On this, your night of grace, O holy Father, accept this candle, a solemn offering, the work of bees and of your servants’ hands, an evening sacrifice of praise, this gift from your most holy Church.

But now we know the praises of this pillar, which glowing fire ignites for God’s honor, a fire into many flames divided, yet never dimmed by sharing of its light, for it is fed by melting wax, drawn out by mother bees to build a torch so precious.

O truly blessed night, when things of heaven are wed to those of earth, and divine to the human.

Therefore, O Lord, we pray you that this candle, hallowed to the honor of your name, may persevere undimmed, to overcome the darkness of this night. Receive it as a pleasing fragrance, and let it mingle with the lights of heaven. May this flame be found still burning by the Morning Star: the one Morning Star who never sets, Christ your Son, who, coming back from death’s domain, has shed his peaceful light on humanity, and lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.”

(From The Exsultet)
Christ’s Resurrection Changed the World, Pope Says at Easter

By Cindy Wooden

Catholic News Service

Light and darkness, truth and lies, hope and despair are in a constant battle in the world, but with his death and resurrection Jesus conquered sin and death for all time, Pope Benedict XVI said on Easter.

“If Jesus is risen, then – and only then – has something truly new happened, something that changes the state of humanity and the world,” the pope told tens of thousands of people in St. Peter’s Square before giving his Easter blessing “urbi et orbi” (to the city and the world).

With the sun shining on the square – transformed into a garden with 42,000 flowers, flowering plants, shrubs and trees – Pope Benedict began the celebration of the morning Mass April 8 just 10 hours after having finished celebrating the three-hour long Easter vigil in St. Peter’s Basilica.

In his Easter message at the end of the morning Mass, the pope said everyone Christian can share the experience of Mary Magdalene, who was the first to encounter the risen Jesus on Easter morning.

The encounter “lets us experience all the joy of the risen Christ be with you always.”

The resurrection means that Jesus be-long not just to the past, but is present today, giving hope and comfort to all those who suffer, the pope said.

Pope Benedict offered special prayers and encouragement to Christians perse-cuted for their faith and to the people of the Middle East, asking members of all religious and ethnic groups to work together for the common good and re-spect for human rights.

“Particularly in Syria, may there be an end to bloodshed and an immediate com-mitment to the path of respect, dialogue and reconciliation” after months of violent bat-tles between Syria’s government and oppo-sition forces.

The pope also prayed for the people of Iraq, for Israelis and Palestinians, for those suffering famine and violence in the Horn of Africa, and for those suffering from conflict in Mali and in Sudan and South Sudan.

At the end of his message, he wished people a happy Easter in 65 languages, including Mongolian, Hebrew, Hindi, Chinese, Maori, Esperanto and Latin.

In English, he said: “May the grace and joy of the risen Christ be with you all.”

At the Easter vigil the night before, the pope welcomed eight adults into the Catholic Church. Among those he baptized and confirmed was Jason N. Emerick, a 36-year-old man from the Archdiocese of Boston. Two of the cate-chumens were from Germany and the others were from Turkmenistan, Italy, Albania, Slovakia and Cameroon.

Light, fire and candles were the symbols highlighted during the pope’s vigil.

Like Easter vigils throughout the world, the Mass began with the lighting of a fire. In the atrium of St. Peter’s Basilica there was a large brazier full of blazing coals; an assistant lit a small taper from the coals and handed it to the pope so he could light the towering Easter candle.

A deacon carried the candle to the entrance of the darkened basilica and chanted, “The light of Christ.”

The smaller candle carried by Pope Benedict was lit and he got onto his mobile platform to be pushed up the aisle of the basilica in silence and what the question of good, “people can no longer see them.

According to the pope, the light of Easter, he said, proclaims forever the fact that “life is stronger than death. Good is stronger than evil. Love is stronger than hate. Truth is stronger than lies.”

The world needs the light of Christ and the light of faith, because darkness always attempts to obscure people’s vi-sion of what is good and evil and what the purpose of their life is, the pope said.

“Today we can illuminate our cities so brightly that the stars of the sky are no longer visible,” he said. “Is this not an image of the problems caused by our version of enlightenment?”

“But with regard to material things, our knowledge and our technical accom-plishments are legion,” he said. But when it comes to the more important matters, such as “the things of God and the question of good,” people can no longer see them.

“Faith, then, which reveals God’s light to us, is the true enlightenment, enabling God’s light to break into our world, opening our eyes to the true light,” he said.

However, the cameras could not de-stroy the impact of the candles held by members of the congregation being lighted one by one and the glow spreading throughout the world’s larg-est church.

In his homily, Pope Benedict said “to say that God created light means that God created the world as a space for knowledge and truth, as a space for encounter and freedom, as a space for good and love.”

The light of Easter, he said, proclaims forever the fact that “life is stronger than death. Good is stronger than evil. Love is stronger than hate. Truth is stronger than lies.”

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CNS/Paul Haring
Easter 2012

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Happy Easter! Let the Alleluia be sung as we celebrate the great event of the Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Having completed our forty days of Lent by which we prepared to celebrate worthily the Paschal Mystery, we now enter the Easter Season in which the Church rejoices at the victory of Jesus over sin and death. We are invited to enter more fully into the life of grace that has been given to us through our Baptism. As Saint Paul reminds us, “We were indeed buried with Him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might live in newness of life. For if we have grown into union with Him through a death like His, we shall also be united with Him in the resurrection” (Romans 6:4-5).

For the next 50 days the Church celebrates the Easter event and we are asked to renew our efforts to live our faith. We have been called to be witnesses of the resurrection of Jesus so that the world may believe. As we join in giving witness now and throughout the Easter season, we need to be mindful of the needs of those who ask about the joy you have in knowing Jesus and allow that joy to permeate your daily activities. It is important that the world is able to see the face of Jesus at this moment in time. For it is the Lord, risen from the dead, who desires to be present to this broken and bruised world. Your Christian life gives witness that Christ is alive and at work in the world today. By living the Gospel values that the Lord teaches and by allowing His love to permeate all your actions, you and I can join our voices with those of His first disciples by acclaiming, “The Lord is risen! He is truly risen!”

May this Easter season be one of great blessings and graces for all the Faithful in the Diocese of Harrisburg. And, may the Peace of the Lord, given to His Apostles on that first Easter night, reign in your hearts, in your families, and in your homes.

Sincerely yours in the Risen Lord,

Most Reverend Joseph P. McFadden
Bishop of Harrisburg

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Bishop Joseph P. McFadden’s
Public Calendar

April 14 — Celebrate Mass for People with Disabilities, Saint Peter Church, Elizabethtown, 5 p.m.
April 15 — Celebrate Mass for 2012 Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Exemplification, Holiday Inn, Granville, 9 a.m.
April 16 — Confirmation for 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouts, Good Shepherd Church, Camp Hill, 2 p.m.
April 16 — Confirmation for South Lancaster Deanery at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Lancaster, 5:30 p.m.
April 17 — Meet Scholar Luncheon, Cardinal Keeler Center, Harrisburg, noon
April 18 — Confirmation for York Deaconery at St. Joseph Church, York, 5:30 p.m.
April 19 — Celebrate Mass for Cardinal Archbishop Principals, Neumann Chapel, Cardinal Keeler Center, Harrisburg, 9 a.m.
April 20 — Confirmation for South Lancaster Deaconery at Saint Ann Basilica Church, Lancaster, 5:30 p.m.
April 21 — Confirmation for South Lancaster Deaconery at St. Leo the Great Church, Rohrerstown, 10 a.m.
April 22 — Celebrate Mass for Diocesan Catholic Men’s Conference, Marriott Convention Center, Lancaster, 3 p.m.
April 23 — Confirmation for Immaculate Conception School’s 150th Anniversary, New Oxford, 11 a.m.
April 23 — Celebrate Mass for Harrisburg Diocesan Council of Catholic Women’s Annual Conference, Cardinal Keeler Center, Harrisburg, 10:30 a.m.; Confirmation for Adams Deaconery at Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Millersville, 5:30 p.m.
April 24 — Diocesan Diocesan Youth Council Appreciation Dinner, Cardinal Keeler Center, Harrisburg, 6 p.m.
April 25 — Confirmation for Dauphin Deaconery at St. Jude Church, Mifflintown, 5 p.m.
April 26 — Speak at banquet for A Woman’s Concern, Calvary Independent Church, Lancaster, 6:30 p.m.
April 26 — Confirmation for South Lancaster Deaconery at Mary, Mother of the Church in Mount Joy, 5:30 p.m.
April 27 — Confirmation for Northern Lancaster Deaconery at St. Paul’s Church, Elizabethtown, 10 a.m.
April 28 — Confirmation for Northern Lancaster Deaconery at Saint Pius X Parish, Selinsgrove, 10 a.m.; Celebrate Mass for Knights of Columbus 114th State Convention, Holiday Inn, Breinigsville, Pa., 6 p.m.
April 29 — Celebrate First Communion Mass at St. Joseph the Worker Church in Bonneauville, 10 a.m.; Celebrate Mass for Maria Joseph Manor’s 50th Anniversary, Danielville, 6 p.m.

Catholic Perspective

April 15: Virginia Thomas uses her talents and skill with paint and brushes to help her parish of St. Margaret Mary in Harrisburg. She created a version of the “The Apparition of Jesus to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque” to adorn the new parish church when it was built a few years ago. Listeners will hear more about how this project was more than just an art project for her. Now this painting has become a perpetual fundraiser for the parish through the sale of prints and note cards made from the pastel painting. More information is available on the parish website, www.stmmparish.org.

April 18: Sister Geryan Schmidt serves as the Wide Area Network coordinator for the Diocese. This former Bishop McDevitt High School teacher shares with listeners the story of her vocation. She shares how a fatal auto accident years ago put her on a path that led to a religious life. Listeners will hear that and much more news and happenings in our area on this week’s program.

Radiothon — Holy Family Radio AM 720 WHFY is having their first radiothon to raise funds to support the operating expenses associated with bringing Catholic programming to our area. This independent Catholic ministry began broadcasting in August of last year. The effort will take place on Wednesday, April 25 through Friday, April 27 from 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Staff and volunteers will appeal live on the air with compelling stories and information about the radio station’s mission. Donations can be made by calling 717-525-8110 or 717-525-8137 or visiting www.YourHolyFamilyRadio.com. Holy Family Radio is a nonprofit organization supported primarily by donations from listeners.

Land Needed — Another need that the ministry has is to locate a several acre parcel of land on the West Shore area of Harrisburg where a new tower can be erected. The new tower is needed to increase the signal to its full strength and also increase the reach of the station to even more homes. Anyone with any information or questions about the land needed should contact the station at 717-525-8110.

Pilgrimage — Holy Family Radio is offering an exciting two-day bus tour to the great shrines and sites of Philadelphia. This late June spiritual experience will be accompanied by Father William Weary and is a fund raiser for the station. Information is available on the station’s website, www.YourHolyFamilyRadio.com or by calling 717-525-8110.
Easter Changes Everything

By George Weigel
Special to The Witness

Christmas occupies such a large part of the Christian imagination that the absolute supremacy of Easter as the greatest of Christian feasts may get obscured at times. Cardinal Gianfranco Ravasi, an Italian biblical scholar, suggests that we might begin to appreciate how Easter changed everything and gave the life of God’s Son. That is a pity, and it cost to every natural life too. Openness to life within marriage means husband and wife must give themselves to each other in love—then give something of themselves away when, from their love, they welcome a new life. Then, they continue to share their lives with each other and their children.

An unmarried woman who is pregnant unexpectedly chooses life despite the physical, emotional and psychological distress she might experience. If she chooses to remain the nurturing parent to her child, she will give the larger part of herself to her child and bear a much larger burden than a married woman might. If she chooses to give the child the blessing of being adopted by a married couple, she may uproot emotional bonds and natural affections and yield them to her child’s new family.

A man who fathers a child out of wedlock will be faced with giving up something of his personal “freedom” to do what he pleases and give up significant portion of his discretionary funds to support his child. If the child is given up for adoption, he will give up his natural paternal bonds and yield his influence on the baby to his new father and mother.

No matter how you look at it—life comes at a very high cost, but an even higher value. That is how it must be and should be. There is nothing more valuable than life. There is no measure of it. That is why the Son of God and Savior of the world gave up His life and rose again so that we might come to live with Him forever.

The many pro-life ministries within the Diocese express this Easter Life: that school and Respect Life committees provide support for pregnancy resource services that offer expectant mothers what they need to choose life and Rachel’s Vineyard retreats give post abortive women the love, care and counsel needed to recover from the trauma. The 40 Days for Life campaign focused prayer and education within the community and especially to the emerging generation, The Youth and Young Adult ministries presented our Respect Life Office with a Palm Sunday Pennies for Life collection of over $2,000 that will directly support Life-affirming alternatives to women facing the decision to choose life over abortion.

Especially in this season, but all year round we must all together treasure the supreme value of every human life. The Resurrection of Christ means that life always triumphs over death. It means that life is a precious gift to be protected and cherished, now and always.

Father Paul CB Schenck is Diocesan Director of Respect Life Activities and chairman of the National Pro-Life Action Center in Washington, D.C.)

Easter Everlasting

By Father Paul CB Schenck
Special to The Witness

The Church observes Easter for eight full days: a day that lasts a week. Why? Perhaps because Easter is too good to last only one day. Easter means that Life triumphs over death! At Easter, we are reminded of the supreme gift of life which is given freely to everyone of us. Still, though life comes to us as a gift, it is not without cost.

In our Easter joy, we must not lose sight of Good Friday. St. John’s Gospel (3:16), says, “For God so loved the world, as to give his only begotten Son; that whosoever believes in him, may not perish, but have life everlasting.” Eternal life, which blessed John Paul II said was coextensive with natural life, cost the highest price ever paid in the universe: it cost the life of God’s Son.

The Church pays in cost to every natural life too. Openness to life within marriage means husband and wife must give themselves to each other in love—then give something of themselves away when, from their love, they welcome a new life. Then, they continue to share their lives with each other and their children.

An unmarried woman who is pregnant unexpectedly chooses life despite the physical, emotional and psychological distress she might experience. If she chooses to remain the nurturing parent to her child, she will give the larger part of herself to her child and bear a much larger burden than a married woman might. If she chooses to give the child the blessing of being adopted by a married couple, she may uproot emotional bonds and natural affections and yield them to her child’s new family.

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April 1865 still stands as America’s most momentous month in its history. When Lee surrendered to Grant at Appomattox Court House on Palm Sunday after a week of furious cat mass chasing, the Civil War came to a dig nified close in Wilmer McClern’s parlor in southern Virginia. While that event alone would be enough to vault the month into our country’s pantheon of crucial times, the fateful days that followed were loaded with drama worthy of remembering nearly 150 years later. When John Wilkes Booth, a Shakespearean actor with dash and looks to match, snuck into the President’s box at Ford’s Theater on Good Friday and shot President Lincoln in the back of the head with a piercing cut, it had not been for the immobilizing head brace that Seward was wearing, Powell would have easily killed his victim. But Powell had been late in the attack, having almost lost his nerve. His accomplice, David Her old, who was holding the horse in the square, had spooked when the screams and commotion caused curious neighbors to come out even though it was nearly 11 p.m. that Good Friday night. Herold raced out of town across the Potomac River in pursuit to rendezvous with Booth to escape into the Maryland countryside. Everyone knew minutes after Lincoln was shot that John Wilkes Booth was the accused. His brother Edwin was a major star in American theater, equivalent today to a George Clooney or Brad Pitt. Certainly John Wilkes was not nearly as famous but his celebrity was enough that he could not go unnoticed. As a large scale manhunt was launched to find Booth and Herold, a blood soaked Powell climbed upon his frightened horse and slinked his way through the city trying to cross the rivers and flee south to friendlier confines. And once Booth and minutes later, Herold, astonishingly faked their way past a gullible night guardsman on the bridge into Maryland, all exits out of Washington were sealed. Powell, who had fought at Gettysburg, was left to fend for himself in a city gripped with panic as Lincoln slowly died across the street from Ford’s Theater. Lincoln’s young son Tad, who had gone to see a play that evening, was shot by a sniper who had gotten to the point of no return and fled. “I am resigned,” Mary said to her teenage daughter Anna, “I think J. Wilkes Booth was only an instrument in the hands of the Almighty to punish this proud and licentious people.” Mary Surratt was a staunch supporter of the Confederate cause for independence. She had grown up in eastern Maryland where slavery was more personal than it was in the South’s more southern locales where huge plantations enslaved scores or hundreds of slaves to pick cotton and make millions. Families in Maryland, many Catholic, owned a family slave or two to help with domestic duties and tend to the children. That was the case in the Surratt family. Not only was Mary Surratt a known Rebel, she was a fervent Catholic, having converted from the Anglican Church that her mother was proud to serve. It was Mary’s aunt, Sarah Webster, who encouraged her to convert and helped her gain entrance into a Catholic boarding school in Alexandria, Virginia. Her husband, John Sr., a hard drinking, abusive mate and father, wanted nothing to do with the faith’s practices. Mary raised her three children to love the Church and its teachings. She even helped start a parish in Oxon Hill, Virginia, St. Ignatius, and became close to its pastor Father Finotti – an Italian immigrant who took a liking to Mary and was sympathetic given the abuse Mary had to endure. Parishioners gossiped and voiced their concern that Father Finotti was becoming a little too chummy towards Mary so he was promptly re-assigned to Massachusetts. Not long after that disappointment, the Surratt’s house burned down and the family moved to Maryland where they settled on inherited land and began farming with the help of slave labor. Mary was soon left to raise her children on her own, as John Sr. died of a stroke, leaving the family in debt that was a yoke for the family until that fateful April 17 night in the hallway of the boarding house on H Street. Today, that house still stands and is a small, humble Chinese restaurant. Her military trial was a hopeless exercise in justice as the burden of proof is not nearly as high as it is in civil court. She was deemed guilty of conspir-
On Anniversary of Blessed John Paul’s Death, Vatican Focuses on WYD

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

On the seventh anniversary of the death of Blessed John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI paid homage to one of his predecessor’s innovations: World Youth Day.

Greeting an estimated 5,000 cheering young people from Spain April 2, Pope Benedict said they were “the protagonists and principal recipients of this pastoral initiative promoted vigorously by my beloved predecessor, Blessed John Paul II, whose passage to heaven we remember today.”

The Spanish youths had come to the Vatican for the celebration of Palm Sunday April 1 and to thank the pope for visiting Madrid for World Youth Day last August. The Spanish delegation included the World Youth Day orchestra, which played during the papal audience.

While the pope was with the young people, Vatican officials and representatives of the Brazilian bishops’ conference were holding a news conference to talk about plans for the next international bishops’ conference in 2013.

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While the pope was with the young people, Vatican officials and representatives of the Brazilian bishops’ conference were holding a news conference to talk about plans for the next international celebration of World Youth Day, which will be held July 23-28, 2013, in Rio de Janeiro.

Pope Benedict told the Spanish youths that the World Youth Day experience “can only be under

stood in the light of the presence the Holy Spirit in the Church,” who continues to enliven the church and to push believers “to bear witness to the wonders of God.”

He told the young people, “You are called to cooperate in this exciting task, and it’s worth it to commit yourself to it without reservation. Christ needs you to expand and build his kingdom of charity.”

Each and every person has a vocation, a call from God that is the key to each person’s holiness and happiness, as well as being a call to create a better world, the pope said.

The missionary outreach of young people is set to be a key focus of WYD 2013 in Rio, said Vatican and Brazilian officials.

Auxiliary Bishop Eduardo Pinheiro da Silva of Campo Grande, president of the Brazilian bishops’ commission for youth, said the “days in the diocese” that usually precede the main World Youth Day gatherings would be transformed into a “Missionary Week” when young Catholics from around the world travel to Brazil.

The youths’ time in dioceses outside Rio will still include a chance to get to know local people and customs, but Bishop da Silva said organizers felt – and the Vatican agreed – that more time should be devoted to catechesis, spiritual experiences and encounters that would help young Catholics from around the world learn to share their faith with others.

The news conference was held after a March 29-31 meeting of representatives of bishops’ conferences and movements from 99 countries. The meeting included a review of the Madrid experience and a discussion of plans for Rio.

Cardinal Stanislaw Rylko, president of the Pontifical Council for the Laity, which coordinates the youth gatherings, was asked about plans for the Rio 2013 Way of the Cross celebration, one of the key moments of World Youth Day.

With the event still 15 months away, details are still being worked out, he said; however, the prayer service traditionally has been committed to the local reality – to the history, culture or suffering of the local people – so one idea is to have at least one station inside one of Rio’s “favelas” or poor neighborhoods.

Archbishop Orani Tempesta of Rio de Janeiro told reporters, “We’re still looking at how to do that.”

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Speech Showcase

Students demonstrated their abilities in public speaking and dramatic interpretation at the third annual Diocesan Forensics Tournament held March 30 at the Cardinal Keeler Center in Harrisburg. A total of 101 students representing 14 diocesan schools competed in one of three categories – persuasion speech, oral interpretation and duo dramatic interpretation – displaying their talents for inspiring audiences and bringing characters to life. The tournament was hosted by the Diocesan Department for Catholic Schools.

Shown in the photo are the top three place winners from each of the three categories. Seated, from left, are duo interpretation place winners Amanda Neafsey and Grace Wroblewski of Corpix Christi School in Chambersburg; Kennedy Winters and Skyla Stroock of St. Monica School in Sunbury, and Anna Buck and Madison Kovach of St. Joseph School in Danville.

Standing, from left, are persuasion and oral interpretation place winners Mikayla Ruth and Skylar Marroney of St. Margaret Mary School in Harrisburg; Kyla Brezitski and Kenny Lucas of Holy Name of Jesus School in Harrisburg; Sarah Mazeika of St. Columbia School in Bloomsburg; and Julia Nagle of St. Joseph School in Hanover.

Raffle to Benefit Pilgrims

The Diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry is sponsoring a raffle to benefit pilgrims attending World Youth Day in Rio in 2013. Donation is $10 per ticket. Drawing will be held July 22, 2012, at the diocese’s World Youth Day 2013 Kick-Off Mass.

• First prize: Gourmet dinner for four with Bishop Joseph P. McFadden at his residence (Chef: Father Joshua Brommer, date TBD) and $500
• Second prize: $500
• Third prize: $250
• Fourth prize: Family 4 pack Hershey Park Tickets
• Fifth prize: Family 4 pack Hershey Park Tickets
• Sixth prize: $100

For raffle tickets, contact the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry at 717-657-4804 or oyyam@hbgdiocese.org.
Registation deadline is May 4.

For event information, registration or sponsorship questions, contact Christopher Meeden at 717-657-4804, ext. 284 or visit Catholic Charities at www.hbdiocese.org. Registration deadline is May 4.
From 1952-1960, Sister Jean was an elementary school teacher in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. In 1960, she entered St. Michael School of Nursing in Newark, N.J., to begin studies as an RN. Further studies in the field of nursing were completed with a bachelor’s degree from St. Joseph College in Emmitsburg, Md., in 1967, and a master’s degree from the University of Maryland in 1969.

Sister Jean accepted a position in the field of nursing at Holy Spirit Hospital in Camp Hill from 1963-1977, when she was appointed Assistant Administrator at Holy Spirit. In 1984, she assumed the position of director of nursing in the newly-formed Providence Health System in Harrisburg. Sister Jean moved to Holy Family Convent in 2002 as a resident. She is survived by a sister, two sisters-in-law, and a cousin, Sister Marie Sister Grauer.

The funeral Mass was celebrated March 29 in Holy Family Convent chapel. Burial was in St. Joseph Cemetery, Dauphin County.

Sister M. Edward Ann
Holy Cross Sister M. Edward Ann, a native of Lancaster, died March 23. She was 86.

Born to Joseph and Edna Sacher Wetzel in Lancaster, she began her ministry as a teacher, then was principal, and in 1972 moved to Uganda, where she taught in a school and taught youth to sew by hand and with machines. Sister Edward Ann did community and social work until she returned to the United States in 2006. She continued as a teacher and aide until 2010.

Sister Edward Ann moved to Saint Mary’s Convent, Notre Dame, Ind., in 2011. The funeral Mass was celebrated March 28 in the Church of Our Lady of Loreto, Saint Mary’s Convent, Notre Dame, Ind.

Sister Jean Mohl
Christian Charity Sister Jean Mohl died at Holy Family Convent in Dauphin County March 23. She was 78.

Born in Pottsville, Pa., she entered the Christian Charity Sister Jean Mohl died on April 17 after a lengthy illness. Burial was in the Church of Loreto, Holy Family Convent, Notre Dame, Ind., in 2011.

From 1914-1925, Sister Jean taught at Mount Carmel High School in Allentown, Pa., and received a bachelor of science degree from Lincoln University to begin studies as an RN. Further studies in the field of nursing were completed with a master’s degree from the University of Maryland in 1969.

Sister Jean accepted a position in the field of nursing at Holy Spirit Hospital in Camp Hill from 1963-1977, when she was appointed Assistant Administrator at Holy Spirit. In 1984, she assumed the position of director of nursing in the newly-formed Providence Health System in Harrisburg. Sister Jean moved to Holy Family Convent in 2002 as a resident. She is survived by a sister, two sisters-in-law, and a cousin, Sister Marie Sister Grauer.

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Suratt

Continued from 5

ing to kill Lincoln and sentenced to hang “swiftly.” On July 7, with the temperature near 100 degrees, Mary Surratt was led out of the prison with three other conspirators into the prison courtyard where they were to march up the gallows. By Mary’s side were two priests, Fathers Walter and Wiggert who had been providing her spiritual comfort for the last several weeks and were incensed at her hanging. Carrying crucifixes and reciting the rosary, the priests escorted Mary past the awaiting newly dug graves dressed in all black with a veil over her head in the stifling heat. A white hood was placed over her head as she kissed the crucifix on Father Walter. She was reciting prayers and then exclaimed, “I wish to say to the people that I am innocent,” she said “I am innocent but God’s Holy will be done.”

When the trap door released she fell and was killed instantly. Next to her was Lewis Powell, who dangled in agony as the noose was not tight enough to snap the brute’s strong neck. For nearly five minutes he writhed in agony next to the woman he had all but condemned to death by his untimely visit that fateful April night in 1865.

(Writer’s Bibliographic Note: There are many outstanding books on the Lincoln Assassination and consequential conspiracy investigation. American Brutus by Michael Kauffman is a solidly researched and thoroughly engaging treatise that explores J. Wilkes Booth’s devious and cunning actions to incriminate his fellow conspirators. Manhunt by James Swanson focuses on Booth’s harrowing and fascinating escape into Maryland and Virginia and his eventual capture and death on the Garnett farm. They Shot Papa Dead by Anthony Pitch is another wonderful though melancholic account of the Seward and Lincoln attacks. The Assassin’s Accomplice by Kate Clifford Larson is a unsympathetic rendering of Mary Surratt’s role in the conspiracy and Elizabeth Trindal’s Mary Surratt, An American Tragedy is kinder to Mrs. Surratt but does develop some Lost Cause southern sympathy that obscures its arguably most accurate account of her limited role in the killing of Lincoln. Blood on the Moon by Edward Steers is a tremendous book that is written with great pace as he follows Booth from Ford’s Theater. And he also has compiled an exhaustive one-volume The Lincoln Assassination Encyclopedia of the entire assassination episode. Killing Lincoln, by Martin Durand and Bill O’Reilly, is rather scant of any primary source material but is loaded with vivid prose and can serve as an introductory resource for young readers or for those unfamiliar with the events.)

Famed photographer Alexander Gardner took this iconic photo on a searing hot July 7, 1865, in Washington, D.C. Mary Surratt, far left, is hanged next to Lewis Powell. Surratt was the first woman hanged by the U.S. government.

An 1865 photo of the Surratt Boarding House in Washington, D.C., where the plot to kill the president was schemed. The house still stands today.
**Spiritual Offerings**

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Lebanon will host a Celebration of Divine Mercy on April 15. The church will remain open following the 9:30 a.m. Holy Mass for private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at 11:30 a.m. Participation in Confession is encouraged. Holy Hour with the recitation of the Chaplet will begin at 2:30 p.m. and conclude with Benediction at 3:30 p.m. For information call the church at 717-272-5674.

10th Anniversary of Girl Scouts — Mass with Bishop McFadden: In celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouts, Bishop Joseph P. McFadden will celebrate Mass at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Lebanon on September 4, 2012, at 8 a.m. Tickets are $12 each (includes Mass, continental breakfast) and will be followed by a reception/desert in the parish hall. Catholic editors and state officials and Girl Scouts in the Diocese of Harrisburg will be presented at this Mass.

Divine Mercy Sunday will be celebrated April 15 at 3 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Lebanon. A Spiritual Rose ceremony and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction and recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet. (There will be no confes-

Inmaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary School in New Oxford will be celebrating its 150th anniversary in Catholic Education on April 13. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Joseph P. McFadden at Inmaculate Conception Church at 11 a.m. All alumni are invited to a reunion following Mass in the school hall. Come and reminisce, see old friends, enjoy the beautiful scenery and tour of the school. If you are planning to attend, please call the school at 717-622-9352 or email bjlong@icosbvm.org.

The Legion of Mary, Gettysburg will celebrate its 50th anniversary at St. Vincent DePaul Parish in Hanover on April 28.

The Holy Name of Jesus Council 1481, Knights of Columbus will host a 10th anniversary celebration of the 1st Mass celebrated at Holy Name of Jesus Church in Hanover. The Rosary Devotion will be dedicated to support the church’s efforts to maintain “religious freedom” in the United States.

**Retreats & Pilgrimages**

A silent, week-long directed retreat will be offered by Sister Eileen McGivney, SJS, at St. Cyril Spiritual Center in Danville May 14-16 with an offer of $35 for the registration deadline of April 4. The retreat will be a silent retreat in the Ignatian style, tailored to each individual. A contemplative atmosphere will be supported by silence, morning and evening prayer, Mass, private adoration and meeting privately with a spiritual director to discuss your experience of God. To register call or email Rita Potts, 717-838-1327 or ritarippots@yahoo.com.

Malvern Men’s Retreat Weekend Invitation: We invite you to join the Malvern Men’s Retreat Board for a Malvern Men’s Retreat the weekend of May 18 & 19, 2012. The Malvern Retreat House also offers retreats for women, married couples, families, and students. For additional information call Ann Fox, (Downtown, Cumberland or Lebanon Counties) at 717-545-1004 or email annfox631@gmail.com, or Jo Spinger (York County) at 717-757-1111 or email at joannspin@gmail.com. Or visit, www.malvernmwretreat.org for information.

Jesus loves featuring Notre Dame Football Game. Father Sylvain Carrier from St. John the Baptist Parish in New Freedom will lead a trip to Ireland which will feature a trip to Notre Dame on Saturday, April 7, 2012. The tour also includes travel and participation, dinner buffet on return (lunch is brown bag). Leaving St. Paul’s Church in Annville at 7 a.m. Call or email Rita Potts, 717-838-1327 or ritarippots@yahoo.com.

**Events & Fund-Raisers**

The Lebanon Catholic Athleitc and Kelley Brothers are partnering to offer an 14 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., for Fund’s DRIVE ONE 4 a fund raiser for the Lebanon Catholic by taking a test drive in a brand new Ford. For every test drive taken, Ford Motor Company and Kelley Brothers will donate $20 to the LCA. The Lebanon Catholic also has prizes for the top 30 for the school.

A spaghetti dinner will be held in the social hall at Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Hanover from 4-7 p.m. Dinner includes salad, roll, beverage and dessert. Take-out available. $7 for adults, $4 for children 11 and under, under 5 are free. Tickets can be purchased at the door. Sponsored by the Council of Catholic Women.

Our Lady of Lourdes Regional School in Coal Township will hold an Open House on Saturday, April 21 from 10:15 a.m. on. For information call the school at 717-644-4571.

Good Shepherd football registrations will take place in the parish hall at 385 E. Main Street, Lebanon, on Monday, April 20 from 6-7 p.m., and Tuesday, June 23 from 7-9 p.m. Registrations will be held at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Hall, Enola May 20 from 10:30 a.m. -1 p.m. Youth football camp begins Monday July 9. Registration fee is $6-8 p.m. on the Lebanon School field. Cost is $30 ($20 each sibling), ages 5-13, no football equipment is required.

Chicken pot pie dinner on April 2 at St. Joseph Church, Hanover, from 4-7 p.m. Includes cole slaw, apple, pepper, and dessert. Take-out available. $7 for adults, $4 for children 11 and under, under 5 are free. Tickets can be purchased at the door. Sponsored by the Council of Catholic Women.

**Fund-Raisers**

The Catholic Women’s Club of York will hold their annual Spring lunch and fashion show April 21 at the Outdoor Club of York. Doors open at 11:30 a.m., with lunch at noon. Fashions by the Style Gallery at the Shoe Gallery. Cost is $35 per person, and proceeds will benefit the CWCS Scholarship Fund. For information, call Donna Rhodes at 717-771-8249.

A spring dance to benefit the George Bokamoso Benevolent Fund at St. Anne’s Retirement Community in borough will be held April 11 from 7-11 p.m. at the Dauphin Civic Center, 1400 Dauphin TVS, Landmark. Buy your tickets early! Contact 717-626-4111 or 1-800-926-0677. A full bar and buffet will be available. Cost is $35 per person.

The Delone Catholic High School Tuition Assistance Fund will host a fund raiser Saturday, April 21 at the Delone Catholic High School, Lebanon. Starting with the “St. Peter’s” Brunch, followed by the “Infield” at Churchill Downs for the 138th running of the Kentucky Derby. Tickets are $50, which includes admission, complimentary buffet dinner and dancing.  Dress for the evening is “Derby Casual” (hats encouraged). Tickets can be purchased from the Delone Catholic High School, Lebanon. Proceeds from the vendor booth rentals and food sales will support a summer mission trip. For more information, contact Tanya at 717-272-7717.

Holy Spirit Hospital Auxiliary will hold its 15th annual Spring Festival April 28 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Adams Rico Park in Enola. Festival features, children’s games, chicken barbecue, tickets, raffles, and much more. For more information, contact the Holy Spirit Hospital Auxiliary office at 717-763-2796 or ahubbard@hsh.org.

St. Benedict’s Outreach Ministry in Lebanon will host a Spring Fling Dance/Monte Carlo Night on April 27 from 7-11 p.m. Tickets are $25 in advance or $30 at the door. For more information call 717-269-0785 for information or tickets. Benefits the elevator campaign.

Delone Catholic High School in McSherrystown will host a spring dance to benefit their annual retreat camp. Information from area Catholic schools will be available to help parents make an informed decision about their child’s education from preschool through high school. Family will be blessed to attend from this event attending this free seminars on Educational Financing. The event will feature exhibits on the various Catholic Schools, activities, refreshments and prizes. Student-led tours of Delone and take-home information from all schools. For more information available at www.deleonhsmc.org or 717-637-5689.

The 24th Annual Blue & Gold Gala to Benefit Bishop McDevitt High School in Hartwood Acres, Pennsylvania will be held May 11 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Be transported to the “Infield” at Churchill Downs for the 138th running of the Kentucky Derby. Watch live coverage of the race and place a 50/50 bet on your favorite horse. Bid on silent auction items, or purchase a mystery bag containing special something. Cocktail hour: shrimp, pistachio and mixed nuts, beef tenderloin, chicken breast, and a Derby Hat contest. Served meal featuring southern cuisine, a live auction and dancing. Dress for the evening is “Derby Casual” (hats not required). Tickets are $125 per person, “tux and tie” for couples. Purchase tickets at www.bishopmcdevitt.org or by calling RITA FULTON at 717-272-7717.

Our Lady of Lourdes Knights of Columbus Council 12404 in Enola will sponsor an AARP 5-Plus Driver Safety course May 8 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This course is required to maintain auto insurance for three years (subject to your insurance company’s approval). You need proof of taking the 8-hour course. For information call 717-281-4818.

St. Katharine Drexel Parish in Mechanicstown is sponsoring its 13rd Annual Golf Tournament at Rich Valley Golf Course in Mechan- (717) 525-9301. Entry fee is $50 per person, with all proceeds to benefit the Diocese of Harrisburg’s Office of Civic and Social Outreach. For information call 717-893-2046. A 5:30 p.m., limited seating. Cost of $35 person includes Polish food and refreshments, entertainment. Bring and share memorabilia - photos, stories, mementos, and gifts. Register by phone, fax, or email. $15 in advance, $20 at the door. For information, contact Diocese of Harrisburg Office of Civic and Social Outreach.

St. Joseph’s Grand Reunion Celebration will be held May 27 Mass at 1 p.m. at Mater Catren Church in Shamokin. Celebration celebrates the 75th anniversary of the St. Joseph’s School, Shamokin. Cost is $35 only, limited seating. Cost of $35 person includes Polish food and refreshments, entertainment. Bring and share memorabilia - photos, stories, mementos, and gifts. Register by phone, fax, or email. $15 in advance, $20 at the door. For information, contact Diocese of Harrisburg Office of Civic and Social Outreach.
Holy Week ~ Palm Sunday

In a homily delivered on Palm Sunday, Pope Benedict XVI reflects on the Messiah’s fulfillment of God’s blessing, “I will make you a great nation and I will bless you, and by you all the families of the earth shall bless themselves” (Gen. 12:3).

“Here we find the first great message that today’s feast brings us: the invitation to adopt a proper outlook upon all humanity, on the peoples who make up the world, on its different cultures and civilizations,” the pope remarked.

A proper outlook upon all humanity. These words are powerful and yet so simple. But spoken to the youth of the Church, they mean even more. The encouragement to look upon our world with a “proper outlook” may be to help the fellow student who dropped their books, or to stand up for the fellow classmate who everyone seems to pick on. Or, in the case of the youth in the Diocese of Harrisburg, to stand strong as a group of 750 young Catholics witnessing to their faith on the steps of the State capitol on Palm Sunday.

Youth from all over the diocese sang together in one voice, prayed together, and brought a proper outlook upon all humanity as they gathered with Bishop Joseph P. McFadden for the blessing of palms on the capital steps followed by a procession to St. Patrick Cathedral for the continuation of Mass. It marked the 25th anniversary of the annual celebration, which was begun by then-Bishop William Keeler.

The youth echoed a sound on the steps of the capitol that the capitol hasn’t heard for an entire year. While those steps have been a popular spot for protests in the last year, it wasn’t since last Palm Sunday that the sounds of praise and hope were heard.

Not only did the youth come together to pray and sing, but as a combined unit they were able to donate $2,095 for pro-life activities. Included in that amount is $645 collected by those from Prince of Peace Parish in Steelton as part of their Pennies for Life campaign.
Holy Week ~ Chrism Mass

The Chrism Mass, celebrated on Monday of Holy Week, is the sacred liturgy during which the Bishop blesses the holy oils that will be used in the celebration of the sacraments throughout the coming year.

The Oil of the Catechumens is used to anoint those preparing to receive the Sacrament of Baptism. The Oil of the Sick is used to anoint the infirm and those advanced in age in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The Sacred Chrism is used in the baptism of children, the Sacrament of Confirmation, the ordination of priests and bishops, and the dedication of altars.

It is also during this solemn Mass that priests renew their commitment to priestly service in the presence of the bishop. Priests serving in the diocese filled several rows of pews at the front of St. Patrick Cathedral; the site of the faithful who filled the pews behind them illustrated the people’s love and support for their priests.

In his homily, Bishop Joseph P. McFadden addressed the priests and the people on the sentiment of thanksgiving for the Eucharist.

“For the priests, how could we ever be thankful enough that the Lord is looking on you and me as a brother?” the bishop remarked.

“In a short time, we will return to that moment in our lives when we made the promises of priestly obedience and fidelity in response to this call of the Lord to share in his priesthood,” he addressed the priests. “May we never lose our appreciation for such a gift. And may we ever be renewed in that fervor that we experienced from the first day that the hands of consecration were laid on our heads.”

Addressing the congregation, Bishop McFadden said, “For all of the faithful as well, how could we not be overwhelmingly thankful each and every time we come to share at the Eucharistic table, recognizing that through this mystery, the Lord attaches us to himself and allows us to share in his sacrificial offering to the Father, so that you and I may come to God the Father and share in his Divine Life as his sons and daughters. What a great gift, and what a great privilege!”

Left: Bishop Joseph P. McFadden breathes over the vessel of Chrism during the Consecration of the Sacred Chrism. Right: Bishop Joseph P. McFadden pours the balsam into the oil and mixes the Sacred Chrism.
During the Chrism Mass, celebrated on Monday of Holy Week, Deacon John Heil, Deacon Philip Ladouceur and Deacon Lawrence Crudup present the Oil of the Sick to be blessed by Bishop Joseph P. McFadden.

Holy Week ~ Easter Vigil

“Then God said, ‘Let there be light,’ and there was light. God saw how good the light was. God then separated the light from the darkness. God called the light ‘day,’ and the darkness he called ‘night.’ Thus evening came, and morning followed – the first day. Then God said, ‘Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters, to separate one body of water from the other.’ And so it happened: God made the dome, and it separated the water above the dome from the water below it. God called the dome ‘the sky.’ Evening came, and morning followed – the second day.”

(Selection from Genesis 1:1-2:2, one of nine readings proclaimed at the Easter Vigil)

Bishop Joseph P. McFadden prepares to bless the Easter fire lit outside of St. Patrick Cathedral prior to the Easter Vigil. The fire is a reminder that there is no darkness or death that Christ cannot conquer.
The greatest and most noble of all solemnities, the Easter Vigil is the night on which the Church awaits Christ’s return in glory. It is the night of keeping vigil for the Lord, in which the faithful—following the Gospel admonition to be like servants who await their master’s return (Luke 12:35-37)—carry candles as they look for the Lord’s return.

Bishop Joseph P. McFadden celebrated the Easter Vigil at St. Patrick Cathedral in Harrisburg. The liturgy began with the creation of a blazing fire outside of the cathedral, symbolizing that there is no darkness or death that Christ cannot conquer.

The Easter Vigil includes the reading of The Easter Proclamation, or Exsultet, and nine readings (seven from the Old Testament and two from the New Testament) on the history of salvation. The Easter Vigil also marks the culmination of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, a process of conversion and study for catechumens and candidates. Catechumens (those who had not yet been baptized) received the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. Candidates (those who have been baptized in a Christian tradition) received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. This year, 443 people entered the Church in the Diocese of Harrisburg.

Reflecting on the Gospel reading (Mark 16:1-7), in which Jesus’ tomb is found to be empty, Bishop McFadden remarked, “We should never grow tired of a good story. This is a very good story. The Gospel tonight tells us that the tomb is empty. The Lord is risen.”

“Hopefully, the Lord is living with you and me,” the bishop told the congregation. “The Lord says to us, ‘I have conquered all things, including death.’”

Bishop Joseph P. McFadden baptizes a catechumen during the Easter Vigil. Catechumens (those who had not yet been baptized) received the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.

On the steps of the Cathedral, Assisted by Father Joshua Brommer, Administrative Assistant to the Bishop and Diocesan Liturgical Coordinator, Bishop Joseph P. McFadden lights his candle from the Paschal Candle held by Father Thomas J. Rozman, pastor of the Cathedral Parish of St. Patrick.
In their statement “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship,” the United States bishops note that “The Church’s obligation to participate in shaping the moral character of society is a requirement of our faith. It is a basic part of the mission we have received from Jesus Christ, who offers a vision of life revealed to us in Sacred Scripture and Tradition.” (#9)

As a service to its readers, The Catholic Witness presents here a Voters’ Guide in anticipation of the April 24 Primary Election. The questionnaires presented were developed by the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference, the public affairs agency of the Pennsylvania Catholic bishops. The PCC surveyed candidates for statewide office (U.S. Senate, attorney general, auditor general and treasurer). The Catholic Witness surveyed candidates for U.S. Congress and Pennsylvania Senate and House of Representatives.

The men and women who occupy these offices have a great deal of influence over our future; but what exactly do they do and why should Catholics care?

Let’s look a few offices:

President of the United States
Most Americans recognize the president as someone important, but we may not realize how his decisions affect our daily lives. The president is the head of state and commander in chief, but he is also responsible for implementing and enforcing the laws passed by Congress. He appoints a cabinet to run the agencies that make this happen and has the authority to issue executive orders that clarify or further existing laws.

Executive orders and government agency regulations tell us what we have to do to comply with the laws. For example, the law says Americans must pay federal income taxes; regulations say they are due by April 15.

Pennsylvania Attorney General
The attorney general is Pennsylvania’s chief law enforcement officer responsible for prosecuting organized crime and public corruption. The AG also defends the Commonwealth in legal proceedings, should one of its statutes be challenged in court, and reviews the legality of proposed regulations of state government agencies. The attorney general is in a position to defend religious liberty and other constitutional concerns.

Pennsylvania Treasurer
The state treasurer is the steward of Pennsylvania’s financial resources. It is his or her job to responsibly invest our tax dollars.

The issues facing Pennsylvania present serious moral, ethical and social justice questions. Each of these elected offices, in their own way, plays a role in how Pennsylvania addresses those issues. As faithful citizens it is important to ask ourselves, how do we protect human life and dignity? How do we fairly share our blessings and confront the challenges we face? What kind of nation or Commonwealth do we want? What kind of world do we want to shape? The simple answer is we must elect leaders who share these values. Catholic voters must form their conscience around these questions before casting their ballot.

Primary Election 2012 - What’s at Stake?
By A. B. Hill

Both Democrats and Republicans use the Primary Election to designate who their party delegates will support at the national conventions and who will face off in statewide contests in November. This year, voters cast ballots for President of the United States, U.S. Senator, Congressional Representatives, Pennsylvania Attorney General, Auditor General and Treasurer, one half of the Pennsylvania Senate and all of the House of Representatives.

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NOTE: PCC will have a presidential voter guide for the General Election in November, but will not provide one for the Primary Election. The guide will look at positions of candidates on issues like abortion, conscience protection and religious liberty, the death penalty, education, access to health care, immigration, marriage, economic policy and global poverty, stem cell research, and international peace and justice. A voter guide for statewide candidates is available at www.pacatholic.org

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<th><strong>AUDITOR GENERAL</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>PINTO (R) Oppose</td>
<td>IREY VAUGHAN (R) Oppose. Research that harms or destroys human embryos is unethical and immoral. Promising alternatives exist and can be pursued.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAHER (R) Oppose</td>
<td>MCCORD (D) Did Not Respond</td>
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<td>DEPASQUALE (D) Did Not Respond</td>
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3. What is your position on amending the Pennsylvania Constitution to define marriage as the union between one man and one woman?

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<th><strong>ATTORNEY GENERAL</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>FREED (R) Support</td>
<td>IREY VAUGHAN (R) Support. Marriage between one man and one woman is not only the natural basis for the family but the foundation of society. I support a constitutional amendment to protect the institution of marriage from alternative agendas.</td>
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<tr>
<td>KANE (D) Did Not Respond</td>
<td>MCCORD (D) Did Not Respond</td>
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<td>MURPHY (D) Did Not Respond</td>
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<td>BAILEY (D) Did Not Respond</td>
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7. What is your position on the death penalty?

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<th><strong>ATTORNEY GENERAL</strong></th>
<th><strong>TREASURER</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FREED (R) Support</td>
<td>IREY VAUGHAN (R) Did Not Indicate. While HEMAP has been successful since its inception in 1983, PA’s current fiscal realities require leaders to make tough funding decisions in order to balance the budget. Funding for discretionary programs, like HEMAP, should be evaluated during each budget process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KANE (D) Did Not Respond</td>
<td>MCCORD (D) Did Not Respond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MURPHY (D) Did Not Respond</td>
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<tr>
<td>BAILEY (D) Did Not Respond</td>
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8. What is your position on legislation requiring employers to provide employee benefits to which they are morally opposed, for example, mandating coverage for contraceptives or benefits to same-sex partners of employees?

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<th><strong>ATTORNEY GENERAL</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FREED (R) Oppose</td>
<td>IREY VAUGHAN (R) Did Not Indicate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KANE (D) Did Not Respond</td>
<td>MCCORD (D) Did Not Respond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MURPHY (D) Did Not Respond</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAILEY (D) Did Not Respond</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
AUDITOR GENERAL
PINTO (R) Oppose
MAHER (R) Oppose
DEPASQUALE (D) Did Not Respond

TREASURER
IREY VAUGHAN (R) Oppose. I believe that it is unjust and contrary to the First Amendment to mandate that private employers, especially religious organizations, provide benefits to which they are morally opposed.
MCCORD (D) Did Not Respond

9. Which statement reflects your position most accurately?
   a. Religious childcare and pre-kindergarten providers should be subject to government review of educational content.
   b. Religious childcare and pre-kindergarten providers should follow state standards for health and safety of children, but be free to determine their own educational content based on the teachings of their faith tradition.
   c. Religious childcare and pre-k providers should be free from government regulation.

ATTORNEY GENERAL
FREED (R) b.
KANE (D) Did Not Respond
MURPHY (D) Did Not Respond
BAILEY (D) Did Not Respond

AUDITOR GENERAL
PINTO (R) b.
MAHER (R) b.
DEPASQUALE (D) Did Not Respond

TREASURER
IREY VAUGHAN (R) b.
MCCORD (D) Did Not Respond

10. Do you support or oppose legislation that would restrict taxpayer funding of abortion in Pennsylvania’s health insurance exchange created by the federal health care reform law?

ATTORNEY GENERAL
FREED (R) Support
KANE (D) Did Not Respond
MURPHY (D) Did Not Respond
BAILEY (D) Did Not Respond

AUDITOR GENERAL
PINTO (R) Support
MAHER (R) Support
DEPASQUALE (D) Did Not Respond

TREASURER
IREY VAUGHAN (R) Support
MCCORD (D) Did Not Respond

11. What is your position on legislation that forces health care providers to provide, pay for or refer for services contrary to their conscience for moral or religious reasons?

ATTORNEY GENERAL
FREED (R) Oppose
KANE (D) Did Not Respond
MURPHY (D) Did Not Respond
BAILEY (D) Did Not Respond

AUDITOR GENERAL
PINTO (R) Oppose
MAHER (R) Oppose
DEPASQUALE (D) Did Not Respond

TREASURER
IREY VAUGHAN (R) Support
MCCORD (D) Did Not Respond

12. Do you support or oppose increased funding for Educational Improvement Tax Credits (EITC) where the state budget includes an increase in public school funding?

ATTORNEY GENERAL
FREED (R) Support
KANE (D) Did Not Respond
MURPHY (D) Did Not Respond
BAILEY (D) Did Not Respond

AUDITOR GENERAL
PINTO (R) Support
MAHER (R) Support
DEPASQUALE (D) Did Not Respond

TREASURER
IREY VAUGHAN (R) Support. EITC is an extremely successful and important tool in improving education in PA and providing educational choice for middle- and low-income families.
MCCORD (D) Did Not Respond

United States Senate

David Alan Christian (R)
Marc Scaringi (R)
Steven Welch (R)
Tom Smith (R)
Sam Rohrer (R)
Joseph Vodvarka (R)
Bob Casey, Jr. (D)

CHRISTIAN (R) Support
SCARINGI (R) Support
WELCH (R) Did Not Respond
SMITH (R) Did Not Respond

ROHRER (R) Support
VODVARKA (R) Did Not Respond
CASEY (D) Oppose. I attended and taught at Catholic schools. We can’t divert funding from public schools.

1. Do you support or oppose legislation to continue and expand current federal laws that provide educational benefits to students and teachers in private and religious schools on an equitable basis in comparison to the benefits received by public school students and teachers?

CHRISTIAN (R) Support
SCARINGI (R) Support
WELCH (R) Did Not Respond
SMITH (R) Did Not Respond

2. What is your position on providing a federal tax credit to businesses that donate to scholarship organizations that provide scholarships for low-income students at private and religious schools in grades kindergarten through 12?

CHRISTIAN (R) Support. I support merit scholarships.
SCARINGI (R) Support
WELCH (R) Did Not Respond
SMITH (R) Did Not Respond
ROHRER (R) Support. I would support this approach as it is quite similar to our EITC in PA.
VODVARKA (R) Did Not Respond
CASEY (D) Oppose
The new fourth Congressional District (Cumberland, York, and Adams counties) was not included in the survey.
1. Do you support or oppose legislation to continue and expand current federal laws that provide educational benefits to students and teachers in private and religious schools on an equitable basis in comparison to the benefits received by public school students and teachers?

- Thompson (R-5): Support
- Barletta (R-11): Support
- Stilp (D-11): Continue federal law.
- Vinsko (D-11): No response given
- Pitts (R-16): Support

Thompson (R-5): Support
Barletta (R-11): Support
Stilp (D-11): Continue tax benefits. Donation to all schools which are charitable by definition should receive tax reduction benefits.
Vinsko (D-11): Support. Businesses should have an incentive to donate to these organizations.
Pitts (R-16): Support

2. What is your position on providing a federal tax credit to businesses that donate to scholarship organizations that provide scholarships for low-income students at private and religious schools in grades kindergarten through 12?

- Thompson (R-5): Support
- Barletta (R-11): Support
- Stilp (D-11): Continue tax benefits.
- Vinsko (D-11): Support. Businesses should have an incentive to donate to these organizations.
Pitts (R-16): Support

3. Do you support or oppose legislation that would permit undocumented immigrants who have lived in the United States for a number of years, have worked and built equities in our country, and who do not have criminal records to register with the government and take steps to earn legal status?

- Thompson (R-5): Oppose
- Barletta (R-11): Oppose
- Stilp (D-11): Current laws must be followed. Future laws could have the above goal of placing future applicants on citizenship path.
- Vinsko (D-11): Support. It is important to look at comprehensive immigration reforms. We must follow the law with regard to the proper path…
Pitts (R-16): Because promises made in 1986 were not kept, most Americans won’t support status normalization until immigration laws are effectively enforced.

4. Do you support or oppose current levels of poverty-focused development assistance to reduce global poverty and increase the percentage of gross domestic product (GDP) contributed in foreign aid?

- Thompson (R-5): Oppose. With 14 million Americans unemployed and $15 trillion in debt, America’s own poverty must be the priority.
- Barletta (R-11): Oppose
- Stilp (D-11): Support
- Vinsko (D-11): Support. While I will always support poverty-focused development assistance, we have to look at those who need help here at...
Pitts (R-16): Oppose

5. Do you support or oppose current levels of aid for refugees who are fleeing from persecution abroad and to provide adequate funding for the U.S. refugee admissions and resettlement programs?

- Thompson (R-5): Support
- Barletta (R-11): Last year, I supported funding levels for refugee aid programs that were higher than those proposed by the president, but…
- Stilp (D-11): Support
- Vinsko (D-11): Support
- Pitts (R-16): Support

6. Do you support or oppose legislation to prevent federal agencies and states that receive federal funds from discriminating against health care providers who do not perform or participate in abortions (Hyde-Weldon Amendment)?

- Thompson (R-5): Support
- Barletta (R-11): Support
- Stilp (D-11): Support
- Vinsko (D-11): Support
- Pitts (R-16): Support

7. Do you support or oppose embryonic stem cell research?

- Thompson (R-5): Oppose
- Barletta (R-11): Oppose
- Stilp (D-11): Support
- Vinsko (D-11): Oppose. Science has made other advancements to avoid using embryos.
Pitts (R-16): Oppose

8. Do you support or oppose legislation that would guarantee comprehensive freedom of conscience for health care professionals, providers and institutions?

- Thompson (R-5): Support
- Barletta (R-11): Oppose
- Stilp (D-11): Support
- Vinsko (D-11): Support
- Pitts (R-16): Support

9. Do you support or oppose efforts to pass legislation (i.e., the Federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act) that would make sexual orientation and gender identity or expression protected classes that are equivalent to other protected classes (e.g., race, religion, sex, etc.)?

- Thompson (R-5): Oppose
- Barletta (R-11): Oppose
- Stilp (D-11): Support
- Vinsko (D-11): Support
- Pitts (R-16): Oppose

10. Do you support or oppose the overturning of the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA)?

- Thompson (R-5): Oppose

Pennsylvania Senate and House of Representatives
DISTRICT 31 – Cumberland and York Counties
Patricia H. Vance (R): Chose not to participate
Andrew H. Shaw (R): Response received

DISTRICT 33 – Adams, Franklin and York Counties
Richard L. Alloway, II (R): Response received
James B. Taylor (R): Did not respond

DISTRICT 37 – Lancaster County
Stephen D. Black (R): Did not respond
Barry Isaiah McFarland (R): Response received
Mindy Fee (R): Did not respond
Russell U. Stahley (D): Did not respond

DISTRICT 41 – Lancaster County
Ryan P. Aument (R): Did not respond

DISTRICT 43 – Lancaster County
Keith J. Greiner (R): Did not respond
Robert A. McLane, III (R): Did not respond
John M. Weigel (D): Did not respond

DISTRICT 47 – York County
Keith J. Gillespie (R): Did not respond
Shane V. Richardson (D): Did not respond
Sarah D. Speed (D): Did not respond

DISTRICT 81 – Blair, Huntingdon and Mifflin Counties
Michael E. Fleck (R): Did not respond

DISTRICT 82 – Juniata, Mifflin and Snyder Counties
C. Adam Harris (R): Did not respond
James C. Knepp (R): Did not respond
James W. Felmlee (R): Did not respond

DISTRICT 85 – Snyder and Union Counties
Frederick B. Keller (R): Did not respond

DISTRICT 86 – Franklin and Perry Counties
Mark K. Keller (R): Did not respond

DISTRICT 87 – Cumberland County
Glen R. Grell (R): Chose not to participate

DISTRICT 88 – Cumberland County
Sheryl McVitty Delozier (R): Did not respond

DISTRICT 89 – Cumberland and Franklin Counties
Rob Kauffman (R): Did not respond
Susan J. Spicka (D): Did not respond

DISTRICT 90 – Franklin County
Todd A. Rock (R): Did not respond

DISTRICT 91 – Adams and Franklin Counties
Dan P. Moul (R): Response received

DISTRICT 92 – Cumberland and York Counties
Scott A. Derr (R): Did not respond
Anthony Pugliese (R): Response received
William J. Sieg (R): Did not respond
Mike Regan (R): Did not respond
Dan A. Johnson (R): Did not respond
Charles R. Comrey (D): Did not respond

DISTRICT 93 – York County
Ronald E. Miller (R): Did not respond
Ernest G. Merisotis (R): Response received
Linda E. Small (D): Did not respond

DISTRICT 94 – York County
Stanley E. Saylor (R): Did not respond
Kelly A. Henshaw (R): Did not respond

DISTRICT 95 – York County
Eugene A. DePasquale (D): Did not respond

DISTRICT 96 – Lancaster County
Thomas Garman, Jr. (R): Did not respond
Mike Sturla (D): Did not respond

DISTRICT 97 – Lancaster County
John C. Bear (R): Response received

DISTRICT 98 – Dauphin and Lancaster Counties
David S. Hickernell (R): Response received

DISTRICT 99 – Lancaster County
Gordon R. Denlinger (R): Did not respond

DISTRICT 100 – Lancaster County
Bryan D. Cutler (R): Did not respond

DISTRICT 101 – Lebanon County
Mauree Gingrich (R): Response received

DISTRICT 102 – Lebanon County
Joe B. Eisenhauer (R): Response received
Rosemarie Swanger (R): Response received
Tom A. Hawk (D): Did not respond

DISTRICT 103 – Dauphin County
Gloria E. Martin-Roberts (D): Did not respond
Roy Christ (D): Did not respond
Patty H. Kim (D): Did not respond
Karl Lewis Singleton (D): Did not respond

DISTRICT 104 – Dauphin County
Susan C. Helm (R): Response received
Jenna L. Lewis (R): Response received
Christopher C. Dietz (D): Did not respond

DISTRICT 105 – Dauphin County
Ron S. Marsico (R): Did not respond
Kelly Jean McEntee (D): Did not respond

DISTRICT 106 – Dauphin County
John D. Payne (R): Response received
Osman Kamara (D): Response received

DISTRICT 107 – Columbia, Montour and Northumberland Counties
Kurt A. Masser (R): Did not respond
Ted T. Yeager (D): Did not respond
Chris Pfaff (D): Response received

DISTRICT 108 – Northumberland and Snyder Counties
Lynda J. Schlegel-Culver (R): Response received

DISTRICT 109 – Columbia County
David M. Millard (R): Did not respond
Daniel D. Knorr, II (D): Did not respond
James M. Geffken (D): Did not respond

DISTRICT 117 – Columbia, Luzerne and Wyoming Counties
Karen Boback (R): Did not respond

DISTRICT 171 – Centre and Mifflin Counties
Kerry A. Benninghoff (R): Did not respond
Christopher G. Lee (D): Did not respond

DISTRICT 193 – Adams and York Counties
Will F. Tallman (R): Response received

DISTRICT 196 – York County
Seth M. Grove (R): Did not respond
Dan C. Bradley (R): Response received

DISTRICT 199 – Cumberland County
Stephen Bloom (R): Did not respond

DISTRICT 200 – Cumberland County
Response received

DISTRICT 201 – Luzerne County
Response received

DISTRICT 202 – Luzerne County
Response received

DISTRICT 203 – Luzerne County
Response received
1. What is your position on legislation that would provide direct grants to parents to choose the schools that they believe are best suited for their children, including nonpublic schools?

SENATE
McNally (R-15): Support
Seeds (R-15): Support
First (R-15): I have mixed beliefs about this. It’s neither pure science nor human life conceived by man. It’s spooky, and promising.
Bear (R-97): Support
McFarland (R-37): Support
Shaw (R-31): Support
Gordner (R-27): Support
Huffman (R-23): Oppose
Swanger (R-102): Oppose
Gingrich (R-101): Support. As long as such legislation does not redirect funds from public education or cut funding.
Pfaff (D-107): Support. Absolutely necessary, and all other laws and regulations must follow that lead.
Kamara (D-106): Support. I would address legislatively in the meantime.
Helm (R-104): Support
Lewis (R-104): Support
Payne (R-106): Support
Kamara (D-106): Support. As long as such legislation does not redirect funds from public education or cut funding.
Pfaff (D-107): Support. As a homeschool family and as a candidate, tuition tax credits are my plan.
Schlegel-Culver (R-108): I am very supportive of expanding EITC.
Tallman (R-193): Support

2. Do you support or oppose embryonic stem cell research?

SENATE
McNally (R-15): Oppose
Seeds (R-15): Oppose
First (R-15): I do not oppose legalized abortion.
Bear (R-97): Oppose
Hickernell (R-98): Oppose
Gingrich (R-101): Oppose
McFarland (R-102): Oppose. I support stem research utilizing existing stem cell reserves or stem cells obtained through humane methods.

SENATE
McNally (R-15): Support
Seeds (R-15): Support
First (R-15): Great idea, huge expense of long effort. Rather see law.
Huffman (R-23): Support
Gordner (R-27): Support
Shaw (R-31): Support
Alloway (R-33): Support. I’m a co-sponsor of legislation.

3. What is your position on amending the Pennsylvania Constitution to define marriage as the union between one man and one woman?

OUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
McFarland (R-37): Support
Moul (R-91): Support
Pugliese (R-92): Support
Merisotis (R-93): Support
Bear (R-97): Support
Hickernell (R-98): Support
Gingrich (R-101): Support
Eisenhauer (R-102): Oppose. I support stem cell research.

4. Which statement reflects your position most accurately?

SENATE
McNally (R-15): c.
Seeds (R-15): c.
First (R-15): d., and for the significant health of the mother. I want 3-D sonogram (non-invasive), heartbeat, watch a movie on abortion….
Huffman (R-23): b.
Gordner (R-27): d.
Shaw (R-31): b.
Alloway (R-33): c.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
McFarland (R-37): a.
Moul (R-91): d.
Pugliese (R-92): c.
Merisotis (R-93): c. I believe that life begins at conception.
SENATE  
McNally (R-15): Support  
McFarland (R-37): Support  
Moul (R-91): Support  
Pugliese (R-92): Support  
Merisotis (R-93): Support  
Bear (R-97): Support  
Hickernell (R-98): Support  
Gingrich (R-101): Oppose  
Eisenhauer (R-102): Oppose  
Pfaff (D-107): Support  
Eisenhauer (R-102): Support  
Schlegel-Culver (R-108): Oppose  
Tallman (R-193): Support  
Bradley (R-196): Support  

5. Do you support or oppose legislation that would add state restrictions to existing federal prohibitions concerning the hiring of undocumented immigrants or the provision of healthcare or government services to the undocumented?  

McNally (R-15): Support  
McFarland (R-37): Support  
Moul (R-91): No response given  
Pugliese (R-92): Support  
Merisotis (R-93): Support  
Bear (R-97): Support  
Hickernell (R-98): No response given  
Gingrich (R-101): Support  
Pfaff (D-107): Oppose  
Eisenhauer (R-102): Support  
Schlegel-Culver (R-108): Support  
Tallman (R-193): Support  
Bradley (R-196): Support. I could not “pull the lever” myself, so I could not ask someone else to do so.  

6. What is your position on the death penalty?  

McNally (R-15): Support  
McFarland (R-37): Oppose  
Moul (R-91): Oppose  
Pugliese (R-92): Oppose  
Merisotis (R-93): Oppose  
Bear (R-97): Oppose  
Hickernell (R-98): Oppose  
Gingrich (R-101): Oppose  
Pfaff (D-107): Oppose  
Eisenhauer (R-102): Oppose  
Schlegel-Culver (R-108): Oppose  
Tallman (R-193): Oppose  
Bradley (R-196): I would need to know more before deciding.  

7. What is your position on restoring state funding to the Homeowners Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program (HEMAP) which provides low-interest loans to homeowners facing possible foreclosure through no fault of their own?  

McNally (R-15): Support  
McFarland (R-37): Support  
Moul (R-91): Oppose  
Pugliese (R-92): Oppose  
Merisotis (R-93): Oppose  
Bear (R-97): Oppose  
Hickernell (R-98): Oppose  
Gingrich (R-101): Oppose  
Pfaff (D-107): Oppose  
Eisenhauer (R-102): Oppose  
Schlegel-Culver (R-108): Oppose  
Tallman (R-193): Oppose  
Bradley (R-196): Oppose. I voted to deny public benefits to illegals.  

8. What is your position on legislation requiring employers to provide employee benefits to which they are morally opposed, for example, mandating coverage for contraceptives or benefits to same-sex partners of employees?  

McNally (R-15): Oppose  
McFarland (R-37): Oppose  
Moul (R-91): Oppose  
Pugliese (R-92): Oppose
Merisotis (R-93): Oppose. No Obamacare for Pennsylvania.

Bear (R-97): Oppose

Hickernell (R-98): Oppose

Gingrich (R-101): Oppose

Eisenhauer (R-102): Oppose

Swanger (R-102): Oppose

Helm (R-104): Oppose

Lewis (R-104): Oppose. Obamacare should be repealed.

Payne (R-106): Oppose

Kamara (D-106): Support. I support prevention so we don’t have to make a life or death decision. I do not support same-sex partners.

Pfaff (D-107): Oppose. If this were to become law, it would be in direct violation of the prime reason our nation was established...

Schlegel-Culver (R-108): Oppose

Tallman (R-193): Oppose

Bradley (R-196): Oppose

11. What is your position on legislation that forces health care providers to provide, pay for or refer for services contrary to their conscience for moral or religious reasons?

SENATE

McNally (R-15): Oppose

Seeds (R-15): Oppose

First (R-15): Oppose. Per question 8.

Huffman (R-23): Oppose

Gordner (R-27): Oppose

Shaw (R-31): Oppose

Alloway (R-33): Oppose

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

McFarland (R-37): Oppose

Moul (R-91): Oppose

Pugliese (R-92): Oppose

Merisotis (R-93): Oppose. I strongly oppose Obamacare.

Bear (R-97): Oppose

Hickernell (R-98): Oppose

Gingrich (R-101): Oppose

Eisenhauer (R-102): Oppose

Swanger (R-102): Oppose

Helm (R-104): Oppose

Lewis (R-104): Oppose

Payne (R-106): Oppose

Kamara (D-106): Support. As long as it doesn’t violate their Constitutional rights as individuals under the law of the state or federal government.

Pfaff (D-107): Oppose. Abortion and other “services” (falsely so-called) against God or moral or religious reasons must not be forced upon either employers...

Schlegel-Culver (R-108): Oppose

Tallman (R-193): Oppose

Bradley (R-196): Oppose

12. Do you support or oppose increased funding for Educational Improvement Tax Credits (EITC) where the state budget includes an increase in public school funding?

SENATE

McNally (R-15): Support

Seeds (R-15): Support

First (R-15): Support. Strongly support. My wife and I are active in our support.

Huffman (R-23): Need more information regarding details.

Gordner (R-27): Support

Shaw (R-31): Oppose. I support EITCs but not when the budget includes an increase in public school funding.

Alloway (R-33): Support. I have voted for this numerous times.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

McFarland (R-37): Oppose

Moul (R-91): Support

Pugliese (R-92): Support

Merisotis (R-93): Support. The government has no business using our taxes to fund abortions.

Bear (R-97): Support

Hickernell (R-98): Support

Gingrich (R-101): Support

Eisenhauer (R-102): Support. Except when the life of the mother is in danger or the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest.

Swanger (R-102): Support

Helm (R-104): Support

Lewis (R-104): Support
At Christ’s Table

This life-size bronze sculpture of Christ is part of “The Last Supper,” a piece of art located on the grounds of St. Emma Monastery in Greensburg, Pa. The sculpture is the work of artist Timothy Schmalz, a parishioner of St. Teresa of Avila Parish in Elmira, Ontario, who has spent more than 22 years creating sculptures that glorify Christ. “The 12 empty seats basically suggest that we in a sense have to become the apostles of Christ,” Schmalz told The Catholic Accent, newspaper of the Greensburg Diocese. The Sisters of St. Benedict commissioned this bronze cast of Schmalz’s art. Information on St. Emma Monastery is available at www.stemma.org.

By Chris Heisey
The Catholic Witness

The Fighting Irish of York Catholic have won their first four games of the girls’ lacrosse season. They are led by Lindsey Ingram, who last fall signed a letter of intent to accept a scholarship to attend St. Francis University of Pennsylvania to continue her career for the Red Flash, who play in the Northeastern Conference and are in need of the talents of Lindsey as they are only 2-10 this season. Lindsey Ingram is the first female lacrosse player from York Catholic to earn a D-I scholarship. The senior attacker has led the Fighting Irish in goals and assists and helped the team garner its first county and district tournament bids last season.

York County started its PIAA sanctioned league play four years ago, and Lindsey has played each year for the Fighting Irish. More than 2,200 young people play lacrosse in York County and it remains the fastest growing sport in the U.S., with 90,675 youth playing in 2,068 schools nationwide.

The game’s origins date back to the 17th century when various Native American tribes such as the Mohawk, Huron and Cherokee played the sport with hand crafted, wooden sticks and deer hide balls. The games were intensely physical and mimicked and trained young warriors for the rigors of combat against hostile tribes and encroaching white settlers.

“Lacrosse” means curved stick and was dubbed so by French Jesuits who witnessed numerous Native American game tournaments on their missionary journeys across northeastern America and southern Canada. The game’s interscholastic origins began in Baltimore a century ago and it remains the most popular played sport in Maryland.