigail House who danced with the elderly at lunch, in the volunteers at the Camden Soup Kitchen who come back every Friday to serve, and in the cook in the back who told me to add extra fries to everyone’s meals.

My Camden service trip was an amazing experience that I would do again in a heartbeat. I learned that God is in everyone, especially if they are marginalized and are facing adversity. Before we left Camden, the staff at the Romero Center gave each of us a simple cross necklace. I now wear mine every day to remind me of this wonderful experience and the call to “be more” for all of God’s people.

Confirmation candidates gather in the Chapel at the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Confirmation candidates from St. John the Evangelist parish made a Fall pilgrimage to The National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg, marking the beginning of their final year of preparation for receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. As a leader of our confirmation preparation team, I had the pleasure of sharing this journey with them.

We began our tour in the Visitor’s Center where we saw the exhibit, “40 Years A Saint.” The exhibit tells the story of Elizabeth Ann Seton’s journey to sainthood and highlights the September 14, 1975 event where she was proclaimed a saint. Many students didn’t know that Elizabeth Ann Seton was the first American-born saint and that she founded the first community for religious women established in the United States, the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph’s. The students spent time in the Shrine and learned that Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton’s remains are entombed under the Altar of Relics. In addition, we visited the Stone House, the White House, the Legacy Garden and the

Confirmation candidates from St. John the Evangelist parish include Rosemary Sica (left) and Jamie Kostojic (right) rotate to the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Final Year of Confirmation Prep Begins with a Journey of Discovery
By Peg Daly

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**New Library Space Invites Exploration**

By Ann M. Enkiri

The first month of school is under your proverbial belts and students all around the country are settled in to the new routines of their classrooms. For PreK children, an important part of this routine is morning circle time. This is where we come together to greet one another, pray, discuss the day’s upcoming events, and often learn a new song or fingerplay.

Educators know that besides the academic goals of circle time, there are many other benefits as well. Whether it’s building a sense of community, practicing social skills, providing an opportunity for students to focus on a speaker or simply allowing them to move around, there are many other benefits as well.

During the summer I was thinking, “I really don’t want to go to my new school.” I was thinking about how I knew everyone at my old school, and I was nervous. I wouldn’t be able to make new friends at Holy Redeemer. I was honestly worried most about how the process of how middle school works, and if I was going to be bullied. I was so wrong. The first day at recess, I got to play football with some of the other 6th graders. It was fun and competitive, but they took the time to get to know me. I now know that the things I was worried about originally won’t happen. I like being able to switch classes with my new friends and feel welcomed by my teachers. In conclusion, I love this school and sixth grade. I hope it stays the same.

- Reese G. (6B)

**Transition to Middle School – from the Prospective of Sixth Graders**

I never thought the day that I would be going to middle school would come. I was super nervous. Fifth grade was a fun year but would middle school be fun too? What if I don’t know what to do? What if I don’t know where to go? Once we got to our classroom the teacher told us to grab a seat and kindly told us what to do and where to go. This made me feel so much better, and I didn’t feel nervous anymore! When we got to our other classes the teachers took us through everything step-by-step. Middle school really isn’t so bad. It is awesome! Every day I wake up ready for school, and it is all thanks to the teachers!

- Jerome J. (6A)

It was the first day of middle school. The sky was dark, damp, and gloomy. My footsteps echoed through the hallways and I could hear the sound of my own breathing. I nervously checked my backpack, looking for the name tag that I had been given during Orientation. I was worried I was going to forget everything I needed. When I arrived, a frenzy of people were talking to each other and getting packed up. Once I went inside, Mr. Stephenson greeted me with a warm smile. I felt welcomed by my teachers. In conclusion, I love this school and sixth grade. I hope it stays the same.

- Reese G. (6B)

**Kids Say the Darndest Things!**

By Debbie Monahan

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The fifth-grade self-portraits are hanging in the upper grade hallway if you happen to be in the school building and would like to take a peek!

Fifth Graders’ Art and Words
By Shannon Calabrese

The fifth grade is back to school in full swing and has been working on having fun with words. Students read the book WalterWas Worried by Laura Vaccaro Seeger. After reading the book and learning about emotions, students wrote sentences about their summer focusing on using descriptive adjectives to make their sentences stand out. Students then used the letters from their adjective to create a facial expression representing their sentence.

The self-portraits reflect the creativity in each student.

Active and Ready for Learning
By Camilla Seckers and Amy Krupka

It was a much-anticipated and successful back to school for St. John the Baptist students on August 29. We are blessed with healthy and active students who enjoy not only exercising the mind, but the body as well. Many sports are offered through the Athletic Ministry. In the fall, we offer soccer and will be starting flag football as well. There is a drop-in gym time for high school basketball players as well. Maintaining an active lifestyle is important for our young people. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that children ages 6-17 participate in 60 minutes of physical activity daily. We are fortunate to have a beautiful gym, blacktop area, field, and playground to support this mission. Students in grades K-8 have 20 minutes of recess daily, and students in K-3 have an additional 15-minute morning recess. Students participate in two 40-minute physical education classes a week as well. Exercise helps students with executive functioning skills such as sequencing, memorizing, and prioritizing which are necessary skills for success in school and life. Physical activity in school gets the brain ready for learning. So get out and play, for 60 minutes a day!

A Warm Welcome to SJB Students and New Staff
By Kathleen Morris and Judy Jenkins

The school doors open with a goodbye to summer and hello to a new school year. Over the last two weeks, teachers have been organizing their classrooms, attending meetings, and preparing lessons plans. Four new teachers have joined our SJB community.

Teachers Enhancing the Math Program
By Martin Lucey and Eileen Smith

At St. John the Baptist, we are constantly looking for ways to enhance curriculum and instruction. One of our goals at SJB is to prepare students for the future. We recently reevaluated our math program and studied ways to better prepare our students to face the rigor of high school math. Following the success of a pilot program, we are starting a third-level math group in grades five through eight.

The program takes advantage of a web-based, artificially intelligent assessment and learning system which will be facilitated by our math teachers. By adding an accelerated math group, we are making our other grade-level math classes smaller. Smaller class sizes will lead to more targeted instruction of skills and concepts along with greater growth in mathematics. We are excited to provide this new opportunity to our middle school students. Our plan is to continue with our accelerated math program for third and fourth-grade students who demonstrate a strength in math aptitude and a need for a greater challenge in mathematics.

It is our hope that these programs will lead to greater success in the math arena. As SJB graduates move on to high school, we desire for our students to be able to take on whatever math challenges they face.

In our ever growing and changing world especially in the fields of science and technology, SJB students are being prepared to meet those challenges in their math classes.

SJB Kindergarteners’ Scribbles!
By Christy Lexcear

Kindergarten learned about the importance of inclusion while listening to “I’m Not Just a Scribble.” Scribble, the main character, was being left out of drawings because he didn’t look like everyone else. He teaches the drawings how to accept each other for who they are, enabling them to create amazing art.

The students created their own scribbles and learned how to express emotions in their art with facial expressions and colors.

SJB Selects School Theme: We Are Blessed
By Kathleen Morris and Judy Jenkins

For over 20 years, SJB selects a theme each year that is carried throughout the school year while serving to foster our mission and the teachings of our Catholic faith. Our school theme is important because it characterizes much of what we do throughout the year. The theme is woven into all aspects of the curriculum beginning with an art piece done in the first few weeks of the year. Every piece is unique and reflects the individuality of each student. Once completed, the artwork is hung throughout the school building for parents, visitors, and students to admire.

This year SJB administration and faculty decided on the theme “We Are Blessed.” Each month will be dedicated to a specific facet that will extend the theme. August and September will focus on “We Are Blessed When We Seek God.” Teachers will be working to incorporate the theme into instruction within the classroom as well as through service projects and outreach programs throughout the year.
Knights of Columbus Membership Drive
By Susan Ahearn

The Knights of Columbus Bishop Lyons Council 9808 at the Church of the Resurrection in Burtonsville is holding a Columbus Day Weekend membership drive on Saturday and Sunday, October 6-7. Grand Knight Scott Ford says the council currently has 85 members on its roster. The newest officers for the council were installed during a ceremony at Resurrection on Saturday, August 25th, followed by a reception at the Resurrection Youth Center.

Our officers for this fraternal year are:
- Chaplin: Fr. John Barry
- Grand Knight: Scott Ford
- Deputy Grand Knight: Basil Allison
- Chancellor: Raul Chang
- Warden: Bill Conlon
- Advocate: Jim Larkins
- Recorder: Mike Noll
- Financial Secretary: Bill Ratcliffe

Grand Knight Scott Ford ordinates the new and old Knights of Columbus. Photo by Scott Ford

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Living the Faith
By Emily Kranking

On September 8, the Living the Gospel series kicked off with its first seminar. The Living the Gospel series is a collaboration with the Church of Resurrection in Burtonsville, St. Camillus, and Saint John the Baptist both in Silver Spring. The series was formed by L.J. Milone, the Director of Faith Formation of St. John the Baptist. Janet Barlow of St. John the Baptist, and Frances Beard of Resurrection.

On how they formed it, Milone explains, “We got together because a parishioner went to different meetings I ran. We talked about the different states of world and how we can fix it.” The three agreed that the first thing to fix must be themselves. Through the different traits of the Gospels, people can learn how to live in their daily lives. “There are two values: consideration and action,” reflected Milone. “It’s relevant because the world needs to know the Gospel. For example, the violence in the world. How can we fight it?”

The first seminar was hosted at Resurrection with the theme of forgiveness. Barlow advocates that it’s one of the most crucial virtues from the Gospel. “Forgiveness is a lifelong process,” said Barlow. “and we must forgive ourselves before we forgive others.” She kicked off the monthly meeting with a talk about the difference between guilt and shame. “Guilt is what we did along with our thought process and shame is how we feel,” she summarized. After the talk, the members contemplated and participated in quiet time through prayers and meditation.

The rest of the meetings are on October 3 (Peaceful Parenting/Kids at St. John the Baptist at 7pm-9pm), November 3 (Substance Use Disorders at St. Camillus at 9am-1pm), and December 29 (The Joy of God and You at St. John the Baptist at 9:30am-4:30pm). It is free of charge and all are welcomed!

Fighting Cancer with Prayers and Laughter
By Emily Kranking

No matter what, getting cancer is always a tragedy. When one receives cancer, they always crave help and support from peers. That is why Holly Pertmer created the Cancer Support Group for Resurrection. Pertmer was inspired to make this group by a parishioner, who was suffering from cancer. “We wanted to offer support to this person and their caregiver,” explained Pertmer. “Ultimately, this couple probably taught the group more about unconditional faith and belief in God’s plan than I ever could have imagined.”

Pertmer has been a social worker in the hospital for 24 years. “I can share my experiences from that and my faith,” she said. “People work on different challenges, so I feel I can be open to new experiences and how I can help in different points of views and it challenges me to be open to new experiences and how people work on different challenges, so I can learn from others.”

The first meeting had a positive reception. Mike Carey of Resurrection described the experience as, “Very fruitful, but confusing! The more I can learn about myself, the better I can be.” Magalie Salas of St. Camillus added, “It’s exposing me to different points of views and it challenges me to be open to new experiences and how people work on different challenges, so I can learn from others.”

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Join Us for Fall Open House!
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- Financial assistance & scholarships available for families who qualify.

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St. Elizabeth had an exciting kick off for the weekend of September 23. In early August, we launched our brand new website and within the next two weeks, for the first time ever we launched online registration and payment for Christian Formation classes. Exporting and working with excel sheets was a brand new process to organize all the information. Two hundred families registered their children for classes and sacramental preparation. The catechists prepared to meet their students and planned the curriculum and activities to kick off the year. In one of the classes, the children were learning about different ways to care for God’s creation. They read out loud and gave real life examples of picking up after themselves, helping to feed their pets at home, and giving food to the poor. They concluded with a “Glory Be” and learned how to hold their hands together and pray out loud.

The annual Ministry Fair coincided with the first weekend of Christian Formation classes. All of the various ministries at St. Elizabeth prepared flyers with information to share with parishioners. The Sodality ministry gave out blessed rosaries and flyers for their upcoming retreat “A Day of Reflection: Praying with the Psalms” on October 13. The newly formed Flower Society provided pictures of all of the floral arrangements they have made over the summer and a contact sheet for new members to join. “Formed” branded popcorn was distributed to encourage sign ups to Formed.org. Overall, it was a great chance to get people excited and involved at St. Elizabeth.
A Helping Hand Through the Years

By Bridget Launi

The school year has begun in earnest and Our Lady of Lourdes church and school are abuzz with events and activities. Fortunately, our community is blessed with an outstanding maintenance team that continuously works to meet the many demands of parish life. The team is headed up by Louis Argueta who has been with Lourdes since 1990. Mr. Argueta never thought he would be at Lourdes as long as he has, having now worked with 4 pastors and 7 principals. Respect is important to him and the respectful nature of all of his relationships at Lourdes is what keeps him here. The members of his team include: Jose "Oscar" Rodriguez, who began in Spring of 2004; Mario Garcia, Fall 2004; and the newest arrival, Sonia Aracely Castillo, Summer 2016. Collectively, they have served Lourdes for almost 50 years!

Some of the more memorable workplace events include a severe snowstorm that forced them to stay overnight for several nights, a family of raccoons in the rectory attic, and a banquet table burner that briefly caught fire before a women's parish group dinner. All this in addition to the many surprises that any school day brings! They often go above and beyond in their work. During our September heatwave, the team replaced air conditioners in an upstairs classroom the very same day that they stopped working.

Mr. Rodriguez says that they are happy to go the extra mile because working at Lourdes is like working with family. For so many students who have passed through Our Lady of Lourdes, Mr. Argueta, Mr. Rodriguez, Mr. Garcia, and Ms. Castillo have played an integral role during their time here. The school would not be what it is without them. So … the next time you hear the jingles from their huge ring of keys, know that help is near, and that help will come with a smile!

Celebrating the New School Year

By Chelsey Hipp and Kristin Addison

The 2018-2019 school year started off to a great start with it’s usual “bang” of excitement at the Back-to-School Picnic on September 6th. Despite the intense heat, teachers, parents, and students were able to enjoy food, music, games, and an amazing moon bounce! A kindergarten student said, “The moon bounce was my favorite part! I got to jump around with all my friends!”

This year’s picnic featured a DJ, face painting, moon bounce, and games! The DJ came up with games such as Pepsi and Coke, different racing games, and search/find. The children looked like they were having a blast, especially when they had to bring the DJ the first two adults they could find!

This year’s picnic featured a DJ, face painting, moon bounce, and games! The DJ came up with games such as Pepsi and Coke, different racing games, and search/find. The children looked like they were having a blast, especially when they had to bring the DJ the first two adults they could find!

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School

A 2015 National Blue Ribbon School

OPEN HOUSE

January 29, 2019 ~ 9:30-11:30 AM & 1:00-2:30 PM

2018 FALL TOUR DAYS

October 10, November 7, December 5

School tours available between 9-11 AM & 1-2:30 PM
Call 301-654-5376 to reserve your tour.

Preschool Students Support an OLOL Graduate in Basic Training

By Deirdre Walsh

Each morning during our school wide assembly we pray together as a school community for the men and women around the world who serve to protect us. This year, we say this prayer with a more personal intention at heart. Antonio Gutierrez, an alumnus of Our Lady of Lourdes, is currently in his 7th week of Basic Combat Training in South Carolina. And we are so proud of his dedication to our country.

Antonio graduated from Lourdes in 2014 and then from Gonzaga High School in 2018. His mother, Ms. Sheri Golden is the Manager of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, as well as the Director of our Child Protection Continued on page 39

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

7500 Pearl Street Bethesda, MD
Msgr. Edward Filardi, Pastor
301-654-1287
Patricia Kilroy McGann, Principal
301-654-5376

OLOL Preschool students send their support to Antonio

Continued on page 34

OLOL students enjoying a Dance Party!
deadly rebel mob in a 3-by-4-foot cell. Immaculée’s first book, *Desire to Love: Love Charity in Truth*, has sold over two million copies. It was released in March of 2006 and translated into seventeen languages and sold in over 100 countries.

**CHARITY & JUSTICE**

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often challenged by justice activities (promoting affordable housing, protecting vulnerable life of the unborn and the elderly, promoting living wages).

The U.S. Catholic Bishops state that these are “two different, but complementary, ways that we [catholics] can walk the path of love, or caritas.” Both charity and justice activities are needed. These are called “Two Feet of Love in Action,” as taught by Pope Francis in his apostolic exhortation *Gaudete et Exsultate* (Rejoice and be Glad). Pope Francis reflects on the Beatitudes. He challenges us to experience the love of God though those we meet in our daily lives, especially the poor and vulnerable on the margins of society.

He asks: “Do you let [Christ’s] fire inflame your heart? Unless you let him warm you more and more with his love and tenderness, you will not catch the fire...”

We see God in the face of the poor. Pope Francis writes that “there is a mystical meaning to be found...in a poor person’s face.” (Laudato Si, n. 233).

Participation in the J&A Council can help you catch fire. We meet every two months at Holy Redeemer parish, Kensington. Join us at our next meeting on Wednesday, November 28th at 7:30 p.m. for Holy Redeemer. For more information, call Ann Barbagallo at 301-482-1072.

Anthony Bosnick is a member of the J&A Council of Montgomery County and Director of Social Ministry at St. Francis Parish, Derwood, Maryland.

**ST. RAPHAEL**

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and caregivers the opportunity to bring their children to school. On Monday and Thursday mornings, little ones enjoy music, art, stories, and playtime, while the adults connect, trade parenting tips, and simply share with each other in our warm Catholic setting. We are so excited to be hosting this program and look forward to welcoming new families to our community.

**CONVERSATION**

Con’t from page 9

Church go exclusively to support St. Jane de Chantal’s church and school. However, Father Giese also observed that the portion of the collection that goes to the Archdiocese supports such valuable work as child protection, promoting vocations, evangelization, and providing in-person support to other Catholic schools among other things.

Fr. Giese answered every single question presented, easing the fears and dissatisfaction of all parishioners. He encouraged everybody to write to the Apostolic Nuncio, the President of the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops and to the Archbishop of Washington (providing the postal and email addresses) to express concerns and to suggest ways to improve transparency and accountability. He concluded that child protection is everyone’s responsibility, and all have to cooperate to ensure that all the Parish’s children are safe. Fr. Giese’s final words of wisdom were about the importance in being informed and alert, in recommitting ourselves to Jesus Christ and in supporting our priests.

Everyone was very impressed with Fr. Giese and his courage, honesty and transparency. After the presentation, the parishioners thanked him with a long, standing ovation. The service concluded with prayers, spiritual readings and songs. Everybody left the presentation that evening feeling comforted and reassured of the great job the spiritual leaders at St. Jane de Chantal do. They assured us that being very clear, the priests at St. Jane de Chantal Church have the full support of all its parishioners.

**SPEECH CLASS**

Con’t from page 14

Good Counsel High School for over 25 years, for helping him become a better teacher.

A devoted Catholic, Mr. Higgins is a role model for his students, his fellow teachers and his community. And the whole SJE community. At age 78, nothing is slowing him down. He walks six miles a day, takes yoga classes, serves as Chairman for the Merit Badge of public speaking for the Boy Scouts, and teaches Labor and Employment and Local Government at The Catholic University of America Law School in Washington, D.C. (since 1982). With all of this on his plate, he still finds time for some pro bono work teaching our speech class at St. John the Evangelist School.

Mr. Higgins has 3 children and 11 grandchildren (7 of whom attended St. John the Evangelist School). In addition to being one of the smartest middle-school teachers around, he is one of the most kind and humble men you could meet. When asked WHO IN GOD’S CREATION is the greatest achievement in life, without hesitation he answers, marrying his wife. We are truly blessed to have Mr. Higgins as part of our SJE family.

**JOURNEY**

Con’t from page 14

Original Cemetery. Before leaving the grounds, our students also learned that Elizabeth Seton was received into the Catholic Church in 1805. One year later she received the sacrament of Confirmation from the Bishop of Baltimore, Reverend John Carroll, the only Catholic Bishop in the nation at the time. This is very fitting for our candidates to know, as Rev. John Carroll was the first Bishop of our parish in Silver Spring. He used to say Mass in his mother’s house, and now a replica of the Carroll Chapel stands on the property next to the historic St. John the Evangelist Church.

The second half of our day was spent at the National Shrine Grotto, one of the oldest American replicas of the Lourdes Shrine in France. The students all had time to pray and light candles for special intentions at the grotto. They saw the grotto from right near the miraculous spring where the Blessed Mother told St. Bernadette to dig and receive water. This stone was exca-

vated from the Grotto at Lourdes, brought to Emmitsburg, and installed at the Grotto cave. It is said that we are now spiritually connected to the Lourdes Grotto in France.

Before leaving the grounds, our group gathered near the Grotto to pray the rosary. We had a wonderful day.
Christ the King Literacy Project

By Katie Holland, OPT parish editor

Christ the King’s Office of Religious Education has been provided a healthy Catholic Charities of Washington DC grant in order to enable those unable to read and write in their language of origin to be equipped to do so. It is targeted for those whose first language is Spanish. Included in this opportunity is the invitation to those who also may just need to improve and fortify their current abilities, whatever level, in writing and reading.

Anyone interested in registering should contact the Director of Religious Education at Christ the King, Mrs. Isidra Molina.

A Pre-Hallowe’en Dinner Dance

By Katie Holland, OPT parish editor

On Saturday October 20, Christ the King will host a fundraiser dinner dance sponsored by The Lord Is My Shepherd Prayer Group in its Msgr John J Dressel Colonial Room. The $20 admission fee for the 6:30pm-midnight event will be a 100% donation to the parish coffers.

Dinner will be prepared and contributed by the families comprising the prayer group. Music will be provided by DJ Nik Nok (otherwise known as Nicky Anastacio). The Hallowe’en theme encourages all to come in costume! Tickets will be on sale after all Masses between now and the day of the dance (to better prepare for the dinner number of attendees); but walk-ins will not be turned away from the door. Several members of the prayer group will provide information, as listed on the flyer.

On the Feast of St Francis of Assisi

By Katie Holland, OPT parish editor

Christ the King will again this year have a blessing of the animals on the Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi, Thursday October 4. After the 9:15am daily Mass Fr. Steve Carter will confer the Blessing in the Religious Education Building. At 6:30pm there will be a Blessing of animals in the vestibule of the Church in Spanish. At 10am Christ the King will spiritually join the two parishes in the Archdiocese leading the participation in the Adoration for the healing in the Church. St Andrew the Apostle in Wheaton and Sacred Heart in La Plata will have 24-hour Adoration. Christ the King will have theirs from 10am until 8pm on Thursday and again on Friday Oct. 5 in the Church. This is for the Intention of prayer for those priests in the Archdiocese needing healing and forgiveness as well as for the sins and failures of the Church.

It pays to advertise in Our Parish Times

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

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ANNIVERSARY

Con’t from page 3

with what they need to reach their full potential
- The school’s emergence as a local and national leader
- The achievements of stellar students, alumni and faculty/staff
This milestone year will offer Our Lady of Good Counsel an opportunity to:
- Celebrate the school’s many accomplishments over the past 60 years including its impressive growth that has positively impacted the community
- Begin to collectively envision the next 60 years towards the future
- Honor our founders and supporters, our partners and community members who shaped the school’s history

Our Lady of Good Counsel High School alumni clergy, Rev. Kevin Fields ‘01

- Build and enhance our base of support include: alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends and create an enduring connection to Good Counsel for our current students
A new analysis of the highest and lowest prices of ten of the most frequently prescribed brand name drugs found extreme price variations among Medicare Part D drug plans, according to an analysis released September 27 by The Senior Citizens League.

“One look at the price comparison chart (https://seniorsleague.org/assets/Drug-Price-Comparison.pdf) illustrates why Medicare beneficiaries need to check and compare drug plan prices during this fall’s Medicare’s Open Enrollment,” says Mary Johnson, a Medicare policy analyst for The Senior Citizens League.

There can be more than a thousand dollars in price difference among drug plans for the very same drug, the analysis found. In addition, due to recent legislative changes that limit the co-insurance charged during the “doughnut hole” stage of coverage, some brand name drugs are now less expensive in the “doughnut hole” than in the initial coverage stage, where costs are typically the lowest.

“Because Medicare isn’t negotiating prices on our behalf, there’s no consistency in drug pricing among Medicare Part D drug plans,” says Johnson, who performed the comparisons using the Medicare website’s Drug Plan Finder. The disparity in pricing is highest when the drug isn’t listed on the plan’s formulary or list of covered drugs. The diabetes drug Novolog Flexpen, for example, had a low price of $37 and a high of $2,012 in a plan where the drug is not on the formulary.

A monthly supply of Lyrica, which is used to treat the nerve and muscle pain of fibromyalgia and seizures, costs a low of $37 and a high of $178. The $178 is higher than what drug plan enrollees would pay in the “doughnut hole” coverage-gap phase, which is $155. In 2019, enrollees will pay 25 percent co-insurance for covered brand name drugs in the doughnut hole. However, in a number of plans, initial co-insurance for covered brand name drugs in the doughnut hole was factored in. For example, Voltaren Topical Gel ranges from $28 to $37 per month. However, the premium is included in the analysis.

“Most people 65 and over take more than one prescription drug. To get the lowest-cost and best plan, people need to compare plans based on all the drugs they actually take,” Johnson explains. “The Medicare Drug Plan Finder shows the combined cost of drugs and the premium with the lowest costing plan shown here. In addition, consumers should carefully compare prices between in-network walk-in and mail-order pharmacies – those prices can also vary,” Johnson notes.

Information on all drug plans, premiums and drug costs can be found on the Medicare Drug Plan Finder at www.Medicare.gov. The drug plan finder allows personalized searches based on the drugs one actually uses.

Comparing plans doesn’t have to be a mind-numbing chore. Medicare beneficiaries can get free one-on-one counseling from State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) counselors by contacting your local Area Agency on Aging or senior health insurance program (SHIP) contact info can be found at https://www.shipcenter.org. Medicare beneficiaries can compare plans and make changes during Medicare Open Enrollment, which runs October 15 – December 7, 2018.

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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.

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Caring for Our Aging Parents: A Workshop for Adult Children

In this two-session workshop, you will join other adult sons and daughters who are or expect to be caregivers for their aging parents. We will use the sessions—and the safe space we create together to:

• Share experiences of caregiving and its challenges
• Explore more deeply feelings, inner conflicts, and the obstacles we face
• Develop some practical strategies for self-care, addressing personal needs, and keeping life in balance by gaining confidence in our own inner resources and wisdom.

Thursdays, November 8 and 15.
Jane Lawton Community Recreation Center
6:30pm - 8:30pm
Participants attend both sessions.
FREECaring
Facilitator Paula Stone—who cared for her aging mother—has had a lifelong interest in personal growth and healing modalities. She is the author of a commercially published self-help book; an award-winning playwright; an experienced support-group leader and trained facilitator; and a longtime practitioner of mindfulness meditation which has included completion of a yearlong mindfulness intensive. Her new full-length play Because She’s My Mother is about an adult daughter’s bittersweet struggles—to balance her life, face loss, and let go—as she cares for her failing mother. Paula is retired from the World Bank, where she currently serves on the steering committee of the retirees’ “Members Helping Members” program; she has a PhD from MIT.

Registration Open Now — RSVP is required!
Visit: www.eventbrite.com/o/montgomery-county-caregiver-support-program-16623629511

Daily low-dose aspirin found to have no effect on healthy life span in older people

Large NIH-funded study examined outcomes in U.S. and Australia

In a large clinical trial to determine the risks and benefits of daily low-dose aspirin in healthy older adults without previous cardiovascular events, aspirin did not prolong healthy, independent living (life free of dementia or persistent physical disability). Risk of dying from a range of causes, including cancer and heart disease, varied and will require further analysis and additional follow-up of study participants. These initial findings from the ASPirin in Reducing Events in the Elderly (ASPREE) trial, partially supported by the National Institutes of Health, were published online on September 16, 2018 in three papers in The New England Journal of Medicine.

ASPREE is an international, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial that enrolled 19,114 older people (16,703 in Australia and 2,411 in the United States). The study began in 2010 and enrolled participants aged 70 and older; 65 was the minimum age of entry for African-American and Hispanic individuals in the United States because of their higher risk for dementia and cardiovascular disease.

“Clinical guidelines note the benefits of aspirin for preventing heart attacks and strokes in persons with vascular conditions such as coronary artery disease,” said NIA Director Richard J. Hodes, M.D. “The concern has been uncertainty about whether aspirin is beneficial for otherwise healthy older people without those conditions.”

In the total study population, treatment with 100 mg of low-dose aspirin per day did not affect survival free of dementia or disability. Among the people randomly assigned to take aspirin, 90.3 percent remained alive at the end of the treatment without persistent physical disability or dementia, compared with 90.5 percent of those taking a placebo. Rates of physical disability were similar, and rates of dementia were almost identical in both groups.

The group taking aspirin had an increased risk of death compared to the placebo group: 5.9 percent of participants taking aspirin and 5.2 percent taking placebo died during the study. This effect of aspirin could have been due to chance. The increase in cancer deaths was surprising, given prior studies suggesting aspirin use improved cancer outcomes,” said Leslie Ford, M.D., associate director for clinical research, NCI Division of Cancer Prevention. “Analysis of all the cancer-related data from the trial is under way and until we have additional data, these findings should be interpreted with caution.”

Mealtime at Kensington Park: where palates are pleased and memories are made, every single day

The dining experience at Kensington Park is not only a taste sensation but also a special occasion, every time residents and their guests gather—whether they’re celebrating or not.

We believe that tabletime togetherness is a meaningful opportunity for families and friends to slow down, share laughs, strengthen bonds and make memories. As a result, we make it easy for residents to invite company as often as possible—their guests always eat free.

Mealtime at Kensington Park is good for the heart, in more ways than one. Our top-notch chef creates beautifully prepared dishes, all made from scratch with fresh ingredients. Our servers indulge diners with bend-over-backwards attention. We treat everyone at our table as someone important, because they are.

Visit Kensington Park today, and have a meal on us!
Longer daily fasting times improve health and longevity in mice

Benefits seen regardless of calorie intake, diet composition

Increasing time between meals made male mice healthier overall and live longer compared to mice who ate more frequently, according to a new study published in the Sept. 6, 2018 issue of Cell Metabolism. Scientists reported that health and longevity improved with increased fasting time, regardless of what the mice ate or how many calories they consumed.

“This study showed that mice who ate one meal per day, and thus had the longest fasting period, seemed to have a longer lifespan and better outcomes for common age-related liver disease and metabolic disorders,” said National Institute of Aging Director Richard J. Hodes, M.D. “These intriguing results in an animal model show that the interplay of total caloric intake and the length of feeding and fasting periods deserves a closer look.”

The scientists randomly divided 292 male mice into two diet groups. One group received a naturally sourced diet that was lower in purified sugars and fat, and higher in protein and fiber than the other diet. The mice in each diet group were then divided into three sub-groups based on how often they had access to food. The first group of mice had access to food around the clock. A second group of mice was fed 30 percent less calories per day than the first group. The third group was meal fed, getting a single meal that added up to the exact number of calories as the round-the-clock group. Both the meal-fed and calorie-restricted mice learned to eat quickly when food was available, resulting in longer daily fasting periods for both groups.

The scientists tracked the mice’s metabolic health through their lifespans until their natural deaths and examined them post-mortem. Meal-fed and calorie-restricted mice showed improvements in overall health, as evidenced by delays in common age-related damage to the liver and other organs, and extended longevity. The calorie-restrict-ed mice also showed significant improvement in fasting glucose and insulin levels compared to the other groups. Interestingly, the researchers found that diet composition had no significant impact on lifespan in the meal fed and calorie restricted groups.

Meal-fed and calorie-restricted mice (green) and shorter times when food was available (red) had better health outcomes and longevity than mice who were allowed to eat around the clock. – Image credit NIA IRP

According to the study’s lead author, Rafael de Cabo, Ph.D., scientists have studied the beneficial effects of caloric restriction for more than a century, but the impact of increased fasting times has recently come under closer scrutiny.

“Increasing daily fasting times, without a reduction of calories and regardless of the type of diet consumed, resulted in overall improvements in health and survival in male mice,” said de Cabo. “Perhaps this extended daily fasting period enables repair and maintenance mechanisms that would be absent in a continuous exposure to food.”

The researchers say their findings are encouraging for future studies on how these types of time-restricted eating patterns might help humans to maintain healthy weight and reduce some common age-related metabolic disorders.

New Caregiver Support Toolkit

Montgomery County’s Caregiver Support program has developed a new tool-kit to help caregivers effectively identify elder care needs and recruit appropriate in-home care providers. These materials are easy to read, filled with practical guidance and include helpful checklists and other sample documents to ensure consumers have a better understanding of the paid care provider sector. The tool kit includes:

- Hiring In-Home Elder Care Resource Guide (20 page, online only - print ready)
- Elder Care Support Brochure (Two sided multi-fold document, available in print and print ready)

Excellent overview to caregiver options when hiring in-home elder care. Both of these documents are available on the Montgomery County’s Caregiver webpage. Visit: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/senior/caregiver.html#resource
Holly Cross School always strives to adapt to the needs of its community. This year, a newly-launched Pre-Kindergarten for three-year-olds is one such response. “For several years,” Principal Mrs. Kane explained, “school families and others in the wider community have expressed their wish that we provide a Pre-K three’s program. We implemented a plan to make it happen, and it has been an immediate success. The first class filled up to capacity within weeks.”

As the lead teacher, Mrs. Julia Bueno “loves, loves, loves teaching in the Pre-K three’s class. The children’s enthusiasm for learning is contagious!” Mrs. Bueno has created a classroom where the children learn through play. “There is so much knowledge to gain from simply playing and interacting with each other,” she explained. “They learn how much of the world around them.”

We implemented a plan to make it happen, and it has been an immediate success. The first class filled up to capacity within weeks.

T he Pre-Kindergarten Four program at Holy Cross was launched almost 25 years ago and operated for its first few years in the lower level of the rectory while a new classroom building was designed and constructed to house it.

Mrs. Teresa Overly has just begun her seventeenth year as the lead teacher, and she has recently named Director of the Lower School. Holy Cross School emphasizes the education of the whole child, and Mrs. Overly’s approach to teaching is a perfect example of this. “My goal is to provide a lov-

Circles, and triangles, and squares! Oh, my! Holy Cross Pre-K Three students engage in multi-sensory games and activities to learn about basic shapes.

A recent day with Holy Cross School’s Pre-K Four class found students at centers building literacy skills followed by fun with friends on the playground.

A long-time member of the Holy Cross Social Concerns Committee was on hand to share information. Photo by Florencio Paraon

The Respect Life Committee at Holy Cross parish seeks to promote the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death in the parish and the wider community. In addition to the traditional activities of right to life groups there are many other endeavors the committee sponsors through the year.

To support healthy marriages and to strengthen the family as the basic building block of society, the Respect Life Committee acknowledges the need for God’s help in dealing with the many challenges of the secular culture in which we live. For this purpose, a Eucharistic Adoration sub-committee coordinates holy hours in Quinn Hall chapel (the former convent chapel) three days a week, from nine o’clock in the morning to nine o’clock at night. A cadre of faithful weekly adorers and a good number of substitute adorers spend time in the Lord’s presence each day. This year marks the fourteenth year of substitute adorers spend time in the Lord’s presence each day. This year marks the fourteenth year of substitute adorers spend time in the Lord’s presence each day. This year marks the fourteenth year of substitute adorers spend time in the Lord’s presence each day. This year marks the fourteenth year of substitute adorers spend time in the Lord’s presence each day. This year marks the fourteenth year of substitute adorers spend time in the Lord’s presence each day.

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Save the Date: October 7

The Kennedy Center Comes to the Camillia Room for One Night Only

Saint Camillus School was built in 1954 and for the last 64 years what is now known as the Camillia Room has been the center of the community’s life! The Camillia Room served as the parish church on Sundays from 1954 to 1971 and during the week it has been a key space for thousands and thousands of school children at Saint Camillus School and now at Saint Francis International School. When the “new” church was built in 1971 with its seating capacity for over 1,200 worshipers, the Camillia Room was renovated for better use as a social hall and auditorium. Plays, school lunches, prayer meetings, wedding receptions, concerts, CYO banquets, bingo, and parish pot lucks have been held almost continuously for six decades. Mass continues to be celebrated frequently in the Camillia Room, especially on major holy days like Christmas and Easter.

This past summer, thanks to a kick start from grants received by Saint Francis International School, the school and parish embarked on rewakening the Camillia Room and its kitchen with new appliances and serving counters, new storage spaces, new walls and new floors, a new paint job, and new LED lighting. But, one thing that was left unfinished was the stage.

Saint Camillus parish and SFIS have always been proud of the performing arts that have been nurtured in the Camillia Room – plays, musicals, choirs, bands, and dancing troupes have all been presented on that stage. Saint Camillus can even boast that Oscar, Tony, and Golden Globe award winner Mercedes Ruehl even spent time in the Camillia Room when she lived in the neighborhood and attended the school.

Now, the Saint Francis International School community is working to raise $30,000 to upgrade the stage with a new floor, new lighting, new sound and microphones, new AV equipment, and fresh paint.

A very special event is planned for Sunday, October 7 at 7 pm as part of the fundraising effort. Join Nova Y. Payton – an SFIS mom and one of the stars of the Kennedy Center’s production of How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying - for an evening of music and entertainment as we demonstrate the importance of performing arts education.

The Saint Francis International School choir under the direction of Henry Herrera, which was featured on the Kennedy Center’s Millennium Stage last spring, and SFIS alumnus from Elizabeth Seton High School will take the Camillia Room stage along with Ms. Payton to show how talented bloomers when it is nurtured at school!

Tickets will be sold at the door for a suggested donation of $10 - $25 each. All proceeds from the evening’s festivities go to support the upgrades to the Camillia Room stage. While this is an event for adults that will include wine and hors d’oeuvres, child care will be available for a small donation.

Committee

can’t from page 9

another operation that was not part of this tour.

Engineer Randy Bayer with Covanta, the County’s contract incineration company, guided the tour and explained what happens after the weekly trash is trucked to the County Transfer Station in Derwood, MD, near Shady Grove. From there it is loaded into freight trains and shipped to a depot near the Resource Recovery Facility. It is then transported to the tipping hall, where unsuitable materials are removed before it is pushed into a gigantic concrete chamber. Here it is mixed by huge mechanical claws that can lift up to five tons of waste at a time. The claws transport the trash to three combustion chambers that burn the material, creating fireballs in each as it reaches 2,300 degrees Fahrenheit. The heat energy from the chambers converts water obtained from the Potomac River into super-heated steam, which powers a single turbine-driven generator. About a million gallons of water per day enter the facility, but it never comes in contact with the garbage or its by-products. The water is first used to cool equipment at a nearby coal plant and then about a million gallons a day is diverted to the Resource Recovery Facility for use.

The plant incinerates 1,900 tons of trash a day, generating around 50 megawatts of electricity, enough to power 50,000 homes. After the incineration, gases and residues are passed through air pollution processes that use scrubbers and bag filtering. The process reduces each 10,000 tons of garbage to 3,000 tons of ash, which decreases its volume about 90%. The ash is used for road bed materials on county facilities and some goes to landfills. Prior to the construction of the resource recovery facility, the county relied only on landfills for waste disposal.

Next, the group was off to the nearby Composting Facility, where Lonnie Hefflin of Maryland Environmental Service (MES; an ISO certified Environmental Management System) welcomed them to the Composting Facility’s operation center. This facility uses collected brush, grass clippings, and leaves to produces a soil conditioner called Leafgro, which can be mixed into garden beds to improve the soil and for planting trees and shrubs. Leafgro is available for purchase at many garden centers and hardware stores throughout the county.

During the tour, Mr. Heflin pointed out the many parallel windrows (rows of ground up organic materials) laid out on 50 acres of asphalt. The windrows appeared to be about a quarter-mile long and are six to seven feet high with corridors perhaps ten feet wide near both rows. Once laid out, the windrows begin to decompose through the workings of aerobic bacteria that occur naturally in the organic materials over the course of about nine months. Facility staff constantly monitor the temperatures inside the windrows, turning over the materials to reduce the heat the bacteria generate in the rows. They also monitored other conditions, such as pH levels, to ensure proper decomposition conditions. The tour group admired the size and power of the windrow turners and the skill of their operators. After final drying, sorting and processing, the final product is packaged and shipped to retailers for distribution. Impressively, the compost facility can accept 77,000 tons of organic materials each year and produces 650,000 bags of Leafgro. After the long day visit, the group was very impressed with everything they had learned about how Montgomery County processes non-recyclable waste and compostable organic materials.
Our Parish Times
October 2018   29

Taste of SJN Dinner

“We served a crowd of over 240 parishioners a lineup of more than 30 different dishes, desserts, beverages, wines and cheeses from more than 14 countries and cultures,” said event coordinator, Cheryl Harskowitch. “And don’t forget the prayerful help of the saints...remember, I grew up near the cross streets of Neumann Way and Cabrini Court in Seton Woods.”

Father Kevin just celebrated his tenth year since ordination to the priesthood, and this marks his second time to be with us here in Gaithersburg. His first trip he served as Parochial Vicar. He then guided Holy Family Parish in Hillcrest Heights, Maryland as their Pastor, which led back to SJN this past July.

“It’s important to belong to something ‘greater’, said Father Kevin. “The ‘greatest’ is always the Lord and yet, this time coming back to be with this parish is a deepening of my vocation, my commitment in his priesthood, as I walk with and belong to the faithful of Saint John Neumann.”

Hair Today…Gone Tomorrow

Father Kevin got a haircut…and a shave, raising $10,000 for Seminarians!

When I was a little guy my Dad had a favorite expression he’d use to open his dinner-time story for our family about something rather exciting that happen that day in his sports world. He’d begin with, “alright, everybody, hold onto your hats”. The saying was a carry-over from WWII days (and before) that warned everyone they needed to be prepared to clear the room quickly, after they heard what he was about to say next. A surprise was coming…in a matter of seconds!

No matter how prescient you might have been on September 2, 2018, no one could read what would be revealed to 50 parishioners who gathered in the parish center to learn whether or not our new Pastor, Father Kevin Regan, would be getting a traditional “trim” haircut, or a “skim” chop.

People parish-wide voted on

Continued on page 38

Members of the SJN Vocations Committee welcome the newly assigned Pastor, Father Kevin Regan, as guest of honor during their monthly meeting in July 2018. Father Kevin served as Parochial Vicar of SJN parish from July 2012–July 2013.

Taste of SJN Dinner

This year’s Taste of SJN drew over 240 guests and more than 50 cooks, bakers and helpers from around the world to share their culinary delights with fellow SJN parishioners. Photo by Jerry Kelley.

SJN Pastor Kevin Regan Installed by Bishop Michael Fisher

By Rus Wester

Our new Pastor is the oldest of five children, as was Bishop Michael Fisher, who served as our third Pastor and presided over Father Kevin’s SJN Installation Mass on August 19, 2018. Both priests grew up in loving Maryland Catholic families, with the support of faithful communities where they seemed to always be nurtured by priests at various turning points in their lives.

“It wasn’t just clergy who encouraged me. My parents were there every step of the way as I moved along in seminary and in my earlier priesthood,” recalls Father Kevin. “And don’t forget the prayerful help of the saints...remember, I grew up near the cross streets of Neumann Way and Cabrini Court in Seton Woods.”

Father Kevin just celebrated his tenth year since ordination to the priesthood, and this marks his second time to be with us here in Gaithersburg. His first trip he served as Parochial Vicar. He then guided Holy Family Parish in Hillcrest Heights, Maryland as their Pastor, which led back to SJN this past July.

“When a parishioner is invited to this event, she or he knows it’s going to be great. It’s a way for us to show how deep our roots are in the Archdiocese,” said Cheryl Harskowitch.

“Our new Pastor is the oldest of five children, an avid cyclist; sings and plays guitar; strong supporter of Eucharistic Adoration and Vocations.

St. John Neumann Parish
9000 Warfield Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20882
Fr. Kevin Regan
Pastor
Rus Wester
OPT Editor
Inspirng Parishioners to Seek Justice for The Marginalized

By Melissa Montealegre Egan

If the Bible documents the story of our Christian faith and the Ten Commandments provide the rules, one might say Catholic social teachings offer the framework by which contemporary Catholics can live a just life. Leaders of St. Francis of Assisi Church are hoping that reintroducing Catholic social teachings to parishioners will inspire them to internalize the messages and act.

With roots in Scripture and in the examples of saints, the threads of Catholic social teachings are interwoven throughout the Church’s history. In 1891, Pope Leo XIII wrote In the Condition of the Working Class, addressing workers’ conditions during the Industrial Age, including the need for humane treatment of workers and fair compensation. In 1931, Pope Pius XI wrote 40 Years Later, which addressed the economic and social order. And, in recent years, St. John Paul II, Pope Benedict and Pope Francis have all promoted Catholic social teachings, especially evident in Francis’ encyclical, Laudato Si, which emphasized care of the environment and the interrelatedness of the world.

Though sources document varying numbers of Catholic social teachings, the Archdiocese of Washington offers the following seven principles:
- The Life and Dignity of the Human Person
- The Common Good
- Human Rights and Responsibilities
- Preferential Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
- The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers
- Solidarity
- Care for God’s Creation

Taken together, the Church’s social teachings provide a faith-based lens through which people can view the world, said St. Francis Social Concerns Minister Tony Bosnick. The parish’s Haiti Ministry, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Health Ministry, Rebuilding Together, Pax Christi Ministry and Food Pantry Ministry all demonstrate faith in action.

“We are called into communion with other people and that calls for action and interaction,” Bosnick said.

In the past few months, church leaders have planned several opportunities for St. Francis parishioners to learn more about the Church’s social teachings. On Sept. 22/23, Fr. Jacek Orzechowski, OFM, who works in Parish Community Organizing and Advocacy for Catholic Charities for the Archdiocese of Washington, spoke at Masses on the importance of getting involved with organizations, such as Action in Montgomery, for effecting change that directly impacts marginalized people.

Bosnick and parishioner Marie Barry have also scheduled casual lunches Oct. 21 and 28 to discuss an overview of Catholic social teachings. Barry, who worked for the archdiocese under Msgr. Ralph Kuehner, the former Secretary for Social Concerns, said Catholic social teachings explain the why and how to love one another by insisting on both the dignity and the social nature of the human person.

“Our acts of justice and peace do not flow from any particular political philosophy, but from our identity as followers of Jesus Christ, who went to the margins to be with the people,” she said.

Parish Teen Helps Repair Houston Home Damaged during Hurricane Harvey

By Melissa Montealegre Egan

Near the end of what has already been a deadly hurricane season in the United States, St. Francis parishioner Justin Fitzgerald can’t forget one of last year’s monster storms – Hurricane Harvey, which dumped more than 27 trillion gallons of rain on the greater Houston, TX, area in late August of last year.

“The news has forgotten about it,” Fitzgerald said. “The public support for help has wavered. But that can’t be said for Fitzgerald and seven of his St. John’s College High School classmates, who traveled to Houston from June 3-9 to help repair a home that was underwater for several weeks.

The service trip was organized by the Washington DC-based St. John’s College High School, which coordinates four such student opportunities each year. The service trips help students fulfill their requirement to complete 90 hours of direct service by the time they graduate. Freshmen are required to provide service to their families; sophomores offer service to their home parishes; juniors provide corporal works of mercy; and seniors choose how they would like to serve their communities.

Working with a nonprofit organization called Experience Mission, the team of eight students cut, measured and hung drywall and “mud-ded,” or filled in the holes between the newly hung drywall sheets. On Friday – the day before they left Houston – the students also worked at a soup kitchen.

Justin Fitzgerald, a junior at St. John’s College High School, helps measure drywall before he and a classmate cut and install it in a Houston home damaged from Hurricane Harvey. Photo courtesy of St. John’s College High School

Tom Sipowicz, director of mission integration at St. John’s College High School, said the trip’s goal was two-fold: helping the students see their own lives differently and teaching them they each have a role to play.

“There’s so much need in this area, so we’re blessed to be able to help provide a service,” said Sipowicz of the students.

Fitzgerald’s role on his team was to do the mudding, a task with which he had a little experience from helping hang drywall in his family’s basement. “It was tiring, but fun,” said Fitzgerald, a high school junior. “We developed a system.”

A member of St. Francis’ Parish Pastoral Council and an altar server, Fitzgerald said the team primarily helped one homeowner from Israel who had lived in his home for 20-30 years. The image of the homeowner’s hot plate and microwave on the second level of his home is burned in Fitzgerald’s memory – a reminder that the homeowner’s kitchen was still in ruins.

Fitzgerald, 17, said the trip gave him an appreciation for what he and his family have. He also recommended that people take advantage of opportunities to provide direct service to people in need.

“With people suffering in natural disasters, let’s not forget about them because they are still suffering years later,” he said.
St. Martin's Parishioners Visit the Holy Land

St. Martin of Tours Parish
201 South Frederick Ave.
Gaithersburg, MD
301-990-3203
St. Martin School
301-990-2441
Stephen Lamont
Principal

Welcome New Faces to St. Martin’s School

Ms. Christine Kolberg is our new 5th grade teacher. She attended Our Lady of Good Counsel and later pursued her degree at Catholic University. Previously, Christine was working as an elementary school teacher in Madrid, Spain, where she taught 2nd and 4th grade for two years. She said, “I am exci-
ted to be working at St. Martin’s and preparing my students for middle school academically, socially, and spiritually.”

Our new third grade teacher Mrs. Sarah Maldonado brings twelve years of teaching experience to St. Martin’s. “My heart is in the Catholic school setting,” she said. She has a broad experience teaching in almost every elemen-
tary grade level. Mrs. Maldonado is recently married and new to the area. “I have heard wonderful things about the St. Martin’s parish and school community and am excited to be here,” Mr. Duane Smith joins us as Language Arts and Resource/ Special Education teacher. Mr. Smith has experience teaching Special Education, computer tech-
nology and programming, and cake design. He is also a US Navy vet-
eran. Role models are important.

“I strive to be the best I can be and always present myself in a profes-
sional manner.” He hopes to bring his creative talents and energy to his new role at the school. Mr. Smith and his wife return to the area after years living on the Eastern Shore.

Several current faculty have taken on new roles. Mrs. Bridgette Bell is now the lead teacher in Kindergarten. Our school coun-
selor, Ms. Brooksley Jones, adds 8th grade homeroom and religion teaching responsibilities to her day.

By Emily Modar

St. Martin of Tours Parish experienced a unique oppor-
tunity to travel 18 days to the Holy Land. From August 8-24, 40 members of St. Martin’s trav-
elled as pilgrims to the Holy Lands of Egypt, Jordan, and Israel and visited more than 50 holy sites. Fr. Jonathan Vanegas, a vicar of St. Martin’s, organized the pilgrimage with his parents, who have been organizing pilgrimages for the last 25 years in Ecuador with Grupo Galasam Pereginaciones.

St. Martins started their pilgrimage in Aswan where they board-
ed a three-day cruise on the Nile. They had the opportunity to visit shrines, the pyramids, temples, and the Valley of the Kings. From there they took a Bus across Sini. “One of the highlights of the trip was the opportunity to climb Mount Sini,” said Joan Mahaffey. Adding that at the end of the climb they visited St. Catherine’s Monastery which held what is regarded as the burning bush of Moses. In Jordan, they trav-
elled along the Red Sea and enjoyed some delicious fish lunches. They also visited the Baptismal Site of Jesus, saw Zaccaeus’s Tree, prayed at the Basilica of the Annunciation and visited the House of St. Joseph.

“Every day we had Mass, sometimes it was on the Cruise Ship, sometimes it was at a Coptic Church and when we got into Israel, we had Mass at some of the Holy Sites,” said Mahaffey.

The highlight for many of the parishioners was the visit to the Wedding Feast of Cana. A couple from St. Martin’s Parish, Abel and Carolina Reyes, were married by Fr. Vanegas and St. Martin’s pastor, Fr. Richard Gancayco, in the same place where Christ performed His First Miracle.

Fr. Vanegas said he worked with the diocese for 8 months to plan the wedding in the Holy Land.

“The wedding was a major thing not only for the parish but for the diocese as well,” said Fr. Vanegas. He added that the whole parish felt a part of this beautiful celebration.

St. Martin’s pilgrims entered Israel at the Dead Sea, and many parishioners took advantage of a mud bath. From there they visited Mount Carmel where Elijah performed miracles, the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, and the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem.

“Some of the trees there are protected by wire because supposedly they are 2000 years old which made them there at Christ’s passion” said Noyes. “Had they had eyes and ears they would have been witnesses to the Agony in the Garden” said Plucis.

One of the highlights for Natealy Lemus-Diaz who was one of the youngest pilgrims at age 11, was walking the Way of the Cross at 4:00 am. Plucis explained the reason they walked so early was to avoid the markets that opened later in the morning. The walk took them to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre where Christ was crucified and bur-
ied.

Each parishioner went on this pilgr-
image with the purpose of learn-
ing more about their faith. Mahaffey said she felt a real connection with the Scriptures following the journey of the Israelites from Egypt in the Old Testament to the Gospels in the New Testament.

“This is real. This is where it all began,” added Carole Noyes.

“A pilgrim goes not to escape from life, but to ask God for the grace to enter in their daily life, the marriage, the kids. A pilgrim doesn’t go to have fun, he goes to meet the Lord,” said Fr. Vanegas.
Mother Seton and Stephen Ministry

Mother Seton in Germantown is excited to announce the launching of Stephen Ministry, an exciting ministry that will allow it to reach out to more people with one-to-one Christian care. Mother Seton is now a part of the ever-growing ministry that is enrolled in over 13,000 congregations or organizations in 30 countries with 180 denominations representing 250,000 congregations.

In August, Mary-Beth Deluzio and Liza Oprandi were among the 308 attendees at a Stephen Series Leader’s Training Course held in Pittsburgh. Trained as Stephen Leaders, one of their next steps will be to recruit, select, and train members of Mother Seton to be Stephen Ministers, the ones who will provide one-to-one care in loss of a loved one, divorce, terminal illness, loneliness, unemployment, hospitalization, a spiritual crisis, and the birth of a child.

Stephen Ministry began in 1975 when Dr. Kenneth C. Haugk, a pastor and clinical psychologist in St. Louis, Missouri, trained parishioners to help meet the needs for care in his congregation. The ministry has since blossomed to the point that other congregations became interested, and Haugk founded the Stephen Ministries organization.

The transition for me into middle school was hectic to say the least. I remember running around the house grabbing pencils, pens, notebooks, etc. The first day I was stressed trying to keep everything organized, but I was excited to get back down to business and to learn new matériel. I was truly relieved when I got to Mr. Criscouli’s class. He was talking about how to have good discussions and geography. Those are two of my favorite things! Also, if you’re lucky enough to have a history buff like my brother, then you’d be thrilled to hear what Mr. Criscouli was talking about.

I still don’t consider myself a pro at middle school, and it’s been different not having my best friend Danny by my side. I would definitely consider myself more comfortable than I was used to be, and I’m excited to continue and experience new changes. The best analogy to middle school I can think of would be the classical song “Flight of the Bumblebee.” For those familiar, the song starts off very fast and chaotic but by the end you feel satisfied and calm. I hope I will still feel like this by the end of the school year!

The transition to middle school has been challenging. From switching classes to carrying around my computer, anchor small group work. The best analogy to middle school I can think of would be the classical song “Flight of the Bumblebee.” For those familiar, the song starts off very fast and chaotic but by the end you feel satisfied and calm. I hope I will still feel like this by the end of the school year!

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KIDS

EXPLORATION

a makerspace for STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) supplies and projects, an important interest that many parents, teachers, and students.

This was a tall order to accomplish over the summer months and work continues to fulfill all the wish list items. With the full support of Holy Redeemer pastor, Father Mark Hughes, school principal, Colleen Ryan, and facilities manager Bert Conger, a bright and welcoming space was ready for students that first week of school. Bright, light green walls are the background for open-backed white shelving in a range of heights, intentionally directing the focus on the colorful book spines. Navy blue carpet complements the painted walls. Four white tables, each with a computer, anchor small group work.

Work is continuing to fulfill the wish list, with completion anticipated by mid-November. The next installment will feature additional shelving and the decoration of walls with words made out of colorful wooden letters. Through these words, students will be invited to wonder, imagine, plan, explore, and think. This library lexicon will grow throughout the year as each grade level identifies words of significance to them as they read, research, and share their responses to literature and information.

Weekly, students gather in this happy place and enjoy this new room with a view. They are eager to find that just-right book, the book that will offer them a window on God’s world and, perhaps, a reflection of themselves.

Transition

Greeted me kindly! What?! I was very surprised to find out all of my teachers were nice, kind, and very caring. Developing these student-teacher relationships has been my favorite part of the year so far.

–Anamaria P. (6A)

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Drive

Treasurer: Greg Lawrence, Inside Guard: Joe Gredlics, Outside Guard: Jim Wheat Lecturer: Mike Stempilhar Trustee (One Year): Jim Larkin Trustee (Two Year): Chris Coker Trustee (Three Year): Lee Pfeifer Delegate to Conv.: Mike Stempilhar Alternate to Conv.: Chris Coker

Acclimated to Ford, each man has his own reasons for joining the Knights of Columbus; but there are some common themes. “Mostly to become better Catholics, better husbands, better fathers, better providers for the financial protection of their families, and be better citizens,” explained Ford.

He reported the Bishop Lyons Council 9808 plans to focus on Faith in Action programs this year that deal with faith, family, community and life issues. “The Faith in Action gives us a guide to lead our families and communities in faith & service and to put their faith into action,” described Ford. According to Ford, the Bishop Lyons Council 9808 hopes to feed everyone at Winterfest (Nov 30 and Dec 1), and is planning to hold a health fair in 2019.

The Knights of Columbus Council at Resurrection tradition-ally hold a barbecue and provide Mother’s Day carnations & Father’s Day pins. The Knights are also involved in the Helping Hands program, as well as assisting with Food for Families. In addition, Bishop Lyons Council 9808 provides support for the Pregnancy Center and the Mary Garden, as well as the annual Pro-Life March and the current seminarian at Reservation.
**MoN Starts School Year with School Mass**

Mary of Nazareth began the school year the right way, with a First Friday Mass. All the grades were gathered paired off in prayer partners and in their spring or winter dress uniforms to celebrate the occasion. New from St. Rose of Lima Parish, Father Oscar Astigarraga delivered a homily fitting for the Nativity of Mary discussing all the ways Mary supported Jesus and his ministry. He discussed her background and the saintliness of her parents. He drew connections for the students, so that they could see the importance of their religious education as Mary was educated in Jewish traditions as she grew up. He made the homily accessible for younger students while still offering substance for older members of the audience. The Mass closed with accolades for those who participated particularly well. Notably, the choir was lauded for their performance. Then the entire school genuflected for the procession of the Blessed Sacrament from the Katie Fitzgerald Center back to Our Lady of the Visitation. Finally, Mr. Friel, the principal, led the school in a reprise of the school song, and the classes returned to their school day.

**HSA Hosts Back to School Carnival**

Despite the sweltering heat, families and students came out to the Mary of Nazareth Back to School Carnival. Various attractions including moon bounces and a much needed waterslide drew students in while parents socialized with the teachers. The seventh and eighth grade sold various foods as fundraisers for their respective classes, and the whole school grounds felt like an extended picnic was taking place.

As parents introduced themselves to new teachers, alumni came back to see some of their old favorites. Some younger students hula hooped while two eighth graders challenged every teacher who passed to games of giant Jenga or Connect Four. No mercy was entertained either way as the Jenga reached a stunning eight extra levels before the teachers managed to pull out a victory. The whole school community came out, as the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts ran various games and activities. With an overwhelming turnout, Mary of Nazareth said goodbye to summer and brought in a new school year with a bang.

**STREAM Lab Opens to Students**

Mary of Nazareth launched their STREAM Lab this school year. This lab is the product of generous donations and funds raised by Mary of Nazareth’s annual Saint Patrick’s Day Gala and was constructed, painted, and outfitted over the summer. The lab features a Promethium Board, adjustable tables for students of all heights, a 3-D Printer, a green screen, and various other engineering materials. STREAM, which is an expansion on STEM, integrates Religion and the Arts in addition to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. The lab is overseen by Mr. Humphries, who in addition to teaching math, can help teachers plan STREAM lessons making full use of the labs capabilities. Under Ms. Massey, the middle school science teacher, each of the middle school grades has already gone in and toured the lab while younger grades also went in to view it with each of their teachers. The STREAM Lab’s whiteboard overflows with student ideas displayed for all to see. Mary of Nazareth’s student body and faculty seek to take full advantage of all the opportunities it provides them and look forward to all activities this will open up.

**Prayer Partners Meet One Another for the First Time**

On the first full Wednesday of the Mary of Nazareth school year, sixth graders shuffled down the hallways towards the elementary school in anticipation. This is the first year that they are responsible for helping out a prayer partner. Prayer Partners are pairings between a younger elementary school student and an older middle school student for events like Mass, Race for Scholars, and various other activities and events throughout the school year. The older students are given a chance to develop their faith through action while the younger students are given a model and example to follow. Today, however, was focused on the meeting of both ends of the school. The second graders eagerly interviewed their sixth grade partners. They found out many facts about them before the sixth graders turned the tables and asked the second graders the same questions they were just asked. First grade and seventh grade made paper hands that open in prayer with intentions for one another. The eighth graders, the oldest students in the school, met the kindergartners who were stunned and excited to meet their illustrous counterparts. They spent the afternoon getting to know one another and in the days that followed the kindergartners always appreciated the friendly waves they would get from their eighth grade prayer partners. The prayer partners are a friendly bond that transcends age barriers as many sixth grade students expressed worries about potential absences and missing a chance to be with their partners. These partnerships allow a flourishing school community to form across all age and grade levels and will help create memories for both students.

**CHURCH DAY**

Cont’d from page 2

Vitu” to mark this year’s 50th anniversary of this great encyclical for families, which was in particular much beloved by Saint John Paul II.
Honoring El Salvador del Mundo at Saint Michael the Archangel

By Edison Mendez

Saint Michael the Archangel celebrated its annual Festival of El Salvador del Mundo (The Savior of the World) on Sunday, August 5, 2018. El Salvador del Mundo is the patron saint of Central American Country El Salvador. The festival began in 1525 when the capital city of San Salvador was founded and is the celebration of the transfiguration of Jesus Christ.

In El Salvador, the statue of Jesus is dressed in colorful clothes and carried through the main streets of the capital to the Cathedral at which time they are removed, leaving only the white robe, to symbolize and witness to the purity of our faith. Father Luis Marroquin, our own resident priest, carried the statue and his brother, John, and led them around the church with songs and dances, and prayer. Everyone enjoyed a prayerful day which reminded them of its cultural roots.

The Race for the Cure annual event raises significant funds for breast cancer awareness, research, and treatment. The funds raised this year will make a difference for the many women, men, and families who are affected by this disease. In 2018, more than 260,000 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed in women and more than 2,500 cases in men in the U.S.

Meet the Young Adults Ministry at Saint Michael the Archangel

By Genny Whiting and Nicole Calaro

Saint Michael’s has had a Young Adult Ministry for many years, and we want to introduce it to our greater community. Nicole Calaro has served as the ministry leader since 2012, when Msgr. Tolentino and Deacon Ron Ealey approached her to help make it thrive.

The two biggest goals for the Young Adult Ministry are to form a community and to continue to grow in faith. Over the years, Nicole and others have led it in Bible study, adoration, small group activities, attending regional young adult ministries, and attending parish events. This summer, the Young Adult Ministry participated in the Jeremy’s Run 5K, a fundraiser for non-profits that combat drug abuse and addiction.

It is part of our mission to be a community of not only young adults at St. Michael the Archangel, but also to share our faith with others all over the DMV.

“Personally, I’ve been able to connect with so many people and see other people’s faith. Being part of the Young Adult Ministry has been such an inspiration, a blessing, and an opportunity to grow my faith more. This ministry is what started me down the path to become a Catechist and now work with our parish’s RCIA and help bring others to the faith that I love and cherish,” said Calaro.

If you would like to learn more about our activities, Bible study, or help our leadership with hosting more events, please contact Nicole directly at ncalaro@gmail.com.

St. Michael’s Prayer Warriors Join Race for the Cure

By John Webster

The weather on Saturday, September 8, was cloudy, cool, and rainy, but that did nothing to dampen the spirits of the 11 members of the St. Michael’s Prayer Warriors who turned out in force to support this year’s Race for the Cure event in Washington, DC.

Led by 18-year survivor, Jackye Flowers, the Prayer Warriors completed the 5K circuit as a team and raised $1,079 for the fight against breast cancer. Ms. Flowers says, “18 years ago when I faced my own personal battle against this disease, the Komen Foundation was there to support me. I am delighted to be in a position now to return the favor with the support of my fellow parishioners at St. Michael’s.”

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St. Michael the Archangel Hosts Ninth Annual Crab Feast

By Genny Whiting

The St. Michael the Archangel Annual Crab Feast recently celebrated its tenth year and had a record turnout of 160 adults and 9 children. The event is hosted by our Knights of Columbus and we’d like to thank the brothers who helped with preparations the day before and with serving the fine food.

Parochial Vicar, Father Alberto Biondi, who was recently transferred to another parish, was thanked with a KofC jacket with his embroidered name as a sign of appreciation for his services to our parish.

Activities included a raffle as well as a small articles sale to benefit a charity for expectant mothers. Proceeds for this event are expected to cover the cost of replacing the metal thresholds for the exterior doors of the church. We hope to see you next year.

St. Michael’s Parish Offers Hurricane Relief

By John Webster

The 2017 hurricane season was devastating for thousands of people in Texas and the Caribbean. To help ease the suffering of those affected by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, the parishioners at St. Michael the Archangel Parish donated $12,506. The funds were used to provide direct assistance to Our Lady of Mercy in Houston, Texas and the Diocese of Roseau in Dominica and to supplement the Archdiocese of Washington Hurricane Irma relief effort.

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As the 2018 hurricane season unfolds, we pray for the victims of Hurricane Florence and are prepared to again donate generously to assist those in need.
By Maureen Martin

For more than six decades, Shrine of St. Jude (Rockville, Md.) parish basketball teams and school physical education students have played the sport on tile flooring. This year, courtesy of the St. Jude Athletic Association (SJAA), the students and players are in for a sweet surprise...a hardwood court.

The recently installed wood court was dedicated in the memory of Jack Campbell, whose basketball coaching career at St. Jude spanned more than 40 years. Father Paul Lee, pastor of the Shrine of St. Jude, blessed the court, saying, “May our loving God bless all our youth who will play here on Jack Campbell Court!” and invited all in attendance to join in reciting the Glory Be.

Patti Campbell Ribas, who followed in her father’s footsteps coaching St. Jude Girls seventh/eighth-grade teams from 1989 to 2015, spoke on behalf of her family, thanking Fr. Lee, the SJAA, and the many others who assisted in making the floor project a reality and for honoring her dad. “It is no secret that St. Jude parish was very special to him and that he spent countless hours volunteering for the parish and the athletic association,” she stated, adding “If he were here tonight, I know he would be very overwhelmed, very humbled, and very grateful to all of you. And, most importantly, he would be so happy that the kids finally have a nice wood court on which to play.”

Dan Harwood then shared his memories of Jack, speaking about from the time he first met him as a nine-year-old through his high school years and beyond. Coach Harwood, a St. Jude basketball alum who went on to coach at Magruder High School and win two state championships, reflected on the remarkable length of service that Jack committed to the youth of St. Jude parish. He cited many examples of the great respect the players had for Coach Campbell, a direct result of them knowing that he genuinely cared about them.

Jack’s coaching career began in 1962 when he and his wife, Rose, and children moved to Rockville and became members of St. Jude. He immediately became active within the parish and was one of the principal founding members of the SJAA, working closely with the first pastor, Monsignor Francis Lauriola, to develop the athletic organization. His love of sports, dedication to the youth of the parish, and steadfast Catholic faith influenced us to be a better person. Our Parish Times. October 2018   35

Jack Campbell in his trade- mark red sweater in January 2008 upon learning the Georgetown Prep CYO Varsity Tournament Division Sportmanship Award would be named in his honor.

Campbell family members attended the dedication of Jack Campbell Court at the Shrine of St. Jude, which honored his husband, father, father-in-law, grandfather, and great grandfather. Pictured are: Bottom row (seated): Lyla Riggs, Rose Campbell, Sophia Campbell, and Markos Campbell. Middle row: Tyler Riggs, Patti Ribas, Maria Campbell, and Barbara Campbell. Back row: Stephen Ribas, Patrick Ribas, Nick Ribas, Dan Campbell, John Campbell, Jeremy Riggs, and Eddie Ribas. Photo by Tom Roach

“If he were here tonight, I know he would be very overwhelmed, very humbled, and very grateful to all of you. And, most importantly, he would be so happy that the kids finally have a nice wood court on which to play.”

—Patti Campbell Ribas

The recently installed wood court calls leadership. His example is one of his greatest rewards was to play at the top of their game—and sometimes to even play above themselves. Throughout his tenure as head coach of the Boys CYO seventh and eighth graders, Jack’s teams won countless tournaments, county league, and CYO division titles, appearing in the CYO City Championship game six times and winning the title on three of those occasions. Additionally, Jack was recognized by the Governor of Maryland (1988), the Catholic Business Network’s Coaches Hall of Fame (2003), the Holy Name Society (1988), the CYO as Coach of the Year (1991), and the Georgetown Prep CYO Varsity Tournament Division (2008), which named its Sportmanship Award in his honor. Jack Campbell always put his faith, the good of St. Jude parish, and the welfare of his players before himself—and that’s called leadership. His example is something the St. Jude Athletic Association tries to live up to in all that it does.

At almost 74 years of age, he coached his last game in the CYO City Title game in March 2003. Although Jack passed away in April 2008, his spirit continues to shine at the Shrine of St. Jude. All who coach at St. Jude today are reminded of Jack’s dedication. He left an indelible mark on those he coached and those who coached with him. He often reflected that one of his greatest rewards was having the opportunity to coach the sons of former players—something that can only happen during a long coaching tenure. Unquestionably, he touched the lives of hundreds of young men at St. Jude.

Larry Young, St. Jude parishioner, coach, and parent, offered this thought after the court dedication: “After a few years, many of us will forget which teams won the Super Bowl or the World Series or even the Stanley Cup, but almost all of us will always remember that special coach or teacher who touched our lives at a young age — and influenced us to be a better person. Coach Jack Campbell was just such a person.”

Welcome New Teachers!
St. Jude Regional Catholic School welcomes two new faculty members—(left) Mrs. Katie Cain (Middle School Math) and Ms. Olga Paz (Art). You can read more about these two additions to the faculty in the August issue of Our Parish Times.

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Maureen Martin,
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ARE...ST. JUDE

Sodality Pilgrimage
The Shrine of St. Jude Sodality sponsored a pilgrimage to the Fr. Cizek Prayer League in Shenandoah, Pennsylvania. Pictured at the Church of St. Casimir—where Fr. Cizek was baptized—are: Betty Beltz, Peggy Barbera, Val Kovak, Jonine Natali, Pat Black, Clare Kuzma, Tanya Emanuele, Laura Sobolewski (who has family from Shenandoah), Sabina Kisilia, Kelemenush, Rita Roberts, Elena Rivera, Ingrid Sutherland, John Dilhentine, Wally Stack, Jane Collins, Irma Jean Baptiste, Yvonne Fonseka, Jimmy Lenahan, Diane Lenahan, Connie Yaban, Bridget, Marta Custer-Sanchez, Barbara King, Peggy King, Nancy Biggin, and bus driver, Deonte.

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One Call Institute: Inaugural Year for Music and Liturgy Study

Our young people in music ministry have busy summers! While St. Mary’s music students in grades 3-12 are on summer break, we offer a college cantor program for auditioned students to earn a modest stipend while receiving training, attending rehearsals, and scheduling cantor times for Mass. This summer I attended One Call Institute (OCI) at St. John’s University in Collegeville, Minnesota. Offered by National Association of Pastoral Musicians, this new initiative is “dedicated to the engagement, empowerment, and ongoing support of young liturgical musicians…to maximize their gifts of music and leadership in service to the liturgy.

St. Mary’s 89th Annual Ham & Turkey Dinner

This traditional country dinner is coming once again on Saturday, October 27, 2018 at St. Mary’s Church Pavilion in Barnesville. Our church lies in the northwest corner of Montgomery County in the shadow of Sugarloaf Mountain. Every fall we invite all of you to come and enjoy our country hospitality and the beautiful fall season. This year’s dinner begins at Noon and offers family style food at a good price. Enjoy Turkey, Ham, Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Sauerkraut, rolls and more for only $16.00. Carry outs are available. Take time to explore our crafts table with handmade goods. We also have a Christmas Shop with some beautiful items for your holiday decorations. Our bake table is always popular featuring cakes from many parishioners, including some from Fr. Kevin’s Kitchen. Outside take a stroll to our prayer garden or a ride on our hay wagon. The dinner is celebrated on Saturday, October 27 from Noon to 6:30 pm. There is Mass at 5:00 pm in our Shrine Church. We are located at 18230 Barnesville Road, in Barnesville. For more information call 301-972-8660.

St. Mary’s Appreciation Mass & Pig Roast

St. Mary’s annual Appreciation Mass & Pig Roast was held on Sunday, September 16. Over 200 parishioners gathered on the lawn behind the Fr. Reid Pavilion for an outdoor mass. The music was led by St. Mary’s adult choir, people joined in

Continued on page 39

St. Mary’s Barnesville announces Spring Trip to Poland and Germany

Would you like to walk the footprints of St. John Paul II and visit some of his childhood haunts? And how about having the chance to see the historic center of the town of Krakow and the famous Black Madonna in the monastery of Jasna Gora? Or maybe you’ve always wanted to see the sights in Berlin, including the French and German cathedrals, the Reichstag Building and the Brandenburg Gate? Join Fr. Kevin O’Reilly, Msgr. Jack Macfarlane and Kathy Swartz as they lead you to these sites and many more! The tour will take place May 13-22, 2019 and reservations are now being accepted. Departure and return will be through Washington Dulles. Contact Kathy (k2000swartz@hotmail.com) or Fr. Kevin at 301-972-8660 or (stmarysb@yahoo.com) for itinerary and registration info.

Sixteen and Taking a Stand

Hello, my name is Isabella Oprandi and I am in tenth grade at Poolesville High School. Recently, I had my sixteenth birthday party and instead of asking for presents, I asked for donations to the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center. I chose the Center because every day they make a difference in someone’s life. Girls my age are faced with pregnancy scares daily. Their initial reaction is to have an abortion. In that moment, they aren’t thinking about the baby. They are thinking of their parent’s reaction, their friends, their future, every-
Visit by President of the Republic of Poland and First Lady

During his official visit to Washington, DC, on September 18, 2018, President of the Republic of Poland Andrzej Duda and his wife Agata Kornhauser-Duda were warmly welcomed at a concert and reception hosted by the Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to the United States, Dr. Piotr Wilczek. The occasion was the celebration of the 100th anniversary of Poland’s regained independence.

While there, President Andrzej Duda and Mrs. Agata Kornhauser-Duda met with representatives of the local Polonia (Polish Diaspora), many of whom are also parishioners at Our Lady Queen of Poland and St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish. They expressed great interest in the education of Polish and Polish American youth and children, especially in the Washington, DC, area. In his speech, Mr. President highlighted the important role of Polish teachers in the transmission of Polish tradition and history and in the instruction of the younger generations in the Polish language. Mrs. Kornhauser-Duda asked questions and listened attentively to information about the activities of the Polish School from several individuals including Mrs. Blandyna Hlasko, Director of the Polish Consulate School at the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Washington, DC. The First Lady thanked the teachers from the Polish School and others who work with youth, including those in the Polish Scouting Organization ZHP, for their commitment and their heartfelt dedication to their work with children and youth in the United States.

Our Lady of Poland Parish Pastor Rev. Jerzy Frydrych, S.Chr., with Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland in the Bahamas Mrs. Edith Powell and OLQP parishioner and Polish Scout Bożenna Buda at the reception for the President of Poland and the First Lady on Sept. 18.

The First Lady of Poland with OLQP parishioners Mrs. Blandyna Hlasko and Mrs. Dorożta Ponikiewska.

The First Lady, Mrs. Agata Kornhauser-Duda, with Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland in Florida, Lady Blanka Rosenstiel.

Catholic Study Abroad: John Paul II Project

On Sunday, September 9, we welcomed Joseph and Corinne MacDonald with their two small daughters to Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish. They are convinced that St. John Paul II’s heritage and legacy need to be shared with, and made known to, succeeding generations. Additional information and details about the programs can be found on their website: www.jp2project.org.

Polish Scouting Organization

The Polish Scouting Organization ZHP at OLQP in Silver Spring, Maryland, is registering scouts and zuchy for this year and will be holding their first meeting shortly. For information and registration, contact Bożenna Buda at: Polish.scouts@gmail.com.

OLQP Polish Saturday School Reopens

OLQP parishioners are being coached by one of the dedicated teachers as they practice their roles for a Polish School assembly, earlier this year.

Our Lady Queen of Poland Saturday School students are being coached by one of the dedicated teachers as they practice their roles for a Polish School assembly, earlier this year.

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November 11 will be the anniversary of the 100th anniversary of Poland’s regained independence. At Our Lady Queen of Poland & St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish there will be a special devotion and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 11:00 a.m. followed by a commemorative Holy Mass at 12:00 noon. Afterwards, there will be a gathering in the parish hall featuring Polish food and joint singing of Polish songs.

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Polish Scouting Organization

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Our Lady of Poland Parish in Silver Spring is registering scouts and zuchy for this year and will be holding their first meeting shortly. For information and registration, contact Bożenna Buda at: Polish.scouts@gmail.com.

Our Parish Times October 2018
singing and praising God for this wonderful parish. Following the homily all volunteers, ministers and employees were commis-
sioned for another year of service to the parish, following Archdiocesan guidelines.

After mass everyone feasted on a delicious roast pig that had been cooking all night. There were many delectable dishes shared by every-
one. Folks enjoyed lis-
tening to the live music of “Sookie Jump”. Each year the parish cel-
brates the volunteer spirit of our people.

resource

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loves Christ and wants teens to love Christ, too.”
Hall said that helping teens deepen-
their faith has deepened his own. But more important than that is having the chance to accompany teens as they grow in their ups and downs of faith and life during their often-turbulent teen years.
Youth ministry, he says, means many things. “It means jokes. It means laughter. It means games,”

hair today

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which haircut Father would get the night before his 100-mile bike ride (Ride for Vocations), to raise funds for Seminarians of the Archdiocese.
So, as the imaginary drum roll began, everyone staring at Fr. Kevin, draped in black, bandana around his bushy hairline, the barber’s scissors in hand, and all began to think “better hold onto your hats” as the total number of votes were shown, and the total dollars those votes represented were unveiled. “Trim” votes totaled $4,785 vs. “Skim” style, which totaled $4,714.

luau

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balloon animals and helping to build towers with marshmallows and toothpicks. Further down the hall, children could try their luck at classic games like the hula – the hula floor. Some displayed their tal-
alms shared by every-

Youth Group Ready for Another Busy Year

The St. Bar’s Youth Group is sixth through twelfth graders interested in serving our neighbors, playing together, and getting to know Our Lord Jesus Christ! All are welcome! On Saturday, September 23, the group had its first meeting of the new school year, assembling packages for the homeless of the DC area.

St. Bartholomew School starts year with enrollment boom

Barad takes over sixth, seventh, and eighth-grade math instruction after the retirement of 35-year teaching veteran Steve Bartl. With a Ph.D. and more than 11 years of experience teaching math, science and STEM, Barad is trained in Differentiated Instruction, Response to Intervention, and Executive Functioning. Joining Barbara Brown in the resource department, Special Educator Amanda McMurtrie Hendon brings 15 years of teaching expe-

Sweat before sweets at St. Bart’s annual 5K

more than 100 students and parishioners enjoyed a warm fall morning at the St. Bartholomew Annual 5K. Participants chose whether to walk or run the 3.1-mile course through the Bethesda neighborhood surrounding the parish. “It’s a par-

Community
of beloved parishioner Liz Troy, is another major fundraiser. Funds raised at this event have been supporting the Centro Tepayac Silver Spring Women’s Center since 1996. Ms. Hall opens doors open after the five-o’clock mass for people of all ages to enjoy dinner, ice cream sundaes, and Bingo. Each game has both an adult winner and a child winner, leading to the grand finale—a “fill the card” game. Local merchants generously donate gift certificates and other items so that prizes, raffle items, and door prizes abound. Even those with non-winning Bingo cards do not leave empty-handed; they can take home a treat from one of our bakery donors. The good cheer brings the parish together and benefits an important pro-life resource in our community.

This year’s Harvest Bingo night is on Saturday, October 13. All are welcome and greatly interested in receiving more information about Holy Cross parish or other events sponsored by the Respect Life Committee, please refer to contact information in the church bulletin distributed after all masses, or online at the Holy Cross Church website.

Two of their children attended Holy Cross from Pre-K through Eighth Grade, and her youngest is currently a student. “The school has provided a strong spiritual and academic foundation for them, and the teachers are extremely well-trained and dedicated to their profession. I am thrilled to be a teacher at the school I love.” Mrs. Bueno and Mrs. Bilek-Menjivar are creating a community of readers, giving the children opportunities to interact with read-aloud stories and even maintaining a stack of books requested by the children. The teachers are also creating a faith community by praying with the children, talking about God, and sharing our beliefs. “Our three-year-old students are in very good hands,” Principal Mrs. Kane observed.

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