Msgr. Topper, Remembered for Hard Work and Humility, Dies at 104

By Jen Reed
The Catholic Witness

Msgr. Vincent Topper, the oldest and longest-ordained diocesan priest in the country, died Oct. 7, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. He was 104 years old.

Remembered for his hard work and humility, Msgr. Topper died in his residence at St. Catherine Labouré Parish in Harrisburg, where he had been living since 1999.

A viewing will take place at St. Catherine Labouré Church, 4000 Derry Street, Harrisburg, on Friday, Oct. 14, beginning with Evening Prayer at 4:30 p.m. until the Mass of Transferral at 7 p.m., with the viewing continuing after the Mass until 9 p.m.

On Saturday, Oct. 15, there will be a viewing beginning with Morning Prayer at 8:30 a.m. until the Funeral Mass at 10:30 a.m. at St. Catherine Labouré.

Dinner will be served in the parish hall after the Funeral Mass. Burial will take place after the dinner at Annunciation Cemetery, 298 North 5th Street, Middletown.

"His life was a shining example of fidelity and cooperation with God's grace in a selfless and dedicated manner," Bishop Ronald Gainer said of Msgr. Topper, who was a priest of the Diocese of Harrisburg for 80 years.

"He has seen and personally experienced so much in his lifetime," the bishop remarked. "Throughout the many changes in our Church and culture that he has experienced, he maintained amazing fidelity and flexibility to continue to be what Christ called him to be and to what he said yes to so many years ago, to be a Priest of Jesus Christ."

Even on the Saturday and Sunday before his death, he continued to concelebrate Mass at the parish, and was surrounded with the praying of the Rosary in his final days.

"He teaches us a beautiful lesson of complete confidence in God," said Father Neil Sullivan, pastor of St. Catherine’s.

"In the last couple of months, as he was consecrating the host while celebrating Mass in the rectory chapel, he would just hold on to it and not want to let it go. He was deep in prayer," Father Sullivan told The Catholic Witness.

Mass was celebrated in Msgr. Topper’s private room the day before he died, Father Sullivan said. "He was completely aware that he was receiving the Eucharist."

The Rosary was also of great importance to Msgr. Topper, and he constantly held it in his hand during his final days.

More MSGR. TOPPER, page 11

Aid Slowly Makes its Way to Haitians

By Dennis Sadowski
Catholic News Service

Emergency aid slowly began to reach some of the thousands of Haitians displaced by Hurricane Matthew in the country’s picturesque southwest as reports of casualties slowly trickled in from communities cut off by the storm.

The number of deaths reached 1,000 at press time on Oct. 9 after Hurricane Matthew swept through Les Cayes, Haiti. Rescue workers in Haiti are struggling to reach parts of the country cut off by the storm. Reports of casualties slowly trickled in from communities cut off by the storm.

The number of deaths reached 1,000 at press time on Oct. 9, five days after the storm’s 145-mile-an-hour winds and torrential rains slammed into the country, according to a tally placed by Hurricane Matthew in the

More AID, page 10

Miami Archdiocese Prepares to Help Victims

By Ana Rodriguez-Soto
Catholic News Service

Like the rest of South Florida, the Archdiocese of Miami was carefully watching the path of Hurricane Matthew, a Category 4 storm that began pounding Haiti and Cuba Oct. 4 and hit Florida’s Atlantic coastal area late Oct. 6.

Chief among the preparations was prayer. Miami Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski asked all South Florida parishes to include prayers for those affected in their daily Masses in the days ahead.

About 1.5 million Floridians were already fleeing their state to take shelter elsewhere.

The archdiocese also was preparing to provide aid to the Caribbean nations hardest hit by Matthew, especially Haiti, Cuba, Jamaica and the Bahamas.

More HELP, page 10
Homilist at Red Mass Tells Those in Legal Profession to Fulfill their Purpose of Bringing Others to Heaven

The statue of the Pieta at St. Patrick Cathedral in Harrisburg is seen as Father David Link, guest homilist for the annual Red Mass, and a Mass attendee share an embrace.

By Jen Reed
The Catholic Witness

A father of five, widower and former law school dean and university president told those in the legal profession who gathered for the annual Red Mass that their purpose in life is more than being a judge, attorney, public official or professor.

"Ask yourself, 'What on Earth am I here for? Why did God send me?'" Father David Link, former Dean of the Notre Dame School of Law, advised the congregation.

"We're here to fulfill our individual purpose, which includes bringing more people with us to Heaven," he said. "If you don't fulfill your purpose, it's not going to get done. God is not going to pass it on to some other person; it's your purpose alone."

The Red Mass – celebrated this year on Oct. 3 at St. Patrick Cathedral in Harrisburg – coincides with the start of the United States Supreme Court's new term. The Mass takes its name from the red vestments worn by the priests and people to symbolize the Holy Spirit, whose guidance the attendees are seeking as they pursue justice in their daily lives.

The Mass is organized by the St. Thomas More Society of Central Pennsylvania, an organization of lawyers, judges, lawmakers, students of law and others in the legal profession that offers educational and social opportunities on the faith as they seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Father Link was ordained a priest in the Diocese of Gary, Ind., in 2008 at the age of 71. Father Link has served as chaplain at the Indiana State Prison, a maximum security prison, and co-founded the Center for the Homeless in South Bend, Ind.

"The successes in my life had little to do with my efforts. I simply followed God's plan," Father Link said. "Urging the members of the congregation to ponder their purpose in life, he said the reason for their existence goes far beyond their career or even their vocation.

"God did not send me to be an attorney, or an academic, or even a priest," Father Link remarked. "God sent me to serve the homeless and the incarcerated."

He said his ministry to the imprisoned taught him that prisoners have individual problems requiring individual solutions. Many come from poverty, dysfunctional families, or have abused drugs or alcohol to cope with the difficulties of life, he said.

Father David Link, former Dean of the Notre Dame Law School, whose 24-year term is the longest tenure among American law school deans, delivers his homily at the Red Mass on Oct. 3. A father of five children and a husband for 45 years, Father Link was ordained a priest in 2008 at the age of 71.

"My purpose is to give them their purpose," Father Link said. "The one thing I have discovered among the people I serve is that they are children of God."

Father Link told those gathered for the Red Mass that if they want to see the Messiah, they will find him among the poor, the sick and the imprisoned.

"Ask God directly, and he will match your talents with the many needs of society," he said.

"Your purpose is more than being a judge or an attorney or another law professional. Whether you are put on this earth by God to take care of a spouse, or children, or a homeless mother, the lonely, the sick, the incarcerated, the poor, the hungry, you can use your talents in the ways that God expects you to," Father Link said. "But once God tells you why he put you here, there are no options. You can't decide not to do it."

Telling the congregation that their involvement must be active, and not just sympathetic, Father Link ended his homily with a quote from a maximum security prisoner to whom he ministered:

"Active compassion is God's language. Everything else is just talk."

The St. Thomas More of Society of Central Pennsylvania is named for the 16th century saint, who was beheaded in London for refusing to approve Henry VIII's divorce and remarriage and establishment of the Church of England. The society was founded 26 years ago by Catholic lawyers and judges to promote Christian principles in the law in the spirit of their patron saint.

In addition to the Red Mass, the society also holds a Mass on the Feast of St. Thomas More, June 22, an annual dinner, continuing education sessions for lawyers, and retreats and days of reflection. Its spiritual director is Father Paul Clark, Diocesan Judicial Vicar and pastor of St. Matthew Parish in Dauphin.

The society continues to seek new members to further its mission; for more information, visit www.saintthomasmoresociety.com.

Members of the Lancaster Catholic High School Concert Choir, who led the congregation in praise and worship, join hands in prayer during the Red Mass. From right are Emma Kuchinski, Michelle Cybulski, Helen Cao and Claire English.

CHRIS HEISEY, THE CATHOLIC WITNESS

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**Speaker of the House Visits Harrisburg Catholic to Call for Increase in Scholarship Tax Credit Funding**

By Jen Reed
The Catholic Witness

The Speaker of the House for the state of Pennsylvania held a press conference at Harrisburg Catholic Elementary School Sept. 28, calling for a funding increase to the state’s tax credit programs that contribute to scholarship programs for students.

The Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) programs provide tax credits to businesses that contribute to organizations that provide scholarships to students.

Speaker Mike Turzai (R-Allegheny) is calling for legislation to increase the current funding level from $175 million to $250 million.

“This program hasn’t always had the increases that a lot of us think it needs,” he said, flanked by Republican and Democratic leaders assembled in front of the eighth-grade class at Harrisburg Catholic’s Cathedral campus.

“Your parents and grandparents, aunts and uncles, they want to see you here. They thought you could get a better opportunity here,” Speaker Turzai addressed the students. “We need to make sure that the people who want to come to Harrisburg Catholic have an opportunity.”

David Rushinski, principal of Harrisburg Catholic Elementary, said he sees daily the results of the EITC program.

“I get to see the faces of the children it benefits, I get to speak to the parents and grandparents of the children it assists, and the results are just gratifying to see,” he said during the press conference.

“Each day, I see smiles on our children’s faces; I hear happiness in their voices, and I get to see the success of their efforts. The students are joyful because the EITC program allows them to be here at Harrisburg Catholic,” he continued. “I hear enthusiasm in a new student’s voice when they first sit down in one of our classrooms because they are in an environment where they feel safe and can learn.”

“I have the opportunity to speak to parents and grandparents of children who attend our school. Many of them are here with EITC assistance…. Many of them tell us that without the EITC program, they would never be able to afford Harrisburg Catholic,” Mr. Rushinski said. “I hope with additional EITC funding, we can continue to tell great stories of the children that this program benefits.”

Since its implementation in Pennsylvania 15 years ago, the EITC program has allowed more than 60,000 students each year to choose the school that best fits their needs. Scholarships through this program can be used at any school in the state. Scholarships in the OSTC program are provided to students who live within the boundaries of a low-achieving school, so that they can attend another school.

“Some schools aren’t performing, aren’t doing the job they need to be doing, and the EITC program allows every child to get the best education they can get, no matter where they’re from in any part of the state,” he said.

“They deserve a quality education, like what you’re getting here at Harrisburg Catholic Elementary,” Rep. Saylor told the students.

“Stay up to date on the EITC and OSTC programs and learn how you can help promote school choice by visiting the Web site of the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference at www.pacatholic.org, or by following the PCC on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PACatholic/ or on Twitter (@PACatholic.)”

Speaker of the House Mike Turzai signs an autograph for Ja’mie Cooper after hosting a press conference to call for increase to the state’s tax credit programs that contribute to scholarship programs for students.
Spiritual Hunger is a Good Thing

By Sister Geralyn Schmidt, SCC

Some time ago, I was walking down the street with a young child riding his tricycle. The neighborhood in which we were walking had been established many years ago. Several to time, to the chagrin of my sojourner, I had to physically pick up his tricycle to the sidewalk and the road by Someone who is greater than I? Is it not a good thing to turn our sights toward our Lord in his presence? Isn’t this a model for what Jesus described as the Heavenly banquet? It is a hunger for life, for the cause of life, it is the weapon for authentic family life, and, paradoxically, the Rosary is the Weapon for Peace.

Mary is “the woman dressed in battle array,” always ready to fight for her spiritual children…to fight against the darkness. Travis Longo has said, “The Holy Rosary is a powerful weapon for our times.” How about the first time you attempted to throw a football? How was that spiral? Or was it more end-over-end? How about the first time you gave a speech in public? In the third article, written for the cause of life, it is the weapon for authentic family life, and, paradoxically, the Rosary is the Weapon for Peace.

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October is Respect Life Month

Life Matters: Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is a hidden scourge on our families and communities. Those who are victimized often keep it a private matter for various reasons: fear, shame, well-intended efforts to protect others, legal considerations, their past experiences, and their perception that their problem, are not likely to have it addressed. Yet it touches many, and knows no boundaries of race, social class, ethnicity, creed or age (men, women and children of all ages). Statistics suggest one in four women experience domestic violence in their lifetime, and three in four Americans are reported to know a victim of abuse or to have been victims themselves.

The Gospel of Life

The majority of those who are victims of abuse are females, an estimated 85 percent are females. Domestic violence and emotional abuse are typically used together in a relationship to control the victim. Persons may be married, living together, or dating. Examples of emotion-
al abuse include name-calling, putdowns, restricting contact with family and friends, or making someone feel forced from working, actual or threatened physical harm (hitting, pushing, hitting sexual assault, stalking, and intimating.

The Gospel of Life

The person being harmed, or who 'was a murderer from the beginning' (Jn 8:44).” He also outlined the importance of the family as the primary community of life and love in which children are nurtured. How vital it is, then, to understand how abusers work and how they keep family members safe from violence in their homes, and how to heal and reunite families where violence has occurred, when possible.

The Gospel of Life

Persons experiencing domestic violence are often termed “victims,” or if the situation has resolved, “survivors,” but it is most accurate to call them children of God, with inher-
ted dignity and deserving our love and respect. This is espe-
cially true because as abused persons they are often plagued by the residue of abuse which impact their ability to deal with the world or the “victim” mindset, which has been written off as defeated and finished too easily. Because as abused persons, some may experience guilt, shame, anger, helplessness, and despair.

The Gospel of Life

Some victims of domestic abuse have a tendency to “normal-
ize” violent behavior based on experiences in their family of origin, where they struggled with their sense of self-worth, setting boundaries, or expressing themselves. The family of origin was dysfunctional, its unhealthy equilibrium may have been the only thing they knew. Consequently, some may be more easily disposed of sex or abuse, abusers use vio-

The Gospel of Life

lence to get what they want. This being said, it is important to understand that abusers, “hurt people hurt people,” whether emotionally, physically, or sexually. The emotional and psychological pain can be just as bad and just as harmful to their own self-worth, their own sense of self-esteem, their own identity, and even their own self-worth.

The Gospel of Life

Aggressors must first become aware of their need for psycholog-
ical assistance before they can recover and exercise healthier communication. It is difficult for people who have learned to seek help, often burdened by shame, fear of being judged or psychological issues (e.g., addictions). Once the problem is recognized, there is reason for hope: psychotherapists can help such persons with their thinking, forgiveness, emotional stabili-

The Gospel of Life

Archbishop Chaput told the crowd of more than 500, which included both veteran pro-lifers and members of the Millennial generation, gathered at the Radis-
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The Gospel of Life

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ical assistance before they can recover and exercise healthier communication. It is difficult for people who have learned to seek help, often burdened by shame, fear of being judged or psychological issues (e.g., addictions). Once the problem is recognized, there is reason for hope: psychotherapists can help such persons with their thinking, forgiveness, emotional stabili-

The Gospel of Life

Archbishop Chaput told the crowd of more than 500, which included both veteran pro-lifers and members of the Millennial generation, gathered at the Radis-
on Hotel in Harrisburg on Sept. 29.

The Gospel of Life

“Over the past 43 years, the pro-life movement has been written off as defeated and finished too easily. Because as abused persons, some may experience guilt, shame, anger, helplessness, and despair.

The Gospel of Life

Some victims of domestic abuse have a tendency to “normal-
ize” violent behavior based on experiences in their family of origin, where they struggled with their sense of self-worth, setting boundaries, or expressing themselves. The family of origin was dysfunctional, its unhealthy equilibrium may have been the only thing they knew. Consequently, some may be more easily disposed of sex or abuse, abusers use vio-

The Gospel of Life

lence to get what they want. This being said, it is important to understand that abusers, “hurt people hurt people,” whether emotionally, physically, or sexually. The emotional and psychological pain can be just as 

Archbishop offers Hope for Pro-Life Movement

By Maria V. Gallagher

Special to The Witness

Archbishop Charles Chaput of Philadelphia says that 43 years after the tragic U.S. Supreme Court ruling Roe v. Wade, there is reason for hope for the pro-life movement.

Archbishop Chaput made his comments at the 2016 Celebrate Life Banquet sponsored by the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Education Fund. The Federation is the Keystone State affiliate of the National Right to Life Committee.

““We have every reason to hope,” Archbishop Chaput told the crowd of more than 500, which included both veteran pro-lifers and members of the Millennial generation, gathered at the Radisson Hotel in Harrisburg on Sept. 29.

“Over the past 43 years, the pro-life movement has been written off as defeated and finished too many times to count. Yet here you are tonight again, discounting your critics and refusing to die. And why is that?

“It’s because no court decision, no law and no political lobby can ever change the truth about when human life begins and the sanctity that God attaches to each and every human person, born or unborn,” Archbishop Chaput said.

“Yet there is a hopeful and encouraging reason to be inspired, to build a helpful list of “Dos” and “Don’ts” for building a culture of life.

The Papal Pro-life Office

Our “Catholic Faith and the Death Penalty”

A Seminar for Respect Life Month

October 14, 2016 • The Catholic Witness • 5

The National Domestic Violence Hotline provides crisis intervention and referrals to local service providers. For more information, go to www.thed Timeout for hard of hearing

National Domestic Violence Hotline 800-799-SAFE (7233) or 800-787-3224 (TTY for hard of hearing)
Medical Moral Issues Workshop Addresses End-of-Life Care through Lens of Catholic Principles

By Jen Reed

The Diocesan Secretariat for Catholic Life and Evangelization offered a workshop on medical moral issues at the Cardinal Keeler Center in Harrisburg on Sept. 30, addressing a variety of issues and questions regarding end-of-life care. Among the topics discussed were advance health care directives, physician-assisted suicide, considering the person suffering from dementia, and Church teaching on artificial sustenance and pain management.

Workshop presenters were:
• Father David Dannerke, PhD, Vicar General and Medical Ethicist for the Diocese of Harrisburg
• Father Paul C.B. Schenck, EdD, Director of the Diocesan Office of Respect Life Activities
• Mr. Dominic Lombardi, Diocesan Secretary for Catholic Life and Evangelization

The Catholic Witness presents here several breakdowns of the workshop’s most prominent topics of discussion.

Advance Health Care Directives

In the state of Pennsylvania, an advance health care directive is a living will, a health care power of attorney (such a close friend) who will advocate on your behalf, provide copies of the advance directive to family members, friends and doctors, and update it on a routine basis as circumstances such as age, health and medical technology change.

The control of medical care should be in the hands of the patient,” Dannerke remarked.

Advance health care directives can be found, free of charge, at hospitals and nursing homes, and are available on the Web site of the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference at: www.pacatholic.org/bishops-statements/living-will-and-health-care-power-of-attorney-2007/lwformweb

NUTRITION AND PAIN MANAGEMENT

“Pain and suffering and death are not God’s will for us, but they are part of what we have to endure in his mission, united with his Son,” said Dominic Lombardi, Diocesan Secretary for Catholic Life and Evangelization.

The Catholic Church considers nutrition and hydration as part of general care for an individual. The Church teaches that we have a responsibility to care for life, and providing sustenance is part of that responsibility.

However, the Church also recognizes that there are situations – such as in the case of an actively dying person – where feeding may be overly burdensome and cause greater suffering.

“If you’re suffering from end-stage cancer and death is imminent, you are not required to be given artificial nutrition, said Father David Dannerke, PhD, Vicar General and Medical Ethicist for the Diocese of Harrisburg.

“You are allowed to let nature take its course.”

These situations must be distinguished from those of patients who are ill and incapacitated, yet not imminently dying, as the Church teaches that a patient in a non-terminal condition should not deny or be refused nutrition and hydration.

On the issue of pain management, the workshop pointed to the benefits of palliative care, which, especially when treatment has ceased, can help alleviate pain, reduce anxiety and bring comfort.

“Cessation of treatment does not mean cessation of care. Once we cease to care, we should increase measures to care,” Dannerke remarked.

At times, health care professionals seek to abate a dying patient’s pain by increasing doses of morphine, a treatment that can secondarily hasten death.

According to the Church’s Principle of Double Effect, it is permissible to offer such treatment that might have a harmful effect, provided that:
• The act itself is good or at least neutral
• The good and bad effects both flow from the same act
• The agent intends the good effect and not the bad
• There must be a proportionate reason for performing the act and allowing the bad effect

“In the majority of cases, keeping a person free from pain is looked upon as a good by the Church,” Dannerke said. “No one is required to be given morphine, a treatment that can secondarily hasten death.

Temperature can be lowered. Yes. But do I want to lower her temperature? Yes. Do I wish for them to be relieved of their suffering and pain? Yes. Do I wish for them not to be in a condition of deterioration? Yes. But do I wish them dead? No.”

— Father Paul CB Schenck, EdD, Director of the Diocesan Office of Respect Life Activities

Physician-Assisted Suicide

In a culture that often views death as a defeat and measures a person’s worth on their productivity, the Catholic Church upholds the dignity of the human person for the sole reason of their being created in the image and likeness of God.

“There are no accidental babies and no throwaway people. There is no life not worth living,” said Father Paul CB Schenck, Director of the Diocesan Office of Respect Life Activities.

Physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia are presented under the guise of compassion and mercy; in reality, both consider the patient or his or her suffering as a burden.

Our response is to walk with the sick and the dying.

“There is a journey that every human being has to face,” said Dominic Lombardi, Diocesan Secretary for Catholic Life and Evangelization. “Our very life is a value unto itself, not for any further means or purpose.”

“We can address pain management. We can provide a context in which they experience love,” he said.

“The mere presence of the suffering person is a profound gift at the end of life, and it is a moment of evangelization in which we open ourselves up to God. Physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia take away that gift at the end of life and keep people blind to it,” Mr. Lombardi said.

Caring for the Person with Dementia

Dementia means “lost mind” or “taken mind,” and is a general term for loss of capacity to recall memories. It can also impact a person’s ability to speak, swallow and perform day-to-day tasks.

Father Paul CB Schenck, Director of the Diocesan Office of Respect Life Activities, recalled watching as his mother suffered from dementia for five years, and knows firsthand the pain that family members can feel when a loved one doesn’t recall milestone events or recognize their children.

Sometimes, it can seem as though the person suffering from dementia is an entirely different person than the one family and friends know and love.

“The reality is, Mom is the very same person she has always been,” Father Schenck said.

“While she may not recall a large or very important part of her life – her married years, her children, even her own name – she is still the same person,” he said. “Think of her when she was an infant. She didn’t know her name. She may have known her siblings but didn’t understand their relationship to her. She didn’t know her husband – he was far off – and didn’t know who her children would be. But she wasn’t someone else. She was your mother, but at another stage of her life, her development. Later she was a pre-adolescent and would have known more, but not as much as she would as a newly-wed, or as a young mother.

“But she wasn’t a different person; she was just at a different stage of life and knowledge,” Father Schenck said.

He called for resistance to any effort that would deny personhood to those who suffer from dementia, reminding, “Each life is unique, unrepeatable and irreplaceable.”

Advance Health Care Directives Available

Advance health care directives can be found, free of charge, at hospitals and nursing homes, and are available to download from the Web site of the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference at: www.pacatholic.org/bishops-statements/living-will-and-health-care-power-of-attorney-2007/lwformweb

The Pennsylvania Catholic Witness presents here several breakdowns of the workshop’s most prominent topics of discussion.

Advance health care directives can include “Do not resuscitate” orders, time parameters for treatments, and approval or disapproval of tests, procedures and medications.

Father Dannerke said, “Advance health care directives can be found, free of charge, at hospitals and nursing homes, and are available on the Web site of the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference at: www.pacatholic.org/bishops-statements/living-will-and-health-care-power-of-attorney-2007/lwformweb

On Facebook at www.facebook.com/PACatholic
On Twitter at www.twitter.com/pacatholic

“The intention in respect to any intervention must never be to bring about the patient’s death. To allow someone to die peacefully sometimes is the morally right thing to do for someone who is actively dying, but we must never bring about their death either directly or indirectly.

Do I wish for them to be relieved of their suffering and pain? Yes. Do I wish for them not to be in a condition of deterioration? Yes. But do I wish them dead? No.”

— Father Paul CB Schenck, EdD, Director of the Diocesan Office of Respect Life Activities

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A mother and daughter support each other while watching a video produced by the New York Catholic Conference — “Advance Health Care Directives: Professing Our Faith in the Sacrality of Life” — during a medical moral issues workshop offered at the Cardinal Keeler Center in Harrisburg.
husband and wife are united as one, giving full expression to intercession, and reflect upon the biblical stories of Sarah and or a therapist can also help ease the pain. Ask the saints for their port group, or spiritual direction can offer comfort and provide with commonly known prayers, “but also to pray in our own er of prayer, a conversation in which “heart speaks unto heart,” helpful to you on this journey.

women can be excruciating.

one or more children, they are unable to have another. conception never happens. Others suffer repeated miscarriages.

If you experience difficulty bringing a child into your family, that also respect your marriage and any children who may be about these, fertility awareness practices, and other treatments can all be very soothing.

(See also Which Medical Treatments Are Consistent with Church Teaching?)

Bowing Our Heads Opens Our Hearts to Him

National Association of Holy Name Society Seeks to Help People Encounter Jesus

By Jen Reed
The Catholic Witness

The National Association of the Holy Name Society brought its members to Lancaster County Sept. 27 through Oct. 2 for its 46th annual convention, and with it the promotion of reverence for the Most Holy Name.

The Holy Name Society is a confraternity that seeks to help people personally encounter Jesus through awareness, reverence and devotion to Him. The Society is open to clergy, religious, men, women and youth.

“The Holy Name Society was established to bring to God’s people a reverence for the Holy Name of Jesus. Everything that we do leads up to reverencing the Holy Name,” said Bishop Mitchell Rozanski of the Diocese of Springfield, Mass., who serves as the Episcopal Moderator of the Society.

“From everything that we’re called in the Gospels to bring out to the world, we seek to reverence the Holy Name,” he told The Catholic Witness. “It’s by the witness of our lives, by our actions, by our dedication to prayer, and bringing glory to Jesus’ name.”

“We are certainly reminded of bowing our heads at the name of Jesus. Bowing our heads opens our hearts to Him,” Bishop Rozanski said.

The Society’s convention was held at the Fulton Steamboat Inn in Lancaster, and attendees gathered for Mass at Holy Trinity Church in Columbia on Oct. 1, where Bishop Ronald Gainer served as principal celebrant, and Bishop Rozanski as concelebrant and homilist.

“The convention brings us together in a spirit of prayer, and also allows us to bring ideas from our parish and diocesan Holy Name Societies,” Bishop Rozanski told The Catholic Witness. “As we receive the input of our delegates and our officers, we are able to set direction for the future of the Holy Name Society in our country.”

That direction is now focusing on bringing new members specifically women and youth to the Society.

The Holy Name Society, when first introduced into the United States, confined its ministry to men. The Society was opened to women and youth over the years. It is canonically connected to the Dominican Order.

Yet the national association, in recent years, realized an urgency to uniquely define a new evangelization strategy for the Holy Name Society, and the implementation of this Strategic Plan of Renewal comes in the same year as both the Jubilee of Mercy and the 800th Jubilee of the Dominican Order.

Karen Kubulak, the Society’s Marketing and Communications Director, explained that in its renewal, “the Holy Name Society returns to its very roots in 1274, when Pope Gregory X asked Blessed John of Vercelli and the Dominican Order to preach ‘all the faithful’ a reverence and witness to the Holy Name of Jesus Christ, our salvation.”

“This ministry constituted the Church’s answer in the Thirteenth Century to those who denied the Divinity of Christ, blasphemed His Holy Name and repudiated obedience to the Commandments of God and the civil law of the land,” Ms. Kubulak said. “Those same circumstances and others exist in our fast paced – depersonalized society of technology. Yet that same technology is a boon for evangelization.”

Bishop Gainer joined the National Holy Name group at a banquet dinner at the Fulton Steamboat Inn following the Mass at Holy Trinity on Oct. 1 and encouraged the group in their ministry of inspiring people to personally encounter Jesus through awareness, reverence and devotion to the Most Holy Name of Jesus.

He related how an older woman had recently requested a meeting with him about something of utmost importance. The woman wanted to know why she saw no longer saw anyone bowing their heads at the Name of Jesus, in Church or in prayers – a simple request, but a profound one.

“I think she is right – we have lost something over the years and I commend you for trying to revive that,” Bishop Gainer said.

He encouraged Holy Name members that their ministry was sorely needed today, calling on the faithful to not ignore this calling, but always showing awareness of the Divinity of Jesus and reverence and devotion.

Members of the Holy Name Society are called to contribute to the evangelization mission of the Church and to make perpetual acts of reverence and love for Our Lord and Savior. The apostolate of the society is to assist in parish ministries by performing the Spiritual Works of Mercy: to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, give drink to the thirsty, shelter to the homeless, visit those in prison, and bury the dead; as well as the Spiritual Works of Mercy: to convert sinners, in- struct the ignorant, counsel the wayward, comfort the sorrowing, bear adversity patiently, forgive offenses, and pray for the living and the dead.

Father Nicholas Monco, O.P., Dominican Promoter of the Central Province of the Holy Name Society, is charged with advancing devotion to the Holy Name, and remarked that “Honoring and loving the Holy Name of Jesus is a particular way of loving the person himself.”

“I developed a devotion to the Holy Name in seminary, because I saw Brothers bowing their head at the name of Jesus, and I started copying them and it created this devotion in me,” he said. “Bowing our heads at his name allows us to pray with the body.”

He offered an analogy to one of Hermione’s statements in “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone.” She told Harry, “Fear of a name increases fear of the thing itself.”

Father Monco offers this lesson on the value of a name: “Love of the name increases love of the thing itself,” he said.

(Membership in the Holy Name Society is open to all Catholics, lay faithful, clergy and religious over the age of 18. They must be firm believers in all that the Catholic Church believes and teach and put these teachings into practice in their daily lives. Membership is typically at the parish level; contact your parish Holy Name Society, or learn more at www.nahns.com.)

(Contributing to this story was Karen Kubulak, Marketing and Communications Director of the National Association of the Holy Name Society.)

Emma Hornick holds the crozier of Bishop Ronald Gainer, principal celebrant of the Mass at Holy Trinity Church.
“With a faith brought by missionaries...”

Remember this image? In 2014 the theme for World Mission Sunday was “I Will Build My Church,” featuring the Church in Mongolia — the world’s youngest Catholic Church. After many decades of struggling in a communist-ruled country with no religious freedom, it was just a little more than 20 years ago that the people of Mongolia had the opportunity to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ.

We heard the story of Bishop Wenceslao (Wens) Padilla, a missionary priest and now the first Bishop of Mongolia. He and two missionary priests arrived in Mongolia in 1992 to build the Catholic Church and to serve the poor of this Asian nation.

Bishop Wens was literally starting from zero — there were no Catholics in Mongolia when he and his fellow missionaries arrived. By proclaiming and sharing their faith through spiritual and practical outreach, including education, medical care and vocational skill training programs, the first missionaries slowly built the Mongolian Catholic Church in a country where, for generations, there was no proclamation of the Gospel.

The first baptisms took place after three years of their presence. Each Easter, on average, 20-50 join the Church.

Today, the Mongolian Catholic Church has just over a thousand baptized, six parishes, 20 missionaries, and 50 nuns from 12 congregations. But it also has something else: its first native priest.

Father Joseph Enkh was ordained in August 2016 in the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul in Ulaanbaatar. “The ordination of a native priest will stimulate the enthusiasm and sense of belonging among the Mongolians, towards a Church that has long been seen as foreign, with a faith brought by missionaries,” says Father Prosper Mbumba, CICM, a Congolese missionary in Mongolia. “[It] makes us more aware of the grace of God that works in our young church in Mongolia.”

Bishop Wens remains as committed today as on that first day, to reach out and offer practical and spiritual support to those in need — and to continue to build the Church.

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith has supported the development and outreach of the Catholic Church in Mongolia since Bishop Wens and the other missionaries were first invited in to the country more than 20 years ago. With your ongoing support through the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, offered on World Mission Sunday, the work of these missionaries may continue here and around the globe, and the poor receive practical help, while they experience God’s love and mercy, His hope and peace. (Article from the Pontifical Mission Societies in the U.S.)

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
OFFICE OF PONTIFICAL MISSIONS
Diocese of Harrisburg
4800 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg PA 17111
(717) 657-4804 ext. 240
www.hbgdiocese.org/missions
Reverend Robert F. Sharman, Diocesan Director
Aid

Continued from 1

by Reuters based on conversations with local officials.

However, Haiti’s Civil Protection Agency reported that 336 people had died. The agency’s accounting of casualties is lower because of a policy that requires emergency workers to visit each village to confirm the number of casualties.

Health care workers were becoming increasingly concerned Oct. 9 that cholera would explode throughout the worst hit areas of Grand’Anse and South departments because of a lack of water and sanitation. The water-borne disease was introduced into Haiti in 2010 by U.N. peacekeeping troops. More than 800,000 cases and nearly 10,000 deaths have been attributed to the disease since then by Haiti’s Department of Public Health and Population.

Reports of damage and casualties in Cuba and other nations affected by the storm were sporadic. In Cuba, the entire eastern tip of the island, from Baracoa to Punta de Maisi, was cut off from neighboring Guantanamo, said Father Jose Espino, pastor of San Lazaro Church in Guantanamo, and the archdiocese’s liaison to Caritas Cuba.

In Haiti, emergency supplies that had been stored in warehouses before the storm were being distributed to people whose homes were turned into mud pies, said Bessey, Haiti country director for Catholic Relief Services.

CRS staff flew into Les Cayes, a city of 71,000 on the southwest coast. Bessey said thousands of people remained in shelters in the city.

“I don’t know if that is decreasing. I imagine that won’t decrease all that quickly because more than 80 percent of the houses were damaged or destroyed,” he said.

Bessey expressed concern for outlying coastal communities on the far end of Haiti’s southern peninsula, which took the brunt of Matthew’s assault and have been cut off from communications.

“Time is of the essence and we want to keep going,” Bessey told Catholic News Service from Port-au-Prince, Haiti’s capital.

In a telegram to Haitian Cardinal Chibly Langlois of Les Cayes, president of the Haitian bishops’ conference, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, said Pope Francis wanted the people of Haiti to know how sad he was to hear of the death and destruction brought by Hurricane Matthew.

Pope Francis offered condolences to “all those who lost a loved one” and assured “the injured and all those who have lost their homes and belongings” that he was close to them through prayer. “Welcoming and encouraging solidarity in facing the country’s latest trial, the Holy Father entrusts all Haitians to the maternal protection of Our Lady of Perpetual Help,” the telegram, released Oct. 7 by the Vatican, said.

The U.S. bishops’ overseas relief and development agency planned to send additional staff and vehicles into the region. Among the areas CRS was attempting to reach was Jeremie, a town northwest of Les Cayes. Initial reports showed that little was left standing after the storm passed.

Meanwhile, CRS on Oct. 7 committed $5 million as an initial contribution to help Haiti and other Caribbean nations to recover from the storm, the strongest to hit the region in a decade.

“Haiti in particular has once again been struck by tragedy,” Sean Callahan, chief operating officer of CRS, said in a statement announcing the aid package. “This commitment shows that we will continue to stand with its people, offering our hand in friendship to help and support them in this time of dire need.”

Bessey said food, water and hygiene and kitchen kits stored in a warehouse in Les Cayes were undamaged when Matthew’s fierce winds tore part of a roof off the facility. Workers planned to complete repairs Oct. 7 so that the facility could be fully operational again, he said.

Father Espino told the Florida Catholic, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Miami, Oct. 7 that in Cuba, a bridge and two main roads leading into Baracoa collapsed or buckled because of flooding and mudslides. He said it took Bishop Wilfrido Pinto Estelles of Guantanamo-Baracoa 16 hours to make the trek from Guantanamo to Baracoa, a trip that normally takes about two hours.

Even then, the damage in coastal areas, such as Maisi, could only be assessed by helicopter, Father Espino said. About 90 percent of the dwellings in Baracoa have been destroyed although no deaths had been reported as of Oct. 7.

CRS continues its efforts to offer relief; visit www.crs.org for information on ways you can help.

Help

Continued from 1

As Hurricane Matthew headed up the coast, it largely spared Miami and its environs. AP reported that there was “storm surge flooding” along the northeastern Florida coast, including in Flagler Beach, St. Augustine, and by the historic State Road A1A in Daytona Beach, Fla., Oct. 8 after a portion of it was washed away when Hurricane Matthew hit the coast.

“They are calling us to help, and we are calling on the church,” said Father Reginald Jean-Mary, pastor of Notre Dame d’Haiti Mission in Little Haiti, has been in touch with Haiti’s Cardinal Chibly Langlois, who heads the Diocese of Les Cayes.

Father Espino said that Catholic Charities also had communicated with a food supply wholesaler who could have rice, beans and cooking oils put on pallets and be ready to deliver to a freight forwarder by Oct. 7 or 8 to go to the islands.

 regard Haiti, the immediate need is for cash donations to purchase water and non-perishable food items, as well as to aid in the cleanup.

All Miami archdiocesan aid would be funneled through church organizations such as Caritas Cuba; CRS, the U.S. bishops’ overseas relief and development agency; and Amor en Accion, a lay missionary group that works with Miami’s sister Diocese of Port-de-Paix in Haiti’s northwest region — the poorest in that nation.

Teresita Gonzalez, executive director of Amor en Accion, noted that the Catholic Church is already present in every one of the affected nations, its agencies offer the best and most effective way of providing relief.

That is especially true in northwestern Haiti, where there are no NGOs [nongovernmental organizations], only the Church,” Gonzalez said.

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days. “When he was unable to pray out loud, he would move his fingers through the beads,” Father Sullivan said. “The beads were the most important thing in his life.”

Vincent James Huber Joseph Topper was born in Hanover on July 28, 1912, to Vincent and Flora Topper. On the day he was born, he was baptized by a parish priest because doctors did not expect him to live due to tuberculosis.

His mother and three of his siblings died when he was very young, and his father nearly succumbed to the influenza epidemic of 1918.

He was raised in St. Joseph Parish in Hanover, where he served as an altar boy for the 5:30 a.m. Mass, and attended St. Joseph School in Hanover and St. Mary’s High School in McSherrystown.

Bishop Philip McDevitt accepted him into the diocese’s seminarian program, and he entered St. Vincent Seminary in Latrobe, Pa., where he spent two years in college in preparation for the seminary.

Bishop George Learch ordained then-Father Topper to the priesthood at St. Patrick Cathedral in Harrisburg on June 6, 1936. His first assignments were as assistant pastor of Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in York (1936-1943), where he served the pastoral needs of the people of St. Joseph Chapel in Saginaw, and at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Mount Carmel (1943-1948).


He was named an Honorary Prelate to His Holiness Pope Paul VI and given the title of Monsignor on May 27, 1970. In each parish where he served as pastor, Msgr. Topper focused his efforts on expanding Catholic education.

As pastor of St. Mary’s in Fairfield and administrator of its mission at St. Rita’s in Blue Ridge Summit, he purchased a bus that would drive students to and from school. At St. Joseph’s in York, he oversaw the construction of a school, and at St. Joseph’s in York and St. Columba in Bloomsburg, he worked to expand classrooms.

“Throughout his entire priesthood, he worked hard,” Father Sullivan remarked. “There was nothing that was beneath him to do – whether it be helping in a kitchen as pastor to sell meatballs and spaghetti dinners, or driving a school bus. He was very honored and privileged to be a priest, and very much aware of his responsibility.”

Msgr. Hugh Overbaugh, cousin of Msgr. Topper, remembers the late priest as a hard-working and detail-oriented pastor for the sake of the people.

“When he served at St. Columbia and his parish had a stand at the annual Bloomsburg Fair, he knew exactly what everything was going to cost, how much the parish was going to be able to make,” he recalled. “At St. Joseph Parish in York for the spaghetti dinners there, he knew how much the little pails of butter for the dinner rolls would cost. He was excellent at finances and examining the details. And while there in York, he had the foresight to purchase the property east of town so that a school and parish could be built.”

After he retired from active ministry in 1977, Msgr. Topper visited a number of parishes in the diocese to review their finances and offer advice on how to cut costs or increase funds, Msgr. Overbaugh said.

“He served the Lord so well, and was such a wonderful person,” Msgr. Overbaugh said.

Early in his retirement, Msgr. Topper lived at the former Villa Vianney priests’ home now, “I am so grateful for your priest or deacon, I thank God that He put you in my life and made it happier because of you. I am so grateful for your prayers, love and goodness!”

In addition to his parents, Msgr. Topper was preceded in death by two-step mother, five siblings, a niece and a brother-in-law. He is survived by two sisters, Judith McKim and Sister Loretta Topper, SC, of Connellsville, as well as nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

(Condolences may be sent to Msgr. Topper’s sister, Mrs. Judy McKim, 67 Maple Drive, Hanover, PA 17331.)
Obituaries

The names of the following deceased persons have been submitted by their parishes. Please remember in your prayers the happy repose of these recently departed souls and the consolation of their loved ones.


WAYSBORO – St. Andrew: William Reed.

York – St. Rose of Lima: Max Lanzendorfer.

Catholic Witness

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

Father Walter Halaburda, 2000
Father Edward J. Barrett, 2001
Father John Suknaic, 2004
Father Bernard Quinn, 2005
Deacon Edwin Fitzpatrick, 2008
Father Stephen Sheetz, 2009
Father Kevin Kayda, 2013
Father Andrew J. Fontanella, 2014.

The Witness

Retiro Matrimonial Diocesano:
“Edifica Tu Casa Sobre La Roca”

Predicador: Diácono Jorge L. Vera Sr.
Sábado, 29 de octubre del 2016
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Centro Cardenal Keeler
Diócesis de Harrisburg
4800 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg, PA
DONACIÓN POR PAREJA: $30
Desayuno y Almuerzo Gratis!!

Asientos Limitados
Para más información contacte a Jaclyn Curran al (717) 657-4804 ext. 313 jcurran@hbgdiocese.org

Nine profess vows as Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia Congregation

Nine young women professed the simple vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience as Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia Congregation in Nashville, Tennessee in July. Among those who made their First Profession was Sister Anna Kolbe Brown, O.P., a former parishioner of St. John the Evangelist Parishes of Columbia, Md., and the daughter of Dave and Donna Brown, parishioners of St. Joseph Parish in Berwick. She is a graduate of Mount de Sales Academy in Catonsville, Maryland, and Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Early Childhood Education.

Sister Anna Kolbe is currently teaching second grade at Saint Joseph School in Nashville. The Congregation of Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia was established in Nashville in 1860. The Sisters of St. Cecilia are dedicated to the apostolate of Catholic education. The community of nearly 300 sisters serves in 37 schools throughout the United States, with mission houses also in Sydney, Australia; Vancouver, British Columbia; Rome and Bracciano, Italy; Elgin, Scotland; Sittard, The Netherlands, and Limerick, Ireland. St. Cecilia Motherhouse is located in Nashville, Tennessee. For more information on the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia Congregation, visit www.nashvilledominican.org.
Churches and Families welcome!

Bazaars and Craft Fairs
Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Council of Catholic Women is holding its annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, November 5, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Parish Hall. There will be a great variety of homemade baked goods, frozen foods, homemade soups, baked goods, crafts and theme baskets. Join us for a really “bazaar” holiday experience. The festival will be held at the Parish Social Hall, 1300 Lehman Street. For more information, call Midge at 717-269-0785.

The Arc of Council Catholic Church will hold their Annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, November 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the school cafeteria located at 265 W. Aerea Avenue in Heskinsburg. There will be a great variety of handmade baked goods, frozen foods, homemad e crafts, religious items, Christmas decorations and toys. Children will enjoy the “Cookies for Kids” Breakfast and crafts that will also be available. Please join us to find some great bargains and enjoy some holiday fun.

Catholic Charities in Chambersburg - Holiday Craft Fair, sponsored by the Council Catholic Church of Catholic Women, will be held on Saturday, November 12, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 825 Baltimore Blades Blvd., Chambersburg. For more information, contact Kathy at 717-352-7354.

St. Francis Xavier Gift Fair and Holiday Bazaar, November 12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 825 Baltimore Blades Blvd., Chambersburg. For more information, contact Kathy at 717-352-7354.

Churches and Families welcome!

Election of Priests
The Diocesan Nominating Committee requests that any persons who have an interest in ordaining a priest, or who have any questions regarding the priest ordination process, contact the Director of Vocations at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 279 North 2nd Street, Chambersburg. The committee will meet on November 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria located at 359 W. Areba Avenue in Heskinsburg. They will share in prayer and discernment. Breakfast and coffee will also be available. Please join us to find some great bargains and enjoy some holiday fun.

Fundraisers and Events
Jen St. Arc of Carol, Hershersville, will be hosting a 4th Annual American Girl Fashion Show on October 21 at 6 p.m., October 22 at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the Community Center. The show will have 60 American Girl Dolls, refreshments, silent auction, and items for sale. The proceeds will go towards the purchase of new coats for underprivileged children in the community.

The Sacred Heart Parish of Lewistown is holding a benefit concert to help build the new Children's Home for Christ. The concert will be held on Saturday, October 29 at 7:30 p.m. in the school auditorium. The concert will feature a variety of local musicians, including a barbershop quartet, acoustic guitar, and instrumental music. Refreshments will be served, and a silent auction will be held to benefit the cause. Donations will be accepted at the door, and all proceeds will be used to support the new Children's Home for Christ.

York Catholic's Fall Open House will be held Sunday, October 16, from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. Prospective students and their families are welcome to attend and learn more about the school. The open house will include guided tours, academic information sessions, and the opportunity to meet students. Applicants are welcome to apply during this open house, and the application process will remain open through December 15, 2016. Applications will be available along with the online application at www.yorkcatholic.edu. Interested families are invited to tour the campus and learn more about the school's academic programs, extracurricular activities, and overall campus life. The open house will be held on Saturday, October 22 at the Parish Social Hall, 6150 Allenburg Road, Harrisburg, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Dinner is included for all open house guests. For more information, contact Helen J. Purcell at 717-345-5537 or www.yorkcatholic.edu.

Bishop McElheney will host a visit from a prospective student and their family for the Fall Open House. The open house will be held on Saturday, October 22 at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Prospective students and their families are welcome to attend and learn more about the school. The open house will include guided tours, academic information sessions, and the opportunity to meet students. Applications are welcome to apply during this open house, and the application process will remain open through December 15, 2016. Applications will be available along with the online application at www.yorkcatholic.edu. Interested families are invited to tour the campus and learn more about the school's academic programs, extracurricular activities, and overall campus life. The open house will be held on Saturday, October 22 at the Parish Social Hall, 6150 Allenburg Road, Harrisburg, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Dinner is included for all open house guests. For more information, contact Helen J. Purcell at 717-345-5537 or www.yorkcatholic.edu.

Job Opportunities
St. Anne Parish in Lancaster is currently seeking to fill a part-time secretarial position. The position requires an energetic and professional individual who can assist the Parish Office. The position is approximately 10 hours per week. Interested applicants should send their resume to Father Tri M. Luong, Pastoral Associate, St. Anne Parish, 1044 N. Front St., Lancaster, PA 17603.
LANCASTER CATHOLIC CRUISES TO ANOTHER DISTRICT 3 GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

By Chris Heisey  
The Catholic Witness

The Crusaders of Lancaster Catholic successfully defended their Class AA District 3 golf title in convincing fashion in a steady breeze on Sept. 28 at Briarwood Golf Club in York. Whenever you have all five of your players scoring in the 70s in high school golf, good things are going to happen. In team golf, the competition is co-ed, and led by Lauren Bird’s solid 74, the Crusaders bested York Catholic by 24 strokes, posting an impressive aggregate of 302. With a wind out of the atypical northeast given the lurking Hurricane Matthew, the golf course played peculiarly difficult. The short par-fours were down wind and the lengthy fours were in, and that’s what makes the Crusaders’ victory and margin over the field all the more stellar.

Later in the week still at Briarwood, the District 3 individual 36-hole tournament took place. In individual play, the girls and boys have separate championships. On the boys’ draw, the Crusaders placed three golfers in the top-eight with R. J. Van Tash capturing the silver medal with a total of 152. If not for a quadruple bogey nine on the birdie-hole par-five 17th in the second round, Van Tash would have challenged for the top honor. He won the Lebanon-Lancaster League title the week before at Fairview Golf Course in Quentin.

The PIAA state tournament will be played later this month at Heritage Hills, York.
Awaiting a heart operation scheduled for Sept. 26 in Pittsburgh. Palmer, 87, was in a hospital that Nowicki had visited Palmer that day. He died Sept. 25 in Pittsburgh.

Catholic News Service

It wasn’t the first time Archabbot Nowicki of St. Vincent’s Archabbey in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, was in the high-presidential presence. In 1991, when Arnold Palmer came with his wife on a visit to the archabbey, Archabbot Nowicki himself was in the high school at the archabbey.

Palmer did not let denominational differences deter him. “Arnie sort of appealed to everyone. There were no barriers, race, color, creed—those were things that never entered into his mind,” Archabbot Nowicki said. “He was welcoming to everybody and treated everyone as if he was a priest, and treated everybody as if they were priests to enjoy.”

During his lifetime, the archabbot said, Arnold Palmer was “very helpful at keeping the blessings in their lives. He was an inspiration, a sustainer, a teacher.”

The archabbot remarked that day that “a good teacher is an inspiration, a sustainer, a broker and puller, a guide and above all a loving mentor.”

My father came to America in 1929 from a small town near Naples, Italy. Among other things he was a fine cook and often prepared our family meals. Around Easter it was a tradition to have him make a sweet pie made of ricotta cheese, candied fruit and some type of grain (wheat, barley, or rice). After he passed away my mother continued the tradition. Each Holy Saturday, one of us would be tasked to take a pie to our local parish for the priests to enjoy.

But he still played golf, every day at Latrobe Country Club. When the archabbot saw Palmer again, he said Palmer told him, “The next time you send someone, send someone who is as good as your prior. This guy cost me 20 bucks.”

“Arnie, as you know, was competitive and enjoyed playing with good golfers,” Archabbot Nowicki said.

“Fred Rogers (of ‘Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood’ fame) and Arnie Palmer went to the same school together. I think they were one year apart. They were very good friends during his lifetime,” the archabbot told CNS. “Arnie’s father taught Mr. Rogers how to play golf. — [Rogers] said that his father taught Arnie better than he taught him.”

In retirement, Palmer lived five months of the year in his native Latrobe. Not only did he and his first wife, Winnie, who died in 1999, lend their name and their presence to various archabbey events, Winnie Palmer was “very helpful at keeping Wal-Mart out of our backyard,” Archabbot Nowicki said. Arnold Palmer also served on the St. Vincent’s College board of directors. In 1996 the college gave Palmer an honorary degree.

**Witness History: A Look Back at 50 Years of Photos**

The first day of school at Sacred Heart of Jesus School in Conewago in 1999 is documented in this photo by Chris Heisey, taken 17 years ago this fall.

The photo shows St. Joseph Sister Eileen Kean greeting first-graders Shannon Kreiner and Kathleen Foley as they lined up to enter Sacred Heart, which celebrated that year the theme “Cup of Blessing,” encouraging students and faculty to recognize all the blessings in their lives.

Sister Eileen, a longtime Catholic school educator and administrator, remarked that day that “a good teacher is an inspiration, a sustainer, a broker and puller, a guide and above all a loving mentor.”

By Mark Pattison
Catholic News Service

Benedictine Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki of St. Vincent’s Archabbey in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, was with Arnold Palmer when the golfer died Sept. 25 at a Pittsburgh hospital at age 87.

About an hour after I’d departed, I got a call that Palmer’s health was failing rapidly, the archabbot told Catholic News Service in a Sept. 26 telephone interview.

Even though Palmer was a lifelong Presbyterian, he had a relationship with St. Vincent’s spanning more than 50 years, when Archabbot Nowicki himself was in the high school at the archabbey.

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**Benedictine Archabbot was at Golf Legend’s Bedside when He Died**

Former champion Arnold Palmer of the U.S hits from a sand trap during the 2008 annual Masters Par 3 golf tournament at the Augusta National Golf Club in Georgia. Palmer, known as “the King” for his transformative legacy in golf, died Sept. 25 at a Pittsburgh hospital at age 87.

CNS/DEREK, REUTERS

**Feeding the Faith**

Joe Gargiulo, Saint Theresa Parish, New Cumberland

**Neapolitan Grain Pin**

### Ingredients

- 1½ lbs. wheat or barley or rice
- 4 egg yolks, 2 whole eggs
- 1 cup sweetened condensed milk
- 2 Tbs. Sugar
- 1 tsp. Vanilla
- 1 lbs. Ricotta Cheese
- Candied fruit if desired

### Directions

**Prepared Pie Crusts**— either make your own or buy pre-made in the store. You will need two crusts per pie. If you wish to cover the top with dough strips, otherwise, one crust per each pin will be enough.

1. Wash and roll grain for 30 to 35 minutes, or until tender. (Rice takes about 20 minutes).
2. Drain and rinse to cool and set aside. In a large bowl beat eggs and sugar until creamy, add condensed milk, vanilla and beat again. Add ricotta and mix thoroughly. (Candied fruit can also be added).
3. Add grain and mix.
4. Place mixture in pie crusts (may need three) and cover with dough strips.
5. Place in oven preheated to 350 degrees for 1 hour or until crusts are golden brown.

This will make two 9 inch pies.
‘Get Connected’ Serves as Social and Spiritual Outing for Young Adults

By Emily M. Albert
The Catholic Witness

Increasing its outreach to young adults, the Diocesan Office for Youth and Young Adult Ministry held a “Get Connected” event Oct. 8, with Mass at St. Leo the Great Church in Rohrerstown followed by a social.

The Mass was celebrated by Bishop Ronald Gainer and concelebrated by Father Peter Hahn, pastor of St. Leo’s, and Father Bernardo Pistone, priest-in-residence at St. Leo’s.

The young adults were invited to “Get Connected” after Mass through a social aimed at creating a connection between young adults from around the diocese.

Attending the social were previous presenters of the Theology on Tap sessions, including priests and lay ministry professionals, who took time to socialize with the young adults, conversing about many topics including the importance of the presence of young adults in leadership at their parish.

Sean Crosby, a young adult from Norristown Pa., was invited to the “Get Connected” event by a friend who lives in the Harrisburg Diocese. It was Sean’s day off from work, and he thought the gathering be a good way to see his friend and be involved in the Church.

“Giving young adults an environment where they are able to talk about things like, ‘Hey did you see that post on Facebook, or that video on YouTube, or did you see the post on Reddit?’ These are things we take notice to on Facebook, or that video on YouTube, or did you see the post on Reddit?” These are things we take notice to on Facebook, or that video on YouTube, or did you see the post on Reddit? These are things we take notice to on Facebook, or that video on YouTube, or did you see the post on Reddit?”

Sean said. “Even the youth of the Church are looking up to us as the future and we are looking to them as the future after us. So we are working together to create an environment where a Catholic isn’t afraid to say ‘I’m Catholic, I’m a member of the Church,’ without having to face persecution either online, in person or even in our own communities.”

He continued to explain how having friends at all different levels of their Catholic faith gives perspective. “Events like this give us a voice and a way to say ‘I’m a member of the Church and I want to keep being a member of the Church with my friends and my family.’”

“St. Paul tells us in his letter to the Romans, there is no Jew or Gentile, no poor or rich; we are all children in the eyes of God. And this [‘Get Connected’] helps bring that to life,” Sean said. “We’re able to be children of God in our own unique way.”

As the evening continued, approximately 80 young adults mingled and enjoyed food and spirits. Board games were available for fun, and conversations echoed through the gymnasium of St. Leo’s. Bishop Gainer made his way through the crowd, speaking with the young adults, including one young man who held a conversation with him about the Gospel from the Mass. Father Hahn, Father Pistone, Father Brian Wayne, Associate Director of the Diocesan Office of Vocations and Campus Minister at Millersville University, and Father Leo Goodman, pastor of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Lancaster, also mingled with the young adults.

The Diocesan Office for Youth and Young Adult Ministry looks forward to more outreach like the “Get Connected” social, and continues to encourage those ages 21-39 to join Theology on Tap. Participants need not be a member of the hosting deanery to attend. All are welcome, and are encouraged to bring friends of all faiths.

For more information about Young Adult Ministry, visit http://www.hbgdiocese.org/youth-and-young-adults/young-adult-ministry/.

A Blue Ribbon for St. Joan of Arc

St. Joan of Arc School in Hershey celebrated its recognition as a 2016 National Blue Ribbon School on Sept. 28, as U.S. Secretary of Education, John B. King, Jr., made the announcement via live video stream that was broadcasted to students and faculty.

The award is based on a school’s overall academic excellence or marked progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. National Blue Ribbon Schools demonstrate that all students can achieve to high levels.

St. Joan of Arc is one of 279 public and 50 private schools to receive the honor this year, and one of four in the diocese to have earned it; the others are St. Patrick School in Carlisle, St. Joseph School in Mechanicsburg, and Trinity High School in Camp Hill.

The Catholic Witness will feature St. Joan of Arc’s accomplishment following the two-day awards ceremony in Washington, D.C., later this fall.