Boston Cardinal Sean P. O’Malley highlighted the new evangelization in the pontificate of Pope Francis in an Aug. 6 keynote address to the Knights of Columbus supreme convention in San Antonio.

“Following Pope John Paul and Pope Benedict, Pope Francis is challenging us to embrace the new evangelization with new ardor, with new boldness and with great love for all those who God places in our path. He is calling on all of us to be missionaries in our own communities,” he said.

“In this new millennium, business as usual is not enough. We must be a team of missionaries, moving from a maintenance mode to a missionary one,” he added.

He told his listeners they must ask themselves, “What does it mean to live in a culture of unbelief; a culture which does not even know it does not believe because it still lives on the residue of Christian civilization?”

Cardinal O’Malley replied, “Pope Francis is ever warning against a self-referential Church turned in on itself. He tells us to open the doors, to invite others in and so that we can go out and invite.”

The cardinal emphasized that being a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ in the Catholic Church “is much more than a head trip.” It is a way of life together; and the whole person is engaged in the process.

Education for the journey must therefore be experiential, personal, engaging and life-giving, he added. “We learn discipleship the way we learn a language, by being part of a community that speaks that language.” The Boston archbishop stressed that young Catholics must be mentored in the faith by others, either peers or older Catholics who are walking the walk.

“In today’s world, we must promote the Catholic way of life, which is increasingly alien in the secular world, where our concern about unborn children or the sacredness of marriage makes us appear quaint and even nettlesome,” he explained. “We need mentors: parents, grandparents, godparents, teachers, youth ministers, neighbors, who are ready to pass on the faith.”

According to the cardinal, Pope Francis is calling on Catholics to embrace the vision of reality that is the Church’s faith and that values each and every human being, and stresses responsibility to love and serve each other, especially the most vulnerable.

The word that Pope Francis repeats over and over, he said, is “tenerezza,” or tenderness.

In his inaugural Mass on the feast of St. Joseph, Cardinal O’Malley recalled, the pontiff spoke about protecting people, showing loving concern for each and every person, especially children, the elderly, those in need. The pope said, “We must not be afraid of goodness or tenderness.”

“He points to the heart of Joseph, his tenderness which is not the virtue of the weak but a sign of strength of spirit and a capacity for concern and compassion, for genuine openness to others, for love,” said the cardinal.
"The use of technology is not only much more common today, but much more violent and explicit," Sister Donna Marie said. "The attachment to it can be very difficult to break once it has grabbed a hold of a person. Unfortunately, our culture can tend to have a laissez-faire attitude about the use of media and technology, and sometimes people don’t see the implications and potential dangers."

"Fortunately, the Church always takes a leadership role when there is a threat to human dignity," she said. Sister Donna Marie also cautioned against painting all media and technology with a negative brush.

"They have many benefits, and can bring a lot of opportunity for good," she said, pointing to the education, evangelization and relationship-building aspects they offer.

Dr. Jim Beeghley, another of the presenters scheduled to speak at the conference, is an educational technologist and a member of the diocesan technology committee. He often works with parents and educators on cyber-bullying prevention, and his presentation at the conference will focus on teaching youth about the proper use of media.

"I’m a father of four kids, so I know how bombarded they are with media today. Look at how much time they spend on it, whether it’s an iPod, the internet, gaming. We have to be able to help them decipher what’s good and what’s bad," Dr. Beeghley said.

It is also important to help young people understand their "digital footprint" — the impression that their online information presents to the world, he said.

"I see a lot of kids arbitrarily posting things, and they don’t understand how far it can go," he said. Social media sites like Facebook and Twitter are publicly searchable, so you want to be sure of the images and the words you’re associated with.

Google yourself. Are you proud of the images and comments that are associated with your name?"

Dr. Beeghley encourages parents to keep an open dialogue with their children’s use of media and technology, and to take some time to learn about social media sites if they are unfamiliar with them.

"Twitter and Pinterest are not complicated to understand or use. Sit down with your son or daughter and ask them to explain it to you. Ask them to show you what they’re doing, and tell them that you want to be sure they’re doing things that are safe and responsible," he said. "Open up the conversation with them, and be encouraging about the positive things that they’re posting. If you have a conversation with your child, you can build a dialogue and trust."

Tom Steele, the director of information technology at St. Joseph Parish in York, says today’s technology is the new printing press, and is an opportunity way for the Church and her people to share the Good News.

With that use comes a great deal of responsibility, he said.

His breakout session at the conference will relate the Ten Commandments to media use.

For example, the First Commandment, "I am the Lord your God, you shall not have strange gods before me," asks us to consider: "Do I worship electronics?" "Can I unplug?"

"Do I sacrifice my own pleasure for other people?"

"We have to take a good look at the concept of being a digital Christian. Being a good digital Christian means that you’re trying to make a difference in the world, that you’re trying to bring Christ to everyone you meet, whether you’re online or offline," Mr. Steele said. "We have technology, but we have to look at how we use it well, and how Christ would want us to use it.

"As Christians, we can’t separate who we are in real life with who we are online, said Sister Bernadette.

"I am a Christian, so my behavior flows from that identity. Whether I’m anonymous online or not, my presence should be that of a Christian," she said. "Being a Christian is not just about weekly worship, it embraces the whole person."

"Every person has a responsibility to realize the implications of their actions on the community and the larger world," Sister Bernadette said.

"By having this conversation at the communications conference, we can open new possibilities for a clearer path of technology in such a way that it promotes our human development."
Father Francis X. Marshall Council 15028 of the Knights of Columbus, from St. Peter Parish in Elizabethtown, continues to undertake a variety of projects in its year-and-a-half existence.

Efforts have included supporting the parish’s Corpus Christi procession, hosting a father/daughter dance, and assisting the parish and its pastor, Father David Danneker, PhD.

The council’s next event will be its second annual bocceball tournament, set to take place Sept. 21 at St. Peter Church at 1840 Marshall Drive. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Tournament-style play will begin at 9 a.m. and champions will be crowned by 2 p.m. Cost is $20 per person, and food and drinks will be available. Those interested in participating should call Grand Knight Carlo Consoli at 717-538-0577.

According to Scott Cvek, a member of the council, proceeds from the tournament will benefit Catholic education in the parish. “This is our largest fund-raiser,” he said.

Council officers are Grand Knight Carlo Consoli, Deputy Grand Knight Klaus-Peter Heim, Warden Richie Cope, Financial Secretary Gene Tobias, Jr., Treasurer Peter Kern, Chancellor Brandon Harter, Advocate Jason Stoltzfus, Lecturer George Cradic, Trustee 1st Year Thomas Fertal, Trustee 2nd Year Joseph Barone, Trustee 3rd Year Greg Martin, Inside Guard Anthony Stavenski and Outside Guard Craig Alexander.

“With about 35 members, our council used to be combined with the Middletown Council and now we’ve set out on our own,” Mr. Cvek said. “Our wish is to support our pastor, Father Danneker, in any need that arises in our parish.”

The Knights of Columbus are a band of brothers, a network of men in communities around the world dedicated to doing good in the service of God and neighbor.

They help meet the needs of those in the local community, provide “Coats for Kids” and “Food for Families,” support programs that benefit people with intellectual disabilities, aid victims of natural disasters and other catastrophic events, local and worldwide, donate wheelchairs to people without mobility at home and abroad, and save lives through initiatives such as the “Ultrasound Program.”

Charity is the first principle of the Knights of Columbus. Knights are men who get things done. They volunteer time to serve parishes and communities. By working together, they were able to donate more than $1.4 billion and 664 million volunteer hours to worthy causes in the past decade.

Unity and fraternity are the second and third principles of the Knights of Columbus. The organization was founded so that men could work together to serve their parishes and communities, protect the wellbeing of their Catholic families, and support each other in faith and in many other ways along life’s journey.

The Knights of Columbus organization offers its members the opportunity to grow in their faith through living the example of charity that evangelizes and by personifying what it means to be a Catholic gentleman through the practicing of good works.

From charity for worldwide causes, to closer to home with volunteer activities, to a top-rated insurance program that protects those closest to you, the Knights make the most of their brotherhood.

Visit www.kofc.org/join, and look for Knights of Columbus in your parish during membership drives.

Father Robert Gillelan, Diocesan Administrator, recently received checks from state officials representing more than 65,000 Knights of Columbus in Pennsylvania. Monies were donated to assist with religious vocations, and to a general diocesan fund. Presenting the check to Father Gillelan are, from left, Gerald Krall, State Advocate; Steve Franchak, Membership Chair; and Wayne Freet, Past State Deputy.
The Young and Life
By Father Paul CB Schenck
Special to The Witness

In a recent message to the British Isles, Pope Francis wrote that he “encourages all of you to let the light of that glory shine so brightly that everyone may come to recognize the inestimable value of all human life. Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of the Creator’s creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect.”

In this way he reiterated, in an impassioned way, a central teaching of the Church: that every human life, regardless of development, age, condition or circumstance, is intrinsically good and worthy of the highest respect, protection and care.

In an increasingly consumerist culture, we need to be very careful to promote this respect for human life and dignity. There is a pervasive utilitarian attitude in society that treats human persons like they are objects to be used for pleasure then discarded. This is often the case along the whole spectrum of life: the unborn are called “unwanted,” the poor blamed for their conditions, the terminally ill too costly, the elderly unworthy of limited resources and so on. It is critical that we, clergy, priests, pastors, deacons, catechists, youth ministers, above all conscientiously communicate to young people the inestimable value of all human life.

The horrendous murder rate in cities and increasingly in the countryside, the sexual abuse of children and women (now increasingly of boys and men), racial tensions and fear of immigrants and other forms of prejudice and strife threaten both communities and the Church. Young people need to be formed in a faith that recognizes the unique, unrepeatable and irreplaceable “Image Dei” in every person, before birth and at every stage of life.

Young people are delightfully free of prejudice. Sadly, they must learn this from their elders. So, by emphasizing the Church’s teaching on the sanctity of life and dignity of the person, we reinforce their already open hearts and we give them the knowledge they need, and the way to express it, to be free themselves from prejudice and discrimination, and we help them to help others remain free from it. In Judaism, there is a tradition that when a Torah Scroll is worn or damaged, the decision to repair or replace it is left up to a small child around five years old. If the child can read the words that have faded or been damaged, the scroll can be retained and repaired, but if not, it must be buried and replaced. A scroll can take years to replace and cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. Why not ask the Rabbi or a theologian? Because they have the opinions, “You know. But the child is free of prejudice, and will tell the truth freely and easily. It is this freedom and openness that we need to cultivate and strengthen in children and in everyone.

We will only see the building up of a culture respectful of life and dignity when we assist families, parents and children, parishes, schools and communities to embrace the teachings and practices of the Church which uphold the sanctity of all human life, the dignity of every person and the common good of all. Parishes, schools and institutions should be receiving the Bishops’ Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities soon. This is a comprehensive program that can be implemented on any level throughout the diocese. Our Respect Life Office stands ready to assist in any way in the promotion of the plan. You can contact us at respectlife@hbgdiocese.org or call 717-657-4804, ext. 293, and let us know how we can help.

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

From Pew to Legislative Office: Advocacy Visits
By Nicholle Mills
Special to The Witness

My earliest memory of political involvement is receiving a sticker in elementary school for accompanying my mother to the polls. Encouraged by a dose of political activism, I attended presidential rallies, campaigned in my community, registered others to vote and eventually voted myself. However, I still had not completed the most influential form of political involvement: visiting my state legislator.

Maybe, like me, you consider yourself involved and informed, but never thought to visit your legislators. Why would a senator or representative be interested in the opinions of a 20-year-old student? The intimidating “oval-office” style environment I imagined, with lots of staff people and formality, intensified my hesitations to visit my legislators in person.

As an intern at the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference (PCC) I was asked to put their new Advocacy Toolkit – which walks readers through preparing for and attending a legislative visit – to the test. Would it ease my hesitations? I was challenged to conquer my own misgivings when I read about this political involvement, “This obligation is rooted in our baptismal commitment to follow Jesus Christ and to bear Christian witness in all we do” (Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, USCCB).

Suddenly, conversing with my state senator was not about my nervousness, but about fulfilling a promise I made to Jesus Christ. As if that was not courageous enough, the Toolkit offered other practical reasons to visit my legislators.

I found my legislator by using the PCC website, www.pacatholic.org, which generates a list of lawmakers’ contact information based on one’s address. The Toolkit recommended researching the chosen legislator’s background. It’s a good tip – knowing more about Senator Mike Waugh made me feel more at ease when I visited his office.

I also researched Senator Waugh’s voting record on HB 818; a recent bill that prohibited taxpayer supported insurance plans from covering elective abortions. As a young pro-life woman, I wanted to personally thank him for defending life with his “yes” vote on HB 818 and his “no” vote on the weakening amendments.

So, now I was armed with contact information as well as some easily compiled research. I called Senator Waugh’s office, introduced myself and requested a meeting. Due to the hectic timing of the state budget debate, Senator Waugh was not able to meet with me personally. However, as the Toolkit instructs, meeting with a member of the legislator’s staff is equally beneficial. Staff members are often highly educated on issues and provide influential support to the legislator’s position. Do not become discouraged if the legislator is unavailable or if a meeting is delayed; legislators work for their constituents, and they want to hear from us.

On the day of my meeting with Gregg Beckenbaugh, a member of Senator Waugh’s staff, I skimmed my notes as I walked from the PCC to the Capitol. Traveling to the Capitol was easy for me, but for the sake of convenience, I recommend meeting with legislators in their home district offices.

After a warm greeting, I informed Gregg of my gratitude for Senator Waugh’s “pro-life” vote on HB 818. I briefly explained that as a pro-life Catholic woman it is encouraging to see my state legislator protecting the rights of all women, including women of future generations. Gregg promised to pass my message to the senator, and within minutes, I had accomplished my mission.

It really is that easy! Not only fulfilled my baptismal promise to defend the faith, but I benefitted from a pleasant conversation with Senator Waugh’s staff and even got a quick tour of their offices. I left knowing that what I said mattered; what I said made a difference.

Surveys show that in-person visits hold the most weight when legislators consider constituent feedback in their decision making. There are over 3 million Catholics in Pennsylvania: 3 million! Imagine if even half of us spent 15 or 30 minutes in our legislators’ offices, advocating on behalf of Catholic teaching. The Church has a profound need for defenders of the faith, and I strongly encourage my fellow Catholics to begin in their home districts. Initiate a conversation with a legislator, fill their office with the word of the Lord, “Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father” (Matthew 5:16).

(Nicholle Mills is an intern at the PCC. She will be a college junior in the fall. More information, including the Advocacy Toolkit, is available at www.pacatholic.org.)
Holy Family Radio Expands Local Programming with New ‘Morning Show’

By Jen Reed
The Catholic Witness

Ever since its on-air debut in August 2011, Holy Family Radio has endeavored to bring quality Catholic programming to listeners tuning in at AM 720 on the radio dial, or listening online at www.720whyf.com.

The station’s daily lineup includes such EWTN-based programming as “Catholic Answers Live,” “Women of Grace with Johnnette Benkovic,” “Catholic Connection with Teresa Tomeo,” daily Mass, and recitation of the Rosary and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

Local programming is a way of attracting listeners and growing support for the station, noted Doug Neatour, general manager.

The show provides updates on the activities of local groups of Columbus councils and the impact that the organization has on the local community.

“The Morning Show” is one of the station’s newer offerings. It is broadcast Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. on AM 720.

Another local feature, which is also aired during “The Morning Show,” is “A Moment with the Deacon.” It is a program by Deacon James Rush that offers reflections on the faith in daily life.

Holy Family Radio’s local shows are coupled with EWTN-based programming to bring a broad spectrum of Catholic spirituality, news, entertainment and discussion.

The station continues to seek ways to reach new listeners, and markets itself through bulletin announcements, parish flyers and bumper stickers.

A radiothon is an event on the station’s calendar. Special on-air guests fill the day’s schedule with interesting and inspirational stories as they talk about the importance of Catholic radio in central Pennsylvania. The next radiothon is scheduled for Aug. 21 from 9 a.m.-8 p.m. You can listen at AM 720 or online at www.720whyf.com.

Those associated with Holy Family Radio consider it a means of evangelization.

Deacon James Rush and Joe Murphy work to produce local programming for Holy Family Radio.

“We are very happy to be able to include more local programming,” said Betty Girven, Board President. “We want to continue to improve our information for the listeners in our diocese. Our goal is to continue to reach out with the message of Christ, which is a life-saving message in the world today.”

“There are so many people at home who are shut-ins, who don’t have cable television, who aren’t able to go to Mass,” Deacon Rush said. “This radio station gives them an opportunity to connect in another way to the faith. I think Holy Family Radio is a fantastic ministry, and a wonderful means of evangelization.”

“I see that there is so much need for Catholic radio programming, and this station offers it,” Mr. Murphy said. “With more support and awareness, we can reach out to more people.”

Catholic Perspective

Radio

August 15: Have you ever contacted or visited a government agency? Nicolle Mills, a recent intern at the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference, learned a lot about the how and why of that.

A commentary on her experience appears on page 4 of this edition, and she is interviewed on this week’s edition of Catholic Perspective. She tells Rose Akinbetter about her experiences with the statewide public policy representative for the Catholic Church in Pennsylvania.

Father William Weary shares his perspective on the faith and culture he discusses with the Governor in the Catholic Church during a teaching moment segment. From the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation, Micahil Bilger speaks with us about another side of the pro-life movement, assisted suicide.

Faith. What is it? That is the topic discussed on this week’s “Coffee and Catholicism” segment with Jim Gontis, Religious Education Director for the Diocese of Harrisburg.

Deacon Jerry Robinson, who ministers at St. Bernard Parish in New Bloomfield, shares the story of his vocation to ministry in this week’s “Vocation Story” segment.

Catholic Perspective is produced in cooperation with the Office of Communications of the Diocese and WHFY AM 720. It can be heard Mondays at noon and Sundays at 3 p.m. on WHFY AM 720 and on Sunday mornings on WLAM-AM 1390, Lancaster at 7:30 a.m.; WHYL-AM 960, Carlisle, at 8 a.m.; WHVR-AM 1280, Hanover, at 8 a.m.; WKOK-AM 1070, Sunbury, at 6:30 a.m.; WEEZ-AM 670, Lewistown, at 8 a.m.; WWSM-AM 1510, Lebanon, at 7 a.m.; and WWEC-AM 88.3, Elizabethtown, at 9:30 a.m. It is also available on line at www.OldiesRadio1620.com at 6:30 a.m. and at www.WISL1480.com on Sunday at 11 a.m. or for download at www.hbgdiocese.org.

Radiothon will be held to support AM 720, WHFY, the only Catholic radio station in Central PA on Aug. 21 from 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Listeners will be able to financially support the station by calling 717-525-8110 or 717-525-8137. During the 11-hour radiothon, local guests consist of priests, deacons and others from the Catholic community who will speak about the importance of Catholic radio in central Pennsylvania. Holy Family Radio is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization and relies on contributions from listeners to provide operating and other expenses. The radio station does not receive regular funding from EWTN, the Catholic Church, the Diocese of Harrisburg or any government agency.

What if YOU could connect with young adults from all around the Diocese of Harrisburg...in one place...one party?

As a way to kick off the 2013-2014 year, the Diocese of Harrisburg will be hosting a night for young adults ages 21-35 all across the diocese to come together, play games, enjoy a few drinks and appetizers, and get to know other Catholic young adults who are also interested in meeting new people!

September 28 at the Coliseum’s What If...West Restaurant & Bar 410 St. John’s Church Road, Camp Hill, www.coliseumfun.com/what-if-west-restaurant

Cost is $10 per person
Bowling alley, arcade, appetizers, bars, and music
Register online at www.hbgdiocese.org/getconnected

A Young Adult Social hosted by the Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg

JEN REED, THE CATHOLIC WITNESS
Dauphin County Man Follows Bulletin, God’s Will to “Walk the Catholic Walk”

By Mary Klaus

Special to The Witness

Ron Fertal says that some of the biggest changes in his life stem from reading his parish bulletin each Sunday.

Mr. Fertal, a member of St. Matthew Parish in Dauphin, attributes bulletin announcements and a nudge from God for turning him into a parish activist.

Those announcements led to his involvement in becoming a lector and eventually an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion; serving on the parish council for more than 30 years; joining pro-life prayer services; teaching in his parish religious education program; becoming a pastoral care volunteer at Holy Spirit Hospital in Camp Hill and volunteering for prison ministry at the Dauphin County Prison and the State Correctional Institution in Camp Hill.

“I’m trying to be a more authentic disciple of Christ,” he said, “by performing the Spiritual and Corporate Works of Mercy. I feel called to help people in need. Catholics have got to walk the walk, not just talk the talk.”

Mr. Fertal – who retired from the state Department of Revenue after 28 years as a computer systems analyst and secretary director of the state lottery – walked the walk.

This happily married father of three and grandfather of three calls himself a “cradle Catholic” who attended Catholic elementary school, high school and college.

One Sunday in the 1970s, he read a bulletin announcement seeking more lectors.

“I didn’t want to do it,” he said, “but I felt called. I got into that, which led me to become an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion in 1978. I also began teaching CCD to ninth and tenth-grade students. Then, I was nominated and elected to the St. Matthew Parish Council.”

Mr. Fertal went on to serve on the council under the parish leadership of five pastors.

His involvement in various Catholic causes grew. In 2004, this Vietnam War veteran, who had served as a medic, became a pastoral care volunteer at Holy Spirit Hospital.

“I visit patients and give them spiritual support,” he said. “Some of them need to talk. I remember that after I prayed for one man, he sang a hymn to me. Patients are captive, stuck in their prayers for one man, he sang a hymn to me. Patients are captive, stuck in their faith sharing,” Mr. Fertal said. “But it’s rewarding.”

Father Paul M. Clark, the pastor at St. Matthew Parish, called Mr. Fertal “a good, faithful servant. When he’s asked to do something new, he prays about it and has full authentic discernment. When he teaches classes, he is well-prepared. He gives his students good content for their life faith journey.”

Mr. Fertal also was a leader in his parish’s plans to build its first church.

“We are trying to be a more authentic disciple of Christ,” he said, “by performing the Spiritual and Corporate Works of Mercy. I feel called to help people in need. Catholics have got to walk the walk, not just talk the talk.”

Mr. Fertal frequently stops in the former Dauphin Presbyterian church in Penbrook and prays. He finds peace both by looking inward and looking out through the clear centered windows of the stained glass windows at the peaceful woods outside.

“I’m active because I want to support my pastor and my parish,” he said. “The key to volunteering is to be not afraid. Open the door, step through it and take a chance. Volunteer teaching me about the Holy Spirit’s grace. God has given me work to do and I’m doing it.”

(Mary Klaus is a freelance reporter for The Catholic Witness.)

Full-Time Position: Assistant to the Archivist

The Archival Department of the Diocese of Harrisburg is seeking an organized individual to assist the Archivist in the safekeeping and preservation of documents and materials in the diocesan archives. Specific duties include processing genealogy requests, wills, managing the vault collection and assisting with all archival displays. This position is also responsible for the processing of all receipts and invoices for the department.

Previous experience in archival field and demonstrated knowledge of archival and records management principles and practices preferred. Proficiency in all Microsoft Office applications essential. Bachelor’s degree (B.A.) from four-year college or university; or one to two years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Please send resume & cover letter to: employment@hbgdiocese.org
Or: Human Resources
4800 Union Deposit Rd
Harrisburg, PA 17111

Closing Date Monday September 9, 2013

Annulment Presentations Scheduled

The Tribunal of the Diocese of Harrisburg will offer presentations concerning divorce and annulments from the Catholic perspective in the coming months. These presentations will be helpful for divorced Catholics, divorced people who wish to marry Catholics, parish leaders involved in the RCIA process and those who have a vested interest because of family or friends.

Presentations will include a question-and-answer session and an opportunity for private conversation with Tribunal staff and representatives. For more information, call 717-657-4804 or send an e-mail to tribunal@hbgdiocese.org.

Schedule of Presentations:

September 12 – St. Philip, Millersville, 7 p.m.
September 25 – Cardinal Keeler Center Room 103, Harrisburg, 7 p.m.
October 3 – St. Joseph, Hanover, 7 p.m.
November 14 – Cardinal Keeler Center Room 103, Harrisburg, 7 p.m.

Celebrating Women in this Year of Faith!

A Day Retreat for Women with Johnnette Benkovic
Founder of Women of Grace

Saturday, October 5, 2013
Holy Name of Jesus Church
6150 Allentown Boulevard
Harrisburg, PA 17112
717-652-4211

Event Schedule:
7:00 a.m. - Registration Begins
8:30 a.m. - Mass
4:00 p.m. - End of Conference

Book Resource Table will be open at all Breaks and Lunch.
Women of Grace items will available for purchase

For more information please go to the Holy Name of Jesus Website:
Women of Grace Event Link at: http://www.holynameofjesus.com
or contact Ann Marie Segilia
717-939-1469 or amsegilia@gmail.com
Chris Arnold and Luann Cartwright Event Co-Chairs.
World Youth Day and the Call to Evangelize

By Sister Geralyn Schmidt
*Special to The Witness*

As I type this and think back that it has only been a week since 37 pilgrims came back from World Youth Day in Rio, I am overwhelmed about the amount of grace God poured into all our hearts. I have spent much of the week trying to reflect on and digest these blessings.

The Archbishop of Rio, D. Orani Joao Tempesta, writes in *Discipulus*, a document given to all pilgrims, “A WYD pilgrim has the opportunity to become a Missionary Disciple, permanently attracted by Jesus’ gaze. He has the opportunity to use his talents to serve his brothers and sisters. … The happiness of meeting the Lord turns us into happy proclaimers to our brothers and sisters.” (pg. 5) Each pilgrim now, in turn, becomes an evangelizer of the lessons learned when one gazes on the “face of Christ.” Those lessons do not just benefit the pilgrims who personally attended the events, but also the entire Church and each parish family. Pilgrims have experienced the face of Christ found in His Word, the Liturgy and in the living Church.

The symbol of World Youth Day in Rio was a heart with an image of the “face of Christ.” Those lessons do not just benefit the pilgrims who personally attended the events, but also the entire Church and each parish family. Pilgrims have experienced the face of Christ found in His Word, the Liturgy and in the living Church.

Clarisa Rosario de la Cruz, Alexandra Parisi and Melanie Kramer pray the Rosary on Copacabana Beach in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, during World Youth Day. The gathering of young people from all over the world builds and strengthens the bonds of faith, and inspires them with Christ’s message.

**World Youth Day blog?**

You can still check out the pilgrims’ experiences through the photographs and narratives they posted in real-time during the pilgrimage. Register at www.youthandyoungadult.ning.com to see the spiritually-uplifting imagery and reflections that capture the essence of World Youth Day - strengthening a relationship with Christ.
At St. Philip Parish, Murals Bring Scripture to Life

Emily M. Albert  
The Catholic Witness

Considering ways to improve the environment at St. Philip the Apostle Parish in Millersville, Father Mark Weiss, pastor, and Susan Havey, parish manager, wanted to bring the walls in the parish lobby and the religious education hallways to life with scripture.

They called on the efforts of artist Dan Gotel, who dedicated hundreds of hours to painting 8-by-10 and 8-by-16 feet murals depicting Noah’s Arc, Jesus with the children, and St. Philip.

“The first thing people saw when they walked in were metal coat racks. Now as they come in, people learn about the patron saint of their parish and can look at the Scripture on the walls as a catechetical tool, much like the stained-glass windows in parishes,” said Father Weiss.

Noah’s Arc is located in the preschool hallway, and the painting of Jesus with the children is in the religious education hallway.

The upper-level entrance into the church features three murals of St. Philip: one of him receiving the command, “Come follow me,” one of him with Jesus feeding the crowd with the multiplication of the loaves and fish, and one of him asking Jesus to “show us the Father.”

Not only do the murals give a fresh look to the walls, but they also open the parishioners’ eyes to the talents that God gives each of us. “When they hear Dan has no formal training, they are in awe. What a great recognition of God’s gifts,” Father Weiss commented.

Mr. Gotel resides in New London, Pa., and commented that he loves creating art for children, so when Mrs. Havey contacted him about the religious education hallways, it was a sure thing. “I love to teach children and have them learn about animals through my paintings. At

Meet the Artist and View the Murals

St. Philip the Apostle Parish,  
Millersville  
Aug. 24 following 5 p.m. Mass

The parish will host a wine and cheese social to meet artist Dan Gotel.

All are invited to attend, to view the murals in person.
St. Philip’s Mural

Continued from 8

fter creating murals in hospitals and seeing the kids’ reactions, it made me realize that I had to give them all that I have, give them a good understanding of the world outside. It isn’t about the money for me; I’d rather work to make the kids happy.

Painting in his studio at 2 a.m. when he is alone with the sound of crickets is Mr. Gotel’s favorite way to work. He said that while he was working on the third image of St. Philip and Christ, he became enthralled in the night sky he was painting. And though all the murals are original concepts created by Mr. Gotel, it was Father Weiss who had the vision to bring St. Philip alive on the walls of the parish.

Mr. Gotel painted the murals for the parish at cost, and said he was very grateful for the opportunity. As he stood proudly in front of his depiction of the Noah’s Arc and spoke in detail about each creature he painted, it was clear that he took the time to research thoroughly the details to be 100 percent accurate. Through his murals, he is certainly sharing Bible stories with the parish, and the creation God gives to us every day.
Catholic Social Teaching: Labor and the Dignity of Work

By Dennis Deslippe Special to The Witness

Of the few details the Gospels, provide about the Holy Family, Joseph’s carpenter’s trade stands out as an example of the dignity of labor. Joseph engaged in his work in loving support of Mary and John. He remained a laborer and modest, even while engaging in an honorable trade that benefited his commonwealth.

In the Gospels Jesus takes the side of those that need in need, physically and spiritually. Through his teachings about the uses of money and wealth, he inspired his listeners to seek and serve the reign of God. “Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did it for me.” (Matt. 25:40)

Over the centuries, Church teachings and practices have maintained the central place of labor in fulfilling God’s work of creation. St. Benedict, whose Rule has been a leading guide of monastic communal living in Western Christianity for 1,500 years, wrote that manual labor must be undertaken with care, alongside prayer, study, and rest. St. Francis Assisi wrote in his “Treatise of the Assisi” that friars should work “in labor which is compatible with honesty.” Labor was not merely work, but a vocation to the sake of example and to repel idle-ness. “For many centuries, the Church condemned the practice of usury that provided great profits for people who used other peoples’ money to get rich through exploitation of interdependence.”

The world of the medieval artisan was organized around a careful atten- tion to the needs of the community. Classes of apprentices, journeymen, and master craftsmen. Just wages and fair prices—not profits—were para-mount. Sloppy work and avarice vio-lated communal and religious norms. The Church throughout its history supported benevolent societies; they helped the impoverished and sick members, they took on court cases, and they remembered the needs of the poor.

The vast social and economic changes of the Industrial Revolution disrupted this way of life. The first paper workers lived in the world of the wage earner, management, and corporations, and the modern state was Pope Leo XIII’s Rerum Novarum (“On the Condition of Labor”) which he published in 1891. The pope sought to restore the values of the medieval guilds. He saw this as a difficult task since corrosive individualism and rad-icalism had thwarted the communal, ordered world of the Middle Ages. As a result, workers had been “surr-ended, isolated, left to fend for themselves,” the hard-heartlessness of employers and the greed of competition.” Pope Leo rejected the selfish and individual mov-ements that threatened private property and encouraged revolution, but he did not refuse the fundamental responsibility to provide just wages and fair working hours “to supply the needs of the family and the wage-earner.” In a sign of the times, he acknowledged that modern government was a positive, necessary role for the economy, “should circumstances require” by regulating wages and working hours.

The most lasting effect of Rerum Novarum to Catholic social teaching was its approval of labor unions. Pope Leo observed that employers would not necessarily act in the best interests of their employees. Therefore, work-ers must form associations among themselves and unite their forces so that “they may march against the power of so unrighteous and intolerable an oppression.” His hope was that social justice would emerge as the desire employers, workers, and government — worked together: “Capital cannot do without labor, nor labor without capital. Mutual agreement results in pleas-antness and good order; perpetual con-flict necessarily produces confusion and outrage.”

Pope Leo's encyclical gave rise to a new era of activity in support of unions in the United States. Father John Ryan, who published “A Living Wage” in 1906 and served as the au-thor of the U.S. Bishops’ “Program of Social Reconstruction,” advanced this perspective. Father Ryan argued that a living wage was a natural rather than a positive, social, or legalistic right. On this right is grounded in the in-trinsic worth of the human person and their ability to develop their personal-ity and talents. He held that, without a living wage, people could not attain their natural end of flourishing as God intended. The dignity of workers re-quired measures to ensure security for oneself and family. These included reasonable working hours, unemploy-ment and old-age insurance, medical care, collective bargaining rights, and municipal housing, as well as public ownership of utilities. Many of Father Ryan’s recommendations came into being, especially during the New Deal.

American Catholics—the maj-ority of whom were working-class and immigrants (or children of immi-grants)—welcomed this social justice message. Beginning in the 1930s, bishops and clergy (known as “labor priests”) founded over 150 Catholic labor schools to teach workers how to form and run unions. The Catholic Worker Movement, founded by Doro-they Day and Peter Maurin, supported, in word and deed, the needs of work-ers and the unemployed. During the 1960s, lay Catholics and clergy established chapters of the Association of Catholic Trade Unionists in cities such as New York, Pittsburgh and Detroit in order to represent the Church's teachings into union halls. Numerous Catholics (including Day) marched with Ce-sar Chavez in the 1960s and 1970s in support of the United Farm Workers. Many Catholics, as individuals and in parishes, honored the union’s national boycott of table grapes.

In 1986, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops published “Economic and Justice for All.” In this remarkable pastoral letter, the bishops gave their fullest support to “the rights of work-ers to form unions” and stated, “We vehemently oppose violations of the freedom to associate, for they are an intolerable attack on social solidarity.” They called on readers to “modify the operation of the market when it harms vulnerable members of society.” To that end, unions “help workers resist exploitation.”

The bishops warned of the harmful effects of blunted defense budgets and racial discrimination on providing a secure livelihood for all Americans. And, for the first time, they called for “an ecologically ethical which will shape a future that is both just and sustainer-able.” In all these matters, government “has an essential responsibility to work alongside employers, unions, and others to protect what is impor-tant, vital, and to promote our common values.”

The renewed efforts in the past de-cade to put Catholic social teachings into practice reflect the new context of globalization, increased migrations of workers, and the dominance of the ser-vice economy and casual labor. Since 2008, a new organization, “Catholic Scholars for Worker Justice,” has ded-icated itself to supporting union and efforts at Catholic and secular institu-tions. Group members teach at nearly 100 colleges and universities. On many campuses students have come together to fight for a living wage for and through campus workers. During the economic downturn, wage workers on American campuses even earn a poverty-level income, let alone receive health benefits. Many work only nine or ten months a year and are often barred from receiving unemployment benefits. Yet the few summer months they are unemployed. Yet their work is an essential ingredient for the success of so many campuses couldn't function. Some of these living wage campaigns have been suc-cesful, such as the one at Jesuit-run Georgetown University.

So, too, has a new generation of “labor priests” emerged to support union efforts to improve working conditions. In 2012, priests from across the country gathered in Chicago under the auspices of the Na-tional Federation of Priests’ Councils, and with an endorsement from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. They studied Church social teachings on labor and strategized on ways to assist workers. “It really goes back to the ministry of Jesus,” noted one priest from the Chicago Diocese. “His care for those who were oppressed and marginalized is why we do what we do in supporting those who are working.”

The bishops have spoken with a de termined voice on these issues. With Congress and the public in a seeming-ly stuck in a stalemate of immigration policy, the bishops have supported measures to provide pathways to citizenship for America's illegal immigrants, improved living and working con-ditions, as well as education and health care. “The current immi-gration system, which causes so much human suffering, is a stain on the soul of our nation,” said Archbishop Jose H. Gomez, who heads the bishops’ Committee on Do-mestic Justice and Human Justice, tes-tified before Congress. “Work should be a ladder out of poverty for families, not a trap that ensnares families, a stain on the soul of our nation.”

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The bishops have spoken with a determined voice on these issues. With Congress and the public in a seemingly stuck in a stalemate of immigration policy, the bishops have supported measures to provide pathways to citizenship for America’s illegal immigrants, improved living and working conditions, as well as education and health care. “The current immigration system, which causes so much human suffering, is a stain on the soul of our nation,” said Archbishop Jose H. Gomez, who heads the bishops’ Committee on Migration Issues.

They have maintained their support for a living wage as well. Speaking this past June on the 75th anniversary of the Fair Labor Standards Act, the law that first established a federal minimum wage, Bishop Stephen Blaine, who heads the bishops’ Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Justice, testified before Congress. “Work should be a ladder out of poverty for families, not a trap that ensnares families, a stain on the soul of our nation.”

Yet, there is where we fall short. “The basic idea is that families are working but do not make enough to live in dignity.”

As the world changes too so have the some of the ways the Church understands the economy, but papal encyclicals since Pope Leo’s Rerum Novarum have repeated the theme of the dignity of the human and the common ownership of the gifts of creation. These encyclicals include Pope Pius XI’s Quadragesimo Anno (1931), Blessed John XXIII’s Pacem in Terris (1963), Blessed John Paul II’s Laborem Exercens (1981), and Benedict XVI’s Caritas in Veritate (2009). Pope Francis has continued to call Catholics to seek justice and avoid conforming to a “culture of self-individ-ualism in the marketplace. In com-ments he delivered on May Day (May 1) his first year, the pope asserted that many political and economic systems “have made choices that mean exploiting people.” The day on which he made his remarks—also the Feast of St. Joseph—the new pope reminded his listeners that “we do not only get dignity from power or money or culture, no! We get dignity from work.”

(Dennis Deslippe is Associate Pro-fessor of American Studies/Women’s & Gender Studies at Franklin and Mar-shall College in Lancaster.)
By Mark Pattison  
Catholic News Service

Millions of workers are being denied the honor and respect they deserve because of a lack of jobs, underemployment, low wages and exploitation, according to the bishop who heads the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development.

“Earlier this year, Pope Francis pointed out, ‘Work is fundamental to the dignity of a person. ... Its meaning is one that demands preservation of one’s family, its right to contribute to the growth of one’s society and of the Church, to participate in citizenship, so that their human rights are protected and the democracy at risk. Equality leads to an erosion of social cohesion, he said, and puts other issues. ‘High unemployment and underemployment are the common good.’”

Bishop Blaire spoke of the importance of unions in his state – “Unfortunately, millions of workers today are denied this honor and respect as a result of unemployment, underemployment, unjust wages, to which they are subjected because they stay jobless simply lost hope. For every available job, there are often five unemployed and underemployed people actively vying for it. This jobs gap pushes wages down. Half of the jobs in this country pay less than $27,000 a year. More than 46 million people live in poverty, including 16 million children.”

In his message, Bishop Blaire quoted from Gaudium et Spes (Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World), one of the more influential documents of the Second Vatican Council: “While an immense number of people still lack the absolute necessities of life, some, even in less advanced areas, live in luxury or squander wealth. ‘How can it be said that persons honor one another when such extravagance and wretchedness exist side by side?’” he asked.

Bishop Blaire also quoted from Pope Benedict XVI’s 2009 encyclical Caritas in Veritate, (Charity in Truth), which also dealt in part with the specter of inequality. “When the dignity of the individual and the demands of justice require, particularly today, that economic choices do not cause disparities in wealth to increase in an excessive and morally unacceptable manner,” Pope Benedict said, “and that we continue to prioritize social and ethical goals over steady employment for everyone.”

Bishop Blaire spoke of the importance of unions in his statement. “Just the end of the Civil War, unions have been an important part of our economy because they provide protections for workers and more importantly a way for workers to participate in company decisions that affect them. Catholic teaching has consistently advocated for workers to have a voice in their workplace decisions.”

The rise in income inequality has made the decline a union membership,” he said.

Unions, like all human institutions, are imperfect, and they must be fixed, labor unions themselves so they say. Bishop Blaire added. “Some workers still believe in the importance of raising living wages and appropriate benefits, raising the minimum wage, stopping wage theft, standing up for safe and healthy working conditions, and other issues that promote the good of all.”

The bishop also spoke about how workers’ issues are tied to other issues. “High unemployment and underemployment are connected to the rise in income inequality,” he said. Such inequality, he said, has a destructive effect on our economy, our social cohesion, he said, and puts democracy at risk. “The pain of the poor and those becoming poor in the rising economic inequality of our society is mounting,” Bishop Blaire added.

At its best, private enterprise creates “decent jobs,” contributes to the common good and puts people ahead of profits, he said. “Whenever possible we should support businesses and enter-prises that have a sense of mission to show one another honor by what we do and say.”

On this Labor Day, our mission takes us to the millions of people who continue to suffer the effects of the current econo-my,” he said.

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By Zoey Di Mauro  
Catholic News Service

Seventy-five years after President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed into law a national minimum wage, workers still struggle to support themselves and their families living at or slightly above that pay.

“Jobs that are paid minimum wage take a lot of physical effort. You’re on your feet; you’re dealing with customers while imagining working that hard and not feeling like you – it is incredibly demoralizing,” said Judy Conti, an activist with National Employment Law Project.

The current minimum wage is $7.25 an hour; had the minimum wage kept pace with inflation it would be at $10.74 per hour. Additionally, minimum wage for tipped workers hasn’t been raised in more than 20 years and remains at $2.13 an hour.

“God bless these people,” said Conti. “They’ve got nothing to lose.” While she believes the federal minimum wage should be increased, she also champions the workers for dealing with the problem directly.

To her, raising low wages makes sense economically. “The more people you squeeze out of the middle class, the more no one has the money to buy your products. Good wages are a virtuous cycle; they fuel an economy that works.”

According to a poll by Rasmussen Reports, 51 percent of Americans favor raising the minimum wage to $10.10, the amount the Fair Wage Bill of 2013 proposes. Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., has introduced the bill and worked to change the tipped wage to $3 an hour, gradually raise the minimum wage to $10.10 and thereafter leave the future of minimum wage rate up to Department of Labor. The bill has not yet left committee.

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Kati Racine, who lives part time at $8.25 an hour, a dollar above the federal minimum wage, while going to school for nursing. While she had been living in a shelter, she and her 9-year-old daughter now live in residential housing in Fort Meade, Md. Because of the scarcity of full-time minimum wage jobs, many people she knows work multiple part-time jobs to support themselves. Even then, it’s easy to be left if something like a child’s sickness prevents them from coming into work.

It’s an employer’s market,” Radke told Catholic News Service in a telephone interview. Though she hopes to get a managerial position, and eventually a job in nursing, she realizes that not everyone has opportunities for a career change. “Some people can’t go to college if they are willing to live off $8.25 an hour. If that’s how you’re going to school, then it’s easy to be let go if something like a child’s sickness prevents them from coming into work.

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Missionary Activity is Service to Hurting World, Pope Says in Message

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

In a world that often seems dark and full of suffering and violence, Christians can offer hope by sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ, Pope Francis wrote in a message for World Mission Sunday 2013.

“It is necessary to proclaim courageously and in every situation the Gospel of Christ, a message of hope, reconciliation (and) communion, a proclamation of God’s closeness, his mercy, salvation and a proclamation that the power of God’s love is able to overcome the darkness of evil and guide us on the path of goodness,” the pope wrote.

World Mission Sunday will be celebrated Oct. 20 at the Vatican and in most dioceses, including the Diocese of Harrisburg.

The message for his first Mission Sunday since becoming pope is filled with phrases and ideas that have been featured prominently in the speeches and homilies Pope Francis has given during the first four months of his pontificate, including at World Youth Day in Rio de Janeiro.

Pope Francis’ message emphasized the obligation of all Christians to share the faith with others and do so with respect. He also pointed to the stifling damage done to the Church by the failure to evangelize and the sacrifices made by many Christians around the world currently facing oppression or even persecution because of their faith.

“Everyone should be able to experience the joy of being loved by God, the joy of salvation,” he said. “It is a gift that one cannot keep to oneself, but it is to be shared.”

“If we want to keep it only to ourselves, we will become isolated, sterile and sick Christians,” the pope wrote.

Each Christian has a responsibility to share the gift of faith with others, he said, and the strength of one’s faith “can be measured by the ability to communicate it to others, to spread and live it in charity, to witness to it before those we meet and those who share the path of life with us.”

Pope Francis said he knows some people today hesitate sharing the faith because they somehow think it will limit other people’s freedom, when in reality faith empowers people and frees them from despair and from chasing pleasure or material possessions that cannot last and, therefore, cannot make them happy forever.

A true Christian does not try to impose the Christian faith on anyone, but proclaims the good news through word and deed with respect, the pope wrote.

“The Church’s missionary spirit is not about proselytizing, but the testimony of a life that illuminates the path, which brings hope and love.”

In his message, the pope offered thanks to and prayers for the many Christians in different parts of the world who “experience difficulty in openly professing their faith and in enjoying the legal right to practice it in a worthy manner.”

They are “courageous witnesses” of the Gospel, he said.

Pope Francis’ message also was filled with praise and thanksgiving for priests, religious and laypeople who pray for the Church’s teaching on abortion. Only love and mercy will open hearts that have little chance nowadays of entering the womb of mercy. Without mercy we need of understanding, forgiveness and truth isn’t a wet rag that you throw in someone’s face, but a warm cape that you wrap around a person, to protect and strengthen them.”

Pope Francis urged all Catholics to take responsibility for the Church’s missionary activity, including by giving financial support to the Pontifical Mission Societies.

Compassion
Continued from 1

Noting that “some people think that the Holy Father should talk more about abortion,” Cardinal O’Malley said he thinks Pope Francis “speaks of love and mercy to give people the context for the Church’s teaching on abortion. We oppose abortion, not because we are mean or old-fashioned, but because we love people. And that is what we must show the world.”

He continued, “We must be better people; we must love all people, even those who advocate abortion. It is only if we love them that we will be able to help them discover the sacredness of the life of an unborn child. Only love and mercy will open hearts that have been hardened by the individualism of our age.”

In reference to the United States as being an immigrant Church, Cardinal O’Malley spoke of the significance of the Holy Father’s first trip as pope to the Italian island of Lampedusa to underscore his concern for the plight of immigrants.

“When the Holy Father went to the island of Lampedusa, he threw a wreath of flowers into the sea where thousands of refugees have perished in the modern day coffin ships that bring refugees from North Africa,” the cardinal said, noting that Pope Francis talked about the globalization of indifference – indifference to the suffering of others, to the fate of the unborn, the elderly, the handicapped, the mentally ill and the immigrants.

We must overcome this indifference and help people to see that the Church’s teaching is about loving and caring for everyone, he explained, quoting the pope who told the Brazilian bishops at World Youth Day: “We need a Church capable of rediscovering the maternal womb of mercy. Without mercy we have little chance nowadays of entering the world of wounded persons in need of understanding, forgiveness and love.”

Added Cardinal O’Malley, “The truth isn’t a wet rag that you throw in someone’s face, but a warm cape that you wrap around a person, to protect and strengthen them.”

The prelate cited the post-abortion ministry Project Rachel as being the kind of combination of mercy and truth that the Church’s pro-life efforts need to be about.

“Our efforts to heal the wounds of society will depend on our capacity to love and to be faithful to our mission,” the cardinal insisted.

CNS/NANCY WIECHEC

Mig. John Kozar, former National Director of the Pontifical Mission Societies, greets a woman in the slums outside of Nairobi, Kenya.
The Year of Faith concludes on November 24, 2013, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe.

Pope Benedict XVI called this Year of Faith “a summons to an authentic and renewed conversion to the Lord, the one Savior of the world” (Porta Fidei 6). He wrote, “To rediscover the content of the faith that is professed, celebrated, lived and prayed, and to reflect on the act of faith, is a task that every believer must make his own, especially in the course of this year” (Porta Fidei 9).

Fittingly, Pope Francis’ first encyclical letter, promulgated on June 29 of this year, is entitled Lumen Fidei (The Light of Faith). This wonderful exposition on the nature of faith, begun by Pope Benedict XVI and completed by Pope Francis, teaches us: “There is no human experience, no journey of man to God, which cannot be taken up, illuminated and purified by this light. The more Christians immerse themselves in the circle of Christ’s light, the more capable they become of understanding and accompanying the path of every man and woman toward God” (Lumen Fidei 35).

Catholic Charismatic Day of Renewal
With Father Bill McCarthy, MSA

September 21 from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Cardinal Keeler Center, Harrisburg

The Diocese of Harrisburg’s annual Charismatic Day of Renewal will feature Father Bill McCarthy, MSA, a gifted author, teacher and evangelist. He is a member of the Holy Apostles Community and co-founder and co-director of “My Father’s House” Spiritual Life and Retreat Center in Moodus, Conn.

Cost is $20 per person, with or without lunch. Register by Sept. 10 with lunch preference (ham or turkey) with check payable to “Diocese of Harrisburg” to: Charismatic Renewal, 4800 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg PA 17111. For more information, call Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Mount Carmel at 570-339-1031.

Diocesan Institute – Fall Course Schedule

As the conclusion of this Year of Faith approaches, consider nourishing your faith by participating in any of a variety of adult faith formation offerings available at parishes and through the Diocesan Institute for Catechetical and Pastoral Formation.

For more information on how the Year of Faith is being celebrated throughout the Diocese of Harrisburg, visit the “Year of Faith” webpage on the diocesan Web site at www.hbgdiocese.org.

Learn from home. Take advantage of Diocesan Institute offerings without leaving the comforts of home. Through Elluminate Live, you can participate in courses and workshops offered at the Cardinal Keeler Center via webinar. You can either join these webinars as they happen (real-time) or view recordings of the webinars at a time that is more convenient for you. Offerings that are available via webinar are clearly marked on the schedule of courses. For more information, contact Ryan Bolster at 717-657-4804, ext. 225 or rbolster@hbgdiocese.org.

Save the Date for the Harrisburg Diocesan Council of Catholic Women’s Marian Day

October 12 • St. Patrick Church,
85 Marsh Drive, Carlisle

The Blessed Virgin Mary is Mother of all, and through the Rosary, she promises to grant her special protection and great graces upon us. In the history of nations, where people took refuge in Mary – when all other human means failed – she intervened and brought victory through the power of the Rosary.

Join the Cumberland-Perry District Council of Catholic Women as they host this year’s celebration to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary. More details will be announced as the date draws near; watch The Catholic Witness for updated information.
The names of the following deceased persons have been submitted by their parishes:


ELIZABETHTOWN – St. Peter: Andrew Bahajak.
ENOLA – Our Lady of Lourdes: Sarah “Sally” DeSantis, Melvin Glenn Wintremyer.

HARRISBURG – St. Catherine Laboure: Mary DiStasio, Doloros Hilton; St. Margaret Mary: Erika E. Lorenzo, Suzanne Nisley, Janet Schell.

LANCASTER – Assumption BVM: Elizabeth Martin, Carlo Pallato, M. Wesley.
LEWISTOWN – Sacred Heart of Jesus: Joan Lucchi.
MIDDLETOWN – Seven Sorrows BVM: Eric Horst Flagg, Elmer Versari, Jr., Elizabeth Vezza.
MILLERSVILLE – St. Philip the Apostle: Joan M. DeRose, Marie Marcher, Agnes Weir.
MOUNT CARMEL – Divine Redeemer: Rita Lambert, Cecelia Marie Marcher, Jr., Elizabeth Vezza.

NEW CUMBERLAND – St. Theresa: Veronica Murphy, Marie Zack.
NEW OXFORD – Immaculate Conception BVM: Clyde Glessner.

ROHRERSTOWN – St. Leo the Great: Lorraine M. Beck.
STEELTON – Prince of Peace: Frances Donato, Patricia Falcone, George Murlin, Helen Stubljar.

TREVAORTON – St. Patrick: Mary B. Voche.
WAVESBORO – St. Andrew: Alfred Balsam, James Minteer.

YORK – St. Patrick: Andrey Mingora.

Sister Maureen Joseph Caranci
Immaculate Heart of Mary
St. Joseph Cemetery
Maureen Joseph Caranci died last month in Camilla Hall, Immaculata, Pa., She was 89. Born Marie Caranci in Philadelphia, she entered the Congregation of Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in 1948. During her years in education ministry, Sister Maureen Joseph taught grades 1-7 in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and in Georgia and Peru. Her ministry in high schools included positions at York Catholic High School, Immaculata, and in Virginia and New Jersey.

The Funeral Mass was celebrated at Camilla Hall. Burial was in the Immaculata Cemetery.

Good Shepherd Church to Hold Mass of Remembrance for Deceased Children

Good Shepherd Parish in Camp Hill invites all families who have experienced the loss of a child (through miscarriage, abortion, stillbirth or early death) to the Mass of Remembrance Sept. 14, at 10 a.m. at Good Shepherd Church. The Mass is the most powerful form of healing prayer. Please take this opportunity to remember your children, to name them if you have not, and to celebrate the fulfillment of God’s plan of having each human family incorporated in God’s spiritual family.

By naming the child, you are witnessing to the dignity of their life, no matter how brief. Those who have not been given a name can be listed with your last name, such as “Baby Jones.” The names will be brought to the altar to be remembered collectively.

Names of children who have been submitted in previous years will be included in this year’s remembrance.

We welcome you to submit your child’s name for remembrance by making it to the church office at 3435 Trindle Road, Camp Hill, PA 17010, and marking the envelope “Mass of Remembrance.” You may also call Connie Heppenstall at 717-329-0691 or email your child’s name to 915mass@gmail.com.

Pregnancy & Family Resource Center to Host Dinner

The Pregnancy & Family Resource Center (PFRC) in York is celebrating “A New Beginning” at Heritage Hills Terrace Ballroom Sept. 26. The fundraising dinner will take place at 6 p.m. and is open to the public. Guest speaker is Kristan Hawkins, Executive Director of Students for Life America. Reservations are $50 each and are available through www.yorkpregnancycenter.com or by calling the center at 717-854-6285.

This year brings much anticipated excitement and change to the PFRC. In order to fulfill its mission and better serve the families in its community, the center is undertaking the addition of obstetrical ultrasound. Ultrasound in the PFRC will serve to confirm pregnancy for young women who views an ultrasound picture of her unborn child is statistically very likely to carry the child to term.

The center has committed to moving into a new location in York city, which will give it an office on the first floor, ample parking for clients, plenty of room to store donations, and a welcoming reception area. The new location will be easily accessible from the city and from the surrounding area. The mission of the Pregnancy & Family Resource Center is to provide alternatives to abortion that respect life and encourage the healthy development of the family. The center has been providing peer counseling, referrals, maternity and infant clothing, pregnancy test kits, cribs, strollers, formula, diapers and other items. Thousands of children have benefited from the center over the years. The center offers a Parent Education Program, (PEP) to help build critical parenting skills, with incentives to earn much needed baby items. A 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, the center offers practical support services free of charge to anyone involved in a pregnancy or parenting young children.

Local Medical Mission Sister Celebrates 60th Jubilee

Sister Ann Louise Smith, M.M.S., a native of McSherrystown and former member of Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, celebrated her 60th Jubilee Aug. 15 at a special Mass and reception at the Medical Mission Sisters’ North American Headquarters in Emmitsburg.

Sister Ann Louise entered the Medical Mission Sisters in 1951, several years after graduating from Delone Catholic High School. She made her First Vows in 1953 and Final Vows in 1958. In her 60 years of religious life, Sister Ann Louise has served as a nurse in her Community in Rawalpindi and Karachi, Pakistan; Judibana, Venezuela; and Philadelphia. She also worked with Vanderbilt University and Meharry College students in Roselle Tennessee, and in several senior citizen and home health aide programs in Memphis; Washington, D.C.; and Philadelphia.

A trained cosmetician, Sister Ann Louise now lives at her Community’s North American Headquarters in Philadelphia. She is able to use her cosmeticology training to care for older sisters, cutting and styling their hair. She also spends a good part of her day in prayer.

The Medical Mission Sisters are an international Religious Community of women committed to a mission of healing in areas of need throughout the world. Founded in 1925 by Austrian-born Doctor Anna Dengel, they were the first Roman Catholic Sisters to combine the practice of medicine, surgery, and obstetrics with the religious life. Their 600 sisters and 80 associate members today serve as a healing presence in 17 countries around the world.

Celebrate Mother Seton’s 239th Birthday with Mass, Family Fun Day

On Aug. 25 at 1:30 p.m., The National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg, Md., will celebrate the 239th birthday of Mother Seton. The 239th birthday of Mother Seton will be honored with a special Mass and Family Fun Day Birthday Celebration.

This announcement honors our Patrons,” said Bob Judge, executive director at The Shrine. “We invite children and women with the name Elizabeth to participate in a special legacy name ceremony where they are recognized during the Mass and given a ribbon.”

In addition, children, adults and adults alike are invited to our Family Fun Day – a birthday party in honor of Mother Seton. Children’s activities will include a moon bounce, face painting, carnival games, a children’s entertainer, and more! Birthday cake will be served and balloons will be given to all.

Call 301-447-6606 or visit www.setonheritage.org for more information.
Diocesan Notebook
Compiled by Jen Reed

Mass in the Polish language will be celebrated by Father Walter Semko Aug. 18 at 2 p.m. at St. Catherine Labouré Church in Harrisburg. Confessions are heard in English and Polish.

St. Jude Thaddeus Church in Mifflintown will hold a monthly Mass with prayers for healing Sept. 5 at 6 p.m. Father William Weary is the celebrant of this monthly Mass.

Education, Enrichment & Support

A Theology on Tap session for young adults ages 21 and under will be held on the roof of Cooltis in Harrisburg Aug. 14 at 6:30 p.m. “The Thaith” open-air rooftop bar will be the setting for this month’s gathering. For more information, or to RSVP for the Theology on Tap Harrisburg Facebook group on www.facebook.com/education/theology-on-tap.

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Wrightsville is hosting a Fall Festival Sept. 21 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. The festival will include an outdoor market featuring handcrafts, baked goods, and handmade meats (brats, knacks, weiswurst, frankfurters). There will be a silent auction of ski trips, foreign and home, kids’ games, crafts, raffles, games of change. Entertainment Friday by “DYIN,” and Saturday by “Polka Punch.” A pasta dinner will be served with admission. Proceeds benefit the Immaculate Conception BVM Parish’s Bereavement Committee.

Holy Spirit Hospital in Camp Hill will host “Spirted Hearts” credit card support group Aug. 28 from 6-7:30 p.m. in the hospital dining room. A light meal will be provided. A $10 MS staff membership per member and $20 non-staff membership per member is requested. “What is an ambulance membership? What to expect when you call 911, and Hands-only CPR: what to do before the ‘What is an ambulance membership? What to expect when you call 911, and Hands-only CPR: what to do before the ‘Bedside Incident,” will be presented. Call 717-997-4468 by Aug. 23, to reserve your seat.

A Theology on Tap session for young adults will be held Aug. 28 at the Lancaster Brewing Company in Lancaster- est. Join us Sept. 7 for Sacraments and Social in the school’s gymnasium. Tours of the school will be given. Admission is free. For more information, contact sjaumen@comcast.net.

The Harrisburg Area Women’s Retreat Club wel- comes anyone interested in retreat work to attend a retreat weekend at the Center of Faith and Formation at Sacred Heart Monastery, 6-8 p.m. of our Lady in Mount Pocono, Pa. For information, call Jo Barnes at 717-652-2888 or Mary Brown at 717-545- 7312.

Bishop Martin and Father Meinrad. Cost for the day (including lunch) is $15 per person. For more information, contact jodycole@comcast.net.

The Spirit Scramble golf tournament, hosted by the Holy Spirit Knights of Columbus #10502 in Palmyra, will be held Sept. 14 at Royal Oaks Golf Club in Lebanon. The tournament will begin at 9 a.m. with registration and a continental breakfast. Proceeds benefit LourdesHouse women’s maternity home in Harrisburg. All sera must have a ticket, and children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Contact Barry at 717- 428-0365 or bmarc@comcast.net or Joy at 717-576-289 for tickets or information.

The 11th Annual Bingo for Babies, hosted by the Knights of Columbus #4075 to benefit the Carlisle Area Family Life Center, a crisis pregnancy resource and support center, will be held Aug. 24. Contact Sharon or Oliver Ogden at 717-588-4512 or 717-663-2417 to reserve your table.

The Immaculate Conception Thrift Shop, 503 S. High St., New Oxford, is currently holding a clothing sale: buy two and get one free. Third item must be equal to or less than 10% of original price.

Religious store closing sale. The Gift Shop in Scranton, Pa., will close Aug. 31. Up to 50 % discounts on religious gifts, statues, art, jewelry, books, First Communion items, church goods. New hours: Monday-Friday 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., 400 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, Tel 1800-367-6810.

A yard sale benefiting St. Joseph Church in York will be held Aug. 31 from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m., sponsored by the Holy Name Ladies’ Day Out Basket and Vera Bradley Bingo Sept. 8 at St. John the Baptist Parish in New Freedom. Doors open at 1 p.m., and bingo begins at 2 p.m. Food will be available for sale. Entrance Fee is $20, seating limited. Call 570-337-6936 or 570-373-3415.

Women’s Day Out Basket and Vera Bradley Bingo in Wrightsville will be held Sept. 22 at 10 a.m. at St. John the Baptist Parish in Wrightsville. Doors open at 9 a.m., and bingo begins at 10 a.m. Food will be available for sale. Entrance Fee is $20, seating limited. Call 717-703-6292 for tickets or information.

The 2013 Spirit Scramble golf tournament, hosted by the Holy Spirit Knights of Columbus Council #10502 in Palmyra, will be held Sept. 14 at Royal Oaks Golf Club in Lebanon. The tournament will begin at 9 a.m. with registration and a continental breakfast. Proceeds benefit Lourdes House women’s maternity home in Harrisburg. All sera must have a ticket, and children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Contact Barry at 717-428-0365 or bmarc@comcast.net or Joy at 717-576-289 for tickets or information.

Trinity High School in Camp Hill is holding an anniversary reunion Aug. 17-19 for any student who attended Trinity 1975-1981, and current principal, Dr. David Bouton. Immediately after Mass, reconnect with friends at a Wine & Cheese Social in the school’s gymnasium. Tours of the school will be also provided during this time. Complimentary, but R.S.V.P. appreciated. Call the school at 717-761-1116.

Parish & Organization News

The Immaculate Conception Thrift Shop, 5 Carlisle St., New Oxford, is currently holding a clothing sale: buy two and get one free. Third item must be equal to or less than 10% of original price.

Religious store closing sale. The Gift Shop in Scranton, Pa., will close Aug. 31. Up to 50 % discounts on religious gifts, statues, art, jewelry, books, First Communion items, church goods. New hours: Monday-Friday 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., 400 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, Tel 1800-367-6810.
**State Games of America Come to Bishop McDevitt High School**

By Chris Heisey  
*The Catholic Witness*

The eighth bi-annual State Games of America were held in the Harrisburg-Hershey region from July 31-August 4, and pitted more than 9,000 athletes from 44 different states who competed in various sporting events that included archery, figure skating, tennis as well as team sports such as baseball and field hockey. In all, more than 25 sports were offered in venues all across Central Pennsylvania.

In 2011, the games were held in San Diego, and this year’s competition marked only the second time the games were held on the East Coast and held in a smaller market venue such as Harrisburg.

The opening ceremonies were at Giant Center, Hershey, as ABC-27’s Dennis Owens served as the master of ceremonies that allowed each state’s athletes to march in together for recognition.

The Track and Field championships were held at the newly minted track facilities of Bishop McDevitt High School in Harrisburg. And not only were athletes given the opportunity to compete against participants from as far away as Alaska, they were also able to compete in age groups that ranged from 16-99 years of age. In fact, the track and field competition had a 94-year-old javelin thrower along with several sprinters who were in their 70s and 80s.

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**Misa Diocesana de la Herencia Hispana**

**Diocesan Hispanic Heritage Mass**

**Cuándo/When:**  
Sunday, September 15, 2013 at 3:30 p.m.

**Celebrante/Celebrant:**  
*Reverend Bernardo Pistone*  
Former Episcopal Vicar for the Hispanic community / Anteriormente el Vicario Episcopal de la comunidad hispana  
Pastor of Saint Francis Xavier Parish / Pastor de la Parroquia San Francisco Javier

**Dónde/Where:**  
Saint Patrick Cathedral 212 State Street Harrisburg, PA 17101

The entire community is invited to celebrate the beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month. The Holy Mass will be celebrated at Saint Patrick Cathedral and it will be followed by a gathering at the Capitol. Come join us!

La comunidad está invitada a celebrar el inicio del Mes de la Herencia Hispana. La Santa Misa será celebrada en la Catedral de San Patricio seguido por la oportunidad de confraternizar en el Capitolio. ¡Ven y celebra con nosotros!

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**Sponsored by/Auspiciado por el Apostolado Hispano:**

- Corpus Christi Parish
- Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish/Saint Jude Mission
- Saint Francis Xavier Parish
- Saint Joseph Parish (Hanover)
- Saint Joseph Parish (Milton)
- Saint Benedict the Abbott Parish
- Saint Francis of Assisi Parish
- Saint Francis of Assisi Parish
- San Juan Bautista Parish

Para más información / For more information: www.hbgdiocese.org/hispanicministry & (717) 657-4804