Cardinal Esteems Service, Sacrifice at ‘Come and See’ Dinner

By Jen Reed
The Catholic Witness

Armed forces chaplain and current Grand Master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, Cardinal Edwin O’Brien paralleled sacrifices made in humanitarian service to the works of Catholic Charities in a keynote address at the annual “Come and See” Dinner.

The event, now in its 12th year, raises funds to support Catholic Charities’ Homes for Healing: the Interfaith Shelter for Homeless Families, Lourdeshouse Maternity Home for women and their babies, and Evergreen House for women recovering from addiction.

Catholic Charities tends to the needs of men, women and children, regardless of their age, race or religious belief.

“Catholic Charities is open to all those who are looking for help,” Cardinal O’Brien
Celebrating a solemn Mass of Ordination to the Diaconate at St. Patrick Cathedral in Harrisburg on Nov. 5, Bishop Ronald Gainer told the two seminarians receiving the sacrament that as they take on the threefold service of ministry of the Word, of the Altar and of Charity, their personal holiness is indispensable.

“Recall the words Jesus spoke to his disciples at the Last Supper, proclaimed in today’s Gospel: ‘You are my friends if you do what I command you. I appointed you to go and bear fruit that will last,’” he told Matthew Morelli and Peter Quach, addressing them during the homily.

“This friendship with Jesus, which he has initiated and to which he has called you, must be the heart and the goal of your personal holiness,” the bishop said. Deacon Morelli is a native of St. Joan of Arc Parish in Hershey, and Deacon Quach is a member of Holy Family Parish in Harrisburg. As they prepare, God willing, for ordination to the priesthood next spring, they will serve in their diaconal ministry where they have been canonically assigned: Deacon Morelli at St. Patrick Parish in Carlisle, and Deacon Quach at St. Joseph Parish in Mechanicsburg.

The order of deacons can be traced to the Acts of the Apostles, to several young men chosen to correct the injustice of an unequal distribution of food for those in need. Today, deacons assist in the Ministry of the Word, the Ministry of the Altar and the Ministry of Charity; offer instruction on the Church’s doctrine, preside over public prayer, baptize, assist at marriages, bring viaticum to the dying, and conduct the funeral rites of the Church.

“By the grace of this sacrament, the deacon is empowered to incarnate that Christ-like service in his own life, and to challenge the rest of us to serve more authentically, more willingly,” the bishop said. Addressing the candidates, he told them, “You will exercise this sacred ministry in a transitional way as you continue your formation toward ordination to the sacred priesthood, but this commission to selfless service must abide with you always.”

Receiving this sacrament, the new deacons also embrace the state of celibacy, which, the bishop said, must be understood in the context of the virtue of chastity.

Celibacy is freely embracing a life of chastity, he said. “It does not mean that you live the rest of your lives as a solitary figure, aloof and detached from human relationships,” he told the candidates. “Rather, as one who desires to grow in Christ’s love and to radiate that love, you are determined to allow the selfless, chaste love of Christ to govern all your relationships.”

“Today, you are being given the capacity to perform the diaconal ministry through sacred ordination,” Bishop Gainer told them. “However, the manner in which you exercise your ministry will, in large part, depend upon your personal holiness.”

Deacon Morelli and Deacon Quach are completing their formation at Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md., and St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Overbrook, Pa., respectively.

Candidates Matthew Morelli and Peter Quach stand before the altar during the Entrance Procession.

Deacon Matthew Morelli incenses the altar during the Mass of Ordination to the Diaconate at St. Patrick Cathedral in Harrisburg.

Through the laying on of hands and the consecratory prayer that followed, Peter Quach is ordained to the order of the diaconate.
Diocesan Autism Awareness Team Equipped to Offer Strategies to Teachers, Schools

By Jen Reed
The Catholic Witness

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, one out of every 68 children is identified with autism spectrum disorder, a group of developmental disabilities characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behavior, speech and nonverbal communication.

Ever mindful and committed to the mission of forming children in mind, body and spirit, the Diocesan Department for Catholic Schools has assembled an Autism Awareness Team of teachers and principals trained and prepared to assist their peers in the education of students who have been diagnosed on the spectrum.

“A student’s diagnosis doesn’t mean that we change the academic rigor. Rather, we find ways to get the student to where he or she needs to be in order to succeed,” said Angela Heinick, Chairperson of the Instructional Support Committee for the Diocese and Director of Pupil Services at Trinity High School in Camp Hill.

She has been engaged in instructional support for 18 years.

“In this role, I want to know, ‘Are we educating students with autism the way we should be?’ Am I advising teachers correctly? How do we educate our teachers to be prepared for students on the spectrum?” In a Catholic school, we are charged to teach all children,” she said.

In an effort to educate its teachers about autism, the diocese partnered several years ago with Neumann University in Aston, Pa., to provide online training for qualified teachers to receive an Autism Spectrum Disorder endorsement.

The Instructional Support program in diocesan schools enables the schools to serve a broad range of children; the training provides educators with additional tools to teach students of all ages who have been diagnosed on the autism spectrum.

A group of 13 teachers and principals graduated from the two-year program last year, and ten are enrolled in the current session. The 12-credit program focuses on assessment and research-based strategies with an emphasis on skill development and behavioral modifications for students.

Mrs. Heinick one of the instructors for the Neumann online endorsement program.

With 13 teachers who have earned the endorsement and a second cohort currently in session, the group is now offering itself as a resource for individual teachers and schools with the formation of the Autism Awareness Team.

The team can provide in-service workshops, feedback following classroom observations, and help in fostering relationships between parents and schools for the students’ success.

“Knowledge and awareness of autism are our best tools so that teachers are better able to educate every one of our students — each a unique and beloved child of God,” said Mrs. Kukay. “The most important lesson that I share with my colleagues is autism does not define the child, so don’t define the child by autism. Of God,” said Mrs. Kukay. “The most important lesson that I share with my colleagues is autism does not define the child, so don’t define the child by autism. Love the child and they will succeed!”

She has been engaged in instructional support for 18 years.

She was motivated by personal experiences: an older sister was diagnosed with autism as an adult after struggling her entire life, and a nephew was diagnosed at age three.

“I use information gained in the program on a daily basis,” she said. “The strategies and skills we learned are beneficial to all students across grades.”

Since undergoing the training, Mrs. Kukay has presented a summary course to the faculty at St. Patrick School on the signs of autism, and strategies to take when faced with a challenging situation. She has also been a third-party observer for teachers seeking guidance with a student.

Dagny Heidig is one of two teachers at St. Leo the Great School in Roberstown — the other is Michele Damiano — who are in the current training program. Like many of her peers in the group, she joined because of a personal connection: her nephew was diagnosed with Asperger syndrome when he was three years old.

“The autism spectrum is now so wide and covers such a multitude of different diagnoses; as teachers, we see more children who might not necessarily be officially diagnosed, but the signs are still there,” said Mrs. Heidig, a third-grade teacher.

“I feel that the benefits from being a part of this cohort will allow me to be more aware of the needs that my students with autism might have. At times, I have found that an accommodation for the child with autism has actually helped the entire class,” she observed.

The Autism Awareness Team serves as a resource that can offer strategies to teachers at all grade levels.

“What we bring is support for the teachers. They are dedicated, and they will find a way to give students what they need to achieve,” Mrs. Heinick remarked. “They value every child sitting in front of them in the classroom.”

“Knowledge and awareness of autism are our best tools so that teachers are better able to educate every one of our students — each a unique and beloved child of God,” said Mrs. Kukay. “The most important lesson that I share with my colleagues is autism does not define the child, so don’t define the child by autism. Love the child and they will succeed!”

(For more information about the Autism Awareness Team and how they can support you school or classroom, contact Angela Heinick at aheinick@thsrocks.us.)

Thank You for Your Donations to Hurricane Emergency Collections

The Diocese of Harrisburg extends its gratitude for the generous donations that the people of the parishes donated to the special Collections for Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma Relief that were taken up in recent weeks. As reported in the Oct. 13 edition of The Witness, the total amount collected for Hurricane Harvey Relief was $780,087.55. Additionally, the total amount collected for Hurricane Irma Relief was $408,974.82. Thank you for your prayerful and financial support of the victims of these disasters.

Diocesan Autism Awareness Team

To report suspected abuse of a minor, call the toll free PA Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-932-0313
To report suspected abuse of a minor by a church official, employee or volunteer, also please call the Diocese of Harrisburg Youth Protection Hotline: 1-800-626-1608 or email: ReportAbuse@hbgdiocese.org
Para reportar la sospecha del abuso de un menor, llame al número de teléfono gratuito Línea de Ayuda Abuso del Niño Pennsyl vania 1-800-932-0313
Para reportar la sospecha del abuso de un menor a manos de un oficial, empleado o voluntario de la iglesia, también llame al número de teléfono gratuito de ayuda diocesana: 1-800-626-1608 o envíe correo electrónico: ReportAbuse@hbgdiocese.org

Bishop Gainer’s Public Calendar

- November 11 – Celebrant and Homilist at Diocesan Catechetical Conference, Cardinal Keeler Center, Harrisburg, 9:15 a.m.
- November 18 – Institution of Lectors for Permanent Diaconate Candidates, St. Catherine Laboure Church, Harrisburg, 9 a.m.; Celebrant and Homilist at Diocesan Mass Celebrating the Gifts of People with Disabilities, St. Joseph Church, Mechanicsburg, 5 p.m.
- November 19 – Celebrant and Homilist at Mass and blessing of Parish Office and Convent, St. Joan of Arc Church, Hershey, noon.
- November 20 – Speaker at Adult Forum, “Bible Study with the Bishop,” Saint John Herr Estate Retirement Community, Columbia, 7 p.m.
Job Opening ~ Cemetery Maintenance and Service
Part-Time (up to 28 hours per week) Vacancy
Resurrection Cemetery, 116 S. Oak Grove Rd., Harrisburg, PA 17112
This position has the possibility of becoming full-time in April 2018. Applicants must have high school graduation. Equipment that will be used: tractor, pickup, mowers, and a variety of small equipment related to cemetery maintenance and operation. Backhoe experience advantageous. Must be a good team player who is able to take direction and demonstrate tact, courtesy and diplomacy.
Applicant must have valid, clean PA driver's license. Work is performed both outdoors and outdoors. This is a manual position requiring physical fitness with the ability to lift (up to 50 lbs. regularly and 100 lbs. occasionally), bend, stoop, climb and be mobile (on your feet) for most of the day. Applicants must be able to work in all weather conditions to tight deadlines.
Inquiries and résumé with letter should be sent to: TShanabrook@hbgdiocese.org or 717-545-4205

Job Openings ~ Cemetery Maintenance and Service
Full-Time Vacancy and Part-Time (up to 29 hours per week) Vacancy
Gate of Heaven Cemetery, 1313 York St., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
Applicants must have skills in grounds maintenance. The ability to operate a backhoe is highly desirable. Other equipment that will be used: tractor, pick-up, mowers and a variety of small equipment related to cemetery maintenance and operation. Must be a good team player who is able to take direction and demonstrate tact, courtesy and diplomacy.
Applicants must have valid, clean PA driver's license. Work is performed both outdoors and indoors. This is a manual position requiring physical fitness with the ability to lift (up to 50 lbs. regularly and 100 lbs. occasionally), bend, stoop, climb and be mobile (on your feet) for most of the day. Applicants must be able to work in all weather conditions to tight deadlines.
Résumé and cover letter should be sent to: TBransky@hbgdiocese.org or Human Resources Department 4800 Union Deposit Rd. Harrisburg, PA 17111

The Extraordinary Give is November 17
Support Catholic Charities & Holy Family Radio
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Harrisburg and Holy Family Radio will be participating in this year’s Extraordinary Give Day on Friday, November 17, from 12:01 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. This is a full day of online giving! Log on to www.ExtraGive.org to help these 2 fine area charities with a minimum donation of $25. You can also long on to their individual websites, www.ccbgh.org and www.720whyf.com and click on the link to ExtraGive.org. For each donation they will receive a portion of the half-million-dollar stretch pool. Catholic Charities is listed under the Human Services category and Holy Family Radio will be listed in the Education category.
You do not have to live in Lancaster County to donate to the Extraordinary Give. It is Lancaster County’s Largest Day of Giving. For the past five years, the Extraordinary Give has raised $22.5 million for more than 500 organizations! This year, on November 17, every dollar donated at ExtraGive.org will be stretched with at least $1 for every $1 donated. Catholic Charities will go head-to-head with the half-million-dollar stretch pool.

God before Us
By Sister Geralyn Schmidt, SCC
Special to The Witness
It never ceases to amaze me the gifts and talents of the faithful people with whom I work here at the Diocesan Center. One woman volunteers her time as a trainer for Susquehanna Service Dogs. She trains dogs to work with people with disabilities. Each dog is individually trained for the specific needs of his or her future owner. It is unbelievable to meet a mere pup who is basically house trained and watch him or her grow into a dog that is totally centered on his owner. Yes, in the beginning, the young dog in training is totally focused on the individual who is carrying a bag of treats. As they grow, their training becomes more intense and specific. As they grow, these dogs are focused on one thing only: helping their owner. Their loyalty is shown in the way of their duty. NOTHING!
I could not help but think about this when I came across a blog entitled, “How to Please God.” Henry Karlson, its author, writes, “It is, however, the fear of God which best motivates us, rather, it is the love of God and keeping God in front of us, in our mind’s eye, with the lens of love is far better for us than merely fearing God’s wrath for our sins. Far greater than fear, love will motivate us to seek after and follow God wherever he should lead us; with love, we will sacrifice ourselves for our beloved. Christ, and then find ourselves restored in his resurrection, greater than we would be if we tried to hold on to ourselves and preserve ourselves in the form we exist apart from such self-sacrificial love… At the heart of love is this giving over of the self to the beloved, and so to remember God and keep him before us, is to be before us our beloved with the passionate embrace of love that will bring us to him.1
Before I begin writing about idols that we find in our society and in our hearts, we need to know, as well as own in the core of our being, that essentially, we have been created out of love by God. Nothing, absolutely nothing, should come before that love relationship. But, you might be thinking, “How does a Catholic Christian put God first and respond to his love?” To answer that question, I came across a blog by Leisa Andlinger, an author for Our Sunday Visitor, who wrote the Ten Steps about putting God first. These steps are Leisa’s, the explanations are mine.
Begin with a reality check – The journey to own God’s love begins with a personal inventory. How have we responded to God’s love? Are we going through the motions, or do we have our heart in the right place? Do we hunger after an ever-deepening relationship with Him? If not, why not? We are all called to ponder these questions.
Pay Attention – God lavishly pours out his love to us, often in tiny things. Are we aware of His “whispers” in the humdrum of our life? If we are truly blind to His bountiful gifts, then pray for the gift of a heightened awareness. If only we would open our hearts to these gentle “love pokes,” God will make his presence known to us.
Give Out of Love – This title reminds me of 1 John 4:20 which says, “Those who say, ‘I love God,’ and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen.” This requires action not spawned by duty but a heart that is willing to be poured out for another. This is indeed love in action. In addition, when we serve others by pouring ourselves out, we mimic the union of the Trinity and heaven comes to earth!
Pray – I was recently asked by a young woman, “How does one pray?” I responded to her, “How do you hang with your best friend?” She said, “Spend time with her, talk to her, and listen to her as well.” I responded, “Prayer strengthens a relationship with God. Do the same thing!” Yes, it’s that simple!
I went on to explain to my young friend that there are two kinds of prayer in which one can participate: occupational prayer and spousal prayer. Occupational prayer is prayer that is said while you are doing something else. Your attention is not totally focused on God, but you are indeed praying. It’s prayer that we say during the course of our day. Spousal prayer is time spent, at least 20 minutes every day, talking and praying to God; in other words, time spent being wrapped in God’s love, as individuals deeply in love with each other.
Focus Time, Attention and Activity – God created us as embodied spirits. What we do with our bodies affects our focus and attention to God. Our actions also reveal who we truly are. When we are committed to deepening our love relationship with God, our actions, our words, the way we treat others, even the way we respect our planet all change. We begin to see Him in everything and everyone. It is as if we are seeing with new eyes, hearing with new ears and speaking with a new voice. This transformation leads to a deep and never ending hope that leads to joy.
So think of the five above as tiny pieces of kibble that my co-worker uses to train her dogs. With each piece, her dog’s behavior changes so it can become a dog that serves. Now, I am not calling any of our loved ones a puppy. But, by faithfully practicing the five items above and the ones that will appear in my next article, your heart and your being will serve only the One who created you! NOTHING will get in the way of that service! 2
http://www.pather.com/blogs/henrykarlson/2017/01/how-to-please-god/
(Sister of Christian Charity, Geralyn Schmidt, is the Wide Area Network Coordinator at the Diocese of Harrisburg and the Director of Formation for Wives in the Diaconate Program. An educator for 30 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.)

The Catholic Witness
The Newspaper of the Diocese of Harrisburg
Telephone 717-657-4504 ext. 201
717-657-4690 FAX
Email: witness@hbgdiocese.org
Website: www.hbgdiocese.org
Yearly Subscriptions: $8.15 per family. Derived from diocesan revenues from the parish. Other $12.00.
Moving? Send us the address label from The Catholic Witness, plus your NEW address including zip code. Please allow three weeks for the change.
We know earthly death is not the end, but rather the door through which we must pass to gain eternal life. Because of our belief and hope in the Resurrection, we can face death not with fear, but with preparation. And in order to do so comprehensively, the following considerations are provided as starting points for understanding and preparing for this transition, whether it is imminent or not.

**Now and at the Hour of Our Death**

We prepare for eternal life by choosing to love and follow God now, in our daily lives and decisions. For example, through prayer and regular reception of the sacraments, especially Confession and the Eucharist, we obtain grace to live in ever-deeper communion with our Creator in lives of faith, charity, and justice. We entrust ourselves to her in accord with our Catholic faith and Church teaching.

**Forming Our Consciences**

Our journey with Christ naturally includes equipping our consciences to make morally good judgments and acting accordingly. Learning about the dignity of human life and the indissoluble dispensable for it, as well as the dignity of human life and the intentions. Parish and online resources for our eventual passing.

**Speaking with Loved Ones**

After informing our consciences, we need to inform our families. If we are unable to make decisions, they may not have legal authority to make decisions on our behalf. We should designate a health care agent by a durable power of attorney.

Though it is often helpful to also have written, signed documentation, no living will “check box” can ever replace clear conversations about our faith-guided principles. The best option is to choose an agent who will make medical decisions on behalf of a patient in accord with our Catholic faith and Church teaching.

We should also inform family of our pastoral care preferences, and make clear that after death, we desire prayer, funeral rites, and Christian burial.

**A Note on General Principles**

No summary can substitute for thorough catechesis, but some general principles are clear. We are entrusted by God with the gift of life, and in response, we care for our lives and health in obedience and gratitude to our Creator. This obliges us to make use of appropriate, effective medical care. However, even effective treatments may at times impose such a great burden that we, in good conscience, may forgo or discontinue them. This applies even to life-sustaining treatments. Of course, nothing should be done or continued at the patient’s request.

The Church affirms the inviolable dignity of every person, regardless of the duration or extent of the patient’s incapacity or dependency. Nothing diminishes the inalienable dignity and sanctity of a person’s life, or the obligation to protect and care for it. In principle, assisted feeding and hydration should be provided unless it cannot sustain life or is unduly burdensome to the patient, or if death is imminent whether it is provided or not.

Moreover, no one should choose suicide, nor counsel or assist another to take his or her own life.

**Discerning Treatment Options**

Judging the effect and burden of treatments can be difficult, especially as death draws near. To understand health facts and treatment options, we need professional medical advice. To understand Catholic moral teaching, we need to consult Church teaching and those who can faithfully explain it.

**Accompaniment before and after Death**

Those who are sick should not be alone, as multiple popes have reminded us in messages for the Annual World Day of the Sick. Patients who have serious or life-threatening illnesses, as well as their families, can be provided with psychological, psychiatric, and spiritual care through team-based palliative care. Hospice care can provide similar integrated care for those nearing death and for their families.

Pastoral care is integral to both palliative and hospice care, and includes making available the Eucharist, Confession, Anointing of the Sick, and Viaticum. It also includes supportive prayer and support for decision makers. It may be helpful to familiarize ourselves with local services available in preparation for our own passing or that of loved ones.

Even after death, accompaniment continues. Our prayers can help those who are being purified in Purgatory, so it is a spiritual work of mercy to pray for those who have died.

**Hope in the Resurrection**

Those who die in God’s grace and friendship live forever with Christ. Heaven is not an abstract idea, but a true and lasting relationship with God that is beyond all earthly description and understanding. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead and everlasting life by preparing now, in hope, for our passage from this life into eternal life.

We need not fear. Christ is with us.

---

**Advance Health Care Directives**

The Catholic Bishops of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference presented a combined living will and health care power of attorney form in 2007. The material includes a combined living will and health care power of attorney form, a letter from the bishops, and a series of answers to frequently asked questions about the topic. The material was produced in booklet form, and is available online at https://www.ucsb.org/organ-and-worship/bereavement-and-funerals/prayers-for-death-and-dying.cfm.

1 Pope Francis, General Audience, 30 November 2016, (Libreria Editrice Vaticana, https://w2.vatican.va/content/fra/papa-francesco_20161130_udienza-generale.html)

2 Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2nd ed., 2677.

3 Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2nd ed., 2658 ff.

4 Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2nd ed., 2660.


6 Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1701 ff.

7 Many state conferences of Catholic bishops have published materials which may help you with decisions about advance directives. You can find these and other resources, contact your local diocesan Respect Life Office. A directory is available at http://www.usccb.org/about/ethics-and-religious-directives/.


10 Pope Francis uses the term “accompaniment” often, see its many occurrences in Evangelii gaudium.


Mount Carmel Parish Secretary
Lauded for Nearly Five Decades of Service

By Jake Betz
Special to The Witness

Forty-eight years, two parishes, 11 pastors.
That’s the short version of Anne McAndrew’s “story” as full-time parish secretary at Divine Redeemer Parish in Mount Carmel.

The long version is: Providing dedicated, professional and loving service day after day to the parish, its people and the Diocese of Harrisburg for almost five decades.

Anne’s full-time career ended Sept. 29 of this year. It began in late spring 1969, shortly after she graduated from Our Lady of Lourdes Regional High School in Coal Township, when Father Andrew Marinak, her pastor at Holy Cross Parish, asked if she would volunteer to help out in the parish office with some typing. A permanent job was not necessarily on Anne’s mind, but “one thing led to another,” and in August 1969, she was offered the position of parish secretary.

She stayed at Holy Cross until 1995 when, as part of the diocesan-wide Parish Consultation Process, Holy Cross became one of five parishes in the Mount Carmel area to join together to form a new parish, Divine Redeemer. She was asked to stay on in the church office of the newly-merged parish.

Anne worked for diocesan priests and, for much of the time at Holy Cross, with priests of the Oblates of St. Frances de Sales.

As she reflected on these priests and their very different personalities, Anne expressed appreciation for the unique gifts each of them brought to the job. Some were very hands-on, not afraid to get their hands dirty as they pitched in with building and cemetery projects. Some encouraged a new emphasis on spiritual growth, just when the parish needed it most. Others had a particular talent for connecting with people in all situations, happy or sad, or possessed the creativity and drive to envision new parish initiatives and move them forward. She pointed out that it was her job to adjust to the priests’ unique personalities and support them in their parish efforts.

Father Martin Moran, current pastor of Divine Redeemer, said Anne has been one of the best people at the parish in the 26 years he has ever worked.

“She is truly outstanding because she has always been able to manage everything so well and her incredible ability to multi-task,” he remarked. “She carries out all tasks, whether they are routine or unexpected, to the best of her ability.” More than a parish secretary, he added, she has been an office manager, a friend to fellow staff members, and a valued and trusted adviser.

In the Divine Redeemer office, Anne was the first point of contact for anyone who called or visited on parish business. These contacts ranged from a need to notify the pastor about a family illness or speak to him about a pressing spiritual problem, questions from parish volunteers or about parish activities, inquiries from out-of-town callers about cemetery records, requests for Mass cards or memorial contributions, and countless other reasons.

“She handled each call or visit with professionalism and friendliness and, if needed, the utmost tact,” Father Moran said. “Everyone in the parish thinks very highly of her.” He added that she exemplified the Gospel by always carrying out her daily workplace duties to the best of her ability.

It was an adjustment for her to move from a small parish (26 years at Holy Cross) to a merged parish with more parishioners and a faster pace, but Anne took it all in stride. What amazes her is all the changes in technology that affected the performance of even the most routine duties.

“When I started at Holy Cross, I used a manual typewriter and, to make copies, the office had a hand-cranked stencil machine,” she recalled. Then there were electric typewriters and, as the office transitioned to the computer age, she worked on a DOS-based system and used a matrix printer. At Holy Cross, there was a single phone line with a buzzer system in the building to notify the pastor when a call was for him. In recent years, she has mastered not only multiple extensions but voicemail and call forwarding.

For Anne, retirement couldn’t come at a better time. Her only child, Megan, and Megan’s husband, Matt Filarski, are expecting their first child in December. Anne and her husband, Walter, will now have plenty of time to spend with their grandchild.

Anne won’t be a stranger to her friends in the parish office, nor will all that institutional knowledge be lost. She has agreed to work part-time in the office two mornings a week.

Her outstanding service to the priests and people of the parish will be remembered and celebrated through the creation of the Anne McAndrew Service Award. The award will be presented annually to a senior from Divine Redeemer graduating from Our Lady of Lourdes Regional High School for demonstrating selfless dedication and service to the parish community. Bishop Ronald W. Gainer, while visiting the parish in September for the annual Eucharistic Devotions, joined Father Moran in commending Anne for her years of devoted service of almost a half-century to the priests and people of the parish.

(Anne McAndrew is full-time parish secretary at Divine Redeemer Parish in Mount Carmel.)

A Mass Celebrating the Gifts of People with Disabilities

Most Reverend Ronald W. Gainer
Principal Celebrant

Saturday, November 18, 2017
5:00 p.m.

Saint Joseph Church
400 East Simpson Street
Mechanicsburg, PA

A light reception will follow the Mass. To assist with planning, it is requested that those attending from outside Saint Joseph Parish kindly RSVP.

Saint Joseph Church is accessible to persons with physical disabilities. A sign language interpreter and assistive listening devices will be available. Requests for materials in Braille, large print, other accommodations and RSVPs should be made to Larry Kiley at 717-657-4804, ext. 322 or LKiley@hbgdiocese.org November 10th.
said his gratefulness for Father Bateman’s service and his friendship with the late Cardinal William Keeler made him especially pleased to offer the keynote at the “Come and See” Dinner.

Pope Francis has brought to the forefront the need for reaching out to the poor, the sick and the homeless,” Cardinal O’Brien remarked.

He spoke of the papal almoner, an archbishop who walks the streets of Rome every night to see what the needs of the people are, and disburses funds and assistance accordingly; the establishment of facilities in Rome for food and shelter; and of the pope’s outreach to those in need during his papal trips.

Pope Francis insists on “skin-to-skin, person-to-person contact…to get intimately involved” with the poor and the sick, the cardinal said.

“It’s a wonderful goal for us to strive to, and Catholic Charities is a community that assists us in that striving,” he said.

The Homes for Healing, located in Harrisburg, serve residents 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, at no charge to clients.

The Interfaith Shelter provides 30-day emergency shelter, assistance in securing permanent housing, food, clothing and baby supplies, and referrals for employment, healthcare and child care.

Lourdes House provides maternity care and residential services to pregnant women and their babies, including childbirth education, parenting classes, transportation and aftercare.

Evergreen House provides a safe and secure environment for women recovering from addiction. The program helps them achieve long-term recovery, find stable housing and learn job skills.

Cardinal O’Brien urged that no one should be apologetic in their service to make the world a better place.

He spoke of a visit he made to Iraq while serving as Archbiskop of the Military Services. One of his flights out of Baghdad during that weeklong trip was carrying the body of a member of the 82nd Airborne Division.

How to Help

You can support Catholic Charities’ Homes for Healing – the Interfaith Shelter for Homeless Families, Lourdes House Maternity Home and Evergreen House – with financial gifts, wish-list items and gift cards. For information on how you can help, visit www.cchbg.org or contact Chris Meehan, Director of Development for Catholic Charities, at 717-657-4804, ext. 284, or cmeehan@cchbg.org.

CHRIS HEISEY, THE CATHOLIC WITNESS

Several hundred dinner attendees fill the dining room at the Cardinal Keeler Center in Harrisburg Oct. 30 for Catholic Charities’ annual “Come and See” Dinner.

Shinice Broadie, a former client at the Interfaith Shelter for Homeless Families in Harrisburg, speaks about her current work in caring for the people who are served there.

“As then-Archbishop O’Brien prayed the Rosary during the hour-and-a-half flight to Kosovo, he prayed that the deceased soldier knew that his service was a good service.

“I prayed, ‘If only Francisco knew what he was doing was fulfilling a vocation,’” Cardinal O’Brien relayed.

“You should not be apologetic to serve your country,” he said. “What happens when you serve your country in the right way? Christ defines himself as one who came to serve and not be served. Why do we serve, if not to bring peace to our communities and peace to our world?”

The cardinal also recalled a visit with General James Jones, Jr., retired United States Marine Corps General and former United States National Security Advisor.

The general had frequently given speeches to young Marines during commissioning ceremonies at Quantico, and on one particular occasion decided to bring in a successful civilian to share his experiences as a Marine.

The civilian, now a businessman, told those assembled the three most important words he learned as a Marine: Officers come last.

“The last will be first, the first will be last. It’s a good message for all of us,” Cardinal O’Brien reflected.

“Are you first? Are you here to give, or are you here to give? The more you sacrifice yourself and give of yourself, the happier you will be, and the better this world will be,” he said.

The “Come and See” Dinner is the chief fund-raising event for the Homes for Healing, and annually features a silent auction of sports and history memorabilia, raffles of donated items and gift baskets, a catered meal and a keynote speaker.

“At Catholic Charities, we work with the sick, the suffering, the dying, the lonely, the aged, the homeless, people in hospitals, hospices, nursing homes,” said Mark Totaro, CEO of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Harrisburg.

“We treat all of them with dignity, and to learn about other services offered by Catholic Charities, visit www.cchbg.org or contact Chris Meehan, Director of Development for Catholic Charities, at 717-657-4804, ext. 284, or cmeehan@cchbg.org.)

CARDINAL EDWIN O’BRIEN delivers his keynote address at the “Come and See” Dinner, which raises funds and awareness for Catholic Charities’ Homes for Healing.

“The sacrifices you make are not simply out of humanitarian concern.

The sacrifices you make, you make as Christians, as Catholics, who see with the eyes of Christ and reach out with Christ as Christians, who see with the eyes of Christ and reach out with the heart of Christ.”

~ Cardinal Edwin O’Brien,

Grand Master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem
THE MISSION OF THE MATTHEW 25 COLLECTION
MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER
NOVEMBER 19, 2017

When you give to the Matthew 25 Collection, you participate in a worthy mission and join the fight against hunger, homelessness and poverty in your own backyard. Through your continued charity, to date we have distributed grants totaling more than one million dollars. The Matthew 25 Collection gives hope to those struggling to find it, while making a spiritual and social impact on the lives of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Assistance is given at both the local parish level and the diocesan level. The pastor annually receives 25% of the total amount gifted by the parish to the Matthew 25 Collection. The pastor is to use the refund for food, clothing or shelter for those in his own parish that find themselves in dire need.

The remaining 75% is disbursed by an outside, volunteer committee, the “Matthew 25 Review Committee.” After visiting organizations that submit a grant application and reviewing every application received, the committee then recommends grants to the bishop for his final review and approval.

2017 MATTHEW 25 GRANT RECIPIENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agape Family Shelter, Lebanon</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlisle Area Family Life Center, (CAFLC), Carlisle</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlisle C.A.R.E.S., Carlisle</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Harvest Food Pantry, York</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Churches United of the Tri-County Area, Inc., Harrisburg</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evergreen House, Harrisburg</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S., Gettysburg</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guardian Angels Outreach, Kulpmont</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthy Steps Diaper Bank, Harrisburg</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interfaith Shelter for Homeless Families, Harrisburg</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon County Christian Ministries, Lebanon</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lourdes House Maternity Home, Harrisburg</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manos-Unidas Hispanic-American Center, Inc., Gettysburg</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary’s Helpers Food Pantry &amp; Clothing Store, Steelton</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morning Star Pregnancy Services, Harrisburg</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother Maria Kaupas Center, Mount Carmel</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hope Ministries, Dillsburg</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off The Streets, Lancaster</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OMPH Benevolent Society, Lancaster</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Francis Soup Kitchen, Harrisburg</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samaritan Fellowship, Carlisle</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Juan Bautista Social Outreach, Lancaster</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Juan Bautista Summer Camp, Lancaster</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shalom House, Harrisburg</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shining Light Thrift Shop, Harrisburg</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silence of Mary Home, Harrisburg</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Caring Cupboard, Palmyra</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Catholic Worker House of Lancaster, Inc., Lancaster</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional Housing and Care Center, Inc., Danville</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total                                                        $219,500
help make a DIFFERENCE

PLEASE DONATE PRAYERFULLY AND GENEROUSLY

DONATE IN TREASURE

Cash or Check at Your Parish
( Check is to be made payable to the parish)

Cash or Check to the Diocese of Harrisburg, address below
( Check is to be made payable to the Diocese of Harrisburg)

Stocks and Securities

Visa and MasterCard by visiting
www.hbgdiocese.org/matthew25

Diocese of Harrisburg
Office of Development
4800 Union Deposit Road
Harrisburg, PA 17111-3710
(717) 657-4804
The U.S. Catholic Church stands “in unity” with the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas, and the larger community after a shooting during Sunday services took the lives of at least 26 people and injured at least 20 others.

Those who died ranged in age from 5 to 72 years old, and included 14-year-old Annabelle Pomeroy. Her father, Jason Pomeroy, is an Anglican priest in the Diocese of Western New York, in pastor of the church but he was not at the service.

“We stand in unity with you in this time of terrible tragedy – as you stand on holy ground, ground marked by the violent presence of the Lord.” Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

With San Antonio Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller, “I extend my prayers and the prayers of my brother bishops to the families of the first responders, our Baptist brothers and sisters, indeed the whole community of Sutherland Springs.”

Law enforcement officials told CNN that a lone gunman, entered the church around 11:30 a.m. CST while 50 people were attending Sunday services. Most everyone in the congregation was shot.

Sutherland Springs is 30 to 40 miles southeast of San Antonio.

Two law enforcement officials told The Associated Press the suspect was Devin Kelley, described as a local resident who had a rifle “and engaged the suspects wearing black tactical-type gear and used an assault rifle.” He entered the church and then continued firing once inside. He was later 50 people were attending Sunday services. All except one of the shooting suspects were dead.

“When we go to church to worship God we enter a world that is what we dream life will be,” said办理 the FOX News Channel.

The suspect was Devin Kelley, described in a Nov. 5 statement. Those murdered in the church, he added, “have given the ultimate witness.”

Bishop Seitz said, “As with any act of terror we must not allow evil behavior to make us fearful or to prevent us from doing what is right.”

“Ultimate faith,” he continued, “is knowing that the love of God will be victorious.”

“Our hearts ache for those suffering from the terrible loss of life,” said the Texas Catholic bishops in a joint statement issued Nov. 6. “We open our arms and hearts for these families in this moment of terrible tragedy. We should all fall on our knees in prayer this moment in disaster.”

“We ask the Lord for healing of those injured, his loving care of those who have died and the consolation of their families,” Cardinal DiNardo said in his statement. “This incomprehensibly tragic event joins an ever-growing list of senseless gun violence, this time at a house of worship, a place of prayer and peace,” said Bishop Nelson Perez of Cleveland in a Nov. 6 statement.

“As we try to comprehend this horrific incident, we recall the words of St. Pope John Paul II who implored us to reject evil and to create the successes that will become the next 200 years of our history.”

Trainor was presented with three awards: the Saint Matthew's Medal, the Palmieri Center Award for Entrepreneurship and the Presidential Medallion. He was also presented with the Silver Key from Mount St. Mary's College.

Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Md., celebrated the inauguration of its 26th president, Timothy E. Trainor, Ph.D., on Oct. 23. More than 1,000 students, faculty, staff, alumni and distinguished guests gathered in Knott Arena, PNC Sports Complex for the installation ceremony and Trainor’s inaugural address, which focused on the theme of preparing students to lead lives of significance.

Trainor, who served as dean and chief academic officer at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, shared his belief that it also applies to the Mount, founded in 1809: “Much of history we teach, was made by those we taught.” Mount alumni have established Catholic colleges such as Fordham University and St. John’s University; Mount St. Mary’s Seminary is known as the “Cradle of Bishops”.

Trainor broadcasted the message that Mount is “an exciting place to be, and we wish to create the successes that will become the next 200 years of our history.”

Trainor was presented with three academic programs (cybersecurity, politics/philosophy/economics and forensic accounting); signed articulation agreements in cybersecurity and biotechnology.

Trainor broadcasted the message that Mount is “an exciting place to be, and we wish to create the successes that will become the next 200 years of our history.”

Trainor was presented with three academic programs (cybersecurity, politics/philosophy/economics and forensic accounting); signed articulation agreements in cybersecurity and biotechnology.
By Colleen Rowan

Special to The Witness

The shrine will be held Nov. 11, 2017 at the Parish Social Center, Hanover, from 8 a.m.-7 p.m. There is no admission fee. In addition to beautiful crafts, religious items, gift shop, children’s crafts, and gift baskets. Food will be offered throughout, including Vietnamese eggrolls and a variety of soups and sandwiches. Contact Livi Raya, 717-298-8671, for information.

St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Quarryville will hold its annual Christmas Craft Bazaar Nov. 18 from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Our 21st Christmas mouse this year is a “Mermaid.” The vendors have created juicy pictures, surprise balls, laser-engraved jewelry, painted glass, natural gem jewelry, knitted items and many other crafts. The friends of St. Catherine offer homemade chicken soup, breakfast burritos, chili, hot dogs and drinks. All proceeds benefit the church’s repair and maintenance.

St. Patrick in York will hold a Cookie Walk in Brenner Hall on Dec. 10 from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Parishioners are asked to make cookies for this event and drop them off the night before. The day of the event, the purchaser for a container for $10 (cookie will be provided), and choose which cookies you would like to fill your container with. Santa Claus will be there to entertain the children while parents are choosing their cookies.

Immaculate Conception BVM Parish “St. Mary’s” in York Annual Women’s Societies Holiday Bazaar will be held Nov. 11 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. and Nov. 12 from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. in the parish hall at 309 S. George Street. Homemade fall décor and Christmas decorations, Santa’s Secret Shop, attic treasures, homemade baked goods, Christmas baskets, jewelry, prints, etc. Light lunch will be served, including a variety of soups. Need not be present to win. Themes include: Eagles, Ravens, Steelers, Penn State and Notre Dame football, baby boy, baby girl, toys, beauty, baking, sewing, movie, gardening, cats, dogs, kitchen and mystery.OXEWOOD Christmas Ornaments and Prayer Pillowcases will be for sale as well. For questions regarding Bingo or raffle tickets, contact Pam Alexander at 717-225-9720.

The Conewago Christmas Bazaar and Craft Show will take place on Nov. 18 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on the grounds of the Conewago Chapel. There will be a variety of handcrafted items by local vendors and artists, homemade baked goods, raffles, a silent auction, lunch and much more. For our little ones and the young at heart, that jolly old fella, Santa Claus, will be celebrating the day with us! For more information, contact the school office at 717-632-6715 Monday-Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Please join us in bringing the Spirit of the Christmas season to our fun-filled festive day! All proceeds benefit the children of St. Teresa of Calcutta School.

St. Andrew the Apostle Parish in Waynesboro will hold its Christmas Bazaar on Nov. 18 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. with an intermission for the raffle and lunch. There will be 20 vendors and artisans, a basket raffle, homemade foods and baked goods for information, contact Heather at heather_od2002@yahoo.com.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Spring Grove will have its 33rd Annual Christmas Bazaar on Nov. 18 at the Parish Center, 1031 Sprinkle Rd., from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Crafts, vendors, food, silent auction and basket raffles. For information, contact Heather at heather_od2002@yahoo.com.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Abbottstown will hold its annual Christmas Bazaar on Nov. 18 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Come and enjoy a day of fun, food and get in the Christmas spirit!

St. Rose of Lima Parish’s annual Christmas Festival will be held Dec. 2 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the school in Thomasville. A free breakfast with Santa for children under the age of 10 will be from 9-10 a.m., followed by a “secrets” with Santa in the lobby. Reindeer games, face painting, food, baked goods and crafts will also be offered after the breakfast. Registration for the free breakfast is expected and appreciated. To register, contact the Religious Ed office at 717-943-3434. For adults, a gift card Bingo (5 games for 20 dollars) will be from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Bring your own lunch and baked goods. In addition to the Bingo prizes, a variety of fun door prizes will be offered. Bingo tickets may be purchased in advance. Themed basket raffle tickets will be $1 per chance, $5 for six chances, and $10 for 14 chances. Raffle tickets will be available in advance. Need not be present to win. Themes include: Eagles, Ravens, Steelers, Penn State and Notre Dame football, baby boy, baby girl, toys, beauty, baking, sewing, movie, gardening, cats, dogs, kitchen and mystery. OXEDWOOD Christmas Ornaments and Prayer Pillowcases will be for sale as well. For questions regarding Bingo or raffle tickets, contact Pam Alexander at 717-225-9720.

Bishop Michael J. Bransfield infused the Our Lady of Fatima Shrine at St. James Parish in Charles Town, W.Va., Oct. 14. The shrine is encased by a 2 and a half foot wall with four semicircles, each featuring the mysteries of the rosary. In between each one of these semicircles are two angular walls with a bronze plaque and a picture showing part of the apparition. The floor of the shrine depicts the Rosary. (Colleen Rowan is the Executive Editor of The Catholic Spirit, the newspaper of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.)
Gettysburg — St. Francis Xavier: Irene Aguilar, Teresa Johnson Hanlon, Jesus Moreno-Santoyo, James Showvaker.
Hannover — St. Vincent de Paul: Helen R. Dillman.
Harrisburg — St. Margaret Mary: Nicholas DeToma, Sandra Houzer, Elizabeth “Betty” Leos, Mildred E. “Miltie” Kennedy, James Rutter.
Hershey — St. Joan of Arc: Margie E. Castelli, Dorothy A. Early.
Lebanon — Assumption BVM: Sara Marko.

LEWISTOWN — Sacred Heart of Jesus: Margaret Gerhard, Helen McCoach.
Manheim — St. Richard: Carol Hartman.
Mechanicsburg — St. Elizabeth Ann Seton: Patricia Middendorf.
Millersville — St. Philip the Apostle: Clayton Bennett, Helen Mitchell, Ronald Smith.
New Freedom — St. John the Baptist: Thomas W. Diven, Lorraine Dunlop.
Selinsgrove — St. Pius X: Linda Bingham, Suzanne McHale, Dorothy Rynearson.
York — St. Joseph: Carol McCarty, Mary Vranich; St. Rose of Lima: Eileen Freed, John White.

By Donna Walker
Special to The Witness

At Resurrection Catholic School in Lancaster, girls in the Girls on the Run program are learning that the program signifies more than the culminating 5-kilometer race on Nov. 11.

When students in third to fifth grades meet twice a week to train for the run, they also receive subtle moments of encouragement. On a recent Wednesday, the session included 40 minutes of running but also a lesson on gratitude. Coach and gym teacher Connie Feldman introduced a word, like “teachers!” The girls, in teams of two, shouted one grateful statement such as, “They teach us things,” and one ungrateful statement such as, “They make us work.”

Then they ran the length of the gym and came back to Feldman to respond to another word, one that made them think about gratitude and how people impact their lives.

“There’s a different topic every time we meet,” Feldman said, like healthy eating, or what is real beauty. “The physical activity warms them up for their run and the conversations boost their confidence and make them realize they are special.”

On a large lot across the street, the girls chatted then nanometers to keep track of their laps. Running partners Zury Jaramillo and Melanie Martinez end with 17 tick marks. Their goal for the next meeting? “Nineteen,” they said in unison and without hesitation. “They set their own goals,” Feldman said. “They can walk, run, skip; just so they keep moving.”

Students listen as Nancy Bodillo teaches her third-graders at Good Heart of Mary Catholic School on Wednesdays because, “It’s important,” she said. “There are so many things that can bring girls down. This program is solely to build them up.”

When the 40 minutes of movement ended, Payton Martin and Sydney English told Feldman they made up a cheer as they walked and ran their laps. After listening, Feldman asked them to test it on others. Then she announced that Han Nguyen gave her best effort that day, brought her into the circle of girls, and they repeated the newly-learned cheer.

“We got girl power,” Feldman said. “Yes, we do. We got girl power.”

“We started a community impact project,” said Sydney English and Payton Martin write their suggestions for a community impact project in between running their laps during a Girls on the Run practice at Resurrection Catholic School Oct. 4.

Teachers Mary Scaccia and Jenny Shmidheiser give up free time to be there. They volunteer as coaches because they believe it pays dividends in terms of youth development.

“It’s good for girls, especially those who have never been involved in anything before. They get encourage- ment from other girls and can feel good about them- selves,” Shmidheiser said.

San Ignacio reopened Oct. 3, the first Catholic school to do so in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria, said Father Andres. It was moderately damaged, mostly by falling trees. Its basement amphitheater and several storage units underground were flooded.

“We are at time of national mourning, trauma, after the distant echoes of two hurricanes … the consequences on the mood, the spirit, the emotions [of the people] are deep,” said Archbishop Gonzalez, adding that “another trauma is that of shared love and solidarity.”

He agreed with several pastors who had told CNS that, after Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico, Mass attend- ance has risen sharply, although many still could not leave their homes because of the damage. “But yes, there’s a spiritual rebirth,” he said.

Church finances have been severely impacted in Puerto Rico by Hurricane Maria. As businesses and facili- ties closed in the island, economic stability has been affected while their financial demands have increased to cover repairs and replacement of lost property.

“We can neither ask nor expect that they continue the same level of support [to the Church] when they them- selves are barely surviving,” said Archbishop Gonza- lez. “In time, we have to see how we deal with sustain- ing parishes that can’t sustain themselves, as well as [Hezbollah] Channel 13 and radio stations.”

However, the archbishop stressed that “our focus now is direct assistance. Most people need water, food, clothing. That’s our primary mission.”

“The top challenge the Church in Puerto Rico faces is to nurture the soul our people with God’s Word, Jesus’ presence through our works of charity, solidarity, cel- ebrating the Eucharist, and maintaining a perspective that keeps us anchored in reality of these tragic events and full of hope for the strength that the Holy Spirit gives us,” said Archbishop Gonzalez.
Spiritual Offerings

An Advent Retreat entitled "Advent: What Are We Waiting For?" will be held at St. Philip the Apostle Parish in Millersville on Dec. 6, to see "Guess Who's Coming to Christmas. Cost of $70 includes transportation, lunch and gratuities. RSVP deadline is Nov. 12. Call 717-747-6573 or 1-800-774-6573 for further information.

Fundraisers & Events

The Little Flower Seniors Club of St. Theresa Parish in New Cumberland is offering a trip to Para- die, Fla. For a Christian International Women’s Conference, Dec. 6 to 10, to see “Guess Who’s Coming to Christmas. Cost of $70 includes transportation, lunch and gratuities. RSVP deadline is Nov. 12. Call 717-747-6573 or 1-800-774-6573 for further information.

The Little Flower Seniors Club in New Cumberland will meet on Thursday, Nov. 16, at 7 p.m. in the Good Shepherd Room at St. Joseph Church, Lancaster. Come learn how you can be more involved. The parish will have a video of a short conference and a social at our meetings. All are welcome. Call Sharon Ogilive at 717-567-2873 for further information.

Education & Enrichment

An Opioid Town Hall will be held at Holy Infant Parish in Manchester on Nov. 21, from 7-8:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. There will be a panel discussion on opioid awareness and how to prevent opioid overdose. For more information, call 717-233-1014 or Steve Grimme at sgrimme2@comcast.net by calling 717-476-0405.

A pilgrimage to the Holy Land is being organized by Father John McCloskey, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Dal- lastown, from June 14 to 25, 2017. We will see the key places where Jesus lived and taught. For more information, contact Nazareth Jericho, Jerusalem, Mt. Tabor, Capernaum and other sites. The fair price without airfare is $3,695 per person. The price without airfare is $3,695. If this sounds interesting, you can find more information at www.jsdrc.org. For more information, contact Wayne Vellines at wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Fr.-John-McCloskey-HL-2018_web.pdf or by contacting Father John at pastor@jsdrc.org or by calling 717-233-1014.

Theology on Tap will meet on Nov. 28 at The First Post, 30 W. Market St., York, from 6 to 7 p.m., followed by the speaker at 7:30 p.m. Kate Laudemund, founder and President of Firm Foundations, an Executive Coaching firm, will speak on the topic, "Navigating the Young Adult Years." Women interested in joining the Young Adults Kar. Kate holds an MBA from University of North Caro- lina. Kate thrives in professional and non-profit boards and is active in her church. Theology on Tap is a young adult, ministry and evangelization outreach of the Diocese of Harrisburg. All are welcome, including Catholics and non-Catholics, or are not invited to attend. For more information, check out www.facebook.com/YorkOpioidCooperative.

A trip to St. Patrick Cathedral and the 9/11 Mem- orial and Museum in New York is being planned by the Parish of St. Joseph parish in Lancaster. The cost will be $111 per person, plus $15 for lunch. The total cost will be $126 per person. For more information, call 717-873-3175 or 717-873-7042 or e-mail silentcstn@gmail.com. The trip is in memory of those who died in the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The proceeds will go to support the St. Joseph Outreach Ministry.

For more about St. Mary, visit our website at www.thesilenceofmary.org.

A fall harvest indoor flea market and bake sale sponsored by the Men’s Club of St. James Parish in Lititz, will be held in the Holy Family Social Hall Nov. 11 from noon-4:30 p.m. Stop by to find a treasure, buy some baked goods and sip some apple cider or other drinks.

A trip to a State, Patrick and the Cathedral/9/11 Mem- orial and Museum in New York is being planned by the Parish of St. Joseph parish in Lancaster. The cost will be $111 per person, plus $15 for lunch. The total cost will be $126 per person. For more information, call 717-873-3175 or 717-873-7042 or e-mail silentcstn@gmail.com. The trip is in memory of those who died in the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The proceeds will go to support the St. Joseph Outreach Ministry.

To order the upcoming December 2017 issue of York Catholic, please send a check or money order for $10 to: 5 Mark Building, 3rd Floor, York, PA 17401. To order the November 2017 issue of York Catholic, please send a check or money order for $10 to: 5 Mark Building, 3rd Floor, York, PA 17401. The November issue will be mailed to subscribers on November 10, 2017.
Eighth grade student Lorraine Durbin joins the choir in leading schoolmates in movements for a song presented to Bishop Ronald Gainer.

Fifth grade Sophia Trispagonas is framed in light as she prays during Mass on All Saints Day.

St. Patrick School
Continued from 1

retirement of Ricman Fly.

“I am excited to be a part of a community where both education and Christ are valued and cherished,” Oliverio said. “I am overwhelmed with gratitude that I can share my passion in life, learning with Christ, to our future generation. In a time where there is a lot of uncertainty and confusion, finding our true purpose is exhilarating.”

Fifth grader Gabriella Gleed was excited to have the bishop visit her school, and said she loves everything about it, from the teachers to the classrooms to the students.

“I really like all the teachers. The teachers are really nice,” said Gabriella, who’s been a student there since preK. She also enjoys the age range of the preK-8 grade school and all the activities those different ages share. For example, classes are paired up with “prayer partners” who sit together at Mass, share social activities, make crafts and just look out for each other around the school. Gabriella’s class is prayer partners with the preK students.

Another cross-class experience that allows St. Patrick students to lead and learn from one another is the Peer Mediation program. Starting in 4th grade, students who are nominated by teachers are trained in conflict resolution and help out when the younger grades are at recess.

Gabriella, who also participates in basketball, soccer and Girl Scouts, said she counts Peer Mediation as among the most special aspects of the school. She said even if the problems don’t get much bigger than helping solve “who gets to be the princess during recess,” she likes helping out the younger grades.

Eighth grader Lorraine Durbin has been at St. Patrick since preK as well. Lorraine really likes the teachers and said she feels comfortable that they have her best interest at heart.

“They always make sure the students are OK,” she said. “They always make sure we’re happy.”

Lorraine also is active in peer mediation, drama, volleyball and Quiz Bowl. Her grade is prayer partners with the 2nd grade, and she said she loves spending time with the younger children.

“We can relate to the little kids because we were them,” she said. “We are good friends with our prayer partners.”

Second grade teacher Lisa Farley thinks the bishop could not have chosen a better place to celebrate All Saints Day. Farley is in her second year at St. Patrick School and feels like she’s found a home there, with a supportive community of teachers, administrators and parents.

“I feel like parents and teachers are truly partners in their children’s academic and spiritual education,” she said.

Like any good teacher, Farley said her favorite part of the job is the students. She said they love to learn and have a great work ethic.

“The children love to learn, but they also love each other,” she said. “It is uplifting to be around such loving, compassionate and helpful children. They embrace new students and make them feel welcome in the St. Pat’s family.”

“After searching for several years to find the right position for me, I feel completely at home at St. Pat’s, and I would not want to work anywhere else,” Farley said.

St. Patrick School opened in 1947 and is celebrating its 70th anniversary all year. Oliverio said the school continues to strive to serve its students and the community.

“Our students know our expectations: to be the best version of themselves and to give back to society. This year celebrates our 70th year, and we are overjoyed to rejoice and share our goodness with the community.”

(Lisa Maddux is the Development Director at St. Patrick School in Carlisle.)
By Chris Heisey
The Catholic Witness

Few programs have had more success on the volleyball court than the Squirettes of Delone Catholic, as each November it seems they are playing for a District 3 Class 2A championship before making a run at a state championship. And this November is no exception, as the Squirettes nabbed their 12th District 3 championship trophy with a close win over York Catholic on Nov. 4.

Tied at one set apiece, Delone was trailing York Catholic by four points midway through the pivotal third set of a best-of-five match and, after a timeout, the Squirettes (17-0) rallied to win set three, 25-20, and then won the fourth, 25-22, to beat the Fighting Irish and end York Catholic’s great season at 15-6. York Catholic had upset the number one seeded Trinity (19-3) to reach the district final.

By Chris Heisey
The Catholic Witness

The warmer-than-average autumn temperatures held on for the cross country championships as the District 3 finals were held at Big Spring High School on Oct. 28, followed a week later by the PIAA state meet at Hershey’s Parkview course.

In the boys’ Class A run at districts, York Catholic placed second, followed closely by Delone Catholic. Delone placed three runners in the top ten, as Gabe Hall, Adler Brininger and Shamus Keefe paced the way for the Squires. For the Fighting Irish, Christian Gervasi, Evan Schlosser and Joseph Rizzuto all averaged under six-minute miles to lead York Catholic.

On the girls’ draw, York Catholic was led by senior Kateyln MacDougall, who won the district race with a time of 20:09, which helped the Fighting Irish to a second-place finish in the team competition. Delone Catholic’s Leanne Sneeringer finished in third place, just 15 seconds off the winning pace.

At the PIAA state meet, Kateyln MacDougall and Leanne Sneeringer finished 31st and 34th respectively in the Class A run on Nov. 4 in Hershey.
Danville – St. Joseph Parish will hold their 34th annual free community Thanksgiving Dinner with all the trimmings at noon in the St. Joseph School cafeteria. This is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. For information, contact the parish office at 570-275-2512 or Duane Hilker at 570-275-2265.

Harrisburg – St. Francis of Assisi Soup Kitchen, 1459 Zarker Street, will serve a free Thanksgiving Dinner at noon on Thanksgiving Day. For information, contact Ms. Chucky Palmer, Soup Kitchen Coordinator, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 717-236-4506.

Harrisburg – St. Catherine Labouré Parish, 4000 Derry Street, will be distributing complete Thanksgiving dinners to area agencies as well as parish families who are in need. Agencies include: The Catholic Worker House, St. Francis Parish, the Silence of Mary House and the Bethesda Mission. Call 717-564-1321.

St. Catherine Labouré Parish also has a tradition of baking and distributing freshly baked bread on Thanksgiving Day. Volunteers begin to bake at 6:30 a.m. to be ready to distribute bread free of charge to anyone who wants a loaf following the 9 a.m. Thanksgiving Day Mass.

Millersville – St. Philip the Apostle Parish will hold its 33rd Annual Thanksgiving Dinner from noon-2 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day at 2111 Millersville Pike. Meals can be delivered to shut-ins by arrangement by calling 717-872-2166. The free meal is coordinated by the parish Men’s Club.

Kulpmont – Holy Angels Parish, 855 Scott Street, will hold a free Thanksgiving Day dinner for those in need or anyone spending the day alone. The meal will be served from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Activity Center. No reservations are necessary. Call the parish office at 570-373-1221.

Quarryville – St. Catherine of Siena Parish, 955 Robert Fulton Highway, will provide food baskets for those needing a helping hand for Thanksgiving. Parish office contact is 717-786-2695.

The following parishes will be providing meals for those in need on Thanksgiving Day. Those wishing to support these efforts should contact the parishes directly. Many other parishes and schools will be holding food and clothing drives in support of other local activities to feed and clothe the poor and needy in our area. Please be generous in your support of those in need.