Twelve Promises of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

1. I will give them all the graces necessary for their state of life.
2. I will establish peace in their homes.
3. I will bless every home in which an image of My Heart shall be exposed and honored.
4. I will console them in all their difficulties.
5. I will be their refuge during life and especially at the hour of death.
6. I will shed abundant blessings upon all their undertakings.
7. Sinners shall find in My Heart a fountain and boundless ocean of mercy.
8. Tepid souls shall become fervent.
9. Fervent souls shall rise speedily to perfection.
10. I will give to priests the power of touching the hardest hearts.
11. Those who propagate this devotion shall have their names written in My Heart never to be blotted out.
12. I promise you, in the excessive mercy of My Heart, that My all-powerful love will grant to all who communicate on the First Friday of the month for nine consecutive months, the grace of final penitence; they shall not die in My displeasure nor without the sacraments: My Divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in this last moment.

Catholic Officials: People of South Sudan Will Need Patience

By Bronwen Dachs
Catholic News Service

Catholic officials cited the need for patience and a focus on what the people of South Sudan have achieved as the church prepares to walk alongside the world’s newest country on its path to peace and development.

“I’m not sure we can say we have a lot of experience in dealing with a new country,” said Dan Griffin, adviser on Sudan to the U.S. bishops’ Catholic Relief Services. “Their potential and hope gives them a tremendous advantage,” he told Catholic News Service in a July 10 telephone interview from Juba. He noted that the 8 million citizens of South Sudan “may not have phones, banks or roads but they do have rights and dignity and a government of their consent.”

A 2005 peace deal that ended Africa’s longest-running conflict led to a January independence vote in which nearly 99 percent of the residents of the South voted to secede from Sudan.

Celebrating the Feast of the Sacred Heart

Bishop Joseph P. McFadden elevates the Eucharist during Mass he celebrated at Sacred Heart of Jesus Basilica in Conewago July 1, the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Father Lawrence McNeil, right, is pastor of the historic parish, which dates back to 1730 and was raised to the rank of a minor basilica on July 11, 1962. See coverage of the Mass on page 16.

CNS/THOMAS MUKOYA, REUTERS

A child attends Mass at St. Teresa Cathedral in Juba, South Sudan, July 10. The previous day hundreds of thousands of people celebrated South Sudan’s independence after decades of civil war.
Pope Benedict XVI presents a pallium to Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles in St. Peter’s Basilica at the Vatican June 29. During Mass the pope gave 41 archbishops the woolen pallium as a sign of their communion with him and their pastoral responsibility as shepherds.

Woollen palliums are carried by servers during Mass celebrated by Pope Benedict XVI on the feast of Sts. Peter and Paul in St. Peter’s Basilica at the Vatican June 29.

CNS/OSSERVATORE ROMANO

Pope Marks 60 Years as a Priest, Bestows Palliums on Archbishops

By John Thavis

Catholic News Service

Celebrating Mass with archbishops from 25 countries, Pope Benedict XVI reflected on his 60 years as a priest, calling it a demanding and “awe-inspiring” ministry that brought him closer to God.

The papal unusually personal recollection came on the anniversary of his priestly ordination in Bavaria in 1951 and the pope’s patron saints, Sts. Peter and Paul, the patron saints of Rome.

During the three-hour-long Mass, he gave 41 archbishops the woolen pallium as a sign of their communion with the pope and their pastoral responsibility as shepherds. Among them were four prelates from the United States, including Archbishop Joseph A. Gomez of Los Angeles, and one from Canada.

The liturgy in St. Peter's Basilica began with a fanfare of trumpets. The pope smiled as he processed toward an altar ringed with flowers, pausing to greet delegations sent as he processed toward an altar ringed with flowers, pausing to greet delegations sent by Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople.

The pope devoted most of his homily to the feast of Sts. Peter and Paul in St. Peter’s Basilica at the Vatican June 29.

With Some Writing Projects Planned, Pope Begins Summer Vacation

By Cindy Wooden

Catholic News Service

Pope Benedict XVI officially began his summer vacation July 7, taking a helicopter from the Vatican to the hilltop town of Castel Gandolfo, less than 15 miles south of Rome.

“On one can find everything here: mountains, the lake, the sea, a beautiful church with a restored facade and good people,” the pope said as he arrived. He was speaking from the balcony of the papal villa to a crowd that had gathered to welcome him to the small town.

“I am happy to be here. Let’s hope that the Lord will give us a good vacation,” he said.

For the second year in a row, Pope Benedict has declined invitations to spend a couple weeks of the summer in the Italian Alps. He will be based at Castel Gandolfo until the end of September, said Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman.

For the month of July, the pope has suspended his Wednesday general audiences, but he will pray the Angelus each Sunday with a group of pilgrims who gather in the courtyard of the villa at Castel Gandolfo.

Father Lombardi told Vatican Radio July 7 that skipping an Alpine vacation means reducing organizational and security headaches and costs for both the Vatican and the Italian government.

In addition, he said, Castel Gandolfo has “the advantage of being a familiar location, prepared and equipped for the presence of the Holy Father, a quiet place, where even the altitude is suitable – cooler than Rome, but not particularly high – it has gardens to walk in” and is conducive to prayer and the pope’s cultural work, “both particularly dear to him.”

The spokesman said the pope plans to prepare his speeches for World Youth Day in Madrid in August and for a trip to Germany in September. He also wants to continue working on the third and final volume of his “Jesus of Nazareth” series.

The first volume was published in 2007 and the second came out in March. Father Lombardi said the pope, who has already begun writing the third volume, expects it to be shorter than the first two and “a bit different in nature and approach” since it will cover Jesus’ infancy and childhood, for which there is very little information in the Gospels.
**Summer Camp for People with Mental Disabilities**

The Diocese of Harrisburg will sponsor its annual summer camp for adults with mental disabilities on August 14-19, 2011, at Camp Kirchenwald, near Hershey. The camp is designed for adults, aged 18 and up, who will moderate mental retardation and no significant behavioral problems. Tuition for camp is $425, but camperships are available. For further information, contact the Diocesan Family Ministries office at 717-657-4804, or e-mail kenders@hbgdiocese.org.

**Volunteers and donors are needed!**
The Diocesan Family Ministries Office is seeking full-time and part-time staff to assist at this special summer camp. No experience is necessary, but those with experience in fishing, camping, hiking, and arts and crafts are especially welcome. Nurses are also needed. Attendance at training is required for all new volunteers.

If you’re interested in sponsoring a campership for a person who might not otherwise be able to afford this camp, donations are welcome. A full week of camp costs $425, and donations in any amount are appreciated. For information on volunteering or donating, contact the Family Ministries Office at 717-657-4804 or vlaskowski@hbgdiocese.org.

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**“The Holy Words for Holy People” Informational Sessions on Mass Changes Scheduled**

**Schedule of Sessions**

| July 13 | Assumption BVM Lancaster, 7 p.m. |
| July 20 | Holy Trinity, Columbia, 7 p.m. |
| August 1 | Our Lady of Lourdes, Enola, 7 p.m. |
| August 8 | St. Margaret Mary, Harrisburg, 7 p.m. |
| August 23 | Our Lady of Lourdes, Enola, 7 p.m. |
| September 7 | St. Joseph, York, 7 p.m. |
| September 12 | St. Monica, Sunbury, 7 p.m. |
| September 13 | St. John the Baptist, New Freedom, 7 p.m. |

More dates for additional sessions will be announced for September.

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**Bishop Joseph P. McFadden’s Public Calendar**

- **July 15** – Seminarian Golf Outing, TBD
- **July 16** – Closing of Novena to Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Elizabethtown
- **July 17** – WYD Mass and Gathering, St. Theresa Church, New Cumberland, noon
- **July 20** – Holy Family Convent Mass and Visit, Hollidaysville, 10 a.m.; Holy Family Radio kick-off gathering for fundraising campaign, Cardinal Keeler Center, Harrisburg, 7 p.m.
- **July 24** – Mass at U.S. Penitentiary Lewisburg, 10 a.m.
- **July 27** – Seminarian Family Gathering, Bishop’s Residence, Harrisburg, 5 p.m.
- **August 4** – Diocesan Pilgrimage to Mount St. Mary’s, Emmitsburg, Md., 10 a.m.
- **August 8** – Diocesan Pilgrimage to Mount St. Mary’s, Emmitsburg, Md., 10 a.m.
- **August 9** – PCC Executive Board Meeting, Cardinal Keeler Center, Harrisburg, all day.
- **August 10** – Mass for World Youth Day Pilgrims at Cardinal Keeler Center, Harrisburg, 12:30 p.m.

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**Catholic Perspective Radio**

Catholic Perspective Radio is Coming to Our Diocese! Join Bishop Joseph P. McFadden at the Kick-Off Event Wednesday, July 20 at 7 p.m. at the Cardinal Keeler Center, 4800 Union Deposit Rd, Harrisburg. Hear how parishes, Catholic groups and you will benefit. WHYF AM 720 is scheduled to be on the air, covering most of our diocese with Catholic programming by mid-August.

For more information, contact Holy Family Radio, Inc., PO Box 6028, Lancaster, PA 17607-6028, holyfamilyradio@pgnusa.net, or visit: www.yourholyfamilyradio.com.
By A.B. Hill
Special to The Witness

“Hurry up and wait.”

That is the sentiment of school choice supporters in Pennsylvania who are disappointed that the state legislature left for its summer recess on June 30 without passing school choice legislation.

In the last week of June, however, high level discussions about school vouchers took place between the Corbett Administration and legislative leaders. All expressed their support and commitment to passing school choice, but the date to postpose the vote on legislation until the fall so they could have more time to agree on the details.

In late June, the House Health Committee amended and passed Senate Bill 734 and in June the Senate passed Senate Bill 732.

In late June, the House Insurance Committee amended and passed Senate Bill 732 with essentially the same language as House Bill 574. After the summer recess, PCC expects the amended Senate Bill 732 will go to the House floor for a vote, and then be sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Should abortions be covered in the health care exchange set up by federal health care reform? Senate Bill 3 would clearly prohibit abortion coverage in the taxpayer-supported insurance plans to be created in Pennsylvania’s health insurance exchange when the state implements the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA). SB 3 passed the state Senate on June 7 with a vote of 37-12. In late June, SB 3 cleared the first hurdle in the House of Representatives with the 22-2 vote in the House Insurance Committee. The PCC expects this bill will also be taken up after the summer recess.

Does the budget reflect a pro-life agenda? In the midst of severe funding cuts for several programs in the Department of Public Welfare budget, the PCC is pleased that the state’s alternatives to abortion program, Real Alternatives, received a 4% increase. This will enable more women to receive valuable resources throughout their pregnancy.

What should we expect in the fall? In addition to the legislation mentioned above, the PCC is also supporting the Ultra-sound Access Bill, which requires that a woman be given the option to see her ultrasound and see her unborn child’s heartbeat. The PCC expects this bill to be introduced in the fall in the House of Representatives. Nearly 40 legislators have already signed on as co-sponsors. The lists of state legislators who voted in favor of House Bill 574, Senate Bill 732 and Senate Bill 3 are posted on PCC's website, www.pacatholic.org.

It is critical that your senator and representative hear from you on these issues. This summer, please consider visiting, visiting or emailing your legislators to voice your support for human life from conception to natural death. Also, become a member of our advocacy network at www.pacatholic.org to receive the most up-to-date information about legislation concerning Catholics. (Shea is Director of Outreach for the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference, the public affairs arm of Pennsylvania’s Catholic bishops and the Catholic dioceses of Pennsylvania.)

Pro-Life Legislation Moves through State Legislature

By Joelle Shea
Special to The Witness

The start of the 2011-2012 Pennsylvania legislative session saw movement on several pieces of pro-life legislation. Given the fact that Pennsylvania boasts a pro-life governor and a pro-life majority in the House and the Senate, the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference (PCC) is hopeful that the current legislative session will go to the House floor for a vote, and will continue over the summer.

Most Rev. Joseph P. McFadden
Bishops and the Catholic dioceses of Pennsylvania

The Catholic Witness

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The statue of St. Joseph outside the Mecha-

nicsburg school named for him. The familial sculpture of the carpenter and his son welcomes students to St. Joseph’s School, just as Sister Michael Ann has done there for the past three decades.

“The relationships I have been able to make over the years at this school are my fondest memories,” Sister Michael Ann told The Catholic Witness as her retirement as principal of St. Joseph’s drew near.

She recalled relationships she nurtured with students who needed an extra guiding hand, a sympathetic ear or a compassionate shoulder, from students who couldn’t seem to remember to bring their books to school, to those who encountered family problems or those who were stricken with terminal illness.

“As I look back, my fondest memo-

ries are really about individual students who touched my life in a special way and whose lives I hope I touched in a special way,” she reflected. “I think of those times when kids were at a low point and we worked together to get through it, or when they had significant losses and needed help in their grief.”

The readiness to help others in their time of need has always been a hallmark of Sister Michael Ann’s life, and one that helped her answer “yes” to God’s call for her to live a religious vocation.

“It’s really all about love and our rela-

tionship with God. I had that desire and felt that religious life was the way to fulfill that desire,” she remarked. “I have to say I always knew I would be a teacher,” she said. “Even when I was in grade school I was always helping other kids, so I knew I had the soul of a teacher.”

A native of Perth Amboy, N.J., she visited St. Cyril Academy in Danville as a young girl and was so drawn to the place that she enrolled at the high school and later in high school days. Our high school motto was ‘Enter to learn, leave to serve.’ That’s the crux of it. It’s not about me, it’s me serving you. That’s what I want our students to learn, to go out there and be of service,” she said.

St. Joseph’s students have followed that lead. The Student Service Council works to keep service a priority. Students collect food and clothing for those in need and donate baby items to the Loudeshouse maternity home in Harrisburg. They also sponsor a child at an orphanage in Jamaica and offer financial help when international disasters strike.

“The idea of service was sparked in me at a young age, and I want to pass that on to others,” Sister Michael Ann said. “We need to look at not just our community, but the whole world.”

As principal, Sister Michael Ann feels blessed to have witnessed the growth of the school community at St. Joseph’s. “And for her, it’s not just limited to the construction of the spacious new school in 2005. It’s about the growth of individuals – students and faculty alike.

“When you’re a teacher, you get those moments that remind you of why you’re a teacher. You get kids who have an ‘ah-ha moment,’ and they’ll tell you,” she said.

“When you come in as administra-
tor, you need to have a different relation-

ship with the faculty, learn their needs and specialties, their strengths and weaknesses, and work with them to help them grow,” she added.

“Anytime that you work with people and move them forward is a joyful time,” she said.

It’s why Sister Michael Ann enjoys graduation. Students are growing and moving forward.

“Graduation has always been my fa-
vorite activity because I feel like it is opening a world to them,” she said. “It’s saying to students, ‘You’re moving forward. Go with God’s blessing.’”

“It reminds me that we are preparing our students for the future,” she remarked. “I hope the lessons they learned here hold strong for them so that when things come that batter them around, they have their faith to hang on to.”

Sister Michael Ann sees her retire-
ment from St. Joseph’s as a gradu-

ation. “You can’t move on and grow if you don’t let go of the past and what you’ve been doing. You have to let go and move on because life is a journey,” she said.

“No matter how old you are, whatever path you choose and the changes that come, you always have growth moments. “I really felt a call that I needed to do something else,” she said of her decision to move on from the school. “I don’t know what that’s going to be exactly, but whatever it is, I’m going to be ready.”

“You’re moving forward, Sister. Go with God’s blessing.”

Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat

For Those Suffering the Pain of an Abortion


For Those Suffering the Pain of an Abortion

August 5-7

Mariawald Renewal Center in Reading, PA

If you are suffering from the pain and hurt of an abortion, you are invited to attend this healing weekend. If you are the mother, father, grandparent, sibling or medical personnel involved with this experi-

ence, this weekend is also for you. There is no judgment – only love, mercy, compassion and forgiveness on a journey to a place that begins with the darkness of choice and ends in the healing arms of our Lord Jesus.

All inquiries are totally confidential. Contact Joy at 717-788-4959 or RVpamd@gmail.com, or visit www.rachelsvineyard.org.
Marking 50 Years, Diocesan Hispanic Apostolate Continues to Provide Spiritual, Pastoral Support to Latino Catholics

By Jen Reed
The Catholic Witness

The pastoral care of Spanish-speaking Catholics has a rich history in the Diocese of Harrisburg. It dates back to the 1940s, when Bishop George L. Leech appointed the first priest to minister to migrant workers in the diocese.

2011 marks the 50th anniversary of the Diocesan Hispanic Apostolate. Though its specific activities and services (and even its name) have changed over the past five decades, its mission has remained clear: to provide spiritual and pastoral services to the Hispanic Catholic community.

Father Bernard Pistone, current pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Gettysburg, became a member of the Hispanic Apostolate in 1974. Then, it was under the auspices of Msgr. Mercutro Fregapane, the Vicar for Spanish-speaking Catho-

lics, a role Father Pistone would later assume.

A priest of Italian origin, Father Pistone recalls the dedica-
tion of the priests who joined the apostolate in its early days.

"This was a lot of sacrifice, working with a culture that we were not aware of, with spiritualities that we were foreign to, with religious traditions that we were not familiar with," he said.

Serving the Latino community, he said, "is more than say-
ing Mass, burying the dead and baptizing babies. It’s about embracing the spirituality of the people and then catechiz-
ing, or teaching, them. It’s about giving them a home in the Church."

In its early years, the program of the Apostolate for Span-

ish-Speaking Catholics – as it was known after its founding by Bishop Daley – included summer visits to migrant camps, distributing clothing and personal items, celebrating Mass in Spanish, and conducting social events. Today, the Hispanic Apostolate has expanded its program. The clergy, religious and lay active in the ministry strive to foster faith formation for adults, catechesis for children, offer services to the poor, and increase Hispanic participation in diocesan life and ministries, among other objectives.

"The Church has a position to herself to welcome the stranger, lovingly integrate them and say, ‘There is room for you, we want you to be involved, and we appreciate your gifts.’" Father Pistone remarked. "If I, as a priest, do my best to respect their traditions, I confirm that they are welcomed and that the Church is willing to respect their culture."

Cultural Richness

Dr. Lucia Murphy, Director of the Diocesan Offices of Evangelization and Special Ministries, points out that the faith traditions of Latino Catholics contribute to the cultural richness of the global Church, as the gifts brought by Pol-

ish, European, Asian, African or Irish ancestors.

"Our work is about creating a Catholic community that serves, understands and respects the traditions of everyone, regardless of color or nationality of origin," she said.

Those who minister to the Hispanic Catholic community point to the myriad traditions and gifts of faith they bring to the Church.

"The marriage of the human and the divine really comes to life in the Latino community," said Father Robert Gillelan, pastor of Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in York. He began his ministry with the Hispanic Apos-
tolate in 1989 as a newly-ordained priest.

"They are so ready to bless all the different moments of their life, from baptism to the presentation of three-year-olds to Quinceañeras, the blessing of a girl on her 15th birthday," Father Gillelan pointed out. "When seminarians prepare to re-
turn to the seminary, their parents bless them. They ask me to give them a blessing on their birthday, or when they’re travel-
ing."

St. Joseph Parish in Hanover is one of the newest com-
munities of the Hispanic Apostolate. The parish began a full-
dledged program for Latino Catholics about five years ago. Already, St. Joseph’s has benefited from the cultural gifts, of Father Joseph Gotwalt, pastor.

"Our parish has formed a Hispanic dance group, which I think is unique for the youngest of all the parishes in the apos-
tolate," he said.

"The Hispanic faithful are very demonstrative of their Ca-
tholicism. Their devotion, piety and faith are tremendous. They’ve been here in this country for generations, and even here, yet they’re still faithful," Father Gotwalt re-

marked.

"This is 2010 Diocesan Mass celebrating Hispanic faith and culture, women and girls dress up for a Marian procession at the Church in its fullness." - Jen Reed

"I don’t go to learn English. There are opportunities for people to improve their English, but I don’t go to Mass in English to practice the language," she said. "I don’t go to learn English. There are opportunities for people to improve their English, but I don’t go to Mass in English to practice the language."

"We have an obligation to care for all of our brothers and sisters, and that’s why the Hispanic Apostolate started," Father Gotwalt noted. "We have an obligation to feed them spiritually and to offer services to be Church for them."

Fullness of the Church

Dr. Murphy views other cultural ministries – whether to Lati-

nos, African-Americans, Pol-

ish or Irish – as a proof of the firmation of the dignity of the human person.

"Welcoming the strang-
ers is one of the core themes of English, social, cultural, which calls us to respect and protect the life and dignity of all humans, born or unborn, black, white, brown or yellow," she said.

As those involved in the Hispanic Apostolate reflect on its ministry these past 50 years, they point to the significance of how it has served and why it remains critical.

"In the situation where people migrate here from a differ-
ent country, they can be led astray from the Church if the Church is not concerned about their whole life," Mrs. Contreras-

said. "That is why the Hispanic Apostolate is important. It brings issues to the table and shows how the Church needs to provide for the Hispanic community."

"We have an obligation to care for all of our brothers and sisters, and that’s why the Hispanic Apostolate started," Father Gotwalt noted. "We have an obligation to feed them spiritually and to offer services to be Church for them."

Father Wolfe said the significance of the apostolate is found in the Church’s mission of getting people to heaven.

"If you think about the sacraments, their primary goal is to make people holy, to help them grow in their relationship with God so they can experience God now and be prepared for their eternal relationship with him," he said.

"The Church wants us to be active members of the family of God. That means affirming the dignity and value of others," Father Wolfe remarked. "If we were simply provid-
ing the sacraments to the Hispanic community in their native language but nothing more, then we’re failing to provide the experience of community that is so essential for experiencing the Church in its fullness."

During the 2010 Diocesan Mass celebrating Hispanic faith and culture, women and girls dress up for a Marian procession at the Church in its fullness. - Jen Reed

WITNESS ARCHIVES/CHARLIE BLAHUSCH

A pregnant woman and washes clothes in an Adams County migrant camp in this archival photo from 1984. One of the programs of the Hispanic Apostolate has included pastoral care of migrant workers.

Diocesan Hispanic Apostolate:
www.bgdioce.se.org
(Click on “Special Ministries”)
**Witnessing to the True Presence**

Parishioners of St. Andrew the Apostle Parish in Waynesboro held their annual Corpus Christi Procession June 26. The faithful gathered for Holy Mass and then immediately began a procession around the grounds of the Franklin County parish in public witness to our faith in the True Presence of Christ in the Most Holy Eucharist.

In his encyclical on the Eucharist, Pope John Paul II wrote, “The humble signs of bread and wine, changed into his body and blood, Christ walks beside us as our strength and our food for the journey, and he enables us to become, for everyone, witnesses of hope. If, in the presence of this mystery, reason experiences its limits, the heart, enlightened by the grace of the Holy Spirit, clearly sees the response that is demanded, and bows low in adoration and unbounded love.”

**Mass Closes Work of Tribunal Reviewing Possible Miracle in Peyton Cause**

Bishop Howard J. Hubbard of Albany celebrated Mass June 28 to close a tribunal formed to review a possible miracle attributed to the intercession of Holy Cross Father Patrick Peyton.

The priest, whose popular radio and television programs promoted family prayer, was known for coinng phrases “The family that prays together, stays together” and “A world at prayer is a world at peace.”

Father Peyton emigrated from Ireland to the United States in 1928 when he was 19. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1941 and founded Family Rosary in Albany the following year. He conducted rosary crusades in 40 countries, drawing 28 million people.

Father Peyton died in 1992 and the cause for his canonization was opened 10 years ago.

The tribunal in the Albany Diocese was appointed at the request of the postulator of the cause, Andrea Ambrosi. Bishop Hubbard conducted “a thorough review of all aspects of this possible healing,” according to a statement from Holy Cross Ministries, which was founded by Father Peyton.

The findings have been closed and will be sent to the Vatican Congregation for Saints’ Causes.

“While the details of the possible miracle cannot be shared at this point in the process, we can share with you that a man in his 60s was admitted to the hospital with life-threatening, multiple organ failure. His family prayed to Father Peyton and they strongly felt that he was healed through intercessory prayer. The medical community has offered information to support this belief,” said Holy Cross Father John Phalen, president of Holy Cross Family Ministries.

“We hear from people around the world frequently, who believe they were healed by Father Peyton. Many others simply share stories of being touched by his holiness. While they may already consider him a saint, we are all pleased to see progress in his cause,” added Father Phalen.

In the church’s process leading to canonization, the first step is the declaration of a person’s heroic virtues, after which the church gives him or her the title venerable. In general, the church also includes Family Rosary, Father Peyton Family Institute and Family Rosary International.

Father Peyton is buried in Easton, Mass. North Easton is the home of Holy Cross Family Ministries.

The investigation into the priest’s cause for sainthood opened in June 2001 in the Diocese of Fall River, Mass., and was moved from that diocese to the Baltimore Archdiocese by the Vatican. In July 2010, the archdiocese completed an exhaustive investigation into Father Peyton’s life and ministry, and archdiocesan officials sent copies of its 16,000-page report to the Vatican’s Congregation for Saints’ Causes by July 23.

Holy Cross Family Ministries recently announced it has launched a new Web site about the priest’s cause, www.FatherPeyton.org.

Father Peyton founded Family Theater Productions in Hollywood in 1947. Through it he produced more than 600 radio and television programs that featured hundreds of movie stars and celebrities, and had more than 10,000 broadcasts.

Family Theater Productions is part of Holy Cross Family Ministries, which also includes Family Rosary, Father Peyton Family Institute and Family Rosary International.

Harrisburg Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Inaugural Retreat

"Women of Hope"

August 5-7, 2011
Mount St. Mary’s University, Emmitsburg, Md

The first annual retreat will be led by Father Andrew P. Marinas, a retired priest of the Diocese of Harrisburg. The weekend will begin Friday evening and conclude at noon Sunday. Family members are invited to join in the closing Mass on Sunday at 9 a.m. Registration and a $65 non-refundable deposit are due by July 8, with the remaining balance due by July 15. Cost is $130 for a single room with shared bath or $155 for a single room with private bath. For detailed information and a registration form, contact Barbara McCarthy at 717-534-1858 or franbarbmc@aol.com.

Annual Pilgrimage for World Peace

August 4
Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes, Emmitsburg, Md

Bishop Joseph P. McFadden, principal celebrant and homilist

The 24th annual Pilgrimage for World Peace through Conversion of Heart will include the Sacrament of Penance, Mass, recitation of the rosary, a Marian conference by Capuchin Franciscan Father John Bednarik, consecration to Mary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and a Holy Hour of Adoration.

The day begins at 10 a.m. Rosary and Mass will take place at the grotto, weather permitting. The pilgrimage will conclude at 4 p.m. Pilgrims should bring a boxed lunch and water; lunch is not available otherwise.

For general information, contact Deacon Michael Grella at 717-939-6431 (home) or 717-379-8083 (cell) or via e-mail at dmgrella@hbgdiocese.org.

**Annual Pilgrimage for World Peace**

**Witnessing to the True Presence**
A: Toulouse, France

Thursday, August 11: Pilgrims arrive at the airport in Toulouse, claim luggage and board motor coach for transit to Lourdes. The group departing the United States from Philadelphia will attend Mass at the Crypt with pilgrims from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

B: Lourdes, France

Friday, August 12: Mass in English at Saint Cosmas and Damian Chapel, Video on the Message of Lourdes, tour of the Sanctuaries, Eucharistic Procession ending in the Basilica of Pius X, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and a Marian Torchlight Procession

Saturday, August 13: Procession to the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes, Mass at the Grotto, exploration of the Grotto, Way of the Cross, afternoon retreat, and Evening Prayer

Sunday, August 14: Morning Prayer, departure from Lourdes and travel to St. Ignatius of Loyola Monastery in San Sebastian

C: San Sebastian, Spain

Sunday, August 14: Free time with parish group and the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, visit to the Holy House of St. Ignatius, Mass in the Basilica celebrated by Bishop Joseph P. McFadden, departure to Burgos

D: Burgos, Spain

Monday, August 15: Mass at Burgos Cathedral celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, departure to Madrid

E: Madrid, Spain

Monday August 15: Panoramic Tour of Madrid, Diocesan dinner at the Presidente Hotel, and prayer and reflection with parish group

Tuesday, August 16: Prayer and time with parish group, 8 p.m. World Youth Day Opening Mass at the Plaza de Cibeles, cultural activities throughout the evening

Wednesday, August 17: Catechesis sessions, Diocesan dinner at Riofrio, World Youth Day cultural events

Thursday, August 18: Catechesis sessions, arrival of Pope Benedict XVI at noon at the Barajas Airport, 7:30 p.m. Papal Welcome at the Plaza de Cibeles, World Youth Day cultural events

Friday, August 19: Catechesis sessions, walk to Paseo de Recoletos for Via Crucis (The Way of the Cross)

Saturday, August 20: Morning Mass with U.S. pilgrims at the Palacio de Deportes (Madrid Sports Arena), Mass for seminarians in the Cathedral of “la Alumdena,” pilgrimage walk to Cuatro Vientos airport, 8:30 p.m. Vigil with Pope Benedict at Cuatro Vientos, sleep outside at Cuatro Vientos

Sunday, August 21: 9:30 a.m. Papal Mass, Pilgrimage walk out of Cuatro Vientos, departure to Barcelona/London for overnight stay

Monday, August 22: Departure from Barcelona/London to United States
Journey with our Diocesan Correspondents!

As the diocese years up to send some 225 playwrights on a spiritual journey to World Youth Day in Spain Aug 16-22, the Communication Office is collaborating with 13 young women and adults who will serve as World Youth Day correspondents. They have been given the unique opportunity to share their experiences through the diocese’s Facebook and YouTube pages, and via a blog. They’ll post daily photos, articles and videos for people to read, write and enjoy a portion of their material will be published in The Catholic Witness upon their return. Witness their spiritual journeys via the diocese’s Facebook and YouTube pages, and via blogs. They’ll post daily photos, articles and videos for people to read, write and enjoy a portion of their material will be published in The Catholic Witness upon their return.

Hello, my name is Britta Margaret Bender. I am 16 years old and will be a junior in high school next year. I was born in Pitts- burg, Pa., to two loving parents and have five siblings consisting of four sisters and one rather loud brother. In my spare time, I love to read, write, watch movies and sing. Writing has always been a passion of mine; when I was 8 or 9 years old, I cre- ated my very own newspaper and entitled it “Nighttime News” (my brother loved the name!). I delivered handwritten subscription forms to every single house on my street, and several nice people amused me and signed up. Since then, I’ve worked at The Hanover Sun as a student reporter, participated in lo- cal poetry readings, and continue to journal about things, thoughts, and experi- ences that inspire me.

Speaking of inspirational happen- ings, I cannot wait to attend the World Youth Day in Madrid this August. The group I am traveling with will be coming from El Salvador, and I’m glad to be back to the Church as a pilgrim in Madrid, but also in prayer for and in appreciation of the power of God and the wonder of creation. This is my second World Youth Day, and I am excited to see what will happen on this trip with those people, right here in the Spanish capital.

I’ve always wanted to visit Spain. Since I was 7 or 8 years old, I cre- ated my very own newspaper and entitled it “Nighttime News” (my brother loved the name!). I delivered subscriptions to every single house on my street, and several nice people amused me and signed up. Since then, I’ve worked at The Hanover Sun as a student reporter, participated in local poetry readings, and continue to journal about things, thoughts, and experiences that inspire me.

I chose to be a correspondent so I could share my experiences and personal accounts of my expe- rience in Madrid. How I love sharing my faith with others, especially when it in- volves using the talents the Lord has entrusted to me. I can’t wait to be in Madrid this August.

On your Facebook page, search: World Youth Day Diocese of Harrisburg

Hello, my name is Mary-Kate Lee and I am a member of the beau- tiful Our Lady of the Assumption Par-ish in Harrisburg. I was home schooled K-12th and I’m look- ing forward to my sophomore year at Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio. I have been involved in music since I can play three instruments. At school, I was involved in a variety of activities and also held a leadership position as Co-President, Choir Vice-President, and also a member of a student-organized band. I am also a leading member of a student-organized band. I am currently pursuing my primary pas- sion; music, full time. I play a variety of in- struments, including hammered dulcimer, in my band CelticHeritage/Folk band. I also play keyboards in the indie/Christian/Folk band Post Script. I enjoy writing music and the occasional poem. I am writing new songs with other musicians, and performing live music. I also enjoy reading a great book, watching a good movie, deep conversations about nothing particularly important, and traveling and sometimes getting lost in God’s wonder.

Eric Cross is a senior at the University of Pittsburgh and a member of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Northside Pittsburgh. He is a music theory student at the University of Pittsburgh and is a member of the Harrisburg Diocesan Youth Council. Some of Eric’s interests and hobbies include read- ing, writing, taking pictures and working with his church. Eric has traveled to many locations in the United States, including El Salvador, as well as to the Philippines and in Europe. In his free time, Eric enjoys reading books, writing, and playing music. He is currently pursuing a degree in music education at the University of Pittsburgh.

Mary-Kate Lee is a senior at the University of Pittsburgh and a member of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Northside Pittsburgh. She is a music theory student at the University of Pittsburgh and is a member of the Harrisburg Diocesan Youth Council. Some of her interests and hobbies include reading, writing, taking pictures and working with her church. Mary-Kate has traveled to many locations in the United States, including El Salvador, as well as to the Philippines and in Europe. In her free time, Mary-Kate enjoys reading books, writing, and playing music. She is currently pursuing a degree in music education at the University of Pittsburgh.
Marty Shelton, who portrays Sister Sunday, and Carla Gugino, who portrays head coach Cathy Rush, star in "The Mighty Macs." The film tells the story of the women’s basketball team at Immaculata College in the Philadelphia suburbs that won the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women basketball championship in 1972, the year that college women’s basketball converted to the full-court game.

Rick Eckstein, hitting coach for the Washington Nationals, remembers his mother saying that when the family of seven found out that, while in high school, Susan, Eckstein’s oldest sister, suffered from glomerulonephritis, a genetic kidney disease that leads to kidney failure.

The words – and a strong Catholic faith – sustained him throughout that first family medical challenge in 1988 and the many that followed.

The disease, passed down from the children’s father, Whitney, has affected the entire Eckstein family. Those who do not suffer from it – including Eckstein and his youngest brother, David, a former National League all-star – have made their contributions by donating kidneys.

Eckstein’s mother, Patricia, donated her kidney to Susan in 1990. Since then, Eckstein’s other sister, brother and father have all received transplants.

Last December, Eckstein took his turn at the plate, donating a kidney to his brother Ken. It was a decision that he made last summer when he was on dialysis and “it was touch and go,” he wrote, directed and produced.

“The Mighty Macs” tells the story of the women’s basketball team at Immaculata College in the Philadelphia suburbs that won the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women basketball championship in 1972, the first year that college women’s basketball converted to the full-court game, having produced the 2004 film “Miracle,” about 1980 U.S. Olympic men’s hockey team.

After he was featured in a profile of the softball team’s behind-the-scenes team in the Philadelphia Inquirer, someone from Immaculata contacted him about the possibility of making a movie about the school’s legendary women’s basketball team.

He remembers the request: “Can you take a look at the story of the Mighty Macs and find out if it’s film-worthy?” Chambers did. “As a writer, I’m looking for a number of things. All of the inspirations are women who use sports as a means to some other goal, some other cause,” Chambers said.

He came up with the story of Whitney’s life and the many that followed.

“He was a self-styled ‘gym rat’ in those days. It happens naturally, Chambers said. ‘When you grow up as one of 12 kids and you have a CYO program that’s very strong.’

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They were a family history of a genetic kidney disease. The eldest sister suffered from glomerulonephritis, a genetic kidney disease that leads to kidney failure.

“I wanted to go, I wanted to do it,” he said. Soon after regaining consciousness following surgery, Eckstein only wanted to see Ken. He told the nurse he would walk to his room if they weren’t going to let me direct it. I put my producer hat on and used my economics degree from Penn. I touched on my Catholic friends from Philadelphia to see if they would support it,” he recalled. “We passed the basket, as they say here in Philly.”

Chambers was taught by the Immaculata Sisters, who run Immaculata College, during his grade and high school years. “I felt like this was the opportunity for me to make my directorial debut,” he said. “I think of the layers and the nuance – not only of the plot of the story, but the nuances of our faith and how relevant it was to that team, that campus, those people, and how it’s lived today.”

As a practicing Catholic, he noted, his faith has been his “bedrock” and given him confidence. “It’s the foundation of what I’ve tried to practice every day. Some days are better than others... but I turn it over” to God, he added. “That’s my philosophy.”

In assembling the script, Chambers got to meet not only some of the former players, but some of his former teachers. “The excitement and euphoria that surrounded the school at the time was incredible. I was reconnected with some of the sisters that taught me at the grade school. In that respect, it was a lot of fun,” he said.

Although “The Mighty Macs” isn’t scheduled to hit multiplexes until Oct. 21, it has won best picture awards at three film festivals. Chambers cited the Family Film Festival in Los Angeles, where it won both the audience award and best picture prize, and the John Paul II International Film Festival in Miami.

Rick Eckstein, hitting coach for the Washington Nationals, sits in his team’s dugout in late May. He says he relies on his lifelong Catholic faith to cope with life’s adversities, including a long family history of a genetic kidney disease.

Last December, Eckstein donated his kidney to his brother Ken.
The names of the following deceased persons have been submitted by their parishes:

**BERWICK** – Immaculate Conception BVM: Vera Handrick, Carolyn Wemer.

**RICHARDSVILLE** – Holy Angels: Henry Lucas, John Malloy, Joseph Wall.

**ASSISETTE** – St. Francis Xavier: Gay Rogissart.

**HOPE** – Assumption BVM: Emily A. Kotanchik.

**COAL TOWNSHIP** – Cathedral Parish: Michael P. Giacobbe.

**BERWICK** – Corpus Christi: Henry Hennigan.

**HANOVER** – Conception BVM: Charlie Martin.

**CHAMBERSBURG** – Immaculate Conception BVM: Clare Dougherty, Ruth; St. Patrick: Joan Goodwin, Mary D. Pasch, Robert L. Pfefferle, Roma McCubbin, Robert Mutchler, Lois Bridy, Daniel Pawelczyk, Sr., Loretta Ryan; St. Patrick: Joan Goodwin, Mary Randolph, Henry Trimmer.

**CAMP HILL** – Immaculate Conception BVM: Rose M. Murray;


**SELINSFORD** – St. Philip the Apostle: Loretta Haertter, John J. Mummely.


**MOUNT CARLISLE** – St. John the Baptist: Mary Ann Ryan, Marie Santor, Florence Bridy, Daniel Pawelczyk, Sr., Loretta Ryan; St. Patrick: Joan Goodwin, Mary Randolph, Henry Trimmer.


**WINDSOR** – St. Pius X: Eugene “Tom” Seno.

**CATHOLIC CHAMBERSBURG** – Corpus Christi: Michael P. Giacobbe.

**CARLISLE** – Immaculate Conception BVM: Clare Dougherty, Ruth; St. Patrick: Joan Goodwin, Mary D. Pasch, Robert L. Pfefferle, Roma McCubbin, Robert Mutchler, Lois Bridy, Daniel Pawelczyk, Sr., Loretta Ryan; St. Patrick: Joan Goodwin, Mary Randolph, Henry Trimmer.

**CHAMBERSBURG** – Assumption BVM: Mary Lee Slagle, Gladys MCSHERRY; St. John the Baptist: Mary Ann Ryan, Marie Santor, Florence Bridy, Daniel Pawelczyk, Sr., Loretta Ryan; St. Patrick: Joan Goodwin, Mary Randolph, Henry Trimmer.

**KELLS** – Immaculate Conception BVM: Rose M. Murray.

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**Bible Study, Prayer Group Help U.S. Midfielder Connect with Teammates**

By Sara Angelo

Catholic News Service

When the No. 1-ranked U.S. women’s soccer team goes on the road, members have multiple training sessions, physical therapy, media events and team meetings, but midfielder Heather O’Reilly still finds time for Bible study.

O’Reilly participates in a Bible study and prayer group with some of the women on her team and told Catholic News Service, “You find a lot of bonds that way.”

“It lets you connect on a different level because you see how it [faith] affects their everyday life in soccer,” O’Reilly told CNS in a telephone interview June 9, days before leaving for the FIFA Women’s World Cup in Germany.

“After games or before games, some of the girls get together and pray. It brings people together. We share a love of soccer, but also God and Jesus,” she said.

At only 26, O’Reilly already boasts an impressive record in the women’s soccer world. She was part of the 2008 Olympic Gold Medal team, played on the 2004 Olympic team and is one of the fastest players on the national team. With 29 career goals, she is the 14th all-time female goal scorer in U.S. history. In the beginning of 2011, she broke the U.S. Soccer women’s record for consecutive games played, at 63.

The former altar server at St. Bartholomew Parish in East Brunswick, N.J., is playing in her second FIFA Women’s World Cup, held this year in Dresden, Germany.

Growing up in a Catholic family, O’Reilly attended St. Bartholomew School, East Brunswick High School and later the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she studied education.

O’Reilly told CNS that her Catholic faith taught her to always strive to be a good teammate.

“Even at the highest level, it’s important to be able to relate and connect with everyone on your team. You know, be as kind as you want to be treated,” she said.

O’Reilly said she plans to spend some of her downtime before matches finalizing her wedding plans.

“There are always details to smooth over,” she said light-heartedly.

She will marry Dave Werry during an Oct. 1 Mass at St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Chapel Hill.

The two met during their time as undergraduates at the University of North Carolina and the couple completed marriage preparation classes near where they live in New York City. When asked about any special rituals she has to get geared up for a game, O’Reilly responded: “I don’t have many superstitions, but I think that I’m some-one who needs to bounce energy off other people. I need to stay loose. I just try to train and keep good habits at practice day in and day out and, if I keep doing what I’m doing, I’ll do well on the field.”

When O’Reilly is stateside and off the field, she volunteers with America SCORES, an after-school program that combines soccer and literacy initiatives in urban environments. O’Reilly told CNS she always leaves with a smile on her face after volunteering.

“I have had a very blessed life, and I think everyone has a responsibility to give back,” she said.

She said that on her ideal soccer-free day, she would not set an alarm clock. Instead, she would sleep in and go out for a big brunch with her friends and family.

“I would maybe even get a pedicure and see a movie,” she said.

While excited for the World Cup, O’Reilly is very passionate about Women’s Professional Soccer in the United States.

“It has the best players in the world,” she said.

Left: Midfielder Heather O’Reilly is a member of the U.S. women’s national soccer team. The former altar server at St. Bartholomew Parish in New Brunswick, N.J., is a two-time Olympian.

Photo: CNS/DON DORTON, COURTESY OF ISI PHOTOS

**AMVETS WINNERS**

Students from St. Patrick School in Carlisle earned awards in the AmVets Americaism contest. Winners are Ava Mowery, Cecilia Bailey, Grace Daley, and is one of the fastest players on the national team. With 29 career goals, she is the 14th all-time female goal scorer in U.S. history. In the beginning of 2011, she broke the U.S. Soccer women’s record for consecutive games played, at 63.

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Photo: CNS/DON DORTON, COURTESY OF ISI PHOTOS

**Math Team Adds Up to First Place**

The sixth, seventh and eighth grade Math Teams at St. Francis Xavier School in Gettysburg were in a league of their own in the 2011 Pennsylvania Mathematics League Contest. In the Regional Standings, the SFXS teams each placed first in the region which included Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin and York counties.

In the state-wide competition, the SFX sixth grade team of Isabelle Frye, Bryce Perkins, Gabriela Davudhesier, Caroline Dudenhofer, Mikayla McClellan, Bryan Mackle and Michael Yannetti won first place in the state out of 137 competitors. The seventh grade team of Sophia Lookingbill, Grace Phillips, Danny Stanley, Jessica Sandoe and Olivia Faloo ranked fourth out of 118 schools, and the eighth grade team of Matias Bowman, Kyle Miller, Marilyn Lopes, Madalyn Paff and Madelyn Yannetti placed fifth out of 117 schools.

Students competing in the Pennsylvania Mathematics League receive individual rankings in addition to their team scores. For sixth grade, Isabelle Frye placed first in the region and second in the state, while Bryce Perkins ranked third in the state and second in the region. Gabriela Davudhesier and Caroline Dudenhofer shared sixth place in the state and third in the region. Among seventh graders, Sophia Lookingbill and Grace Phillips tied for fourth in the state and first in the region. Danny Stanley ranked 16th in the state and third in the region. Eighths graders Matias Bowman and Kyle Miller shared 14th place in the state and first place in the region, while Marilyn Lopes was ranked third in the region.

**Winning Essay Explores Teacher’s Impact**

Maria Belitsky, an eighth-grader at St. Anne School in Lancaster, was recently named the local Division 2 essay winner of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas “2011 National Education Contest.” At a ceremony held June 5 at the Court Queen of Peace #1023, Maria was honored as the local middle school winner of the essay contest by Margaret Giordano and local Regent Rita Smith-Wade-El. Maria’s essay explored the theme of “The Light Others Give to Me” by looking at the effects that Mr. Tom Harkins, one of her teachers, had on her. Mr. Harkins passed away last year after a long battle with cancer.

By capturing first place, Maria’s essay was also entered into the Pennsylvania state competition, where the essay again captured first place. At the ceremony on June 5, she will be presented with the state competition’s first prize, as well as a certificate marking the achievement. “Tom Harkins is greatly missed by both the faculty and the students of the school,” noted Principal Dr. Chris Kennedy. Dr. Kennedy also noted that this was the second prize-winning essay this year in Mr. Harkins’ honor, as fellow 8th grade student Julia Dubman’s essay titled “Why I Love My Favorite Teacher” was also included in the local division of the 2011 National Education Contest, to be held later this summer.

**Uniting for Tsunami Victims**

The Knights of Columbus Cathedral Council #11008, in conjunction with teenagers from the Cathedral Parish of St. Patrick in Harrisburg, partnered to raise $610 in aid for victims of the earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan on March 11.

Several teenagers served a waffle breakfast after the 7:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Mass on June 26 to benefit victims of the natural disaster. Many of the youths were recently confirmed eighth-grade students. Volunteers from grades six through 12 also participated to help prepare, cook and serve the breakfast, and set up and clean the Cathedral dining hall.

Knights Council #11008 underwrote the cost of the food supplies for the breakfast. The $610 raised will be forwarded by the council to the Knights of Columbus Charities for distribution.

For more information about Cathedral Council #11008, visit the Knights of Columbus’ Web page at www.kofc11008.com. Follow us on Twitter: @kofc11008. For more information about the Cathedral Parish of St. Patrick, visit http://www.sipatrickcathedral.com/index.htm.
St. Patrick Catholic Church in Bonneauville is seeking a full-time Director of Music Ministries. This is a critical position to support the Bishop McDevitt High School wrestling program will be held July 29 at Manada Golf Course. Cost is $80 per golfer and includes golf, breakfast, lunch and beverages. There is a cash prize for the winning foursome and plenty of other prizes too! For more information, contact John Barrett at 717-633-1082 for additional information.

The Knights of Columbus, Elizabeth Ann Seton Council 6810 of St. Leo the Great Parish in Rohrerstown will hold their seventh annual Pig Roast sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 12532 on Saturday, July 16 from 10 a.m.-noon at the Cardinal Keeler Center in Harrisburg. For more information, contact Sandy Mohall in the Office for Parish, School & Organization News.

The Lebanon Catholic Athletic Association Golf Classic will take place at the Royal Oaks Golf Club Aug. 21. Four-person scramble, shotgun start at 1 p.m. Tournament benefits St. Mary's Home House, which is open to children in the Harrisburg area who have special needs and includes golf, cart, lunch and a delicious dinner. Contact Royal Oaks Golf Club at 717-274-2212 or Pat Hosey at 717-866-7577. For more information or to register online visit, www.tbglatinmass.com for information.

The 11th Annual Pig Roast sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 12532 is set for Aug. 21 from noon-3 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Church in Harrisburg. The annual family event features a pork barbecue sandwich, roast corn, baked beans, apple sauce, Friendly’s Ice cream and a beverage. A raffle, 50/50 drawing and free takeout available. Proceeds benefit St. John Neumann Church, A Woman’s Concern and other charitable causes. For more information call Church Office at 717-666-6437, or AG (717) 239-1051, or St. John Neumann Church (717) 569-8523.

St. Joseph Parish in Bonneauville will hold its 9th Annual Summer Festival Sept. 8 from 9 a.m.-10 p.m. at the St. Joseph School parking lot. Four-person scramble – $200. Cost includes 10 holes, cart, beverages, snacks, dinner, many prizes. For more information, call 717-334-8542.

PARISH, SCHOOL & ORGANIZATION NEWS

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Parish in Mechan- icsburg seeks an experienced organ and choir director to serve as Music Director. The parish is in suburban Harrisburg, with 1,500 families and 190 signatures. Although this is not a parochial position, the number of families present is relatively new. The prospective candidate is to lead the choir and be responsible for the church’s liturgical music. The music director will be supported by an experienced associate who will manage all church music activities. The immediate need is for an experienced, well-trained organist. The new parish life and education center, on Table Rock Road in Carlisle, will open in August. For more information about the open house, contact school principal Mrs. Becky Sieg at 717-263-0680 or the school principal Mrs. Becky Sieg at 717-263-0680.

The Lebanon Catholic Athletic Association Golf Classic will take place at the Royal Oaks Golf Club Aug. 21. Four-person scramble, shotgun start at 1 p.m. Tournament benefits St. Mary’s Home House, which is open to children in the Harrisburg area who have special needs and includes golf, cart, lunch and a delicious dinner. Contact Royal Oaks Golf Club at 717-274-2212 or Pat Hosey at 717-866-7577. For more information or to register online visit, www.tbglatinmass.com for information.

The 11th Annual Pig Roast sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 12532 is set for Aug. 21 from noon-3 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Church in Harrisburg. The annual family event features a pork barbecue sandwich, roast corn, baked beans, apple sauce, Friendly’s Ice cream and a beverage. A raffle, 50/50 drawing and free takeout available. Proceeds benefit St. John Neumann Church, A Woman’s Concern and other charitable causes. For more information call Church Office at 717-666-6437, or AG (717) 239-1051, or St. John Neumann Church (717) 569-8523.

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**Court Strikes Down State’s Ban on Sale of Violent Video Games to Minors**

**By Mark Pattison**

Catholic News Service

We use our TVs for more than watching TV. There are DVDs (and, for the hardy holdouts, VHS tapes), time-shifting and on-demand options in the new digital age. TVs also are used to play video games. And the Supreme Court has opened the floodgates for the most violent of video games to be purchased by minors, striking down a Pennsylvania law that banned their sale to youngsters, imposing a $1,000 fine for any store that sold violent video games to anyone under 18.

The vote wasn’t close — 7-2 — and the two dissenters represented one each from what is generally regarded as the court’s liberal and conservative wings.

Leland Yee, the California state senator who wrote the law, was clearly unhappy with the high court’s decision. “Unfortunately, the majority of the Supreme Court once again put the interests of corporate America before the interests of our children,” he said in a statement posted on his website June 27, the date of the court’s ruling.

He said the state’s law was necessary because the video game industry can be allowed to put their profit margins over the rights of parents and the well-being of children.” Such profits come “at the expense of our kids’ mental health and the safety of our community,” he said.

The video game industry’s annual sales total $10 billion. U.S. Rep. Joe Baca, D-Calif., said June 27 he would reintroduce a bill that would require the makers of any video game rated T (for teen) or higher to post a health warning, in the manner of those found on cigarette packs: “WARNING: Excessive exposure to violent video games and other violent media has been linked to aggressive behavior.” He sponsored such a bill in 2009, but it went nowhere.

“Research continues to show a proven link between playing violent games and increased aggression in young people,” Baca said in 2009. “American families deserve to know the truth about these potentially dangerous products.”

In his dissent, Justice Stephen Breyer said, “I would find sufficient grounds in these studies and expert opinions for this court to defer to an elected legislature’s conclusion that the video games in question are particularly likely to harm children,” adding his view that the technology “is a major service provider in the South and in developing a democratic government that practices good governance,” Hilbert said.

As well as building basic infrastructure, such as schools and clinics, in South Sudan, there is much work to be done in developing a “democratic government that practices justice and profitability,” he said.

A July 10 telephone interview from Juba.

“People of South Sudan have the vision and will to establish a state and to move forward,” Bishop Ricard, who traveled to Juba to represent the U.S. bishops’ Committee on International Justice and Peace, said at the independence celebrations, said South Sudan’s independence made official the divide that has always existed. When it gained independence from Britain in 1956, Sudan was two distinct regions and peoples — a dry, Arab-dominated North, and a more lush, ethnically African South — joined in one.

“The people of South Sudan have the vision and will to establish a state and to move forward, “Bishop Ricard, said, noting “they will need outside help to achieve this, which we provide to need.”

Steve Hilbert, Africa policy adviser to the U.S. bishops’ Office of International Justice and Peace, said there is a “sense that people in South Sudan are willing to start from scratch.”

“They’re saying, ‘Yes, we’re poor and we have a long way to go but we are now masters of our own destiny,’ ”

Hilbert said in an interview from Juba after five decades of conflict and oppression, Hilbert said in a July 10 telephone interview from Juba, noting that the rights of minority groups in the North “are of particular concern to the church.”

There is a “strong feeling of warmth toward the church” in the region, he said.

“People of South Sudan are willing to start from scratch, to establish their own government, to develop their own industry can be allowed to put their profit

Court Strikes Down State’s Ban on Sale of Violent Video Games to Minors

A man waves South Sudan’s national flag as he attends the Independence Day celebrations in Juba July 9. Hundreds of thousands of people celebrated independence on July 9 after five decades of conflict and oppression.

While the new country is rich in oil, minerals and fertile land, it is one of the world’s poorest and least-developed places.

“While the achievement of independence should not be belittled, the event shouldn’t distract” the world’s attention from the ongoing violence in the region that affects hundreds of thousands of people, Baca said.

The Nuba Mountains in South Sudan’s border region have seen deadly clashes between northern troops and pro-southern militia in the run-up to southern independence.

In June, Bishop Eduardo Hiiboro Kussala of Tombura-Yambio, South Sudan, told Catholic News Service that the danger of war is greater if troops from Sudan continue their attacks in an attempt to control key areas along the unresolved border.

While sporadic conflicts began soon after residents of the South voted overwhelmingly to secede from Sudan, the violence intensified in May as Sudanese government troops sought to control key areas in South Kordofan, which borders oil-rich areas.

The Califonia law “abridges the First Amendment rights of young people whose parents (and aunts and uncles) think violent video games are a harmless pastime,” said the majority opinion, written by Justice Antonin Scalia and joined by four other justices.

Justice Samuel Alito wrote a separate concurring opinion, joined by Chief Justice John Roberts, but he added his belief that a more narrowly tailored law could work, noting the disturbing imagery of some of the games.

“The objective of one game is to rape a mother and her daughters,” Alito said. In another, “players attempt to fire a rifle shot into the head of President Kennedy as his motorcade passes by the Texas School Book Depository.”

The Parents Television Council was none too pleased with the ruling. “When an industry trade group files a federal lawsuit to defend a child’s constitutional rights, the alarm bells should be deafening,” said the group’s president, Tim Winter, in a June 27 statement.

Results of a Rasmussen telephone survey released July 5 show that 67 percent of U.S. adults said states should be able to prohibit the sale or rental of violent games to minors. At the same time, 79 percent said parents, not government, have the responsibility to limit children’s access to such games.

Most TV’s now carry a V-chip to allow parents to block programs that carry a TV Parental Guideline they don’t want. While TV “delivers don’t have such a blocking device for objectionable games, what may not be as well known is that the technology exists on video game consoles. In addition, an organization called the Entertainment Software Rating Board offers a rating guide on games for parents.

(Pattison is media editor for Catholic News Service.)
Augustinian Father Edison Wood has a campus ministry assignment like none other.

As brigade chaplain at the U.S. Military Academy, he is responsible for making sure that 4,400 college students have the opportunity to follow their religious traditions.

While most cadets identify themselves as Catholics or Protestants, Father Wood said there are more than 70 denominations and religious traditions represented in the student body.

“Each is important and requires certain attention,” he said, even if there are only two or three adherents.

Father Wood supervises resident chaplains of other faiths and arranges pastoral visits by off-campus clergy.

The academy is a rigorous training ground for future U.S. Army officers. It is also a highly selective, four-year coeducational federal undergraduate liberal arts college that draws students from all 50 states and 14 foreign countries.

Father Wood is one of three Catholic priests at West Point. He is a civilian who was appointed to his position in 2002 by the president of the United States.

Father Wood said he is the first Catholic brigade chaplain in the school’s 209-year history. He arrived at West Point as a summer replacement in 1993 after 25 years in education. And he’s still there.

“There’s a sense of privilege in knowing young men and women who are dedicating themselves to a particular ideal in support of the country and the belief that they are doing what God wills for them,” Father Wood said in an interview with Catholic News Service.

Father Wood said the West Point student body, known as the Corps of Cadets, has a “lot more orderliness in daily life and not much freedom to goof off,” but the young adults have a lot in common with their civilian peers.

“Human beings are human beings in an enclosed community contributes to the feel of family. The sense that they’re my family, the family of God, is evident here. We’re all in the same boat and there’s a tremendous support system. The military is just set up that way.”

Augustinian Father Edison Wood, brigade chaplain at the U.S. Military Academy, chats with cadets before celebrating Mass at Camp Buckner in West Point, N.Y., June 26. Camp Buckner is the site of a summer field-training program for second-year cadets.

West Point is a military post and home to faculty and staff at the college. It also has an active Catholic parish, Most Holy Trinity, which was founded in 1899. The stone church is perched on a palisade with a commanding view of the Hudson River. The building is owned by the Archdiocese of New York and leased to the government, but the parish is part of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, according to its pastor, Msgr. Brian Donahue.

The parish serves military and civilian employees of West Point, as well as cadets.

Msgr. Donahue said the “vibrant” Catholic program at West Point benefits from “the spirit of the place and the cadets. It’s a total formation program. The whole movement is to be of service to others. The cadets are trained to be leaders and they demonstrate that in many ways — as leaders in the community, the military and their faith groups.”

He said Catholic cadets mold and support one another in their faith. “I provide the sacraments and faith guidance. I’m mentoring leaders who are leading and they take this to their peers and that’s how the faith grows. Peers form peers,” Msgr. Donahue said.

“West Point is one of the world’s best seminaries,” said Msgr. Donahue with a smile.

He said college is a time of formation, wherever it takes place, and West Point, like a seminary, helps cadets develop as human beings and leaders by focusing on integrity, character and service. The intense process of formation is fertile ground for personal growth, he said.

“It’s the perfect setting for anyone to discern God’s calling and purpose for them,” Msgr. Donahue said. “This bedrock of human formation takes place regardless of religious affiliation, but naturally leads to cadets seeking out their faith.”

Msgr. Donahue, former rector of the seminary in his home diocese of Fargo, N.D., hastened to add, “We’re not out to proselytize or pull Catholic cadets from the military to the priesthood.” He noted, however, that two recent Catholic chaplains at the post were West Point graduates who became priests after they fulfilled their military service.

Father Wood echoed the vocation connection. “The cadet population is made up of very serious people who are interested in service. The idea of at least giving the priesthood a thought is not terribly foreign to them,” he said.

Msgr. Donahue is a major in the U.S. Army with 23 years of military service. As a member of the North Dakota Army National Guard, he deployed to Honduras and served on active duty in Germany during the first Gulf War in 1990. He served in Iraq with the Texas-based 56th Brigade Combat Team and was preparing to redeploy with the 3-133 Field Artillery unit when he was assigned to West Point in November 2008.

“I’m a priest in an Army uniform,” he said. “I’m a Catholic pastor, but I’m also a staff officer in the U.S. Army. As a military priest, I answer to many more people than I would as pastor of a civilian parish.”

Msgr. Donahue said the military post’s confined community contributes to the feeling of family. “The sense that they’re my family, the family of God, is evident here. We’re all in the same boat and there’s a tremendous support system. The military is just set up that way.”

West Point Chaplains Feel ‘Sense of Privilege’ in Ministering to Cadets

By Beth Griffin
Catholic News Service

St. Anthony’s Chapel on Troy Hill in Pittsburgh is home to more than 5,000 holy relics and life-size Stations of the Cross, 19th-century wooden pieces carved by ecclesiastical artists at Mayer and Co. in Munich, Germany. The chapel was built in the early 1880s to hold the relics amassed by Father Sutibert G. Mollinger, a Belgian-born priest who served as the first pastor of Most Holy Name of Jesus Church on Troy Hill. The chapel, as it exists today, was the result of two construction efforts with completion and dedication occurring on the feast day of St. Anthony of Padua, June 13, 1892.

The Chapel houses the Blessed Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist and has two main areas, the Shrine of the Saints and the Way of the Cross. For more information on St. Anthony’s Chapel, visit www.saintanthonysofhspitll.org or call 412-231-2994.
Bishop Celebrates Feast of Sacred Heart of Jesus at Historic Conewago Basilica

By Jen Reed
The Catholic Witness

Mass celebrated by Bishop Joseph P. McFadden in Conewago July 1 concurrently marked the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and drew attention to the milestone anniversaries that will be celebrated next year at the historic basilica there.

Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus became popular after Our Lord appeared to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque in France in the 1600s. During these apparitions, Jesus confided in her 12 promises to those who would be devoted to his Sacred Heart. The basilica in Conewago is the first church in America dedicated to the Sacred Heart. Pope John XXIII raised the church to the rank of a minor basilica on July 11, 1962. This 50th anniversary of the basilica, along with the 225th anniversary of the church building, will be celebrated in 2012. It is the oldest Catholic church building in the United States built of stone.

In his homily during the Mass celebrating the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Bishop McFadden told the congregation to “Love others, and expect nothing in return. Always look for the goodness that you can share. That’s what true love is about – that’s what the love of Jesus is all about. Today the world needs the Sacred Heart of Jesus even more than St. Margaret Mary did.”

“Tonight, Jesus humbles himself to us in the form of blood and wine just like he did 2,000 years ago on the cross,” the bishop remarked. “We must die to ourselves in order to live for him,” he said. “How do we do that? We must love one another.”

Father Lawrence McNeil, pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, told The Catholic Witness that the bishop’s celebration of the Mass will help parishioners prepare for next year’s commemoration of the anniversaries surrounding the basilica and the historic church. A number of special events will be planned as a family celebration and as a way of bringing parishioners deeper into the life of the parish, he said.

“The reason we exist is because of our faith,” Father McNeil said. “Everything that we do is revealed to us through the Sacred Heart of Jesus.”