Serving With God’s Strength
Pentecost Sunday
June 8, 2014

Invest in our past, present and future through the Pentecost Collection...See Pages 8 and 9
The Catholic Witness • May 23, 2014

25 Years
Sister Susan Mary Born, IHM
Sister Mary Albert of the Immaculate Heart Luciani, OP
Sister Martin Marie of the Eucharist Mill, OP

45 Years
Sister M. Philothea Fabian, SSCM
Sister Teresa M. Urda, SSCM
Sister Maria Salvatoris Captiani, DM
Sister Teresa Vincent Kozlowski, IHM
Sister Jane Small, SSJ

50 Years
Sister Sara Swayze, SSCM
Sister Michael Ann Orlik, SSCM

60 Years
Sister Mary L. Birster, IHM
Sister Marilyn Pitonak, SSCM
Sister M. Rosanne Kmetz, SSCM
Sister M. John Vianney Vranak, SSCM
Sister Rose Mary of the Sacred Heart Concheck, OP
Sister Mary Clare Reineberg, ASC
Sister Marian Corde Stilwell, SSJ

65 Years
Sister M. Georgene Luther, SSCM
Sister M. Paulette Lendacky, SSCM
Sister M. Susan Polchin, SSCM

70 Years
Sister Mara Beadle, SCC
Sister Helen Joseph Waldman, SCC
Sister Anna Marie Ziegler, SCC
Sister Mary Evelyn DiPietro, ASC
Sister M. Concepta Abbott, DM
Sister M. Elizabeth Stanziola, DM

75 Years
Sister Genevieve McGuire, SCC
Sister Mary Stanislaus Surgoft, SCC

80 Years
Sister Therese Dugre, OCD
Sister M. Eugene Boysich, ASC

While giving special honor to Our Blessed Mother during the month of May, it is fitting to also acknowledge and honor the religious sisters serving in the diocese.

At a Mass on May 17 at the Cardinal Keeler Center in Harrisburg, various communities of religious sisters joined together to renew their vows as Jubilarians marking special milestones in religious life. Bishop Ronald W. Gainer was the main celebrant of the holy Mass, and Father Philip Burger, Diocesan Secretary for Clergy and Religious Life, concelebrated.

Jubilarian Sister Mara Beadle, SCC, said that the students she taught, and the families of those students, are the joy of her life over the last 70 years of her ministry, as well as “the goodness and strength my family gave me all these years.”

Prayers and Congratulations to the 2014 Jubilarians

25 Years
Sister Susan Mary Born, IHM
35 Years
Sister Mary Albert of the Immaculate Heart Luciani, OP
Sister Martin Marie of the Eucharist Mill, OP

45 Years
Sister M. Philothea Fabian, SSCM
Sister Teresa M. Urda, SSCM
Sister Maria Salvatoris Captiani, DM
Sister Teresa Vincent Kozlowski, IHM
Sister Jane Small, SSJ

50 Years
Sister Sara Swayze, SSCM
Sister Michael Ann Orlik, SSCM

60 Years
Sister Mary L. Birster, IHM
Sister Marilyn Pitonak, SSCM
Sister M. Rosanne Kmetz, SSCM
Sister M. John Vianney Vranak, SSCM
Sister Rose Mary of the Sacred Heart Concheck, OP
Sister Mary Clare Reineberg, ASC
Sister Marian Corde Stilwell, SSJ

65 Years
Sister M. Georgene Luther, SSCM
Sister M. Paulette Lendacky, SSCM
Sister M. Susan Polchin, SSCM

70 Years
Sister Mara Beadle, SCC
Sister Helen Joseph Waldman, SCC
Sister Anna Marie Ziegler, SCC
Sister Mary Evelyn DiPietro, ASC
Sister M. Concepta Abbott, DM
Sister M. Elizabeth Stanziola, DM

75 Years
Sister Genevieve McGuire, SCC
Sister Mary Stanislaus Surgoft, SCC

80 Years
Sister Therese Dugre, OCD
Sister M. Eugene Boysich, ASC
Offering Real Alternatives to Women in Crisis

By Maria Gallagher
Special to The Witness

The young woman who walks into the office may have been pro-life since she first became aware of the issue of abortion. And then, she finds herself pregnant, her boyfriend abandons her, and she feels completely alone. In that hour of crisis, she may be tempted to seek an abortion.

But the kind, compassionate woman who greets her in the pregnancy help center waiting room is just the person she needs in her life at this critical time, who can shine a light in the darkness which threatens to envelop her.

This is what Pennsylvania’s Alternatives to Abortion program offers—a ray of hope, a listening ear, a kind word, a trusted ally. The landmark program has now served more than 200,000 clients and their families—including many in the Harrisburg Diocese.

The program was the brain child of former Pennsylvania Governor Bob Casey, and it enjoys the support of current Governor Tom Corbett, along with a bipartisan coalition of lawmakers. Harrisburg area State Representatives Glen Grell, Sue Helm, Ronald Marsico, John Payne, and Mike Regan are among those who have expressed support for this ground-breaking program, which has become a model for the rest of the nation.

Women facing unexpected pregnancies need more than a pamphlet, according to Real Alternatives President and CEO Kevin Bagatta. They need a person who will walk with them during their journey, who will offer comprehensive support, and who will not judge them.

And the program has had phenomenal success—in central Pennsylvania and throughout the Commonwealth. Consider these figures from the 2010-11 fiscal year:

• 64% of women entering the program who were considering abortion chose childbirth.
• 88% of women who were pressured by others to abort chose childbirth.
• 67% of women who were pressured by others AND considering abortion chose childbirth.

Real Alternatives also offers a toll-free hotline, 1-888-Life-Aid, which connects women to their local pregnancy resource centers, where they can receive free pregnancy tests, counseling, and support for themselves and their babies, both during their pregnancies and in the 12 months afterward.

The Pennsylvania Catholic Conference, which represents the state’s bishops, has voiced strong support for the program, noting its ability to stand beside women in their hour of need. Pastors throughout the state have also hailed the program for its life-affirming, life-changing focus. One national poll showed that more than 80 percent of the post-abortive women surveyed had chosen life for their children—had just one person offered support. For many Pennsylvania women, that one person has been found at a Real Alternatives center.

“Number one, you’re not alone,” Real Alternatives’ Kevin Bagatta said in a recent K-LOVE Radio interview. “There are people who care about you…so you can be empowered…to choose life.”

For more information about Real Alternatives, visit www.realalternatives.org.

(Maria Gallagher is the legislative director of Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation.)
Evangelization and New Auctor

By Sister Geralyn Schmidt, SCC
Special to The Witness

Recently, I was asked by one of our parish’s youth ministers to speak to youth about Virtual Integrity. When I agreed, I asked for the address to the church. Several weeks later, with the address in hand, I set off early in the evening for the parish hall. During my initial inquiry, I learned that the parish was relatively close to Harrisburg. The day of my presentation, the Holy Spirit began prodding me to leave much earlier for the parish hall than I originally planned. Thinking that it was just “the case of the nerves,” I dismissed the feeling. As the time for my departure got closer, the Holy Spirit’s gentle promptings deepened so that I could no longer dismiss them. As a result, I left significantly earlier than I intended. I entered the parish address into my GPS and went on my merry way. I gave glory to God as I watched the sun turn the sky orange and then disappear from sight. I patted my GPS, which I have named “Maggie,” because she has never failed me as I do about the diocese. After many turns and twists over country roads, I wound up in the middle of a vast field of frozen farmland with no church in sight. Turning my GPS off and then back on, I plugged in the address again, only to be told by Maggie “You had already arrived at this destination.”

Turning to another gadget, I took out my iPhone and plugged the address into that GPS, which told me that I was 20 minutes away from the church hall. I sped through the moon-lit country roads, hoping that I would not find a dead end and a snack. Turning right and left, I wound up in front of a broken down barn with no church in sight, AGAIN! Desperately, I turned back to the main road and stopped at a gas station to inquire about the church. After talking to several people and actually knocking on a car window, I got the directions to the church. As I entered the church hall, realizing that I was not even a bit late, I thought, “There has got to be a lesson in this!” I had a conversation with the youth minister to figure out what went so wrong with the address. It seems that I had inadvertently selected “Avenue” rather than “Street” on the GPS.

The youth minister asked me, “Sister, I have a question for you. Do you still trust your technology when it went so awry for you this evening?” To which I answered, “Yes, it was not the technology that went flaky. It was the human attached to the technology.” She retorted, “You have a deeper faith in gadgets than I!”

I could not help thinking that this experience, though frustrating, had deepened my respect for the countless times that the GPS worked! In a sense, it extended my passion for it. I could not help thinking of this story when I began to read an article about “Beige Catholicism.” This phrase was coined by Father Robert Barron to describe how many Catholics turn away from the faith’s vibrant details in the Church’s teachings. It seems to me that it is indeed a struggle. The address, which is still downplaying whatever might be construed as ‘odd’ or ‘supernatural.’ Thus, the biblical and theological tendency to downplay the political, the sociological, and above all the psychological.” (Bridging the Great Divide. Rowan & Littlefield, 2004, 17)

This attitude is completely contrary to the essence of the Second Vatican Council. In short, it addressed the relations between the Church and the modern world. St. John XXIII opened this Council with the following words: “What is needed at the present time is a new enthusiasm, a new joy and serenity of mind in the unreserved acceptance by all of the entire Christian faith…a truly Christian, Catholic and apostolic spirit…[that] shall be more widely known, more deeply understood, and more penetrating in its effects on men’s moral lives. What is needed is that this certain and immutable doctrine, to which the faithful owe obedience, be studied afresh and reformulated in contemporary terms. The pontiffs after Pope John XXIII have all called and prayed for this new ardor, this new interior passion for the faith that affects every aspect of one’s life. In a sense, it is a new call for us to become modern-day John the Baptists with an inner enthusiasm that cannot be silenced. It goes beyond the airing of political differences, blaming the tenets of political parties. It nestles in a profound hope that God’s message can shine through any and all happenings. It reaches out for a cause and a reason to touch a contemplative presence in front of the Eucharist. It hinges to understand the reality of the wholeness of the human person in Blessed John Paul’s teaching of the Theology of the Body, not just focusing on homosexuality or abortion. Its foundation stems from our baptismal call to become a saint, not settling to be just “spiritual.”

Always remember that we must decide God should be our ultimate GPS. He has given us directions to reach Him in heaven! When we get lost and are running on empty, fill up at the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and the Mass! Pay attention to His road signs, that God is indeed all around us! I look forward to meet you on the road, so, drive on!”

(Sister of Christian Charity, Geryaln Schmidt, is the Wide Area Network Coordinator at the Diocese of Harrisburg and a member of the IT Department. An educator for 28 years, she is responsible for Professional Development Programs for every age learner. Through her presentations, she challenges her audiences to be the individual God has called them to be.)
Dr. Ralph Martin, right, president of Renewal Ministries, an organization devoted to Catholic renewal and evangelization.

The diocesan men’s conference drew more than 600 attendees to Bishop McDevitt High School in Harrisburg May 10 for a day of prayer, workshops and presentations that focused on conversion and faith in a secular age.

By Jen Reed

The Catholic Witness

“Conversion means accepting, by a personal decision, the saving sovereignty of Christ and becoming his disciple.”

– John Paul II, Redemptoris Missio

This passage from St. John Paul’s 1990 encyclical on the Church’s missionary mandate surfaced as a challenge for the more than 600 men who gathered for the Diocesan Conference for Men on May 10 at Bishop McDevitt High School in Harrisburg.

Both Dr. Ralph Martin’s keynote address in the morning and Bishop Ronald W. Gainer’s homily during Mass to conclude the conference circled back to the quote from the encyclical, urging a complete surrender to Christ.

It is only through faithful discipleship and surrender to the Lord that effective evangelization can occur, Dr. Martin said in his address, which centered on the New Evangelization.

Dr. Martin was appointed by Pope Benedict XVI in 2011 as a consultor for the Pontifical Council for the New Evangelization. He is currently president of Renewal Ministries, an organization devoted to Catholic renewal and evangelization.

He remarked that conversations about evangelization at the parish level often focus on getting people to come to Mass, or to become more involved in parish life—discussions that are key to the New Evangelization.

But conversion is critical to evangelization, he said.

“It is possible to come to church but not be converted. It is possible to be active in the parish but not have committed yourself to be a disciple of Jesus Christ,” Dr. Martin said.

“This is why we have to be clear about the goal of evangelization,” he stressed.

“The goal of evangelization is a listening conversion, drawing people into a personal communication with Christ that leads them to a surrender of their whole lives.”

Dr. Martin urged conference-goers to be witnesses to Christ in their families, their work environments and the social settings, and shared practical examples he drew from the four aspects of the mission of the laity found in the Vatican II document Apostolicam Actuositatem, on the apostolate of lay people.

Be a witness of your Catholic life: Be honest in business, be a good neighbor, a faithful husband and father, Dr. Martin said.

Do works of mercy: Donate food to feed the hungry, visit those who are sick or in prison, offer financial or material assistance to homeless shelters, he suggested.

Renew the temple order: This element of our mission as lay people involves engagement in the political process, and concern for education, healthcare, the environment and human rights.

Talk to people about Jesus: Use words and actions to show why you love the Lord, and how you came to know him, Dr. Martin said.

“We can get a little nervous when it comes to talking to people about Jesus, but what’s the worst that can happen? The person you’re talking to might change the subject or just end the conversation. You can handle that,” Dr. Martin said.

The personal decision of becoming a disciple of Jesus was also the focus of Bishop Gainer’s homily during the Mass he celebrated to conclude the conference.

The bishop connected the day’s Gospel (John 6:60-69) – in which the disciples find difficulty in accepting Jesus’ teaching on the Bread of Life – to John Paul II’s encyclical quote on the meaning of conversion.

“At the conclusion of Jesus’ discourse on the truth of the Eucharist, many of the disciples decide to no longer accompany him because they cannot accept what the Lord told them.

“Our Lord is evoking from them a commitment,” Bishop Gainer reflected on the Gospel passage. “Their admiration for him was no longer enough. Their curiosity about who he was, was inadequate…. Now he is calling for a personal decision on their part to become his disciples.”

Bishop Ronald W. Gainer expresses his joy in celebrating Mass during the diocesan men’s conference held at Bishop McDevitt High School in Harrisburg. In his homily, he urged the men to make a personal commitment to be a disciple of Christ.

The conference theme, “Men Engaged in Spiritual Combat: Faith in a Secular Age,” was aimed to awaken men to the battle for the common good and for the good of their families.

“to wake up men to realize their role in Christ’s army is key, because they touch so many lives every day in their homes and in their communities,” Mr. Abel said. “We want them to suit up and put on the armor of Christ.”

The daylong conference engaged men on living their faith in a secular age, and, to that end, included Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, time for private prayer in the school chapel, the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, exhibits from Catholic groups, and a number of workshops that focused on practical advice for husbands and fathers, the wholesome pursuit of leisure, prayer life for the busy man, and keeping your faith through college.

“Being a Catholic man means being ‘all in’ for the Lord, to be a light for the world, a witness for truth, and a vessel that God can use to bring his life-giving waters to each and every person,” said David Abel, a member of the conference’s planning committee.

The conference theme, “Men Engaged in Spiritual Combat: Faith in a Secular Age,” was aimed to awaken men to the battle for the common good and for the good of their families.

“To wake up men to realize their role in Christ’s army is key, because they touch so many lives every day in their homes and in their communities,” Mr. Abel said. “We want them to suit up and put on the armor of Christ.”
Delone Catholic Principal Receives Inaugural Private Education Award

Dr. Maureen C. Thiec, Ed.D., principal of Delone Catholic High School in McSherrystown, was presented the inaugural Honor Administrator Award by the Pennsylvania Affiliate of the Council on Private Education (PACAPE) at a luncheon held at the Pennsylvania state capitol May 7. Beginning with this class, PACAPE will recognize one teacher and one administrator at each of three levels – early, primary and secondary – for excellence in their field each year. Dr. Thiec was chosen from a field of 38 nominees for the six awards. Besides the recipients, there was one other finalist for each award. She received a plaque and a congratulatory Proclamation from the Pennsylvania Senate.

“I was honored to be nominated by Mrs. Livia Riley, Superintendent of Schools in the Diocese of Harrisburg, for this inaugural award from PACAPE,” Dr. Thiec said. “As I was notified that I was a finalist, and then presented the award at the ceremony, I was humbled at this recognition. My ministry has been Catholic education, and I thank God every day for this opportunity to serve.”

PACAPE is an organization that unifies religiously-affiliated and secular private schools while respecting their diversity. The council is organized to provide a framework for communication and cooperation among nonpublic jurisdictions and schools at all levels in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. It also strives to maintain productive relationships with the Pennsylvania Department of Education, the Pennsylvania Board of Education, the state and federal governments and other agencies which impact quality education.

The PACAPE Non-Public School Educator Recognition Program has been established because PACAPE’s membership recognizes the value of effective teaching and leadership that promote proficiency in student learning, and is successful in establishing a positive school culture. In addition, the membership believes that educators have earned the right to be recognized for their work in faith, education and leadership that promote proficiency in student learning.

Dr. Thiec began her tenure as Delone Catholic’s seventh principal in 1992-93. Now in her 22nd year at the helm, she is the second-longest serving principal in school history. Under her guidance, more than 90 percent of Delone Catholic graduates have gone on to higher education at an ever increasing variety of colleges, universities and trade schools each year. Between 2000-2013, the school’s graduates were offered more than $32,000,000 in scholarships and other awards. During Dr. Thiec’s tenure, the school has been reaccredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools three times, maintaining accreditation which has been held continuously since 1952. Delone Catholic is the only secondary school in the Adams-Hanover area to be reaccredited by two of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools who have significantly grown its Advanced Placement program to the extent that students can be recognized as AP Scholars for excellence on multiple exams, and began a dual enrollment program with Alvernia University in Reading, Pa.

During Dr. Thiec’s first 16 years, Delone Catholic maintained and gradually completed necessary upgrades to the physical plant within the annual budget and school savings while planning for major capital improvements. Since 2010, Delone Catholic has conducted Delone’s Diamond Decade Initiative, the School’s first capital campaign. The Phase I and Phase II renovations of the 1963 Math and Science Wing and the original 1940 Wing have seen nearly 33 million in upgrades to the infrastructure and educational tools in these wings. Plans continue for the completion of the remaining wings of the building.

In the classroom, the school has expanded the breadth and depth of the academic offerings with mission and AP levels. The service program, giving students opportunities to assist in the school, Church and community, has expanded, and the spiritual life offerings have increased, helping to nurture several religious vocations over the past two decades. Delone Catholic has also built on traditions of outstanding performances in athletics, fine arts and forensics.

Dr. Thiec’s tenure began as the transition from an entirely religious faculty to a nearly all-faculty was nearing its end. Despite the overwhelming expenses associated with this transition, Delone Catholic has stayed on secure financial footing. The availability of tuition assistance has increased dramatically in recent years to help families offset the necessary tuition increases. The school offers between $100,000-$150,000 per year to nearly 20 percent of Delone Catholic families. These funds are part of an overall advancement effort that has raised more than $7.5 million since 1995-96, including more than $600,000 in five of the last seven fiscal years. In addition to tuition assistance and college scholarships, these funds are used for capital improvements, alumni outreach, budget relief and endowment growth. More information about Delone Catholic can be found on the school website at www.DeloneCatholic.org.

(Submitted by Eric Lawrence, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, Delone Catholic High School.)

By Jen Reid
The Catholic Witness

What would you write to the Holy Father if your letter would be hand-delivered to him?

Four students at Good Shepherd School in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania have been given the chance to send hand-written messages to Pope Francis, via their connection with Pennsylvania Governor Tom Corbett.

The four students – Max Harris, Ethan Schulder Elia, Ryan Ness and Caroline Dash – are Prayer Partners with Governor Corbett. The Prayer Partner program, an activity under the direction of Sister Mary Ann Lawrence of the Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, partners students with various community and Church leaders for whom they offer prayers and support.

Prior to a recent trip to Rome to plan for the World Meeting of Families to be held in Philadelphia in September 2015, the governor collected the students’ letters to Pope Francis, and delivered them to the Holy Father during his trip.

The letters revealed glimpses of the students’ experiences with Good Shepherd, their formation, and their interest in activities:

“Dear Pope Francis, my name is Max Harris and I am in second grade. Good Shepherd School in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania. I just received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and I will receive my First Holy Communion in May. Please pray for my classmates and I as we prepare for this special day. I will offer up my next three Masses for your special intentions.”

“Hello, my name is Ethan Schulder-Elia. I am in third grade and I am nine years old. I am also praying for you. Happy belated, St. Patrick’s Day from my family.”

“Dear Pope Francis, my name is Ryan Ness and I go to Good Shepherd School in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania. I also am 10 years old. I play baseball and basketball. I have a 5 year old little sister. She will go to Good Shepherd next year. I am also having fun in all of the subjects. I am glad to be going to a Catholic school. My family still keep you in my prayers. Could you keep me in your prayers?”

“Dear Pope Francis, my name is Caroline Dash, and I am a sixth grade student at Good Shepherd Catholic School in McSherrystown. I am also a student of the Provincial Marian – I am not sure what my vocation will be, but I know God has plans for me. The other night, when I was reading my night prayers in Jesus Calling, I felt like God was talking right to me. The book said that we shouldn’t worry about pursuing a particular goal, but should talk to God about it. If it isn’t what God wants for us, He will gradually change the desire in our heart. So, if I just keep close to Him and keep talking to Him, I think He will let me know what it is He wants me to do.”

In mid-May, Governor Corbett returned to Good Shepherd School for a follow-up visit with his four prayer partners, telling them of his trip to Rome and his visit with Pope Francis, ensuring the students of the delivery of their letters and the spiritual bouquet of prayers that accompanied them.

“The students were extremely grateful for the opportunity to send letters directly to Pope Francis,” said Sister Mary Ann. “Their love for him is evident in the letters they wrote.”

Good Shepherd students gather with Governor Corbett. From left are Sister Mary Ann Lawrence, Ethan Schulder-Elia, Caroline Dash, Ryan Ness, Governor Corbett and Max Harris.

Good Shepherd Students Send Letters to Pope Via Governor’s Visit

Chris Heisey, THE CATHOLIC WITNESS

In mid-May, Governor Corbett returned to Good Shepherd School for a follow-up visit with his four prayer partners, telling them of his trip to Rome and his visit with Pope Francis, ensuring the students of the delivery of their letters and the spiritual bouquet of prayers that accompanied them.

“The students were extremely grateful for the opportunity to send letters directly to Pope Francis,” said Sister Mary Ann. “Their love for him is evident in the letters they wrote.”

Chris Heisey, THE CATHOLIC WITNESS

Good Shepherd students gather with Governor Corbett. From left are Sister Mary Ann Lawrence, Ethan Schulder-Elia, Caroline Dash, Ryan Ness, Governor Corbett and Max Harris.
The Catholic Witness

By Jen Reed

For the ninth consecutive year, the Diocese of Harrisburg bestowed Golden Apple Awards on seven Catholic school educators for their outstanding contributions as teachers, role models, and mentors. Included in this year's winners is the Cardinal Keeler Center in Harrisburg on May 15. The awards are based on nominations from school principals, parents, students and fellow teachers.

The 2014 Golden Apple recipients are Patricia Averill of Trinity High School in Camp Hill, Judith Durrell of Resurrection Catholic School in Lancaster, Sandra Grass- er of St. Joseph School in Mechanicsburg, Karen Henry of St. Anne School in Lancaster, Patricia Lichty of York Catholic High School, Elizabeth Shimko of Lebanon Catholic School, and Lynn Yealy of Delone Catholic High School in McSherrystown. The following are excerpts from interviews with this year's awardees. For more information about the program and how to nominate an educator, visit www.hbgdiocese.org/catholic-schools.

On the role models that Catholic school teachers are called to be: I think we need to be very conscientious that students are always watching. I have three children of my own, so I am out there in the community a lot. I know they are watching. They see me at church every Sunday, they see me at events supporting

not just my own kids, but also the other kids there. It’s very important in this day and age for students to know that there are teachers out there who support the kids outside the four walls every day. Students will make comments like, ‘Monday morning they will come and say, ‘Mrs. Henry, does what you made at the game?’ Sunday at church, did you see me?’ And I say, ‘Yes, I did. I’m not only present for you at school, but I’m present for you outside the classroom.’

On the importance of being strong in the faith for students: Teachers have more responsibilities than just the hours in the classroom. It’s great to know that these kids can come back and feel comfortable with me. The past few years, I’ve had quite a few kids who have lost parents and they didn’t know where to turn. I’ve had quite a few come to talk, and we’ve developed even closer relationships. My husband and I have become support systems for some of these kids who have lost parents, just because we’ve been actively involved in our community. These kids know us, they know we’re about: That’s just another part of the job. Teachers have to be strong in the faith.

Sandra Grassner, middle school Social Studies and Religion teacher at Resurrection Catholic School

On the importance of a strong faith formation for middle school students: Faith formation is very important for those years because I do think children are floundering. Christianity gives us a way to live, and a lot of times, children are looking for that. You have to keep an open mind because, when you bring things to children in sixth, seventh and eighth grade, you might wonder if you’re getting through to them all, and then in the years go by, you realize the things you talk to them about finally fit into their lives.

In some ways, all children, even at the middle school level, are still looking for love. They’re looking for someone to care about what they need, to care about what they learn, to know that you’re excited to see them.

On the joys of being a Confirmation sponsor for a number of students: I keep in touch with the children I have sponsored, and to see them grow and see the changes in them is rewarding. Some will tell me about the retreat they’re going to go on during their senior year, about going to church every morning before school. Others will come back and tell me they feel a little lost, and I can ask them if they’ve been going to church, or I can invite them to go with me to Mass. I think that’s really neat part of being a Confirmation sponsor in a Catholic school.

Karen Henry, middle school Language Arts and Religion at Resurrection Catholic School

On the longevity of teachers in Catholic schools: There is a commitment, and it’s a commitment not only to education, but to Catholic education. We believe in what we do. I wouldn’t be in any other place, because this is a place where we can freely come and worship and pray and have the presence of Jesus in our chapel. That’s a very comforting environment for our students to learn in.

Judith Durrell, middle school Religion and Mathematics teacher at Resurrection Catholic School

On connecting the students’ music with the Catholic faith: Especially with younger students, a lot times there is external motivating with rewards and incentives. I try to do very little of that. I present them with the fact that we have gifts from God that we have to develop, and our goal is to use them to the best of our ability. We’re not performing so that people recognize us, we’re not doing this to get a treat. We’re using our gifts to glorify God and share them with everybody.

How Catholic schools foster a sense of community: We are there as a community when there is hardship. My son was diag- nized with cancer, and the school rallied around us and helped support us during that time, whether it was with meals or prayers. We do that for each other as a community. Addi- tionally, I teach grades 4-8, and my husband teaches grades 9-12 in the high school. He comes down and works with my little ones, and I work with his students a lot. We pull my students to balance out his program, and when I need mentors, his students come here. That adds another sense of family. The strength is in that number. For some families, it’s a hard thing to send children to Catholic school. It’s much easier to not pay tuition and go to a public school, but they made the choice and the sacrifices for their children, and that’s something that I see and value.

Elizabeth Shimko, Mathematics teacher at Lebanon Catholic School

On on making a commitment to help students reach expectations: I know that not every stu- dent is gifted in mathematics. It might have been my forte, but I certainly am well aware that all other students are not as gifted in that area, and they may not even like it. To at least get them to become interested, I have to get them to be successful. If they’re going to be successful, they may require a little additional help and a little additional time. I’m always there after school, at times I’m there in the morning, and many times they take my free period as well, if it happens to coincide with their study hall. I’m always willing to do that, because if they’re willing to work hard, then I’m willing to give them every opportunity to be successful.

Lynn Yealy, Elementary Music teacher for the Bee feeder schools and Music Department teacher, Delone Catholic High School

On on service hours as part of faith formation in Catholic high school: I definitely believe that students should be involved in service, they have graduated sets them into a habit that they will continue in their lives because they have done it and they know they have earned the rewards of it. I definitely believe and think that many of them carry it with them after high school and throughout their lives in serving their communities.

Patricia Lichty, World History teacher at Trinity High School

On the primary role of a Catholic school teacher: Being a good role model. Students are really observant, and they watch you in class, but they made the choice and the sacrifices for their children, and that’s something that I see and value.

Patricia Averill, Spanish teacher at Trinity High School, Camp Hill

On on connecting the students’ music with the Catholic faith: Especially with younger students, a lot times there is external motivating with rewards and incentives. I try to do very little of that. I present them with the fact that we have gifts from God that we have to develop, and our goal is to use them to the best of our ability. We’re not performing so that people recognize us, we’re not doing this to get a treat. We’re using our gifts to glorify God and share them with everybody.

How Catholic schools foster a sense of community: We are there as a community when there is hardship. My son was diagn- nized with cancer, and the school rallied around us and helped support us during that time, whether it was with meals or prayers. We do that for each other as a community. Addi- tionally, I teach grades 4-8, and my husband teaches grades 9-12 in the high school. He comes down and works with my little ones, and I work with his students a lot. We pull my students to balance out his program, and when I need mentors, his students come here. That adds another sense of family. The strength is in that number. For some families, it’s a hard thing to send children to Catholic school. It’s much easier to not pay tuition and go to a public school, but they made the choice and the sacrifices for their children, and that’s something that I see and value.

Elizabeth Shimko, Mathematics teacher at Lebanon Catholic School

On on making a commitment to help students reach expectations: I know that not every stu- dent is gifted in mathematics. It might have been my forte, but I certainly am well aware that all other students are not as gifted in that area, and they may not even like it. To at least get them to become interested, I have to get them to be successful. If they’re going to be successful, they may require a little additional help and a little additional time. I’m always there after school, at times I’m there in the morning, and many times they take my free period as well, if it happens to coincide with their study hall. I’m always willing to do that, because if they’re willing to work hard, then I’m willing to give them every opportunity to be successful.

Lynn Yealy, Elementary Music teacher for the Bee feeder schools and Music Department teacher, Delone Catholic High School

On on service hours as part of faith formation in Catholic high school: I definitely believe that students should be involved in service, they have graduated sets them into a habit that they will continue in their lives because they have done it and they know they have earned the rewards of it. I definitely believe and think that many of them carry it with them after high school and throughout their lives in serving their communities.

Patricia Lichty, World History teacher at Trinity High School

On the primary role of a Catholic school teacher: Being a good role model. Students are really observant, and they watch you in class, but they made the choice and the sacrifices for their children, and that’s something that I see and value.

Patricia Averill, Spanish teacher at Trinity High School, Camp Hill

On the primary role of a Catholic school teacher: Being a good role model. Students are really observant, and they watch you in class, but they made the choice and the sacrifices for their children, and that’s something that I see and value.

Patricia Averill, Spanish teacher at Trinity High School, Camp Hill

On the primary role of a Catholic school teacher: Being a good role model. Students are really observant, and they watch you in class, but they made the choice and the sacrifices for their children, and that’s something that I see and value.

Patricia Averill, Spanish teacher at Trinity High School, Camp Hill

On the primary role of a Catholic school teacher: Being a good role model. Students are really observant, and they watch you in class, but they made the choice and the sacrifices for their children, and that’s something that I see and value.

Patricia Averill, Spanish teacher at Trinity High School, Camp Hill

On the primary role of a Catholic school teacher: Being a good role model. Students are really observant, and they watch you in class, but they made the choice and the sacrifices for their children, and that’s something that I see and value.

Patricia Averill, Spanish teacher at Trinity High School, Camp Hill

On the primary role of a Catholic school teacher: Being a good role model. Students are really observant, and they watch you in class, but they made the choice and the sacrifices for their children, and that’s something that I see and value.

Patricia Averill, Spanish teacher at Trinity High School, Camp Hill

On the primary role of a Catholic school teacher: Being a good role model. Students are really observant, and they watch you in class, but they made the choice and the sacrifices for their children, and that’s something that I see and value.

Patricia Averill, Spanish teacher at Trinity High School, Camp Hill

The 2014 Golden Apple recipients were honored by the Diocesan Department for Catholic Schools during a dinner on May 15. Gathered with Bishop Ronald W. Gainer and Father Edward J. Quintin, Diocesan Secretary for Education, were, from left, recipients Patricia Lichty, Judith Durrell, Lynn Yealy, Elizabeth Shimko, Karen Henry, Sandra Grassner and Patricia Averill.

On the role models that Catholic school teachers are called to be: I think we need to be very conscientious that students are always watching. I have three children of my own, so I am out there in the community a lot. I know they are watching. They see me at church every Sunday, they see me at events support-
Dear Friends in Christ,

Over the years, I have met many young people in high schools and colleges who are very interested in reaching out to assist people. Many of these young people have used the time during their spring breaks to help those less fortunate in our country, in Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Mexico, and the list goes on.

There are young people who have the desire to help others spiritually, physically and emotionally and believe they are called to help in this way as a priest. Their motivation to serve is their love for the Lord and a desire to respond to His call to go out and be a disciple.

“Serving With God’s Strength.”

Our diocese is greatly blessed by the young men preparing to be ordained and serve people as a priest. We have men who have served the Diocese of Harrisburg for many years and are now retired from administration. Of course, we have 86 diocesan priests, 45 religious order priests, and 68 permanent deacons currently serving our parishes and institutions. The diocese continues to support these men with ongoing formation opportunities every year. These are men who turn to the Lord because they know they can only be “Serving With God’s Strength.”

As your new bishop, I come to you asking for your prayerful and financial support for the men who have retired from the administrative duties of priesthood and support for the ongoing educational opportunities for priests, deacons, and seminarians through the annual Pentecost Collection. Currently, we are blessed with 34 seminarians and this blessing presents us with welcomed challenges. The result of so many seminarians also increases the cost to prepare them for service as priests in the Diocese of Harrisburg. We can only turn to the good and faithful people of the diocese to help through your prayers and your financial support.

I thank the people of our diocese who have given so generously to the care of these men in the past and I appeal to your generosity once again this year. I ask that you consider making a sacrificial gift to this year’s Pentecost Collection. Only with your help are we able to form our future priests, better equip our current priests to be more effective in their ministry, and care for those who have worked tirelessly for us and now need our help to sustain them in the twilight years of their lives.

May the Holy Spirit fill your hearts with His boundless love on this day of Pentecost.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Ronald W. Gainer
Bishop of Harrisburg

**Pentecost Collection ~ June 8**

**Investing in Our Past**

“The priest is to be a servant, to bring God’s blessing to the people.

Before his Passion, Jesus gathered the apostles for the Last Supper. The priest continues to bring God as food for our souls, calling him down to the altar. A priest also brings God’s tremendous gifts of peace and mercy in the Sacrament of Penance. The priest is the instrument to bring peace to the minds, hearts and souls of the sinner.

When Our Lord rose from the dead, the very first thing he did was to go to the apostles in the Upper Room. His first words were, ‘Peace be to you.’ These two great sacraments that the Lord instituted are what priests continue to bring to the people. Without priests, where would you go for the Body and Blood of Christ? Where would you go to receive peace of mind, heart and soul? Only priests can bring those blessings.

The people of the diocese benefit by supporting the vocation of priests and seminarians, who will then be their teachers, who will nourish their souls with the Body and Blood of Christ.”

~ Father Walter Sempko, age 90
Retired Priest of the Diocese of Harrisburg

**Investing in Our Present**

“An idea exists that a man gives up his life to become a priest. It may be associated with the sacrifice of not ever being a husband and the father of children, a vocation common to many men. More than giving up my life to be a priest, I found my life as a priest.

Being a priest is gladly being obedient to God’s call to me. I see it as God’s plan for my life. Each priest knows he is truly not worthy of this call, and lives in awe that God called him to this life.

Continuing education for priests is important because in mind and spirit, a priest needs to be challenged to grow ever more deeply in the Catholic faith and to be a better servant to the People of God. Each priest has an obligation not only to himself, but to the ordained priesthood and to his parishioners to be knowledgeable of the Catholic faith tradition and at the same time current with the many issues facing his parishioners individually and collectively.”

~ Msgr. James Lyons
Pastor, St. Joseph Parish, Hanover

**Ministries Budget**

- **Seminarians**
  - $1,339,281
  Gifts provide the room, board and tuition of seminarians from the diocese and for discernment retreats and summer work program for the seminarians. Assistance is also provided for books and medical insurance.

- **Vocations**
  - $117,999
  Gifts fund the work of a director who coordinates vocation programs in parishes and schools. Discernment weekends are also an important part of this ministry.

- **Priests Continuing Formation**
  - $97,310
  Gifts provide for the Office for Continuing Formation of Priests, the director, formation programs and sabbaticals for the priests of the diocese that will assist them in their ministries.

- **Priest Study**
  - $5,000
  Gifts provide for expenses related to graduate studies for priests who continue their formation in specific areas of ministry. Many of these priests return to a ministry directly associated with a diocesan office. These funds also cover tuition, room and board expenses and monthly compensation for the priest.

- **Supplemental Medical Expenses**
  - $100,000
  Gifts cover payment of extraordinary medical expenses for priests.

- **Permanent Diaconate Continuing Formation**
  - $22,950
  Gifts provide deacons formation programs that will assist them in their ministries.

**TOTAL BUDGET: $1,682,540**
Ways to Invest in Our Diocesan Priests and Seminarians

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

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

Visit Our Website
Visit www.hbgdiocese.org/pente for more information or to make a donation via Visa or MasterCard.

“Serving With God’s Strength
Investing in Our Future

“The Pentecost Collection allows the diocese to provide the best formation, that is preparation, for young men who are considering the priesthood. That’s not just limited to – but certainly does include – the academic work: studying the Scriptures, knowing Church history, studying the sacraments, as well as consideration of the various moral and ethical issues that are becoming more and more important as our society confronts and sometimes even pulls away from the classic Christian-Judeo ethics that we’ve had. That academic formation is a significant piece of what we talk about when a man goes to seminary. There is a full course load every semester of various disciplines, as well as pastoral formation. Some of the pastoral formation is hands-on. You do works of charity, visit places like hospitals and schools to take what you’ve learned in the classroom and apply it immediately. Some of it involves seminars and workshops to help us take what we have learned in a very academic way and apply it.

The Pentecost Collection funds all of that, as well as the retreat programs and the very specific spiritual formation that the diocese encourages us to undertake. A priest is obviously first and foremost a man who has encountered Jesus Christ and is called to bring others to Jesus Christ uniquely through the sacraments.

The biggest benefit that I had as a recipient of the Pentecost Collection was the prolonged support of the diocese, to put aside the concerns of finances and focus on my own discernment and preparation, knowing that the people were supporting me so generously. It reminded me that it was part of the relationship; I was giving my life for them, they were giving to me this opportunity to be formed as a man made of mercy.

The Pentecost Collection should remind us of the importance that the call can come to any one of us. The Holy Spirit can speak to our hearts. The Lord is working in and through his Church by calling up some of his members particularly to be a sign of the Gospel through their life of celibacy and imitators of him through their life of service to others.”

~ Father Mark Wilke, Ordained in June 2013
Parochial Vicar, Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Harrisburg

“In our diocese, we are blessed with an increasing number of seminarians. For our Vocations Office, it is like having over 30 sons in college. However, the priesthood is much more than just an education; we have to work just as diligently to become virtuous Catholic men. We are able to offer wonderful opportunities, such as the St. Joseph Program and Wilderness Outreach. These programs help our seminarians prepare, God willing, to be holy priests. It takes a lot of support to balance the quantity of priests needed to minister to the people with the quality of priests needed to build up the Kingdom of God.

For now, my brother seminarians and I keep discerning the Lord’s call in our lives and, God willing, as priests we will be able to bring Christ to the people of our diocese. With today’s culture, the world needs Jesus even more, and the wonderful formation at our seminaries is preparing us to face the evils in our society and work to be true witnesses in our parishes and communities. The most important and most straightforward role of a priest is to bring the sacraments to the faithful. However, with the programs and opportunities available within our diocese and the quality of the seminaries we send to, my brothers and I are striving to be so much more.”

~ Stephen Logue, Seminarian of the Diocese of Harrisburg

Priesthood Ordination of Kyle Sahd
With praise and gratitude to God, the Diocese of Harrisburg joyfully announces the ordination of Kyle Sahd, a son of Holy Trinity Parish in Columbia, to the priesthood.

Ordination Vigil of Prayer
A Holy Hour to pray for Kyle Sahd
Friday, June 27 at 6:00 p.m.
Holy Trinity Church, Columbia

Ordination to the Priesthood
Through the imposition of hands by Bishop Ronald W. Gainer
Saturday, June 28 at 10:00 a.m.
St. Patrick Cathedral, Harrisburg
The Catholic Witness • May 23, 2014

By Jen Reed
The Catholic Witness

The 13th anniversary celebration of Pennsylvania’s Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program proved to be a personal lesson in civics for the hundreds of Pennsylvania students that gathered on the steps of the state Capitol on May 7 to rally for the school choice program.

Among them were 289 students from more than a dozen diocesan schools: St. Patrick’s and St. Joseph’s in York, St. Theresa’s in New Cumberland, Seven Sorrows in Middletown, St. Andrew’s in Waynesboro, Lebanon Catholic, York Catholic, Lancaster Catholic, Our Lady of Lourdes in Coal Township, and Delone Catholic in McSherrystown.

The state’s EITC program provides companies with substantial tax credits for donations they make to non-profit scholarship or educational improvement organizations. Thanks to the program, more than 40,000 students were able to attend the school of their choice this year, and since its inception in 2001, the program has resulted in more than $760 million for scholarships and programming to allow students to attend the school of their choice.

For students at the rally, hosted by the REACH Foundation, the statistics were something certainly worth celebrating.

“These students understand the direct impact that the EITC program has had on themselves and their peers,” Lori Kostow, Director of Advancement and Admissions at Lebanon Catholic School, told The Catholic Witness. “They know that they are a part of this program.”

“The rally left an important footprint on their understanding of the importance of school choice, of giving parents a choice regarding what school they send their children to,” she said. They’ve also come to understand the kindness and generosity of the businesses and government leaders who have been supportive of this program.”

In the last 12 years, more than 3,500 businesses have participated in the program.

The rally included remarks and support from Senator Mike Folmer, Senator Antho-

ny Williams, Representative Jim Christiana, Representative Paul Clymer, Representative Mike Vereb and Otto Banks, executive director of the REACH Foundation, Pennsylvania’s grassroots coalition for school choice.

Lebanon Catholic School was awarded a $500 cash prize for submitting the winning design for this year’s rally T-shirt. “We appreciate Pennsylvania’s commitment to the EITC program,” said Mr. Banks. “The EITC is a testament that school choice works and is well received in Pennsylvania.”

(Businesses interested in participating in the program through the Diocese of Harrisburg’s Neumann Scholarship Foundation should contact Paula Lasecki, Diocesan Director of Development, at 717-657-1984 or plasecki@hbgdiocese.org. For additional information on the REACH Foundation, visit www.paschoolchoice.org.)
Pope Francis will beatify Pope Paul VI Oct. 19 during the closing Mass of the extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the family.

Pope Francis signed a decree May 9 recognizing a miracle attributed to the intercession of Pope Paul, who led the Church from 1963 to 1978, and authorized publication of the Oct. 19 beatification date, according to a Vatican statement May 10.

The miracle involved the birth of a baby in California in the 1990s. The family’s name and city have not been released, but according to news reports, a pregnant woman whose life was at risk along with the life of her baby was advised by doctors to terminate the pregnancy. Instead, she sought prayers from an Italian nun who was a family friend. The nun placed a holy card with Pope Paul’s photograph and a piece of his vestment on the woman’s belly.

The baby was born healthy. For Pope Paul’s saintliness, physicians continued monitoring the child’s health up to the age of 12 and everything was normal.

Pope Paul’s connection with the themes expected to be raised at the synod on the family Oct. 5-19 include the encyclical for which he is expected to be raised at the synod on the family. The 1968 encyclical, usually described as a document affirming the Church’s prohibition against artificial contraception, places that conclusion in the context of Catholic teaching on the beauty and purpose of marriage, married love and procreation.

When St. John XXIII died in 1963, Pope Paul reconvened the Second Vatican Council, presided over the final three of its four sessions and oversaw the promulgation of all of the council’s documents. He also led the process of implementing the council’s reforms.

Pope Paul VI was the first pope in the modern area to travel abroad, visiting Jordan and Israel in January 1964; Lebanon and India in December 1964; the United Nations and New York in October 1965; the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal in May 1967; Turkey in July 1967; Colombia and Bermuda in August 1968; Switzerland in June 1969; Uganda in July-August 1969; and Ireland, Pakistan, the Philippines, Samoa, Australia, Indonesia, Hong Kong and Sri Lanka in November-December 1970.

Born Giovanni Battista Montini in 1897 in the northern Italian province of Brescia, he was ordained to the priesthood in 1920 and was named archbishop of Milan in 1954. Elected pope in 1963, he died at the papal summer villa in Castel Gandolfo Aug. 6, 1978.

The archbishop in charge of the Vatican’s office sponsoring next year’s World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia paid a visit to the city May 13 in typical tourist fashion: by viewing the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall.

Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, president of the Pontifical Council for the Family, was joined by Philadelphia Archbishop Charles J. Chaput and the event co-chairmen, Gov. Tom Corbett and Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter, for the morning review at the Liberty Bell pavilion, then to a private tour of Independence Hall led by National Park Service guides.


He said Pope Francis’ compassion for the needs of people around the world “and his deep care for the institution of the family” were the inspiration for the theme.

“It not only reminds each of us that love should be our life’s mission but that also it is the engine of life,” he said. The pope’s “love that we cite in our theme is a love that we must ensure fills every home and all family members with a unique and invigorating light and warmth.”

Archbishop Paglia, who had met Archbishop Chaput, Corbett and Nutter and the Philadelphia delegation during their trip to Rome in March, appeared to thoroughly enjoy his whirlwind tour.

Asking questions of guides at the historic sites and speaking better-than-adequate English, the Italian archbishop asked May 13 on the Church calendar. It was also the day in 1981 when St. John Paul II as pope founded the Pontifical Council for the Family. He would have announced the news but was wounded by an assassin that same day.

The archbishop said Philadelphia was “important to the history not only of the United States but of the world,” and the fitting place to “celebrate the importance of families.”

He called the Catholic Church “a sign of unity for humanity ... a family of people. Love flows from the family, and this is the great mission for us.”

Regarding the World Meeting of Families itself, no new details were revealed except that “every inch of the [Pennsylvania] Convention Center has been booked,” Archbishop Chaput said.

He, Corbett and Nutter said they expect plans to be firmly in place by this September, including a budget for which fundraising continues.

Pope Francis will beatify Pope Paul VI Oct. 19 during the closing Mass of the extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the family.
Pope Tells U.N. Respect for Life, Solidarity Essential for Development

By Cindy Wooden Catholic News Service

Meeting top officials of the United Nations, Pope Francis called for a “worldwide ethical mobilization” that would push technical programs for justice, peace and development further by promoting respect for human life, “fraternity and solidarity.”

“An important part of humanity does not share in the benefits of progress and is, in fact, relegated to the status of second-class citizens,” the pope said May 9 during a meeting at the Vatican with U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and members of the U.N. System Chief Executives Board for Coordination.

The board includes the directors of 29 specialized agencies and U.N. departments. The Vatican and Catholic organizations around the world work closely with many of them, such as the World Food Program and the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees. However, tensions also have arisen with some of the development agencies, particularly concerning population and food programs and efforts to broaden access to legalized abortion.

While Pope Francis did not dwell on the tensions or mention any of them specifically, he insisted that the promotion of human dignity include a recognition “that life is sacred and inviolable from conception to natural death.”

The pope’s meeting with the board came just days after Vatican representatives were questioned by the U.N. Committee Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment, particularly regarding the Church’s handling of the clerical sexual abuse scandal, but also about the Church’s opposition to abortion in all cases.

During the May 5-6 hearing, Felice Gaer, vice chair of the committee, had said that “laws that criminalize the termination of pregnancy in all circumstances can violate the terms” of the international treaty against torture and inhuman or cruel treatment. Archbishop Silvano Tomasini, the Vatican representative to U.N. agencies in Geneva, responded that the Catholic Church “condemns torture, including for those who are tortured and killed before they are born.”

At the May 9 meeting with the U.N. board members, Pope Francis said improving the lives and health of all the world’s people “involves challenging all forms of injustice and rejecting the ‘economy of exclusion,’ the ‘throw-away culture’ and the ‘culture of death,’ which nowadays sadly risk becoming passively accepted.”

The U.N.-coordinated Millennium Development Goals made significant progress in decreasing extreme poverty and improving education levels in many countries, the pope said, but “it must be kept in mind that the world’s problems conserve and expect even greater results.”

The key to continued improvement, he said, is to address “the structural causes of poverty and hunger, attain more substantial results in protecting the environment, ensure dignified and productive labor for all and provide appropriate protection for the family, which is an essential element in sustainable human and social development.”

Progress requires the cooperation of governments, international agencies, scientists and technicians, he said, but it will not occur without a broad commitment of individuals to solidarity.

“The gaze, often silent, of that part of the human family which is cast off, left behind, is often a sign of a sequence of political, economic and social agents and lead them to generous and courageous decisions,” he said.

The pope also said that people need to recognize that the spiritual, intellectual and material goods “which God’s providence has placed in our hands” are meant to be shared, including through charitable aid and the “legitimate redistribution of economic benefits by the state.”

Be Open to Newness Offered by the Holy Spirit, Pope Says

By Carol Glatz Catholic News Service

Christians who are too serious and gloomy have the Holy Spirit missing from their lives, Pope Francis said.

Be meek and open to the Spirit and don’t fight the unexpected newness he brings, the pope said May 13 during his early morning Mass at the Domus Sanctae Marthae.

People who think they can and do know everything won’t be able to understand God, he said in his homily, according to a report by Vatican Radio. Jesus always had trouble with people of that kind of religious intellectuals who “believed that religion was only about texts and laws,” he said.

“The doors were closed to them, all that was necessary was to ‘fulfill the commandments and nothing more. They didn’t imagine the Holy Spirit existed,’” the pope said.

As a result, all they did was demand explanations from Jesus, he said. “They wanted to debate. Everything was about the intellect,” and there was no “heart, everything was about the head, everything was about the doctrine,” he said.

It never mattered what Jesus said from the people of God, the pope said. “They wanted to debate. Everything was about the intellect,” and there was no “heart, everything was about the head, everything was about the doctrine,” he said.

Jesus told them they had turned their backs on and separated themselves from the people of God, the pope said. “They ‘built up a whole system of commandments that banished people’ and drove them out of the Church.”

These “aristocrats of the intellect” weren’t stubborn; it was worse and “more dangerous,” the pope said. They had hearts that were closed and hardened against the Holy Spirit, which is “the sin of resisting” him.

God wants people to have hearts that are meek and open to the Spirit, like many of the early pagan converts who received the Gospel, as told in the day’s first reading, Acts 11:19-26.

Those preaching the Gospel far from Jerusalem let the Spirit do its work, bringing the word and opening “the doors to the Greeks, the pagans” – communities considered “impure” and unworthy of God.

But the Holy Spirit acts on those who are “mild, kind, humble and open to the Spirit,” he said. Even though people may not be able to see it with their own eyes, “the Holy Spirit is acting in the Church today, acting in our lives.”

Pope Francis asked people to pray for the grace of being open to the Holy Spirit so that they can move forward, “being creative, being joyful.”

Let the “grace of meekness and the Holy Spirit help us defend ourselves from that other, evil spirit of being self-sufficient, proud, arrogant” and having a heart hardened against God, which nowadays sadly risk becoming passively accepted.”

The U.N.-coordinated Millennium Development Goals made significant progress in decreasing extreme poverty and improving education levels in many countries, the pope said, but “it must be kept in mind that the world’s problems conserve and expect even greater results.”

The key to continued improvement, he said, is to address “the structural causes of poverty and hunger, attain more substantial results in protecting the environment, ensure dignified and productive labor for all and provide appropriate protection for the family, which is an essential element in sustainable human and social development.”

Progress requires the cooperation of governments, international agencies, scientists and technicians, he said, but it will not occur without a broad commitment of individuals to solidarity.

“The gaze, often silent, of that part of the human family which is cast off, left behind, is often a sign of a sequence of political, economic and social agents and lead them to generous and courageous decisions,” he said.

The pope also said that people need to recognize that the spiritual, intellectual and material goods “which God’s providence has placed in our hands” are meant to be shared, including through charitable aid and the “legitimate redistribution of economic benefits by the state.”

Pope Tells Priests Show Mercy, Tells Faithful, Petest Your Priests

By Carol Glatz Catholic News Service

Always be merciful, just like Jesus, who came to forgive, not condemn, Pope Francis told new priests.

“Always have in front of your eyes the example of the Good Shepherd, who didn’t come to be served, but to serve and to look for and save those who were lost,” he said in his homily May 11, the World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

The pope’s remarks came during an ordination Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica where the pope ordained 13 new priests.

Pope Francis reminded the men that they were called by Jesus to continue his mission as teacher, priest and shepherd, and to serve the Church and the people of God.

He urged them to read, reflect on and teach the word of God and to be a living example of what they preach.

“Nourish God’s people with his word and doctrine, ‘which isn’t yours. You prod your priest to remind him to give you the milk of doctrine, the milk of the church had been closed in their face. Please, don’t do this!’”

Later in the day, the pope told those gathered in St. Peter’s Square for the Regina Coeli to pray that God “helps us parents to teach our children and to guide his children with wisdom and love.

Often the faithful need to point and prod their priest to remind him to give them God’s guidance and support, he added.

“Pester your priests!” he said, much like a baby calf pesters its mother for milk and nourishment.

Pope Francis highlighted a metaphor used by St. Caesarius of Arles in the sixth century in which priests graze the fields of Scriptures, nourishing themselves on the rich teachings in order to – in turn – provide spiritual nourishment for their children.

The saint explained how the people of God have to fuss and nudge their priest to give them the “milk” of the Word of God, much like a calf nudges and “pushes its nose against the cow’s udder to get the milk flowing. It’s a beautiful image!” the pope said.

This saint says that “you must be with priests: always knocking on their door, on their heart so that they give you the milk of doctrine, the milk of the words of Christ, the words of guidance.”

“Bother them, all of us priests,” he said, like the calf “pesters the mother to give it something to eat.”

The pope said those people gathered in the square to pray for vocations.

“Let us pray so that, even today, lots of young people hear the Lord’s voice, which always risks being drowned out by so many other voices.”
Holy Spirit Health System in Camp Hill is offering free CPR classes for community members on June 7 & Holy Spirit Hospital’s auditors will also be in attendance. This class is designed to teach participants the skills needed to successfully resuscitate the victim of cardiopulmonary arrest and to relieve a foreign body airway obstruction. Participants will learn to identify the signs and symptoms of cardiac arrest, perform CPR, mouth-to-mouth, airway, and cardiac arrest, and how to correctly use an automated external defibrillator (AED) for adults and children. "BLS for Healthcare Providers" will be offered from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. This course is designed for healthcare providers. The "Heartsaver AED" class is designed for community members. This course is intended to teach the lay rescuer. Participants may elect to take the test for their certification and/or CPR. This class begins at 9 a.m. After successfully completing the course, each participant will receive a course completion card. To register for these classes, call 717-972-4202. Please be on time, as early as possible. If you’d like to schedule a group CPR class for your business or organization, call 717-972-4262.

Retreats & Pilgrimages

Travel with Father Timothy McMorris of Christ the King Parish in Berwick, Pennsylvania, and James Parish in Lititz May 30 and June 1 with Proximo Travel from May 21-June 2, 2015. Visit Paris, Lourdes, Lourdes, Fatima, the Shrine of Montserrat and Barcelona. Cost is $4,499, airfare and all-included. Find more information at www.proximotravel.com or contact Father McMorris for more details at 570-339-1031.

Tuscany Catholic Summer Camp will hold its 21st annual week of faith, family, and fun from June 22-27 in Italy. This camp is for children in grades 4-12 at Rhodes Grove Camp July 28-31. It is located off Route 11 between Greenwich and Chambersburg. Campers come from parishes across the Diocese of Harrisburg and the Archdiocese of Baltimore. Rhodes Grove functions year-round as a conference center with its own food, maintenance, and Poland Presbyterian Church and York Catholic High School volunteer, staff includes priests, sisters, a nurse, and lay persons, both married and single to lead and oversee camp activities. The daily program includes Mass and religious activities along with swimming, water sports, high tower rope swing, tennis, horseriding, crafts, and rides. Cost will be $250 per week. For further information and an application, contact Sister Margo Montana, CCH, 110 South Third Street, McConnellsburg, PA 17232, or tkamorgan@comcast.net.

The 36th annual Corpus Christi Men’s Retreat will be held Aug. 1-3 at St. Mary’s University in Emmitsburg, Md. The theme is "Pope Francis and the New Evangelism." The retreat is sponsored by the Archdiocese of Baltimore and offered by the Archdiocesan Office of Marriage, Family Life and Youth. For more information, contact Sister Anne Marie, SSCM, 717-285-6539 or amselman@comcast.net.

The 3rd Annual Mitre Cup Golf Tournament on June 16 at Regents’ Glen. Registration closes May 27. For more information, or to receive a registration form, call Scott Clenti at 717-507-6508 for details and tickets.

Education, Enrichment & Support

StAnnesRetirementCommunity.com.

- The Catholic

- 13

May 23, 2014 • The Catholic Witness • 13
Catholic Perspective

Catholic Perspective is produced in cooperation with the Office of Communications of the Diocese of AM 720 WHYF. It can be heard Mondays at noon and Sundays at 3 p.m. on AM 720 WHYF and on Sunday mornings on WLAN-AM 1390. It can also be heard on line at www.oldiesradio1620.com at 6:30 a.m. and at www.wisl1480.com in Lebanon, at 7 a.m.; and WWEC-FM 88.3, Elizabethtown, at 9:30 a.m. It is also available on line at www.hbgdiocese.org.

A big “Thank You” to all who contributed to Holy Family Radio AM 720 WHYF on Sunday at 11 a.m. It can also be heard on line at www.OldiesRadio1620.com at 6:30 a.m. and at www.WISL1480.com in Lebanon, at 7 a.m.; and WWEC-FM 88.3, Elizabethtown, at 9:30 a.m. It is also available on line at www.hbgdiocese.org.

Catholic Communication Campaign

The Catholic Communication Campaign is proceeding to bring Catholic radio to Central Pennsylvania. To support it, mail in your pledge during their recent Spring Radiothon. The fundraiser helps the independent non-profit radio station to pay their operating expenses. Please remember to mail in your pledge to Holy Family Radio, P.O. Box 6028, Lancaster, PA 17607-6028. Your prayerful and financial support continues to bring Catholic radio to Central Pennsylvania.

REMEMBER Our Deceased Clergy

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

Father Stanley Laurinaitis, 1989
Father Gerard Heim, 1991
Msgr. George Lentocha, 1997
Father John Smith, 1999
Msgr. Hubert J. McGuire, 2003
Father John Canfield, 2010
Father Richard P. Waldron, 2011

St. Leo the Great School Introduces Community Garden

A grant from the Whole Kids Foundation was recently awarded to St. Leo the Great School in Rohrerstown to implement a community garden on school grounds. The 7th grade STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics) class designed the garden and provided a computer aided drawing for the grant application. Mrs. Christine Mclean, school principal, along with Mrs. Susan Veldheer, school parent, wrote the successful grant proposal.

The grant requires a community partner, and St. Leo’s was Staufker’s of Kissing Hill Farm’s pledged funds dedicated to the school garden. Staufker’s of Kissing Hill chose St. Leo’s as a partner with St. Leo’s as a partner with the school and parish to help to provide the community and help to get children involved in gardening.

The grant budget includes purchase of a science/math curriculum from LifeLab for pre-school through 5th grade, materials to build an outdoor community bulletin and chalk board for garden seating area, materials for construction of three compartment composting bins, and materials to build a three-tiered grow light stand for the classrooms to grow their plants.

Henry Womble, a graduate of St. Leo’s, and his troop built the garden beds as a part of his Eagle Scout project.

Classes have been adopted beds and are responsible for garden maintenance and harvesting. Curriculum from LifeLab will be used to formally integrate the garden into additional classrooms. An after-school garden club has already been implemented at St. Leo’s, which involves students for 10 to 15 minutes immediately following the school day in the garden club will assist in planning, caring for, harvesting, and fund-raising for the garden. The garden club members will learn to be environmental stewards while working on beautification projects on the school grounds.

The school will also hold cafeteria tastings, in which produce harvested during school months will be distributed in the cafeteria for all students. Additionally, parent-led Nutritional Education will be held and garden produce will be sampled in the classrooms by parents trained by registered dietitians.

Michelle Zachary, a school parent, is leading the charge for the in-school composting program, and the grant helps fund this effort. Zachary stated, “With the help of Henry Womble, we were able to have raised gardens built ready for planting, classroom engagement, and the first step in a very big vision for any of the classes in the school. The beds are warming under a grow light built by school parent, Neil Veldheer. One of the next pieces of the project is the compost bin. We will be working with the entire school to start a composting program in the fall and we will minimize our actual garbage weight. The garden club will then help to maintain the three-bin compost system. Eventually, we will use the soil for the gardens as well as share with the school and parish gardens. We also hope to involve school and parish families by allowing them to drop of their scraps or take compost when needed. Though small now, we hope to share the fruits and veggies of the students labor with the school and parish.

Holy Spirit Health System to Host Lectures for Women

Over the next seven months, Holy Spirit’s Spirit of Women in Camp Hill will host workshops that focus on common women’s health concerns.

The Change: Before, During & After Menopause: June 14 from 9-11:30 a.m. This workshop is for women of all ages. Staff will explain what’s going on in your mind and body. There will be group discussions which are open to the public.

A Tour of Orthopedic Conditions: July 19 from 9-11:30 a.m. Our first stop is “Greece,” where you will learn more about orthopedic conditions. Our presenter will cover the dangers of shoulder injuries, stress fractures, ACL tears, knee pain, plus arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, bursitis, and osteoprosis. This trip concludes with a Tai Chi class.

Chart a Path Against Diabetes: September 20 from 9-11:30 a.m. As we land in “Spain,” attendees will learn about diabetes, including personal risk factors and lifestyle changes. We’ll be treated to a cooking class focused on traditional Spanish cuisine but modified for healthy living.

Your Destination for Preventing & Recognizing Gynecological Cancers: November 15 from 9-11:30 a.m. The final stop on our passport happens in “France,” where we will learn to recognize the early symptoms of gynecological cancers. Our final overseas activity is a gentle Vinyasa yoga class. Though not French in origin, yoga’s physical, psychological, and emotional health benefits have been shown to successfully help treat women already diagnosed with this disease.

To register for any of these workshops, visit www.hsh.org/spirit-of-women. These workshops are open only to Spirit of Women members. Spirit of Women membership is free, and anyone interested in becoming a member can sign up online at www.hsh.org/spirit-of-women. All workshops will be held in Holy Spirit Hospital’s Auditorium, 503 North 21st Street, Camp Hill. If you have questions, call the Spirit of Women office at 717-972-4149.

Summer Camp for Catholic Boy Scouts and Sclouers

July 19-25, 2015 • Camp Tuckahoe, Dillsburg

The Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting is going to summer camp, and invites Boy Scouts and Scouters to come along! Plan now to join in what promises to be an exciting and faith-affirming week. Space is expected to fill quickly for this first-ever DCSS event. An early registration waiting-list will open June 1, 2014, and reservations will be confirmed starting in August.

This week will include all of the traditional Scouting activities, events and advancement opportunities and is open to Scouts of all faiths. Details about the Catholic activities to be offered, and the registration process, are now available on the DCSS website, students.under the Youth tab of the diocese website, www.hbgdiocese.org. Or, contact Patrick McCormack at patrick.a.mccormack@gmail.com for more information.
Fighting Irish Girls Win Lax Championship

By Chris Heisey
The Catholic Witness

In the York Adams Area League, the team to beat in girls’ lacrosse in recent history has been the Kennard-Dale Rams, who have lost only one league game in the past six years. And they have won more league championships than any other York County school, including the last two against York Catholic. But on a beautiful, sunny, May 8, the Fighting Irish had a statement win when they beat the Rams 14-12 to win the coveted league championship played at Susquehannock High School in southern York County. The Fighting Irish had lost their last 15 contests against the Rams prior to the 2014 championship match.

The Fighting Irish avenged their two regular season losses to the Rams – one in overtime and the other a narrow two-goal loss – to win the championship. The Fighting Irish had a balanced scoring attack with five players scoring multiple goals; however, the Irish were led by Shannon Moore’s hat trick, and she was the leading scorer throughout the season.

York Catholic moved onto the District 3 tournament, where they won the first round game against Lower Dauphin before falling to Cumberland Valley in the second round last week. They finished their outstanding season at 16-3, along with a county championship trophy.

Trinity Boys’ Lacrosse Finishes Great Season

By Chris Heisey
The Catholic Witness

Playing lacrosse in the Mid-Penn Conference’s Keystone or Commonwealth division means looking up to perennial favorites Carlisle and Hershey – two programs that most years battle to win the conference championship. This season was no different, with Hershey eventually winning the league title over the Thundering Herd.

But neither one of those teams can look past Coach Dave Heisey’s Trinity Shamrocks – a highly skilled yet very physical team that has been competitive against the two aforementioned titans in recent years.

The Shamrocks made it into the 2014 District 3 tournament – no easy feat, given the fact that only 16 teams of all classes make the field. The eighth-seed Shamrocks battled ninth-seed West York in the first round in a see-saw game that featured six lead changes before the Bulldogs pulled away with five unanswered goals early in the fourth to down the Shamrocks 11-9 at Trinity’s COBO Field. When you are beaten in the ground ball war, at the face-off x and spend more time in the penalty box, it is very difficult to win lacrosse games, and West York was better at each on May 13 to get the better of Trinity.

For the Rocks, it was a disappointing end to a great 14-4 season, and given they had beaten West York rather handily in the regular season, there was reason to believe they could advance to the second round against District 3 powerhouse and number one seed Wilson. Late in the season though, the Rocks were slowed by several key injuries and losses at the midfield which clearly hurt their depth – a crucial factor to winning close May playoff games.
Christ’s ascent to heaven is depicted in a stained-glass window at St. Therese of Lisieux Church in Montauk, N.Y. The feast of the Ascension, observed May 29 this year, celebrates the completion of Christ’s mission on earth and his entry into heaven.

In Memory

On Memorial Day, we pause to remember the men and women who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. The Church professes hope in the face of death because of Christ’s Resurrection, comforts those who mourn, and buries the dead with care.

Prayer For Deceased Veterans

O God, by whose mercy the faithful departed find rest, look kindly on your departed veterans who gave their lives in the service of their country. Grant that through the passion, death, and resurrection of your Son they may share in the joy of your heavenly kingdom and rejoice in you with your saints forever.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

(www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship)

Ascension Thursday ~ May 29

“What, then, is the meaning of Christ’s ‘ascension into heaven’? It expresses our belief that in Christ the humanity in which we all share has entered into the inner life of God in a new and hitherto unheard of way. It means that man has found an everlasting place in God. Heaven is not a place beyond the stars, but something much greater, something that requires far more audacity to assert: Heaven means that man now has a place in God.

The basis for this assertion is the interpenetration of humanity and divinity in the crucified and exalted man Jesus. Christ, the man who is in God and eternally one with God, is at the same time God’s abiding openness to all human beings. Thus, Jesus himself is what we call ‘heaven;’ heaven is not a place but a person, the person of him in whom God and man are forever and inseparable one. And we go to heaven and enter into heaven to the extent that we go to Jesus Christ and enter into him. In this sense, ‘ascension into heaven’ can be something that takes place in our everyday lives.”

~ “Dogma and Preaching,” by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, Pope Benedict XVI

CHRIS HEISEY, THE CATHOLIC WITNESS