A New Start at Sacred Heart

Blessed John Paul II will be declared a saint, the Vatican said July 5, after officials approved a second miracle attributed to his intercession. The same day, the Vatican announced that Pope Francis had agreed with the cardinal members of the Congregation for Saints’ Causes that the canonization of Blessed John should go forward even without a second miracle attributed to his intercession. The Polish pontiff is pictured here arriving in Miami for the start of his 1987 trip to the United States.

Canonization Date to Be Known in September

By Cindy Wooden Catholic News Service

Pope Francis will host a meeting of cardinals Sept. 30 to formally approve the canonization of Blesseds John Paul II and John XXIII; the date for the canonization will be announced at that time, said Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints’ Causes.

The cardinal told Vatican Radio Aug. 20 that only Pope Francis knows for sure the date he will proclaim the two popes saints, although he already implied that it is likely to be in 2014.

Speaking to reporters traveling with him from Brazil to Rome July 28, Pope Francis said he had been considering Dec. 8, but the possibility of icy roads could make it difficult for Polish pilgrims who would travel by bus to Rome for the ceremony.

Another option, he said, would be April 27, which is the Sunday after Easter and the celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday, a celebration instituted worldwide by Pope John Paul.

Asked to describe the two late popes, Pope Francis said Blessed John was “a bit of the ‘country priest,’ a priest who loves each of the faithful and knows how to care for them; he did this as a bishop and as a nuncio.”

He was holy, patient, had a good sense of humor and, especially by calling the Second Vatican Council, was a man of courage, Pope Francis said. “He was a man who let himself be guided by the Lord.”

As for Blessed John Paul, he told the reporters on the plane, “I think of him as ‘the great missionary of the Church,’” because he was “a man who proclaimed the Gospel everywhere.”

More CANONIZATION DATE, page 2
Pope Francis signed a decree recognizing the miracle needed for Blessed John Paul’s canonization July 5; the same day, the Vatican announced that the pope had agreed with the cardinal members of the Congregation for Saints’ Causes that the canonization of Blessed John should go forward even without a second miracle attributed to his intercession. Before declaring new saints, the pope consults with cardinals around the world and calls a consistory—a gathering attended by any cardinal who wants and is able to attend—where those present voice their support for the pope’s decision. A date for a canonization ceremony is announced formally only during or immediately after the consistory. Except in the case of martyrdom, Vatican rules require one miracle for a candidate’s beatification and a second for his or her canonization as confirmations that the candidate really is in heaven with God.

**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 others who have an 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.

**Pope Asks Mary, Queen of Peace, to Bring Calm to Egypt**

By Cindy Wooden

*Catholic News Service*

As the official death toll rose from clashes in Egypt and as the damaged done to Christian churches was being assessed, Pope Francis invoked Mary, queen of peace, to bring calm to the country.

In light of the “painful news” coming from Egypt Aug. 15, the feast of the Assumption of Mary, Pope Francis said he was praying “for all the victims and their families, for the injured and those who are suffering.”

“Let us pray together for peace, dialogue and reconciliation in that dear land and throughout the world,” the pope told an estimated 600,000 visitors in St. Peter’s Square.

The violence in Egypt began at dawn Aug. 14 when the Egyptian military and police used bulldozers and tear gas to clear out camps of demonstrators in Cairo, the capital. The government has arrested several thousand protesters. At least 18 people died.

Both the pope and the king have repeatedly called for the international community to help broker a negotiated end to the fighting in Syria.

“The situation is now catastrophic, and its solutions are more urgent than ever,” the pope said Aug. 25 after reciting the Angelus with visitors at St. Peter’s Square.

Pope Francis also denounced the “multiplication of massacres and atrocious acts,” including the suspected chemical weapons attack that left hundreds dead.

In mid-August, images began circulating on the Internet and on television of victims of the suspected chemical weapons attack on a town on the outskirts of Damascus. The Syrian government blamed rebels for the attack, and the rebels blamed government forces.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said Aug. 26: “We know that the Syrian regime maintains custody of these chemical weapons. We know that the Syrian regime has the capacity to do this with rockets. We know that the regime has determined to clear the opposition from those very places where the attacks took place.”

After several days of delay, supposedly for their protection, the Syrian government gave U.N. weapons inspectors permission to visit the site, but the inspectors had to turn back to their hotel Aug. 26 after their vehicles were fired upon. The Syrian government blamed the rebels, and the rebels blamed government forces.

Alexander Lukashenkov, the foreign minister of Russia, an ally of Syria, said in a statement Aug. 27 that military action without the approval of the U.N. Security Council would lead to “new suffering in Syria and catastrophic consequences for other countries of the Middle East and North Africa.”

**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 day draws near; watch The Catholic Witness for updated information.

**Pope to Meet Jordan’s King, Discuss Ongoing Strife in Middle East**

By Cindy Wooden

*Catholic News Service*

As international leaders increasingly discussed the possibility of some form of armed intervention in Syria, the Vatican announced that Pope Francis would interrupt the last week of his summer break in order to meet with Jordan’s King Abdullah II.

Jordan and Syria share a border, and Jordan is hosting some 500,000 Syrian refugees.

Both the pope and the king have repeatedly called for a negotiated end to the fighting in Syria.

“In is not clashes, but an ability to meet and to dialogue that offers prospects for a hope of resolving the problems,” the pope said Aug. 25 after reciting the Angelus with visitors at St. Peter’s Square.

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**Annual Diocesan Catechetical Conference**

**November 9 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.**

**Cardinal Keeler Center, Harrisburg**

Keynote Speaker: Father Frederick L. Miller, Chairman of the Department of Systematic Theology at Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md. Father Miller is also known to EWTN audiences for his series on the Spirituality of St. Francis de Sales and on the Priesthood of Jesus Christ. His latest book, published by Ignatius Press, is entitled, *The Grace of Art*. 

**Schedule includes:**
- Celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
- Keynote Address
- 30+ workshops over four, one-hour sessions
- 15-20 catechetical vendors
- closing prayer

Cost is $30 per person and includes lunch. Registration materials will be made available to parishes and schools and online at www.hbgdiocese.org. For further information, contact Jim Gontis, Diocesan Director of Religious Education, at 717-657-4804, x 22, or jgontis@hbgdiocese.org.
October 4 at the Cardinal Keeler Center, Harrisburg
• Hors d’oeuvres will be served at 6 p.m.
• Dinner will begin at 7 p.m.
• Seminarians will be present to serve you, and to share their journey toward priesthood.
• Cost is $150 per person, $800 for a table of six, and $1,000 for a table of eight.
• Register at www.hbgdiocese.org/fishersofmen.

Many dioceses throughout the United States are facing the challenge of fewer vocations to the priesthood. The Diocese of Harrisburg is faced with a different kind of challenge – the need to provide solid seminary formation for an increasing number of men who are studying for the priesthood. What a wonderful challenge to be blessed with!

As we have counted on your prayers for young men considering a vocation to the priesthood, so now we need your financial help in providing seminary formation for them. Let us meet this challenge together!

The Peter’s Pence Collection, which will be taken up in parishes in the Diocese of Harrisburg Sept. 7 and 8, provides the Holy Father with the financial means to respond with emergency assistance to those who are suffering from war, oppression, natural disaster and disease. The collection was started centuries ago to provide financial support for the pope, and has evolved to fund the Holy See’s charitable actions. It has raised nearly $190 million to support our suffering brothers and sisters around the world.

The Peter’s Pence Collection gives each of us the opportunity to be a pilgrim of charity around the world. Our gifts to this annual collection help the Holy Father strengthen dioceses, religious orders and struggling communities of faith.

The Peter’s Pence Collection
September 7 and 8

There are many places around the globe where the Church struggles to be a visible sign of charity, but thankfully, the Holy Father is the pilgrim of charity for Catholics everywhere. In poor dioceses where many are dependent on the Church for social and pastoral support, in regions where Catholics are persecuted for their faith, and in nations overloaded with refugees and victims of war and natural disasters, the works done by the Holy Father help the Church extend charity to those most in need.

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Annual Fishers of Men Dinner
To benefit the Bishop Joseph T. Daley Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund

Desígnate your contribution to the Bishop Joseph T. Daley Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund when you donate at www.hbgdiocese.org/fishersofmen.

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Sign Up to Receive The Witness Electronically

Now you can read The Catholic Witness online, wherever you go! Through a free e-mail service, you can receive the diocesan newspaper in a fast and user-friendly electronic format. Sign up, and you will receive an e-mail with a direct link to each edition as it is published. Sign up for the e-mail service by logging on to the diocesan Web site at www.hbgdiocese.org. Follow the News/Events tab to The Catholic Witness page and click on +4. Please allow three weeks for the change.

The Witness Electronically is a great way for college students and people who live outside of the diocese to stay in touch with the Church in Harrisburg. It’s also an alternative for those who wish to read the paper online instead of receiving a copy in the mail.

Registration with the e-mail service will not automatically cancel your mailed subscription. If you prefer to receive the online version instead of a copy in the mail, contact our Circulation Coordinator, Susan Huntsberger, at shuntsberger@hbgdiocese.org or 717-657-4804, ext. 201, with your Witness account number, and your name, address and phone number.

And remember, previous editions of the newspaper – dating back to early 2011 – are also available online. You can find them at www.hbgdiocese.org. Just follow the News/Events tab to The Catholic Witness page.

Correction

The photograph that accompanied the article “World Youth Day and the Call to Evangelize” in the Aug. 16 edition of The Catholic Witness incorrectly identified Molly Lahr in the caption. Molly was pictured with pilgrims Clarisa de la Cruz and Alexandra Parisi praying the rosary.

Communications Conference Cancelled

Due to low registration response the Communications Conference, “Virtually Human: The Impact of Media and Technology on Human Relationships,” planned for September 14 has been cancelled. The conference was to engage all on topics such as the use and impact of Social Media, smart phones, virtual relationships, online bullying, privacy issues and other relational and moral aspects of media.

The committee hopes to evaluate other methods of making the material on the timely topics available. Refunds will be distributed to those who had registered.

The Power of the Word

By Sister Geralyn Schmidt, SCC
Special to The Witness

In the middle of the school year, a young mother raced to school to pick up her daughter who was in the second grade. The second-grader opened the back door to the car, silently slid into her seat and closed the door. As she looked in the rear view mirror, the mother noticed a tear streaming down her daughter’s face. She questioned, “Rough day?” Her daughter nodded in affirmation. “What happened?” the mother asked.

“Jenny called me the ‘F’ word!” wailed the daughter. The daughter’s hurt feelings were instantly turned into anger for the mother, who wanted to protect her child. “She did what? How does she know the F word only in second grade? Oh, the school is going to hear about this! How dare she!” snarled the mother.

The evening meal was filled with the daughter’s tears and the mother’s anger as the father quietly listened to both of his girls. After dinner, the father sat the daughter down and said, “Honey, can you tell me what Jenny called you? Your mom and I can’t go into school to correct Jenny unless we really know what she said.” The girl nodded her head no as she said, “The word is too bad to say.” “Then, can you whisper in my ear what Jenny called you?” asked the father. Gently, the daughter pressed her lips against the dad’s ear and said, “Jenny called me FAT!”

This story, for me, always illustrated the power that words have over our perceptions and feelings. Susan Smalley in her blog, The Power of Words, says, “A word is like a living organism, capable of growing, changing, spreading, and influencing the world in many ways, directly and indirectly through others. … As I ponder the power of the word to incite and divide, to calm and connect, or to create and effect change, I am ever more cautious in what I say and how I listen to the words around me.” [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/susan-smalley/the-power-of-words-b.81918.html] As children, we were all told, “Stick and stones can break my bones, but words can never hurt me.” I never believed that as a child, since some of the words others used sometimes hurt! Now as an adult, an educator, and an evangelizer, I can see how words have power to build up or tear down, to educate or correct, to energize or bore. Words do have power. I can’t help thinking of the old Beatles song, “The Word,” in which Paul McCartney serenades and promises that by the mere pronunciation of a word one can obtain true freedom and light. This word is love.

I can’t help but think about THE Word of God becoming man in order to reestablish a relationship between God and humans. Christ became man in order to show us what true love looks like and how we as humans should live. In Evangelii Nuntiandi, Pope Paul VI says: “The Good News proclaimed by the witness of life sooner or later has to be proclaimed by the word of life. There is no true evangelization if the name, the teaching, the life, the promises, the kingdom and the mystery of Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God, are not proclaimed. The history of the Church, from the discourse of Peter on the morning of Pentecost onwards, has been intermingled and identified with the history of this proclamation. At every new phase of human history, the Church, constantly gripping the desire to evangelize, has but one preoccupation: whom to send to proclaim the mystery of Jesus? In what way is this mystery to be proclaimed? How can one ensure that it will resound and reach all those who should hear it? This proclamation – kerygma, preaching or catechesis – occupies such an important place in evangelization that it has often become synonymous with it, and yet it is only one aspect of evangelization.” [p. 22] Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI calls us during The Year of Faith to rediscover a taste for feeding ourselves on the word of God, faithfully handed down by the Church, and on the bread of life, offered as sustenance for his disciples [cf. Jn 6:51] (p. 3). Individuals who do this radiate Christ, transforming immediate relationships, (p. 6) deepening and personalizing the meaning of discipleship (p. 7).

The Church needs those of you who wade through blogs, Twitter, texts, or podcasts to focus on the power of the WORD of God. Educate your mind through study so your words can become our credible witness to how God’s love can enlighten the mind and the heart of others who hear your words. When we hear the words of Christ’s love echoed by words spoken today, our hearts burn within us as the disciples did on the road to Emmaus when listening to Jesus explain the Scripture.

(Sister of Christian Charity, Geralyn Schmidt, is the Wide Area Network Coordinator at the Diocese of Harrisburg and a member of the IT Department. An educator for 28 years, she is responsible for Professional Development Programs for every age learner. In addition, Sister blogs for Powerful Learning Practices, a company providing in-service opportunities for educators. Through her presentations, she challenges her audiences to be the individual God has called them to be.)
National Shrine Employees Recall their Roles in March on Washington

By Mark Zimmermann
Catholic News Service

Fifty years ago, Reggie Tobias participated in one of the most famous marches in U.S. history — on his bike.

Tobias, who is now 67, is a native Washingtonian and serves as the assistant supervisor for security at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, where he has worked for the past 13 years after a 33-year career with the D.C. Department of Public Works.

Early on the morning of the March on Washington on Aug. 28, 1963, Tobias and his three best friends bicycled down to the Lincoln Memorial. “We knew what was happening in the South.... We went to see what was going on,” he said. “When we got there, seeing all those thousands of people, it was amazing, all the way down. It was a sight I’ll never forget....”

For the 17-year-old, venturing there around 8 a.m. not only got him a prime viewing spot. “We went on the right side of the Lincoln Memorial. That’s where I met a lot of stars. I met Burt Lancaster, Lena Horne, Sidney Poitier and Harry Belafonte. I shook their hands. Burt Lancaster rubbed my head.”

The star-struck teen remembers seeing a lot of runs in the crowd. From his vantage point, he saw the back of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.’s head. The youth was transfixed by the civil rights leader’s dream of a world, with “black kids and white kids in harmony and peace one day. That’s what shook me.”

He remembers that after Rev. King’s speech, the crowd “stood up and waved like this, side by side.” He smiled and remembered his immediate concern at the time: “I had trouble getting my bike out of there!”

He hopes the message of the March on Washington and Rev. King’s dream will be taken to heart by Americans today. “We need to live it, you know,” he told the Catholic News Service. “We’re all children. Our children can recognize the humanity in each other and stand together in the effort to provide more jobs and opportunities for the underprivileged.”

Now 50 years after that historic march, he said there is still a need to bring people closer together, so people of different backgrounds can recognize the humanity in each other and stand together in the effort to provide more jobs and opportunities for the underprivileged.

Another March on Washington, the first one he had car-pooled with 15-20 friends from Frederick, Md. “It was my duty to back him [Rev. King] up. It was for freedom, and to update the situation of minorities and underprivileged people.”

The march and Rev. King’s speech, he said, “touched me because of what I had witnessed, being in the Army. I was drafted. I went in there to fight for freedom.”

Now 50 years after that historic march, he said there is still a need to bring people closer together, so people of different backgrounds can recognize the humanity in each other and stand together in the effort to provide more jobs and opportunities for the underprivileged.

Two years ago, the national shrine hosted an interfaith prayer service to mark the dedication of the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial in Washington, and Charles Carroll Sr. felt blessed to be one of the Knights of Columbus serving as volunteer ushers then. In August 1963 as a 15-year-old, he had car-pooled with fellow high school students from suburban Maryland to the nation’s capital, where they joined the March on Washington and heard Rev. King give his “I Have a Dream” speech. “I get chills now, thinking about it,” he said before the prayer service, as he reflected on the historic event he had witnessed as a teenager.

Carroll stood along the Reflecting Pool 50 years ago with 15-20 friends from Frederick Douglass High School in Upper Marlboro, Md. “The way he spoke to people of nonviolence is totally different from the way people talk today,” said Carroll. “I don’t know how many young people today are caught in the web of violence. And Carroll also noted how tragic it was that Rev. King himself died five years later, the victim of the violence that the Nobel Peace Prize winner so often spoke out against.

Now 65, he and his wife, Beverly, have three grown children and five grandchildren. He retired in 2009 after working as a mechanical engineer for the Arlington County government.

The National Shrine usher said Rev. King was a man of God. “Faith is what kept him in the direction he was going,” he said, and it was that faith that moved Rev. King to believe “we shall overcome.”

The committee statement add-
'Make the Sign of the Cross and Go In'

By Chris Heisey
The Catholic Witness

Study of the Civil War leads most seekers on a quest to visit hallowed ground where men killed each other in droves for more than four years in the 1860s. Not only were there great battles fought on more than 100,000 miles of war, there were quarrels that arose from the battles that are ever much as intriguing to study. Most of the time, the feuds erupted between officers and leaders fighting on the same side, though given the heated acrimony, it was difficult to believe that the combatants were actually on the same team. One such quarrel that is worthy of study is the spat between Union Generals Hiram Ulysses Simpson Grant and William Starke Rosecrans — two top echelon generals who rose to command armies for President Lincoln.

Even seasoned students of the war view the Battle of Gettysburg as the turning point of the war. So much attention is given to this great battlefield that there is little oxygen left for many other important fights that occurred before and after the July 1863 battle. One battle that gets little attention and is dwarfed by Gettysburg is the Battle of Chickamauga — fought in the forested region in northern Georgia some 10 miles south of the vital railroad junction town of Chattanooga, Tenn., in September 1863.

Battles in the Western Theater of the war get much less ink than the classic clashes in the East because they were often fought far from the big cities of New York, Philadelphia and Richmond, where their myriad newspapers covered the war as front page material each and every day.

Lost in the mix were great battles like Shiloh, Stones River, Vicksburg and Chickamauga which, in relation to Gettysburg, had more percentage of casualties by far. Today, these peaceful and beautifully preserved national park battlefields in Tennessee, Mississippi and Georgia combined have less than half the visitor tally that Gettysburg has. But what might be the single event of his West Point experience was his conversion to Catholicism, which is remark-

General Ulysses S. Grant rose to be General-in-Chief of all Union armies by the war’s last year in 1864. Four years later, he was elected as our 18th president.

A stretch to say that the war saved U.S. Grant from a life of perpetual mediocrity. But Grant seized the day in the Civil War like no other general. Far different from other officers in the war, Grant was not cautious by nature. He took great risks, attacked when others hunkered down, and pursued the enemy with dogged relentless that caught even the best Confederate commanders by surprise numerous times. He was not one to calculate and fret — “just do it” would have been his motto.

So much so was Grant the tenacious fighter, that by war’s end, he would become general-in-chief of all northern armies that fought from Virginia to Arkansas. “I can’t spare this man,” President Lincoln said of him when rumors swirled that Grant was drinking after his pyrrhic victory at Shiloh. “He fights.”

It is not exaggeration to say that the North would never have won the war if it had not found “Sam” Grant. At every juncture of crisis for the Union war effort, it was Grant who turned the pivot point into opportunity. He was bold, fearless, and if somebody ever got in his way, he found a good reason to rid himself of the nuisance no matter how destructive the course.

There is a reason Grant rose to the top of command in the Civil War and then later became our 18th President. He was a master politician, able to thwart colleagues who had equal ambition, able to write battle reports that placed other blame on somebody else’s shoulders, and there is adequate evidence that Grant was even prone to not being truthful if it meant setting a score. One of the best books ever written about the Civil War is the Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant — written the last year of his life in 1885 — when he was dying from throat cancer at his mountain retreat in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. He finished the final draft just days before he died in July 1885, and the book was eventually published with the help of Mark Twain.

Grant held war grudges until the day he died, and we remember the war through Grant’s eyes more than we think. It is true that most Civil War books even today cite the memoirs as scripture when it comes to researching this fascinating war. There are, of course, two sides to every story and fight.

In two volumes — beautiful, written with flowing prose — Grant takes on a number of fellow rivals that sparked his ire during the war. One of those officers with whom he takes the most umbrage is General William Starke Rosecrans.

Rosecrans was born in Ohio on September 6, 1819. He was one of five children born to Crandall and Jemima Rosec-

More CIVIL WAR, page 7

- THE CATHOLIC WITNESS, AUGUST 30, 2013
Civil War

Continued from 6

Sylvester, who later went on to be ordained a priest and would become the first bishop of the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio.

Rosecrans, too, resigned from the army in the 1850s, as he had several bouts of sickness that he eventually recovered from, though he never regained rigorous health again. Rosecrans was a very successful businessman and inventor, especially in the fledgling area of oil and gas. He invented the first kerosene lamp to burn on wick and he helped build an oil refinery in Cincinnati. He suffered a terrible accident when a lamp invention exploded in his face, leaving his face scarred for life and giving him the look of having a perpetual smirk.

Just like Grant, when war broke out, West Point officers were in high demand, so he offered his services to his native state, though he was still recovering from his burns.

General Rosecrans served in West Virginia during the war’s first year and was transferred out to the Western Theater just after the Battle of Shiloh. After the bloody Union victory, the Confederate armies retreated into northern Mississippi to protect the vital railroad junction towns of Corinth and Iuka. And it is there that the lifelong enmity between the two generals would begin.

The two were friends at West Point and were on great terms as the operations around northern Mississippi required both generals to work together. Grant was in overall command, but Rosecrans commanded two divisions in the Union Army of the Tennessee. Grant respected Rosecrans’ intellect.

“I cannot speak too highly of the energy and skill displayed by General Rosecrans in the attack [Iuka] and the endurance of the troops under him,” Grant wrote glowingly of Rosecrans in his first battle report. But weeks later, Grant would change his tune, and it seems that press reports were too laudatory of Rosecrans to Grant’s liking. To make matters worse, whether it was Rosecrans or one of his staff officers, it appears that somebody close to Rosecrans resented Grant and insinuated that perhaps Grant had been drunk, since roads were not covered to prevent the Confederate army from escaping, which it easily did.

A miffed Grant changed his report a few weeks later and in his memoirs two decades later, he makes it clear that Rosecrans was not the general of highest caliber.

The pique that Rosecrans and Grant held simmered on as the two went their separate ways in late 1862 as Grant set his eye on Vicksburg and Rosecrans on eastern Tennessee. At the Battle of Stones River, south of Nashville, Rosecrans was in the center of the vicious fighting when his Chief of Staff, Julius Garesche, admonished him for being so exposed to enemy fire. “Never mind me, boy, but make the sign of the cross and go in.” The staff officer did, and a moment later, a cannon shell whizzed into the general’s party of officers, beheading Garesche and splattering his brains all over Rosecrans’ overcoat.

William Rosecrans was fearless in battle, but he was prone to nervous and anxious moments that were on display to his troops. In addition, he actively expressed his Catholic faith to any and all who were in eye and earshot of him. In an army more than 90% Protestant, that difference did annoy more than a few. There’s not enough evidence to say that opinions of General Rosecrans suffered because of his devout faith, yet there is plenty of evidence that troops and staff officers paid close attention to their commanding general because he was outwardly Catholic. Rosecrans also had a hair trigger temper that when excited or under stress led many to come under his wrath.

It all came to pass at Chickamauga and Chattanooga in September 1863. Ironically, Rosecrans had met an Irish priest named Father Patrick Treacy, who had settled a parish in Huntsville, Ala., and ministered to wounded Confederates in the first year of the war. Though his ministry was appreciated, his Union sentiments were not, so he fled west and attached himself to Grant’s army, and that’s where Rosecrans and he struck a mutual affection.

The general’s staff, Rosecrans never wanted to be “separated from the sacraments,” so Father Treacy stayed with the general in his camp. That did not sit well with his staff, including future U.S. President James Garfield, who backedstabbed Rosecrans every chance he had.

On the battle’s second day at Chickamauga, Rosecrans made several fateful decisions that would doom his career. He first chastised General Thomas Wood for moving slowly into position. The humiliated Wood would exact revenge just hours later. Rosecrans, who received an erroneous report that there was a breach in his lines, ordered Wood to move quickly to fill it. Neither Rosecrans nor his staff ever checked the lines, and General Wood, knowing full well that his move would cause a breach, not repair one, moved to spite Rosecrans. “Gentleman, I hold the fatal order of the day,” General Wood brazenly bragged to his staff.

As fate would have it, when Wood left the line with several thousand men, fresh troops under Confederate General James Longstreet, who had embarked on a 48-hour train ride from Virginia to reinforce the Confederate army in Georgia, arrived just in time to attack the breach, sending Rosecrans’ army in complete rout back to Chattanooga some ten miles away. Though remnants of the Union Army held out long enough to save the army, the Battle of Chickamauga was a disaster for Rosecrans, who left his army under duress to go to Chattanooga while his men bravely fought until dark. Seldom in the war was defeat so complete.

One of the last photos taken of cancer-stricken U.S. Grant, 27 days before his death in 1885 as he finished his monumental Personal Memoirs.

Writer’s Note:
Reading U.S. Grant’s Personal Memoirs is a wonderful reading experience and this writer highly recommends diving in ever-mindedly that memoirs are mostly opinion, not fact. Those who complain of others’ memoirs were usually those who did not write their own. The best book on the Battle of Shiloh may be Winston Groom’s, Shiloh 1862. There are several other good ones also. If you want a good bout with Chickamauga, This Terrible Sound by Peter Cozzens, written 20 years ago, works very well. Brand new on the shelves is General Grant and the Rewriting of History by Dr. Frank Varney. It’s an examination of how Rosecrans’ reputation was destroyed. While the author takes several leaps of faith to prove his point, he does show evidence that Grant had it in for Rosecrans. And he shows that some were not comfortable with his visible Catholicism. And finally, Civil War road trips to Shiloh, Chickamauga, Stones River, and Vicksburg are well worth the effort. It seems impossible to be disappointed at these wonderful places.
As a bright full moon descended and the sun rose Aug. 21, the morning was crisp, but the hot August air soon followed.

The morning also brought the first day of school for some students in the diocese, including those at Sacred Heart of Jesus School in Lewistown. Situated close to the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese, the school is home to 82 students in a community that is only 8.1% Catholic. Sacred Heart is important to the area, as it offers a Catholic primary school for students from surrounding communities, such as Juniata and Mifflin counties.

Some students arrived by foot, while others were dropped off by parents and grandparents or rode 25-30 miles in the morning by bus. Regardless of how they arrived, they arrived with smiles and excitement – most anyway, minus a small fraction of the nervous, first-time kindergartners.

Second-year principal Michael Fitzgerald, or “Mr. Fitz,” as he is known to the kids, welcomed students as they arrived. “I just can’t believe we are back already,” Mr. Fitzgerald commented about a speedy summer, though he was excited to be there. Accompanying Mr. Fitzgerald was Tom Storm, a longtime employee and parishioner of Sacred Heart Parish. He directs buses and cars in the morning and ensures the kids enter the school safely. He knows all the kids by name. He also knows their parents’ names, and in most cases their grandparents’ too. “It is a close community,” he said.

Mr. Fitzgerald commented about the size of enrollment at Sacred Heart, which welcomed several new students this year. “The total enrollment at Sacred Heart is 82 students, but that small size is also a very good thing. There is a very strong sense of family here. Every student knows the name of every other student in the school. The children look after one another and care about one another. They have a very strong sense of what it means to be Sacred Heart School.”

This school year, Sacred Heart looks forward to implementing a new professional development program for its teachers, and hopes to re-institute the Book, Art and Technology Clubs for the older students.

Learn more about Sacred Heart School at www.sacredheartschool.com or call 717-248-5351. For information on Catholic schools in the Diocese of Harrisburg, visit www.hbgdiocese.org/schools.
Youth Council Members Ready to Promote New Evangelization

By Jen Reed

The Catholic Witness

As a new year of high school classes, religious education programs and parish youth ministry gatherings gets underway, members of the Diocesan Youth Council are gearing up as advocates of the New Evangelization.

In doing so, they’re taking to heart this year’s words of Pope Francis at the closing Mass for World Youth Day this past July: Go. Do not be afraid. Serve.

It’s a message on which Youth Council members particularly focused as they gathered for their orientation day Aug. 24 at the Cardinal Keeler Center in Harrisburg.

Rebecca Cole, Chairperson of the Diocesan Youth Council, says the organization has always been focused on drawing youth into a stronger relationship with Christ and a deeper understanding of their faith.

“I’ve been Catholic my entire life, and have always been involved in the Church. When I entered seventh and eighth grade, I began to get really involved in things going on at my parish, and that has continued through high school. I’ve always felt that I wanted to do more than just go to church. I wanted to bring the faith to my peers,” she said.

So two years ago, Rebecca, a senior at Bishop McDevitt High School and a member of St. Catherine Labouré Parish in Harrisburg, joined the Diocesan Youth Council. “I gravitated toward the Youth Council because of my love for youth ministry,” she said.

The Diocesan Youth Council is under the auspices of the Diocesan Office for Youth and Young Adult Ministry at the Harrisburg Capitol. It is made up of young people from parishes and Catholic high schools in the diocese. The teens gather several times throughout the school year to focus on messages, information and service opportunities to bring back to their parishes and schools.

Members also work diligently to plan and coordinate the highly successful and spirited Palm Sunday Mass, which annually draws several hundred youth to a celebration of faith and the blessing of palms on the steps of the state capitol, Mass at St. Patrick Cathedral, and dinner at Strawberry Square.

In planning the Palm Sunday celebration, Youth Council members form a liturgy committee and a concert committee to seek and invite youth volunteers to serve as lectors, musicians and altar servers, and as set-up, clean-up and food crews for the celebration. The members also spend time in discerning an organization to which they send monies collected during the Mass’ of- ferty collection. This past year, they gave $5,382 to Monica Primary School in Tanzania, Africa.

“The Palm Sunday Mass is just an awesome experience. You walk up the capitol steps and see hundreds of youth there celebrating the faith – it’s absolutely amazing,” said second-year Youth Council member Reece Christie, a senior at York Catholic High School and a member of St. Patrick Parish in York.

“The Youth Council is youth-driven. We bring our ideas, our talents and our service to the meetings and to our events. It shows that the youth are the Church of today,” he said.

“I’m active in my school and in my parish, so being a member of the youth council seemed a natural fit. And that’s common among the members of the Diocesan Youth Council. Everyone seems to have leadership skills and involvement in the Church,” Reece observed. “At the end of the day, we all become a family through the Diocesan Youth Council. It’s nice to be part of the council because you can go back to your parish or school and deliver messages of faith to your peers there.”

The Diocesan Youth Council’s orientation day welcomed returning members and quite a few fresh faces, all of whom are tasked with bringing the council’s efforts to their peers in school and at church.

“We are challenging the young people to grow closer in their relationship with Jesus. They are just so passionate about their faith that it bubbles out of them. They’re filled with God’s grace, they’re filled with the Holy Spirit and excited about their relationship with Jesus, and that spills out into everything they do,” said Rob Williams, Director of the Diocesan Office for Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

“We want them to go and carry the message of their faith into their parishes and schools. We want them to not be afraid. We want them to be strengthened by God’s grace and by each other. And we want them to serve God and his Church,” he added.

“All of our members are from different parts of the diocese, so the goal is that we take what we do as a diocesan unit and bring it back to our parishes and schools,” Rebecca said. “We also encourage members to do volunteer service within their deaneries throughout the year. Service is a very big part of the Diocesan Youth Council.”

“We are here as a way of getting youth involved in the life of the Church. We are advocates of the new evangelization,” she said.

(For more information on the Diocesan Youth Council, including membership opportunities, contact the Office for Youth and Young Adult Ministry at 717-657-4804.)
Social Gathering Aims to Connect Young Adults

Young adults seeking to come together for an evening of socialization with like-minded peers just might find what they’re looking for at the diocese’s first-ever “Get Connected” event. It is set to take place Sept. 28 at the “What If...West Restaurant and Bar” at the Coliseum in Camp Hill. Open to all young adults ages 21-35, the informal event will offer an opportunity to socialize while enjoying games, food and music. The Coliseum offers a restaurant, sports bar, arcade and bowling alley.

“Get Connected” is an informal event where young adults can come and get to know people who have like views and are looking to have fun,” said Tom Steele, a young adult who is working with the Diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry on this new endeavor. He is the director of information technology at St. Joseph Parish in York.

“Come, hang out, get to know others while socializing,” he said. There is no schedule or agenda to the evening, and attendees can come and go as they please. The event will serve as a way for the diocese to connect young adults to other offerings specifically geared toward them, including the Theology on Tap gatherings that bring them together for a faith-based presentation, discussion and socialization at area bars.

“The goal of ‘Get Connected’ is to build relationships among young adults,” Mr. Steele said. “The event shows that the diocese is willing to reach out to a demographic that – in a lot of different ways – doesn’t always get the kind of attention that is needed,” he said. “It can be hard to find like-minded people who want to connect to their faith, and who feel that it is important. ‘Get Connected’ offers that opportunity.”

Register online at www.hbgdiocese.org/getconnected. The Coliseum is located at 410 St. John’s Church Road in Camp Hill. Visit www.coliseumfun.com.

In Medjugorje, Yugoslavia, six people (four women and two men) have continuously reported to the world that they have been visited, some on a daily basis, by a “beautiful lady” who calls herself “Queen of Peace” and “mother of all” and urges us to listen and respond to her call of conversion, peace of heart, peace and urges us to listen and respond to her call of conversion, peace of heart, peace.

Since June 24, 1981, the visionaries and apparitions taking place there have been continuously scrutinized by pilgrims and scientists seeking. One such pilgrim, Sean Bloomfield, author and filmmaker, traveled to the small hamlet, and experienced a personal conversion which changed the direction of his life. Leaving Medjugorje with a new sense of purpose and meaning, Bloomfield decided to join forces with Zaid Jazwari, producer, to collaborate on a film describing the events which have occurred and continue to occur in Medjugorje. Rather than profiling from the project however, outside of soliciting funds necessary for its creation, the job of marketing and screening the movie has been primarily left to volunteers desiring to promote the Medjugorje messages while supporting a worthy cause.

The Triumph will be presented at two locations in the Diocese of Harrisburg in September. The first screening will be held at Digiplex Cinema Center in Selinsgrove on Sept. 8 at 6:30 p.m. The cost is $10 per ticket and can be purchased by calling Sue at 570-373-1740. Individuals desiring to attend the movie but unable to afford the full cost can attend at a discounted price. Those in need of reduced pricing should mention this when they call to request tickets. All proceeds for this screening benefit Food for the Poor, a U.S.-based charitable organization serving the needs of the poor.

The Triumph will also be shown at Carlisle Theatre, 40 West High Street, Carlisle, on Sept. 29 at 2 p.m. Tickets cost $5 and can be purchased by calling Donna at 717-448-2497. All proceeds for this screening will benefit Carlisle Cares.

Catholic Perspective Radio

September 1: What do parents need to know about social media? Dr. Jim Beeghley, an educational technologist, will give insights to that topic this week on Catholic Perspective as he tells us about teaching youth about the proper use of social media and about cyber bullying.

Father William Weary, a regular contributor to the program, discusses the Catholic perspective on the death penalty. From the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation, Micah Bilger discusses the latest news from the pro-life front.

Just over $3,500 was raised during the recent Radiothon to benefit Holy Family Radio on Aug. 21. The donations from listeners are much appreciated and greatly needed to help keep this independent Catholic ministry on the air.

The next Radiothon is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 25, starting at 9 a.m. A variety of local guest hosts will tell of the importance of Catholic radio in Central Pennsylvania and ask for your prayerful and financial support. For more information on WHYF AM 720, visit www.720whyf.com or call 717-525-8110.
Declaration on Christian Education

By Father Edward J. Quinlan Special to The Witness

During this Year of Faith, a certain emphasis has been placed on a renewed acquaintance with the documents of the Second Vatican Council. As many people are now trying to understand these documents, it seems appropriate to take a brief look at the document dealing with education, the Declaration on Christian Education.

To start, one must recognize that the documents were promulgated in response to the Consultation of the Universal Church, so there are no particular emblems that may pertain only to one country. The document looks to reinforce some basic principles that are characteristic of Catholic education everywhere.

The document, signed by Pope Paul VI in 1965, notes at the outset the growth of education in all parts of the world, the introduction of new technologies and new challenges. Education is a concern for the Church because of the intrinsic connection between the nature of the human person, and his or her eternal destiny. People have a right to education in keeping with their personal abilities and the culture where they live. To offer the most basic observation on the nature of education, the text states, “true education is formation of the human person with respect to his ultimate goal and simultaneously with respect to the good of the society in a part of.” In those cases we need a view of this world and of the world to come to be a well-rounded individual. Addressing the response of the Church, it notes that every Christian is entitled to be educated in the faith. Our parishes address this right through the operation of Catholic schools and Parish Religious Education Programs.

Education begins with parents. Repeating previous Catholic teaching, the document states that parents are the first and foremost educators of their children and that the family is the first and best school where children learn to love and reverence God. In a later paragraph, the document will reiterate this principle. The Church needs to be pastorally present. The Church to be present in the sphere of education, the text states, “true education is formation of the human person with respect to his ultimate goal and simultaneously with respect to the good of the society in a part of.” In those cases we need a view of this world and of the world to come to be a well-rounded individual.

By Dominic Acri Special to The Witness

I was four years old when I started my first day of preschool at St. Catherine Labouré in Harrisburg. Now, as I begin my 14th year of Catholic school, I have the chance to reflect. I believe that receiving an education rooted in Gospel values makes all the difference. My teachers in grade school and especially now in high school at Bishop McDevitt have served as mentors and helped me plan what I want to pursue after my senior year. Thanks to their help and genuine interest in everyone’s education, I look to college with confidence.

This summer, I was blessed to be accepted into the Summer Scholars program at The University of Notre Dame. I spent two weeks in a dorm with more than 100 guys just as committed to their education. The Summer Scholars program accepted some 250 students from around the world to study one of 17 courses, which they called “tracks.” These tracks ranged from photography to Global Health, and all students had assignments and access to the Father Hesburgh Library (the “Touchdown Jesus Library” for us football fans). I was accepted into my first choice of study, the Life Sciences Track, which taught lab and field practices for Molecular Biology and Ecology classes. This was exactly what I expected when I read my letter from the Department of Undergraduate Admissions, but my experience on Notre Dame’s campus had so much more meaning to me as a “Summer Scholar,” a perspective student, and a Catholic.

Bishop McDevitt High School promotes Gospel values in education, Catholic morals and prayer with monthly Mass, morning and afternoon prayer, prayers before classes, and an immeasurable amount of Catholic morale. I was absolutely amazed when I saw how this same dedication to our faith translates at Notre Dame. The program officially began with Mass at the Basilica, and prayer services were continually scattered in the days to follow at the Grotto, on the edge of St. Joseph’s Lake, and in my dorm chapel. No matter how many times my new friends and I went out to explore the campus, we always discovered a prayer service and we made another connection.

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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, ATTN Jaclyn Curran, 4800 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg PA 17111. For more information, call Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Mount Carmel at 570-339-1031.

Pray ~ n ~ Play 4 Life

Sept. 28 from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
St. Joseph Parish, York

A fun-filled, family day to support life.

One Mile Fun Walk ~ Homemade Food ~ “Minute to Win It” Games ~ Children’s Crafts ~ Balloon Artist ~ Face Painting ~ Decorate Cupcakes for Life ~ Raffles ~ Silent Action ~ Vendors ~ Live Music ~ Pro-Life Sidewalk Chalk Contest

The event concludes at 3 p.m. with a helium balloon Rosary.

Proceeds will benefit Rachel’s Vineyard retreats, the Pregnancy and Family Resource Center in York, Morningstar Pregnancy Center in Harrisburg, the Carlisle Area Family Life Center in Carlisle, and Human Life Services in York.

For information, call Joy at 717-788-4959 or visit www.prayplay4life.com.

‘Mystery Priest’ at Car Accident
Hopes Media Hype Won’t Obscure Message of God’s Love

By Jay Nies
Catholic News Service

An unlikely chain of events made him not only a national celebrity but a stand-in for every priest who has ever ministered to the faithful in an emergency. But Father Patrick Dowling—who was dubbed a “mystery priest” and a “guardian angel”—ago praying with a woman trapped in a wrecked car in north-eastern Missouri—hopes all the hype surrounding his simple deed won’t overshadow the real message.

“God loves us, he is here close to us, and when we’re in trouble, he’s there,” said Father Dowling.

That, he believes, is why God gave him, a priest of the Jefferson City Diocese, a chance Aug. 4 to minister to 19-year-old Katie Lentz while first-responders worked to free her from her mangled car on Highway 19 near Center, Mo.

“I try to be a priest, not a hero,” he stated. “And I did what a priest does. And every priest that I know, if they would pass by an accident, they would stop and do what I did.”

Father Dowling encountered a line of stopped cars and flashing lights while traveling between Sunday Mass assignments.

He asked a local sheriff’s deputy for permission to approach the car and pray with its occupant. The deputy at first said no, thinking the sight of a priest would scare Lentz. But after asking her, he told Father Dowling to go ahead.

“The rescue workers are people of faith and prayer,” Father Dowling told The Catholic Missourian, the diocesan newspaper. “They were all praying. I have no doubt that the Most High heard their prayers, and I was part of his answer … but only one part.”

The priest approached the young woman, who was looking out from the mangled vehicle that had been struck head-on with such force that it was tipped up on its side.

Father Dowling anointed her, gave her absolution and prayed with her while she and the rescue personnel waited for stronger equipment to arrive so they could free her from the sturdily built automobile.

He then stood out of the way, praying the rosary silently for about an hour while she was being extricated from the car and moved to a medical helicopter.

“I did the priest part, but gosh, how that rescue proceeded from that time on was amazing,” he said.

A few days later, KHQA-TV in Quincy, Ill., aired a segment about the incident, noting the priest seemed OK, he shook the deputy’s hand, walked to his car and drove away.

Sick himself, Father Dowling is abundantly aware of its power to give hope and healing.

He has been quick to point out that God’s grace is at the heart of every priest’s ministry, and that moments such as these are part of why God called each of them to the priesthood.

Having received the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick himself, Father Dowling is abundantly aware of its power to give hope and healing.

“The sacramental anointing … it means hope,” he said. “You can very easily fall into despair when you’re in trouble. And it restores hope.”

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The priest approached the young woman, who was looking out from the mangled vehicle that had been struck head-on with such force that it was tipped up on its side.

Father Dowling anointed her, gave her absolution and prayed with her while she and the rescue personnel waited for stronger equipment to arrive so they could free her from the sturdily built automobile.

He then stood out of the way, praying the rosary silently for about an hour while she was being extricated from the car and moved to a medical helicopter.

“I did the priest part, but gosh, how that rescue proceeded from that time on was amazing,” he said.
Two Convents’ CDs Vie for Spot atop Billboard Charts

By Mark Pattison
Catholic News Service

It’s not exactly the Beatles vs. the Rolling Stones, but just as those two bands shook up the pop charts nearly a half-century ago, two convents’ CDs are vying for a spot atop the Billboard classical music charts.

The defending champion, for 13 weeks straight, is “Angels and Saints at Ephesus,” performed by the Benedictines of Mary, Queen of Apostles, in Missouri. Their streak marks the first time since 2006 that a CD has made it to the top of Billboard magazine’s classical traditional music chart.

So far, it has kept its competition at arms’ length, including a new CD by Andrea Bocelli and soundtracks based on the TV series "Downton Abbey.”

But now comes the Benedictines of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, based in Ann Arbor, Mich., whose first CD, “Mater Eucharistiae,” was released Aug. 13. This isn’t the Dominican convent’s first brush with the media. Members of the order made it to the finals in the latest season of “American Idol Challenge.”

“We heard it was No. 8 on the classical charts, and that was just in pre-sales,” said Sister Joseph Andrew, vicar general of the order, in an Aug. 12 telephone interview with Catholic News Service from the order’s motherhouse.

Both CDs are using the same public relations firm to tout the releases. Both CDs are on the same label, A&M, Motown, Island, Geffen, Interscope, Def Jam, Capitol, Virgin, Blue Note, MCA, Mercury, Verve, Polydor, EMI and London.

Recording the 15 tracks took just three days in March at the motherhouse. “And on the second day, the middle day, the Holy Spirit ordained that Pope Francis would be elected,” Sister Joseph Andrew recalled. "We were singing the Te Deum and recording the Te Deum when someone said, ‘Whoa, smoked!’ and we went off until the following three days.”

With their numbers growing – 110 sisters currently, 20 women entering the convent at the end of August, and more than three times as many invitations to send sisters to schools and dioceses worldwide as there are sisters – the Dominicans are raising funds to build a priory in Austin, Texas, to house 100 women.

CD royalties will go toward the building campaign, Sister Joseph Andrew said. Will “Mater Eucharistiae” knock off “Angels and Saints at Ephesus?” Could it reach the heights of “Chant,” the 1994 CD by the Benedictine Monks of Santo Domingo de Silos, which peaked at No. 3 on the Billboard pop chart, selling 3 million copies in the United States and another 3 million worldwide, with royalties putting a big dent in construction costs? “That would be a miracle come true, for sure,” Sister Joseph Andrew said. “Who knows? But no matter what, our primary mission is to bring people closer to God.”

And as for some competition with the Missouri Benedictines, “It’s really not competition,” Sister Joseph Andrew said. “It’s just trying to get Christ into homes.”

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

Even before retired Pope Benedict XVI set up a pontifical council for new evangelization and convoked a world Synod of Bishops on the theme, a new group of Benedictine monks was using Latin and liturgy to reach out to those whose faith was weak or nonexistent.

Now they’ve added beer to the blend, and people are flocking to the monastery in Norcia, the birthplace of St. Benedict, about 70 miles northeast of Rome in the Umbrian countryside.

For the 18 members of St. Benedict’s monastery, life is still about prayer. “If the prayer doesn’t come first, the beer is going to suffer,” said Father Benefactor Nivakoff, director of the Birra Nursia brewery and subprior of the monastery.

The monks in Norcia initially were known for their liturgical ministry, particularly sharing their chanted prayers in Latin on http://osnnorcia.org/blog – with people around the world.

But following the Rule of St. Benedict means both prayer and manual labor, with a strong emphasis on the monks earning their own keep.

After just a year of brewing and selling their beer in the monastery gift shop and through restaurants in Norcia, financial self-sufficiency seems within reach, and the monks are talking expansion.

“We didn’t expect it to be so enormously successful,” said Father Cassian Folsom, the U.S. Benedictine who founded the community in 1998 and serves as its prior. “There’s been a huge response, and our production can’t keep up with the demand and the demand continues to grow.”

But even with the talk of expanding the brewery, and perhaps exporting some of the brew to the United States, the Mass and the liturgical hours are still the centerpiece of the monks’ lives.

Benedictine Father Cassian Folsom, prior of St. Benedict’s Monastery, pours beer for a guest at a tasting commemorating the first anniversary of the monastery’s brewery in Norcia, Italy, Aug. 14.

“Our life is very much unified by the liturgy, which forms a kind of skeleton around which everything else takes shape,” Father Folsom said.

Many visitors tread a path between the church and the gift shop and, increasingly, from the crates of beer to the church.

Father Nivakoff said the monks began brewing Aug. 15, 2012, with three goals: contributing to the monastery’s self-sufficiency; solidifying bonds with the town; and reaching out to people who are turned off by religion.

For those who wouldn’t think of going to Mass, he said, the monastery gift shop gives them a contact with the monks “in a setting and over a product they feel comfortable with. There’s a spiritual gain for them, even though they aren’t looking for it.”

In many circumstances, Father Nivakoff said, “we have to preach the Gospel without preaching the Gospel – just through the example of Christian charity and being kind to people.”

The dark beer’s alcohol content is much higher than U.S. beers, but is similar to the "tripel" Belgian Trappist beers. It also goes well with the food of Norcia – famous for pork sausage and wild boar – and traditional Italian drinking habits in which wine or beer accompanies a meal, Father Nivakoff said.

Celebrating their one-year anniversary Aug. 14 with an open house and beer tasting, the monks imbibed along with their visitors – something that does not happen every day, or even every last day.

“It’s too valuable to drink ourselves,” Father Nivakoff said. However, when mistakes are made in the brewing or bottling, some of the foamy liquid makes it to the defecatory table and “no one’s upset.”

Father Basil Nixen, the novice master, said the beer enterprise has raised the morale of the monks and reinforces their sense of community because all the monks are called on to help with some aspect of producing, bottling, distributing and selling the beer.

"Here in Norcia, we’re at a very important place for evangelization” because so many tourists and pilgrims come through the town, he said. "We’re continually sharing with others our life, above all the liturgy.

“People come to the monastery for the beer,” he said, but they leave realizing God wants them to Norcia to meet him.

Making beer “perhaps dissipates any fear that we might be judgmental or overly critical of them,” he said. People assume beer-making monks will accept them.

Brother Anthony Zemnick, a native of Arlington, Texas, who has been at the monastery for seven years, said the beer “is really good stuff.”

“I’m not the world’s most experienced beer connoisseur, but I’ve tried several different types and I’d say ours is the best not just because it’s ours, but because of the flavor, too,” he said.

Beauty and Beer: Monks’ Outreach is Part of New Evangelization

CNS/Henry Daggott
The names of the following deceased parishes have been submitted by their priests:

**ABBOTTSTOWN** – immaculate Heart of Mary: Larry Raville, Sr.

**BETRICK** – St. Joseph: James L. Bertozy, Elizabeth M. Kachurka.

**CARLISLE** – St. Patrick: Lucy Fortuna, James Frain.

**CHAMBERSBURG** – Corpus Christi: Thomas Long.


**COLUMBIA** – St. Peter: Shirley Fritz.

**CORNWALL** – Sacred Heart of Jesus: Robert P. Krause, Helen Rovinski.

**DANVILLE** – St. Joseph: Joseph Flacco, Pauline Hummer, Marge Szili.

**FAIRFIELD** – Immaculate Conception BVM: Dee Vest.

**GETTYSBURG** – St. Francis Xavier: Patricia Martin, Mary Jane Conception BVM: Dee Vest.


**KULPMONT** – Holy Angels: John P. Voloshin.

**Lancaster** – Assumption BVM: Col. Francis Rineer.

**LITTLESTOWN** – St. Aloysius: George Cogswell.

**MCHSERRYTON** – Annunciation BVM: Marion Livelsberger.


**MIDDLETOWN** – Seven Sorrows BVM: Mary Sorpy.

**Mount Carmel** – Divine Redeemer: Catherine M. Swaboski; Our Lady: Jean Breek, Victor Concini.

**NEW FREDOM** – St. John the Baptist: Mercedes Fava, Catherine McNulty, Ernie Peck, Donald Webster, Anna Marie Williams.

**NEW OXFORD** – Immaculate Conception BVM: Pauline Haines, James Myers.

**SHIPPENSVILLE** – Our Lady of the Visitation: William Bilechak, Patrick Decchene.

**SUNBURY** – St. Monica: John Burke.

**WAYSNEBORO** – St. Andrew: Kenneth Wishing.

**York Catholic High School Kicks Off 85th Anniversary**

York Catholic High School begins a year-long celebration of its 85th anniversary with a Night of Champions honoring the VC teams who won district and state championships over the years Sept. 27 at 6:30 p.m. prior to the football game. Athletes on those teams should contact Jennifer at 717-846-8871 x51 or jsteelmyer@yorkcatholic.org.

The following night, Sept. 28, the community is invited to the 85th kickoff at the high school. Food will be provided by a variety of local restaurants; a silent auction will feature the opportunity to bid on jewelry, gift cards, and professional sports items.Memorabilia will be displayed from throughout the school’s history; and entertainment will be provided by the “Dueling Pianos.” Cost is $30 per person. Reservations can be made by contacting Jennifer at 717-846-8871 x51 or jsteelmyer@yorkcatholic.org.

**Trinity High School Begins 50th Anniversary Celebration**

Trinity High School in Camp Hill is kicking off its 50th anniversary celebration with two events in September: an anniversary Mass and wine and cheese social, and a pig roast.

The anniversary Mass will be celebrated in the school auditorium Sept. 14 at 5 p.m. The celebrant will be Father Louis Ogden, a member of the class of ‘76, and priest members of the Trinity family will concelebrate. A wine and cheese social will immediately follow the Mass. The social is complimentary, but attendees are asked to RSVP to twolfe@thirsocks.us.

A Rockin’ Pig Roast will be held at the school Sept. 28 at 5:30 p.m. Kick off Homecoming weekend with a celebration that will film the award-winning documentary film “Stork’s Farm Fresh Meats. Attendees should bring their own lawn chairs. Cost is $25 for those ages 11 and older, $10 for children ages 5-10, and free for children under 5. RSVP for the pig roast by Sept. 18 to twolfe@thirsocks.us or online at www.thirsocks.org.

**St. Joseph Parish in Hanover to Celebrate Stewardship of Creation**

St. Joseph Parish in Hanover will celebrate Stewardship of Creation during the parish’s 2013 Stewardship renewal by honoring St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals. On Sept. 22, the following three events will be held at the church, 5055 Grandview Road.

**Pet Adoption Event**

Managed by OPH (Operation Paws for Homes) Rescue, a 501C3 nonprofit organization devoted to the rescue, rehabilitation and placement of dogs from high kill shelters in the southern region of the United States. All of the rescued animals are available for free adoption with spay/neuter, care and proper nutrition. The adoption process can be found at www.ophrescue.org. A “meet and greet” where families can interact with their potential new four-legged family member will be held in the grassy area between the church parking lot and the parish picnic grove beginning at 10:30 a.m. Cats and kittens will be available for adoption as well.

**Cutest Pet Contest**

Church members may submit a photo or printed copy (at least 5” x 7”) by Aug. 31 to St. Joseph Administrative Center in one of three categories: Dogs Cats - All Others Entries will be judged by category with five finalists chosen from each. On the weekends of Sept. 7-8 and 14-15, parishioners will vote for their choice as “Cutest Pet at St. Joseph Church” after each Mass in the church narthex. Each entry is voted on multiple times. The fifteen finalists will be judged by a panel of judges with one winner selected from each category. Winners will be announced after the pet blessing ceremony on Sept. 22 which begins at 1:30 p.m. Proceeds from the contest will benefit the local OPH Pet Rescue, www.ophrescue.org.

**Blessing of animals:** An annual event held on or near the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, parishioners are invited to bring their pets for a blessing. The blessing will be held in the grassy area between the parking lot and picnic grove at 1:30 p.m.

**Lancaster’s 40 Days for Life Campaign Set to begin Sept. 25**

On Sept. 25, the highly successful 40 Days for Life campaign returns to Lancaster with a day of prayer and fasting that seeks God’s favor to turn hearts and minds to a culture of life, and thus, bringing an end to abortion. This will be Lancaster’s 40 Days for Life campaign.

40 Days for Life is a peaceful, highly-focused, non-denominational, pro-life initiative that focuses on 40 days of prayer and fasting, peaceful vigil at abortion facilities, and grassroots community outreach. The 40-day time frame is drawn from examples throughout Biblical history.

The fall 2013 campaign will run from Sept. 25-Nov. 3 and feature a peaceful 40-day prayer vigil in the public right-of-way outside the Planned Parenthood facility located at 31 South Lime Street in downtown Lancaster. All prayer vigil participants are asked to sign a statement of peace, pledging to conduct themselves in a Christ-like manner at all times.

“40 Days for Life has generated proven life-saving results since its beginning in 2004 in Bryan/College Station, Texas,” said Shawn Carney, national director of 40 Days for Life. “During 12 previous coordinated campaigns, 501 communities have participated in this effort. More than 575,000 people — representing 16,000 churches — have committed to pray and fast. And we know of at least 7,532 unborn children whose lives were spared from abortion during 40 Days for Life campaigns.”

To learn more about the 40 Days for Life campaign, visit www.40daysforlife.org.

For information about the Lancaster County campaign, visit www.40daysforlife.com/Lancaster or contact Bob Dunn at Lancaster40Days@aol.com or 717-396-3833.
Compiled by Jen Reed

SPiritual Offerings

Mass with Prayers for Healing will be celebrated by Father Francis Karwacki Sept. 3 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Theresa Church in New Cumberland. The monthly Mass is sponsored by the Filigrins of Immaculate Heart of Mary. For information, call Mary Ann at 717-564-7709 or Lorelai at 717-737-7351.

Cantolam at St. Jean of Arc Church in Hershey will be held Fri., Sept. 27 at 7:30 p.m. Tuertas will be served. Come and experience the power of praise and worship music and Eucharistic Adoration. A reception will be held immediately following the liturgy. For more information, call 717-583-0240.

St. Jude Thaddeus Church in Millstown will hold a monthly Mass with intercessory prayer. Father William Weary is the celebrant of this monthly Mass.

A Mass with Prayers for Healing will be celebrated by Father Joseph Grabowski at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 31 at St. Mary Church in Loganton. Names of families who have experienced the loss of a loved one (through miscarriage, abortion, stillbirth or early death) Sept. 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the church. The names will be placed on the psalm board. A Mass will be celebrated monthly at St. Mary Church in Loganton. Names of children who have been submitted in previous years will be included in this year’s remembrance. Submit your child’s name to Connie Heppenstall at 717-329-0691, e-mail 915mass@gmail.com.

St. Anne’s Retirement Community in Columbia Sept. 17 at 7 p.m. The five sessions will be held Sept. 12 (The Spiritual Journey as a Process); Sept. 19 (Your Image of God); Sept. 26 (The Awareness of the Holy Spirit); Oct. 3 (Relationships in the Church); and Oct. 10 (God’s Will and Decision Making). The five sessions will be followed by discussion and prayer.

A seminar on Social Security will be held in Pinnacle Hall at St. Joseph Church in Hanover Sept. 17 at 7 p.m. The seminar will cover an overview of Social Security information, benefits, including information on how to increase benefits through retirement. RSVP to Mary Jo Diffendall by 717-283-6550 or mjoiffendall@stannesacredheart.org.

The Sacred Heart Perpetual Adoration Chapel, 700 Lincoln Ave., will hold Mass throughout the month of September and provide additional benefits throughout retirement. RSVP to Mary Jo Diffendall when and how to start receiving them, and opportunities to increase benefits throughout retirement. RSVP to Mary Jo Diffendall.

The 11th Annual Bingo for Babies, sponsored by the Council of Catholic Women from Sacred Heart of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Steelton, will be held Sept. 15 at 6:30 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the New Cumberland Catholic Charities’ School Uniform Fund.

An annual golf tournament, The Sacred Heart Perpetual Adoration Chapel for all parishes in the Dauphin Deanery. For information, contact Betsy Schaefer at 717-946-6030 or flyerwhiz56@hotmail.com.

The Immaculate Concepcion of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Berwick is hosting a Year of Faith program featuring one-hour sessions from Father Robert Barron. The Catholicism adult formation program is sponsored by the Diocese of Harrisburg. The next session will be held Sept. 19 at 6:30 p.m. and will focus on “World Without End – The Last Day.” For more information, contact the parish at 705-758-8113.

The national meeting of diocesan Liturgical commissions will be held at the Bayfront Convention Center in Erie, Pa., Oct. 8-11. A morninging Parish Liturgy Day, planned for Oct. 12, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., will include a mass of ordination and a liturgy to pray for priests. The parish will host a day of silence on Friday night, September 28.

The 11th Annual Bingo for Babies, hosted by the Knights of Columbus Council #9957 at the Sacred Heart Perpetual Adoration Chapel, for all parishes in the Dauphin Deanery. For information, contact Betsy Schaefer at 717-946-6030 or flyerwhiz56@hotmail.com.

The Council of Catholic Women from Sacred Heart of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Williamsport will host a spaghetti and meatball fundraiser Sept. 21. Tickets are $8 and include dinner, dessert and beverages. For information, contact Mary Waid at 717-547-9930 or any member of the council.

The Little German Band of State College, Pa., will perform on the stage at the closing Mass of the Year of Faith at the 11th Annual Bingo for Babies Sept. 28. The afternoon, from noon-4 p.m., will feature food and entertainment with a German flavor. German food, German beer, and German music will be the focus of the event. The Little German Band features German polkas, waltzes, marches, authentic German folk tunes plus a mix of American dance and novelty tunes. The band will be joined by pianist Jon Hart and St. Aloysius George the Great. The band will be sponsored by the World of Faith Community in Harrisburg. Funds raised will be used to support the community’s efforts to assist residents in need. To make your reservation, contact Mary Jo Diffendall at 717-285-6595 or maryjd@stannesacredheart.org.

Parish & Organization News

St. Joseph Parish in Hanover is hosting a Couples Retreat Sept. 27-29. The afternoon, from noon-4 p.m., will feature food and entertainment with a German flavor. German food, German beer, and German music will be the focus of the event. The Little German Band features German polkas, waltzes, marches, authentic German folk tunes plus a mix of American dance and novelty tunes. The band will be sponsored by the World of Faith Community in Harrisburg. Funds raised will be used to support the community’s efforts to assist residents in need. To make your reservation, contact Mary Jo Diffendall at 717-285-6595 or maryjd@stannesacredheart.org.

The Council of Catholic Women from Sacred Heart of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Steelton, will hold a Mass of Remembrance for all families who have experienced the loss of a loved one (through miscarriage, abortion, stillbirth or early death) Sept. 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the church. The names will be placed on the psalm board. A Mass will be celebrated monthly at St. Mary Church in Loganton. Names of children who have been submitted in previous years will be included in this year’s remembrance. Submit your child’s name to Connie Heppenstall at 717-329-0691, e-mail 915mass@gmail.com.

Holy Spirit Health System and Urology of Central Penn- sylvania, Inc., will provide free prostate cancer screenings Sept. 12 and 19. The screenings are intended for men who are aged 55 to 69, all African American men, or any man who has a family history of prostate cancer. The screenings take about 10 minutes and no appointment is necessary. Men attending the screenings will perform the exams and staff from Holy Spirit Hospital will draw the PSA for the screening. For more information, contact Holy Spirit Hospital at 717-763-2427 or www.fshs.org or Urology of Central Pennsylvania, Inc., at 888-662-62 or www.urology.com.

The DVD “The Catching Fire-Backcoming Flame” by Father Albert Haas, OFM, will be shown in the parish hall of our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Mt. Carmel on Thursday, Sept. 5 at 6:30 p.m. The film, produced by the Franciscan Order of the Spiritual Franciscan Process, Sept. 19 (Your Image of God); Sept. 26 (The Awareness of the Holy Spirit); Oct. 3 (Relationships in the Church); and Oct. 10 (God’s Will and Decision Making). The five sessions will be followed by discussion and prayer.

A seminar on Social Security will be held in Pinnacle Hall at St. Joseph Church in Hanover Sept. 14 at 7 p.m. in the church. The seminar will cover an overview of Social Security information, benefits, including information on how to increase benefits through retirement. RSVP to Mary Jo Diffendall by 717-285-6550 or mjoiffendall@stannesacredheart.org.

Women of Faith Women’s Ministry will hold their 10th Annual District Mass and Dinner Sept. 19, with Mass at St. Joseph Church, Hanover, at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at Rain- side Barquet Center, 241 N. Railroad St., Hanover. Cost of the dinner is $13. Presentation by Deacon Thomas Aumen on “Taking Church Gospe...” Contact Barbara Burgar for reservations by Sept. 13, 717-632-9956.
On a picturesque Sunday in late August, black Catholics from around the diocese gathered at Harrisburg’s City Island for their annual picnic, which traditionally kicks off the start of the year for the Black Catholic Apostolate.

The apostolate was established in the diocese in 1986 to address the social, economic and spiritual concerns of black Catholics, and to promote leadership, foster evangelization and focus on family and educational programs.

Gwen Summers is the coordinator of the Black Catholic Apostolate, and says that the annual family picnic, which draws upwards of 100 people, offers an opportunity to discuss plans for the upcoming year and focus on evangelization.

Eugene Rideout, a member of Corpus Christi Parish in Chambersburg, sees the importance of inviting black Catholics into the Church. “Just come to church,” he said. “It is more than the building; it’s sharing and showing the faith.”

For information on the Black Catholic Apostolate, contact Gwen Summers, coordinator, at 717-232-6285.