

**Native son returns to Franklin**

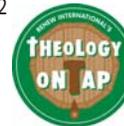
Father Ron Witherup, SS, to speak on St. Paul and the Eucharist at Forty Hours devotion, page 3.



# FaithLife

Theology on Tap – Nov. 6, Jan. 15, Feb. 12

See the complete list of speakers and topics for the series, page 3.



www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

October 5, 2008

## Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

### Feast days



St. Teresa of Jesus St. Hedwig

- Oct. 4 St. Francis of Assisi
- Oct. 5 Respect Life Sunday
- Oct. 6 St. Bruno
- Oct. 7 Our Lady of the Rosary
- Oct. 9 St. Denis and his companions, St. John Leonardi
- Oct. 14 St. Callistus I
- Oct. 15 St. Teresa of Jesus
- Oct. 16 St. Hedwig, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque
- Oct. 17 St. Ignatius of Antioch
- Oct. 18 St. Luke
- Oct. 19 World Mission Sunday

### Confirmation schedule

St. Bonaventure, Grampian — Sunday, Oct. 5 at 2 p.m. Confirmation classes include St. Timothy, Curwensville, and St. Bonaventure, Grampian.

Our Lady of Mercy, Harborcreek — Sunday, Oct. 12 at 11 a.m.

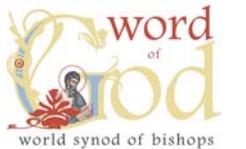
St. Callistus, Kane — Sunday, Oct. 19 at 10:30 a.m.

### Catholic Daughters of America 100th anniversary Mass – Oct. 5

Bishop Donald Trautman will celebrate Mass for the 100th anniversary of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas in the Erie Diocese on Sun., Oct. 5 at 11 a.m. at Queen of the World Parish in St. Marys.



### World Synod of Bishops – Oct. 5-26



The synod will bring together some 250 bishops in Vatican City to discuss the theme, "The Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church." See story on page 2.



### What did he write in the Bible?

- Letter to the Romans
- First Letter to the Corinthians
- Second Letter to the Corinthians
- Letter to the Galatians
- Letter to the Ephesians
- Letter to the Philippians
- Letter to the Colossians
- First Letter to the Thessalonians
- Second Letter to the Thessalonians
- First Letter to Timothy
- Second Letter to Timothy
- Letter to Titus
- Letter to Philemon
- Letter to Hebrews

In commemoration of the 2,000th anniversary of St. Paul's birth, Pope Benedict XVI has dedicated a jubilee year to the apostle that will run until June 29, 2009.

### Clergy appointments

The Most Rev. Donald W. Trautman, STD, SSL, Bishop of Erie, announces the following diocesan appointment.

Msgr. Robert Malene, appointed pastor of Church of the Good Shepherd, West Middlesex, for a term of six years. Effective October 17, 2008.

## Forming Consciences

U.S. bishops' document walks through Catholic teaching as it relates to the political sphere

By Jason Koshinski  
FaithLife editor

The U.S. bishops' document Faithful Citizenship says it's not up to the Catholic Church to tell you who to vote for on Election Day.

"They give advice on how to make the best decisions without totally disregarding what the church teaches and without totally disregarding the ambiguity that each election offers," says Sister Dorothy Stoner, OSB.

Sister Dorothy will lead several talks on Faithful Citizenship, a joint venture between the Benedictine Sisters of Erie and the Erie Diocese's Office of Parish Social Ministry/Respect Life.

"The point is really to go through and walk people through the document, present what the bishops have said and talk about

for

how we can use that information," she said. "We'll encourage people to read it themselves. We don't want to comment or editorialize."

In what several bishops called "a watershed moment" for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, the full body of bishops overwhelmingly approved "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility From the Catholic Bishops of the United States" in November 2007.

The longer document rejects politics based on "powerful interests, partisan attacks, sound bites and media hype" and calls instead for "a different kind of political engagement."

That engagement must be "shaped by the moral convictions of well-formed consciences

and focused on the dignity of every human being, the pursuit of the common good and the protection of the weak and



### Talks on Faithful Citizenship

Oct. 5	Sister Dorothy Stoner, OSB, at Mount St. Benedict in Erie at 10:45 a.m.
Oct. 6	Father Johnathan Schmitt, parochial vicar of St. Jude Parish in Erie, in the parish Founders Room (rectory) at 7:30 p.m.
Oct. 6	Sister Dorothy Stoner, OSB, at Mount St. Benedict in Erie at 7 p.m.
Oct. 9	Joan Rosenhauer, associate director of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development, at Mercyhurst College's Taylor Little Theater at 8:15 p.m.
Oct. 14	Erin Landini-Grogan, director of the Erie Diocese's Office of Parish Social Ministry/Respect Life, and Sister Dorothy Stoner, OSB, at St. Mark Catholic Center in Erie at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.
Oct. 14	Sister Dorothy Stoner, OSB, at Mount St. Benedict in Erie at 7 p.m.
Oct. 21	Msgr. Tom McSweeney, director of the Erie Diocese's Office of Evangelization for Communications, as part of an interreligious panel at Mercyhurst College's Walker Recital Hall at 8 p.m.

The U.S. bishops' full document on Faithful Citizenship is available on the Web at [www.FaithfulCitizenship.org](http://www.FaithfulCitizenship.org). A two-page summary can be found at [www.ErieRCD.org](http://www.ErieRCD.org)

vulnerable," it says.

See FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP, page 3

## Respect Life program brings attention to words of Pope Benedict XVI

### Respect Life Sunday is Oct. 5

The church must be a "beacon of hope" in today's world, and that means promoting a culture of life.

That was Pope Benedict XVI's message during his homily at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York during his apostolic visit to the United States in April.

"The proclamation of life, life in abundance, must be the heart of the new evangelization," he said.

"This is the message of hope we are called to proclaim and embody in a world where self-centeredness, greed, violence and cynicism so often seem to choke the fragile growth of grace in people's hearts."

October is observed as Respect Life Month and the first Sunday in October, Oct. 5 this year, is designated as Respect Life Sunday by the Catholic Church in the U.S.

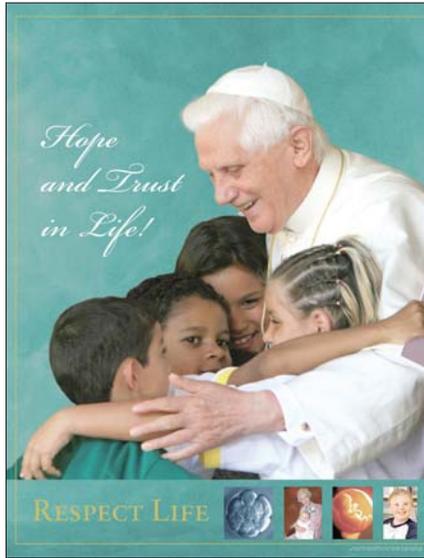
"Hope and Trust in Life" is the theme for the 2008-09 Respect Life program by the U.S. bishops, centered on the pope's message during his celebrated visit.

Its origin is Pope Benedict XVI's homily from Dec. 31, when he described the lack of hope and trust as "the 'obscure' evil of modern Western society," and it explores topics that he addressed during his visit to the U.S.

The Respect Life program, put together by the U.S. bishops' Office of Pro-Life Activities, includes a number of resources that mirror the range of pro-life issues necessary for Catholics to comprehend regarding the church's beliefs. The topics include:

- **Stem Cells and Hope for Patients**, by Maureen Condit, Ph.D.
- **A Will for Living**, by Stephen L. Mikochik
- **Conscience and the Catholic Voter**, by Bishop William Lori of Bridgeport, Conn.
- **Pornography: What's the Problem?**, by Mark Houck
- **A Reflection on the African-American Family and the Culture of Life**, by Auxiliary Bishop Martin Holley of Washington
- **The Hollow Men: Male Grief and Trauma Following Abortion**, by Vincent M. Rue

The resources are available as articles and pamphlets at [www.usccb.org/prolife/programs/rlp/rlp0809.shtml](http://www.usccb.org/prolife/programs/rlp/rlp0809.shtml).



## Liturgical music composer Marty Haugen coming to diocese

### Workshops set for Oct. 25 at Our Lady of the Lake, Edinboro

By Jason Koshinski  
FaithLife editor



Marty Haugen

For Marty Haugen, music and singing help him express things more deeply during worship and prayer.

"They help us remember things in different ways," Haugen said. "If you asked people to recite the 91st Psalm, they might not be able to, but they'll be able to sing a verse or two of 'On Eagle's Wings,' which is based on the psalm." Haugen, an internationally known composer of liturgical music for Roman Catholic and Protestant congregations, will lead two workshops Oct. 25 at Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Edinboro.

With more than 400 compositions published by GIA, Augsburg Fortress and other

he talked about how these changes will affect worship.

"I think the transition can be a time of continuity," he said.

His Edinboro workshops will cover three main areas: (1) theory, the liturgy and its history and traditions; (2) practical applications for church musicians; and (3) learning and singing through new music.

"I really enjoy these weekends and speaking with the most enthusiastic music ministers," Haugen said. "It really makes me hopeful."

Doors open at 8:30 a.m., and the first workshop begins at 9:30. The day includes the workshops, a tour of the church, optional lunch and a songfest with Haugen.

For details on the schedule, reservation or group pricing information, contact Kevin Cole at 814.398.4950 or [kkcole56@yahoo.com](mailto:kkcole56@yahoo.com) or Cindy Groszkiewicz at 814.734.4910.

## Fall football & more



Complete schedules for fall athletics, including football, cross country, soccer, basketball and swimming are available on the Web at [www.ErieRCD.org/athletics.asp](http://www.ErieRCD.org/athletics.asp).



## IN THE U.S.

■ In the aftermath of Hurricane Ike, Texas Catholic social agencies have swiftly mobilized to offer assistance to those affected by the storm, which hit the region Sept. 13. Staff members and volunteers from Catholic Charities have visited coastal communities such as Texas City, Dickinson and Bayliff, as well as Houston, to provide assistance to those in need. By coordinating relief efforts, Catholic Charities USA has opened a warehouse specifically for the purpose of delivery of goods to distribution sites. "We are focusing on Galveston County, and the needs of far-reaching communities who have limited access to government sponsored PODs (point of distribution)," said Jim Gajewski, Catholic Charities vice-president of program services. Catholic Charities planned to continue its efforts in the field into the foreseeable future, as long as supplies lasted and the needs remained.



People survey damage caused by Hurricane Ike in Galveston.

■ Strengthening and supporting Catholic education at parishes and schools is the responsibility of all Catholics, said Washington Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl. Catholics, as disciples of Jesus in today's world, are called to pass on the faith to others, he said in a Sept. 14 pastoral letter titled "Catholic Education: Looking to the Future With Confidence." "It is by celebrating our strengths, identifying areas for improvement and working together that Catholic education will flourish for generations to come, bringing them Christ's Gospel and helping them grow in their encounter with the living Lord," the archbishop said in the introduction

to the letter. The pastoral detailed how the archdiocese is undergoing a comprehensive assessment of its parish religious education programs, and task forces are looking at ways to strengthen the Catholic identity, academic excellence, accessibility and affordability of Catholic schools to sustain them for the future. Download the pastoral letter at [www.adw.org/education/default.asp](http://www.adw.org/education/default.asp).

## AROUND THE WORLD

■ As reminders of God and the notion of Christian values gradually disappear from public life in even traditionally Catholic countries, people must respond by strengthening their prayer life and increasing their acts of charity, Pope Benedict XVI said. Looking at the situation in Panama, the pope praised "the fruitful missionary activity of priests, religious and laity, which contrasts with the increasing secularization of society." Pope Benedict met Sept. 18 with the bishops of Panama, who were making their "ad limina" visits to the Vatican to report on the status of their dioceses. The pope said secularization is a process "that pervades all aspects of daily life, developing a mentality in which God is absent from existence and from human consciousness."

■ Christians in central India have taken to the streets to protest an attempt to burn the Catholic cathedral. Two unidentified men entered the 120-year-old St. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Jabalpur and set fire to its altar Sept. 18. Father Joseph Christuraj said. The priest, spokesman for the Jabalpur Diocese in Madhya Pradesh state, said the fire was extinguished before it could spread to other areas. Several hours later, in protest, Christians peacefully blocked traffic on a main street in the city. Christian schools in Jabalpur did not open Sept. 19. The same day, Bishop Gerald Almeida of Jabalpur led a delegation to demand that Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chauhan condemn the attack and protect Christians. The delegation also submitted a list of 56 cases of attacks on Christians in Jabalpur over the past two years and demanded judicial investigations into the incidents.

■ The U.S. bishops' Catholic Relief Services has been working with aid agencies to respond to the Ethiopian food crisis brought on by drought. Lane Bunkers, CRS country representative in Ethiopia, said CRS signed a \$53.4 million agreement with the U.S. Agency for International Development to provide nearly 3 million drought-affected Ethiopians with emergency food assistance over the next few months. He said the largest challenge is gaining access to food for distribution. Food is unavailable to purchase locally in Ethiopia. "Emergency rations and feeding provided to date by the Ethiopian government and aid agencies have exhausted the majority of food staples available locally in the country. We are now waiting for additional food to arrive from the United States," said Bunkers.



People eat at an emergency feeding center in an unrefrigerated location in Ethiopia.

## PEOPLE OF FAITH

■ Pope Pius XII worked courageously, secretly and silently to help save Jews targeted by the Nazis' "criminal plan ... to eliminate them from the face of the earth," said Pope Benedict XVI. "Wherever possible, (Pope Pius) spared no effort in intervening in their favor" and providing organized assistance to the Jews either directly or through others, including Catholic religious institutes, Pope Benedict told participants in an international symposium dedicated to examining the papacy of Pope Pius. The pope held a Sept. 18 private audience at his summer residence south of Rome with some 80 attendees of the Sept. 15-17 symposium organized by the U.S.-based Pave the Way Foundation.

## By the Way...



Jason Koshinski

The Diocese of Erie will soon announce its plans for the observance of the Year of St. Paul. Included will be local pilgrimage destinations as well as diocesan events and Masses. In commemoration of the 2,000th anniversary of St. Paul's birth, Pope Benedict XVI has dedicated a jubilee year to the apostle that will run until June 29, 2009.

St. Bonaventure Parish in Grampian celebrated its 175th anniversary Sept. 21, with Bishop Donald Trautman presiding at the anniversary Mass. One of the oldest faith communities in the diocese, the parish was originally under the auspices of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Established just after St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Clearfield, it is the second oldest parish in Clearfield County.

A Catholic woman, mostly Irish immigrants, was already active in and around Grampian Hills in the 1830s. The parish's first church was built in 1833 at the site of the current cemetery. The community of more than 180 families is led by pastor Father Mark Swoger.

Congratulations to Emma Lee McCloskey, executive director of The Catholic Foundation, on receiving the 2008 Outstanding Fundraising Professional of the Year Award by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), Northwest Pennsylvania Chapter. She will receive the award at the National Philanthropy Day luncheon Nov. 14 at Lakeshore Country Club in Erie.

If you haven't had a chance to do so yet, log on [www.ErieKCD.org](http://www.ErieKCD.org) to see clips from the cover story photo shoot and interviews with some of *Faith* magazine's 2008 Ten Top Teens. In addition, excerpts of the conversation teens at Kennedy Catholic High School in Hermitage had about faith and friendship are available for viewing.

Work has begun on the 2009 Directory for the Erie Diocese. Call Brenda Williams at 814.824.1168 if you're interested in advertising in this publication that reaches hundreds of pastors, priests, deacons, sisters, principals and lay ministers who serve across the 13 counties of northwest Pennsylvania that make up the Erie Diocese. Deadline for reserving space is Oct. 24.

Oct. 26 is a Sunday set aside to honor our priests. In the U.S., it is both Priesthood Sunday sponsored by the USA Council of Serra International, and World Priest Day, sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter. The laity is encouraged to honor and recognize their priests and affirm the role of the priesthood in the life of the church as a central one. For more information, visit [www.priestsunday.org](http://www.priestsunday.org) and [wpd.wmenc.org](http://wpd.wmenc.org).

Jason Koshinski is editor of *FaithLife*. Contact him at [JKoshinski@ErieKCD.org](mailto:JKoshinski@ErieKCD.org) or 814.824.1171.

## Synod working document seeks creative response to hunger for Bible

By John Thavis  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — The working document for Oct. 5-26's Synod of Bishops on the Bible calls for a creative pastoral response to a growing hunger among Catholics for the word of God.

The document said the synod should help find ways for Catholics to better understand Scripture and relate it to their everyday lives, including works of justice and charity.

It strongly rejected a fundamentalist approach to the Bible and said a key challenge is to clarify for the faithful the relation of Scripture to science.

The text encouraged the trend among Catholics toward daily Scripture reading. But it said Sunday Mass is where most people encounter Scripture, and it called for better coordination of readings and homilies to underline scriptural content.

The 86-page document, called an "instrumentum laboris," was released at the Vatican earlier this year. It will serve as a discussion guideline for the synod, which treats the theme: "The Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church."



Pictured are the three cardinals who will preside over the Oct. 5-26 Synod of Bishops on the Bible to be held at the Vatican. From left are: Cardinal George Pell of Sydney, Australia; U.S. Cardinal William J. Levada, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith; and Brazilian Cardinal Odilo Scherer of Sao Paulo.

Pope Benedict XVI chose the Bible as the topic for the synod, and the working document quotes the pope several times on the importance of Scripture in the life of the faithful.

The overall goals of the synod, it said, are to promote greater access to Scripture and a better understanding of it among Catholics. The Bible should not be read casually, it said, but at the same time Scripture must be presented to the faithful in an understandable language.

It pointed to several signs of a renewed interest in Scripture, but said many Catholics don't have the tools needed to understand it

passages, especially those of the Old Testament.

The document, based on responses to a questionnaire sent out to dioceses last year, listed a number of shared expectations for the synod:

- Scripture must be given a higher priority in the church.
- Catholics need to understand that the Bible should always be read with Jesus in mind.
- Urgent attention to Catholics' lack of knowledge and confusion about the truths of the faith concerning Scripture.
- A focus on improved formation for pastors in proclaiming the word of God.

• Promoting a more active role for laity in proclaiming the word of God.

• Better understanding of Scripture as part of the church's mission in spreading "the good news of liberation, consolation and salvation."

• More emphasis on "putting the word of God into practice" in local settings.

• Use of Scripture in improving dialogue with other religions, in particular highlighting Christianity's special bond with the Jewish people.

The document said the synod's theme is timely and that "the need for a pastoral program continually based on the Bible has never been greater."

It cited the rise of Catholic Bible study groups and the growing practice of "lectio divina," or daily Scripture reading, as a sign of the "intense desire to hear the word of God."

But there are obstacles, it said.

"On the personal level, too many of the faithful are reluctant to open the Bible for various reasons, especially because they feel it might be too difficult to understand," it said.

## Most popular Bible verses

Here are some of the most popular verses of the Bible, according to lists supplied by the American Bible Society in New York: Top Verses, an automated program developed in Australia that counts and ranks Bible references across the Internet; and The Christian Post in Washington, which describes itself as a pan-denominational Christian media source.

The verses are taken from the New American Bible translation.

■ "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." (Jn 3:16)

■ "And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (Jn 8:32)

■ "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want." (Ps 23:1)

■ "Jesus said to him, I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (Jn 14:6)

■ "In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth ... (Gn 1:1)

■ "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?" (Jn 14:2)

■ "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you: it is the gift of God." (Eph 2:8)

■ "I have the strength for everything through him who empowers me." (Phil 4:13)

■ "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit." (Mt 28:19)

■ "For if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." (Rom 10:9)

— Catholic News Service

**FaithLife**  
The official news bulletin of the Catholic Diocese of Erie  
Volume 4, Issue 18  
General Information: (814) 824-1161  
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Member of the Catholic Press Association.  
Published bi-weekly. Owned and operated by the Bishop of Erie.  
Subscription \$10/year.  
For more information, call (814) 824-1161.

The Office of Communications has been serving Catholics in the Diocese of Erie since 1974. Offices are located at:  
St. Mark Catholic Center  
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Periodical postage paid at Erie, Pa.

Postmaster: Send address changes to FaithLife at St. Mark Catholic Center.

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[www.cathedralofstpaul.org](http://www.cathedralofstpaul.org)

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## Briefly

### Father Ron Witherup, SS, to speak on St. Paul and the Eucharist at Forty Hours devotion in Franklin

FRANKLIN — St. Patrick Parish in Franklin will hold its annual Forty Hours devotion Oct. 5-7 with guest homilist Father Ron Witherup, SS, superior general of the Sulpicians and native of Franklin. Father Witherup is the author of several books including two on St. Paul. He will speak on St. Paul and the Eucharist.

The celebration will open with Mass at 11:30 a.m. followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Evening Prayer is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Sunday and Monday. Daily Mass is at 9 a.m. The solemn closing will be held on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Bishop Donald Trautman, "by virtue of the authority granted to him by the Holy See, has established that the Christian faithful who, in observance of the Year of St. Paul, take part in the closing celebration of Forty Hours devotions at St. Patrick Parish, Franklin, may obtain a plenary indulgence for themselves or for the faithful departed. They may obtain this indulgence under the usual conditions, which are: (1) sacramental confession within 10 days before or after, (2) reception of Holy Communion, (3) prayer for the intentions of the pope and (4) a firm desire to sin no more."



Father Ron Witherup

### Annulment information meetings

If you or anyone you know is in need of information concerning annulments in the Catholic Church, please plan to attend one of the meetings listed below.

- Tuesday, Oct. 7, 7 p.m. at St. Gabriel, Port Allegany
  - Wednesday, Oct. 22, 7 p.m. at St. Agatha, Meadville
  - Tuesday, Oct. 28, 7 p.m. at Immaculate Conception, Clarion
  - Tuesday, Nov. 11, 7 p.m. at All Saints, Waterford
  - Tuesday, Nov. 18, 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Mercy, Harborcreek
- Staff members from the Erie Diocese's Tribunal Office will offer practical advice about the annulment process and answer individual questions in a confidential setting at the end of the meeting.

### Forty Hours devotion at St. Boniface, Erie

ERIE — St. Boniface Parish in Erie will hold a traditional Forty Hours devotion Oct. 19-21. The schedule will be as follows:

- Sunday, Oct. 19—Evening Prayer and benediction at 7:30 p.m. with guest preacher Father Bill Baroni, parochial vicar at Our Lady of Peace, Erie.
- Monday, Oct. 20—Evening Prayer and benediction at 7:30 p.m. with guest preacher Father John Fischer, former pastor of St. Lawrence, Albion.
- Tuesday, Oct. 21—Eucharistic celebration and solemn closing at 7:30 p.m. with guest preacher Deacon Tony Alleruzzo, deacon assistant at Our Lady of Peace, Erie.



### Dr. Scott Hahn to speak in Grove City for Divine Mercy Sunday

GROVE CITY — International speaker and Catholic convert Dr. Scott Hahn will speak at a special one-night event April 19, 2009 for Divine Mercy Sunday sponsored by Church of the Beloved Disciple in Grove City.

Dr. Hahn will be speaking at Beloved Disciple and Grove City College. The day's schedule includes:

- Noon-3 p.m.—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with confessions
- 3 p.m.—Divine Mercy chapel and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
- 4 p.m.—An address at Beloved Disciple with Dr. Hahn
- 6 p.m.—Dinner with Dr. Hahn at Grove City College
- 7:30 p.m.—Main address by Dr. Hahn at Grove City College

More information will be available after the first of the year. This event is open to all, however, tickets will be needed for the dinner and evening talk at the college. For more information, contact the Beloved Disciple Parish office at 724-458-7145.



Dr. Scott Hahn

### St. James, Erie, to host Family Honor program Nov. 7-8

ERIE — "Real Life & Real Love," a program helping parents and their 7th and 8th graders communicate about topics such as dating, peer pressure, chastity and marriage will be held at St. James Place, 2635 Buffalo Road in Erie.

The program is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 7 from 6:45-9 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 8 from 8:45 a.m.-5 p.m. with lunch provided.

This event is sponsored by St. James Parish and presented by Family Honor of Northwest Pennsylvania.

For more information on the Family Honor program, visit [www.familyhonor.org](http://www.familyhonor.org) on the Web. To register, call 814.725.1434 or e-mail [familyhonor@wpia.aol.com](mailto:familyhonor@wpia.aol.com).

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## Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship

FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP  
from page 1

Shorter document, designed as a parish bulletin insert, was distributed to all parishes in the Erie Diocese before the primary last spring.

Joan Rosenbauer, associate director of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development, will speak at Mercyhurst College Oct. 9. In her overview of Faithful Citizenship, Rosenbauer said she will talk about what faith in our political lives is and what it is not.

"One of the core messages is that often Catholics don't know much about the basic idea that our faith should inform our politics," she said. "Many people are not aware that it is our moral obligation to have a role in political life and help shape it with the core values that we hold."

Faithful Citizenship is a summary of Catholic teaching and not a voter guide, said Sister

Dorothy, noting that people coming to the talks looking for a debate should look elsewhere.

"The purpose isn't to haggle over who best represents what the document says," she said. "We're not going to move in that direction. We're there to walk through what the document says and use the tools presented to make a good decision."

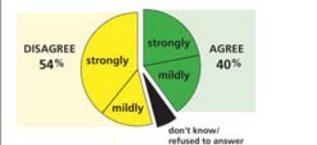
The bishops are calling us back to the long tradition of Catholic social teaching, recalling the broad-based values that the church has stood for and taught, Sister Dorothy said.

"They do a wonderful job identifying areas of interest and particular concern," she said, "more contemporary issues such as stem cell research and things that we have traditionally been concerned about like abortion. But they also identify things we might not think of. They raise racism as an issue that should be of concern to us."

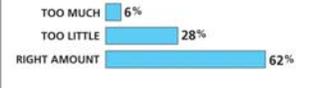
Catholic News Service contributed to this report.

### Endorsing Candidates

Should religious leaders be permitted to endorse political candidates from the pulpit without risking their organization's tax-exempt status?



Do Americans have too much or too little religious freedom?



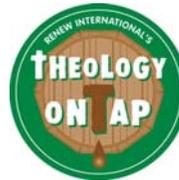
The national telephone survey of 1,000 respondents was conducted summer 2008 and has a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points. Source: First Amendment Center. ©2008 CNL

## Theology on Tap – Nov. 6, Jan. 15, Feb. 12

ERIE — The Erie Diocese's Office of Young Adult Ministry will host a series of Theology on Tap discussions at The Brewerie at Union Station in downtown Erie on the first Thursdays in November, January and February. The first discussion in the series took place Oct. 2.

A popular outreach to young adult Catholics, Theology on Tap targets singles and married couples for faith-inspired discussions in a pub style setting.

The Catholic Church defines a young adult as someone between the ages of 21-40, a rather large demographic which makes up approximately 40 percent of the Catholic population.



"Theology on Tap" sessions

7-9 p.m. on Thursdays  
Nov. 6, Jan. 15 and Feb. 12

The Brewerie  
at Union Station  
123 W. 14th St., downtown Erie

7 p.m. — gathering, get food & drinks  
7:30 — talk, discussion, Q & A session  
9 until 7 — social  
No registration required

November 6 — Conversion of Heart (St. Paul & You)

Erin Landini-Grogan, director of Parish Social Ministry and Respect Life for the diocese, will explore the teaching of St. Paul and how it relates to serving our neighbors in today's world. Erin has master's degrees in pastoral studies and counseling, both from Gannon University.



Erin Landini-Grogan

January 15 — Sin Happens, Grace Saves

Father Larry Richards will present on three foundational principles of Catholic life in both the here and hereafter. Father Larry speaks from experience as a pastor of an inner-city parish, a high school chaplain, a counselor and evangelist. He has directed hundreds of retreats, parish missions and conferences for young and old alike. Come prepared to be both inspired and challenged.



Father Larry Richards

February 12 — Eucharist: Real Presence — Real Living

Father Scott Detisch will focus his presentation on the Eucharist as the center of Catholic life and as the center of a Catholic's life. Father Scott is the pastor of Holy Cross Parish in Fairview. He has served as a theology professor at Gannon University and Christ the King Seminary in Buffalo. He earned his doctorate in theology from Duquesne University.



Father Scott Detisch

## Pope praises Retrouvaille for helping couples overcome difficulties

By Catholic News Service

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy — Pope Benedict XVI praised the Catholic program Retrouvaille for its dedication to helping couples overcome serious marital difficulties.

He said the people guiding the program are like "custodians of a greater hope" that troubled couples need and have lost along the way.

The pope spoke Sept. 26 to some 300 people participating in a Retrouvaille international council meeting who traveled

from Rome to meet with him at the papal villa in Castel Gandolfo.

Created by a Canadian couple in 1977, Retrouvaille — French for "rediscovery" — is a program that works to help heal hurting marriages by bringing couples together with other couples who have overcome serious difficulties.

Pope Benedict said a troubled marriage can seem like a failure, "proof that the dream is over or that it has turned into a nightmare" and nothing can be done to save it.

### Retrouvaille weekends in the Erie Diocese

Retrouvaille is a weekend experience for couples who are experiencing difficulty in their marriage. Held in complete confidentiality and privacy, Retrouvaille is designed for couples who need help strengthening a marriage that no longer feels life-giving. Following the completion of the Retrouvaille weekend, couples are encouraged to attend a follow-up program once a week for six weeks. For confidential information or to speak with a couple experienced in the Retrouvaille program, please contact the Family Ministries Office at 1.800.374.3723 or 814.824.1261.

Retrouvaille weekend October 10-12 in Erie  
For more information, visit [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org)

When a relationship deteriorates, he said, the man and woman often "sink into solitude" and lose a sense of having any communion with God, the church and other people.

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**Sunday October 19: Noon until 6 pm**  
Parish cafeteria, 2401 W. 38th St.

*Our Lady of Peace Annual Spaghetti Dinner*

Adults \$6, Seniors \$5, Children \$3  
Includes: spaghetti w/ meatballs, bread, salad, drink and dessert—all served to you by our youth.

All proceeds benefit: Senior High, Junior High & Confirmation programs

Come and support the tradition, prayer and mission of Our Lady of Peace Youth Ministry.

Theme baskets @ 50/50!

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every Catholic in the world will unite and celebrate

## World Mission Sunday

...all of us committed to the worldwide mission of Jesus

Each of us, as a baptized Catholic, has a role to play. World Mission Sunday is a day for all Catholics to recommit to the Church's missionary activity through prayer and sacrifice. Please contribute through your parish collection.

**The Society for the Propagation of the Faith**  
Mrs. Pat Marshall, Director • PO Box 10397, Erie, PA 16514  
telephone: 814.824.1231 • e-mail: [pmarshall@erieRCD.org](mailto:pmarshall@erieRCD.org)



All parishes, missions, schools and groups are encouraged to choose a correspondent who can regularly e-mail news items to "Around the Erie Diocese" at [FaithLife@ErieRCD.org](mailto:FaithLife@ErieRCD.org)

Visit [ErieRCD.org/faithlife.asp](http://ErieRCD.org/faithlife.asp) to download quick and easy photo tips on a wallet-size card.



### St. Boniface student donates to Make-A-Wish

ERIE — Katelyn Borges, a member of the Level 3/4 multi-age class at St. Boniface School in Erie, is pictured with Jan Espin Stork, Erie regional director of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Greater Pennsylvania and Southern West Virginia. Katelyn recently presented the foundation with a check in the amount of \$602.

Instead of receiving or accepting gifts for her ninth birthday Sept. 14, Borges said she wanted to give a donation to charity. She picked Make-A-Wish, noting that so many children are suffering from life-threatening medical conditions.

As part of St. Boniface School's mission to instill Gospel values into the lives of all students, a new Gospel value is introduced to the students each month.



Borges' act of kindness is an example to all of how September's focus on building community through helping others can make a difference, according to school principal Barb Portenier.

### Rosary marches

#### Sunday, Oct. 12 in Farrell

FARRELL — A rosary march will take place on Sunday, Oct. 12 in Farrell beginning at 3 p.m. at the former Our Lady of Fatima elementary school where the first decade of the rosary will be prayed.

The march will be led by the Blue Army and the Knights of Columbus, along with a large human-size rosary carried by local student volunteers.

Students from the spirit band at Kennedy Catholic High School and other students from area parochial schools will lead the march in song as it proceeds to St. Anthony Parish for the second decade, St. Adalbert Parish for the third decade, Holy Trinity Parish for the fourth decade and back to Our Lady of Fatima for the final decade.

#### Sunday, Oct. 12 in Erie

ERIE — The 14th annual rosary march sponsored by the Erie Diocese's World Apostolate of Fatima, will take place on Sunday, Oct. 12 beginning at 2 p.m. at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie.

The rosary procession will extend through the downtown area before returning to the cathedral. For those unable to participate in the march, the rosary will also be prayed in the cathedral.

The guest homilist is Father Joseph Campbell, parochial vicar of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Clearfield. The program also includes exposition and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.



Father Joseph Campbell

### Ukrainian delegates visit Kennedy Catholic High School

HERMITAGE — Kennedy Catholic High School in Hermitage hosted six Ukrainian delegates participating in the Open World Program Sept. 23. The delegates were in Western Pennsylvania for a week to learn about the various educational institutions, the preparation of teachers and specialized programs and facilities to assist in educating students.

The delegates met with Kennedy Catholic administrators: Peter Iacino, president; Joseph Kenneally, principal; Judy Mindicino, director of development; and Lorraine Iacino, guidance counselor. Kennedy students Emily Friedrich, Hallie Hudson, Isaac Summers and Alysa Hrischenko took part in the open forum discussion.

Visiting delegates from the Ukrainian Central Department of Education and Science included: Svitlana Ivanivna Babinets, chief



Kennedy administrators and students and Ukrainian delegates have an open forum discussion of respective education systems.

specialist; Yuriy Hryhorovych Bahlay, head of public relations and educational; Olena Hryhorovna Fidanjan, deputy head of secondary education and head of the organizational committee; Nataliya Vitaliyivna Nevrincha, vice president for academic work, Kyiv-Mohyla Collegium;

Viktoryia Volodymyrivna Tupalo, director of school no. 234; and Veronika Oeksandrivna Zhuravlyova, facilitator from Kiev.

### St. Michael, Greenville, dedicates Court of Champions

GREENVILLE — This summer, the Court of Champions was dedicated at St. Michael School in Greenville. Dennis Eckles, a St. Michael alumnus and a member of the school's state champion ship basketball teams of 1963 and 1964, spearheaded the project.

Through the generosity of alumni, parishioners and friends of the school, the old basketball court behind the church was re-surfaced with fresh blacktop and new basketball hoops. The fence also received a fresh coat of paint. To top it off, a plaque listing the names of the players, coaches, managers and cheerleaders from 1963-64 was mounted on a piece of stone from the original church.

On hand for the dedication were State Reps. Michele Brooks and Mark Longiotti and Mayor Richard Miller, who proclaimed July 27 as "Denny Eckles Day" in Greenville for Eckles' leadership in this project that will benefit the students of St. Michael School, as well as members of the community.

Pictured behind the plaque are some of the original team



members present for the dedication. From left to right are: Dennis Eckles, Bill Murrin, Frank Krumpak, John Cascio, Dick Miller and Coach Dennis Driscoll.

### Annual Columbus Day Spaghetti Dinner

Saint Mary of Grace Church  
Social Center, 1085 Water St., Meadville  
Sunday Oct. 12, 2008, 1:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Come enjoy a great day of Italian hospitality! Pasta dinner features: homemade Italian sauce, meatballs, salad, beverage & dessert for only \$7 for adults and \$5 for children ages 5-10. Carry-outs available. Canneloni will be available for purchase. EXCITING NEW RAFFLES! CASH DRAWING! First Prize: \$2,000; Second Prize: \$500; Third & Fourth Prize: \$250. Unique "All through the House" theme gift baskets, used book sale, bake sale & "A Taste of St. Mary's" Cookbooks will be available.

### 14th Annual Rosary March

Sunday, October 12, 2008

Assemble at 2:00pm at St. Peter Cathedral

March begins at 2:30pm

Pray the Rosary with us

(Rain or shine)

More information: John Walsh, 814-868-1100

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**St. Stanislaus Church**  
**Annual Parish Day**  
Sunday, October 5, Noon-6pm  
Parish Hall: 520 E. 13 St. (handicap accessible)  
**"Polish Platter Dinner"**  
(includes kielbasa, golabki, pierogi, and more)  
Homemade czarnina and noodles for sale as takeout  
Adults: \$8, Children 6-12: \$3.50, 5 and under: FREE  
• Cash Prizes • Bake Sale • Proceeds benefit  
• Children's Games • Chinese Auction • St. Stanislaus Parish  
• Raffles • Theme Baskets

**Join other Catholics March 16 or April 26, 2009**  
**Vegas, Grand Canyon, Copper Canyon Arizona & Northern Mexico Tour**  
**14-Days New tour with very limited space from \$1599\***  
Start in Las Vegas for two nights before visiting Arizona and the Grand Canyon. Travel south through Flagstaff through Oak Creek Canyon to Sedona and Phoenix for more sightseeing including the Rockin' R Ranch Bar-B-Q. Travel to El Paso for a night and in route visit Tonto National Forest, Apache Trail; Tucson; Desert Museum; Tombstone; and Shakespeare Ghost Town. Mexico sightseeing includes Chihuahua City tour; Posada Barrancas; Train trip "Chepe" + Divisadero (best view); El Fuerte, Creel via train through Western Sierra Mts.; Casa Grandes with city tour. Your highlight is the train trip over dozens of bridges, through scores of tunnels, winding your way past titanic cliffs, remote villages, pine forests and vast canyon lands. You'll cross a rugged chasm four times larger than the Grand Canyon on the most spectacular rail journey on earth! Your last night is in El Paso before departing home. Includes nine meals in Mexico. \*Price per person, double occupancy, plus \$149 tax, service & gov't. fees. Add \$800 airfare from Erie.  
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St. John Alumni & Friends event...  
The Sisters are back... for a "Knight" of Fun  
**Saturday, October 18, 2008**  
**6:00 pm - 12:00 midnight**  
St. John's Cafeteria & Gym - 27th & Wallace (use 27th Street entrance)  
Smoking Permitted Outside Building Only  
\$15.00/person - \$25.00/couple (must be 21)  
Tickets at the door  
Featuring **Man's Room Band** from 9-12  
• Food and refreshments  
• Chinese auction  
• Tours of the school  
• Games of chance  
• Contests and camaraderie  
• And...our own version of the Blues Brothers  
**Come and join us for this "KNIGHT" like "NUN" other!**

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(June 27-July 5) / Aug. 1-9 / (Sept. 5-17)  
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