60 Teens Join ‘Week of Mercy’ in Lancaster to Serve as Hands and Feet of Christ

Five years ago, a week of service in late July was the last thing sisters Joanne and Autumn Cybulski wanted to do during summer break. But the days spent painting, pulling weeds and sorting boxes for residents and programs in Lancaster have since become a high point of their summer.
Diocese Launches Podcasts

We’ve all been faced with those times of waiting. Traffic, appointments, checkout lines; waiting is a part of life. The Diocese of Harrisburg now has a new resource to help turn these waiting times into opportunities for deeper growth in the faith.

Through the generosity of those who contributed to the Catholic Communications Campaign collection and through a partnership with Breadbox Media, the Diocese recently launched two podcasts, with a third coming soon.

The first podcast, Why Do Catholics..., features clergy and lay experts for informative, lively discussions on what Catholics believe, why we practice a sacramental faith and what the Church teaches. The first series of this podcast focuses on the Sacraments and Marshall College, explains the meaning of the Sacraments in an entertaining, easy to understand way.

If stories capture your interest, then Musings from a Catholic Evangelist is the podcast for you. Join Sister Geralyn Schmidt, SCC, for frank and honest conversations on living your faith every day. Using powerful stories, Sister Geralyn challenges you to be the individual God has called you to be. A new episode of Musings is posted every Tuesday and is the perfect length for when running those quick errands.

Coming soon, the Diocese and our Hispanic Apostolate will launch Pregúntale al Padre. This Spanish podcast, hosted by Father Luis Rodriguez, pastor of Corpus Christi Parish in Chambersburg, will answer your questions about the Faith.

These three podcasts follow the very successful Gospel Reflections from Bishop Ronald Gainer. Each Tuesday, a new 30-second reflection on the Gospel reading for the coming Sunday is provided by Bishop Gainer.

To listen and download these podcasts, visit http://breadboxmedia.com or find them on the Diocesan Facebook page. To submit a suggestion for future episodes, please email Communications@hbgdiocese.org.

Clergy Appointments

The Most Reverend Ronald W. Gainer has made the following appointments:

Effective July 22, 2019:

At the presentation of the Very Reverend Dominick Eshikena, OP, Vicar Provincial for North America and the Caribbean, the Reverend Olusola H. Adewole, OP, to Campus Minister, Bloomsburg University, and Administrator, Christ the King Mission, Benton.

Effective August 1, 2019:

At the presentation of the Very Reverend Paul J. Borowski, CSSR, Provincial Superior of the Redemptorists, the Baltimore Province, the Reverend John Murray, CSSR, Pastor, Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish, Ephrata. The Reverend John McLooughlin, CSSR, has been reassigned by his community.

Father Martin Moran has been released by Bishop Gainer to serve as the University Chaplain and Director of Campus Ministry at Mount Saint Mary’s University, Emmitsburg, Md.
One Year...Many Changes

It has been one year since the 40th Pennsylvania Grand Jury Report into clergy abuse within the Catholic Church was released. Horror, shame and feelings of betrayal were felt by all during the days, weeks and months since.

In the year that has followed, much has been done within the Diocese of Harrisburg to support survivors of childhood sexual abuse, ensure all children within our schools, parishes and programs are safe, and to support the faithful through this challenging time.

“In my own name, and in the name of the Diocesan Church of Harrisburg, I express our profound sorrow and apologize to the survivors of child sex abuse, the Catholic faithful and the general public for the abuses that took place and for those Church officials who failed to protect children,” said Bishop Ronald W. Gainer. “We have and continue to take steps forward to support survivors and ensure these abuses never occur again.”

Bishop Gainer and the Diocese have worked diligently during the past year to prove, through deeds and not words, that the Harrisburg Diocese discussed in the Grand Jury Report is not the Harrisburg Diocese of today. The Diocese has taken accountability and acknowledges our past failings through the following steps:

• Removal of all Bishops’ names from positions of honor within the Diocese for failure to do enough to prevent childhood sexual abuse;

• Removal of the names of Priests, Deacons and Seminarians named in our Report or the Grand Jury Report into clergy abuse within the Catholic Church was released. Horror, shame and feelings of betrayal were felt by all during the days, weeks and months since.

• Conducted nine listening sessions, allowing the faithful and survivors to express their concerns, frustrations and feelings.

• Created the Survivor Compensation Program, which was managed by a private mediation firm (Commonwealth Mediation and Conciliation, Inc.).

• The Program was open for survivors of childhood sexual abuse committed by Harrisburg Clergy, Deacons and Seminarians, as well as Order Priests

• 112 survivors participated in the Program

• 106 survivors accepted offers

• $12.1 million total payments to Survivors in the Program

• The funding for this Program was provided by a loan from the Priest Pension Fund. This loan will be repaid through insurance payments and contributions from other dioceses and religious orders.

• Ensured that all survivors of childhood sexual abuse receive counseling services, at low or no cost to them and from a counselor of their choosing, regardless of their participation in the Survivor Compensation Program; accepting or declining a compensation offer in no way impacted a survivor’s access to counseling.

• Created an email address (AskBishopGainer@hbgdioecese.org) to offer more access for parishioners and the public to communicate directly with Bishop Gainer.

While the Diocese has been focused on supporting survivors and ensuring that all children in our care are safe, work has also continued to repair the broken trust and move the Diocese forward.

As it has done so since the early 2000s, every report of sexual abuse is and continues to be reported to ChildLine and the appropriate District Attorney. Moreover, the Diocese contracted with Janet McNeal, a retired Pennsylvania State Police Captain who oversaw Megan’s Law. In addition to her duties related to supporting survivors, Mrs. McNeal has also worked this past year to make improvements to the Diocese’s Safe Environment Program. This Program, presented annually to Diocesan Catholic School and Religious Education students, teaches youth ways to recognize unsafe interactions with adults and what to do if faced with that situation. The newly updated Program will be implemented this fall.

The Diocese has also used this past year to bring together members of the laity to serve on the Diocesan Pastoral Council, the Diocese Review Board and the Communications Commission. These boards are in the final stages of formation and the members will be announced in the coming weeks.

Revised youth protection policies, an intensive screening and education process for those in formation for the priesthood, streamlining several Diocesan offices in an effort to ensure every parishioners’ dollar is spent efficiently and effectively, and a renewed commitment to transparency and more regular communication round out current efforts.

As Bishop Gainer said one year ago, “The road to restoring trust and credibility will be a long and challenging one. But we will walk the road together, trusting that the suffering but victorious Lord walks at our side.”

Those with questions or concerns regarding the steps the Diocese has and continues to take are encouraged to express them to Bishop Gainer by emailing AskBishopGainer@HBGDiocese.org.
‘Week of Mercy’

Continued from 1

This year, they joined nearly 60 of their peers for the 20th annual WOM Week of service, July 9-Aug. 2. Focusing on the Works of Mercy, the day camp is organized from Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Lancaster, and sends students in grades 7-12 into the community to be the hands and feet of Christ.

Service activities this year included yardwork at parishioners’ homes and at Brethren Village, storing items from San Juan Bautista Parish’s festival, distributing diapers at A Woman’s Concern, sorting donations at Water Street Rescue Mission, resident activities at St. Anne’s Retirement Community, and distributing Rosaries during street evangelization.

The participants, who came from various parishes in the Lancaster area, are accompanied by adult volunteers who take the youth to the sites and supervise their efforts.

The camp is intentionally named for participants to focus on the Corporal Works of Mercy, explained Joanne Cybulski, 14.

“Feeding the hungry: we can serve at the soup kitchen downstairs here, and give snacks and water to people downtown. Clothing the naked: we distribute diapers at A Woman’s Concern. Visit the Sick: we spend time with people at local nursing homes,” she said.

“It really is a great way to serve your community, and that’s why I liked it when I joined last year,” said Lydia Fuhrman, 14. “I love helping people.... For me, the most important thing in my life is giving to other people. It makes me feel so good. It’s not even an object in return that I want, it’s just the contentment that I get when I’m serving people.”

For Autumn Cybulski, 18, the reward of the week is “just getting to go out and serve the community – the less fortunate and those who may be fortunate but are stuck in a tough situation. Giving back and living out my faith makes this a great time for me,” said Autumn, who is considering a religious vocation because of the joy she finds in serving.

A Win-Win

Many of the participants who spoke with The Catholic Witness at various service sites on July 31 said street evangelization is their favorite component of the week.

Supplied with dozens of Rosaries, prayer cards and bottled water, the teens greeted people as they passed through Penn Square in the heart of the city. Some pedestrians gladly accepted the Rosaries, prayed with the teens or shared a prayer intention. Others politely declined or adamantly refused.

“It’s really cool to share your faith with other people who might not know anything about it,” Joanne said. “You go to someone and say, ‘Would you like a free Rosary?’ They’ll say ‘No, thank you,’ and you move along because you don’t want to push. Or, they’ll say yes, and then you ask, ‘Do you know how to pray it?’ We have prayer cards we can give them so they learn how to pray it and continue to pray it.”

“You just have to go into it with a positive, open mind and accept that some people are going to say no or give you rude comments,” she continued. “But other people are going to be open and willing to talk about their faith. Either way, it’s a win, because you get to share your faith with everybody you encounter.”

The teens met homeless people, business people, city workers, young families, the elderly and people with disabilities. By the end of WOM Week, they filled a portable bulletin board with dozens of prayer intentions.

“WOM Week is a highly-orchestrated venture, currently coordinated by Bob Cybulski, Youth Ministry Coordinator at Assumption BVM Parish.

Spirituality and Service

WOM Week is a highly-orchestrated venture, currently coordinated by Bob Cybulski, Youth Ministry Coordinator at Assumption BVM Parish.
‘Week of Mercy’

Continued from 4

Nearly 40 adult volunteers chaperone the teens at 25 work sites throughout the course of the week. Feeding and entertaining 60 teens is no easy task either: Volunteers prepare dinner and contribute snacks and drinks. Entertainment at the end of the day keeps the youth boisterous with everything from karaoke and board games to basketball, a Nerf battle and a week-ending trip to Hershey Park.

Maya Bennett, 16, in her second year at WOM Week, said she’s been able to meet teens from other parishes as they serve the community.

³WOM is growing every year. Last year, there were 40 of us, and this year we have almost 60, which is good, because there are always people who are going to need help in our community,´ Maya said. “Participating in this week brings me joy. I like seeing how people benefit from it, how it makes them smile.”

The spiritual component of WOM Week draws participants closer to the Lord through Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Combined with a reflection period at the end of each day, these afford the teens an opportunity to ponder the Works of Mercy and their service to their brothers and sisters in Christ.

³Mass and Adoration give you a break so that you can be fully involved with God, and the reflections allow us consider the work that was done, and how you’ve helped so many people,´ said Lydia.

A noteworthy aspect of the week is that the teens don’t know where they’ll be serving until they depart for the location. They’re divided into small groups each morning and asked to serve where they’re sent.

³When you find out your assignment, you don’t really have time to react and wonder if you’re ready for it. It’s fun to see where you’re going each day because it’s always a surprise,´ said Lydia.

Autumn, who plans to return next year as a chaperone, said the mystery surrounding each day’s assignment lends greater purpose to the teens’ roles in the program.

³I come in with the mindset that today’s not about me, it’s about who I’m going to be serving that day. And I’m with a different group every day, so even if I’m not enjoying what I’m doing, like pulling weeds, I enjoy who I’m doing it with,´ she said.

³Even in pulling weeds or cleaning old staircases, there’s at least one person that it means a lot to, and that’s really all that matters. You’re serving for God, for a greater good. You are being the hands and feet of Christ.´

Watch a video on Works of Mercy Week at YouTube.com/hbgdiocese.
Young Adults from Diocese of Harrisburg begin Nine-Month Journey with National Evangelization Teams

By Jen Reed

For nearly 40 years, NET Ministries has challenged young Catholics to leave behind their families, schools and jobs to travel the United States for nine months, sharing the Gospel with young people in parishes and schools.

Each August, 175 young adults ages 18-28 set out on the journey to serve with the National Evangelization Teams (NET), witnessing to their faith and inviting peers to live for Christ.

This year, three young people in the Diocese of Harrisburg are among them: Vanessa Valovage, 22, of Our Lady Help of Christians Parish in Lykens, and Peter Krimmel and Sam Ellis, both 18-year-old members of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Lancaster.

Since 1981, NET Ministries teams have led more than 32,000 retreats for more than 2 million young people.

Ten years ago, Valovage was a sixth-grade recipient of those efforts.

She was drawn to the joy and energy of the NET team that visited her parish, and their impact stayed with her into high school.

“What drew me to their mission that made me step on the ladder that led me to consider applying was the thought that they must see the world in a really unique way while serving with NET,” said Valovage, who graduated from St. Francis University in Loretto, Pa., earlier this year.

As graduation approached, she decided to apply to become a “NETter.”

The application process included an interview retreat weekend of talks, small group discussion, activities, and praise and worship. The weekend offered a glimpse of the work of NET Ministries.

“My hope is to gain a stronger community of faith. We all need people to help us grow spiritually, and I think I’ll find some amazing people to help me do that here,” Valovage said.

All for Christ

NET Ministries is composed of 16 teams: 12 retreat teams and four discipleship teams.

The retreat teams, on which Valovage and Krimmel will serve, are groups of 10-12 members that travel by van to facilitate retreats six days a week for junior high and high school youth.

In their nine-month ministry, each team will travel 20,000 miles to offer nearly 150 retreats for 8,500 teens. When they’re not traveling by van, they’ll stay at upwards of 125 host homes.

Discipleship teams, on which Ellis will serve, remain in a specific parish or school to assist with youth groups, teen Masses and retreats. Discipleship teams are focused on long-term evangelization throughout the school year, and entering the lives of the families to whom they minister.

Valovage, Krimmel and Ellis departed Aug. 15 for five weeks of training which will focus on everything from facilitating retreats, sharing the Gospel message and interacting with young people, to driving vans. Then, they’ll receive their team assignments for the next nine months.

NET Ministries is under the ecclesiastical care of the Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. It is inspired by the Scripture passages, “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men” and “Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch.” Team members leave everything behind to live for Christ and share the Gospel.

“Contact with family and friends will be limited,” Valovage said. “Our phones will be off and away most of the time. We also are allowed only one suitcase and one backpack on the road, so that will be an exercise in living simply. We do have a few weeks off for Christmas.”

Krimmel said “Goodbyes are very hard to do, especially with my best friends and my siblings.” He plans to write letters and said he will “carry all of my friends and family and their love with me on this journey.”

Krimmel learned about NET Ministries only a year ago, when his friend joined the team.

“My first experience with NET was my interview weekend,” he said, although he’d been open to its message from the moment he heard about the program.

Those he met on the retreat weekend “had a certain energy about them at all times of the day and night that was unexplainable until I saw them in Adoration. I wanted that type of connection with Jesus in my own faith life,” he said.

“I saw all leaders filled with the energy and ability to listen and appreciate everyone around them. That fire they had as a spark in their souls to light my fire. My dry heart was waiting for that ember to come in and that is what I’m going to bring with me on my trip, as well as the love and support of my family and friends,” Krimmel said.

“As they set out for their training, Krimmel and Valovage don’t know where they’ll be serving or with whom they’ll be ministering. But they know exactly why they’re doing it. It’s less about gaining than, ‘What can I find in myself to give? Where are my talents beneficial to somebody?’ It isn’t about me or how good I am, it’s just, ‘How much can I let God work through me?’” Krimmel reflected. “We all want to help. That is why we start at NET. We all want Jesus to help through us and to rid us of ourselves and fill us with Him.”

“I want to bring God’s love to young people. I want to bring them hope and joy and comfort,” Valovage said. “This world can be really tough, and middle and high school can be some of the worst times. I want the young people to realize that they will make it through and that God can make it infinitely better in His own way, if they just let Him in.”

(ELLIS DECLINED AN INTERVIEW FOR THIS ARTICLE. FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT NET MINISTRIES, VISIT WWW.NETUSA.ORG)
Mass to Honor Capuchin Franciscans’ 40 Years at St. Joseph’s in York

Release from St. Joseph Parish

It has been 40 years since the Capuchin Franciscan brothers began their ministry at St. Joseph Parish in York. The parish will honor this special anniversary on Sept. 7 at 5 p.m. with Mass celebrated by Bishop Ronald Gainer.

Father Tom Betz, OFM, Cap, Provincial Minister, Saint Augustine Province, joined by current and returning Capuchin Franciscan friars and deacons who have served at St. Joseph, and priests and deacons from the York Deanery, will assist Bishop Gainer during Mass. Following the Mass, there will be a parish reception in the school’s all-purpose room.

To honor the Capuchin Franciscan brothers who have served the parish and continue to do so, parishioners will present Father Steve Fernandes, OFM, Cap, pastor, with their pledges of service to the poor and marginalized. Parishioners and children from St. Joseph School will make the presentations via a spiritual bouquet. Monetary contributions will also be presented to benefit Capuchin Franciscan vocations in the Saint Augustine Province, which serves the parishes of St. Joseph in York and St. Francis of Assisi in Harrisburg.

The Order of Friars Minor, Capuchin (OFM, Cap), or Capuchin Franciscans, was established as a religious order of priests and brothers, all called “friars,” in Italy in 1528. Three-hundred years after the death of St. Francis of Assisi, a number of friars who traced their community’s origin to St. Francis desired to live in strict observance to his ideals and asked Pope Clement VII for permission to form a new community of Franciscan friars. They became known as the Capuchins, named for the long hood on their religious habit.

In the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi, the friars serve the Church in diverse ways that are in harmony with their way of life. They embrace the ministries that are especially difficult, showing special care to the poor and marginalized, but willingly serve where there is a need for any form of apostolic activity.

Friars of the Province of Saint Augustine are serving in the District of Columbia, Ohio, Maryland, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Puerto Rico and Papua New Guinea. In the Harrisburg Diocese, the Capuchins minister at two parishes and are hospital chaplains at three hospitals. They also minister at two prisons.

Worldwide, there are approximately 10,500 Capuchin Franciscan friars serving 35 nations. In the United States, there are six provinces with close to 700 Capuchin Franciscan friars.

Contact Erin Maiolino, Parish Manager, at 717-755-7503, ext. 231, or Maiolino@sjy.org for additional information. Capuchin information can be found online at www.capuchin.com.

Catholic Marketers Convene in Lancaster

Professionals in Catholic business, ministry, manufacturing and distribution gathered at the Lancaster County Convention Center July 31-Aug. 2 for their annual trade show of faith-based books, statues, icons, digital media and educational resources. The Catholic Marketing Network connects organizations and individuals involved in the Catholic market, and offers a platform for the exchange of ideas in promoting the production of religious goods.

The show featured dozens of exhibitors, a writer’s workshop, presentations on business and marketing development, as well as Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Special appearances by pro-life activist Abby Johnson and author Dr. Scott Hahn also offered inspiration for Catholic marketing professionals.

Bishop Ronald Gainer celebrated Mass for trade show attendees on Aug. 1 in the center’s ballroom.
Franciscan Sisters Celebrate Jubilees

The Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia 2019 Jubilee Celebration recently celebrated 50, 70, and 75 years of religious profession during a gathering at Our Lady of Angels Convent in Aston, Pa. Assisi House, the congregation’s retirement residence hosted a special dinner for all jubilarians, and Our Lady of Angels Chapel was the location of the special jubilee liturgy. Father Cyprian Rosen, OFM Cap., presided over the liturgy during which the jubilarians renewed their vows of celibacy, poverty, and obedience.

Collectively, the 26 jubilarians represent 1,720 years of service in 24 dioceses throughout the United States.

Sister Agnes St. Joseph Bresnen, OSF, is celebrating 70 years of religious profession. Currently she serves in local house ministry. Her previous ministry in the Diocese of Harrisburg includes serving as a volunteer at St. Anne Retirement Community in Columbia and St. Leo the Great Parish in Rohrersville.

Four of this year’s diamond jubilarians ministered previously in the Diocese of Harrisburg. Sister Agnes Bonner, OSF (formerly Sister Catherine Michael): 75 years of religious profession. She taught at both St. Joseph School in Lancaster and Lancaster Catholic High School. Currently she serves in prayer and hospitality ministry at Assisi House, the congregation’s retirement residence in Aston, Pennsylvania.

Sister Helen Ann Gaidos, OSF (formerly Sister John Andre): 70 years of religious profession. Her previous ministry in the Diocese included working at St. Joseph Hospital in Lancaster, Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Cornwall, St. Benedict Parish in Lebanon, and St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Annville. Currently she serves in local house ministry and as a caregiver at St. Basil the Great Convent in Phoenixville, Pa. Sister Anne Conrad Koerner, OSF: 70 years of religious profession. She ministered as a pharmacist at St. Joseph Hospital in Lancaster. Currently, she serves in prayer and hospitality at Assisi House.

Sister Justina Marie Miller, OSF: 70 years of religious profession. She taught at St. Joseph School in York and served as both teacher and principal at St. Joseph School in York. Currently, she volunteers at Assisi House.

Golden jubilarian, Sister Elizabeth Howe, OSF, celebrated 50 years of religious profession. Her previous ministry in the Diocese of Harrisburg was at St. Francis Hospital in Lancaster. Sister Elizabeth is currently an emergency room physician at St. Joseph Medical Center in Reading, Pa.

Several of the Franciscan jubilarians are pictured from left: Sister Helen Ann Gaidos, Sister Elizabeth Howe, Sister Justina Miller and Sister Agnes St. Joseph Bresnen. Not pictured are Sister Agnes Bonner and Sister Anne Conrad Koerner.

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Cemetery in Aston.

in Assisi House. Burial was in Our Lady of Angels

in prayer and hospitality ministry until her death.

caster. She moved to Assisi House in 0 and served

earned a BSN in Nursing and a MSN in Administra-
tion and, in later years, in pastoral services.

Sister William

Clare Platt, OSF

Sister William Clare Platt, OSF, died in Assisi House in Aston, Pa., on July 25. She was 91.

Born in Media, Pa., she entered the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia in 1945. She earned a B.S. in Education from Villanova University in 1969 and ministered primarily in elementary educa-
tion and, in later years, in pastoral services.

Sister William Clare ministered for 5 years in the

Diocese of Harrisburg, where she taught at Holy Trin-
yty School in Columbia, St. Joseph School in Lancast-
er, and St. Joseph School in York. She also served in

the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, the Diocese of Allen-
town, and in Rhode Island and New Jersey.

In 2011, Sister William Clare became a resident at

Assisi House and served in prayer and hospitality min-
istry until her death.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July

30 in Assisi House. Burial was in Our Lady of Angels

Cemetery in Aston.

National Shrine to Host Annual Pilgrimage for the Sea Services

The National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in

Emmitsburg, Md., will host its Annual Pilgrimage for the

Sea Services on Oct. 6. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is the

patroness of the sea services, which include the

U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Merchant

Marine and Public Health Service.

Mass will be celebrated at 3 p.m. by the Most Rev-

erend Michael C. Barber, SJ, the current Bishop of

Oakland, who also served for many years as a

chaplain in the Naval Reserve.

“It will be a very special honor to have Bishop

Barber, who recently retired from the Navy Chaplain Corps with his broad background of military service, join us for the annual Pilgrimage,” said retired Admi-
niral William J. Fallon, Chair of the Pilgrimage Spon-
sor Committee. “Bishop Barber has served with our

Navy and Marine Corps in many places around the

world, including a deployment to the Middle East
during the war in Iraq and also on aircraft carriers and

with Marine units. He’s provided spiritual guidance to

diverse deployed servicemen and women in a va-

riety of circumstances and we will be so pleased to

welcome him to the pilgrimage.”

“We’re grateful for all of the servicemen and

women who’ve taken part in the Pilgrimage over the

years,” said Rob Judge, Executive Director of the Se-
ton Shrine. “It’s a prayerful and moving time for them to

join with their family members and others in thank-
ing St. Elizabeth Ann Seton for her protection and to

ask for her continued intercession on their behalf as

they serve our country.”

The Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D.,

Archbishop for the Military Services, USA, and a co-

sponsor of the pilgrimage, said “This annual pilgrim-

age for the Sea Services at the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Shrine is to be commended. With two sons serving in

the Sea Services, Elizabeth Ann Seton is a fine ex-

ample of sacrifice, service and love for our country and

its people.”

The pilgrimage Mass will take place at 3 p.m. on

October 6, in the Basilica at the Seton Shrine, located at

339 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, Md.

A complimentary dinner will be provided after-

ward to all in attendance. If you would like to at-

tend, contact Rob Judge at 301-447-6037 or office@

setonshrine.org.

Presentations on Annulments

The Tribunal of the Diocese of Harrisburg will offer presentations concerning divorce and annul-

ments from the Catholic perspective in the coming months. These presentations will be helpful for

divorced Catholics, divorced people who wish to marry Catholics, parish leaders involved in the RCIA

process and those who have a vested interest because of family or friends.

Presentations will include a question-and-answer session and an opportunity for private conversation

with Tribunal staff and representatives. For more information, call 717-657-4804 or send an e-mail to

tribunal@hbgdiocese.org.

• September 4, St. Philip the Apostle Parish, Millersville, 7 p.m.
• September 16, St. Joseph Parish, Hanover, 7 p.m.
• September 30, Diocesan Center, Harrisburg, 7 p.m.
• November 18, Diocesan Center, Harrisburg, 7 p.m.

Saint Spotlight

St. Benedicta of the Cross

Patroness of Europe, Loss of Parents, Converted Jews, Martyrs and World Youth Day

Feast Day – August 9

Edith Stein was born into a Jewish family in Breslau, Germany, on October 12, 1891, as the youngest of 11 children. At a young age, Edith had an in-

quisitive mind and in her adolescence developed an interest in Phenomenol-

ogy, the philosophy begun in Germany which emphasized that the material

world was the bearer of the sacred. Slowly she evaluated her thinking of this

philosophy which negated any thoughts of God and a glorious afterlife. While

visiting a friend in 1917, she found her hopeful, offering comfort and peace to

the dying in a military hospital in which they both worked during WWII. How-

ever, the turning point for Edith was when she began to read about Teresa of

Avila. She bought catechisms and missed and went to her first Mass at the

Church of Bergzabern, subsequently asking the priest for Baptism.

Daily Mass became the center of her life. Her writings gained attention and

she started teaching at St. Magdalena’s, a Dominican Sisters’ school. In

1932, she was asked to resign because of growing political attention and

anti-Semitism. In 1933, Edith made her final decision to join the Carmelite

Order. Her family was distraught and her 84-year-old mother could not accept

her decision. On October 12, 1933, Edith’s birthday and at the time the Fes-

tival of Booths, she spent the day with her mother in the synagogue. On April

15, 1934, her Clothing Day, Edith took the name of Teresa Benedicta Cricu.

The Holocaust began in earnest on November 8, 1938. Sister Benedicta and

her sister, Rosa, who had converted and joined the Order, were in great

jeopardy and were transferred to different monasteries to avoid danger. On

August 2, 1942, all Jewish Catholics were arrested, including members of reli-

gious orders. The SS came to the Carmel and asked for Edith and Rosa. They

were hustled through paperwork and eventually transported to Auschwitz, the

death camp in Poland. Little documentation survived, but it is known that Sis-

ter Benedicta was in Barrack 36, prisoner #44074, known as Edith Theresa

Hedwig Stein from Echt. She was exterminated in the gas chamber on August

9, 1942.

At her last confession Sister Benedicta told her confessor, “You don’t know

what it means to me to be a daughter of the chosen people—to belong to

Christ not only spiritually but according to the flesh.” Sister Benedicta was be-

ated on May 9, 1987, the pope wrote. “It’s a prayerful and moving time for them

profession. The wedding dress she wore on her Clothing Day at the Carmel

was made of white silk and sent to Rome by her sister Rosa. It was made into

vestment and kept in safety during bombings. This was the vestment the

pope wore as he declared Edith Stein Blessed. She was canonized on Octo-


(Compiled by Angela M. Orsini)
Tell me a little bit about your childhood.

I came from Italy in 1954 to Brooklyn, N.Y. I was a twin. My twin brother died when we were two months old. My dad came to Brooklyn and we started our wonderful life here in America. Coming to America, my family was going to “the promised land.” We came from a very, very poor family in Italy, and I had nine brothers and sisters, so my dad had to come here to be able to feed the family.

In Brooklyn, we went to a Catholic school, St. Francis. It’s strange how I was later assigned to St. Francis Xavier in Gettysburg as a pastor. That saint has a very special place in my heart. While I was in school with the Franciscan Brothers, that’s where the thought came about the priesthood. I had such wonderful Franciscan Brothers that I started investigating about becoming a Franciscan Brother. The brother who was principal at the time said, “You have enough brains to become a priest.” I didn’t think I had it, because of my background, because of poverty. I didn’t think I would be able to become a priest. He invited me to think about the priesthood, so I went to the seminary.

My dad said, “We didn’t come here to be priests, we came here to make money.” He had a little general store in Brooklyn and it was his mouthpiece, because he couldn’t speak English. It was a couple years that I kept on insisting, “Pop, I think I need to go to the seminary.” I was 21 when I entered St. Mary’s Seminary in Louisville, Ky. I did not have a high school diploma, but the seminary had a high school there, so the first year I worked on getting my high school diploma and then into the college. And then my dad was the happiest man in the whole world to have a son who was a priest.

Did all your siblings come with you from Italy?

No. When we came over, my dad brought four boys. The girls stayed and after a couple years, the rest of the family came, with the exception of my brother, Vincent. He inherited the store that my dad had. It was an old Army-Navy store, and he sold everything except food there.

My dad’s idea was to leave the boys here and go back to run the store, but then he stayed.

I have gone back. Lately though, I’m getting too old to travel, but I’ve been back a dozen times in the last 40 years. When I go, it’s like reliving the history that’s inside of me.

Where were you ordained, and how did you get to the Diocese of Harrisburg?

I was ordained in Harrisburg by Bishop Daley in 1973. My dad could not afford tuition. He paid tuition the first year, and then my roommate, who was from Lancaster, said, “Why don’t you study for Harrisburg? Harrisburg picks up your tab.” That’s how I landed here.

What is your favorite parable?

My favorite parable is the Prodigal Son. It shows that we all have potential. It’s the story of a father, and a son who was a priest.

What aspects of your ministry do you enjoy most?

Being with the Hispanic people. They are just wonderful. You do the slightest gesture of kindness and they’ll never forget you. For the Latino culture, that’s very common. If you do something kind, they’ll be forever grateful. Not that others are not, but the Spanish are very much into that.

Yesterday, I ran into somebody that I helped 45 years ago. She came here and needed food. We provided some groceries and things for her. She found that out that I was here and she came to say hello and thank me all over again for what we did 45 years ago. It comes back a hundredfold when you’re kind.

What interests and hobbies do you have?

Racquetball. I’ve been involved in that most of my priesthood. I joined the YMCA here in Lancaster and started playing racquetball back in the 70s.

I’m very much into the Bible. That’s my source of spirituality. I read some books, but I’m not a very good reader because I fall asleep. But the Bible is my favorite book and my constant source of strength. As soon as I pick up a book – snore; I fall asleep. But not with the Bible.

My favorite parable is the Prodigal Son. It shows that we all have potential if we connect ourselves to the Lord. We can have a new energy, a new vision, a new heart.
Sacificial Love
By Sister Geralyn Schmidt, SCC
Special to The Witness

Sister Geralyn Schmidt, SCC
“Thoughts from a Catholic Evangelist”

Beginning Experience Weekend for those Suffering the Loss of a Spouse
Camp Hebron in Halifax, Pa. • November 8-10

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 success, productive, happy lives by attending one of these weekends.

The weekend is led by persons who have lost a spouse through death or separation and have been certified by the International Beginning Experience Organization. Each Beginning Experience Team is certified by the International Beginning Experience Organization.

The following is a testimony of a person who attended the Beginning Experience Weekend:

“I can tell you that my encounter with the Beginning Experience has brought me greater peace and given me an extended family of lifelong friends. I feel like it was exploding. Let’s step away and appreciate this in another manner. In his encyclical on the devotion to the Sacred Heart, Pope Pius XII says it this way, “…devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is the most effective school of the love of God; the love of individuals, families, and nations … The reign of Jesus Christ takes its strength and form from divine love: to love with holiness and order its foundation and its perfection. From it these must flow: to perform duties without blame; to take away nothing of another’s right; to guide the lower human affairs by heavenly principles; to give the love of God precedence over all other creatures.”

In a sense, sacrificial love is about freedom. Let me explain. Choosing to give something up or performing an action for the sake of another is what makes a sacrifice real. If the act is not chosen freely but rather forced, it becomes a demand, a duty or an expectation. In a sense, without freedom to choose, the action is not a love gift.

For me, it’s a call to examine my motivations and perceptions. Why do I do what I do? Learning the reason for our actions, reactions and perceptions is probably the hardest part of our journey to learn how to love as Jesus did because it takes constant and daily work. Is this type of love possible? Yes! Just look at the sky of witnesses, the saints, who join us when we praise God at every liturgy. In addition to these holy ones, Jesus gave us the means to learn to love in this manner: the Eucharist.

When we gather for the Eucharist, let us be aware of the love of Jesus. We, with him, offer ourselves to the Father as his son and daughter. By prayerful participation in the Eucharist and living out our understanding of sacrificial love, we bring the reality of divine love to earth. We learn to love as Jesus loved! ’Encyclical of Pope Pius XII, On Devotion to the Sacred Heart, May 15, 1656, paragraph 123 (Sister Geralyn Schmidt is the Wide Area Network Coordinator at the Diocese of Harrisburg and the Director of Formation for Wives in the Diaconate Program. An educator for 30 years, she is responsible for Professional Development Programs for every age learner. Through her presentations, she challenges her audiences to be the individual God has called them to be.)

Sister Geralyn Schmidt, SCC
“Thoughts from a Catholic Evangelist”

Annual Diocesan Charismatic Day of Renewal
“The Beginning and the End: The Healing of Past Soul Wounds”

September 21 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. • Diocesan Center, Harrisburg
Father Paul CB Schenck, Presenter

Father Schenck is parochial vicar at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Mechanicsburg and Director of Deacon Formation for the Diocese of Harrisburg.

To register, or for additional information, visit www.aliveinthespirit.net or www.hbgdiocese.org/renewal, or call Joyce at 717-308-7245.

By mail, send a check payable to “Diocese of Harrisburg” for $20 per person ($10 for students age 16 through college) to Jackie Curran, Office of Catholic Life and Evangelization, 4800 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg, PA., 17111. Lunch sandwich choices are ham, turkey, tuna and low gluten salad. Deadline to RSVP for lunch is Sept. 9. Registrants may bring a non-perishable food item for the Silence of Mary Home.

The Cross Word
Puzzles answers appear on page 15

ACROSS
1 Lanka
4 Anxiety
9 Not downs
12 Boy
13 "and south"
14 Foot extension
15 Frost
16 Town news giver
17 Alias (abbr.)
18 They wanted Jeremiah’s
20 Jeremiah was one
22 “Father against __
23 Compass point
25 Christ the cross
29 Rub out
33 Person, place or thing
34 Pull
36 Horse prodder
37 Author Poe
39 Worth his wage
41 Cistern was filled with
43 “Every burden and __
44 Demanded
48 Hereditary class
52 Klutz
53 Small egg
55 Hovel

DOWm
1 Skidded
2 “Running the ____”
3 Thought
4 Hope symbol
5 Neither’s partner
7 Grab tightly
12 Harsh
8 Dead’s seat
9 Salt Lake state
11 Jab
13 Christ has taken his __
19 Giant wave
21 Public image
23 Gauze
25 East northeast
26 Affirmative gesture
27 Shoveled
28 Pain unit
30 Easter month
31 Take to court
32 Sin
35 Had been
38 Hearsay
40 Arm muscles
43 Satan
44 de grace
45 Deceived
46 “Will only ___ people be saved?"
47 Fool
49 Martyrs __ blood
50 Spin around
51 Gas burner
54 Italy volcano

Readings:
Jer 38:4-6, 8-10; Heb 12:1-4; Lk 12:49-53 and Is 66:18-21; Heb 12:5-7, 11-13; Lk 13:22-30

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Catholic Commentary
August 16, 2019 • The Catholic WITNESS • 11
**Diocesan Notebook**

**Submit written announcements to**

**Parish News**

**Eastern and Latin Catholic Churches, including Bishop Ronald Gainer. Recitation of the Rosary, Divine Liturgy at noon or outdoors. Confession, candlelight procession with the icon of Our Lady of Pochaiv and prayers for healing at 5 p.m.**

**Education & Enrichment**

**Matthew: The King and His Kingdom,** a 24-session bible study, at Good Shepherd Parish in Camp Hill. Tuesday morning sessions (10 a.m.-noon) beginning Sept. 10, or Thursday evening sessions (6:30-8:30 p.m.) beginning Sept. 12. Twelve sessions in the fall and 12 sessions beginning January 2020. Registration opens August 5. Call Auggie Pfeifer at 717-377-8713 with questions.

Johnnette Benkovic book study “Experience Grace in the Council: Ten Strategies for Your Spiritual Journey” at Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Harrisburg beginning Sept. 14 for 10 weeks. Sessions begin at 9:30 a.m. in the former church. For information, or to register, contact Chris Arnold at carnold@womenofgrace.com or 717-379-6041.

**Interest Community’s Bible Study/Praying the Scripture Series** at St. Joan of Arc Church in Hershey, Wednesdays from 7-8:30 p.m. Read the Scriptures and research them prior to the meeting. Come with your Bible, pen and paper and questions for discussion. Aug. 21, James 1:1-27, “When God and the World Collide.” Sept. 4, pray Ephesians 1:23, “You are Chosen to be Amazing.” Sept. 11, pray 1 Kings 19:1-18, “Listen, God Speaks.” Sept. 18, study 2 Kings 1:2-5, “Learning to Understand God’s Will” and “A Prayer of Forgiveness,” led by Father Mostedus Ngwa, OP. Call Lynn at 717-503-1600.

**Financial Education Workshop at St. Joseph Church in York,** Sept. 8 from noon-3:30 p.m. Event will address the uncertainty of financial planning, income needs, and the value of a safety net including family, elder care, Wills, Power of Attorney and Directives, and other topics. Presentations by associates from BELLOMO & ASSOCIATES, LLC, and an agent from the Knights of Columbus. Hosted by Knights of Columbus Council #6531. A luncheon will be served. Call 717-846-5930 to reserve a seat; for questions, call Jon Deakin at 717-818-2858.

**Divorced? Hurting? St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Mechanicsburg, divorce support group.** Recovering from Divorce for Catholics. 13-week program begins Sept. 4 from 7:15-8:30 p.m. Program is for Catholics going through a divorce or struggling with life after divorce. Cost of the program is $55, with scholarships available. Contact Cindy Nelson at 717-439-7691, canelson1201@gmail.com, by Aug. 21 to register.

**Recognizing Evil: Temptation, Invitation, Oppression** at Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Harrisburg. Speaker will speak on evil in the world, Sept. 9 from 6:30-8 p.m. at Holy Infant Church in Manchester. This was a popular session at the Diocesan Men’s Conference.

**What Strange God is This?** presented at St. Philip the Apostle Parish in Millersville, Sept. 16 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. by Tom O’Neill, Director of the Diocesan Office of Family and Respect Life Ministries. Evening includes song, presentation and the Rosary.

**Fundraisers & Events**

**Harrischg Girl Scout Cadette Troop 10694** seeks donations for their Cadette Silver Award, making female hygiene packages for local homeless women. The troop is seeking donations of cosmetic bags (new or gently used) lipid-based products, hair care or hygiene for women, individual toothbrushes; travel sizes of toothpaste, shampoo/conditioner, lotion, tissue packages, and bars of soap; flushable baby wipes; gallon and quart sized ziploc bags; combs; hair ties; band aids and monetary donations. For information and drop-off locations, see https://girlsgoforodpa.wixsite.com/girlsgoforodpa or e-mail GirlsforGoodPA@gmail.com. Troop associated with St. Margaret Mary and Holy Name of Jesus parish.

**Resurrection Catholic Church in Lancaster,** going out at Medbia Heights on Sept. 10. Registration at 10 a.m., shotgun start at noon. Four-person scramble. $90 per person. Twosomes and singles will be paired up. Hotdog and beer lunch, barbeque dinner, and contests on the course, including a $10,000 prize for a hole in one. Sponsorships for tables, golf carts, holes and pin flags available. Event benefits technology for students. For information or to register, call 717-392-3083 or e-mail dwalker@resopa.org.

**Carlisle Area Family Life Center’s Oktoberfest,** Sept. 20 from 6-9 p.m. at the LeFort View Community Center on the Carlisle Barracks. German food, dancing to the Egerlander German Band, silent and live auctions. Tickets are $35, purchase by Aug. 31 at CALFC or call 717-272-2224. Tickets include dinner and all drinks. CALFC is Carlisle’s only crisis pregnancy and family resource center.

**Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Fairfield, all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner** in the parish hall, Aug. 18 from 5-8 p.m. Family style dinner. Adults $11, children 6-12 $5. Call Spiritual Directors for information. All proceeds benefit the parishes.

**Cruiser girls softball fall league registration** – assembling teams for 10U, 12U and 14U. All home games at St. Leo the Great, Rohrerstown. Fee for Lancaster Catholic High School, accepting girls from any parish in Lancaster County. Register at https://stleosweshareonline.com/CruiserSoftballRegistration FALL2019. Contact Ed Krow, Cruiser Softball Coordinator, at edkrow@gmail.com.

**Annual Buchanan Valley Picnic at St. Ignatius Loyola Church, Ornitta,** Aug. 24 from noon until dusk, rain or shine. Home cooked family-style ham and chicken dinners, $11 for adults, $5 for children ages 6-12, and free for children 5 and under. Games for children, dancing to live music, raffles and more information, contact the parish at 717-677-8012, stignatiusloyola@yahoo.com.

**Holy Spirit Parish Knights of Columbus in Palmer,** Spirit Scramble Golf Tournament, Aug. 24 at Iron Valley Golf Club in Lebanon. Registration at 7 a.m., shotgun start at 8 a.m., first tee-off location 9:30 a.m. Cost is $90 includes beer, soda and water, grilled chicken and barbecue pulled pork lunch, round balls, greens fee and cart, and individual prizes and competitions. Register at www.spiritscramble.com.

**3rd Annual Central Pennsylvania Crab, Beer and Wine Festival, Sept. 21 from 4-8 p.m.** at Trinity High School in Camp Hill. Artisan beer and wine from local breweries and wineries, steamed Harbor House crabs, Redd’s barbecue, music from the Jewett Brothers Band. Adult-only event, must be 21 and have identification. Event and ticketing, proceeds benefit the Central PA Food Bank. Cost for all-you-can-eat food and two drinks is $60 before Sept. 21, and $70 and day of event. All-you-can-drink wristbands are $35. Visit www.pacrabfestival.org.

**St. Joseph Parish Women’s Club of Lancaster, seeking new members for the Second Annual Fall Bazaar on Oct. 26.** If interested in reserving a spot contact Mary Weaver at 717-925-5179.

**St. Margaret Mary School, Harrisburg, “End of Summer Bash” to celebrate the school’s 70th anniversary,** Sept. 1 from 5-9 p.m. on the parish grounds. 70s-themed benefit event. Tickets are $20 per person in advance, $25 at the door after 8 p.m. and over. This is “bring your own everything” event features music by DJ Jonn Mac and games of chance. Contact Erin at 717-497-4157 or spartangiving@gmail.com for more information.

**Flower of Carmel Hermitage fall fundraising banquet, “Alone with the Great Divine,” Sept. 5 at 6:30 p.m.** at St. Ann Byzantine Catholic Church Social Hall, Harri- sburg. Guest speaker is Father Joseph Tuscani, OFM Cap. For more information e-mail sisterhermites@gmail.com or call Marian Bassler at 717-730-7123.

**Women’s Center’s second annual Luxury Bingo,** Sept. 19 at 9 p.m. at the Country Club of York. Join us for the latest in luxury bingo. Enjoy a buffet dinner and dessert, a chance to win great prizes and enjoy the company of your friends. Contact Erin at 717-854-6285 or e-mail Linda Skehan at linda@yorkpregnancycenter.com, register at www.LuxuryBingoYork.com or text “YorkBingo” to 41444. Seating is limited.
DECEASED CLERGY

August 21

The deadline for submissions for the August 30 edition of *The Witness* is Wednesday, August 21 at 4:30 p.m. Submit written announcements via e-mail to witness@hbgdiocese.org. Limit 70 words. No ads, posters or PDFs, please. A link to the submission deadlines for all editions in 2019 is posted on *The Witness* page at www.hbgdiocese.org.

- Maintenance (full time, hourly) for the care of the condition of the parish buildings, assisting the pastor in the implementation of a maintenance program and working with custodians.

DEACED CLERGY

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

- deacon Morris MacAdam, 1996
- Msgr. Thomas McGough, 1997
- Msgr. Leo A. Beierschmitt, 2002
- Deacon John Rocco, 2002
- Father Francis Lahout, 2003
- Msgr. Thomas Smith, 2014
- Father Kenneth Lawrence, 2017.

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 consolations of their loved ones.

Abottstown
Immaculate Heart of Mary
Barbara Straussser

Bloomsburg
St. Columba
Maureen Kindt
Margaret Woznek

Buchanan Valley
St. Ignatius Loyola

Camp Hill
Good Shepherd
Veronica “Verna” Supernavage Joseph Weiss

Chambersburg
Corpus Christi
Julio D. Leucana
Edgar Mouer

Coal Township
Our Lady of Hope
Helen Delorso

Daville
St. Joseph
Lois Thiel

Gettysburg
St. Francis Xavier
Samuel Ryan Ambrose
William A. Codori

Hanover
St. Joseph
Mary Louise Frazer
Thomas H. Janoski
Gloria A. Shell
Gladyss Slusser

St. Vincent de Paul
Mary C. Myers
Raphael Sanders

Harrisburg
Cathedral Parish of St. Patrick
Martha Mundie
Holy Name of Jesus
Dianne B. Drehner
Barbara J. Dwyer
Mary E. Goodling
Joan M. Lavery
Jean McCracken
John J. McNally, Jr.
Saada M. Hayemen

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament
Rose Dearing
St. Catherine Labouré
Annamarie Hyland
Anna Sutherland
St. Francis of Assisi
Daniel Fuller
St. Margaret Mary
Elsa Olmeda
Teodulo D. Olvera, Jr.

Hershey
St. Joan of Arc
Judith Blouch
Richard Settino

Kulpmont
Holy Angels
Diana (Parker) Lentini

Lancaster
Assumption BVM
Michael Corrado
St. John Neumann
Leonard Spock
Lebanon
Assumption BVM
Harold G. Brandt
Joanne Ceressini
Charles Norman
Elizabeth Peffley
Margaret Roof
Edward Werth
St. Cecilia
Conrad Stumpf

Lewisburg
Sacred Heart of Jesus
Anthony Romano
Martin Stauffer
McSherrystown
Annunciation BVM
Eva M. Gehbalt
Thomas Sensakovic
Mechanicsburg
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Bill Leavens

Millersville
St. Philip the Apostle
Gerard Stevens

Mount Carmel
Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Irene Vivino

Mount Joy
Mary, Mother of the Church
Daniel Babacz

New Cumberland
St. Theresa
David Wait

New Freedom
St. John the Baptist
Dr. William R. Grill
Selena Weiss

Selinsgrove
St. Pius X
Joseph Silva

Shamokin
Mother Cabrini
Jerome Blasko
Arlette Dent
Evelyn Klemick
Marie Kotkoskie
Elaine Schoch
Vincent Stefanowicz, Sr.
Theresa Zabornie
Theresa Ziemb...

Sunbury
St. Monica
Louis Piron

York
St. Joseph
Joseph Hoheneder

St. Patrick Parish in Carlisle is seeking to fill the following positions. Applications and job descriptions at 152 East Pomfret Street in Carlisle or e-mail Star Wiskenman at swiskeman@saintpatrickchurch.org.

- Parish Manager (full time, salary) to assist the pastor in the overall administration of the parish with respect to all matters pertaining to personnel, finance, building and grounds, parish committees, organizations and scheduling.
- Pastoral Associate (full time, salary) to share the responsibility of the needs assessment, decision making, planning and implementation of parish ministries and operation.
- Director of Music/Organist (full time, salary) for planning, coordinating and executing the music program as it relates to the celebration of parish liturgies and liturgical music needs of the school.
- Director of Religious Education (full time, salary) to oversee the coordination and direction of the K-8 Religious Education Program, sacramental preparation and family faith formation.
- Youth Ministry Leader (full time, salary) to implement a program of comprehensive youth ministry using the guidelines and programs of LifeTeen and Edge. This includes high school and middle school sessions (weekly or bi-weekly gatherings), monthly activities, catechesis and sacramental preparation (Confirmation).
- Adult Faith Formation Leader (part time, hourly) to provide formation and training for parish leaders and volunteers in the Rite of Christian Initiation, and to coordinate the Adult Bible Study series.

- Maintenance (full time, hourly) for the care of the condition of the parish buildings, assisting the pastor in the implementation of a maintenance program and working with custodians.

St. John the Baptist Parish in New Freedom’s annual golf outing at Bon Air Country Club in Glen Rock, Sept. 13. A 4-person scramble format, starting with continental breakfast at 7:30 a.m. and a shot gun start at 9 a.m. $100 per person includes range balls, beverages, chicken and pulled pork lunch, raffles and prizes. Contact Kathy Scheiber at the parish office, 717-235-2156, or Greg Martin at 717-858-5818.

St. Mark and St. Luke End of Summer Barzar, Sept. 14 from 10 a.m.–3 p.m. in the St. Mark Social Hall, Greenacres. Homemade baked goods, indoor plants, Rosaries and books for sale. Silent auction, basket raffle, free kids’ games and more. Food menu includes pulled pig & pepper sub, beef brisket, pierogies, mac & cheese, pretzels, nachos and ice cream. No admission fee, plenty of parking!

St. Joseph School in York is seeking 2 part-time or full-time custodian for afternoon/evening shift. Vacuuming, dusting, mopping and sweeping floors, maintaining bathroom facilities, emptying trash, moving lunchroom tables, general grounds-keeping, and other tasks as assigned. Valid driver’s license required, and applicants must pass all state and federal background checks and clearances to work around children. Prior experience in custodial setting helpful. Contact Corrine Eck at eck@siy.org or 717-755-1797.

Next Deadline: August 21

The deadline for submissions for the August 30 edition of *The Witness* is Wednesday, August 21 at 4:30 p.m. Submit written announcements via e-mail to witness@hbgdiocese.org. Limit 70 words. No ads, posters or PDFs, please. A link to the submission deadlines for all editions in 2019 is posted on *The Witness* page at www.hbgdiocese.org.

The Puzzle appears on page 13

The Crossword August 18 and 29, 2019
Masses for Healing from Addiction

The Diocesan health care chaplaincy program is working with parishes to host Masses for Healing from Addiction. The Masses will provide spiritual support to those who suffer from addiction and to their loved ones. Dates will be added to the list as Masses are scheduled. The updated list can be found at www.hbgdiocese.org/healthcare-ministry.

September 2019
Catawissa, Our Lady of Mercy
September 1 at 8:00 a.m.
Milton, Saint Joseph
September 3 at 9:00 a.m.
Coal Township, Our Lady of Hope
September 17 at 6:00 p.m.
Trevorton, Saint Patrick
September 23 at 6:00 p.m.
Sunbury, Saint Monica
September 25 at 7:30 a.m.
Marysville, Our Lady of Good Counsel
September 27 at 8:30 a.m.

October 2019
Milton, Saint Joseph
October 1 at 9:00 a.m.
Harrisburg, Saint Catherine Labouré
October 12 at 9:00 a.m.
Lewistown, Sacred Heart of Jesus
October 14 at 7:00 a.m.
Berwick, Immaculate Conception of the BVM
October 27 at 9:30 a.m.

November 2019
Fairfield, Immaculate Conception of the BVM
November 2 at 5:00 p.m.
Milton, Saint Joseph
November 6 at 7:00 p.m.
Orttanna, Saint Ignatius Loyola
November 13 at 6:00 p.m.
Columbia, Holy Trinity
November 14 at 7:30 p.m.
Millersville, Saint Philip the Apostle
November 23 at 10:00 a.m.
Blue Ridge Summit, Saint Rita
November 30 at 4:30 p.m.

December 2019
Hanover, Saint Vincent de Paul
December 5 at 7:00 p.m.
Milton, Saint Joseph
December 10 at 9:00 a.m.

January 2020
Marysville, Our Lady of Good Counsel
January 3 at 8:30 a.m.
Milton, Saint Joseph
January 5 at 7:00 p.m.
Enola, Saint Peter Son Korean Community
January 12 at 10:00 a.m. (Korean language)
Sunbury, Saint Monica
January 22 at 6:30 p.m.
Kulpmont, Holy Angels
January 23 at 7:00 p.m.

February 2020
Harrisburg, Saint Catherine Labouré
February 1 at 9:00 a.m.
Milton, Saint Joseph
February 7 at 9:00 a.m.

Steelton, Prince of Peace
February 9 at 10:30 a.m.

March 2020
Milton, Saint Joseph
March 4 at 6:00 p.m.
Orttanna, Saint Ignatius Loyola
March 18 at 6:00 p.m.
Lancaster, Assumption of the BVM
Wednesday, March 25 at 7:00 p.m.

April 2020
Milton, Saint Joseph
April 21 at 9:00 a.m.

May 2020
Marysville, Our Lady of Good Counsel
May 1 at 8:30 a.m.
Milton, Saint Joseph
May 4 at 9:00 a.m.
Mechanicsburg, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton
May 16 at 5:00 p.m.

June 2020
Harrisburg, Saint Catherine Labouré
June 20 at 9:00 a.m.
Milton, Saint Joseph
June 24 at 7:00 p.m.

What would you do if you had the power to do something remarkable today while making an impact that would last forever?

If you have retirement or investment accounts, a checking or savings account or a life insurance policy you no longer need, then you have a great opportunity to leave your own legacy when you review and update your beneficiary designations.

Please consider us as a whole, partial or contingent beneficiary of your accounts or policy. Your gift will enable us to continue our work.

Contact the Office of Stewardship & Development for the Diocese of Harrisburg at (717) 657-4804 ext. 245 or development@hbgdiocese.org for more information.