It Makes You Weep,’ Pope Says of Refugees

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

When an aide suggested Pope Francis offer to fly some Syrian refugees back to Rome with him, the pope said he agreed immediately because it was “an inspiration of the Holy Spirit.”

In the end, he said, 12 Syrians – members of three families, including six children – had all the necessary papers from the Greek and Italian governments in time to fly with the pope April 16.

The fact that the 12 are all Muslims did not enter into the equation, the pope said. “I gave priority to children of God.”

Two Christian families originally had been on the Vatican’s list, too, he said, but their papers were not ready in time.

Spending about half an hour answering reporters’ questions, Pope Francis insisted his visit to Greece with Orthodox leaders was not about criticizing a recent agreement between the European Union and Turkey to return to Turkey those entering EU territory without legal permission.

“What I saw today and what you saw in that refugee camp – it makes you weep,” the pope told reporters.

“Look what I brought to show you,” the pope told them. He held up some of the drawings the children in the camp had given him. “Look at this,” he said, “this one saw a child drown.”

“Yes, today is a day to weep,” he said. Holding up another picture, he pointed to the top and said, “The sun is crying. If the sun is able to cry, we should be able to shed at least one tear” for those children who will carry the memory of suffering with them.

Asked specifically about immigration to the United States and how it relates to what he had called a “catastrophe,” Pope Francis insisted “it’s a global problem” and that Central Americans fleeing poverty and violence also deserve the world’s concern and assistance.

On other questions during the inflight news conference:

Pope Francis confirmed he had met U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders that morning as the pope was leaving his residence. Sanders and other participants at a Vatican conference were staying in the Domus Sanctae Marthae, where the pope lives.

“It was polite” for Sanders, who knew when the pope was leaving, to go downstairs to greet him, the pope said. “If someone thinks greeting someone is to get involved in politics, I recommend he see a psychiatrist.”

More REFUGEES, page 14

Our Lady of Lourdes in Enola Remembers Past, Looks to Future in 90th Anniversary Celerbation

Father Michael Grab, pastor Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Enola, confirms Grace O’Sullivan during a solemn Mass on April 24 that also commemorated the 90th anniversary of the parish. The parish’s anniversary theme is “Remembering Our Past, Celebrating Our Present, and Looking forward to Our Future.”

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish is home to some 2,800 people in 1,200 households. The active parish has more than 40 different organizations.

“Our parish is a very eclectic community, with members of various backgrounds and ethnicities,” Father Grab told The Catholic Witness. “Our parish has grown through the faithfulness and generosity of parishioners and pastors over these 90 years.”

(See page 2 for coverage.)

Grace O’Sullivan is anointed by Father Michael Grab as her Confirmation sponsor, Stacie O’Sullivan, offers her support.
At Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Enola, the parish’s 90th anniversary celebration is all about remembering the faithfulness of the people who have worked to make the parish the thriving community that it is today.

More than a century ago, Enola was a mission outpost of the Catholic faith, although the town is located just a few miles from the Cathedral Parish of St. Patrick in Harrisburg, just across the Susquehanna River.

In the early 1900s, the pastor of St. Ann Parish in Steelton frequented Enola to offer pastoral care to the Italian Catholics who worked in the yards of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Enola was a flag station of the railroad, and it eventually drew people to the area.

Soon, priests from the Cathedral Parish began celebrating Sunday Masses for the Catholics in Enola, and in 1925, the Dominican Nuns of the Perpetual Rosary established a cloistered monastery there. (The nuns would move to their present location in Lancaster in 1952.) Catholics attended Mass in the monastery’s small chapel.

When it became evident that the chapel was too small to accommodate the increasing number of Catholic faithful, Bishop Philip McDevitt established Our Lady of Lourdes Parish on April 28, 1926.

Construction of the first church there began in 1927, and it was dedicated on Sept. 18 of that year by Bishop McDevitt. Despite the Great Depression, the parishioners worked and sacrificed to pay for their church.

In the early 1950s, the mission churches of Our Lady of Good Counsel in Marysville and St. Bernadette in Duncannon were established from Our Lady of Lourdes; Our Lady of Good Counsel became a parish in 1956, with St. Bernadette as its mission.

Some 35 years ago, as the increasing numbers of parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes began to outgrow the church, a family donated its land for the new church, and the worship site is now located on Salt Road.

Today, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish is home to some 2,800 people in 1,200 households. The active parish has more than 40 different organizations.

“Our parish is a very eclectic community, with members of various backgrounds and ethnicities,” Father Michael Grab, pastor, told The Catholic Witness. “Our parish has grown through the faithfulness and generosity of parishioners and pastors over these 90 years.”

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish marked its anniversary with a Mass celebrated by Father Grab on April 24, during which he Confirmed some 25 of the parish’s young men and women.

“Our theme for this anniversary year is ‘Remembering Our Past, Celebrating Our Present, and Looking forward to Our Future,’” Father Grab remarked. “We are certainly the recipients of the faithfulness of the people who have preceded us, and that’s what this 90th celebration is all about – recognizing their dedication, faithfulness and generosity.”
Catholic Church Has Made Great Strides in Protecting Children from Abuse and Helping Survivors Find Healing

By Dr. Mark A. Totaro
Special to The Witness

The grand jury report detailing child sexual abuse going back decades in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown was shocking and heartbreaking. Even more alarming is that the tragedy of child sexual abuse to- day infurates every part of society.

No institution is more acutely aware of the issue than the Catholic Church, which has implemented policies to prevent child sexual abuse than the Roman Catholic Church. The Church has repeatedly ac- knowledged its mistakes and its role in the ongoing suffering experienced by survi- vors and their loved ones.

The Church has made great strides in protecting children and helping sur- vivors find healing. In 2002, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops issued its Charter to Protect Young and Youthful Adults. Many of the reporting and training requirements passed into state law in the past few years were included in the Charter and adopted by Catholic dioceses across the country.

Those child protection measures in- clude:
• A zero-tolerance policy in all Catholic dioceses for clergy, employees and volun- teers accused of sexual misconduct with children,
• Requiring Church officials to report any allegation immediately and directly to the proper law enforcement agency,
• Permanent removal from ministry for any credible allegation of mis- conduct,
• Complete background checks for all adults who interact with children, includ- ing clergy, employees and volunteers,
• Training for all adults who interact with children through the church regarding how to keep children and young people safe from sexual abuse, how to recognize the signs of abuse and how to report abuse.

The efforts of Catholic dioceses to pro- tect children often go beyond what is re- quired under Pennsylvania law. In 2013, state lawmakers strengthened the state’s child protection laws, including the man- datory reporting requirements, in response to the Jerry Sandusky case and following a yearlong study by the legislative Task Force on Child Protection.

The sex-abuse scandal involving Jerry Sandusky, the Penn State assistant football coach, showed that child sexual abuse is a societal problem, not a Catholic prob- lem. Nearly every day, there is a report of a school teacher, coach or employee ac- cused of sexual misconduct with students. Newspaper stories report cases ranging from sexual or romantic dialogue to “sex- ual” intent, romantic or erotic contact with the child or student.

This illustrates that every organization needs to improve on how children in our care are protected.

In addition to protecting children, the Catholic Church has resolved to provide the resources necessary to help survivors and family members in the healing pro- cess. The Church has established professional counseling and support groups for children and adults. In addition, the Church has set up outreach programs to prevent child sexual abuse in the future.

The Catholic Church often reaches out to other dioceses and organizations for pro- grams for survivors. We encourage anyone who has been abused to report that abuse to their local Chancery or hotline number 800-932-0313.

We pray that society learns from the Catholic Church’s mistakes and it clearly establishes programs, policies and procedures to prevent child sexual abuse in the future.

(De Dr. Mark A. Totaro, PhD, is the Victim Assistance Coordinator in the Office of Youth Protection for the Harrisburg Dioc- ese.)

Conferees Draw Partners in Faith for Education of Children with Autism

By Jen Reed
The Catholic Witness

Deacon Larry Sutton’s ministry with chil- dren with Autism began in response to his re- sponse to a social justice issue.

Shortly after he was ordained a deacon in the Diocese of Pittsburgh in 1999, he learned that two youth—one in his home parish and one in the parish to which he was assigned—were removed from their parishes be- coming their first Holy Communion because of their disability, despite completing a year of preparation previously.

“The social justice aspect of the situa- tion,” he said, spurred him, as a professional psychologist, to work with children with Autism in his career, to find a way to properly prepare these children to receive the sacraments. Even if the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh’s curriculum to in- corporate methods for catechists to help the children understand the material presented in class.

The lessons he adapted for accommodat- ing the children eventually became part of the curriculum of its own in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, and were incorporated into his book, How to Welcome, Accept, and Love Children with Autism and Other Special Needs.

Deacon Sutton was one of two present- ers at a recent conference in Diocese of Harrisburg, “Partners in Faith Formation of Children with Autism and Other Disabili- ties,” where he spoke about Autism Spectrum Disorder, the challenges that children with Autism and their families face in the parish and catechetical setting and strate- gies for engaging individuals with Autism and other developmental disabilities in the classroom.

The conference was sponsored by the Di- ocesan Office of Ministry with People with Disabilities, and included school directors, catechists, and other inter- ested persons in a pilot program, started April 23 at the Cardinal Keeler Center in Harris- burg. Paul Gallagher of Loyola Press joined Deacon Sutton at the conference, and presented a demonstration on the “Adaptive Finding God Program,” a curriculum for children in grades kindergarten through fourth grade.

In an interview with The Catholic Wit- ness, Deacon Sutton explained that Autism is a neuro-developmental disorder that im- pacts the individual’s ability to communi- cate with others in understanding words and using language. Autism also affects a person’s ability to recognize social cues, and

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the entire congregation, Deacon Sutton noted.

“Not only is Autism not something for the people in the pews to be scared of, it’s something to rejoice in, to recognize that an individual is so comfortable in this particu- lar setting that they don’t even realize they’re there,” he said.

Deacon Sutton said the biggest chal- lenge that individuals with Autism and their families face is the “language and communication,” the ability of a person with Autism to “fit in” to parish life. “Oftentimes, they feel isolated because even though I in 68 children has Autism it seems that they’re alone in it, and they don’t know how to approach people and talk about developmental disorders,” Deacon Sutton said.

In his presentations during the diocesan conference, Deacon Sutton spoke of the Church’s response to people with Autism, and the requirements established by the United States Bishops for an individual to receive the Eucharist is to be able to tell the difference between the host and Christ. With Confirmation, the baptized individual only needs to wish to be con- firmsed,” he said. Nor, of course, we’re go- ing to want to prepare them as we can, and they deserve that education and love and care. “We need to be doing more to make sure that kids are learning properly, not just about the lesson, but also socialization skills,” he said.

Deacon Sutton explained that Autism is a developmental disorder that impacts the individual’s ability to communicate with others in understanding words and using language. Autism also affects a person’s ability to recognize social cues, and

To report suspected abuse of a minor, call the toll free PA Child Abuse Hotline at: 1-800-932-0313.

To report suspected abuse of a minor by a church official, employee or volunteer, also please call the diocese toll free hotline at: 1-800-626-1608

For more information, visit www.HbgDiocese.org

Phone: 717-763-6651
Fax: 717-763-6173
E-mail: reportAbuse@hbgdiocese.org

www.HbgDiocese.org/safeyouth

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Deacon Larry Sutton of Pittsburgh, a director of Pre-Theology Formation at St. Vincent Seminary in Latrobe, Pa., offers a presentation on Autism and how to engage and accommodate children with Autism into the classroom. The Diocese of Harrisburg hosted a conference on formation of children with Autism and other disabilities on April 23 at the Cardinal Keeler Center in Harrisburg.

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Good News!

By Sister Geralyn Schmidt, SCC
Special to The Witness

Some time ago, I was living in a convent with very thin walls. I often mused over the fact that I knew the moment when my “neighbor” got into bed because of the muffled creak of bed springs. One night, after my neighbor heard the creak of my bed springs, she gently got out of bed and answered it. There stood the Sister who slept next to me, smiling ear to ear with an expression of utter amazement and excitement. “Hey! Did you hear the good news?” “No!” I replied. “Mary said, ‘YES!’” Grunting and rolling my eyes, I said, “Thanks a lot!” We both giggled because the next day was the Feast of the Annunciation.

Good news. GOOD NEWS. Whenever I hear that saying, I think not only of our Lady. What is this good news that the Angel announced to the family of Jesus? Could it be the whole world and proclaim the good news to all creation” (Mk. 16:15)? I often wonder what this “good news” business specifically was and why it was so attractive to the people of that time. What made young men and women leave what they knew and follow Christ? The challenge is easy for the hundreds of men and women who strength down the centuries to undergo torture and martyrdom.

In the Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy Pope Francis sheds some light on this. In this document, he declares: “In the parables devoted to mercy, Jesus reveals the nature of God as that of a Father who never gives up until he has forgiven the wrong and overcome rejection with compassion and mercy. We know these parables well, three in particular: the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the father with two sons (cf. Lk 15:1-32). In these cases, God is always presented as the joyful, especially when he pardons. In them we find the core of the Gospel and of our faith, because mercy is presented as a force that overcomes everything, filling the heart with love and bringing consolation through pardon.”

Please read that story again. This time, read it slowly and let the words seep into your being.

- Jesus revels the nature of God – This is the good news of hope – Jesus walked, talked and worked on earth. By his life, he exhibits how to live as the Apostles, the first priests and bishops of the New Covenant, “Whose sins you forgive – the Lord – the Lord promise – the Lord – the Lord – the Lord promise – the Lord – the Lord promise – the Lord promise – the Lord promise – the Lord promise – the Lord promise – the Lord promise – the Lord promise – the Lord promise – the Lord promise – the Lord promise – the Lord promise – the Lord promise – the Lord promise – the Lord promise – the Lord promise – the Lord promise – the Lord promise – the Lord promise – the Lord promise.”

- The good news of peace – Jesus came to reconcile and restore our friendship with God. It is the kind of joy that makes one entire being sing God’s praises. When we experience this kind of joy, we shout with Mary: “My being proclaims the greatness of the Lord. My spirit rejoices in, my Savior!”

- So, with a smile that extends ear to ear, I can now ask you, “Hey! Did you have the good news?” “You are loved by your Heavenly Father and your sins are forgiven!”

1 http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/papa-francesco_bolla_20151119_misericordiae-vultus.html

Let Us Commence!

By Jim Gontis
Special to The Witness

Ever heard someone say the following? “I was baptized and had Confirmation, and I didn’t get nothin’ out of it,” followed up with, “I’m not buying what they’re selling.” Well, it’s a free country, but if I didn’t get anything out of it, it is not the fault of Baptism or Confirmation or the Catholic Church, but the fault of the sacraments, or of the teachings of the Church. It can, however, be a result of my “failure to launch.”

At some point, I must look at myself and ask, “Have I really tried to learn and live my faith? Do I want what I hear? Do I want to be a soldier for Christ?” Do I pay attention to the teaching about the Lord and love Jesus? Do I gulp down all the negative banter so frequently said about the Church, without even asking about the immense good that is Catholicism?”

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Thoughts from a Catholic Evangelist

By Sister Geralyn Schmidt, SCC

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By Sir Peter Archenhold, D.C.

Crying Out

By Jim Gontis
Special to The Witness

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Witness History:  
A Look Back at 50 Years of Photos

The week of his 90th birthday, retired Bishop George Leech administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to his grand-niece, Moira Smith, shown in this photo by Charlie Blahusch that appeared in the May, 23, 1980, edition. Moira, the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Henry Smith of Wilkes-Barre, took the Confirmation name of Bridget, and was sponsored by her sister, Bethann. During the ceremony, which took place in the chapel of the Diocesan Center in Harrisburg, the bishop told family members gathered: “He came to her first in baptism. Now he comes in another sacrament to complete, as it were, that holy process whereby she becomes a true child of God with the right to inherit one day the joy unbounded and the bliss unspeakable, which we call Heaven.”

Life Issues Forum

Surprised by Coffee

By Anne McGuire  
Special to The Witness

I remember when I asked him, he looked kind of shell-shocked, as though he were thinking, “Wait a minute; you’re not supposed to want to do that…”

I was reminded of Jenna’s story by Pope Francis’ recent apostolic exhortation The Joy of Love (Amoris Laetitia). In it, the Holy Father explains, “Love opens our eyes and enables us to see, beyond all else, the great worth of a human being” (AL 128).

Jenna’s encounter with this man illustrates the heart of the Gospel of Life. We are created to behold all people with the gaze of Christ, loving them for their own sake. Remembering that St. John Paul II called us to a “civilization of love and life” (EV 27), we recognize that this gaze is meant for each and every person. Pope Francis also reminds us that Jesus “never failed to show compassion and closeness to the frailty of individuals” who had fallen (AL 38).

We are all in need of God’s mercy, and we are all called to show Christ’s compassion to others – including people with whom we disagree on life issues. Doing so does not undermine our efforts to protect lives. Each human being has “a place in God’s heart from all eternity” (AL 168), and love for everyone is foundational to our pro-life efforts.

In a homily at the Chapel of Santa Marta, Pope Francis spoke about “the God of surprises” (October 13, 2014). Following in Christ’s footsteps, let us seek to be God’s people of surprises – like Jenna was for this man on his birthday.

Instead of being hostile or defensive, may our efforts to promote respect and protection for all human life reflect “a love that constantly opens doors” (AL 108).

*Name changed to protect privacy.

Anne McGuire is Assistant Director of Education and Outreach for the USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities. To learn more about the bishops’ pro-life activities, visit www.usccb.org/prolife. The Life Issues Forum is a bi-weekly column by the USCCB’s Pro-Life Secretariat staff addressing the latest issues on the culture of life.

Though I dislike cooking myself, lately I’ve made this recipe and froze it for a quick meal or snack. It is from my Mother’s Potato Pancake recipe, but I found a great use for all those zucchini this time of year.

Also, we ate these pancakes for Lenten meals. My father liked canned peaches or applesauce with them. We children liked jelly on them, which I still like. Today, my friends like sour cream on them. A piece of sausage with them is good, too.

Editor’s Note:
We saved this recipe for the start of gardening season. Time to think about what great fresh vegetables you and your family will plant for the summer. Please submit to The Catholic Witness your favorite summer recipes! Send them via e-mail to witness@hbgdiocese.org, or via standard mail at 4800 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg PA, 17111.

Feeding The Faith
Betty Windish, Saint Theresa Parish in New Cumberland

POTATO PANCAKE or Zucchini Pancakes

**Ingredients**
6 eggs  
2 tsp. salt  
3 c milk  
3 c flour  
4 1/2 tsp baking powder  
3 tsp sugar  
3 c potato grated  
3 onions grated

**OR**
1 medium zucchini grated – I use my food processor for grating.

**Directions**
Mix ingredients together in large mixing bowl, form into pancakes. My large frying pan holds 4 ladles in any vegetable oil, making nice sized pancakes. Drain on paper towel.
States, where issues such as religious freedom are priorities for Catholics. He must work with bishops believed to be not entirely on board with the pope’s plans for the Church — something he struggled with in Mexico. Earlier this year, the country’s most senior Catholic leader, Mexico City Cardinal Norberto Rivera, allowed an editorial in an archdiocesan publication to pose the question, “Who gave the pope bad advice?” It alluded to the February papal tour, in which Pope Francis told Mexican bishops to “stop resting on their laurels” and start speaking out on social issues and vices such as drug violence, which has claimed more than 100,000 lives since late 2006. Pope Francis also called for increased closeness between Mexican and U.S. bishops’ conferences — an issue Archbishop Pierre is in a position to address, though some observers see him as one of the bishops being admonished by the pope in the speech. “The pope’s message at the cathedral had the nuncio as some sort of ghost addresser,” said Rodolfo Soriano Nunez, a Catholic sociologist, who saw the nuncio’s continued presence as untenable in the aftermath of the Archdiocese of Mexico City editorial.” He has been here for more than eight years.” Additionally, Nunez said the nuncio acted somewhat slowly in cases of sexual abuse by priests and removing bishops who responded improperly to such allegations. He also did not arrange meetings with victims during visits by Popes Benedict XVI and Francis.

Archbishop Pierre was appointed apostolic nuncio in 2007 during the early days of the country’s crackdown on drug cartels and organized crime. He leaves as Mexico returns to an authoritarian-style of politics common during the days of one-party rule, when the Church was unable to speak up on social and political issues and was expected to fall into line behind the government. In perhaps his most media-covered act, he celebrated Mass in 2014 at the Ayotzinapa teacher training school for the families of the 43 missing and presumably murdered students, whose case has not been championed by the Church and has caused grief for the image-conscious Mexican government, which has tried to discredit outside experts reviewing the oft-questioned official investigation. The next nuncio “needs to be very cautious about his relationship with the current government,” Nunez said. “The nuncio also needs to have some weight of his own in Rome to be perceived not only as the representative of the pope, but also as being close to him,” Nunez added. “The Mexican bishops have become used to jumping on a plane to do their own dealings at the Curia.”

New Nuncio Worked in Mexico during a Difficult Period

By David Agren

Catholic News Service

Archbishop Christophe Pierre represented the Vatican in Mexico for nearly a decade, a time defined by a drug war, a delicate period of domestic politics and the election of a pope whose pastoral approach and Church vision appears at odds with many in the Mexican Catholic hierarchy. Archbishop Pierre won an important reform for the Church on religious liberty, which moved Mexico to allow an editorial in an archdiocesan publication to pose the question, “Who gave the pope bad advice?” It alluded to the February papal tour, in which Pope Francis told Mexican bishops to “stop resting on their laurels” and start speaking out on social issues and vices such as drug violence, which has claimed more than 100,000 lives since late 2006.

Archbishop Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio to Mexico since 2007, has been appointed the new apostolic nuncio to the United States. Archbishop Pierre is pictured during a press conference regarding the visit of Pope Benedict XVI in Leon, Mexico, in this March 19, 2012, file photo.

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Additionally, Nunez said the nuncio acted somewhat slowly in cases of sexual abuse by priests and removing bishops who responded improperly to such allegations. He also did not arrange meetings with victims during visits by Popes Benedict XVI and Francis. Archbishop Pierre was appointed apostolic nuncio in 2007 during the early days of the country’s crackdown on drug cartels and organized crime. He leaves as Mexico returns to an authoritarian-style of politics common during the days of one-party rule, when the Church was unable to speak up on social and political issues and was expected to fall into line behind the government.

In perhaps his most media-covered act, he celebrated Mass in 2014 at the Ayotzinapa teacher training school for the families of the 43 missing and presumably murdered students, whose case has not been championed by the Church and has caused grief for the image-conscious Mexican government, which has tried to discredit outside experts reviewing the oft-questioned official investigation. The next nuncio “needs to be very cautious about his relationship with the current government,” Nunez said. “The nuncio also needs to have some weight of his own in Rome to be perceived not only as the representative of the pope, but also as being close to him,” Nunez added. “The Mexican bishops have become used to jumping on a plane to do their own dealings at the Curia.”

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Ready to Listen and Learn

By Cindy Wooden

Catholic News Service

Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the new nuncio to the United States, said he is ready to learn about the Catholic Church in the country and will try his best to be Pope Francis’ emissary, particularly in promoting a church that is close to those who suffer.

The archbishop, who had a private meeting at the Vatican with Pope Francis April 21, gave interviews the next day to the English and the Italian programs of Vatican Radio.

The 70-year-old French native has been in the Vatican diplomatic corps for almost 40 years and said a nuncio’s job is to help the pope fulfill his ministry of building up the local churches, respecting their diversity, while keeping them united with the universal Church.

“The difficulty or the challenge,” he said, “is to listen, to be careful about what’s going on, to take a lot of time, to exercise diplomacy. I think that’s very important — to discover the beauty, the richness of the culture of the people, the way the people live [and] to help the inculturation of the Gospel in a particular culture.”

At the same time, he said, a nuncio’s mission is “to help the pope understand — the pope and those that work with him — to understand what’s going on.”

“The richness of the Catholic Church,” Archbishop Pierre said, comes from that combination of valuing peoples and cultures and their local expressions of faith while being united universally.

The archbishop told Vatican Radio’s English program, “I’m quite excited — sometimes fearful,” about leaving Mexico to go to the United States. He said his reaction was “Oh!” when the pope told him of his new assignment “because it’s such a big country, such a big history, but you know I’m trustful in God and very, very grateful for this mission which is given to me.”

“I know I have to learn in the same way that when I arrived in Mexico nine years ago I had to learn a lot of things, so I’m sure that during this year the American people — particularly the bishops, the priests, the religious, the laity — will be my teachers,” he said. “I’m ready to learn.”

The first mission the pope gives his nuncios, and the whole Church, obviously is to proclaim the Gospel, he said. Next there is “the way the pope wants us and the Church to be close to people, especially those who suffer, the poor. This is also what I’ve perceived in what he has told me and I will try my best to be a faithful emissary of the pope.”

Speaking to the Italian program, Archbishop Pierre said being nuncio to the United States is “an enormous, difficult” ministry, but he is ready to take on the task. “I’m sure that during this year the American people — particularly the bishops, the priests, the religious, the laity — will be my teachers,” he said. “I’m ready to learn.”

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A Weekend of Healing and Hope with Immaculee Ilibagiza and Kathleen McCarthy

June 24-26, 2016
Mount St. Mary’s University, Emmitsburg, MD

Two beloved Servants of Christ will share His one message of forgiveness, mercy, healing and hope.

Immaculee Ilibagiza is a Rwandan Genocide survivor, author and Catholic witness for the power of forgiveness and mercy.

Kathleen McCarthy is a Catholic radio broadcaster, author and lay evangelist for the power of God’s healing and merciful love.

Immaculee will be the retreat leader Friday through Saturday, and Kathleen will lead Saturday and Sunday.

The retreat is being sponsored by the Evangelization and Stewardship Committee of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Gettysburg. The retreat will include Confessions, a healing service, celebration of Mass, overnight Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, music ministry and prayer teams.

Participants can register as a commuter or as an overnight guest. For registration forms, visit www.aliveinthespirt.net or contact Kathy Reid at kathyreid57@hotmail.com.
**St. Katharine Drexel Parish Burns Mortgage**

Sixteen years after breaking ground for what was then known as Blessed Katharine Drexel Parish in Mechanicsburg, parishioners of the community celebrated the burning of its $871,299.98 mortgage.

The parish was formally established by then-Bishop William Keeler on July 14, 1988, with Father James O’Brien as founding pastor. Bishop Keeler and Father O’Brien celebrated the parish’s first Mass that summer in the Silver Spring Fire Hall.

St. John Paul II beatified Mother Katharine Drexel on Nov. 20, 1988, and the following day granted Bishop Keeler’s request that the Mechanicsburg parish be the first in the world named in honor of Blessed Katharine Drexel.

The parish broke ground for its church in June of 1990, and the first Mass was celebrated there by Father O’Brien on May 4, 1991. Bishop Nicholas Dattilo dedicated the church on Sept. 8 of that year.

When St. John Paul II canonized St. Katharine Drexel on Oct. 1, 2000, the parish changed its name to reflect the canonization of the new saint.

In conjunction with the burning of the mortgage on April 24, the parish community gathered for a Mass of Thanksgiving for the 50th anniversary of the ordination of Father O’Brien, who is now retired from active ministry.
Vocations Day Celebrated In Ephrata

By Chris Heisey
The Catholic Witness

Every spring, Our Mother of Perpetual Help School in Ephrata celebrates a Vocations Day in which they invite clergy and religious to share their vocation stories with students in Kindergarten through 8th Grade. More than a dozen guests offered their joys of their vocations as well as the real life experiences they have experienced answering God’s call to serve the Church.

After beginning the day, Apr. 25, with Holy Mass, the students were visited in their classrooms by the priests and sisters representing several orders. In the afternoon, students gathered in the Church to hear Redemptorist Father Matthew Allman, Father Brian Wayne, diocesan vocations director and Christian Charity Sister Geralyn Schmidt discussed ways students can listen for and follow God’s call in their lives.

The day culminated with a spirited playing of “The Family Feud” competition led by Father Wayne and Sister Geralyn.

In preparation for the school’s Vocations Day, students contributed to a small grotto that included ribbons of prayers. This exercise was designed to remind students to turn to Mary with the knots that have occurred in their lives. The students were urged to allow Mary, the Undoer of Knots, to untie their knots, which can inhibit grace.

Above: Father Donald Bender, parochial vicar, Saint Patrick Church, Carlisle, and graduate of Our Mother of Perpetual Help, Ephrata, talks to fifth graders about his memories of the school.
Left: Reflections of the Blessed Mother and Christ are etched in the church’s windows during Holy Mass.
Below: The school’s mission: Children Believing, Believing in Children is proudly displayed at the school’s entrance.

CHRIS HEISEY, THE CATHOLIC WITNESS
Becoming a Priest

Did you know that it takes an average of $300,000 for a seminarian to become a diocesan priest?

Did you know that the Pentecost Collection is currently the primary source of funding for seminarian formation?

Did you know that the Pentecost Collection yields an average of $395,000 annually?

Did you know that we have been blessed by a significant increase in the number of seminarians in the past 8 years? Currently we have 32 men in various stages of study to become a priest for the Diocese of Harrisburg.

WE JOYFULLY ANNOUNCE THE 2016 ORDINATIONS

DIACONATE
JOSHUA ROBERT CAVENDER
KEVIN JOSEPH COYLE
MICHAEL GEORGE METZGAR

Saturday, May 21, 2016, 10:00 a.m.
The Cathedral of Saint Patrick,
212 State Street, Harrisburg, PA

PRIESTHOOD
STEVEN JOHN ARENA
SAMUEL ISAIAH DUBOIS
JOHN MICHAEL KUCHINSKI
RICHARD JOSEPH MOWERY
BRIAN THOMAS OLKOWSKI

Saturday, June 4, 2016, 10:00 a.m.
The Cathedral of Saint Patrick,
212 State Street, Harrisburg, PA

By giving to the Pentecost Collection, you help support the future of our diocese: Men who will serve the faithful of central Pennsylvania. Men who will baptize your children, offer you absolution when you have sinned, celebrate the Holy Eucharist in your church, marry you and your beloved, and anoint you when you are sick.

DIOCESAN BUDGET FOR THE OFFICE OF VOCATIONS AND SEMINARIANS IS $1,354,700
PENTECOST COLLECTION
MAY 15, 2016

“He calls to the ministerial priesthood men who are to exercise a fatherly role and continue the mission and ministry of Christ Himself, especially in the ministry of the Word and celebration of the Sacraments.”
Most Reverend Ronald Gainer
2016 Pentecost Letter

The Sacrament of Holy Orders

BISHOPS are said to have the fullness of the priesthood because they alone have the authority to offer all seven sacraments: Baptism, Penance, Holy Eucharist, Confirmation, Matrimony, Anointing of the Sick, and Holy Orders.

PRIESTS have the power and authority to celebrate five: Baptism, Penance, Holy Eucharist, Matrimony, and Anointing of the Sick.

DEACONS can celebrate Baptism and Matrimony (provided that it is a wedding without a nuptial Mass).

“These gifts of the Holy Spirit poured forth that Pentecost day into the souls of the Apostles, that the Spirit sanctified them; and strengthened them; and sent them forth among men to be His witnesses. They spoke, they preached, they persuaded. The Holy Spirit gave them that strength and courage.”
The late Monsignor Joseph Schmidt
Pentecost Sunday Homily, June 2, 1974

By giving to the Pentecost Collection, you help support the men who serve the People of God. You help with their formation and preparation to take on the awesome and profound responsibility of walking a journey with His people in the presence of our Lord. Through your generosity, our priests’ formation continues through educational opportunities, spiritual direction and retreats.

DIOCESAN BUDGET FOR PRIESTS CONTINUING FORMATION AND PRIEST STUDY IS $215,978
PENTECOST COLLECTION  
MAY 15, 2016

“Each of us has a unique mission in this world. The call to priesthood and religious life is a path that is difficult to explain; it is a personal response to a very personal call. One thing is sure: the initiative is God’s and it is by listening in faith and prayer that we can recognize His call.”

Most Reverend Ronald Gainer  
2016 Pentecost Letter

The men who have retired from the administrative duties of the priesthood after working tirelessly for us, now need our help to sustain them in the twilight years of their lives. By giving to the Pentecost Collection, you help support the men who for decades faithfully served the People of God. You help with their pension and extraordinary medical expenses. Similar to the challenges that face the Social Security system and most pension funds, there are a greater number of priests today who are living longer. As a result, gifts to the Pentecost Collection are necessary in order that sufficient funds are available to pay the retired priests their benefits when they come due.

“In its renewal, the Order of Deacons is permanently restored as a living icon of Christ the Servant within the Church.

The Sacrament of Holy Orders marks deacons with an imprint or character which cannot be removed and which configures them Christ, who made Himself the ‘Deacon’ or servant of all.”

2015 Permanent Diaconate brochure

As ministers of the Word, deacons proclaim the Gospel and preach and teach in the name of the Church. As ministers of the Sacraments, deacons baptize, lead the faithful in prayer, witness marriages, and preside at wake and funeral services. As ministers of Charity, deacons are leaders in identifying the needs of others, then gather together the Church’s resources to meet those needs.

By giving to the Pentecost Collection, you help support the men who serve the People of God. You help with their formation and preparation to take on the awesome and profound responsibility of walking a journey with His people in the presence of our Lord. Through your generosity, our deacons’ formation continues through educational opportunities, spiritual direction and retreats.

DIOCESAN BUDGET FOR DIACONATE FORMATION AND CONTINUING FORMATION IS $180,113
PENTECOST COLLECTION
MAY 15, 2016

“The annual Pentecost Collection is our opportunity to generously contribute to the formation of our future pastoral leaders. Your yearly support enables men to go to the seminary, deacons to be trained for service in our parishes, and also helps with the continuing education of our diocesan clergy.”

Most Reverend Ronald Gainer
2016 Pentecost Letter

Diocese of Harrisburg’s Ministries Budget

SEMINARIANS...........................................................................................................$1,234,827 Gifts provide room and board, tuition, discernment retreats, and summer work programs for the seminarians. Assistance is also provided for books and medical insurance.

VOCATIONS...........................................................................................................$119,873 Gifts fund the work of a director who coordinates vocation programs in parishes and schools. Discernment weekends are also an important part of this ministry.

PRIEST CONTINUING FORMATION........................................................................$127,200 Gifts provide for the Office for Continuing Formation of Priests, the director, and formation programs for the priests of the diocese that will assist them in their ministries.

PRIEST STUDY.......................................................................................................$88,778 Gifts provide for expenses related to graduate studies for priests who continue their formation in specific areas of ministry. Many of these priests return to a ministry directly associated with a diocesan office. These funds also cover tuition, room and board expenses, and monthly compensation for the priest.

RETRED PRIEST & SUPPLEMENTAL MEDICAL EXPENSES...$200,000 Gifts cover payment of extraordinary medical expenses for priests and assist the Diocese of Harrisburg with the pension for our retired priests.

PERMANENT DIACONATE FORMATION..............................................................$155,213 Gifts provide for the expenses related to the renewal of the Permanent Diaconate Formation program. Deacons proclaim the Gospel and preach and teach in the name of the Church. As ministers of the Sacraments, they baptize, lead the faithful in prayer, witness marriages, and conduct wake and funeral services.

PERMANENT DIACONATE CONTINUING FORMATION.................................$24,900 Gifts provide for expenses of continuing educational and spiritual programs.

Total Ministries Budget.................................................$1,950,791

Ways to Invest in our Diocesan Priests, Seminarians, and Deacons

One-Time Gift
A one-time, outright gift can be made to the Pentecost Collection at any time during the year:

Payment Methods
Cash paid at your parish
Check made payable to the Diocese of Harrisburg
Stocks and Securities
Credit card (Visa and MasterCard)

Visit Our Website
Visit www.hbgdiocese.org/pentecost for more information or to make a donation via Visa or MasterCard.
FAITH BEE: The Annual Diocesan Faith Bee hosted by the Department for Religious Education, took place April 14 at the Cardinal Keeler Center in Harrisburg, and brought together seventh and eighth grade parishioners of the diocese, including Catholic school students, parish religious education students and home-school students. Winners at the parish level move on the diocesan contest, where the young people demonstrate their knowledge of the Catholic faith.

This year’s winner is Connor Coyle, middle, from St. Joseph Parish in Mechanicsburg. Second place went to Emma Sieger, left, of St. Catherine La- bouré Parish in Harrisburg, and third place was awarded to John Gontis, right, of Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Harrisburg.

RAY TYO SCHOLARS: The Diocesan Department for Catholic Schools honored on April 18 a number of Catholic high school students who have been awarded the Ray Tyo St. Ferdinand Scholarship. The scholarship was founded by Mr. Ray Tyo in gratitude for his Catholic education. It is made available to students who graduate from a Catholic high school in the diocese and who wish to attend a Catholic college or university. The Foundation presently provides a scholarship of $1,000 per semester for four years of undergraduate study. Applications are made available to the guidance offices of the Catholic highs schools in the diocese in the fall, and the school nominates the students for the scholarship to the Foundation Board.

This year’s awardees are shown with Father Edward J. Quinlan, Diocesan Secretary for Education, at the Cardinal Keeler Center in Harrisburg. In the front row, from left, are Brittany Lahr of Our Lady of Lourdes Regional School in Coal Township, Kaitlyn Gardner of Lebanon Catholic School, Caitlyn Kambourouglos of Lancaster Catholic High School and Evan Karli of Trinity High School in Camp Hill.

Back row from left are Hannah Deppen of Trinity High School in Camp Hill, Joe Ferguson of Bishop McDevitt High School in Harrisburg, Frankie Brezina of Lan- caster Catholic High School, Carolyn Ciccocioppo of Bishop McDevitt High School, and Dylan Hartlaub of Delone Catholic High School in McSherrystown.

SPEECH CONTEST: At the diocese’s annual Speech Contest, sponsored by the Department for Catholic Schools, middle school students demonstrated their abilities in persuasion speeches on an event they would have liked to witness, and on interpretations of selections from plays, poetry, fiction or non-fiction. Awards were given for first, second and third place, and two honorable mentions for each category, presented April 15 at the Cardinal Keeler Center in Harrisburg.

This year’s place winners are, front row from left, Grace Petrick and Laura Hilk- ert from St. Joseph School in Danville, honorable mention for duo interpretation; Nellie Phillips from St. Francis Xavier School in Gettysburg, third place in persuasion; Julia Sallusti from St. Joan of Arc Academy and Grace Wert from Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin School in Gettysburg, honorable mention for duo interpretation; and Erika Brotzen from Holy Name of Jesus School in Harrisburg, first place for persuasion.

Second row from left are Hannah Ar- nold and Grace Wert from Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary School in Middletown, first place for duo interpretation; Laura Killen and Angela Warriner from St. Joseph School in Danville, third place for duo interpretation; Ailana Zeager from Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary School in Middletown, first place in oral interpreta- tion; and Maria DeFrancesco from St. Patrick School in Carlisle, third place in persuasion.

Back row from left are Danny Sautter and Andrew Warthen from St. Francis Xavier School in Gettys- burg, honorable mention for duo interpretation; Pey- ton Stakem and Katie McNamara from Holy Name of Jesus School in Harrisburg, second place for duo interpretation; Lucy Winn from St. Patrick School in Carlisle, honorable mention for oral interpreta- tion; Avery Keys from St. Patrick School in Carlisle, second place for oral interpretation; Jack Guerri- ssi of Holy Name of Jesus School in Harrisburg for second place in persuasion; Julia Sallusti from St. Joan of Arc School in Hershey, honorable mention in pers- uasion; and Lucy Cooper-Silvis from St. Patrick School in Carlisle, honorable mention in persuasion.
Former Planned Parenthood Official Tells Students about Abortion's Reality

By Richard Szczepanowski
Catholic News Service

Abby Johnson, the former Planned Parenthood employee of the year who has become an outspoken pro-life advocate, told Georgetown University students April 20 that even the most strident abortion provider can have a change of heart.

“I’m standing in front of you today as a testament to the power of conversion. No one is beyond the power of conversion. No one is beyond the power of Christ,” Johnson said.

Her address – attended by nearly 100 people – came just hours after a controversial lecture on the Jesuit campus by Cecile Richards, the president of Planned Parenthood.

Noting that the president of the largest abortion provider was invited to speak at the Catholic university, Johnson said, “I keep thinking, I keep believing and I have faith that one day instead of me standing here speaking on defending the sanctity of human life, it will be Cecile Richards standing here.”

Michael Khan, a sophmore at Georgetown and president of the university’s right-to-life chapter, criticized Georgetown University’s defense of having Richards deliver a lecture on campus as an issue of academic freedom and free speech.

“Cecile Richards is not an academic. She is an activist,” he told the Catholic Standard, newspaper of the Washington Archdiocese. “Even if you believe in open dialogue [on the issue of abortion], she brings notting substantive to the table. I am disappointed in Georgetown’s leadership for allowing her [Richards] to speak unchallenged.”

When Richards’ appearance was announced in early April, university officials said the issue was a matter of “sustaining a forum for the free exchange of ideas ... even when those ideas may be difficult, controversial or objectionable to some.”

Johnson’s talk in the campus’ Dablign Chapel was part of a “Life Week” offered at the university in response to Richards’ appearance on the campus. “Life Week” events also included a talk on pro-life issues at the end of life, a panel discussion on life affirming alternatives to Planned Parenthood and a Mass for Life celebrated by Washington Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl.

Johnson, a former Planned Parenthood clinic director in Texas, is the mother of five, including one adopted son. She is a convert to Catholicism and is a natural family planning provider.

Without directly mentioning Richards’ appearance on the Georgetown campus, Johnson noted that she herself was recruited to work for Planned Parenthood on the Georgetown campus, Johnson said that she was a convert to Catholicism and became a natural family planning provider.

“My baby was a baby because she was wanted,” she said. “My baby was a baby because she was a gift – because the doctors were paid by the number – and put in a bag and at the end of the day all of the aborted fetuses remains are placed in a freezer – jokingly called a ‘nursery’ for later pickup by a biohazard removal company.

“Birth is a ‘nursery’ for later pickup by a biohazard removal company. Our goal was to have women on the table, off the table with the abortion completed in five minutes.”

Johnson said. She added that abortion providers do not want to talk to the women because that would take up time and “the doctors are paid by the number of abortions [they perform] and not by the hour.”

Her own disillusion began when she was pregnant with her own daughter and continued to participate in providing abortions.

“My baby was a baby because she was wanted,” Johnson said, adding that the Planned Parenthood mentality is, “If a baby is unwanted, it magically becomes just tissue – easily discarded and easily thrown away.”

She said, “The most frequently asked question [by women about to have an abortion] is, ‘Will my baby feel this?’ and we tell them, ‘No.’”

“As a baby it was seeing a baby dismembered, the worse part was that I had the opportunity to intervene, to do something, I just stood there. I did nothing.”

Johnson added.

After it was over, she said, “I looked at my hands and thought, ‘These hands that helped my baby as she was upset – these hands just took a life.’”

It was then, Johnson said, “I realized I’d been lied to by Planned Parenthood, but worse than that, I lied to so many women … I looked them in the face and lied. I hate lying.”

After leaving Planned Parenthood she thought, “What do I say? I’m sorry ‘doesn’t seem like enough.’”

Johnson founded the “And Then There Were None” organization three years ago to help others leave the abortion industry. She said originally her aim was to help about 10 people quit the industry each year, but in last three years, she has help 218 people – including six abortion doctors – to leave.

“His goal is not just to make abortion illegal, my goal is to make abortion unthinkable so that a woman never again darkens the door of an abortion facility or ever thinks that taking the life of an innocent human being is acceptable,” Johnson said.

Johnson said watching an abortion ultrasound represented “true innovations, but no break” with Church tradition.

Still, the pope said, much of the news media focused so much on the question of Communion for the divorced that they skewed the public’s perception of the 2014 and 2015 meetings of the Synod of Bishops.

“Since I’m not a saint, this annoyed me and then saddened me,” the pope said. “Don’t they understand what the family throughout the world is in crisis?”

“The family is the foundation of society,” Pope Francis said. The great problems include a reluctance by young people to marry, extremely low birth rates in Europe, unemployment, poverty – “those are the big problems.”

Abby Johnson, a former Planned Parenthood employee of the year who has become an outspoken pro-life advocate, is pictured in a 2011 photo. Johnson told Georgetown University students April 20 that even the most strident abortion provider can have a change of heart.

It was what made her decide to quit.

“I remember watching the suction tube going into the uterus and I could see it getting closer and closer to the side of a 13-week-old baby. When it touched his side, he jumped,” she said. “He began flailing his arms and legs as if trying to move away, but there was nowhere to go.”

“As a baby it was seeing a baby dismembered, the worse part was that I had the opportunity to intervene, to do something, I just stood there. I did nothing.”

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CNS/JOSE LUIS AGUERRI, CATHOLIC SAN FRANCISCO

Pope Francis meets refugees at the Moria refugee camp on the island of Lesbos, Greece, April 16.

CNS/THEO VAN WAVEREN

Refugees

Continued from 1

The pope was asked to settle debate about his postynodakl apostolic exhortation on the family and whether the document opened new possibilities for divorced and civilly remarried Catholics to receive Communion under some circumstances.

“I could say, ‘Yes, Period,’ but that would be too short a response,” the pope said. “I recommend everyone read the presentation made by Cardinal [Christoph] Schönborn” at the Vatican news conference presenting the document.

The cardinal, archbishop of Vienna, had said the document represented “true innovations, but no break” with Church tradition.

Still, the pope said, much of the news media focused so much on the question of Communion for the divorced that they skewed the public’s perception of the 2014 and 2015 meetings of the Synod of Bishops.

“Since I’m not a saint, this annoyed me and then saddened me,” the pope said. “Don’t they understand what the family throughout the world is in crisis?”

“The family is the foundation of society,” Pope Francis said. The great problems include a reluctance by young people to marry, extremely low birth rates in Europe, unemployment, poverty – “those are the big problems.”
Dive into World's Problems with Courage, Pope Says at Earth Day Event

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

Dive into the world’s problems with courage and help people turn their lives of desolation into abundance and hope, Pope Francis said.

“You must take life as it comes. It’s like being the goalie in soccer – grab the ball wherever they kick it,” he told people gathered in a Rome park for an Earth Day event.

“We must not be afraid of life, afraid of conflict,” he said April 24, because it is only by confronting challenges head-on and together that they can be solved.

Making a surprise late afternoon visit to Rome’s Villa Borghese park, the pope spoke to more than 3,000 people attending a four-day event sponsored by the Focolare Movement and Earth Day Italy.

In conjunction with the celebration of Earth Day April 22, the Focolare Movement tried to create a “village” in the park in the center of Rome to promote ways for people to live together in friendship and solidarity and with respect for the environment.

After listening to some of the speakers talk about their experiences helping others, Pope Francis said their work was a “miracle” in which they helped transform “deserts into forests.”

The arid, lifeless world of the desert can be found “in all of our hearts,” in cities, on the margins of society and even in exclusive, gated communities – “it’s terrible, the desert is there, too,” he said.

“But we must not be afraid to go into the desert in order to transform it into a forest,” bringing about abundant life, even if it is a bit “messy.”

“In Buenos Aires, I saw elderly women who would go to the bank to cash their pension check and then immediately go to the casino,” he recalled.

He asked that everyone complete “an assignment” as they return home: to notice people’s faces as they walk down the street.

Some people will look withdrawn or worried, he said. They are missing “a smile, tenderness” because they lack a kind of friendship or fellowship among people in the community.

Creating a remedy for the lack of fellowship requires the generosity, respect and courage to come together, to work out problems and to forgive, he said, no matter what people’s background or religion is. “We all have something in common; we are all human.”

When it Comes to Happiness, There’s No App for That, Pope Tells Teens

By Junno Arocho Esteves
Catholic News Service

Happiness “is not an ‘app’ that you can download on your phones nor will the latest update help you become free and great in loving,” Pope Francis told thousands of teenagers.

Youth from around the world flocked to Rome for a special Year of Mercy event for teens aged 13-16. The celebrations began April 23 with confessions in St. Peter’s Square.

The pope caught many off guard as he made an unannounced visit to the square. After greeting several people, he placed a purple stole over his shoulders and sat down, joining more than 150 priests offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, said the pope “listened to the confessions of 16 boys and girls,” spending more than an hour in the square.

Celebrating Mass with the young people April 24, the pope told them true freedom is priceless and comes from making the courageous decision to do good and not from the material belief that happiness can be easily obtained through worldly possessions and fashions.

“A person’s happiness has no price and cannot be bought,” the pope told them during the Mass in St. Peter’s Square.

Gray clouds looming over St. Peter’s Square did little to deter an estimated 100,000 young teens and pilgrims from attending the final Mass of the jubilee celebration.

In his homily, the pope encouraged the youths to carry out the “enormous responsibility” entrusted to the disciples by Jesus in the Sunday Gospel reading: “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Love, he said, is “only valid ‘document’ identifying us as Christians” and the only path to happiness.

True love is free “without being possessive” of people or worldly things, he said.

“There is always a temptation to let our affections be tainted by an instinctive desire to take, to have what we find pleasing; our consumerist culture reinforces this tendency. Yet when we hold on too tightly to something, it fades, it dies and then we feel confused, empty inside,” he said.

The freedom that comes from love, he continued, does not come from “doing whatever you want,” only what makes people “self-centered and aloof.” But is a gift that comes from “being able to choose good.”

“Be skeptical about people who want to make you believe that you are only important if you act tough like the heroes in films or if you wear the latest fashions. Your happiness has no price; it cannot be bought,” the pope stressed.

The first day of the celebration ended late April 23 with music and testimonies at Rome’s Olympic Stadium for an estimated 70,000 youth. In a video message played at the rally, Pope Francis compared the absence of Jesus in one’s life to being somewhere without a cellphone signal so it is impossible to connect with each other.

“Just remember that if Jesus is not in your life, it is as though there was no signal,” he said. “Let’s always place ourselves where we have the signal: the family, the parish, the school, because in this world we will always have something to say that is good and true.”

The youths had made a pilgrimage to the Holy Door at St. Peter’s Basilica, and the pope told them, “Do not forget that the door is the encounter with Christ, who introduces us to the Father who asks us to be merciful as he is merciful.”

Reminding them of the importance of simple gestures in carrying out works of mercy, the pope said that to be merciful with others, one must first be able to forgive. Resentments or the desire for revenge are like a worm that “eats away at the soul and does not allow us to be happy,” he said.

“Let us forgive and forget the wrong done to us; in this way we can understand the teaching of Jesus and be his disciples and witnesses of mercy,” he said.
The names of the following deceased persons have been submitted by their parishes. Please remember in your prayers the happy repose of these recently departed souls and the consolation of their loved ones.

**ABBOTTSBURG** – Immaculate Heart of Mary: Ruth Sharratt.

**BERWICK** – Immaculate Conception BVM: George Curry, Mildred Vought, Clara Zwolinski.

**BLOOMSBURG** – St. Columba: Richard J. Cuti.

**CAMP HILL** – Good Shepherd: Blanche Aitchley, Andrew Crofcheck, Sr.

**COAL TOWNSHIP** – Our Lady of Hope: Michael Snyder.

**COLUMBIA** – Holy Trinity: Edward Fitzpatrick, Kenneth Kurtiak.


**DANVILLE** – St. Joseph: Eugene Doran.

**ELIZABETHTOWN** – St. Peter: Jane Redcay, Rosemary Steiner, John Zubeck.


**HARRISBURG** – St. Catherine Laboure: Mary Zuvich.


**KULMPTON** – Holy Angels: Nicholas Kolar.


**MECHANICSBURG** – St. Joseph: Heathend Bendel, Chris Chayback, Patricia Moccio, Margaret Norman, Michael Snyder, June Storm, Philemona Swank, Oscar Tuason; St. Katharine Drexel: Joan Croteau.

**MIDDLETOWN** – Seven Sorrows BVM: William Harman, Alexandra Laird.

**MOUNT CARMEL** – Divine Redeemer: Joseph A. Fiamoncini, Carl E. Minnner.

**NEW OXFORD** – Immaculate Conception BVM: Florence Koch.

**ROARING CREEK** – Our Lady of Mercy: John Turofski.

**ROHRERSTOWN** – St. Leo the Great: Frank J. Hinnenkamp, Ann M. Lyter.

**SUNBURY** – St. Monica: Anna L. Lee.

**WAYNESBORO** – St. Andrew: Ehnore Fogarty, John Itell.

**WILLIAMSTOWN** – Sacred Heart of Jesus: Margaret M. Kachniasz.


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**REMINDER**

**Deceased Clergy**

Please pray for the following clergy who died in May during the past 25 years:

- Father Gerard Heim, 1991
- Msgr. George Lentocha, 1997
- Father John Smith, 1999
- Father John Campion, 2010
- Father Richard P. Waldron, 2011

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The Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg is pleased to announce the establishment of the annual award of the “Just Ducky in Carlisle”.

For the past several years, a female duck has build a nest, laid eggs and hatched ducklings in the outdoor reading garden at St. Patrick School in Carlisle. Because the garden is open at the top but surrounded on all four sides by the school building, the ducklings must be lead through the school and out into the open.

When the ducklings were ready to move on earlier this month, St. Patrick’s fifth-grade class helped to direct them to a wetland area on school property.

They learned what it is like to suffer under economic problems and poverty. The project required students to write journal entries about poverty in America, reform laws to help solve the crisis facing the nation, and write a plan to run their own poverty drive.

Each student also donated ten non-perishable food items to the Catholic Harvest Food Pantry in York. By the completion of the project, the social studies students donated over 600 items to the pantry.

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**Diocesan Catholic Cemeteries**

**Pre-Arrangement: An Act of Love**

At Harrisburg Diocesan Cemeteries, we encourage families to consider pre-arranging their cemetery needs. Just as preparing a will is a kind and responsible act, arranging for your final resting place is equally wise and compassionate.

Many of our families are surprised to learn how many advantages pre-arrangement actually provides.

**Why Prearrange?**

Relieve Your Family of Difficult Decisions, Purchasing Now Locks in Price, Wider Choice of Grave Locations, Enjoy Peace of Mind, and Only You Can Decide What is Best For Your Family. Our Diocesan Cemetery Managers are available to assist you to make an intelligent, unhurried decision, with information that will help you make a decision that’s right for you and your family, at the right time for you.

**For More Information Visit Our Website**

www.hbgdiocese.org/cemeteries

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**Several Diocesan Sports Legends returning for Delone Catholic Fundraisers**

Young Tom Sterner was a member of the Championship of the Universe basketball team, the Diocese of Harrisburg’s champion team, in 1969 at St. Vincent de Paul School in Hanover. After St. Vincent he continued his education at Delone Catholic High School in McSherrystown. Mr. Sterner earned his bachelor’s degree from Millersville University in 1978 and Master’s from Temple in 1990. Today he lives in Orlando with his wife Marcia and daughters Malorie and Paige where he works at the University of Central Florida as the Men’s Basketball Director of Program Development.

Before joining UCF, Mr. Sterner spent the previous 25 years working on the coaching staffs of the NBA’s Orlando Magic, Golden State Warriors, Dallas Mavericks, Philadelphia 76ers and Toronto Raptors.

Coach Sterner is returning to town on May 14 to speak at the 10th John Gastley Scholarship Foundation Dinner Raffle. The foundation’s theme this year is finding balance in academics and athletics. It promises to be a great evening, tickets are $100, which include entry for two people, dinner, drinks, and one entry into the $5,000 grand prize drawing (need not be present to win). Tickets can be purchased by contacting www.gastleyfoundation.com, or through Delone Catholic High School at 717-637-5968.

Another member of that Championship of the Universe team was a young Pat Flaherty, a Delone Catholic graduate, who is now the Offensive Line Coach of the NFL’s San Francisco 49ers.

Before joining the 49ers, Coach Flaherty spent 12 years accumulating a couple of Super Bowl rings with the New York Giants.

Coach Flaherty returns to Delone on June 26 to repeat a youth football clinic. You can see the top young athletes from south central PA and north central Maryland at his Mason Dixon Linemen’s Clinic. More information is available at www.gastleyfoundation.com, or through Delone at 717-637-5968.

Another individual on that same Championship of the Universe team was John Gabriel, longtime NBA coach and current NBA executive. The John Gabriel Scholarship Foundation will hold its golf outing August 6th at Flatbush Golf Course, Littlestown. The four-year tuition scholarship which the foundation awards each year goes to a young person from an area Catholic parish. Catholic school attendance is not necessary, but must be active in their parish. Outreach and consciousness beyond self are the traits the foundation wishes to reward, and those values and characteristics are expected to carry through their years at Delone. The foundation has awarded seven students thus far.
FUNDRAISERS AND EVENTS

You are cordially invited to a festive and enjoyable afternoon of ethnic food, music, cultural dances, themed raffles, silent auction and more on Sun., May 22 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the St. Patrick Parish Hall (930 S.商户 St.). Featured guests are emcee Marys Tobias, a Grammy nominee singer, songwriter and music teacher, Fr. Joseph, a Passionist priest and parent interested in attending, please contact St. Anne School at 717-394-6711 or Mrs. Suzanne Wood, principal, at suzanne@stannestrandlc.org.

St. Anne School in Lancaster will host a special “prendas de la Escuela” (kindergarten) on Wednesday, May 25 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. featuring Ms. Annette 108 E. Liberal Arts. The morning will include stories in the library, a scavenger hunt in the classroom, a snack in the cafeteria and even an opportunity to tour the school and meet with current and prospective parents interested in attending, please contact St. Anne School at 717-394-6711 or Mrs. Suzanne Wood, principal, at suzanne@stannestrandlc.org.

St. Anne School in Lancaster will host its first-ever Tournament on Friday, May 6 at Crossgates Golf Course, Millersville. Registration and lunch begin at 11:30 a.m., shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. with dinner and awards at 5:30 p.m. Cost is $85 per person. For more information, contact Kathy Beaulieu at beaulieu-4@comcast.net. All proceeds benefit “RCAA Health Services Inc.”

Strike it rich this spring at Lebanon Catholic School’s $10,000 Gold Rush Cash Giveaway. Lebanon Catholic School’s annual raffle will be awarded with a maximum cash prize of $200. Save the date for May 22 at St. Patrick Parish Hall, 930 S. Merchant St., Lebanon. Tickets are available at all school events, in the office, from school staff and volunteers. All proceeds benefit the school and its students.

**Job Opportunities**

High School Ministry and Evangelization outreach of the Diocese of Harrisburg.

**Job Opportunities**

An Evening with St. Padre Pio: St. Rita Parish, 1321 Monterey Lane, Blue Ridge Summit, is blessed to host Father Marcoe and evangelist. This person will maintain the Office of the Holy Spirit, lectors, and to register, send check for $5 to St. Patrick Church, 152 E. Poindexter St., Carlisle 17013, or email mbartz2@geisinger.edu. If you or your friends are interested in the privilege of being part of this milestone year. Please contact us through our website at www.stpatricksyork.org or call the school to be added to the alumni list.

**Job Opportunities**

The position also involves semi-weekly practices during the football season for the children enrolled in the extended afterschool enrichment program. All professionals will benefit from workshops, seminars and updates to meet the needs and expectations of the parishes served. Contact Father Stephen Beaudette at 717-972-4146 or caswartz2@geisinger.edu or askardt@geisinger.edu.

St. Patrick School in York is celebrating its 165th anniversary this year! The school is in search of former staff and students so they can be a part of this milestone year. Please contact us through our website at www.stpatrickyork.org or call the school to be added to the alumni list.

**Job Opportunities**

A second grade teacher position will be available at Lebanon Catholic School beginning with the 2016-17 school year. The position requires a bachelor’s degree in education and an approved teaching license as well as a Pennsylvania teaching certificate. The successful candidate must have effective communication and interpersonal skills. Must be a Catholic in good standing. Should have experience in one or more of the following areas: organ, piano, voice, or choral direction. A background in music education and/or professional relationship with the pastor: the members of the choir, parishioners, and members of the Liturgy Committee. In order to maintain its strong tradition of academic excellence, ministry and evangelizing and cantoring in the church, the person needs to be outgoing, enthusiastic and energetic, fostering an environment of respect and fidelity to the Lord while maintaining required discipline. Contact Father Stephen Beaudette at 717-965-2465 or send resume to weltzheimer@geisinger.edu.

**Job Opportunities**

For more information, contact Fr. John M. Albert, Diocesan Director of Evangelization, at 717-972-4146 or canard_hobson@geisinger.edu.

**Job Opportunities**

The position is available from September through May 15. To apply, send a resume and references to插件ulc, Diocesan Director of Evangelization, at 717-972-4146 or canard_hobson@geisinger.edu.

**Job Opportunities**

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Arthur DiMartile loved baseball, and he loved his family. Those two great loves of his life came together at Bishop McDevitt High School in Harrisburg on April 21, as his alma mater dedicated the Arthur J. DiMartile Memorial Field prior to the Crusaders’ game against East Penn.

Mr. DiMartile attended Harrisburg Catholic, where he met and later married his high school sweetheart, Mary Lippi. He graduated in 1942, she in 1943. He was a sports enthusiast and an avid baseball fan, especially of the Yankees. Mr. and Mrs. DiMartile raised four daughters and a son, all of whom went on to attend Bishop McDevitt.

Mr. DiMartile enjoyed watching his son, Art, a 1968 graduate, play for McDevitt, and took great responsibility in his role as a youth baseball coach. In honor of the late Mr. DiMartile, who passed away six years ago, his family and the McDevitt family honored him with the dedication of the field in his name. The school community gathered for the ceremony and the blessing of the field by Father Joshua Brommer, Diocesan Director for the Office of Divine Worship.

“Dad was a simple and fun-loving guy, content to be among his family, and we are thankful for having him in our lives,” his daughter, Angela Ortenzio, a graduate of 1978, told The Catholic Witness. “We are so grateful to everyone at Bishop McDevitt for this honor. The McDevitt family is our extended family, and we are eternally grateful to them,” she said. “Coach Steve Groff and the team were so genuine to my mom, and she was so touched by their warmth. She was thrilled to throw out the first pitch.”

Immaculate Heart of Mary Sister Mary Anne Bednar, principal, Coach Groff and the Crusader baseball team joined members of Mr. DiMartile’s family and the school community at the dedication ceremony. Also present was Father John Acri, a retired diocesan priest who was an altar server at Mr. and Mrs. DiMartile’s wedding.

“The Crusaders would go on to win the game, 7-3. Cole Gerula recorded the first homerun to be hit on the field, a fitting way of giving us zingers and little surprises,” she said. “Dad always had a way of giving us zingers and little surprises.”

Mary DiMartile, the wife of the late Arthur DiMartile, throws out the first pitch after the dedication of the baseball field in her husband’s name. Mrs. DiMartile, 90, is surrounded by her family members.

McDevitt Dedicates Baseball Field in Honor of 1942 Graduate

By Jen Reed
The Catholic Witness

For registration forms for either retreat please contact:
The Office of Vocations at 717-657-4804 ext. 282

Quo Vadis Days
Vocation Retreat for young men ages 15-25
Sunday, June 19 - Thursday, 23, 2016
Mount St. Mary’s University & Seminary, Emmitsburg, MD
$50 Registration Fee

Quo Vadis Days
Vocation Retreat for young women ages 15-25
Tuesday, July 5 - Friday, 8, 2016
Mount St. Mary’s University & Seminary, Emmitsburg, MD
$50 Registration Fee

Register Now for WYD Stateside!

World Youth Day Stateside is a two-day event for teens, young adults and families and will be held at Lancaster Catholic High School and Clipper Magazine Stadium in July.

The unique event – emceed by Jackie Francois Angel – begins Saturday, July 30 at Lancaster Catholic with an opening liturgy, followed by catechesis, a concert by Ceili Rain, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions. After an overnight, outdoor vigil, pilgrims will trek to Clipper Magazine Stadium for Stations of the Cross, a concert by Jackie Francois Angel and closing liturgy celebrated by Bishop Edward Malesic of the Diocese of Greensburg.

The entire experience is designed to mirror the events of World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland, and will include a video message from Pope Francis, and exhibits about Poland, St. John Paul II, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary.

The gates to WYD Stateside will open at Lancaster Catholic on Saturday morning, July 30. The opening liturgy will be celebrated at 2 p.m., followed by catechesis, the Ceili Rain concert and a Holy Hour. Throughout the evening, Adoration, Confessions and the pilgrimage tent will be available.

During an outdoor, overnight vigil, attendees will sleep on the field at Lancaster Catholic’s stadium. Then, on the morning of July 31, they will make a 1.5 mile walk to Clipper Magazine Stadium. Here, they will witness the Stations of the Cross presented on the baseball field’s warming track, and enjoy a concert by Jackie Francois Angel prior to the closing liturgy celebrated by Bishop Edward Malesic of Greensburg at 2 p.m.

Registration is open for WYD Stateside. Cost is $175 for the two-day event, and Sunday-only tickets are available for $50. High school youth must register with a youth group or with their family. Young adults can register individually or as a group. Sign up today! Registration deadline is May 31. Visit www.hbgdiocese.org/wydstateside for all the details.
Scouts Honored at Diocesan Mass

By Jen Reed
The Catholic Witness

Bishop Ronald Gainer celebrated the second annual Scout Recognition Mass on April 19 at Good Shepherd Church in Camp Hill, welcoming Scouts and their families, and presenting Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts with the religious awards they have earned in the past year.

Catholic Scouting in the Diocese of Harrisburg is under the auspices of the Diocesan Office for Youth and Young Adult Ministry, which supports the diocesan Scouting committees with resources and emblem/recognition programs for Scouts and Scout leaders.

The Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting gives guidance, direction and leadership in the spiritual phase of Boy Scouting to all Catholic Scouts and Scouters in the diocese. The committee promotes religious emblem programs and holds Scouter development and training meetings, as well as an annual Boy Scout retreat in September at Camp Bashore, which includes religious activities, camp outs and outdoor Mass.

The Diocesan Catholic Committee for Girl Scouts and Camp Fire, aimed at encouraging Catholic Girl Scouts to deepen their understanding of the faith, oversees religious recognition programs for Girl Scouts and adult leaders, and offers training for adult leaders interested in Scouting. The committee also hosts several workshops each year where Girl Scouts come together to earn Catholic faith patches.

All individual Catholic Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts are invited to attend the programs hosted by the diocesan Scouting committees. For information, visit www.hbgdiocese.org/youth-and-young-adults/catholic-scouting/.

Above: Girl and Boy Scouts bring the gifts forward to Bishop Ronald Gainer.
Left: More than 500 scouts, leaders and parents attended the Holy Mass this year.

Bishop Gainer presents an award to a decorated Girl Scout.

SAVE THE DATE

Fishers of Men Dinner

To benefit the Seminarians of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg

Friday, October 21, 2016, 6:00 p.m.

at the Cardinal Keeler Center
4800 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg

Cost is $150 per plate
$800 per table of six or $1,000 per table of eight.

Sponsored by the Office of Vocations
(717) 657-4804 ext. 282
www.hbgdiocese.org/vocations
The mission of Catholic Campus Ministry at Millersville University is clear – to spread the Gospel and make disciples of Christ. Here, campus ministers lead students to Jesus so that they can then teach the students how to bring others closer to Him.

“We are producing Catholic leaders who will remain active past their college lives. With this mission, students are given the tools and fire to talk about Christ, not just in our weekly Bible studies hosted by Millersville Catholic, but socially outside of the ministry,” Father Brian Wayne, Campus Minister and Associate Director of the Diocesan Office of Vocations, told The Catholic Witness.

As a result, students are starting their own studies, inviting others to Mass and discerning where they see Christ in the people in their lives, he said.

“Millersville Catholic Campus Ministry strives to establish a foundation in faith,” he said. “College life is packed with teaching students the basic skills for their prospective career. Millersville Catholic aims to do the same, but for the vocation all Catholics are called to uphold: being like Christ and bringing others closer to Him.”

This past semester, two students began to lead their own faith-based groups: an apologetics group and a Catholic women’s book group. Others are looking forward to begin leading their own Bible studies next year.

“Being involved with campus ministry has strengthened my spiritual life tremendously and helped me fall even more in love with Christ,” said student Kasey Fitzpatrick. “We have wonderful leaders who are able to share the Gospel with us college students in a way that we are able to relate to and truly grasp. Campus ministry has dedicated itself wholeheartedly to helping students find Christ and strengthen their relationship with Him. The ministry has brought us all closer to Christ, and in the process closer to one another. We have truly become a family and one body in Christ thanks to our wonderful Millersville Catholic.”

Fellow student Justine Gaylor observed that “The Millersville Catholic campus ministry and the John Newman Association have been one of the biggest blessings during my first year of college.”

“The Campus Ministry welcomed me and made me feel like part of a big family within the first two events I had attended,” she added. “It is wonderful to have students so dedicated to leading their lives so close to Christ to befriend and look up to as leaders and role models. The Campus Ministry has brought me so close to Christ by making the Gospel relevant to my life at this moment. Through this amazing group of students, I have been able to grow in my relationship with Christ, and have the opportunity to reach out to help others grow with Christ as well. I feel so blessed to have the Millersville Catholic Campus ministry, it has truly changed my life.”