Knights of Columbus Councils Help Sponsor ‘Warriors to Lourdes’ Pilgrimage

By Mary Klaus
The Catholic Witness

Members of eight diocesan parishes recently showed their love for the Blessed Virgin Mary by teaming up to send five wounded veterans to Lourdes, France, for spiritual and physical healing.

The trip, called the 2018 Warriors to Lourdes Pilgrimage, was held May 15-22 to coincide with the 60th annual International Military Pilgrimage. The spiritual journey, with a theme of “Peace on Earth,” was dedicated to individual healing and a more peaceful world.

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and billed as “a Pilgrimage Like No Other,” the project involved a trip to Lourdes for wounded, non-wounded, injured or ill military personnel, their caregivers and volunteers. More than 200 active and retired U.S. military personnel took part in the spiritual journey.

Lourdes, in the foothills of the Pyrenees Mountains, is where the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Bernadette Soubirous, 14, several times in 1858. It’s also the site of healing waters from a spring uncovered by Bernadette on directions from the Blessed Virgin Mary. Ever since then, millions of pilgrims from around the world have flocked to the site hoping to receive special healing and a deeper faith.

“The Knights of Columbus in our assembly are dedicated to Mary,” said Paul Lorenzetti, faithful navigator of the Msgr. John J. Lawley Knights of Columbus Assembly 973 of Lebanon. “We also are dedicated to the veterans who fought to keep us free. This tied both of our interests together.”

He said that the assembly hoped to raise enough money to send three warriors on the trip. Instead, the assembly’s efforts raised enough money to send five pilgrims on the trip.

Diocesan parishes which raised a combined $13,567 for the pilgrimage are St. Joan of Arc in Hershey, Holy Spirit in Palmyra, Mary Gate of Heaven in Myerstown, St. Paul the Apostle in Annville, Sacred Heart of Jesus in Cornwall and St. Benedict the Abbot, St. Cecelia and Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, all in Lebanon.

Mr. Lorenzetti said that money came from the St. Joan of Arc Octoberfest, the Holy Spirit wine and cheese party, and donations authorized by parish councils and pastors in the other parishes.

“Our assembly members didn’t go on the trip,” Mr. Lorenzetti said, “but we prayed for the warriors who did. The colonel we dealt with in Washington, D.C., was amazed to get this much money from one little county in Pennsylvania.”

One veteran who made the trip, Navy Capt. Kathleen Thorp of Annapolis, Md., called it a life-changing experience. She traveled to Lourdes both as a pilgrim and as a member of the medical team.
Discernment Retreat Shows Young Men Human Side of Seminarians, Priests

By Jen Reed

The Catholic Witness

An annual vocation discernment retreat that the Diocese of Harrisburg hosts for young men, Quo Vadis Days offers attendees a chance to consider God’s call in their lives while experiencing the sacraments and prayer in a special way as they see the human side of seminarians and priests.

This year’s event was no exception to the retreat’s foundation, as the June 24-28 event at Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md., featured talks from seminarians, priests and laity on discernment and being open to God, the call to holiness, and the vocations of married, single and religious life.

Participants enjoyed camaraderie with seminarians and priests in sports, games, meals, Holy Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, spiritual direction and time with Bishop Ronald Gainer, who celebrated a Mass and engaged the young men in a question-and-answer session.

Quo Vadis Days takes its name from the legend that Peter asked Jesus this question (Quo Vadis? – meaning “Where are you going?”) on the outskirts of Rome, as Peter was fleeing the persecution of Nero. Jesus’ response was, “To Rome, to be crucified again.”

Several of the diocese’s newly-ordained priests said the structure of Quo Vadis Days helps participants to understand that the priesthood is normal to consider and that they are called to holiness, regardless of their vocation in life.

“Quo Vadis Days showed me that becoming a priest was accessible to me,” Father Matthew Morelli, parochial vicar of St. Joseph Parish in Hanover and chaplain at Delone Catholic High School in McSherrystown, told The Catholic Witness. “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.”

Father Richard Lyons said that seeing the human side of seminarians and priests was critical to his decision to become a seminarian for the Diocese of Harrisburg.

“The fraternity, the friendship that I saw with the priests of Harrisburg was a huge factor in choosing to come to the Harrisburg Diocese rather than stay in [my native] Baltimore Archdiocese. Growing up, I did not see other priests from other areas that often, nor that they hung out together as friends. Seeing so many priests from all over the diocese here, and seeing them play games and sports [at Quo Vadis Days] impressed me immensely.”

“I think Quo Vadis has been a huge help to our vocations program,” said Father Lyons, parochial vicar at Corpus Christi Parish in Chambersburg. “Not only do guys get several days to experience prayer and their relationship with God in a new and/or deeper way, but they also get to see priests and seminarians in a new way. They get to see that both priests and seminarians are still normal guys who can have fun and are truly happy with where they are and what they do.”

Father Kenneth Roth, parochial vicar at St. Jean of Arc Parish in Hershey, helped run Quo Vadis Days for the past six years. He pointed out that the retreat is “helpful to those guys who attend and do discern the married life, since they learn how to live their faith out no matter what road God is calling them down.”
Bishop McDevitt High School Appoints First President

James P. Vail has been appointed the first President of Bishop McDevitt High School in Harrisburg. The announcement was made June 18 by Father Edward J. Quinlan, Diocesan Director for Education, and the Board of Directors and Pastoral Members of Bishop McDevitt.

Mr. Vail, a lifelong Catholic with 40 years’ experience in Catholic education, including 30 years in high school administration, began his tenure on June 30.

In May, the board announced the school would move to a president-principal model of leadership. This structure, which has emerged as a national model of success, divides multiple administrative roles and responsibilities of a high school’s leadership between two individuals. Cathy Pagliaro, Bishop McDevitt’s Vice Principal for Academics, will continue to serve as interim principal. Former Principal, Sister Mary Anne Bednar, is now Principal of Our Lady of Lourdes Regional School in Coal Township. Mr. Vail has served as a principal or president in several high schools throughout the country, where his leadership has focused on strong academic curriculums and vibrant campus ministries while also increasing enrollments and overseeing capital improvements.

In accepting his appointment, Mr. Vail said, “Bishop McDevitt High School is already an impressive school and a call awakened within me to seek to be of its service. I am most awed by the deep traditions the school community holds dear, as witnessed by the devoted service of Sister Mary Anne, and the tremendous generosity of its stewards. Bishop McDevitt has all the pieces for enhancing its greatness: a dedicated faculty and staff, challenging program, talented students, world-class campus, the active support of the diocese and parishes, and a committed and engaged alumni. I am humbled and honored to build on this legacy and become part of this great school and community.”

Mr. Vail is a native of Fairfield, Conn., and began his career as a teacher, coach and Vice Principal at St. Paul Catholic High School in Bristol, Conn. He then moved to La Crosse, Wis., where he served as Principal of Aquinas High School. Most recently, he served for 20 years as the President of Paramus Catholic High School in New Jersey. His wife, Colette Vail, a career-long Catholic educator, will serve as the new Principal of St. Catherine Laboure School in Harrisburg.

For information about Bishop McDevitt High School, visit www.bishopmcdevitt.org or call 717-236-7973.

Immediate Full-Time Job Opening: Youth Protection Coordinator, Office of Youth Protection

The Diocese of Harrisburg is seeking a full-time Youth Protection Coordinator for the Office of Youth Protection. The primary function of this position is to ensure that all clergy, employees and those volunteers working with youth and vulnerable adults are compliant with the background screening and training requirements of both the Commonwealth of PA and the Diocese of Harrisburg. Candidates must be highly organized and possess excellent customer service skills, as this position will be the help desk for handling technical difficulties and/or lack of understanding of the application/content of the training material/interpretation of policy and/or Commonwealth regulations. The successful candidate must be able to work in an environment of extreme confidentiality, discretion and trustworthiness.

Candidates must be very comfortable with data entry and possess a good knowledge of MS Office applications. This position will be working in Excel most of the time. Time permitting, this position will also provide the HR Director with administrative assistance. Familiarity with Commonwealth of PA background clearance requirements helpful.

Send applications to Employment@hbgdiocese.org
Closing Date: July 20, 2018

BISHOP GAINER’S PUBLIC CALENDAR

• July 8 – Mass for couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary, Church of the Good Shepherd, Camp Hill, 2 p.m.
• July 9 – Mass for Feast of St. Pauline Visintainer, St. Pauline Visintainer Center, Kulpmont, 6 p.m.
• July 11 – Mass for Feast of St. Benedict the Abbot, St. Benedict the Abbot Church, Lebanon, 5 p.m.
• July 12 – Seminarian Family Picnic, Cardinal Keeler Center, Harrisburg, 5 p.m.
• July 15 – Mass at Maria Hall, Danville, 11 a.m.
• July 16 – Solemn Profession of Vows, Carmel of Jesus Mary and Joseph, Elysburg, 4 p.m.
• July 23 – Diocesan Center Retreat and Picnic, Cardinal Keeler Center, Harrisburg
• July 25 – Hermits of Mount Carmel Ceremony and Opening Mass for the Foundation at Fairfield, 10 a.m.
• July 27-29 – Men’s Cursillo Weekend, St. Pius X Parish, Selinsgrove
• August 3-5 – Men’s Annual Corpus Christi Retreat, Mount St. Mary’s, Emmitsburg, Md.

Correction

The list of students recognized for the annual Catholic School Art Contest that appeared in the June 22 edition of The Catholic Witness inadvertently omitted the name of a student who received Honorable Mention in the Senior Division. Annie Morris of Lancaster Catholic High School received Honorable Mention for her piece, “Growing Faith.”

The Witness Returns August 3

The Catholic Witness its taking its summer publication break, and will resume bi-weekly publication with the August 3 edition.

Stay in touch with news from the diocese digitally:
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On Facebook: www.facebook.com/DioceseofHarrisburg
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Have you signed up to receive The Catholic Witness electronically? Through a free service, you can receive the paper via e-mail with a direct link to each edition as it is published.

Sign up for the e-mail service by logging on to the diocesan Web site at www.hbgdiocese.org. Follow the News/Events tab to The Catholic Witness page and click on “Sign Up For Our E-mail” at the bottom of our page. Once you complete the form, you’ll be added to our e-mail list.

Registration with the e-mail service will not automatically cancel your mailed subscription. If you prefer to receive the online version instead of a copy in the mail, leave a message on our subscription line at 717-657-4804, ext. 208, or send an e-mail to witness@hbgdiocese.org.

If you’d like to promote an upcoming event, share stories of interest or otherwise get in touch with us, send an e-mail to witness@hbgdiocese.org or call 717-657-4804. Our publication dates and submission guidelines for 2018 can be accessed on The Catholic Witness’ page at www.hbgdiocese.org or e-mailed upon request. The submission deadline for the August 3 edition is Wednesday, July 25 at 4:30 p.m.

Enjoy a safe and blessed summer, and look for our next edition on August 3.

To report suspected abuse of a minor, call the toll free PA Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-332-0313
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

Paróquia de Harrisburg
Programa de Proteção à Criança

Para reportar a suspeita de abuso de um menor, ligue ao número de telefone gratuito Línea de Ayuda Abuso del Niño Pennsylvania 1-800-932-0313
Para reportar la sospecha del abuso de un menor a manos de un oficial, empleado o voluntario de la iglesia, también llame al número de teléfono gratuito de ayuda diocesana: 1-800-626-1608 o envíe correo electrónico: ReportAbuse@hbgdiocese.org
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Diocesan Charismatic Day of Renewal

September 22 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Cardinal Keeler Center, Harrisburg

“Wind and Fire of the Holy Spirit”

Keynote Speaker: Sister Pamela Smith, SSCM, Ph.D., Secretary for Education and Faith Formation for the Diocese of Charleston, S.C.

For more than 40 years, Sister Pamela has served in education and administration in several dioceses. At present, in the Diocese of Charleston, she oversees Catholic schools, parish religious education, youth ministry, young adult ministry and campus ministry across the state. Registration is now open at www.hbgdiocese.org. Click on the “Resources” link, select “Catholic Organizations,” and follow it to Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

Registration is also available at www.aliveinthespirit.net.

Cost of $20 per person includes lunch if registered by Sept. 10. For additional information, call Joyce at 717-308-7245.

‘Beginning Experience’ Weekend for Those Suffering the Loss of a Spouse

Nov. 9-11, Camp Hebron in Halifax, PA

The Beginning Experience Team for the Harrisburg Diocese has booked Camp Hebron in Halifax, Pa., for a Beginning Experience Weekend, Nov. 9-11, 2018. The ecumenical Beginning Experience weekends are an approved program designed for those suffering the loss of a spouse through death, divorce or separation. Hundreds of persons have been helped to move towards productive, happy lives by attending one of these weekends. The weekend is led by persons who have lost a spouse through death or divorce and are trained in facilitating a weekend. Each Beginning Experience Team is certified by the International Beginning Experience Organization.

Visit the diocesan www.hbgdiocese.org, and go to “marriage and family,” or check www.beginningexperience.org. Information can also be obtained by contacting the Harrisburg Beginning Experience Team, Julie, at 717-379-0800 or Eva, at 717-495-9586.

Jubilee: The Holy Ground
Mother St. John Fournier

By Sister Geralyn Schmidt, SCC

Some time ago when I was teaching in high school, I realized that I needed some extra training in HTML. It’s an essential language. It is one of the code languages behind websites.

I was thrilled to find an affordable and local training session for the language. As I journeyed into a local computer center, I excitedly went up to the registration table to get all the handouts and the day’s timetable. The gentleman behind the table had a conversation with me that was similar to the following:

“Ma’am, are you in the correct place? This is the point of registration for a workshop for HTML. The language that is used in computers. The evangelization workshop is in the next conference hall.” I responded, “Yes, I know. I have registered online and this is the e-mail I received.” “Really? Wow!” he responded. As I walked away, I realized that in a room of about 150 people, there were only five women at the HTML workshop.

Reflecting on this experience, I realized that in the business world, Informational Technology is indeed a world of men. Why would individuals be surprised that women would not enter the world of IT? Even in the 21st century, human beings’ perspectives can be so myopic and full of prejudice! I could not help think about this story as I turned my attention toward another woman who has had a lasting effect on the Diocese of Harrisburg: Mother St. John Fournier, foundress of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Philadelphia.

Mother St. John (Julie Alexis) was born in Arbois, France, in 1814. After entering the Carmelite community and professing her vows, she heard from a close friend that the Sisters of St. Joseph were planning to begin a community in St. Louis, Missouri. With the blessing of Bishop Rosati, the first bishop of St. Louis, the Sisters were to undertake instruction of those who were deaf-mute as well as staffing a small school within the city. In 1836, Mother St. John and five other Sisters of French and Irish nationality began the difficult journey to St. Louis. Because of the animosity towards Catholics, they planned to travel in secular clothes. No one was to know that they were Catholic religious journeying to a new school.

Upon their arrival in St. Louis, the tiny community lived in a drably and leaky cabin with little food. Because of the generosity of wealthy Catholic benefactors, they were able to build a sturdy brick house and school out of the shelter given to them. In the 1840s, women religious in the United States were rare.

Bishop John Neumann of Philadelphia received a large section of land in McSherrystown in the Conewago Valley. According to the trust given to Bishop Neumann, the land was to be used in the support of a school. Even though the Sisters of Charity from Emmenburg, Md., were first in charge of the school, Bishop Neumann suggested to Mother St. John that the Sisters of St. Joseph acquire the property for a novitiate and a school when the Sisters of Charity withdrew. On May 2, 1854, the Sisters traveled by wagon to Conewago in secular clothes, once again, in order to reach McSherrystown in safety. Upon their arrival, the Sisters went immediately to work! Within two weeks, St. Joseph School opened with 18 girls attending.

Then in 1861, the Civil War broke out. Mother St. John Fournier was asked for a group of Sisters to take charge of educational provisions for the soldiers in Harrisburg at Camp Curtin. “Preparing for the Sisters’ journey, the secretary of Doctor Smith, chief surgeon of the Hospital in Harrisburg, wrote to Mother St. John: ‘The Doctor hopes the Sisters will not disappoint him. Whilst beset by applicants, he has refused every female nurse, being unwilling to trust any but the Sisters of St. Joseph. There is waiting for them a large field of usefulness, but it can be cultivated only by those whose sense of duty will induce them to disregard all personal comfort.’”

Mother St. John was a woman whose love of God called her forth to serve others – no matter the cost or hardship. The Sisters who followed her in community were like her as well. Their tenacity – to go places and do things that no woman had done before – speaks of their courage and love of God.

It causes me to reflect that when I experience hardships or prejudice, do I choose love? The Sisters of St. Joseph did and continue to do so. What about you?


(Sister of Christian Charity; Geralyn Schmidt, is the Wide Area Network Coordinator at the Diocese of Harrisburg and the Director of Formation for the Diocese’s Evangelization Program. As an educator for 30 years, she is eligible for Professional Development Programs for every age learner. Through her presentations, she challenges her audiences to be the individual God has called them to be.)

Looking for a Job in Our Catholic Schools?

Numerous positions are currently open in schools in the Diocese of Harrisburg. These and other job openings in the diocese can be found online at: www.hbgdiocese.org/jobs
2018 Marks 40th Anniversary of the Permanent Diaconate in the Diocese of Harrisburg

By Deacon Thomas Aumen
Special to The Witness

“Receive the Gospel of Christ, whose herald you now are. Believe what you read, teach what you believe, and practice what you teach.”

With those words from Vol. 2 of the Rites of the Catholic Church, “Ordination of a Deacon, #24,” Bishop Joseph T. Daley, the 6th Shepherd of the Diocese of Harrisburg, affirmed one of the responsibilities of the 43 men who were ordained to the Order of the Permanent Diaconate in June of 1978.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of that ordination, which was the first in the diocese since the Second Vatican Council re-established the Office of the Diaconate in 1963. Since 1978, two more classes for permanent deacons have been completed, with another class currently in its third year of formation. Originating from the Greek word diakonos, meaning “servant,” the ancient Church had established the permanent Order of Deacons as those who tended to the economic, social and spiritual welfare of the people. The first deacons of the early Church – Stephen, Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch (Acts 6:5 NAB) – tended to the economic, social and spiritual welfare of the people.

Over time, the order vanished from the Church ministry nearly for a millennium; until interest in reviving the permanent diaconate was sparked by a group of priests imprisoned in Nazi concentration camps during World War II. They envisioned men – married or single – taking up the work of the Church beyond the walls of the sanctuary. When the idea of a restored permanent diaconate was presented to Pope Pius XII in 1957, he expressed his support.

The permanent character of the order was restored and renewed when the Second Vatican Council (October 30, 1963) called for the reestablishment of the ministry of the permanent Deacon for the Universal Church (Lumen Gentium). On June 18, 1967, Pope Paul VI carried out the desire of the council when he published the Apostolic Letter Sacram diaconatus ordinem, in which he reestablished the permanent diaconate in the Latin Church. By this order, men could become deacons permanently without going on to the priesthood. He allowed married men, with the explicit consent of their wives, to be ordained permanent deacons.

In the spring of 1968, the bishops of the United States petitioned the Holy See for permission to establish the permanent diaconate, and Pope Paul VI affirmed the request. Bishop Joseph Daley instituted the permanent diaconate in the Diocese of Harrisburg in 1972, setting out with a committee to recruit candidates for the first class of human, spiritual, theological and pastoral formation. Although a complete understanding of the diaconate was not yet fully realized and the men entering the program had no previous pioneers to look to, dozens of candidates applied to the first formation program.

The 42 men in that first program were ordained by Bishop Joseph Daley at St. Patrick Cathedral in Harrisburg in June 1978. A second class of 28 was ordained by Bishop William Keeler in June 1983, and a third class of 23 men was ordained by Bishop Kevin Rhoades in May 2010. All of these deacons were sent to minister in parishes, schools, prisons, hospitals and other places where they would give Christ-like service to the Church and her people.

In an address to deacons of the United States in 1987, Blessed John Paul II remarked that their ministry “is the Church’s service sacramentalized.” He continued: “their service in the Church’s Ministry of the Word, the Liturgy and Charity are inseparably joined together in one reality [that] shows the important nature of the ministry which is yours by ordination.” Although many deacons from that 1978 class have passed on to greater glory in God’s Kingdom, their ground-breaking work has paved the way for yet another class of deacon candidates, who, by the grace of God, will be ordained in 2020.

(Deacon Thomas Aumen has served as Chair of the Deacon Community Board for the Diocese of Harrisburg, and ministers at St. Joseph Parish in Hanover.)
Pope Francis: Support Life at All Stages, Avoid ‘Dirty Work of Death’

By Junno Arocho Esteves

Catholic News Service

In its effort to defend life at all stages, the Pontifical Academy for Life is relying on young scientists and professionals to reach across the aisle and bridge the gap between science and faith.

In his address to the academy June 25, Pope Francis called for “a global vision of bioethics” inspired by Christian thought, in which the value of human life is not determined by sickness and death but by the “profound conviction of the irreducible dignity of the human person.”

Since 2017, the pontifical academy has relied on the presence of young researchers to expand on this bioethical vision and give a fresh face to a time-limited message.

“There is nothing specific about what we are doing that’s different from the activity of other members. It’s just new blood in the academy to refresh its energy,” Sandra Azab told Catholic News Service June 26.

Azab, along with fellow young researchers and other members attended the academy’s June 25-27 general assembly, “Equal beginnings, but then? A global responsibility.”

The young researchers, Azab said, “come from fields related to the academy’s own areas of research, are no older than 35 years of age” and serve a five-year term.

The areas of expertise the researchers specialize in include medicine, the biological sciences, theology, philosophy, anthropology, law and sociology.

Hye-Jin Kim, a South Korean professor at the Catholic University of Korea’s College of Nursing, teaches nursing and maternal care. The general assembly’s reflection on global ethics, she said, is linked with the issue of women’s health care.

As a young researcher for the pontifical academy, Kim told CNS that her role is not just to provide insight into her areas of expertise, but to also be a “bridge between the old generation and the young generation.”

“It’s not just about research; we can be a bridge for young people who want to be researchers; we can give them some kind of inspiration to them,” Kim said.

“I think the academy can use us to have a conversation with young people,” Kim said.

The Church’s concern for young men and women will be front and center when the Synod of Bishops convenes in October to reflect on “young people, faith and vocational discernment.”

The synod’s instrumentum laboris (working document), published by the Vatican June 19, highlighted young people’s need for a Church that listens to their concerns, accompanies them in discerning their vocations and helps them confront the challenges they face.

Researchers are no stranger to challenges related to their work in scientific study, ranging from funding and mentorship to spiritual and moral challenges that come with “working in a very sensitive area as bioethics,” Azab told CNS.

Questions, such as “how to discern truth, how to make decisions regarding the ethical questions of life, all of this will require a lot of support from the Church, mainly through spiritual accompaniment,” she said.

The young researchers, Azab said, drafted a document addressed to the synod fathers, asking the Church to help them and “guide us to face the challenges we have on a daily basis.”

Citing his 2015 encyclical, “ Laudato Si’,” on Care for Our Common Home,” the pope called for a “holistic vision of the person” and the importance of articulating clearly the universal human condition “beginning from our body.”

“Our body itself establishes us in a direct relationship with the environment and with other living beings. The acceptance of our bodies as God’s gift is vital for welcoming and accepting the entire world as a gift from the Father and our common home, whereas thinking that we enjoy absolute power over our own bodies turns, often subtly, into thinking that we enjoy absolute power over creation,” the pope said.

Encouraging the Pontifical Academy for Life’s work in promoting a culture of life in the field of bioethics, Pope Francis said that this culture must always look toward “the final destination” where every person is called to be in communion with God.

“To recognize and appreciate this faithfulness and dedication to life raises gratitude and responsibility in us and encourages us to generously offer our knowledge and experience to the whole human community,” the pope said.

Life Sciences 101: Young Researchers Bring New Energy to Defend Life

By Junno Arocho Esteves

Catholic News Service

According the pontifical academy’s statutes, young researcher members “come from fields related to the academy’s own areas of research, are no older than 35 years of age” and serve a five-year term.

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Pontifical Mass Marks 10th Anniversary of Lancaster Latin Mass

By Mark A. O’Neill

Special to the Witness

“Dominius vobiscum… Et cum spiritu tuo.” It’s been nearly 40 years since the words of the Latin Mass echoed through the sanctuary of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church,” wrote Helen Colwell Adams in her May 2008 Lancaster Sunday News article entitled, “Return of Latin Mass Fills Church.”

Ten years later, on May 27, 2018, the Gregorian chant of the ancient liturgy echoed again at historic St. Joseph Church on College Hill in Lancaster, the home of the Lancaster Latin Mass Community. Bishop Ronald Gainer observed the tenth anniversary of the community with a Solemn Pontifical Mass at the Faldstool for 250 faithful.

Since moving to St. Joseph’s, the Latin Mass has grown to 130 souls each Sunday at 3:30 p.m. New parishioner and father of five, John DeCamillo said, “The Latin Mass Community has attracted numerous young families like mine to join the parish. We have been fully integrated into St. Joseph Church to create a parish unique in the diocese where both forms of the liturgy are concurrently celebrated.”

In fact, such hybrid parishes are multiplying across the nation as bishops attempt to preserve aging but historic urban parishes through the addition of traditional Catholic communities. Longtime St. Joseph parishioner and leader of the parish Legion of Mary parenthesis, Joanne Bauer, remarked, “The Latin Mass community has brought renewed vitality to our parish which was once home to Lancaster’s German community.” In 2015, former Harrisburg Bishop Kevin Rhoades created a similar model at St. Stanislas, a previously Polish parish in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

It was Bishop Rhoades who first established a second Latin Mass community in the Diocese of Harrisburg. To pastorally respond to the increasing number of Lancasterians who were driving to Harrisburg’s Latin Mass, he directed Father Frank Parrinello, then-member of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter (FSSP), a religious order that exclusively offers the Traditional Latin Mass, to be the first celebrant. Father Parrinello drove each week from the FSSP apostolate at St. Lawrence Chapel in Harrisburg to Lancaster.

This establishment was in accord with Pope St. John Paul II’s 1988 apostolic letter Ecclesia Dei, in which he directed that the former liturgy should be made available in a “wide and generous” manner by diocesan bishops. In 2007, Pope Benedict further expanded the right of Catholics to have broader access to the ancient liturgy. He did this through his motu proprio entitled, Summorum Pontificum, in which he wrote that “…any Catholic priest of the Latin rite...may use either the Roman Missal published in 1962 by Pope St. John XIX or the Roman Missal promulgated in 1970 by Pope Paul VI.” This document resonated with Catholics worldwide, including the Lancaster faithful.

When Father Parrinello was transferred, the Lancaster Latin Mass was changed from a mission of the FSSP to a diocesan apostolate. Father Pang Tcheou, then Catholic chaplain at Millersville University, became the celebrant. Over the years, the community has been blessed with a number of celebrants and, in August 2016, the Mass was transferred from St. Anthony Church to St. Joseph Church. “Our continued growth has led to wonderful challenges,” says Joseph Cunningham, one of the early members of the community and advisor for the parish Knights of the Altar chapter. “With over a dozen altar boys in formation, a canonically-appointed chaplain in residence is the fervent prayer of our community to help foster vocations to the priesthood and to continue our growth,” said Mr. Cunningham.

“During this sesquicentennial anniversar-y of our diocese, a new generation is exploring their Catholic heritage and discovering the Mass of their anc-estors. Many today are making sacrifices to travel long distances to worship in this particular form,” he added.

Nearly two years in their new home at St. Joseph Church, the Lancaster Latin Mass Community enjoys new-found stability. “The warm welcome from the parish has exceeded all our expectations,” says parishioner Michael DeBakey. The community’s perseverance was blessed on June 18 with the arrival of Father Brian Olkowski, parochial vicar at St. Joseph’s. Back in 2008, while a student at Millersville University, Father Olkowski was among the first altar servers at the then-newly formed Lancaster Latin Mass.

For the Solemn Pontifical Mass celebrating the tenth anniversary, Father Tcheou, the community’s weekly celebrant, served as master of ceremonies, assisted by guardsmen from the St. Michael’s Guard – Latin Mass Contingent, which was recently formed to bring greater solemnity to the Mass. Father Daniel Richards, pastor of St. Rose of Lima Parish in York, and Gregory Kram, a diocesan seminarian, served as deacon and subdeacon, respectively. Father John Szada, chaplain of the Carmel of Jesus, Mary and Joseph in Elysburg, also assisted. Father Allan Wolfe, pastor of St. Joseph Parish, welcomed the faithful for a liturgy that was complemented by the striking architecture of St. Joseph’s 19th Century interior.

Choir director Philip Cmkovich, assisted by Jack Scogna, led the singing of Hans Leo Hassler’s Missa Secunda. The processional included the traditional singing of the Ecce Sacerdos Magnus. The Ubi Caritas by Maurice Durufle was the Offertory selection, and the Pannini Angelicus by Claudio Cascolini was sung for Communion.

Although Bishop Gainer has celebrated the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite over a dozen times, he was particularly delighted on this occasion to offer First Holy Communion to two children: Augustine Blaise O’Neill, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mark A. O’Neill, and Andrew Christopher Sexton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Sexton.

Following Mass, a dinner reception was held in the Msgr. Smith Social Hall. The Latin Mass Community gathered dozens of cards thanking the bishop and presented them to him in a gift box. Parishioner Michael DeBakey commented, “Our children, teens and parents wrote to explain what this magnificent form of the liturgy means to us all, and to thank Bishop Gainer for his continued support.”

For more information on the Lancaster Latin Mass Community, including their biweekly newsletter, visit www.lancasterlatinmass.com.

(Courtesy of Michelle Quigley)

Two boys who are members of the Lancaster Latin Mass Community make their First Holy Communion at the Pontifical Mass. In the light suit is Augustine O’Neill, and in the foreground is Andrew Sexton.

Bishop Ronald Gainer celebrates a Solemn Pontifical Mass at St. Joseph Church in Lancaster on May 27 on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Lancaster Latin Mass Community. At left is Father Daniel Richards, who served as deacon. At right are Gregory Kram, a diocesan seminarian, who served as subdeacon, and Father Pang Tcheou, weekly celebrant for the community, who served as master of ceremonies.
‘Allow God to Take Control,’ Father O’Blaney, 85, Reflects on Life, 60 Years of Ministry

By Jen Reed
The Catholic Witness

At 85 years old and 60 years a Redemptorist priest, there seems to be little that Father James O’Blaney doesn’t recall about his life and ministry.

Effortlessly, he recollects the names of Redemptorist priests and brothers from his childhood parish, religious sisters in his parochial school, and friends from public school who asked “What do you learn in seminary, anyway – how to say the words of Mass?”

He knows the histories of the places where he has served, and the locations of where his confreres ministered.

Father O’Blaney has been a mathematics teacher, a skier, a dog owner, the inspiration of a thoroughbred’s name, a pastor and a provincial’s assistant.

When asked to reflect on his 60 years as a priest, Father O’Blaney, now pastor of St. James Parish in Lititz, pauses for a moment and tells a story of a flight he took from Hartford to LaGuardia that was rampant with turbulence. The pilot announced a rise in altitude in an attempt to rise above the turbulence, but the effort was futile. The plane shook and rattled throughout the flight. A woman seated near Father O’Blaney turned to him, exasperated. “Why doesn’t the pilot just slow the plane down?” she asked.

It’s a curious story to tell in reflecting on life and ministry, Father O’Blaney admits, but then he delivers the homily that is found in it: “There is turbulence at times in our life, and we think we can take care of it ourselves. But God is the pilot, and he is in control. Allow him to take it.”

Born on “Welfare Island” in New York City’s East River on March 4, 1933, James Joseph O’Blaney is the oldest of three sons and one daughter (all now deceased) of James and Bertha O’Blaney. The family attended Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, a Bohemian National Church in the city.

The O’Blaneys were not Irish, but rather were of Slovak heritage; the surname was once spelled Obulany. Though there was a Slovak parish in the city, the family didn’t have a car, and so they attended the Bohemian parish that was located on the same block as their three-room apartment.

At Our Lady of Perpetual Help, young James met priests of the Redemptorist order. He was an altar sever for daily Mass at 6 a.m. — “My mother would wake me up by putting a cold and wet washcloth on my face,” he recalled — and attended parochial school.

When he was in fifth grade, a religious Sister introduced him to the Maryknoll congregation, sharing pamphlets and magazines highlighting their missionary work. Three years later, after a Maryknoll priest visited the school, an eighth-grade James and a classmate applied for the congregation’s high school. They were told to wait a few years and apply again.

But James didn’t. His connection to the Redemptorists would solidify.

When Bishop Aloysius Willinger, C.SS.R., Bishop of Monterey-Fresno, would visit the Redemptorists in the city, he would stay at the rectory of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. James would prepare the altar for the bishop to celebrate Mass, and accompany him on walks, which frequently included a stop at the local candy store to purchase special pieces for his mother.

James entered the Redemptorists’ seminary in North East, Pa., in 1946. He was 13.

“My mother cried when I left,” he said. “I departed from Hoboken, N.J., because the seminary had rented two railroad cars to collect all the seminarians from New York and New Jersey.”

Father O’Blaney was ordained at Mount St. Alphonsus in Esopus, N.Y. — where the Redemptorist seminarians completed theology studies — on June 22, 1958, with nine other men. Three additional classmates were ordained in their native Puerto Rico — the first Redemptorists from there.

“The next day, when I celebrated my first personal Mass on a side altar in front of my family, I took the host and
Father O’Blaney
Continued from B

during the consecration, I imagined that the Eucharist would leap in my hands, because it was so powerful,” Father O’Blaney said.

His first assignment was to The Catholic University of America in D.C., as a student. He was assigned to earn a degree in mathematics and return to the seminary to teach.

“I remember feeling weak and falling into a chair when the rector told me of the assignment. I thought, ‘I never even had a geometry class; how am I going to get a degree in mathematic?” He recalled.

He enrolled in freshmen biology and chemistry courses – both with labs – and tested at the top of the incoming class to be accepted into analytic geometry and calculus. In his three years of studies at Catholic University, he lived in a building with the priests who taught there, and assisted at local parishes on the weekends.

Father O’Blaney would go on to lead the math department at the Redemptorist seminary for eight years.

His first parish assignment was to two churches in Vermont. There, at the age of 38, he learned to ski and took in a stray dog, which he named Francine, during free time from caring for a flock of 330.

In 1972, he was named pastor of St. Wenceslaus Parish in Baltimore – a Bohemian parish like his childhood parish.

Mass was routinely celebrated in Czech at St. Wenceslaus, but no one knew of Father O’Blaney’s familiarity with it. He took it upon himself to learn how to fully celebrate Mass in the language. When the priest who usually celebrated the Czech-language Mass went out of town, Father O’Blaney stepped in.

“I began the Mass: Ve Jména Otce, a Syma, a Ducha Svatého, Amen. And people were probably thinking, ‘Oh, how nice of him to say the Sign of the Cross in Czech,” he said. “Then I proceeded to say the whole Mass in their Bohemian language, and boy were they surprised!”

He served in Baltimore for a year and four months, before being assigned to Annapolis.

St. Mary’s Parish in Maryland’s capital was home to several missions and 3,000 families, with some 20 priests living in the Redemptorists’ house.

A month into Father O’Blaney’s pastorate there, the parish was robbed.

He had answered the doorbell at the office door and was met by two men in ski masks; one held a sawed-off shotgun to the priest’s stomach. The robbers pushed and struck a few other priests who attempted to detain them, and snatched collection envelopes from the office.

Fortunately, one of the priests able to provide the police with a description of the getaway car, and the thieves were eventually caught.

“It was something I never expected would happen,” Father O’Blaney said of the robbery.

“But it didn’t color my opinion of the parish – it was a faithful community, and growing. Today, its mission churches are all large parishes themselves.”

Father O’Blaney was also pastor of parishes in Brooklyn, in Kent Island, Md., and in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

In Maryland, parishioners, who owned race horses named a thoroughbred filly after him.

O’Blaney raced at Laurel Park in Maryland. From 1984-1990, Father O’Blaney served as assistant to the Provincial Superior of the Baltimore Province – Edward Gilbert – and in those years in administration, he traveled to such places as Paraguay, Brazil and the Caribbean to discuss province-wide matters in missions, ministries and personnel. The provincial he served eventually became Bishop of the Diocese of Rosario and Archbishop of Port of Spain, both in the Caribbean.

During Father O’Blaney’s time in administration, he and the provincial visited the Caribbean, including the Island of Dominica. In the wake of devastation that the island suffered from Hurricane Maria in September 2017, Father O’Blaney has led St. James Parish in adopting a sister parish, Archbishop of Port of Spain, both in the Caribbean.

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“Operation Bikini,” he said, “was an airborne bomb, not a real person I could talk to, and someone who would help enrich my faith and bring me closer to the Church.”

During Father O’Blaney’s time as the principal celebrant, he has a vision, and he is able to gently direct the various parish committees to bring out the best in everybody.”

“Of the things I value most about him is that he takes care of the whole congregation, and making sure that our parish activities and our faith communities support and welcome everyone. He is so patient, and he trusts in God completely.”

Father O’Blaney and St. James parishioners celebrated his 60 years of ministry with a Mass of Thanksgiving on June 24, with Bishop Ronald Gainer as the principal celebrant. Parishioners young and old came as a sign of love and support for their pastor, and joined in a joyful reception following the Mass. Father Paul Borowski, Provincial Superior of the Baltimore Province of the Redemptorists, was also present for the jubilee.

During the Mass, Father O’Blaney told parishioners that he sees the hand of God in his life and in his ministry. He turned to the story of the turbulent flight.

“God sees the whole picture of our lives. We have to give the control of our lives to him, and we will be happy when we do,” he said.

Dr. Rose Barnas, Director of Religious Education and Parish Administrative Manager, observed that “Father treats everyone equally. From the youngest to the oldest, there are equally important to him. He is a wonderful executive. He has a vision, and he is able to gently direct the various parish committees to bring out the best in everybody.”

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“God sees the whole picture of our lives. We have to give the control of our lives to him, and we will be happy when we do,” he said.
In celebration of its 150th anniversary, the Diocese of Harrisburg celebrates the faith of its parishioners through videos submitted by parishes of parishioners, clergy and religious who share personal memories and experiences that connect them to the faith. Go to www.hbgdiocese.org/150 for more information on the diocese’s history, events and “Lasting Remembrances” videos.

My father was hired for the farm at Paradise in the mid-1930s. My dad worked the farm, and was also custodian at that time for the church. I remember on Sunday mornings, he would use the pump outside the farmhouse to pump water over to the boiler in the church to start the fire for heat for the Mass. I went to Paradise School, and the Sisters of St. Joseph were in charge there. The priests who were there at the time had charge of the cattle, and I had charge of the pigs. When I was old enough to help on the farm, I would help my dad. We had cows, pigs, steers, and he took care of all the field work. When the church was going through some renovation, the contractor came in, and my dad and I helped to take down the ceiling, which was the original oval-shaped ceiling from the first church in 1845. The new ceiling that was put in was flat. I mixed all the plaster for the ceiling.

My sister was born in the parish rectory, which was the farmhouse when I was young, and then we lived in a small house in the back yard of the church. When the church was going through some renovation, the contractor came in, and my dad and I helped to take down the ceiling, which was the original oval-shaped ceiling from the first church in 1845. The new ceiling that was put in was flat. I mixed all the plaster for the ceiling.

In the early 1940s, a storm damaged the roof and the bell tower. It was World War II at the time, and so all work on the church was stopped. The damage remained for eight or nine years, until it was able to be fixed. Mass at that time was held at the school. At that period of time, I was in the Navy. After my military service, I went to work full-time at the farm. My dad took care of the cattle, and I had charge of the pigs.

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God wants his disciples to bring his mercy and love to everyone, everywhere on earth, which means it may cost them their “good name,” comfort and their life, Pope Francis said on the feast of Sts. Peter and Paul.

Following Christ requires “that we open our hearts to the Father and to all those with whom he has wished to identify,” particularly the downtrodden, the lost and the wounded, “in the sure knowledge that he will never abandon his people,” he said during a Mass in St. Peter’s Square June 29.

“Jesus wants to liberate his disciples, his Church, from empty forms of triumphalism: forms empty of love, empty of service, empty of compassion, empty of people,” he said.

The Mass was celebrated the day after Pope Francis created 14 new cardinals from 11 different nations.

Both new and old cardinals as well as 30 archbishops appointed over the course of the past year were invited to be in Rome to celebrate the feast day Mass with Pope Francis. The archbishops came from 18 countries, the majority coming from Latin America and others from Africa, Asia and Europe.

As has become standard practice, Pope Francis did not confer the pallium on new archbishops during the liturgy, but rather, blessed the palliums after they had been brought up from the crypt above the tomb of St. Peter. As each archbishop approached him by the altar, the pope handed each one a small wooden box tied with a thin gold ribbon. The actual imposition of the woolen band was to take place in the archbishop’s archdiocese in the presence of his faithful and bishops from neighboring dioceses.

The pallium is a woolen band that symbolizes an archbishop’s unity with the pope and his authority and responsibility to care for the flock the pope entrusted to him.

Addressing the cardinals and archbishops during his homily, the pope spoke about what Peter teaches about the life and risks of being Christ’s disciple.

It was Peter who recognized Jesus as “the Christ, the son of the living God,” and it was Peter whom Jesus turned to, saying “You are Peter and upon this rock I will build my Church.”

But, when Jesus showed his disciples he must go to Jerusalem, be killed and be risen, it was Peter who protested.

Jesus “kept bringing the father’s love and mercy to the very end. This merciful love demands that we, too, go forth to every corner of the life, to reach out to everyone, even though this may cost us our ‘good name,’” our comforts, our status… even martyrdom.

Peter reacts to this mandate of martyrdom by saying, “God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you,” which makes him become “a stumbling stone in the Messiah’s path,” the pope said.

“Thinking that he is defending God’s rights, Peter, without realizing it, becomes the Lord’s enemy; Jesus calls him ‘Satan,’” he said.

“Like Peter, we as a Church will always be tempted to hear those ‘whisperings’ of the evil one, which will become a stumbling block for the mission,” the pope said.

Sharing in Christ’s mission, which is to anoint the people, the sick, the wounded, the lost and the repentant sinner, so that they may feel “a beloved part of God’s family,” means sharing Christ’s cross, which is his glory.

“When we turn our back on the cross, even though we may attain the heights of glory, we will be fooling ourselves, since it will not be God’s glory, but the snare of the enemy,” he said.

Do not be Christians who keep “a prudent distance from the Lord’s wounds,” because Jesus touches human misery and “he asks us to join him in touching Peru suffering flesh of others,” the pope told those assembled.

It is failure to be immersed in “real human dramas” and in contact with people’s concrete concerns that prevents people from “knowing the revolutionary power of God’s tender love,” he said.

As is customary, a delegation from the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople attended the Mass for the feast of Sts. Peter and Paul – the patron saints of the Vatican and the city of Rome.

Before the Mass, Orthodox Archbishop Job of Telmessos, head of the delegation, joined the pope in prayer at the tomb of St. Peter inside St. Peter’s Basilica. The two also stopped before a bronze statue of St. Peter, which was adorned with a jeweled tiara, ring and red cope.
St. Theresa School in New Cumberland hosted its third annual musical theater camp for students in grades 3-6, a three-week program that offered sessions in theater movements and techniques, choreography, singing, acting, voice projection and prop creation and design. This year’s production, which culminated in an on-stage public performance in the auditorium at Trinity High School in Camp Hill on June 29, was “Willy Wonka Kids.”

The camp was begun by B.J. Meagher and Julie Verano, who are on staff at St. Theresa’s musical program, who staffed this year’s camp with Denise and Austin Auriemma.

“The Trinity High School auditorium offers our students a great performance venue to allow our young students to thrive,” Ms. Meagher told The Catholic Witness.

“The students do a great job of memorizing all the music and dances. There is a lot of talent at this age level and the students are very enthusiastic,” she said. “It is our hope to give the students a love for musical theater that will grow through high school.”

Emily Steiner of St. Joseph School in Mechanicsburg, takes on the role of Willy Wonka.

Violet, portrayed by Abby Gottshall of Holy Name of Jesus School in Harrisburg, with the Oompa Loompas she wants “NOW!”

The Candy Man, Noah Rakotoarimanana, of St. Theresa School in New Cumberland, pushes his cart of sweets.

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Festivals and Picnics

Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Cornwall annual Summer Festival July 12-14. Dinners indoors each night from 4-7 p.m. Bingo at 7 p.m. Outdoor games and entertainment Friday and Saturday. Entertainment by Spindity DJs Friday, and Quickdraw Saturday. Games, kids’ section with bounce houses. Hot air balloon ride (weather permitting) and chances for a ride for over Lebanon County and Hershey Park. White elephant sale, basket raffle, chances for business gift cards. Beer garden and small games of chance for adults 21 and over.

Holy Spirit Parish in Palmyra, Summer Festival Aug. 11 from 5-11 p.m. and Aug. 12 from noon-6 p.m. Food, music, entertainment, bingo, basket raffle, and lots of games for the kids. Come and enjoy.

The Annual Prince of Peace Parish Picnic July 8 from noon-8 p.m. at Cibort Park in Bressler. Menu of lamb, pork, barbeque, sodas, beer, mixed drinks and wine, plus much more. Entertainment by various musical groups for your listening and dancing pleasure, and games for kids to enjoy.

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, pepperoni stuffed pretzels, plus plenty of sweet treats. Bingo, raffles, face-painting, indoor mini-golf, plus surprises for the adventurous. Information on the sbcbq.org.

St. Patrick Parish in Trevorton annual Summer Parish 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 “R.A.T.L.” from 7-10 p.m. Saturday, live band “Reckless” from 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Annual Buchanan Valley Picnic Aug. 25 from noon until dusk, rain or shine, at the picnic grove at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish, Orrtanna. 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 Buchanon Valley, known for the capture of Mary Jemison in 1758 by Native Americans. Old-fashioned picnic with entertainment by various groups for your listening and dancing pleasure. Entertainment by Spinn City from 4-7 p.m. Bingo at 7 p.m. Outdoor entertainment by “The Legends” on Sunday and “Polka Punch” on Saturday. No admission fee.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Washington, DC
Saturday November 3, 2018 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
In Celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Harrisburg
1868 – March 3 – 2018
Holy Eucharist Celebrated by Most Reverend Ronald W. Gainer
Eucharistic Adoration
Most Holy Rosary
Prayed in languages of the Diocese in select chapels of the shrine.
Sacrament of Penance
Free Time
Lunch, Private Prayer, Conversations in Faith, Gift Shops and Self-Guided Tour of Basilica

Buses are being sponsored by parishes and are departing from sites across the Diocese; interested pilgrims should contact their local parish to make travel arrangements.

For more information: www.hbgdiocese.org/150

Our Lady of Mercy Parish Picnic next to Ideal Park in Slatington, Aug. 3 and 4 from 6-11 p.m. Food, dance-
**Knights of Columbus Honor Essay Contest**

Winners from Harrisburg Catholic Elementary School

The Knights of Columbus, Cathedral Council #11006, which is based at the Cathedral Parish of St. Patrick in Harrisburg, recently awarded three students a combined $225 in scholarship money for their outstanding essays during Harrisburg Catholic Elementary School’s graduation ceremonies.

The students won the top three prizes in an essay contest that asked all eighth-grade students to explain what St. Patrick’s parish mission statement means to them. The mission statement is found on the front of the weekly church bulletin, as well as on other parish and school materials.

The three winners were:

- **First place:** Joey Hernandez-Garcia, $100
- **Second place:** Francesse Rivera, $75
- **Third place:** Ana-Paula Gutshall, $50

These essays not only enhance the classroom educational experience, but also encourage students to think about their own roles in family, community and life.

For more information about the Knights, the Cathedral Parish of St. Patrick and the local church’s mission, visit www.stpatrickcathedral.com.

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**Resurrection Students Receive Scholarships**

Lancaster Catholic High School eighth-grade students Annalise Kauffman, center, and Avery English, right, display their certificates for earning scholarships to Lancaster Catholic High School. Lancaster Catholic High School President Tim Hamer, left, presented the awards following their weekly school Mass in St. Anthony of Padua Church in Lancaster in April.

Avery English received a scholarship for overall academic excellence. He was one of five students who applied to attend Lancaster Catholic to receive the merit award based on cumulative grades and standardized test scores.

Avery Kauffman received an Excellence in Education award for achievement in English based on merit and an essay.

Lancaster Catholic High School presents the awards to recognize excellence in incoming freshmen.

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**Immaculate Heart of Mary**

Hosts Successful Ministry Fair

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Abbottstown, recently held a Ministry Fair in the parish social hall after each of the weekend Masses for a celebration of the many organizations supported by fellow parishioners. Among the displays were those from the Knights of Columbus, Cathedral Council #11006, which is based at the Cathedral Parish of St. Patrick in Harrisburg.

Approximately 50 volunteers staffed the display tables, and more than 300 parishioners attended the event, which also included refreshments. More information on the ministries at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish can be found online at www.imhparadise.org under “Parish Pastoral Booklet.”

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**Obituaries**

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

**Berwick**
- Immaculate Conception BVM: Anita Balltrautis, Paula Dellegrotto, William “B.,” Johnson
- Blue Ridge Summit
- St. Rita: Louise Schultz
- Bonneauville
- St. Joseph the Worker: Gloria A. Eline

**Buchanan Valley**
- St. Ignatius Loyola: Conrad Lagasse

**Camp Hill**
- Good Shepherd: Elaine Kendall, Marianne McManus

**Catawissa**
- Our Lady of Mercy: Katheryn Nooney

**Columbia**
- Holy Trinity: Ben Smith

**Fairfield**
- Immaculate Conception BVM: Robert Rosenwald

**Hanover**
- St. Vincent de Paul: Jerry Curtiss Bierwager, Joan F. Diprose Smith

**Harrisburg**
- Cathedral Parish of St. Patrick: Gladys Brawley, William Miller, St. Catherine Labouré: Nicholas Lanni, Thomas Schmidt, St. Margaret Mary: Patricia Mannix, Andrew S. Merlina, Jr.

**Hershey**
- St. Joan of Arc: Mary Bryan, Tony Ferrar

**Kulpstown**
- Holy Angels: Charles Boyer, Leonard Persavage

**Lancaster**
- Assumption BVM: Virginia Rampe
- Sacred Heart of Jesus: Katherine Addelman, John Barber, Josephine Calcar, Mark Gehron, Wilford Hampton, Lucy Kuntz, Richard Maher, Paul J. McCracken, Dr. August Schultz, Bridgid Taylor

**Lebanon**
- Assumption BVM: Mary Ellen Cabrera, Charles E. Springborn, James Westenberger, St. Cecilia: Mary Lushinsky

**Lykens**
- Our Lady Help of Christians: Marie Kasper
- McSherrystown
- Assumption BVM: Elizabeth Flosser

**Mechanicsburg**
- St. Joseph: Diane Butler, Robert Briden, Dorothy Carey, Sandy Dunsy, Iva Hare

**Middleton**
- Seven Sorrows BVM: John Conroy

**Milton**
- St. Joseph: Joseph Maturani

**Mount Carmel**
- Divine Redeemer: Virginia M. “Jeannie” Gard, Jane Louise Poplaski

**Mount Joy**
- Mary, Mother of the Church: Adeline Jerman, Jean Tierney

**New Cumberland**
- St. Therese: Josephine Conte

**New Freedom**
- St. John the Baptist: Thomas Kerns

**Palmyra**
- Holy Spirit: Theresa Ann Montesano

**Steinon**
- Prince of Peace: Donna J. Popp

**Waynesboro**
- St. Andrew the Apostle: Margaret E. Rocks Camilletti Bosold, Robert R. Claybuckle, June E. Cool, Joshua L. Ledezma, Carolyn “Suzi” Roy

**York**
- St. Joseph: Theresa Ember, Joan Stephens, St. Patrick: Raymond Gallagher, Michele Kimes, St. Rose of Lima: Kathryn Shelbert
More information and ticket order forms available at  gmrh.net, or by calling the parish office at 570-672-2002.

Last date to order live or steamed lobster or lobster dinners ends Aug. 9.

W hitehall, Md., is holding a 50th anniversary celebration and a golf tournament on the 70th Annual Knights of Columbus State Golf Tournament. Hosted by the Harrisburg Diocesan Chapter, will be held Aug. 18 with an 8 a.m. shotgun start at the Armitage Golf Club, 600 Or’s Bridge, Whitehall, Md. The event will also feature a 5 p.m. dinner at Kingsland Inn.

North America, Diocesan Women’s Alliance and the Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg Office of Ministry with People with Disabilities are offering a golf tournament to support the state prison ministry at Fratello Heights. Golfers are invited to register by Aug. 3, by calling 717-266-4765. Contact Margaret Miller at 717-266-4765.

Cost is $50 per person for golf and the $25 for a meal. All proceeds will benefit Fratello Heights.

St. Michael’s Catholic Church in Carlisle is hosting a Men’s Retreat Committee until 5 p.m. at the Church in Carlisle. The event will feature a talk by speaker Father Michael Kmetz, a former Bishop Salvatore. The event will feature presentations on topics such as God’s plan for the Church and a presentation on the Holy Spirit. All interested persons are encouraged to attend.

There will be refreshments available and a $25 donation is suggested. For more information, contact the Church at 717-266-4765.

Lancaster Catholic Church is also hosting a Men’s Retreat Committee until 8 a.m. at the Church in Lancaster. The event will feature a talk by speaker Father Michael Kmetz, a former Bishop Salvatore. The event will feature presentations on topics such as God’s plan for the Church and a presentation on the Holy Spirit. All interested persons are encouraged to attend.

There will be refreshments available and a $25 donation is suggested. For more information, contact the Church at 717-266-4765.

The 39th Annual Knights of Columbus State Golf Tournament hosted by the Harrisburg Diocesan Chapter, will be held Aug. 9, 2018 with an 8 a.m. shotgun start at the Armitage Golf Club, 600 Or’s Bridge, Whitehall, Md. The event will also feature a 5 p.m. dinner at Kingsland Inn.

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The installation of the new windows, a project that was completed this past December, brings serene light into the Northumberland County church, originally built in 1950 as a church-auditorium of the former St. Michael the Archangel Parish. Saints reflected in the windows, fashioned by Cumberland Glass in Camp Hill, include St. Michael the Archangel and St. Thomas More – the former Sunbury and Northumberland parishes that merged in 1995 to form St. Monica’s – St. Monica and her son, St. Augustine, and St. Patrick, patron saint of the diocese.

Along with the new windows, the parish also undertook a renovation project for a new social hall and kitchen, replacing those that were downstairs with larger and accessible space. The social hall was created from several former classrooms. Bishop Ronald Gainer blessed the windows and the social hall during a Mass he celebrated there on July 1.

“The renovation of the church was exciting for our parishioners,” said Father Fred Wangwe, AJ, pastor of St. Monica’s. “I received an especially emotional response from a 101-year-old parishioner, who was so happy to see the improvements that he cried tears of joy.”

That parishioner is Joseph Costello, who, along with his wife, Mary, of 78 years, assisted with fundraisers for the church’s construction in 1950.

“I am so proud of our parishioners who have done the work to make these renovations possible,” Father Wangwe told The Catholic Witness. “We now have a renovated place of worship. Parishioners have been excited to bring in their family and neighbors to show the new windows, and are proud to call St. Monica home.”