The people of the Diocese of Greensburg, which includes Armstrong, Fayette, Indiana and Westmoreland counties in western Pennsylvania, rejoiced in the ordination and installation of Bishop Edward Malesic as the Fifth Bishop of the diocese, established in 1951. Bishop Malesic, a native son of the Diocese of Harrisburg and former judicial vicar and pastor of Holy Infant Parish in York Haven, began his ministry in Greensburg with a solemn Mass celebrated there on July 13 at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral. In remarks during the three-hour Mass, Bishop Malesic extolled his flock in their work for those who are most in need. See pages 7-11 for coverage.

In thanksgiving to Almighty God for the Episcopal Ordination of our native son, the Most Reverend Edward C. Malesic, as the Fifth Bishop of Greensburg, Bishop Gainer invites the clergy, religious and faithful of the Diocese of Harrisburg to a Mass of Thanksgiving with Bishop Malesic to take place on Friday, July 31, 2015 at 7:00 PM at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 3435 Trindle Road, Camp Hill, 17011. A reception will follow.

Serve the Lord with Gladness

Archbishop Charles Chaput, Metropolitan Archbishop of Philadelphia, principal ordaining bishop, imposes his hands on the head of Bishop-Elect Edward Malesic during the Rite of Ordination. It is through the Laying on of Hands and the Prayer of Ordination that followed that Bishop Malesic was ordained to the episcopacy.

CHRIS HEISEY, THE CATHOLIC WITNESS
For half a century, All Saints Cemetery in Elysburg has offered a sacred, final resting place on its 25 acres of gently sloping land in Bear Gap.

One of a number of Catholic cemeteries operated and cared for by the Diocese of Harrisburg, All Saints is a sacred space to remember the dead and to contemplate hope in the resurrection.

On Independence Day, Bishop Ronald Gainer celebrated a Mass to observe the 50th anniversary of the cemetery, which was dedicated on July 7, 1965, by Msgr. Francis Conrad after several years of diligent searching and planning for a Catholic cemetery in the Northumberland Deanery.

The anniversary Mass – concelebrated by a number of area priests – was to have taken place on the cemetery grounds, much like the annual Memorial Day Mass celebrated there. However, rain that day moved the Mass indoors, to nearby Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Church in Elysburg, where Father Joseph Scanlin serves as pastor.

In his homily, the bishop reflected on the history of All Saints Cemetery, plans for which began a decade before its dedication, and involved the efforts of Bishop George Leech, Msgr. Damian McGovern, and a number of diocesan priests. The land for the cemetery was sold by Vivian Leisenring in May of 1962. Its name was selected from a list of suggested names submitted by pastors in the northern area of the diocese.

“Today, we rejoice in the birth of our nation and the beginning of All Saints Cemetery,” Bishop Gainer told the congregation, which included area parishioners, a Knights of Columbus honor guard, and current and former cemetery employees. Current cemetery manager Kevin Shervinskie, former managers Michael Rugalla, Jr., and Wayne Dancho, and the family members of the late William Schott, the first manager, were also in attendance.

Among the priest concelebrants were Father Gerard Heintzelman, who was active in the development of the cemetery, and Father William Sullivan, whose mother, Julia, was the first person buried at All Saints – May 29, 1964.

“There is a long tradition of caring and compassion here,” said Mr. Shervinskie, who assumed the role of cemetery manager in 2012. “We have dedicated staff members that offer perpetual care for the beautiful grounds.”

Among the cemetery’s in-ground plots, mausoleums and columbarium are Stations of the Cross, made from Italian granite with mosaics depicting each scene. They were installed in 1966. Statues, crosses and images of the Risen Christ and the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary also fill the cemetery, which offers burial for both Catholics and non-Catholics.

Plans are underway for the installation of a 60-crypt mausoleum and 48 cremation niches, with projected completion this fall.

(For information about All Saints Cemetery, contact Kevin Shervinskie, manager, at kshervinskie@hbgdiocese.org or 570-672-2872. For information on Diocesan Cemeteries, visit www.hbgdiocese.org/cemeteries or call 717-657-4804.)

Solemn Mass Marks All Saints Cemetery’s Golden Jubilee

By Jen Reed
The Catholic Witness

Bishop Ronald Gainer celebrates the Liturgy of the Eucharist with priest concelebrants to observe the 50th anniversary of All Saints Cemetery in Elysburg on July 4. Due to inclement weather, the Mass, which was to have taken place outdoors at the cemetery, was celebrated at nearby Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Church.

Michael Rugalla, Jr., left, who served as cemetery manager from 1997-2012, exchanges a sign of peace with current cemetery manager Kevin Shervinskie, right, during the anniversary Mass. Also present for the celebration was former manager Wayne Dancho and the family members of the late William Schott, who served as the first manager from 1965-1990.

Situated on 25 acres of gently sloping land, All Saints Cemetery features granite Stations of the Cross, as shown in this photo from 2013, and bronze religious statues among in-ground burial plots, mausoleums and columbarium.
**BISHOP GAINER’S PUBLIC CALENDAR**

**July 19** – Celebrate Closing Mass at Camp Call & Duty, Mount Joy, noon.

**July 23-25** – Speaker at the Applied Biblical Studies/Defending the Faith Conference, Franciscan University, Steubenville.

**July 30** – College of Deans Meeting, Cardinal Keeler Center, Harrisburg, 11 a.m.

**July 31** – Celebrate Mass of Thanksgiving for Bishop Edward Malesic, Good Shepherd Church, Camp Hill, 7 p.m.

**August 1** – Celebrate Catholic Youth Experience/World Youth Day Kickoff Mass, Cardinal Keeler Center, Harrisburg, 10 a.m.

**August 2** – Celebrate Mass at Corpus Christi Men’s Retreat, National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes, Emmitsburg, Md., 10 a.m.

**August 4-5** – Attend Knights of Columbus Supreme Convention, Philadelphia.

**August 6** – Celebrate Mass at Annual Pilgrimage for World Peace, National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes, Emmitsburg, Md.

**August 8** – Celebrant at Mass in honor of 90th Anniversary of the Dominican Sisters, Monastery of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lancaster, 11 a.m.

**August 9** – Celebrate Mass and Pastoral Visit to Mary, Mother of the Church, Mount Joy, 11 a.m.

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Father Joshua Brommer was installed as pastor and rector at St. Patrick Cathedral in Harrisburg during a Mass celebrated there on June 28 by Bishop Ronald Gainer. As rector, Father Brommer is charged with the care and custody of Historic St. Patrick Cathedral, the bishop’s church. As pastor, he will watch over the people of God entrusted to his care who make up the St. Patrick Parish family. He became pastor of the parish on June 22 of this year. Father Brommer, who also serves as Director of the Office of Divine Worship for the Diocese of Harrisburg, was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades on June 23, 2006.

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**Msgr. Topper, 103 on July 28**

Msgr. Vincent Topper, the diocese’s oldest and longest-serving priest, will celebrate his 103rd birthday on July 28.

He was recently honored by St. Catherine Laboure Parish and School in Harrisburg, which hosted the “Topper Trot 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run” this spring and raised more than $10,000 in tuition assistance for school students.

The day before the event, members of the Student Council, including Joshua Dougher and Josiah Lauver, shown here, presented Msgr. Topper with a race day T-shirt emblazoned with his image.

Bishop George Leech ordained then-Father Topper to the priesthood at St. Patrick Cathedral in Harrisburg on June 6, 1936. In his 79 years as a priest of the diocese, he served at Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in York, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Mount Carmel, Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Fairfield, St. Joseph Parish in Milton, St. Columba Parish in Bloomsburg and St. Joseph Parish in York. He currently lives at St. Catherine Labouré Parish, located at 4000 Derry Street in Harrisburg.

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**The Witness Returns August 7**

The Catholic Witness its taking its summer publication hiatus and will resume bi-weekly publication with the August 7 edition.

Stay in touch with news from the diocese by visiting its Web site, www.hbgdiocese.org, by following its Facebook page at www.facebook.com/DioceseofHarrisburg, and by connecting via Twitter at www.twitter.com/HBGDiocese. If you’re planning a little travel this summer, you can find Mass times worldwide at www.masstimes.org.

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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 Hunteberger, at shunteberger@hbgdiocese.org or call 717-657-4804. Our publication dates and submission guidelines for 2015 can be accessed on The Catholic Witness’ page at www.hbgdiocese.org or e-mailed upon request.

Enjoy a safe and blessed summer, and look for our next edition on August 7.

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**EMILY M. ALBERT, THE CATHOLIC WITNESS**

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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 Hunteberger, at shunteberger@hbgdiocese.org or call 717-657-4804. Our publication dates and submission guidelines for 2015 can be accessed on The Catholic Witness’ page at www.hbgdiocese.org or e-mailed upon request.

Enjoy a safe and blessed summer, and look for our next edition on August 7.
A Glimpse of The Discalced Carmelite Nuns of Danville

The contemplative life, lived by the Discalced Carmelite Nuns, is a life of prayer, supported by silence, solitude and poverty. The contemplative way is a path to God, a way of knowing Him, a way of being in His presence. The Discalced Carmelites are called to be witnesses to God and His love in the world. They do this through prayer, community life, and works of service. The Carmelites are known for their commitment to prayer and their deep devotion to Mary, the Mother of God. Their primary focus is on prayer and contemplation, living a life that is hidden from the world. They are known for their simplicity, poverty, and humility. The Carmelite rule is a way of life that is centered on prayer and service to others. The Carmelites believe that prayer is the most important thing they do, and they dedicate most of their time to prayer. They also work to support themselves, and they use their resources to help others. The Carmelites have a strong sense of community, and they work together to support one another. They are known for their hospitality and their welcome to all who seek their company. The Carmelites are also known for their devotion to Mary, the Mother of God. They believe that Mary is the perfect model of prayer, and they strive to imitate her example. They also believe that Mary is the mediator between God and humanity, and they seek to honor her in their daily lives. The Carmelites are a community of women who have dedicated their lives to prayer and contemplation. They live in a monastery, surrounded by nature, with only the sounds of birds and the wind. They live a simple life, with only the necessities of life. They dress in simple robes, and they have a simple diet. They live a life of poverty, giving up all that is not essential. They live a life of silence, spending most of their time in prayer and meditation. The Carmelites are a community of prayer, living a life that is centered on prayer and contemplation. They are a community of love, living a life that is centered on love for God and for others. They are a community of service, living a life that is centered on serving others. They are a community of community, living a life that is centered on living together. They are a community of prayer, a community of love, a community of service, and a community of community. They are a community of the Discalced Carmelites of Danville.
Christopher West Examines Theology of the Body at Diocesan Conference in Advance of World Meeting of Families

By Jen Reed  The Catholic Witness

Noted author and speaker on St. John Paul II’s lectures on the Theology of the Body, Christopher West told a crowd gathered for a diocesan conference on the family that we can’t have a correct understanding of ourselves and family life “unless we seek eternal ecstasy in the marriage of Christ and the Church.”

Mr. West offered four presentations during the daylong conference, “Family, Become What You Are!” held July 11 at the Cardinal Keeler Center in Harrisburg in advance of the World Meeting of Families to be held in Philadelphia in September. The conference included praise and worship music offered by Jason Clark, an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and concluded with Mass celebrated by Bishop Ronald Gainer.

The title of the conference comes from John Paul II’s call for the family to “become what you are” in his 1981 Apostolic Exhortation Familiaris Consortio, on the role of the Christian family in the modern world.

In a series of four talks – on divine love and human love, on the teaching of Christ, on the great mystery of marriage, and on living the Divine Plan” – Mr. West unpacked John Paul II’s teachings on the Theology of the Body, the saint’s integrated vision of the human person, presented over a period of 129 Wednesday Audience sessions between 1979 and 1984.

The ideas of family, marriage, sexual identity and the person made in the image of God all relate to each other. “They are not a footnote in the Christian life. These questions take us into the very heart of the Christian life,” Mr. West said. He called upon conference attendees to consider two opposite, yet both dangerous, approaches to human sexuality: “the starvation diet and the fast food diet.”

The starvation diet both lead to death, and this is why our families are crumbling, Mr. West offered. When it comes to addressing our desires, there are three ways we can act upon it: as a stoic, by suppressing our desires; as an addict, by indulging in them; or as an aspiring mystic, by opening our yearnings for the finite to the infinite with prayer.

“Not to discover what love and family really are, go back to God’s original plan,” Mr. West said. “Reflect on creation, our fall, and our redemption.”

In his thesis statement on the Theology of the Body, St. John Paul II said: “The body, and it alone, is capable of making visible what is invisible: the spiritual and the divine. It was created to transform into the visible reality of the world the mystery hidden since time immemorial in God, and thus be a sign of it.”

“The well-being of the individual person and of human and Christian society is intimately linked with the healthy condition of that community produced by marriage and family. Hence, Christians and all men who hold this community in high esteem sincerely rejoice in the various ways by which men today find help in fostering this community of love and perfecting its life, and by which parents are assisted in their lofty callings,” Mr. West said.

Yet the excellence of this institution is not everywhere reflected with equal brilliance…married love is too often profaned by excessive self-love, the worship of pleasure and illicit practices against human generation….

Yet, the power and strength of the institution of marriage and family can also be seen in the fact that time and again, despite the difficulties produced, the profound changes in modern society reveal the true character of this institution in one word: another. (47)’

“The analysis of an urgent See regarding the nobility of marriage and family is realistic and yet, as we need to be in preaching the Gospel of Jesus, optimistic,” Bishop Gainer said. “The Council Fathers said that the very nobility of this institution of marriage and family is undeniable, and it will, of course, prevail. Truth will prevail because Jesus will prevail, and Jesus is the Truth, the Way and the Life.”

“That’s the reason why we, who want the world the know these truths on which we feasted today, share in that same optimism,” he said.

(A wealth of materials, videos, teachings and educational sessions on the Theology of the Body can be found online at www.TheTheologyoftheBody.com.)
Sunbury Couple Counts Blessings of 75 Years of Marriage

By Jen Reed
The Catholic Witness

Mary and Joseph are models of Christian marriage.

They are devoted spouses, nurturing parents, dedicated workers, and willing volunteers – textbook examples of a life lived in Christ.

This year marks an astounding 75 years of marriage for Mary and Joseph – the Costellos – members of St. Monica Parish in Sunbury.

From their dining room table in their first-floor apartment in Sunbury, Mary and Joseph reminisce about their 75 years as husband and wife.

Their apartment is decorated with vintage family photos, religious artwork, statues of saints and angels, and fertile plants that Joseph has a knack for growing.

“God is certainly with us,” Mary, 94, says in her quiet voice. She looks across the table at her husband, and they both wipe away emotional tears.

When he was sick, she picked up on each other over the years, she said. “When he was sick, she really stepped up to the plate to do the table with her parents. “He has been a caretaker these days. When she broke her pelvis three years ago, he vowed to follow doctors’ strict rules of care for her in their apartment in lieu of her moving into a nursing home.”

“My job right now is to take care of Mary, and that is what I’m dedicated to do,” he said.

Their daughter, Jean Smith, a member of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Pittston, and Joseph's aunt and uncle, and so the two family connection.

Both were born in Luzerne County – Joseph in 1917 and Mary in 1921. When Joseph was three years old, his parents, natives of Italy, returned to their roots. Joseph spent his childhood in Italy before returning to Luzerne County at the age of 19 to live with his aunt and uncle.

Mary’s parents were friends with Joseph’s aunt and uncle, and so the two teenagers eventually met each other and forged a relationship via the family connection.

“I would be invited to Mary’s parents’ house every Sunday, and before we knew it, we got married,” Joseph said.

They exchanged vows at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Pittston on January 26, 1940.

During World War II, while Mary supported her two children, Joseph worked a defense job inspecting Navy shells. When the war ended, Joseph, having experience from a custom tailor apprenticeship from his teenage years in Italy, embarked on a career in men’s clothing that brought the Costello family to Sunbury. His work in the trade included 46 years at Bob Newman’s Fine Men’s Clothing store, from which he retired at age 84.

Mary worked for a time as a hand sewer for Champ Hats, then devoted her spare time to volunteer efforts with the Red Cross, Meals on Wheels and a local nursing home.

As members of the former St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Sunbury (now St. Monica’s), the Costellos gave their time and talents to the Church as well – most notably to the parish’s First Friday Dinners that raised funds for the expansion of a church- auditorium and school in the late 1940s.

“We volunteered however we could to help the church,” Joseph said. “We always said yes, even as I worked 9 a.m.-9 p.m., six days a week.”

They speak of particular parishors with whom they have enjoyed personal relationships over the years: Msgr. Paul Adair, Father Joseph Fennessy, Father William Haviland, and Father Fred Wangwe, St. Monica’s current pastor.

“They received us as a married couple, but there were no age gaps in the Church, as is the case today,” Joseph said.

“Those four priests are the pinnacle to us. We have loved them greatly,” Joseph remarked. “But we have always gotten along with all our pastors and appreciated what they brought to the Church. We’ve turned to the Church in joy and in sorrow.”

The joys surrounded their wedding, their children’s weddings, the sacraments that their two grandchildren and one great-grandchild have received, and a life lived in Christ.

The sorrows came with the deaths of their son-in-law, James, in 2009, and their daughter-in-law, June, in 2011.

“I told my children, ‘I’m not blaming God, but I am confused,’” Joseph recalled. “The priest told me, ‘You should have peace for yourself. My advice is to keep your children close.’”

After recounting that conversation, Joseph paused and looked at his wife and daughter.

“Well, are we close?” he asked them.

“Nine days out of ten, we have lunch here together. Jean and Joseph check on us every day. What these kids do for us means the world to us.”

“Our children have been a blessing to us,” Mary concurred. “We are grateful that we are still together with each other and with our children.”

In the precious time they share, Mary and Joseph and their children talk about trips they have taken, Joseph’s decades of work in the clothing industry, family history, parish life and current events. It’s never quiet at their dinner table.

Mary and Joseph have been asked on numerous occasions to share their thoughts on the secret to a long and happy marriage.

“Have patience and cooperate with each other,” Mary said. “And know that God is with you.”

“We’ve just taken things one day at a time, whatever the day brought,” Joseph said.

“I tell couples to remember the promise you made when you got married. Seventy-five years after we made that promise, I’m still here with her. God has been good to us.”

— Joseph Costello, age 98

COURTESY OF MARY AND JOSEPH COSTELLO

Blessings of 75 Years of Marriage

Mary and Joseph Costello, members of St. Monica Parish in Sunbury, marked their 75th wedding anniversary on January 26. Father Fred Wangwe, pastor of St. Monica’s, blessed the couple during a Mass, as family and friends gathered to celebrate in the church and at the Hotel Edison.

“I tell couples to remember the promise you made when you got married. Seventy-five years after we made that promise, I’m still here with her. God has been good to us.”

— Joseph Costello, age 98

For more information, contact your Parish Youth Ministry Leader or visit http://www.bishopdiocese.org/event/cyx-catholic-youth-experience
During Mass of Episcopal Ordination, Bishop Malesic Extols Greensburg Faithful in Building up the Kingdom

By Jen Reed  
*The Catholic Witness*

Bishop Edward C. Malesic, upon his ordination and installation as the Fifth Bishop of Greensburg on July 13, extolled the clergy, religious and laity of his diocesan Church in their work for the Kingdom.

“None of us can do as much good alone as when we do it together – especially when we reach out to those who are most in need in our society: the weak, the poor, the unborn, the elderly, the unemployed, and those who are simply lost in this life. Let’s serve them in a special way together,” Bishop Malesic, 54, said in his remarks during the Mass of Ordination and Installation at Greensburg’s Blessed Sacrament Cathedral.

Bishop Malesic, a priest of the Diocese of Harrisburg for 28 years, was appointed by Pope Francis to the Diocese of Greensburg, established in 1951, he will oversee a Catholic population of nearly 149,000 in 78 parishes across four counties.

Trumpet fanfare and joyful songs – “Go Up to the Altar of God” and “Risen Lord We Gather Round You” – beckoned forth two grandiose Enthroned Bishops and the people to the cathedral.


Among them were Archbishop Carlo Viganò, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, who read the letter from Pope Francis calling the bishop-elect to episcopal ministry and naming him Bishop of Greensburg; Archbishop Charles Chaput, O.F.M., Cap., Metropolitan Archbishop of Philadelphia and the principal ordaining bishop; and co-ordaining bishops, Bishop Ronald Gainer of Harrisburg and Bishop Lawrence Brandt, Bishop Emeritus of Greensburg.

The cathedral, filled to capacity with the people of the Diocese of Greensburg, established in 1951, he will oversee a Catholic population of nearly 149,000 in 78 parishes across four counties. Wearing a zucchetto on his head, Bishop-Elect Edward Malesic enters Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Greensburg July 13 for the Mass of Episcopal Ordination and Installation.

The Catholic Witness  
CHRIS HEISEY, THE CATHOLIC WITNESS

Archbishop Viganò spoke of the need for courageous witnesses who are convinced and convincing, witnesses who are not ashamed of Christ and his Cross.

Addressing Bishop-Elect Malesic, he told him to be a true witness to Christ, “to love all those whom God has placed in your pastoral care: the clergy, religious and lay faithful, especially the poor, infirm and homeless, the community at large.”

Addressing Bishop-Elect Malesic directly, the archbishop said, “The title of bishop is one of service, not of honor, and therefore a bishop should strive to benefit others rather than lord it over them. Such is the precept of the Master: the greater should behave as the least and the ruler as the servant. Preach the word in season and out of season; reprove with all patience and sound teaching. As you pray and offer sacrifice for the people committed to your care, devote yourself wholeheartedly to seeking every kind of grace for them from the fullness of Christ’s holiness.”

The archbishop concluded, addressing the bishop-elect, “Keep watchedly to seeking every kind of grace for them from the fullness of Christ’s holiness.”

The archbishop concluded, addressing the bishop-elect, “Keep watchedly to seeking every kind of grace for them from the fullness of Christ’s holiness.”
The Rite of Ordination continued in front of the altar, as Archbishop Chaput questioned Bishop-Elect Malesic on his resolve to uphold the faith and to discharge his duties as a bishop. Then, the bishop-elect prostrated himself before the altar as the congregation knelt and joined in the Litany of Supplication, invoking the intercession of the saints on his behalf.

Archbishop Chaput, as the principal ordaining bishop, and then Bishops Gainer and Brandt, as co-ordinating bishops, laid their hands on Bishop-Elect Malesic’s head. The other bishops present also imposed their hands on his head, in a sign of fraternity.

As Bishop-Elect Malesic knelt before the altar, the Book of the Gospels was placed over his head as a reminder of his obligation to preach the Word of God. During this time, all bishops joined in the Prayer of Ordination.

The Laying on of Hands and the Prayer of Ordination conferred upon Bishop Malesic the fullness of the priesthood with the power to teach, sanctify and govern as a bishop. Archbishop Chaput then anointed Bishop Malesic with sacred Chrism, a sign of the full share in the priesthood of Christ which he had just received. The archbishop then presented him with the Book of the Gospels.

Three priests of the Diocese of Harrisburg then came forward with the episcopal insignia, which Archbishop Chaput gave to Bishop Malesic. Msgr. William King, pastor of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Mechanicsburg, brought forth the episcopal ring, a symbol of the bishop’s fidelity to the bride of God, the Church. Father Paul Helwig, pastor of St. Margaret Mary Parish in Harrisburg, brought forth the miter, a sign of the bishop’s resolve to pursue holiness. Father Charles Persing, pastor of Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in McSherrystown, brought forth the crosier, a sign of the bishop’s duty of guiding and governing the Church entrusted to him.

The papal decree calling Bishop-Elect Edward Malesic to episcopal ministry and appointing him the Fifth Bishop of Greensburg is shown to the congregation at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral.

Bishop Lawrence Brandt, Bishop Emeritus of Greensburg, who served the diocese from 2004 until his retirement earlier this year, prepares to impose his hands on the head of Bishop-Elect Edward Malesic.
Bishop Malesic was then seated in the cathedra, or bishop’s chair, taking his position as chief shepherd of the Diocese of Greensburg. As a sign of welcome, the other bishops present exchanged a fraternal kiss with him.

The solemn Mass then continued with the Liturgy of the Eucharist, with Bishop Malesic joined at the altar by his brother bishops.

During the Concluding Rites, Bishop Malesic offered his first blessing to the congregation, making his way through Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, including to the choir balcony, where members of Holy Infant Parish in York Haven – where he served as pastor for 11 years – were seated.

In his remarks at the conclusion of the nearly three-hour Mass, the bishop expressed gratitude to those in attendance, including the faithful from Holy Infant, in the process of building a new church.

“Get that new church built so I can come back to dedicate it!” he told the parishioners, who responded with applause.

Bishop Malesic also thanked Deacon Joe Kramer, his good friend and deacon at Holy Infant, and the priests of the Diocese of Harrisburg. “I love the priesthood, and I love calling all of you brothers,” he said.

He expressed gratitude for the graciousness of Archbishop Viganò and the leadership and friendship of Archbishop Chaput, Bishop Gainer and Bishop Brandt. He also gave his appreciation for the presence of the consecrated men and women at the Mass. “Your witness to the poverty, chastity and obedience of Jesus is medicine that is needed by our modern world,” he said.

Recognizing his father, Joseph, and his late mother, Elizabeth, as well as family members present, Bishop Malesic called upon parents to “do your best with your own kids. It’s not easy, I know, but try to give them what you were given: the faith. We face difficult headwinds from our culture, but be faithful to Jesus. That’s the best gift you can give your kids, old or young.”

He offered his thanks to God, “who created me, who redeemed me in Christ, and who called me to be a disciple and now a bishop of his Church.” “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever,” Bishop Malesic said. “Let us go forth knowing that we follow him alone, and may we always keep our eyes firmly fixed on the prize of our faith: our salvation.”

Bishop Malesic was born August 14, 1960, in Harrisburg to Joseph A. and the late Elizabeth Schatt Malesic, and was raised in Enhaut. He is a 1978 graduate of Central Dauphin East High School, and attended Lebanon Valley College for three years prior to entering seminary.

He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy in 1983 and a Master of Divinity degree in 1987 from the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio. He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Harrisburg by then-Bishop William H. Keeler on May 30, 1987.

Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, imposes his hands on the head of Bishop-Elect Edward Malesic. The bishops present for the Mass laid their hands on his head after the ordaining bishops, in a sign of fraternity.

The Book of the Gospels is placed over the head of Bishop-Elect Edward Malesic, as a reminder of one of his primary obligations to preach the Word of God. During this part of the rite, the Prayer of Ordination is prayed. The Laying on of Hands and the Prayer of Ordination together confer upon the elect the fullness of the priesthood with the power to teach, sanctify and govern as a bishop in the Church. At right, holding the Book of the Gospels, is Deacon Joe Kramer, a close friend of Bishop Malesic and deacon at Holy Infant Parish in York Haven.
Bishop Ronald Gainer of Harrisburg, a co-ordaining bishop along with Bishop Lawrence Brandt, imposes his hands on the head of Bishop-Elect Edward Malesic during the Rite of Ordination. The gesture confers the power of the Holy Spirit.

He served as assistant pastor at St. Theresa Parish in New Cumberland from 1987-1989 and at St. Rose of Lima Parish in York from 1989-1992. In York, he also served as the Catholic Campus Minister of York College of Pennsylvania. He served as campus minister at Millersville University and Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, and at Messiah College in Grantham.

He received his licentiate in Canon Law in 1998 and has served the Diocesan Tribunal as Auditor, Adjutant Judicial Vicar and Secretary for Canonical Services. He was appointed Judicial Vicar in 2006. In 2004, he was appointed to Holy Infant Parish in York Haven, first as administrator and later as pastor.

In a homily delivered during Evening Prayer on the vigil of the Mass of Episcopal Ordination and Installation, he reflected on the transition from Harrisburg to Greensburg.

Ordination continues on page 11


Archbishop Charles Chaput, the principal ordaining bishop, anoints the head of Bishop Edward Malesic with Sacred Chrism to signify the new bishop’s share in the priesthood of Christ.
Having been presented with the miter, the sign of his resolve to pursue holiness, Bishop Edward Malesic receives his crosier, the symbol of his duty to guide and govern the Church entrusted to him.

During the Rite of Ordination, Bishop Edward Malesic exchanges a sign of welcome with his fellow bishops in fraternity, including Bishop William Waltersheid, a native priest of the Diocese of Harrisburg and current Auxiliary Bishop of Pittsburgh.

Surrounded by his fellow bishops, Bishop Edward Malesic takes his seat at the cathedra, the bishop’s chair in the cathedral.

“During the Rite of Ordination, Bishop Edward Malesic exchanges a sign of welcome with his fellow bishops in fraternity, including Bishop William Waltersheid, a native priest of the Diocese of Harrisburg and current Auxiliary Bishop of Pittsburgh.”

“Many life-changing events happen to all of us over the course of our lives: births and deaths, new relationships and broken ones, marriages and ordinations, good times and bad times. So many events in our lives are periods of change, and they call for great faith,” he said. “But when life changes for us, we are reminded that the Lord wants our faith to be stretched and strengthened.”

“Jesus, I trust in you. That is the mantra of the Divine Mercy image. It needs to be our mantra,” he said. “Jesus, no matter what – in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health – I trust in you.”
Parish Festivals and Picnics

Immaculate Heart of Mary in Abbottstown will hold their annual Parish Picnic on Sunday, Aug. 2 from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Good food and games for all ages!

Come to a good old fashioned Picnic Sat. July 18th at the Basilica Picnic Grounds, 51313 Cornwall Rd. at SR 173. The Picnic begins at 5:00 p.m. with Homemade Chicken Corn Soup made in butcher kettles over a fire, an all you can eat fried chicken dinner starts at 3:00 p.m. live band, kids games, 13-jars, raffles and much more. Rain or shine.

Come and party Slavic Style at St. Anne Byzantine Catholic Parish an annual Slavic Festival on Sunday, July 19 on the church grounds at 5408 Locust Lane, Harrisburg, PA from Noon until 9 p.m. Enjoy great homemade Eastern European foods to eat in or take out. Dance to The Polka WHOOOO and The Polka Queens. Tap The Church Bell. See world class belly dancing, chanting & singing demonstrations, shop in the Eastern European market. Play games for young and old, bingo, win at the theme basket and cash raffles. See our admission is $7.00 per person, (717) 652-1415 or www.stanbury.org.

Holy Angels Parish, Kutztown will hold its Parish Picnic the evenings of August 7 & 8. Entertainment by The Keystone Kids Starmakers Fridays 6-7PM, The Shoreliners on Friday and Saturday 7-11PM. Fantastic food, Basket Bonanza, Yard Sale, Games. Fireworks display Saturday, August 8 at 10:00PM.

Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Parish in Elysburg will hold a Lobster Fest Saturday August 29 beginning at 5 p.m. Lobster dinners, other delicious food, entertainment, children’s activities, theme baskets, fun for all! Lobster dinners must be pre-ordered by calling 570-672-2302 for tickets (3 dinner seatings).

St. Joseph Church in Berwick will hold its Italian Festival July 31 and August 1 and 2. Friday and Saturday from noon to 8 p.m. and Sunday, 5 p.m. Porkette, fireballs, meatballs, sausage, haluski, chicken margarina, chicken fingers, French fries, potato pancakes, fried dough, hotdogs, deep fried ravioli, deep fried pierogi, pizza, wedding soup, baked goods and ice cream. Pasta dinner Sunday. Money raffle, craft stand, kids' games, entertainment, cash raffles. Free entertainment nightly: “Stanky & the Coal Miners” Friday from 5-9 p.m., “The New Individuals” Saturday from 6-10 p.m., “Burning Einstein.” Saturday from 6:30-10 p.m. features entertainment by “Baymierz House,” and on Sunday from 2-5 p.m., will be entertainment by “Mickey Santora.” Enjoy bingo, basket raffle, pony rides, Kiddie Korner, games, inflatables, beer tent and much more. Come out for the hot dogs, burgers, fries, pierogi, haluski, haluski, empanadillas, tamales, egg rolls, fried rice, and more, fun, and games at 750 State Drive.

Parishioners of St. Peter Parish in Columbia are invited to a Parish Picnic scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 16 on the deck of the “Columbia Crossing” building at River Park, Front and Walnuts Streets, beginning at 3 p.m. Hotdogs, barbeque, paper products and drinks will be provided. Those whose last name begins with A-M should bring a side dish and those from N-Z are asked to bring a dessert. Games, N-Z activities are planned for both children and adults. $10 per household and $5 per single.

Holy Spirit Parish in Palmyra will hold its summer festival on August 7 and 8 from 5-11 p.m. Lots of fun things to do, for young and old. Bus to the site at 9 from the parking lot at the corner of Ferry and Walnut Streets. Menu includes haluski (stuffed cabbage rolls), haluski (cabbage with noodles), hot Italian sausage sandwiches with onions and peppers, homemade meatball sandwiches, pierogies, BBQ, hotdogs and other homemade ethnic foods. Take-out available. Live music throughout the day, including Van Wagner.

Join us for an Annual Buchanan Valley Picnic Aug. 22 from noon until dusk, rain or shine. Homecooked family-style ham and chicken dinners will be served all day. Price is $10 for adults; $4 for children ages 6 to 12; and ages 5 and under are free. Bus to the site at 9 from the parking lot at the corner of Ferry and Walnut Streets. Menu includes haluski (stuffed cabbage rolls), haluski (cabbage with noodles), hot Italian sausage sandwiches with onions and peppers, homemade meatball sandwiches, pierogies, BBQ, hotdogs and other homemade ethnic foods. Take-out available. Live music throughout the day, including Van Wagner.

Basket Bonanza, Yard Sale, Games. Fireworks display Saturday, August 8 at 10:00PM.

St. Joseph in Danville will have its Family Ethnic Festival Christmases in July Craft Fair on July 18 from 11 a.m.-8 p.m. on St. Joseph’s School grounds at the corner of Ferry and Walnut Streets. Menu includes haluski (stuffed cabbage rolls), haluski (cabbage with noodles), hot Italian sausage sandwiches with onions and peppers, homemade meatball sandwiches, pierogies, BBQ, hotdogs and other homemade ethnic foods. Take-out available. Live music throughout the day, including Van Wagner.
Prince of Peace Parish in Steelton is having a 9th Annual Men’s Retreat July 10-12 at Sacred Heart Parish Center, Spring Grove. For more information, call Mary Ann at 717-564-8254 or 717-726-2428. Men of Prince of Peace Parish in Steelton are invited to join us for this retreat. Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church in Harrisburg. Confessions are heard in English and Polish after every Mass. Confessions are heard in English and Polish after every Mass. Nossa Senhora de Fátima Pray our rosaries in Polish after every Mass. Olive Branches of Steelton is hosting its second annual Olive Branches of Steelton is hosting its second annual A musical celebration of Faith, Hope, & Joy! Celebrant Singers will perform a concert, Thursday, July 23, at 7:00 p.m. at Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Church, 596 West Chestnut St., Hershey. For tickets, call Father Lombardo at 717-533-3576. No tickets required. Free will offering.

Lilac Flowers Girls’ Club will host their annual Mt. Lebanon Lilac Festival, July 11-12. The festival will be held at St. John Cantius Catholic Church in New Freedom, PA. Call 717-724-7464 or Tom Hewitt at emailthe1@comcast.net.

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Quo Vadis Days and Fiat Days:

Vocation Discernment Supported amid Peers, Seminarians, Clergy and Religious

Quo Vadis Days participants gather around a statue of Mary at the mini grotto on the grounds of Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md.

By Jen Reed
The Catholic Witness

For more than a decade, the hazy days of summer have ushered in a climate of vocation discernment for young men and women in the Diocese of Harrisburg, through the innovative Quo Vadis Days and Fiat Days retreats hosted by the Office of Vocations.

As seminarians depart Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md., for the summer, young people move in: young men for Quo Vadis Days, held June 21-25 this year, and young women for Fiat Days, held July 5-7.

What better place to discern a vocation — to religious life, married life, or single life — than at a seminary.

“As discernment, you consider where God is calling you. That’s certainly a huge part of what takes place at seminary,” said Father Ryan Fischer, parochial vicar at St. Joseph Parish in Hanover. Ordained in June, he participated in Quo Vadis Days while he was a college student.

At Quo Vadis Days and Fiat Days, “you’re encountering things on a day-to-day basis and reflecting on them with God to see where he is calling you,” he said.

“With more reflection and prayer after the retreat is over, you’re encouraged to see God in everything.”

“Quo Vadis?” is Latin for, “Where are you going?” Legend says that Peter asked Jesus this question on the outskirts of Rome — Jesus was going to fulfill the Father’s will.

The Diocesan Office of Vocations hosted its inaugural Quo Vadis Days in 2003, drawing 50 participants. Within two years, the program reached its current average of 90 participants. Some 70 percent of the campers are repeat attendees, and 70 percent of the diocese’s seminarians have participated.

The program offers young men ages 15-25 a unique opportunity to experience Morning and Evening Prayer, daily Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and presentations and private discussions with priests and seminarians. They days are also balanced with time for recreation and sports.

“If you put down on paper all the things that you do there — Adoration, Mass, Liturgy of the Hours, spiritual direction, quiet time and multiple talks on religious topics and vocations — it doesn’t appear to be a very exciting summer camp, but the fact is, the guys love it, and they come back for these experiences year after year,” Father Fischer observed. “It really is a wonderful retreat opportunity.”

The intensive time of prayer, liturgy and talks mirrors the seminary experience in many ways, noted newly-ordained Father Matthew Larlick, parochial vicar at St. Catherine Labouré Parish in Harrisburg.

He was a participant prior to entering the seminary.

“The success of Quo Vadis Days is because of the emphasis on Christian masculinity,” he said. “Often, times that is hidden, but Quo Vadis Days highlights those aspects: protecting, serving, sacrificing. There is something special about seeing young men in Eucharistic Adoration, praying the Liturgy of the Hours. These are experiences that are part of the Catholic tradition that men might not always otherwise see.”

Quo Vadis Days introduced a young Donald Bender to the liturgical life of the Church when he attended while discerning his vocation.

“I encountered incense and processes for the first time. It was also the first time I experienced Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer, Benediction and Adoration,” said Father Bender, who was ordained in June and now serves as parochial vicar at St. Patrick Parish in Carlisle.

“Quo Vadis Days completely immerses you in the liturgical life of the Church, while providing time for you to discern your vocation, whatever it may be.”

The lush and holy grounds of Mount St. Mary’s Seminary — nestled at the base of the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes — provide an atmosphere conducive to contemplation and prayer.

Participants of Quo Vadis Days and Fiat Days frequent the seminary chapel, the Mount’s walking paths and grassy expanses, and the grotto grounds to reflect alone, or to converse with peers, seminarians, clergy or religious sisters.

During their separate discernment days, the young men and young women reside at the seminary and enjoy meals in the state-of-the-art dining hall. Quo Vadis Days participants are also treated to cookouts hosted by the Knights of Columbus.

Chris Heisey, The Catholic Witness

Quo Vadis Days and Fiat Days continue on page 15
Quo Vadis Days and Fiat Days

Fiat Days began in the Diocese of Harrisburg in 2008, held in early November that year at the St. Cyril Spiritual Center in Danville. Its inaugural year hosted 13 young women, who participated in daily Mass and prayer while interacting with religious sisters representing 12 different congregations.

Fiat Days is named for Mary’s “Fiat” to God’s plans for her to be the mother of Jesus. The program calls young women, ages 15-25, to say “Yes” to God’s plan for their lives.

Like Quo Vadis Days, Fiat Days has also grown in number and in scope. This year, 52 women participated in the discernment retreat, joined by 20 sisters from a dozen communities: the Sisters of Christian Charity, the Salesian Sisters, the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia, the Daughters of Charity, the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the Sisters of St. Joseph, the Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart, the Sisters of the Holy Spirit, the Dominican Sisters of the Perpetual Rosary, the Sisters of St. Joseph the Worker, the Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matará, and the Sisters of the Good Shepherd.

The schedule of Morning and Evening Prayer, daily Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, spiritual direction and discernment walks with the sisters offers a rare opportunity to see the life of religious sisters.

“Seeing the sisters during Mass and Adoration, when we’re spending time with the Lord, makes religious life very real for me,” said Madeleine Robbins, a graduate of Bishop McDevitt High School who just completed her freshman year at Seton Hill. “When I see them in their relationship with Jesus, I get a real glimpse of what their spiritual life is like.”
This year marked Madeleine’s fourth time at Fiat Days. She first attended after her sophomore year in high school.

“It’s an appropriate place to reserve time for discernment and prayer, because sometimes the busyness of life doesn’t let us step back and listen to what God is calling us to do,” she said.

Fiat Days gives young women like Madeleine a chance for authentic discussions about religious life and candid conversations with sisters.

Participants ask about the history, mission and process of entering the religious communities represented, and yearn to hear each sister’s discernment story.

“They ask a lot about what sisters give up in order to enter religious life,” like marriage, children, and careers, said Sister Colleen, the Vocation Director of the Salesian Sisters. “I would say they ask those questions because they don’t have a huge understanding of all that we gain from living in community.”

“By interacting with us, the girls learn the beauty of religious life, and also how it lifts the burdens of human sustenance,” Sister Colleen said. “For example, in community, I don’t worry about having to do laundry, pay bills or cook food, because other sisters take care of that. And, as a religious sister who works with children, I have many kids in my life.”

Sister Colleen, who currently lives and works in New Jersey, has participated in Fiat Days five times.

“I always try to look for the characteristics of the girls who are here, to help them keep their minds open to their vocation, even to other orders that might not be represented here,” she said. “Fiat Days is about helping them to discover God’s plan for their life, so that they can consider, ‘This is who I am, this is what I’m about, this is the work I would like to do – what will fit my personality and my desire for ministry?’”

For Madeleine, the most enlightening aspect of Fiat Days has been hearing the sisters’ vocation stories — their discernment of God’s call, their struggles, their questions.

“I think about discernment every day,” she said. “Married life is so beautiful and, from spending time with the sisters, I see that religious life is beautiful too. I’m hoping that the Lord will tell me soon where I am supposed to go, but for now, I am waiting to hear his call. One of my teachers in high school said, ‘Either God will send you the man that you will spend your life with in marriage, or he wants you all to himself in religious life.’ “That’s OK,” Madeleine said. “Either way, it’s a life lived in Christ.”

(For information on Quo Vadis Days, Fiat Days and vocation discernment in the Diocese of Harrisburg, visit www.hbgdiocese.org/vocations, or send an e-mail to vocations@hbgdiocese.org.)