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Mass for local health care professionals
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www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

October 9, 2011

Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

Feast days



St. Callistus I



St. Teresa of Jesus

Oct. 14	St. Callistus I
Oct. 15	St. Teresa of Jesus
Oct. 17	St. Ignatius of Antioch
Oct. 18	St. Luke
Oct. 19	St. John de Brebeuf, St. Isaac Jogues and their companions
Oct. 20	St. Paul of the Cross

Confirmations

St. Michael, Emlenton	— Saturday, Oct. 15 at 5 p.m.
St. Mark, Emporium	— Sunday, Oct. 23 at 10:30 a.m.

Rededication Mass at St. Callistus, Kane – Oct. 9

Bishop Donald Trautman will celebrate a rededication Mass at St. Callistus Parish in Kane at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 9.

17th annual rosary march – Oct. 9

The 17th annual rosary march, sponsored by the World Apostolate of Fatima, will take place on Sunday, Oct. 9. All are invited to gather at St. Peter Cathedral, West Tenth and Sassafras streets in Erie, at 2 p.m. to begin a walk through downtown.

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 recited in the cathedral.

100th anniversary Mass at St. Hedwig, Erie – Oct. 16

Bishop Donald Trautman will celebrate the 100th anniversary Mass at St. Hedwig Parish in Erie at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 16.

World Mission Sunday – Oct. 16

“Celebrate the Hope that Saves” is the theme of World Mission Sunday, observed this year in the Diocese of Erie on Oct. 16.

“World Mission Sunday celebrates our unity as a human family and provides an opportunity to support the life-giving presence of local priests, religious and lay catechists among the suffering and poor of the missions,” Bishop Donald Trautman said in a letter to the diocesan family. “On this day the Catholics of the world unite at Mass to recommit ourselves to our baptismal vocation to be missionaries.”

There will be a special collection Oct. 15-16 through the Society for the Propagation of the Faith to assist more than 1,150 young churches in the developing world located in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands and remote regions of Latin America.



The new Roman Missal

Implementing the new translation

Soon the new translation of the Roman Missal will be implemented in all the countries of the English-speaking world. This is a rich opportunity for us to renew our sense of mystery and awe, to deepen our Eucharistic spirituality and to learn more about this celebration that gathers us together weekly as the body of Christ to be nourished by the body and blood of Christ.



COUNTDOWN:

There are
48 days

to the implementation of the new Roman Missal
(as of Oct. 9)

In Germany, pope says godlessness poses new risks

By John Thavis
Catholic News Service

FREIBURG, Germany — On a four-day visit to Germany, Pope Benedict XVI warned that godlessness and religious indifference were undermining the moral foundations of society and leaving its weakest members exposed to new risks.

He repeatedly mentioned the duty to protect the unborn, and proposed this as an area where Catholics and non-Catholics can witness together and help resist ethical erosion.

The pope, making his first official state visit to his homeland, said after arriving Sept. 22 that he had come “to meet people and to speak about God.” He took that message to the country’s political leaders, to the church’s ecumenical partners, to the Catholic faithful and, through the mass media, to the German people.

The 84-year-old pope at times looked tired during the heavy program of events, but generally held up well. He beamed when enthusiastic Catholics in central and



Girls hold candles as Pope Benedict leads a prayer vigil with young people in Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany, Sept. 24. The German-born pontiff visited his homeland Sept. 22-25.

southern Germany chanted his name and waved banners with the trip’s slogan, “Where there is God, there is a future.”

When the pope stepped off his plane in Berlin, the German capital, he was greeted by President Christian Wulff and Chancellor Angela Merkel. The pope smiled as a boy and a girl presented him with a bouquet of flowers and cannons boomed out a 21-gun salute.

At a welcoming ceremony at the presidential Bellevue

Palace in Berlin, the pope strongly defended the church’s voice in public affairs and said that to dismiss religious values as irrelevant would “dismember our culture.”

Wulff, in his own speech to the pope, agreed that the church’s message is needed in modern society. But the president, a 52-year-old Catholic who is divorced and civilly remarried, added that the church, too, is challenged by important questions today:

“How compassionately will it treat points of rupture in the lives of individuals? How will it approach points of rupture in its own history or the wrongdoing of members of its clergy?”

The pope’s main event in Berlin was his speech to the German parliament, the first time he has addressed a legislative body. Although dozens of parliamentarians boycotted the event, he received a standing ovation from the assembly.



The pope’s speech, philosophical in tone, argued that belief in God was the foundation for Western progress in law, social justice and human rights through the centuries.

Germany’s Nazi past, he said, illustrates that without justice, the state becomes “a highly organized band of robbers, capable of threatening the whole world and driving it to the edge of the abyss.”

Today, he said, with unprecedented opportunities to manipulate human beings, the threat is even more dra-

matic. He pointed to Germany’s ecology movement as a step in the right direction, but said an “ecology of man” was needed to protect human dignity.

The pope later met with Jewish representatives and recalled the Nazi “reign of terror” in his homeland, saying it showed what people are capable of when they deny God.

“The supposedly ‘almighty’ Adolf Hitler was a pagan idol

See POPE, page 2

Clarion campus ministry receives \$50,000 gift

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

CLARION — Richard Schmader fondly remembers his college experience when those involved with campus ministry helped nurture his Catholic faith. Now he wants others to have the same experience.

Schmader and his wife, Lyn, have given Clarion University’s Catholic Campus Ministry a \$50,000 gift in honor of his late wife, Stephanie.

Schmader, who is a member of Catholic Campus Ministry’s board of directors, gave the gift at the end of its August board meeting.

“It was a surprise,” said Msgr. Jan Olowin, director

of Clarion’s campus ministry and pastor of St. Michael Parish in Emlenton.

Schmader, chairman of Clarion Bathware, was involved in campus ministry and the Newman Club at the University of Florida after coming out of the United States Air Force.

“He never forgot that experience,” said Msgr. Olowin, who was appointed to Clarion in 2008. “It’s when his faith became important. And he likes what we’re doing here.”

The gift will be used to expand campus ministry’s programming.

Bishop Donald Trautman recently honored Schmader for his good works with the Bishop’s Commendation for Service Award.



Pictured left to right are Lyn Schmader, Tom McConnell, president of Clarion University’s Students for Life; Msgr. Jan Olowin, campus minister; Bishop Donald Trautman; Lisa Kopyczek, president of the Newman Association; and Richard Schmader, recipient of the Bishop’s Commendation for Service Award.

The campus ministry house, which was formerly a large private residence, sits in a prominent space just off campus and across the street

from the university’s Tipping Gymnasium. It houses meeting rooms, offices, gathering space and a chapel. Mass is celebrated there each Sunday

while school is in session. Holy day Masses are celebrated at Immaculate Conception

See CLARION, page 3

Bishop names second vicar general for diocese

By FaithLife staff

ERIE — Bishop Donald Trautman has appointed Msgr. Charles Kaza, pastor of St. Tobias Parish in Brockway and vicar for the Eastern Vicariate of the diocese, to serve as a second vicar general for the Diocese of Erie.

The new position was created because Msgr. Robert Smith, who has served as vicar general since 1990, underwent heart surgery last month. Msgr. Smith will remain in his position as well.

“I have visited with Msgr. Smith and want to assure people he is on the mend and we expect a full recovery,” Bishop Trautman said. “But with the travel on my schedule this fall, I felt this was a prudent measure.”

Bishop Trautman said he made the decision after consultation with the Presbyteral Council, whose membership includes a number of diocesan priests.

The bishop’s upcoming schedule includes a 10-day ad limina visit to Rome in early December. Ad limina visits are required of diocesan bishops every five years.

A vicar general assists the bishop

in the areas of diocesan governance, and along with the bishop oversees the operations of the administrative cabinet, diocesan departments and agencies and matters pertaining to clergy personnel. It is the highest position of a diocese after the bishop.

Msgr. Kaza has served as the episcopal vicar for the Eastern Vicariate of the diocese, extending the pastoral care and vision of Bishop Trautman to pastors and people of six counties including Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean and Potter since 1994. He will remain in Brockway and continue to serve as pastor of St. Tobias Parish.

Msgr. Kaza was ordained to the priesthood in 1972. In addition to his membership on the bishop’s administrative cabinet, he serves as a member of the bishop’s College of Consultors, the Diocesan Finance Council and the Presbyteral Council.

Both Msgr. Smith and Msgr. Kaza will retain their roles as vicars general until a replacement for Bishop Trautman is named. The bishop turned 75 in June, at which time he submitted his resignation to Pope Benedict XVI as required by canon law.



Msgr. Robert Smith



Msgr. Charles Kaza

Marian grotto dedication in Frenchville



FRENCHVILLE — Bethany Retreat Center’s Marian grotto will be officially dedicated this weekend.

The sisters of the Community of Anawim invite the public to attend the dedication of their newly finished Our Lady of Grace Marian Grotto on Sun., Oct. 9 at 2:30 p.m. in Frenchville.

While the statue has been in place for several years, the grotto is a new addition. Each of the 20 mysteries of the rosary can be found on plaques inside

the grotto.

The grotto was designed by Sister Therese Dush, CA, and Jim Collins, a stone mason from Clearfield. Collins, pictured with some of the plaques of the rosary mysteries placed in the grotto, donated his services for the construction. He used stones from the local area for the project.

For more information and directions to the Bethany Retreat Center, visit www.bethanyretreatcenter.org.

IN THE U.S.

Defending marriage

New York Archbishop Timothy Dolan, president of the U.S. bishops' conference, told President Barack Obama in a Sept. 20 letter that his administration's fight against the Defense of Marriage Act will undermine marriage and create a serious breach of church-state relations. The law, known as DOMA, defines marriage as between one man and one woman. There was no immediate response from the White House to a Sept. 22 request from Catholic News Service for comment on the archbishop's letter. Archbishop Dolan underscored the church's position recognizing "the immeasurable personal dignity and equal worth of all individuals, including those with same-sex attraction," and said "we reject all hatred and unjust treatment against any person." But he called for dialogue with the president on the Defense of Marriage Act and the "definition of marriage as the union of a man and a woman."

Call to abolish death penalty

More than 200 Catholic theologians, scholars and social justice advocates cite the executions of Troy Davis in Georgia and Lawrence Brewer in Texas in mid-September as the impetus for their call to abolish the death penalty. In "A Catholic Call to Abolish the Death Penalty," posted Sept. 26 on the website Catholic Moral Theology, the signers said they protest the state-sanctioned killings of the two men and call for the abolition of the death penalty in the United States. They said Davis' execution is "particularly troubling for it shines a stark light upon many long-standing concerns about capital punishment."



People hold a banner and signs on the steps of the Georgia Capitol in Atlanta during a vigil for death-row inmate Troy Davis before his Sept. 21 execution.

Judge denies Catholic Charities adoption contracts

An Illinois county circuit judge has denied an emergency request by Catholic Charities to stay his earlier ruling that the agencies have no right to state contracts to provide adoption and foster care services. In his Sept. 26 ruling, Judge John Schmidt of the Sangamon County Circuit Court in Springfield said the state can begin canceling the contracts for foster care and adoption it has with Catholic Charities agencies in the dioceses of Belleville, Joliet, Peoria and Springfield. The

state's Department of Children and Family Services ended \$30 million in contracts with these agencies in July stating that Catholic Charities' practice of referring unmarried couples to other agencies was discriminatory and a violation of the state's civil union law.

Respect Life Month message

"Increasing attempts to expunge God and religious discourse from public life" are contributing to a growing disrespect for the unique status of human beings, Cardinal Daniel DiNardo said in a message for Respect Life Month in October. In a statement made public Sept. 26, the archbishop of Galveston-Houston and chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities linked respect for life to recent moves to silence the voice of people motivated by faith. "Some now even seek to eliminate religiously motivated people and organizations from public programs, by forcing them to violate their moral and religious convictions or stop serving the needy," he said. To read the complete statement, visit www.usccb.org/news/2011/11-180.cfm.

AROUND THE WORLD

Pope to visit Africa

Pope Benedict XVI will make his second trip as pope to Africa, visiting Benin Nov. 18-20 to sign and distribute a letter reflecting on the 2009 special Synod of Bishops for Africa. The synod focused on "the church in Africa in service to reconciliation, justice and peace." At the end of the synod, the bishops gave the pope 57 proposals for action on the part of church leaders and the faithful, including a call for a new spirituality to counter bad government, ethnic tensions, disease, exploitation by multinational companies and the cultural agenda of foreign aid organizations.

PEOPLE OF FAITH

Archbishop was paratroop chaplain, Kennedy counselor

Retired Archbishop Philip Hannan of New Orleans, a World War II paratroop chaplain who befriended and secretly counseled President John Kennedy during and after his historic run for the White House as the first U.S. Catholic president, died Sept. 29 at age 98. A staunch defender of civil rights and the unborn as well as a fierce proponent during Vatican II of the morality of nuclear deterrence, Archbishop Hannan burnished his reputation for fearlessness in 2005 by riding out Hurricane Katrina alone at age 92 in the fortress-like studios of Focus Worldwide, an offshoot of the television network he created in the 1980s. In 2010, he published his memoirs, "The Archbishop Wore Combat Boots," which documented his career as a seminarian in Rome in the 1930s during the buildup to World War II, his service as a paratroop chaplain for the 82nd Airborne and his confidential relationship with Kennedy when he was an auxiliary bishop of Washington.



Archbishop Philip Hannan

By the Way...

April Blum, a parishioner at St. Joseph Parish/Bread of Life Community in Erie, was featured on the Sept. 28 season premiere of TLC's "Extreme Couponing." The show chronicles savvy shoppers as they plan and plot their way to extraordinary savings. Blum was filmed during a visit to Bello's Market in Erie where yours truly worked as a stock boy during our high school years.



Jason Koshinski
band, Rick, have seven children), Blum, who is also president of the parish's pastoral council, coupons for her church. Using her couponing skills, she buys groceries for the parish's Sunday fellowship meals for pennies on the dollar.

Her filmed shopping trip netted \$1,146.13 in groceries. After coupons, her cost was just \$33.61. Items included 200 boxes of pasta, 60 bags of salad and 32 sports drinks. The venture provided fellowship meals as St. Joe's/Bread of Life for nearly two months.

We offer our condolences to the family and friends of Joan Trojanowski, who passed away Sept. 23 at the age of 63. Affectionately known as "Mrs. T" to countless preschoolers, she taught at Our Lady of Peace School for 18 years before retiring at the end of the 2010-11 school year.

Ed and Diane Horneman from St. Mary of Grace Parish in Meadville extended an invitation to parishioners to walk the labyrinth they recently had built in their backyard. The Canticle of the Sun Labyrinth is located at 10877 Eastview Ave. in Meadville. Father Marc Solomon, pastor of St. Mary of Grace, led a brief prayer service at an open house Oct. 1. If you would like to view or walk the labyrinth, contact the Hornemans at 814.336.6541.

We wish Msgr. Robert Smith, vicar general for the diocese, a healthy and speedy recovery after undergoing heart surgery last month. "Get well" wishes can be sent to Msgr. Smith at 73 Home Lane, Oil City, Pa., 16301.

Three Carmelite nuns from Sioux City, Iowa, recently arrived in Erie and will be staying with the Carmelite community at Holy Family Monastery for six months. The Carmelites are a cloistered community whose ministry involves constant prayer for the needs and intentions of the diocese, the bishop, priests, religious and laity. For more information on the Carmelites or the monastery, visit www.ErieRCD.org/Carmelites.asp.

"Catholicism," a multi-part documentary series, premiered in Erie Oct. 2 on WQLN-TV. The series is airing in over 85 public television markets across the country and will broadcast four of the 10 episodes. "Catholicism," hosted by Father Robert Barron, is filmed in high-definition and spans more than 50 locations in 15 countries.

Jason Koshinski is editor of FaithLife. Contact him at JKoshinski@ErieRCD.org or 814.824.1171.

In Germany, pope says godlessness poses new risks for society

POPE, from page 1

who wanted to take the place of the biblical God, the creator and father of all men," he said.

Celebrating Mass in Berlin's Olympic Stadium for 70,000 people, the pope appealed for a better understanding of the church, one that goes beyond current controversies and the failings of its members.

On the plane carrying him from Rome, the pope told reporters he understood the feelings of German Catholics who have left the church because of revelations about clerical sex abuse, but he urged them to work against such crimes "on the inside." The pope later met with five sex abuse victims in Erfurt, an encounter that the Vatican said left the pontiff "moved and deeply shaken."

The pope presided over major ecumenical events Sept. 23 in Erfurt, the town where Martin Luther was ordained and site of an Augustinian monastery where he lived for several years. Meeting with Lutheran leaders, the pope prayed for Christian unity



CNS photo

Pope Benedict XVI gestures as he arrives for a meeting with Catholics involved in the church and society in the concert hall of Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany, Sept. 25. Meeting with about 1,500 Catholics, the pope said he knows Germany is experiencing a decline in religious practice and is seeing many of its members drift away from church life.

and said ecumenism today faces threats from both secularization and Christian fundamentalism.

"God is increasingly being

driven out of our society. ... Are we to yield to the pressure of secularization, and become modern by watering down the faith?" he said.

The pope also cautioned against viewing ecumenism as a type of negotiation. The best path to Christian unity, he said, is witnessing the Gospel courageously in a society that is often antagonistic toward the faith.

Meeting with Orthodox representatives Sept. 24, the pope urged Christian churches in Germany to speak up jointly in defense of human life "from conception to natural death" and defend "marriage between one man and one woman from any kind of misinterpretation."

In encounters with the faithful in Erfurt and Freiburg, the pope did not enter into details of the contentious issues that have divided German Catholics, such as priestly

celibacy, women's ordination and church teaching on homosexuality. Instead, the pope preached the importance of living the Gospel and held out German saints as models of the "radical" embrace of Christ.

In Erfurt, a city in former East Germany, the pope said at a Mass that Nazism and communism had been like "acid rain" for Christianity. But he said the oppression and difficulties in those dark years actually left many Catholics with a stronger faith — stronger, perhaps, than under current freedoms.

Addressing German lay leaders in Freiburg Sept. 24, the pope said the church in Germany was clearly "superbly organized." Then he asked: "But behind the structures, is there also a corresponding spiritual strength?" He suggested that small Christian communities may be the most promising path toward renewing the church's impact in society.

At a prayer vigil in Freiburg, the pope rode his popemobile past screaming teens who snapped photos with cell phones. An oversized road sign proclaimed in English,

"God is increasingly being driven out of our society. ... Are we to yield to the pressure of secularization, and become modern by watering down the faith?"

— Pope Benedict XVI in Germany

"Highway to Heaven — B16."

His talk to the youths emphasized that human efforts to make a better world were never enough, and that only faith in God cuts through the "darkness and gloom" of suffering and evil.

At a Mass on his final day in Freiburg, the pope told an estimated 100,000 people that agnostics who are troubled by the question of God are closer to the kingdom of God than "routine" Catholics whose hearts are untouched by faith.

He said the church in Germany would make an impact in society only if everyone works

together "in fidelity to their respective vocations" and in unity with their bishop and the pope.

In a meeting afterward with Catholics involved in church institutions, lay movements and political life, the pope said the best way for the church to influence society was to "set aside her worldliness" and stop adapting to the standards of secular society. History has shown that when it is liberated from organizational and political burdens, the church's "missionary witness shines more brightly," he said.

Contributing to this story was Cindy Wooden in Freiburg.

FaithLife

The official news bulletin of the Catholic Diocese of Erie

Volume 7, Issue 16

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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 1874. Offices are located at St. Mark Catholic Center 429 East Grandview Blvd., Erie, Pa. Periodical postage paid at Erie, Pa.

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

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Italy Regular: April 14-22, April 28-May 6, May 5-13, May 12-20, May 19-27, June 02-10, June 09-17, June 16-24, June 23-July 1, ...
Italy South: April 28-May 10, Sept. 8-20, Oct. 6-18
Holy Land: April 9-19, April 15-25, April 30-May 10, May 7-17, May 14-24, May 21-31, June 18-28, June 25-July 5, July 2-12, Aug. 27-Sept. 6
Holy Land/Italy: March 20-April 2, April 9-22, April 23-May 6, ...
France/Portugal/Spain: April 28-May 10, May 19-31, June 30-July 12
Italy/Lourdes/Fatima: April 28-May 9, Sept. 8-19, Oct. 6-17

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email: anthony@proximotravel.com 877-994-8259 (Theology) Owner

Blessed Sacrament Fall Festival

Sunday, October 16 from noon to 6 p.m.
W. 26th St. and Greengarden Blvd., Erie / 454-0171

Chicken & Biscuit Dinner begins at Noon
Adults \$8.00, Child 5-12 \$5.00,
Child 5 and under FREE

Family Fun: Bake sale, crafts, games for children and adults, theme baskets, pony rides and flu shots
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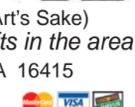
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Briefly

White Mass for health care professionals

ERIE – A White Mass for physicians, dentists, pharmacists, nurses and health care professionals will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 15 at the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse chapel, 444 E. Grandview Blvd. in Erie.

Concelebrants will be Msgr. William Biebel and Father Joseph Gregorek. Lunch will follow immediately with a reflection provided by Father Gregorek.

The Mass is being sponsored by the Catholic Medical Alliance of Erie.



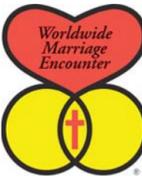
Marriage Encounter weekend

HERMITAGE – Worldwide Marriage Encounter is hosting a two-day, non-residential Marriage Encounter weekend for married couples Oct. 22-23 at Kennedy Catholic High School in Hermitage.

This specialized weekend is designed to help married couples communicate more intimately with one another in order to deepen and enrich their relationship. Couples are invited to retreat from their everyday routines, distractions and tensions in an atmosphere where they can concentrate exclusively on each other in a private, confidential environment.

There are no group discussions. A series of presentations that touch on many aspects of marriage is given by three couples and a priest.

For more information or to register, visit www.wmme.org or contact Pat and Susan Cronmiller at 814.823.4600.



Cursillo renewal day

ERIE – Calling all cursillistas! Holy Rosary Parish in Erie will host a Cursillo renewal day on Saturday, Oct. 29.



The theme is "How's Your Spiritual Portfolio?" All cursillistas (people who have made a Cursillo) are invited for prayer, input, sharing and lunch.

Registration begins at 8:45 a.m. and lunch ends around 1:30 p.m. An opportunity to form a new group reunion with people in your area will also be provided.

For more information or to register, call 814.456.4254.

Crawford County pro-life banquet

Crawford County Citizens for Life will host its fifth annual pro-life banquet at 6 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 28 at Smith's Country Gardens in Blooming Valley.

This year's keynote speaker is Rebecca Kiessling, a pro-life attorney and the author of the pamphlet, "Conceived in Rape: A Story of Hope."

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$8 for children 10 and under; the family rate is \$60.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 814.967.3436.

Crawford County Citizens for Life is a local chapter of the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation. Visit Crawford County Citizens for Life online at www.citizens4life.org.



Rebecca Kiessling

High school youth rally Nov. 19

ERIE – The annual diocesan high school youth rally will take place on Saturday, Nov. 19 from 4-10 p.m. at Villa Maria Academy in Erie.

The rally will include the anticipated Mass for the feast of Christ the King. The theme will be "Take courage, I have conquered the world." (John 16:33)

This year's rally will feature:

- Father Steve Schreiber and Father Shane Mathew
- The VMA Emcee Troupe
- Powerful presentations
- Music by Pat Brown and Co.
- A formal banquet-style dinner
- Thanksgiving food collection for the poor
- Confession
- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- Extreme sport games
- A tribute video for Bishop Donald Trautman
- A farewell address from Bishop Trautman to the youth
- A Catholic Leadership Institute (CLI) reunion room
- Free T-shirts and wristbands
- A service project

To register, contact your parish director of religious education or school's campus ministry. Registration and release forms are available at www.onthevine.us.

For more information, contact Kathleen Peterson, coordinator of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, at 814.824.1218 or e-mail KPeterson@ErieRCD.org.

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Papal honors

Bishop confers Papal Cross to three for dedication, service

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

A married couple and former Catholic hospital CEO from the Diocese of Erie recently received papal honors from His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI, recognizing their dedication and service to the Catholic Church.

Bishop Donald Trautman conferred the honors from Pope Benedict XVI to Dennis and Rose Heindl from St. Leo Magnus Parish in Ridgway and Angela Bontempo, former CEO of Saint Vincent Health System in Erie.

The honorees received the Papal Cross, "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" (for the church and the pope). The medal is given in the form of a gold cross suspended from a yellow and white ribbon.

First given by Pope Leo XIII in 1888, the Papal Cross is given to clergy, religious and laity who have given exemplary service *pro Ecclesia et Pontifice*, i.e., for the church and for the pope. Originally intended to honor those who were of direct service to the pope, today this cross is

ordinarily awarded to those whose service is rendered primarily to the local church.

The recognition of papal honors is given in the name of Pope Benedict XVI on the recommendation of Bishop Trautman. A diocesan bishop may nominate candidates to the pope at any time he wishes. The last papal honors were given in the diocese in 2006 when 62 people were honored.

also donated the new Ridgway School District sports complex, with Dennis overseeing the construction project. The family was additionally instrumental in the establishment of the Chair of Dr. Joseph Maroon in the Department of Neurological Surgery at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. This chair contributes to research and development in the prevention and treatment of head injuries.

Dennis and Rose Heindl



The Heindles, members of St. Leo Magnus Parish in Ridgway, donated more than \$1 million toward the renovation and restoration of the church with the future of the faith community in mind. Dennis Heindl also served as clerk of the works on the restoration project. The church itself received a top-to-bottom refurbishing. Bishop Trautman presided at a St. Leo's rededication Mass April 14.

Their generosity extends beyond the boundary of their parish. The Heindles

Angela Bontempo

Bontempo served as president and CEO of Saint Vincent Health System in Erie for nine years until her retirement in 2010. Beginning in 2001, she became the first lay person to hold this position in the 135-year history of Saint Vincent Hospital, which was founded and is operated by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania.

A former Catholic school teacher and operating room nurse, Bontempo has served the church and her community through her leadership in professional organizations, service on boards of many community organizations and membership in Catholic healthcare organizations.



Papal Cross

Clarion campus ministry receives \$50,000 gift

CLARION, from page 1

Parish in Clarion.

"We had more than 40 students at our opening Mass," Msgr. Olowin said, noting that word got around through Facebook and students were invited to attend. "They're coming as lectors and musicians from their own parish. They plug right in."

Board members and some Clarion faculty members typically attend the campus ministry Mass with their families as well.

"The students enjoy that," Msgr. Olowin said. "Away from home, this helps them from missing their family connections. And they're happy when families bring them food."

Out of 7,000 students, "a good third are Catholic," Msgr. Olowin said. Many come from parishes in the Pittsburgh area.

Campus ministry has several staff members and is also home to the activities of Clarion's Newman Association which is official-



ly recognized as a student organization by the university and some activities of Students for Life under the direction of faculty member Dr. Thomas Rourke. Catholic Charities also has office space, and a counselor from DuBois visits each week.

Campus ministry offers varied programs which include retreats, Bible study groups, speakers and alternative spring break trips

geared toward service. It is sponsoring a visit from Greg Baker, director of campus ministry at Mercyhurst College in Erie, who will conduct a program Oct. 23 at 1 p.m. titled, "You can't unfriend Jesus: Friendship, faith and technology." This year, a number of students will attend a Catholic leadership workshop at the University of Notre Dame.

"We're mentoring them on

a spiritual journey," said Msgr. Olowin.

Since his arrival in 2008, that journey has also included officiating two wedding ceremonies for campus ministry couples and guiding two young men who are discerning a possible vocation to the priesthood.

In addition to offering the sacraments and programs for Catholic students, Catholic Campus Ministry opens its doors to the activities of other denominational student groups; there is no campus ministry office on campus. Msgr. Olowin said Catholic Campus Ministry has continued its strong ecumenical dimension developed by his predecessor, Father Jim Faluszczak.

"We're using it as a springboard for Catholic hospitality," he said. "This has helped develop a real tolerance and respect among the students."

For more information on Clarion's Catholic Campus Ministry, visit www.ccmcup.com.

Dead wrong: Catholics must no longer support capital punishment

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

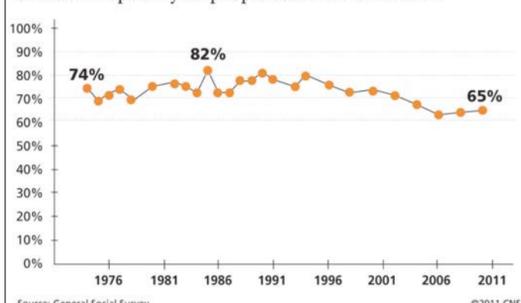
VATICAN CITY – The Catholic Church's position on capital punishment has evolved considerably over the centuries.

And as a result, "it is not a message that is immediately understood — that there is no room for supporting the death penalty in today's world," said a Vatican's expert on capital punishment and arms control.

Because the church has only in the past few decades begun closing the window — if not shutting it completely — on the permissibility of the death penalty, people who give just a partial reading of the church's teachings may still think the death penalty is acceptable today, said Tommaso Di Ruzza, desk officer at the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace.

St. Thomas Aquinas equated a dangerous criminal to an in-

PERCENTAGE OF U.S. CATHOLICS who responded in favor of the death penalty for people convicted of murder:



Source: General Social Survey ©2011 CNS

fectured limb thereby making it "praiseworthy and healthful" to kill the criminal in order to spare the spread of infection and safeguard the common good.

However, over the centuries, justice has evolved from being the smiting arm of revenge toward a striving for reform and restoration, much like today's medical science, where amputation is no longer the only recourse for curing an infection.

Modern-day popes have reflected that change in attitude.

As far back as the 19th and early 20th centuries theologians pondered the seeming paradox between the Fifth Commandment, "You shall not kill," and the church's dark history of condoning state-held executions to deal with heresy and other threats and crimes.

Pope Paul VI took concrete action in distancing the church from this form of punishment, first by formally banning the use of the death penalty in Vatican City State, although no one had been executed under the authority of the Vatican's temporal governance since 1870.

Pope Paul also spoke publicly against planned executions and called for clemency for death-row inmates. Pope John Paul II also would punctuate his Angelus and general audience talks with impassioned appeals to spare the life of a prisoner on the verge of execution.

It was the Polish pope who "earnestly hoped and prayed" for a global moratorium on the use of capital punishment and the abolition of the death penalty worldwide.

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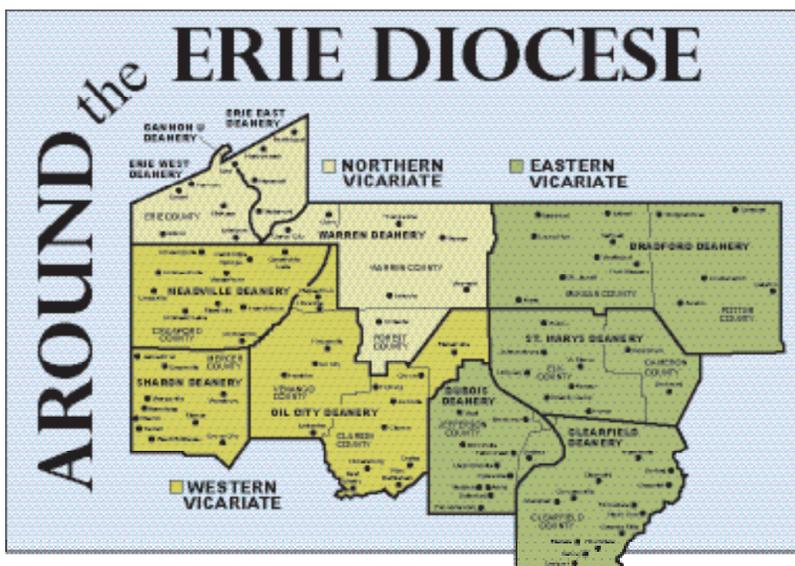
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Photo Tips
Quick, important tips for taking good digital pictures.
<http://www.ErieRCD.org/faithlife.asp>

Mercyhurst Prep alumni recognition honors graduates

ERIE – Mercyhurst Preparatory School in Erie held its annual alumni recognition dinner Sept. 24 with a record crowd of nearly 200 in attendance.

The Honorable Elizabeth "Libby" Kelly ('76), received the Mercyhurst Preparatory School Distinguished Alumni Award for career achievement. This award recognized Kelly as an outstanding alumna who has achieved a high level of success in her career while being generous in support of Mercyhurst Prep.

Arthur "Art" Martone ('80), Creative Arts chair at Mercyhurst Prep, received the Distinguished Alumni Award for service. The award recognized him for exceptional volunteer service and support to Mercyhurst Prep and its alumni organization as well as superior service to the Erie community.

The Sisters of Mercy received the President's Award for their longtime dedication and support to the school, faculty and students. They were chosen by Alumni Association President Pat Genung.

The Alumni Association also recognized the 20th and 25th anniversary of state championship teams and individuals. They included the 1986 state champion girls basketball team, Kelly Ervin Maslar ('87), who was the 1986 state champion girls tennis player and the 1991 state champion boys and girls basketball teams.



(MPS-Alumni): The Honorable Libby Kelly and Art Martone



(MPS-Sisters Group): Mercy sisters who attend the alumni recognition dinner included (seated) Sister Natalie Rossi, Sister Donna Marie Orton ('49), Sister Maura Smith (former Mercyhurst Prep principal), Sister Bernadette Bell, Sister Mary Mark McCarthy, Sister Mary Matthew Baltus, (standing) Sister Mary Dolores Jablonski, Sister Lisa Mary McCartney, Sister Rita Panciera, Sister Maria O'Connor, Sister Domenica DeLeo, Sister Joan Sherry, Sister Jeanne Thomas Danahy, Sister Phyllis Marie McDonald, Sister Mary Ann Bader (current Mercyhurst Prep president), Sister Patricia Whalen ('59), Sister Rita Brocke, Sister JoAnne Courneen (former Mercyhurst Prep president), Sister Trish Tyler, Sister Michele Marie Schroeck, Sister Audrey Clauss, Sister Edith Langiotti, Sister Mary Felice Duska ('52), Sister Joan McCabe ('51) and Sister Catherine Edward Delaney. Missing from photo is Sister Teresa Okonski.

Catholic young adults participate in day of service

ERIE – Erie's Catholic Young Adult Ministry (CYAM) participated in an afternoon of service Sept. 25 by painting for the Sisters of St. Joseph at their Neighborhood Network house.

CYAM is open to all Catholic young adults, age 21 to 39. Visit www.erieRCD.org/cyam.htm for more information, or contact Kathleen Peterson, coordinator of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, at 814.824.1218 or KPeterson@ErieRCD.org.



DCC students take part in web seminar

DUBOIS – Author Jean Craighead George recently "visited" a section of 7th graders at DuBois Central Catholic Middle School in preparation for their reading of her acclaimed novel, "Julie of the Wolves," which garnered the author the John Newbery Medal.

DCC teacher MaryAnn Piccirillo explained that this author was not actually present in the Central classroom. However, by using the Discovery Network's United Streaming, the author was speaking in real time to students all across the country.

A graduate of Penn State, George mentioned DuBois Central Catholic by name as viewers of the web seminar. Then she answered a question emailed from the school, much to the surprise of the students.

According to Piccirillo, "a cool experience" best describes the reaction of the students and its impact on the school's program.



DCC Middle School students recently took part in a web seminar made possible through the Discovery Network's United Streaming. Pictured left to right are: Trisha Gupta, Abby Aughenbaugh, Lauren Holdren, Jordan Frank, Sadie Peck, Emily Rhoades, Noah Donahue, Zach Logan, Noah Pettenati, Austin Cogley, and Markus McCullough. Standing are Riley Meyers and teacher MaryAnn Piccirillo.

Venango Catholic launches 'Buy a Blind' campaign

OIL CITY – Venango Catholic High School has launched a "Buy a Blind" campaign to replace all of the blinds in the school. This is occurring in conjunction with the replacement of the school boiler system in an effort to make Venango Catholic more energy efficient.

Funding to date has allowed blinds to be installed in the cafeteria, two offices and a single classroom.

Those interested in supporting the project can donate a blind to the school. The donation requested is \$150 per blind, which covers the cost of the unit and installation, although all donations are welcome.

Donations can be made to the "Buy a Blind" campaign online at www.venangocatholic.org, designating the gift as a "Buy a Blind" donation, or by mail or drop-off at Venango Catholic High School, 1505 W. First St., Oil City, Pa., 16301. Checks can be made payable to Venango Catholic High School.



Father John Malthaner, headmaster of Venango Catholic High School, stands in front of one of the school's newly installed energy-efficient blinds.

St. Joseph Food Pantry volunteers honored for service

SHARON – Volunteers from the St. Joseph Food Pantry in Sharon were honored with the Bishop's Commendation for Service Award Aug. 24 at Good Shepherd Parish in West Middlesex. Eight volunteers from the food pantry were on hand to receive the award.

The St. Joseph Food Pantry committee, which has been active for nearly 30 years, includes a group of 20-plus parishioners.

"They're a tireless group that does a lot of good," said Father Glenn Whitman, pastor of St. Joseph Parish. "They're the best."

Pictured left to right are: (front row) Barb Grove, Terry Evans,



Bishop Donald Trautman, Ruth Reichard, (back row) Father Glenn Whitman, Pat Corbett, Joann Sangregorio, Ann McKinney, Wes McKinney and Fran Ray.

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Please RSVP to PBork@Maryknoll.org or to 716-213-0000.

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