The six men ordained to the priesthood on June 2 prostrate themselves before the altar at St. Patrick Cathedral in Harrisburg as the congregation invokes the intercession of the saints during the Litany of Supplication. See coverage of the ordination on pages 7-10.

The six priests ordained for the Diocese of Harrisburg are:

- John Paul Beiler
- Thomas J. Garlock
- Christopher A. Langley
- Andrew F. McLaughlin
- John L. O'Boyle
- Thomas J. Sauers

This event will include a live enactment of the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary by young people from throughout the Diocese, similar in many ways to the Living Way of the Cross. This event will replace the traditional Palm Sunday Youth Mass and Gathering for 2018. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Opening Mass for the Anniversary Year
10:00 A.M. at Holy Name of Jesus Church, Harrisburg.
Please join Bishop Gainer as celebrant and homilist to begin the anniversary year celebration. A reception, featuring a sampling of ethnic foods from various ethnic and cultural groups that comprise the faithful of the Diocese, will be held immediately following the Mass.

Pilgrimage to Ireland
Join Bishop Gainer on a twelve-day pilgrimage to the Emerald Isle, sponsored by Catholic Charities. In keeping with the 150th anniversary celebration, the pilgrimage will include a visit to the grave of Saint Patrick, the Patron Saint of the Diocese of Harrisburg. Participation is limited.

Pilgrimage to Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
SAVE THE DATE for this diocesan pilgrimage to the Basilica in Washington, D.C. Additional details will be forthcoming.

Closing Mass for Anniversary Year
In the afternoon at Holy Name of Jesus Church, Harrisburg.
Please join Bishop Gainer as celebrant and homilist for this special Mass to conclude our year-long anniversary celebration.

For more information: www.hbgdiocese.org/150
The Catholic Witness • June 8, 2018

By Jen Reed
The Catholic Witness

Father Pang Tcheou was moved to the verge of tears when he arrived for Mass at Mary, Mother of the Church in Mount Joy on the evening of May 21.

Peering through the doors leading from the vestibule into the church, the pastor saw hundreds of parishioners gathered for the celebration of Mass on the Catholic Church’s newest memorial: the Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church.

On the Monday evening after Pentecost, parishioners filled the pews and took extra seats in the vestibule for the Mass, for which Bishop Ronald Gainer served as the principal celebrant.

Pope Francis decreed earlier this year that Latin-rite Catholics around the world would mark the feast – a memorial – on the Monday after Pentecost each year.

He did so after “having attentively considered how greatly the promotion of this devotion might encourage the growth of the maternal sense of the Church in the pastors, religious and faithful, as well as a growth of genuine Marian piety.”

Individuals and families of all ages were joined in the celebration at Mary, Mother of the Church in Mount Joy by a Knights of Columbus honor guard, members of St. Michael’s Guard and the parish choir, which offered several Marian hymns during the Mass.

While the feast honoring Mary as the Mother of the Church is new, the title is not, Bishop Gainer remarked in his homily.

It was noted in a special way at the Second Vatican Council, the bishop explained, pointing to the declaration of Blessed Pope Paul VI at the close of the Council’s third session in November 1964: “For the glory of the Blessed Virgin Mary and for our own consolation, we declare Most Holy Mary Mother of the Church, that is of the whole Christian people, both faithful and pastors, who call her a most loving Mother; and we decree that henceforth the whole Christian people should, by this sweet name, give still greater honor to the Mother of God and address prayers to her.”

“Just as Mary was the mother of the incarnate Son of God,” the bishop said, “so too was she present at the birth of the mystical body of Christ” in the Upper Room at Pentecost.

“At the conclusion of Mass, and prior to a joyous social of food and drink in the parish hall, parishioners presented Bishop Gainer with a painting of the replica of the Mater Ecclesiae image that hangs above the altar there.

Addressing the congregation, Father Tcheou said he was eager and pleased to have the bishop celebrate Mass for the new feast at Mary, Mother of the Church in Mount Joy. At the altar are Deacon Samuel Miller, the parish’s adopted seminarian, Bishop Ronald Gainer and Father Pang Tcheou, pastor.

Barb Clingenpeel and Marnie Bowers present the gifts during Mass celebrated for the Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church, decreed this year by Pope Francis to be observed on the Monday after Pentecost.
Clergy Appointments

The Most Reverend Ronald W. Gainer, Bishop of Harrisburg, has made the following appointments:

Effective June 18, 2018:
• The Very Reverend William C. Forrey from pastor, St. Patrick Parish, Carlisle, to Secretary for Clergy for the Diocese of Harrisburg and pastor, Holy Infant Parish, Manchester.
• Reverend Martin O. Moran from pastor, Divine Redeemer Parish, Mount Carmel, to pastor, St. Patrick Parish, Carlisle.
• Reverend Mark E. Weiss from pastor, Holy Infant Parish, Manchester, to pastor, St. Joseph Parish, Dallastown.
• Reverend Ryan M. Fischer from parochial vicar, St. Joseph Parish, Hanover, to pastor, Divine Redeemer Parish, Mount Carmel.
• At the presentation of Reverend Tony Joseph, Vice Provincial of the Franciscan Missionaries:
  • The Reverend Dijo Thomas, MSFS, from Hospital Chaplain, Hershey Medical Center, to pastor, Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, Marysville, and St. Bernadette Mission, Duncannon.
  • The Reverend Augustine Joseph, MSFS, from parochial vicar, St. Joseph Parish, Mechanicsburg, to parochial vicar, St. Joseph Parish, Danville, and chaplain, Geisinger Medical Center, Danville, and Danville State Hospital.
  • At the presentation of the Very Reverend Dominic Eshikena, OP, Vicar Provincial for North America and the Caribbean:
    • The Reverend Bernard Ayo Onwe, OP, to parochial vicar, Good Shepherd Parish, Camp Hill.
    • The Reverend Ignatius Madumure, OP, from parochial vicar, St. Joseph Parish, Danville, chaplain, Geisinger Medical Center and Danville State Hospital, Danville, to hospital chaplain, Hershey Medical Center, with residence at St. Joan of Arc Parish, Hershey.
    • The Reverend Benedict Faneyes, OP, has been reassigned by his community.
• At the presentation of the Reverend Antony Paulose, Coordinator for the Carmelites of Mary Immaculate:
  • The Reverend Sebasti Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, Marysville, to pastor, Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Lancaster. Father Sebastian remains part-time chaplain for Lancaster General Hospital.
• Reverend Steven Arena from parochial vicar, St. Joan of Arc Parish, Hershey, to parochial vicar, St. John Neumann Parish, Lancaster, and chaplain, Lancaster Catholic High School, Lancaster.
• Reverend Brian Olkowski from parochial vicar, Corpus Christi Parish, Chambersburg, to parochial vicar, St. Joseph Parish, Lancaster, and San Juan Bautista Parish, Lancaster.
• Reverend Richard J. Lyons, newly ordained, to parochial vicar, Corpus Christi Parish, Chambersburg.
• Reverend Stephen J. Logue, newly ordained, to parochial vicar, St. Rose of Lima Parish, York. Father Logue will return for graduate studies in Rome in September.
• Reverend Kenneth C. Roth, newly ordained, to parochial vicar, St. Joan of Arc Parish, Hershey.
• Reverend Timothy J. Sahal, newly ordained, to parochial vicar, St. Joseph Parish, Mechanicsburg, and chaplain, Trinity High School, Camp Hill.
• Reverend Matthew C. Morelli, newly ordained, to parochial vicar, St. Joseph Parish, Hanover, and chaplain, Delone Catholic High School, McSherrystown.
• Reverend Benjamin J. Dunkelberger, newly ordained, to parochial vicar, St. John the Baptist Parish, New Freedom, and campus minister, York College of Pennsylvania.

World Youth Day

Panama City ~ January 21-28, 2019

A pilgrimage for post high school young adults ages 18-35 from the Diocese of Harrisburg and the Archdiocese of Baltimore

Young adults ages 18-35 from around the world will gather with the Holy Father for a week of engaging prayer, vibrant liturgy, powerful catechesis with bishops from around the world, concerts from Catholic artists, and an unforgettable vigil and Mass with the pope.

A non-refundable deposit of $500 is required to reserve your spot. Total cost for the pilgrimage is $3,200.

For more information, contact:
Robert Williams
Director, Office for Youth and Young Adult Ministry
Diocese of Harrisburg
717-657-4804, ext. 328
rwilliams@hbgdiocese.org
Or visit www.hbgdiocese.org/youngchurch

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Immediate Full-Time Vacancy ~ Financial Controller

The Diocese of Harrisburg is looking for a forward-thinking financial executive who is team-oriented, with a collaborative business partner approach and the ability to work well with a wide range of styles and personalities. The successful candidate will be characterized as a person with impeccable integrity, resourceful, cost conscious, attentive to detail, responsive and committed to excellence.

Candidates must have a sound knowledge of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), procedures and methods in order to successfully oversee all aspects of financial reporting and financial administration for the central administrative entities of the Diocese of Harrisburg. Responsibilities include: management of the budget process, general ledger accounting functions, financial reporting, investment management, fixed asset reporting, and credit card processing.

This position assists the CFO in all aspects of the financial management and risk management of the Diocese of Harrisburg and related entities.

Education/Experience:
• Bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in accounting.
• MBA / CPA optional
• Minimum of 5-7 years of relevant accounting and supervisory experience, with some non-profit experience preferred.
• Strong background in computerized information systems/systems implementations preferred

Send résumé and cover letter to employment@hbgdiocese.org
Closing Date June 22, 2018

Diocese of Harrisburg Youth Protection Program

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

For para reportar la sospecha del abuso de un menor, llame al número de teléfono gratuito Linea de Ayuda Abuso del Niño Pennsylvania 1-800-932-0313

Para reportar la sospecha del abuso de un menor, llame al número de teléfono gratuito Linea de Ayuda Abuso de un menor del Diocesano 1-800-626-1608 o envíe correo electrónico: ReportAbuse@hbgdiocese.org

Bishop Gainer’s Public Calendar

• June 10 – Mass and Blessing of Parish Center, Saint Peter Parish, Elizabethtown, 11 a.m.
• June 12-15 – United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Meeting, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
• June 18-22 – Retreat for Diocese of Kansas City-Saint Joseph.
• June 24 – Mass for 60th Jubilee of Father James O’Blaney, CSSR, St. James Church, Lütitz, 11:30 a.m.
Jubilee: The Holy Ground

Prince Gallitzin
By Sister Geralyn Schmidt, SSC
Special to The Witness

Many, many years ago, when I was a very small child, I used to love the television program “Queen for a Day!” As my brother and I were glued to the TV, my mother would bemoan that she wished she had a daughter that she could be the ladies she saw on the show. On one Mother’s Day, my mom got her wish! My brother and I, after pestering our dad to help us out, made plans to make the entire weekend a memory for my mom. I began with breakfast in bed with our best dinnerware and my mom’s favorite tea set. After that, my dad, with two small children in tow, began the weekend chores that my mom usually performed. This included several loads of laundry and the complete scouring of the kitchen, and waxing of the wood floors in the living and dining rooms. In the evening, my dad made reservations at my mom’s favorite restaurant.

When our meal came, and I excitedly asked if she enjoyed her day and if she felt she was a queen, she began to cry, I didn’t understand her tears. I asked, “Ma, why are you crying?” Patting my hand, she said, “Dear, Yes, it was nice. I thank you for all your hard work. But, I want you to know that I absolutely love doing my Saturday chores! I love cooking and cleaning for you and your brother. Giving to you in the ordinary things of life makes me feel as if I was a queen! All I want from you and your brother is a little bit of appreciation, and love every now and then.” At the time, I had NO clue what she meant.

I could not help thinking of this story as I began an article about the Servant of God Demetrius A. Gallitzin.

Demetrius, born on December 22, 1770, was the son of Prince Dimitri Gallitzin, Russian ambassador to the Netherlands and his mother, Prussian Countess Adelheid Amalie von Schmeattau. At the age of two, Demetrius was tm;html elem;html elem>
In conjunction with the celebration of its 75th anniversary, Misericordia Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in York revealed extensive renovations and expansions during a grand-reopening and the blessing of the building by Bishop Ronald Gainer on May 30.

The 50-bed skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility is a ministry of the Daughters of Our Lady of Mercy and offers residents 24-hour care for both short and long-term stays. The center also provides rehabilitation services (physical, occupational and speech therapy), hospice care and respite care for caregivers. Mass is celebrated in the in-house chapel, and the facility is open to people of all religious backgrounds.

The renovation included updates to individual rooms, and expansion featuring a rehabilitation therapy room, additional common areas for residents and families to use, a second dining room and a new community center with a covered porch.

During a prayer service for the blessing of the building, Bishop Gainer told the Sisters, administrators, staff and residents that the infirmities and frailty of old age can drain the heart, but that “The whole mission of the Sisters and the staff here is to encourage, to put into our hearts what God wants – not to be drained, but rather to fill hearts with the love of Christ.”

(Learn more about Misericordia Nursing & Rehabilitation Center by visiting www.mn-rc.org.)
Dear Friends in Christ,

Each summer, the Missionary Cooperative Plan of the Diocese of Harrisburg works to foster solidarity and the spirit of mission in our parishes. Through this plan, missionaries from Catholic organizations are invited to visit our parishes, celebrate the sacraments, and preach as they share their experiences, their needs, and solicit our support.

Your prayers and financial donations directly assist missionaries in their efforts to proclaim the Gospel, form parish communities, and propagate the faith in mission lands around the world. A yearly visit from an actual missionary enkindles in our hearts a love for the Gospel and deepens our own baptismal commitments to go forth and make disciples of every nation.

This summer, 30 missionary organizations and dioceses have been invited to share their challenges and successes with the parishes of the Harrisburg Diocese. In the excerpts on this page, missionaries, in their own words, give snapshots of these missions. Through the Harrisburg Diocese, in partnership with the Archdiocese of Cap-Haïtien, Haiti, we strive to be messengers of hope in very challenging circumstances. Employment opportunities are limited so most households require the help of others to meet their basic needs for food, shelter, and medicine. Without additional financial support, our Catholic presence would essentially be absent from this vast region of the diocese.

In Zambia, the adult death toll from HIV/AIDS reaches tens of thousands every year. Missionhurst is committed to taking in some of these orphans and providing them with a firm foundation of trusting in His providence. Missionhurst/CICM

Archdiocese du Cap Haïtien, Haiti

“Twelve years ago, three very nervous foreign Passionist missionaries entered Vietnam... We came determined to build up the local Church with the word of the Cross. We were nervous because of communist oppression of the Church, anticipating trouble.

“Soon we met young men eager to give their lives to God’s little ones, no matter the personal cost. We have travelled a long journey together... Ordained at last, five Vietnamese Passionist priests are now spreading that Word in the poorest remote locations in Vietnam. Many more are following. A bishop once said to me, ‘Hurry up and get those young men ordained. The people are waiting for them.’ But we need your help.”

Mission Vietnam

“Commitment to go forth and make disciples of every nation.”

Diocese of Lexington, Kentucky

“The mountains of Eastern Kentucky and the rolling hills of the Central Kentucky’s Bluegrass region are places of contrast. The natural beauty and richness of the land belie the grinding poverty and desperation that also exist there. Wealth stands cheek-to-jowl with deprivation.

“In the mountainous Appalachian region, the population is less than 1% Catholic and 60% are reported to be un-churched. Our Catholic presence is one of evangelization and service to everyone; we strive to be messengers of hope in very challenging circumstances. Employment opportunities are limited so most households require the help of others to meet their basic needs for food, shelter, and medicine. Without additional financial support, our Catholic presence would essentially be absent from this vast region of the diocese.”

Passionist Mission Vietnam

Archdioce of Pontifical Missions

Enkindling in Our Hearts a Love for the Gospel...

Devotedly yours in Christ,

Reverend Robert F. Sharman
Diocesan Director
Office of Pontifical Missions

June 8, 2018

www.hbgdiocese.org/missions, or contact Office of Pontifical Missions (717) 657-4804 ext. 240 missions@hbgdiocese.org.
Church Rejoices in 6 Men Ordained to Serve as Priests in the Diocese of Harrisburg

By Jen Reed

In this, its Sesquicentennial Year, the Diocese of Harrisburg rejoiced in the ordination of six priests on June 2 at St. Patrick Cathedral, which family, friends, parishioners, clergy and religious filled to standing-room-only in celebration of the liturgy.

The new priests, and their first assignments, are:

- Father Benjamin Dunkelberger, parochial vicar at St. John the Baptist Parish in New Freedom and campus minister at York College.
- Father Stephen Logue, parochial vicar at St. Rose of Lima Parish in York. He will return for graduate studies in Rome in September.
- Father Richard Lyons, parochial vicar at Corpus Christi Parish in Chambersburg.
- Father Matthew Morelli, parochial vicar at St. Joseph Parish in Hanover and chaplain at Delone Catholic High School in McSherrystown.
- Father Kenneth Roth, parochial vicar at St. Joan of Arc Parish in Hershey.
- Father Timothy Sahd, parochial vicar at St. Joseph Parish in Mechanicsburg and chaplain at Trinity High School in Camp Hill.

According to records from the Diocesan Office of Clergy and Consecrated Life, the ordination of six priests at one time is the largest since 1983, when seven men were ordained.

The six new priests graciously granted interviews with The Catholic Witness in the days leading up to their ordination; glimpses into their lives and discernment follow on the next several pages.

Father Benjamin Dunkelberger

An encounter with God during his sophomore year at the University of Pittsburgh is what first drew Father Benjamin Dunkelberger, 28, to consider the call to the priesthood.

The West Perry High School graduate and member of St. Bernard Parish in New Bloomfield said the love and mercy he encountered were “real, personal, and transforming.”

“This changed my whole worldview, and I began to pray on a regular basis as well as learn more about my faith,” he said. He prayed, and received the sacraments of the Eucharist and Reconciliation often, and spent a year discerning his vocation.

“I was certainly drawn to the sacrificial love the priest is called to live in order to pour himself out for the spiritual well-being of the Church and the world,” Father Dunkelberger said. He felt called to the priest...
hood “because this seemed like the vocation that would give me the most fulfillment in service to Him and to the Church.”

After earning a bachelor’s degree in Electrical Engineering, he entered Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md., to study for the priesthood.

“Prayer has been essential to my discernment and formation, and I consider it the lifelblood of my daily routine,” Father Dunkelberger said.

“Prayer is where we can lift our minds and hearts up to God and both pour ourselves out to God as well as silently listen to his voice speaking in the depths of our souls. In other words, it is how we enter into our personal relationship with God in a privileged way.”

Father Stephen Logue

Father Stephen Logue, 26, first considered the priesthood as a real possibility after attending the diocese’s annual Quo Vadis Days discernment retreat following his sophomore year in high school.

“If I had not attended the Quo Vadis Days retreat, I know I would not have found seminary when I did,” said Father Logue, a graduate of York Suburban High School. “First, it was a place to encounter other young men asking the same questions I was (something not too common in my public high school). Second, I was able to observe happy and holy young priests and seminarians. Finally, it started to eliminate the mystery surrounding seminary formation.”

He studied for the priesthood at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia and at the Pontifical Gregorian University and the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome, and was ordained to the diaconate there last fall during a Mass celebrated in the Papal Basilica of St. Peter at the Vatican.

“The most exciting part of being ordained a priest for me is celebrating the Mass,” remarked Father Logue, a member of St. Patrick Parish in York. “It is incredibly humbling to be entrusted with the responsibility of making Christ truly present, body, blood, soul, and divinity, in the form of bread and wine every day! After personally receiving so much from attending Mass, it is such a blessing to think about making those graces available for others.”

Father Richard Lyons

A native of Baltimore and a graduate of Carroll County Public Schools in Westminster, Md., Father Richard Lyons, 28, discerned the call to the priesthood through various “come-and-see” days and retreats, including Quo Vadis Days.

While considering entering the seminary during his studies at Millersville University, he wondered, “Why would God want someone like me?”

“I felt that I was not worthy of the calling,” Father Lyons said. “One of my friends, though, offered some advice that truly helped set my mind at ease: God does not call the worthy, he makes worthy the called.”

He said it was the “fraternity, the friendship that I saw with the priests of Harrisburg” that led him to apply for seminary studies here. “Seeing so many priests from all over the diocese [at Quo Vadis Days], and seeing them play games and sports – with the bishop as well – impressed me immensely.”

Through the Laying on of Hands and the Prayer of Ordination, Father Christopher Sahd places his hands on the head of his brother, Father Timothy Sahd. Their brother, Father Kyle Sahd, is pastor of St. Mark the Evangelist Parish in Greencastle and St. Luke the Evangelist Mission in Mercersburg.
He received his formation at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia.

“I think the thing I am most excited for with being ordained is the opportunity to celebrate Mass, to be able to bring Christ into the world and hold him in my hands and give him to others,” said Father Lyons, a member of Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in York. “The Mass is our most direct encounter with Christ, where we meet him in the flesh, and I cannot wait to lead others to that encounter.”

Father Matthew Morelli

Quo Vadis Days, the annual vocation discernment retreat offered by the Diocese of Harrisburg’s Office of Vocations, showed Father Matthew Morelli, 27, that becoming a priest was possible and accessible.

“I knew priests and seminarians must be average guys like the rest of us, but I couldn’t really grasp that for myself until I spent time getting to know the priests and seminarians of our diocese,” he said of the retreat, which consists of prayer, liturgies, spiritual talks, sports, games and camaraderie on the grounds of Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md., in June.

A graduate of Derry Township schools and a member of St. Joan of Arc Parish in Hershey, Father Morelli studied for the priesthood at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia, the Pontifical North American College in Rome, and Mount St. Mary’s Seminary.

“When I entered seminary, I didn’t know what studying philosophy would entail,” he said when asked about any concerns he had about studying for the priesthood. “I had planned to study Architectural Engineering at Penn State, not Philosophy in Philadelphia. Pretty quickly, however, I grew to like my studies and enjoyed studying – or attempting to study – with my brother seminarians.”

Father Morelli said he is most excited to celebrate the sacraments. “To offer the Sacrifice of the Mass, to forgive sins the name of Jesus Christ – this is why God has called us to the priesthood,” he said.

As a sign of unity and encouragement, priests of the Diocese of Harrisburg and those visiting from seminaries and other dioceses place their hands on the heads of the newly-ordained after they are vested with the Stole and Chasuble.

**Ordination**

Continued from 8

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More ORDINATION, page 10

“The Lord Jesus Christ, whom the Father anointed with the Holy Spirit and power, guard and preserve you, that you may sanctify the Christian people and offer sacrifice to God.”

– The Anointing of Hands, Rite of Ordination

Bishop Ronald Gainer anoints the hands of Father Timothy Sahd with Sacred Chrism during the Rite of Ordination.

“The first object the newly-ordained touch, the first thing that they will grasp with their hands as a new priest, is the bread and wine. Because from this day forward, the Eucharist is not just something they do, not just one part of their ministerial function – the Eucharist is the reality they must cling to. More than a ritual, it must be their way of life.”

– Bishop Ronald Gainer, Homily from the Mass of Ordination

Father Benjamin Dunkelberger receives the paten and the chalice from Bishop Ronald Gainer. In receiving the elements that will become the Body and Blood of Christ, the newly-ordained are instructed to conform their lives to the mystery of Christ’s Cross.
Ordination

Continued from 9

Father Kenneth Roth

Father Kenneth Roth, 29, was a physicist before he entered the seminary. He was a student at Littlestown High School when he first heard the call to priesthood, but a misconception about needing a college degree before applying to seminary kept him from talking to the Diocesan Director of Vocations – at least until his final year of studies at Penn State University.

He received his formation to the priesthood at Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md.

“It did not know what to expect when I went to seminary,” said Father Roth, a member of St. Aloysius Parish in Littlestown. “I had worked with post grads before, so I knew what post graduate studies were like and it is not like seminary. In both cases you are learning a lot. But at seminary, you are learning from a wide breadth of disciplines, including business, counseling, philosophy and theology, to name a few.

It is also a gift just to have those years of prayer and training in spiritual discipline as well as all the friends you make.”

In speaking about his discernment, Father Roth explained that prayer life is discernment. “You can go to different parishes or hear talks on the priesthood, but it is your time in prayer with Christ where your discernment occurs.”

He is looking forward to his priestly ministry within the parish, and is interested to see if or how his experience as a physicist can, through his priestly life, help people grow closer to Christ.

Father Amy C. Berg

Father Amy C. Berg, 31, a member of St. Boniface Parish in York County, described his discernment as clear and constant.

“I have been a member of the Church since I was born and have always been involved in the Church. The mission of the Church has always been apparent to me,” said Father Berg, who has attended the Pope Pius X High School and the St. Bernard Seminary. “As a student, I decided to pursue a career in business planning and management, which I later found was not a career I would enjoy.”

Father Berg attended the University of Notre Dame and received a degree in business administration. He worked in the field of business and management for two years before attending the Seminary.

“I chose the priesthood because I believe it is a calling from God and I have always felt a strong desire to serve the Church,” said Father Berg.

He has been named pastor of St. Boniface Parish in York County. He is excited to be able to share the love of Christ with his parishioners.

Father Stephen Logue

Father Stephen Logue, 39, held what he considered to be two dream jobs before giving serious thought to the priesthood. The Lancaster Catholic High School graduate went to St. Bonaventure in New York and worked as a political journalist and analyst in D.C. for nine years. Not feeling quite fulfilled, he returned to his hometown to work in the family business, Sahd Metal Recycling, and enjoyed his work with family. But again, he felt he wasn’t doing what would fulfill him.

“It was then that I got smart. I turned to God and asked, ‘What should I do with my life?’ I heard a call to the priesthood. As stupid as it sounds, it never occurred to me that God could help me find happiness,” said Father Sahd, a member of Holy Trinity Parish in Columbia. “Since entering the seminary, I’ve never been happier.”

He has two brothers who are priests – Father Kyle Sahd, pastor of St. Mark the Evangelist Parish in Greencastle and St. Luke the Evangelist Mission in Mercersburg, and Father Christopher Sahd, a pastor in the Diocese of Scranton.

He studied for the priesthood at St. Charles Seminary in Philadelphia, and said he is most excited to bring the love of Christ to others through the sacraments.

“I’ve always felt Christ’s presence in a very real way in the quiet moments of daily Mass, so I really look forward to celebrating the Holy Mass every day,” he said. “Also, the Sacrament of Reconciliation has played such a powerful role in showing me the true love and mercy of Jesus Christ, so I can’t wait to be a conduit of Jesus’ mercy and love for others through this Sacrament.”

Watch the Video Online

A replay of the Mass of Ordination to the Priesthood can be seen online on the home of the diocesan website: www.HbgDiocese.org.
Pope: Seek Christ in ‘Abandoned Tabernacles’ of the Poor, the Lonely

As he did with his disciples at Passover, Jesus asks all Christians to prepare a place for him, not in “exclusive, selective places” but rather in uncomfortable places that are “untouched by love, untouched by hope,” Pope Francis said.

“How many persons lack dignity,” the pope asked, “and who are lonely, troubled and untouched by hope, “are ‘untouched by love, untouched by hope’?”

Pope Francis said that by reflecting on the Gospel reading in which Jesus instructs his disciples to find a place to celebrate the Passover, “the disciples were supposed to prepare the place, the pope noted, they discover a large room that is ‘furnished and ready.’

“Jesus prepares for us and asks us to be prepared,” the pope said. “What does he prepare for us? A place and a meal. A place much more worthy than the ‘large furnished room’ of the Gospel.”

“Let us eucharistically and imitate Jesus who ‘became bread broken for our sake.’”

Like the disciples, who were instructed by Jesus to go out to the city to make preparations, Christians also are called to prepare for Jesus’ coming “not by keeping our distance but by entering our cities” and tearing down “the walls of indifference and silent collusion.”

“The Eucharist invites us to ‘encounter Jesus’ among the poor and the lonely,” Pope Francis said. “We are thrilled that one of the natives of the diocese is coming home to help us to raise funds on behalf of Plaza San Juan Bautista and to celebrate our 15th anniversary as a parish in the diocese!”

Franklin Bautista and to celebrate our 15th anniversary as a parish. Over the years, through God’s grace, we have accomplished so much. Imagine that we can do in the next 15 years and beyond with all of our wonderful partners in our community. The possibilities are endless!”

When asked how he feels about returning to Lancaster County, Bishop Rhoades commented, “I cannot wait to join the beautiful people of Lancaster County on June 30 to celebrate San Juan Bautista’s 15 years in the diocese! I’m looking forward to our time together to celebrate San Juan’s years of living the Vision and Celebrating our Heritage in Lancaster. What an exciting time for the people of San Juan Bautista Parish – I am honored to get to be a part of this momentous occasion.”

Gala de Fe will take place on Saturday, June 30 at the Emerald Foundation Community Campus (2120 Oregon Pike Lancaster, PA 17601). The event kicks off with a VIP reception with Bishop Rhoades from 5:30-6:30 p.m., with the General Program commencing at 7 p.m. There are different levels of sponsorship. For more information, visit www.GalaDeFe.com.
GREAT PITCHING STIFLES DELONE CATHOLIC IN DISTRICT 3 SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

By Chris Heisey
The Catholic Witness

Good pitching always beats good hitting, so the old baseball maxim goes. In the District 3 Class 3A softball championships played at Millersville University’s Seaber Field on a warm, sultry May 29, Brandywine Heights proved the adage true when they beat the Squirettes of Delone Catholic, 2-1, to capture their second straight district championship.

The Squirettes were never able to string consecutive hits together against the Bullets’ ace hurler Jess Davidheiser, who struck out eight Delone batters and completely dominated the Squirettes’ bottom half of the batting order with her velocity and excellent control on the corners of the strike zone.

Delone Catholic got a terrific outing from pitcher Maggie Rickrode, who did not give up an earned run, as both Bullet runs scored on Delone fielding miscues early in the game. Rickrode pitched out of trouble throughout the game, getting key outs in the game’s early innings to keep Delone in the game. She impressively stranded nine Bullet runners in scoring position.

Delone Catholic’s ace pitcher Maggie Rickrode winds up against Brandywine Heights. Rickrode won the Pitcher of the Year award for the York Area League Division IV.

Top left: Lauren Little, Delone’s lead-off hitter, squares up the barrel grounding a single up the middle to start the game for the Squirettes. Little had two hits in the District final and scored Delone’s only run. She won the Player of the Year award for the York Area League Division IV.

Left: Catcher Katie Ernst reflects after Delone’s 2-1 loss in districts. She was a first team all-league selection for Division IV. She knocked in the Squirettes’ only run in the sixth inning.

LANCASTER CATHOLIC BEATS FAMILIAR FOE IN DISTRICT 3 BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

By Chris Heisey
The Catholic Witness

In order to win a District 3 Class 4A baseball championship, you must beat Oley Valley. And that is just what the Crusaders of Lancaster Catholic have done the past two seasons behind the dominating pitching of southpaw Dillon Marsh, right. While the Crusaders won 7-0 over the Lynx at Reading’s First Energy Field, the game was a tight, one-run game until Lancaster Catholic brooked it open with three runs in the sixth and seventh for some breathing space.

Maggie Rickrode, who did not give up an earned run, as both Bullet runs scored on Delone fielding miscues early in the game. Rickrode pitched out of trouble throughout the game, getting key outs in the game’s early innings to keep Delone in the game. She impressively stranded nine Bullet runners in scoring position.

The Lynx loaded the bases with no outs in the fourth trailing 1-0, but Marsh, a hard-throwing lefty quite able to mix in good breaking balls, was up to the challenge, getting three straight outs including a called third strike punchout to end the Lynx’s threat. Marsh retired 12 of the last 13 Oley Valley hitters to cap off the complete game gem, and the Crusaders’ celebrated their second district championship in as many years.

After the game, Manager Ty Book told the press, “There is no reason we shouldn’t do this every year, so let’s go out and prove that we are going to do it every year.”

CHRIS HEISEY, THE CATHOLIC WITNESS

DIOCESAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETES STRIKE GOLD IN TRACK AND FIELD

Diocesan high school athletes earned banner performances in the District 3 Track and Field Championships, held May 18 and 19 at Seth Grove Stadium at Shippensburg University, which was followed a week later by the PIAA Championships at the same venue.

In the individual and team events at the district championships, diocesan athletes captured gold medals, both on the track and in the field events. The Girls’ Track and Field Team at Delone Catholic High School in McSherrystown captured the District 3 2A title.

District 3 Girls’ Champions:
2A Javelin – Lauren Seubert, Trinity
2A 4x800 Meter Relay – Delone (Maddie Clabaugh, Sophie Gilbart, Becky Hernandez, Leanne Sneeringer)
2A 100 Meter Dash – Brooke Lawyer, Delone
2A 4x100 Meter Relay – Delone (Julia Whiteleather, Brooke Lawyer, Juliana Malesky, Danielle Malesky)
2A 400 Meter Dash – Maddie Clabaugh, Delone
2A 300 Meter Hurdles – Mia Kilroy, Trinity
2A 800 Meter Run – Leanne Sneeringer, Delone
2A 4x400 Meter Relay – Delone (Maddie Clabaugh, Sophie Gilbart, Brooke Lawyer, Leanne Sneeringer)
2A Team Title – Delone

District 3 Boys’ Champions:
2A Discus – Dante Manetta, Trinity (State Silver in Discus)
3A 100 Meter Dash – JuQuill Adams, Bishop McDevitt

Delone Catholic High School’s District 3 Champions in Track and Field: From bottom left are Julia Whiteleather, Leanne Sneeringer, Lucy Rogers, Emily Malesky, Lauren Trummer, Rebekah Hernandez and Julianna Malesky. Second row from left are Head Coach Dusty Lehr, Sophia Gilbart, Danielle Malesky, Emily Miller, Madison Sieg, Molly Raville and Assistant Coach Ashley Zinn. Top row from left are Assistant Coach Caine Morehead, Maggie Wells, Bailey Wagaman, Becca Dolce, Brook Lawyer, Madison Clabaugh and Assistant Coach R.C. Zinn.

CHRIS HEISEY, THE CATHOLIC WITNESS
TRINITY WINS FIRST EVER DISTRICT 3 LACROSSE CHAMPIONSHIP IN DRAMATIC FASHION

By Chris Heisey
The Catholic Witness

No doubt, the future is bright for the boys’ lacrosse program at Trinity High School. But the present is also bright, as the Shamrocks upset a strong, talented Palmyra team in the District 3 Class 2A championship game on May 23 at Central Dauphin’s Landis Stadium in a thrilling 11-10 overtime win to capture the program’s first-ever district title.

Given the Shamrocks started seven sophomores and a freshman this year, inexperience at the high school varsity lacrosse level usually means growing pains for sure. Lacrosse is a physically demanding sport that also requires deft stick skill to play the game at a high level. It takes finesse and brawn to compete, and Trinity has a tradition of producing teams that field both under longtime coach Dave Heisey.

Without much experience and under longtime head coach Dave Heisey, the Shamrocks were able to beat the number-one seeded Cougars, that tradition was certainly affirmed by winning the big game on an even bigger stage with a young tradition.

When Will Thropp scored 35 seconds into overtime on June 10 to capture the program’s first-ever District 3 championship, it was a thrilling 11-10 overtime win to capture the program’s first-ever District 3 championship.

The Annual St. Joseph Carnival in York

The 2018 St. Joseph Carnival in York is from noon-8 p.m. at the school grounds and in Divine Mercy Hall (400 Block of West Cherry Street) June 15 from 4-10 p.m. and June 16 (only potato cakes) begin at 5 p.m. in the gym. Potato cake sale June 15 from 4-10 p.m. and June 16 (only potato cakes) begin at noon. Entertainment on Friday: “Carl Simchena Swing Masters, Polish band,” and on Saturday evening: “Into the Spin.”

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Annual Summer Festival at the corner of 4th and Market streets in Mount Carmel. June 22 from 6-11 p.m. with entertainment by “The Shoreliners.” June 23 from 5-11 p.m. with entertainment by DJ Mike Wonsik. Children’s games, theme baskets, ethnic foods such as potato cakes, pigeons, pierogies and traditional food favorites, tear-offs, raffle tickets, and beverages. Rain date June 24 in the school hall. Pre-festival food sale of pierogies, pigions, haluski and baked goods in the school hall June 22 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

St. Catherine Laboure Parish’s 3rd annual Dinner on Derry Food Truck Fest Aug. 19 from 1-6 p.m. on the parish campus in Harrisburg. Food truck vendors for every taste (even vegetarian). Slow-cooked BBQ, cheesesteak sandwiches, peperoni stuffed pretzels, plus plenty of sweet treats. Bingo, raffles, face-painting, indoor mini-golf, plus surprises for the adventurous. Information: www.scbbg.org.

St. Patrick Parish in Trevorton annual Summer Festival on the church grounds Aug. 10 and 11 from 5-10 p.m. Theme is “Emoji Nation.” Delicious food, games, raffles (cash and basket) and entertainment. Friday, Bigfoot “Live” Radio Broadcast from 5-7 p.m. and live band “2 A.M. L.T.” from 7-10 p.m. Saturday, live band “Reckless” from 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Mary, Gate of Heaven Parish in Myerstown’s GMH Summerfest June 21, 22 and 23 from 5-10:30 p.m. Entertainment on Thursday by Quickdraw, Friday by Flamin Dick and the Hot Rods, and Saturday by Smokin Soles Dance Band. All entertainment is from 7-10:30 p.m. Games for kids of all ages, carnival games, inflatable bounce roses, barrel train ride, incredible food, Harrisburg Senators mascot Rascal arrives June 23 from 5:30-7 p.m. for appearance and photos. Raffle for a 4-pack of tickets to a Senator’s home game. Annual Buchanan Valley Picnic Aug. 25 from noon until dusk, rain or shine, at the picnic grove at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish, Ontonagon. Home-cooked family-style ham and chicken dinners served all day, $10 for adults; $4 for children ages 6-12; and free for ages 5 and under. Picnic has been a tradition for over 175 years, in the beautiful hills of Buchanan Valley, known for the capture of Mary Jeimson in 1758 by Native Americans. Old-fashioned picnic with games for children, drawings, bingo, music, and good food. Contact St. Ignatius Loyola Parish at 717-677-8012. Email: stignatiusofloyola@hbgdiocese.org. Website: http://www.stignatiusmission.org/default.asp.

St. Joseph the Worker Parish Picnic June 24 in the Deacon Richard Weaver parish center in Bonneauville from noon-3 p.m. Join us for a day of delicious food, games for young and old. Come out and enjoy an afternoon with family and friends.

Slavic Fest at St. Ann Byzantine Catholic Parish in Harrisburg July 15 from noon-9 p.m. Divine Liturgy (Mass) at 10 a.m. Homemade Eastern European foods to eat in or take out. Dance to The Polka WHOOOO and The Polka Guards. Take a Church tour and see world class iconography, hear chanting & singing demonstrations. Shop in the Eastern European market. Games for young and old, bingo, theme basket and cash raffles. Free admission and parking. 717-652-1415 or www.stannbynz.org.

Our Lady of Mercy Parish Picnic next to Ideal Park in Slabtown, Aug. 3 and 4 from 6-11 p.m. Food, dancing, games and music. Entertainment by classic rock band “Kartune” on Friday, and by “The 60’s Boys” with some former “Mudflaps” members on Saturday. Music starts after 6.

Mother Cabrini Parish in Shamokin’s annual Parish Picnic June 15 from 5-10 p.m. June 16 from 3-10 p.m. and June 17 from 2-10 p.m. at the RCA picnic grounds in Ranshaw, rain or shine. Homemade foods, refreshments, games, prizes, “Prizes Galore Tent,” Seasonal Lottery scratch-off ticket decoration, “Master Built, Digital Electric Smoker” Raffle. Entertainment: Friday, “Lute Switch” 6-9 p.m. Saturday, “Shoreliners” 6-9 p.m. Sunday, “Memory Lane” 6-9 p.m.
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.

Berwick
Immaculate Conception BVM
Romaine Bogmar
Richard DeMent

Bloomsburg
St. Columbus
Bruce Janowski

Chambersburg
Corpus Christi
John Bobser
Rhomarie Corapi
Joan De Fonzo
Kegan Dingle
Helen Greiner
Vincenzo Mannarella

Columbia
Holy Trinity
Marie Wiseman

Conewago
Sacred Heart of Jesus
Charles A. Hertz
Albert F. Strausbaugh

Danville
St. Joseph
Rachel Quick

Elizabethtown
St. Peter
Carol Anne McGiuggan

Gettysburg
St. Francis Xavier
Anne Maturi
Juan Tanon

Harrispburg
Holy Name of Jesus
Joyce M. Acet
Lawrence G. Cibilis, Sr.
John “Jack” Stich, Sr.
St. Francis of Assisi
Jean Tore
St. Margaret Mary
Samuel Potami

Hershey
St. Joan of Arc
Sally Hagan

Kulpmont
Holy Angels
Teressa Hoppe
Darlene H. Hallihan

Lancaster
Assumption BVM
William Mark Warfel
Janet Wood
St. John Neumann
Nancy O’Connor
Andy Sobities

Mechanicsburg
St. Joseph
Diana Rihahan
Kathryn Eagan
James Griffith
Dick Vorodi

New Cumberland
St. Theresa
Eugene Lopez
Alfred Muzzo

New Freedom
St. John the Baptist
Rose Marie Shuchart

Selinsgrove
St. Peter X
Helen Underhill

Steelton
Prince of Peace
Maryann E. Cibert

Sunbury
St. Monica
Ray Hermer

Trevorton
St. Patrick
Robert A. Schwartz

Williamsport
Sacred Heart of Jesus
Thomas Clough
Barbara Stark

Lancaster Catholic and Partner Schools Celebrate $953 Thousand in Scholarship Opportunities

Lancaster Catholic High School held its 5th Annual PA Educational Tax Celebration on May 3 among students, faculty/staff, participating businesses and elected members of government. Lancaster Catholic and the six partner schools in the Catholic Education Alliance in Lancaster County have received over $953,000 jointly from the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) Programs for the 2018-2019 academic year. The programs provide companies with the opportunity to redirect a portion of their State Tax liability to schools of their choice. These tax programs help ensure that all who want a Catholic education have the ability to obtain that desired educational experience within Lancaster County.

Junior, public school transfer student Jayne Wells expressed that there are three themes that resonate with a Lancaster Catholic High School education.

“The majority of the students that attend Catholic High are here by choice. Whether it was chosen for us, or our own decision, no student has to be here,” said Wells. “As part of the Catholic High Community, we value family, faith and friendship above all. These themes truly set our school apart for the better, in a way that we are able to strengthen our journey to God’s Kingdom.”

Senator Ryan Aument and June, his daughter, joined Senator Scott Martin, class of 1990, and Representative Steven Mentzer in the discussion to share why they believe so passionately in the EITC and OSTC Programs. They allow families throughout Pennsylvania to choose the educational environment that is best for their children. Aument, Martin and Mentzer promised to continue pushing for increased funding for these immensely popular programs.

Additional remarks came from a few of our participating businesses partners Mr. Charles “Chip” Snyder Jr., class of 1970, from Charles F. Snyder Funeral Home and Crematory, Mr. Pete Slough Jr., class of 1960, from Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Homesale Realty, and Father Edward Quinlan, Diocesan Secretary for Education.

St. Columba Students
Welcome Auxiliary Bishop of Boston

On April 18, middle school students at St. Columba School in Bloomsburg received a special visitor during Mr. Webb’s religion class. Auxiliary Bishop Robert Reed of the Archdiocese of Boston, and president of the Catholic Televison Network, quizzed the sixth- and seventh-grade students with questions about his roles as a bishop, parish priest, and president of a media network.

Pictured are, first row left to right: Rachel Marino, Emma Cavallini, Camila Amaya, Jessie White, Bishop Reed, Alina Shannon, Avery Kissinger, Mary Grace Duncan, Charles Hopper, Jordan Montes. Second row, left to right: Damyan Petryshak, Alexis Turayev, Grace Humphrey, Matthew Getz, Reed Keck, John Guerrero, and Morgan Pierce.

Knights of Columbus Councils Team up for Charity

Members from Knights of Columbus Hanover Council 871 and St. Joseph Spanish Council 16069 teamed up to serve dinners at St. Joseph Parish in Hanover on Friday nights throughout Lent. The councils express their gratitude to the patrons who came to support this successful fundraiser and enjoy some delicious meals. Proceeds will support St. Joseph Parish and the two councils’ charitable funds.
Compiled by Jen Reed

**Educational Enrichment**

“Person, Peace, and Planet” is the title of this year’s College of Arts, Science, and Business 18 at 7 p.m. The lecture will be held in the Collinge Multipurpose Room at Xavier Center. Mount St. Mary’s Theology Professor Dr. Michael McGuckin will present an overview of the themes and history of modern Catholic social teaching. His themes will move from the idea to labor and human digni-

**Vocation Bible School**

will be held at St. Joseph Parish in Dallas, 18-30 Main Street, Dallastown. Registration is now being accepted. A free-will offer will be asked for more information. Call Tim Tracey at the Religious Education Office at 717-246-7865.

**Korean Daniel Noh**

is the title of this presentation of an enduring faith in the Christian message. The creation represents Re-Creation USA, which provides entertainment programming for Veterans Affairs Medical Center; it is dedicated to making peace; and it has a goal of `It is time for alldivision to make peace?’ The ministry is dedicated to helping to build and maintaining the “creational family.” The mission focuses on the need to be able to love and serve others, especially children and adults who are disenfranchised. The mission is dedicated to providing opportunities to share our faith with others. For more information, call Diane or Dave McKinley at 707-275-7528.

**Saint Thomas More Society of Central Pennsylvania**

is held June 8 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and June 9 from 9 a.m.-noon. Join us for the following menu: a raffle, 50/50 drawing and awards for some of the participants. Show is open to cars, trucks and motorcycles. Participants can register on-line at www.carshowsink.com.

**Saints Peter and Paul Parish**

is Wednesday June 13 at 4:30 p.m. Written announcement of the upcoming sale will be posted in June 20 to June 30 from 6:30-8 p.m. at St. Patrick Parish on March Drive in Carlisle. Limited availability. High school students, college students, and community members. Contact Lyn Fitch at Locashdil@comcast.net or 717-243-4599.

**Diocesan Notebook**

**Fundraisers & Events**

**Vatican II Council**

is open to cars, trucks and motorcycles.

**State of Pennsylvania**

is held at St. Joseph Church, 440 St. Joseph Street, Lancaster, PA 17603, Attn: Personnel Coordinator, no later than Monday, June 18, 2018.

**St. Joseph Parish in Dallas**

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Shroud of Turin Expert Offers Scientific Presentation at Catholic Charities’ Benefit

By Jen Reed
The Catholic Witness

World-renowned expert on the Shroud of Turin, Dr. John Jackson, offered an in-depth presentation on scientific research into the cloth during a benefit at the Cardinal Keeler Center in Harrisburg on May 23 to support Catholic Charities.

“The Scientific Aspects of the Shroud of Turin and the First Holy Week” drew some 350 people to examine the wealth of findings born of more than 100 years of combined research of Dr. Jackson, his wife Rebecca, and their colleagues at the Turin Shroud Center of Colorado into the Shroud as the burial cloth of Christ.

Due to copyrighted images and research contained in the May 23 presentation, The Catholic Witness was prohibited from photographing and recording during the event, but was granted an interview with Dr. and Mrs. Jackson prior to the start of the evening.

In it, Dr. Jackson, who was born and raised in Denver, said he first became interested in the Shroud of Turin at the age of 13, when his mother showed him a photograph of it.

“The picture of it drew my attention spiritually. Then, a number of years later, I read a book on the Shroud during spring break while spending some time in Europe, Cuba, North America, South America, and the two eventually married.

“Having appeared in documentaries, articles and research about the Shroud of Turin for the past five decades, and now as director of the Turin Shroud Center of Colorado, Dr. Jackson has long considered why there is such longstanding interest in the cloth.

“What initially drew my interest to the Shroud of Turin was seeing Jesus as a Jew,” Mrs. Jackson said. “I looked at him and said, ‘Jesus is like me.’ That’s why I’ve devoted the last 30 years looking at the life and times of Jesus.”

“In 1978, Dr. Jackson led a 40-person team of international scientists to Turin to examine the Shroud for five days, under the auspices of the Shroud of Turin Research Project. Dr. Jackson, as primary custodian of the data extracted from the STURP endeavor, continues Shroud research with colleagues at the center in Colorado.

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Due to copyrighted images and research contained in the May 23 presentation, The Catholic Witness was prohibited from photographing and recording during the event, but was granted an interview with Dr. and Mrs. Jackson prior to the start of the evening.

In it, Dr. Jackson, who was born and raised in Denver, said he first became interested in the Shroud of Turin at the age of 13, when his mother showed him a photograph of it.

“The picture of it drew my attention spiritually. Then, a number of years later, I read a book on the Shroud during spring break while spending some time in Europe, Cuba, North America, South America, and the two eventually married.

“Having appeared in documentaries, articles and research about the Shroud of Turin for the past five decades, and now as director of the Turin Shroud Center of Colorado, Dr. Jackson has long considered why there is such longstanding interest in the cloth.

“What initially drew my interest to the Shroud of Turin was seeing Jesus as a Jew,” Mrs. Jackson said. “I looked at him and identified with him. I looked at him and said, ‘Jesus is like me.’ That’s why I’ve devoted the last 30 years looking at the life and times of Jesus.”

“In 1978, Dr. Jackson led a 40-person team of international scientists to Turin to examine the Shroud for five days, under the auspices of the Shroud of Turin Research Project. Dr. Jackson, as primary custodian of the data extracted from the STURP endeavor, continues Shroud research with colleagues at the center in Colorado.