

Got fish?

Find a Lenten fish dinner near you, page 3.



FaithLife

New Year blessings

St. Callistus students highlight Epiphany, page 4.



www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

February 7, 2010

Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

Feast days



St. Scholastica Our Lady of Lourdes

- Feb. 6 St. Paul Miki and companions
- Feb. 7 World Day for Consecrated Life
- Feb. 8 St. Jerome Emiliani, St. Josephine Bakhita
- Feb. 10 St. Scholastica
- Feb. 11 Our Lady of Lourdes
- Feb. 17 Ash Wednesday

World Day of the Sick – Feb. 11

In his message for the Feb. 11 celebration of World Day of the Sick, Pope Benedict XVI highlighted the important role of the church in bringing Christ's love and healing to all those who suffer: be it from poverty, oppression, remorse or illness.

World Day of the Sick is marked each year on the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. The 2010 celebration also marks the 25th anniversary of the institution of the Pontifical Council for Health Care Ministry.

In his message, Pope Benedict said World Day of the Sick aims to remind Catholics how important it is for the church to offer pastoral service to the sick and those who care for them.

"Every Christian is called to relive, in different and always new contexts, the parable of the Good Samaritan," who offered care and compassion to the man left half-dead by robbers along the roadside, said the papal message.

Ash Wednesday – Feb. 17 and Lenten Regulations

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection and fasting which prepares us for Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Here are the church regulations for fasting and abstinence during Lent:

- Everyone 14 years of age or older is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday.

- Everyone 18 or older, and under 59 years of age, is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

- On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige.

- Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed minimal penitential practices.

For the complete Lenten regulations, visit www.ErieRCD.org.



Clergy appointments

The Most Rev. Donald W. Trautman, STD, SSL, Bishop of Erie, announces the following clergy appointments:

Father John Barwin, appointed temporary parochial administrator of St. Boniface Parish, Kersey. Effective January 12, 2010.

Father Chris Hamlett, appointed pastor of St. Raphael Parish, Eldred, its mission church of St. Mary, Sartwell, and St. Teresa Parish, Shinglehouse, for a term of six years. Effective January 8, 2010.

Father John Murphy, appointed temporary parochial administrator of Mount Calvary Parish, Erie. Effective January 8, 2010.

Father David Perry, currently in residence at St. Agnes Parish, Morrisdale. He continues as pastor of St. Mary Parish, Frenchville, and the mission churches of St. Peter and Paul, Grassflat, and St. Severin, Drifting.

Helping HAITI

Church aids in crisis as agencies gear up to help in long term

By Catholic News Service

Facing a growing humanitarian crisis after the largest earthquake in Haiti in two centuries, Catholic aid agencies and world governments were boosting efforts to respond to the needs of hundreds of thousands of injured and homeless.

Agencies such as Catholic Relief Services and Jesuit Refugee Service as well as smaller organizations from around the world have raised millions of dollars to provide medical services, feed and shelter people and head off the rapid spread of disease.

The agencies were coordinating efforts with other religious, non-governmental and government organizations as hunger grew and some Haitians became increasingly impatient because they had received little or no assistance in the week since the Jan. 12 quake.

Haitian government and relief agency authorities raised their estimates of the number of dead to

200,000. Another 300,000 people were injured. Up to 3 million of Haiti's 9.8 million people were affected by the most recent natural disaster to strike the small nation.

Catholic Relief Services increased its pledge of aid for the impoverished nation to \$25 million, and it could go higher, said Pat Johns, director of safety and security for the Baltimore-based agency, CRS, which is coordinat-

ing the Catholic Church's response, reported it had collected \$13.1 million for earthquake relief as of early Jan. 19.

Caritas Internationalis, the Vatican-based umbrella organization for Catholic charities, quickly delivered aid to survivors but was in urgent need of additional relief materials. The Caritas staff in Haiti visited devastated areas of the capital Port-au-Prince to de-



(CNS photo)

Erie Diocese supports Haiti relief

The Erie Diocese joined others in the church throughout the United States in holding a second collection on behalf of the people of Haiti.

Bishop Donald Trautman authorized pastors to hold the collection on the weekends of Jan. 23-24 or Jan. 30-31 at their discretion.

One hundred percent of the funds collected will be used for humanitarian aid through Catholic Relief Services, the official international humanitarian agency of the U.S. Catholic Church. The money will be used strictly to provide humanitarian relief and no administrative fee will be taken for the Erie Diocese.

CRS will use the funds for relief and rehabilitation efforts in Haiti.

If you missed the collection in your parish, there is still time to make a donation. Either contact your parish office or Catholic Charities at 814.824.1250 or 800.374.3723.

Checks should be made out to Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Erie, with the notation, "Haiti Relief and sent to:"

Catholic Charities
St. Mark Catholic Center
429 E. Grandview Blvd.
Erie, PA 16504

To make a secure online donation, visit www.ErieRCD.org.

termine what the immediate needs were. The agency distributed tents to families and supplied first aid to survivors in clinics and hospitals.

Caritas designed a response plan that includes immediate food, shelter, health care,

See HAITI, page 3

Witnesses for life

Youth rally & Mass, annual march blanket Washington with message of life

From staff and wire reports

WASHINGTON – They came from all corners of the Erie Diocese, at least 11 buses strong, joining others from across the country in the nation's capital Jan. 22 to form a record-breaking crowd for the 37th annual March for Life.

Buses accounted for included at least four from Erie: Two sponsored by the Erie Diocese and one each from People for Life and Cathedral Prep. Other buses came from Meadville, Pro-Life of Mercer County, Grove City, Linesville, Greenville, Bradford and St. Marys.

Droves of pro-life youths from across the country lined up outside the Verizon Center early in the morning to get inside the annual Youth Rally and Mass for Life sponsored by the Archdiocese of Washington, forming a

crowd of 17,400 people.

Fifteen alternate gathering sites near the Verizon Center were set up to accommodate 8,000 more pilgrims.

Youths brought banners and signs but most of all their faith and enthusiasm to the Verizon Center.

See MARCH FOR LIFE, page 2



Clockwise: Young people from across the nation packed the Verizon Center in Washington Jan. 22 for events held in advance of the annual March for Life. Pilgrims from the Erie Diocese cheer during a rally for life and youth Mass at the Verizon Center. Bishop Donald Trautman processes during the Mass for life. The Mass was celebrated by a number of bishops and Cardinals from the United States.

Peer ministry helps deal with grief, loss

The stories of people who are widowed, divorced or separated can be so different. So how does Beginning Experience, Catholic Charities' ministry to help heal the heartache for those who find themselves single again, minister to all of them?

"People find that they have pain and grief in common," said Ann Badach, director of Catholic Charities' Family Life Office. "What they will find over time is that they have far more in common than they realized."

The ministry is divided into two programs.

- "Coping With Life Alone" is a six-week program with sessions that explore a number of common themes such as loneliness, stress, grief, trust and relationships with God, self and others. This is a peer-led program with facilitators themselves being widowed, separated or divorced.

- Beginning Experience Weekend is held on a Friday evening through Sunday and is designed as a time of closure on the past and new beginning in the present.

"Somewhere along the line, Beginning Experience has allowed people to find

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE®

"Coping With Life Alone" will be held at St. Mark Catholic Center 429 W. Grandview Blvd. in Erie from 4-6 p.m. on the following dates:
February 21 and 28
and March 7, 14, 21 and 28.

Beginning Experience Weekend at St. Mark Catholic Center April 9, 10 and 11

For more information or to register, contact Catholic Charities at 814.824.1265, 800.374.3723 Ext. 265 or e-mail familylife@eriercd.org.

Learn more about Beginning Experience at www.beginningexperience.org.

common ground with others who are hurting, and they lift one another up and support one another," Badach said.

Catholic Services Appeal 2010

Commitment Sunday is Feb. 14

The annual Catholic Services Appeal helps fund the Erie Diocese's ministries and provides support for health and social services, education, diocesan administration and pastoral services that serve 13 counties in northwest Pennsylvania.

Parishes also benefit from the appeal. Every dollar pledged that exceeds a parish's financial goal stays within the parish.

- Last year, a record amount of more than \$6 million was pledged by parishioners throughout the diocese.

- Last year, a record amount of more than \$2.3 million was kept by parishes for local projects.

Parishes throughout the diocese will conduct Commitment Sunday the weekend of Feb. 13-14. Please give generously to the 2010 Catholic Services Appeal.



A special issue of Faith magazine outlining the 2010 Catholic Services Appeal and parish projects using CSA funds was mailed to all registered homes in the Erie Diocese this past week.



IN THE U.S.

■ **Three leading U.S. bishops called on members of Congress** Jan. 26 to "set aside partisan divisions and special-interest pressures" to achieve genuine health reform. "The health care debate, with all its political and ideological conflict, seems to have lost its central moral focus and policy priority, which is to ensure that affordable, quality, life-giving care is available to all," said a letter signed by Cardinal Daniel DiNardo of Galveston-Houston and Bishops William Murphy of Rockville Centre, N.Y., and John Wester of Salt Lake City. The three chair the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' committees on Pro-Life Activities, on Domestic Justice and Human Development and on Migration, respectively. Although the letter did not refer specifically to the Jan. 19 election of Republican Scott Brown of Massachusetts to the U.S. Senate, the bishops said, "Although political contexts have changed, the moral and policy failure that leaves tens of millions of our sisters and brothers without access to health care still remains."

AROUND THE WORLD

■ **The Pontifical North American College, the U.S. national seminary in Rome, recently marked its 150th anniversary.** Pope Benedict XVI, meeting with the institution's students, superiors, faculty and alumni at the Vatican Jan. 9, said the seminary deserves thanks for "training generations of wor-



Seminarians attend Mass at the Pontifical North American College in Rome.

thy preachers of the Gospel and ministers of the sacraments." The college was concluding a reunion and other events to commemorate the anniversary of its founding in 1859. The pope said he was confident the college would continue to produce "wise and generous pastors capable of transmitting the Catholic faith in its integrity, bringing Christ's infinite mercy to the weak and the lost, and enabling America's Catholics to be a leaven of the Gospel in the social, political and cultural life of their nation."

■ **Laying a wreath at a memorial to Roman Jews rounded up by the Nazis in 1943** and joining in a standing ovation to a dwindling group of Holocaust survivors, Pope Benedict XVI broke the ice with Rome's Jewish community even before he began to speak. The pope made his first visit to Rome's main synagogue Jan. 17, strongly affirming the Catholic Church's commitment to improving Catholic-Jewish relations, its respect and appreciation for Jewish faith, its condemnation of anti-Semitism and his own hope that Catholics and Jews can work together to bring biblical values back to society.

PEOPLE OF FAITH

As a sign of his forgiveness, Pope Benedict XVI met with the woman responsible for knocking him down during a Christmas Eve Mass. The pope met with Susanna Maiolo after leading his weekly general audience Jan. 13 in the Vatican's Paul VI hall. In a private room of the audience hall, the pope held a brief meeting with Maiolo and members of her family in order to "demonstrate his forgiveness, to see how she was doing and to wish her good health," a Vatican statement said. Maiolo told the pope she was sorry for what had happened during the Christmas Eve Mass.

■ **Pope John Paul II always took penitence seriously,** spending entire nights lying with his arms outstretched on the bare floor, fasting before ordaining priests or bishops and flagellating himself, said the promoter of his sainthood cause. Msgr. Slawomir Oder, postulator of the late pope's cause, said Pope John Paul used self-mortification "both to af-

firm the primacy of God and as an instrument for perfecting himself." The monsignor spoke to reporters Jan. 26 at the launch of his book, "Why He's a Saint: The Real John Paul II According to the Postulator of His Beatification Cause." Msgr. Oder's book, published only in Italian, is based largely on what he said he learned from the documents collected for the beatification process and, particularly, from the sworn testimony of the 114 people who personally knew Pope John Paul and testified before the Rome diocesan tribunal investigating his fame of holiness.

■ **More than 25 years after the Vatican approved opening the sainthood cause** of 16th-century Jesuit missionary Father Matteo Ricci, the diocese of his birth formally reopened his case. Bishop Claudio Giuliodori of Macerata said that although the cause stalled almost immediately after it was opened in 1984, "these 25 years have not passed in vain because the Lord has given us clear signs of a deeper understanding of the prophetic intentions of Father Matteo Ricci."



Father Ricci entered the Jesuits in 1571, was ordained a priest in 1580 and entered China in 1583. In a message to the Diocese of Macerata inaugurating commemorations of the 400th anniversary of Father Ricci's death in Beijing in 1610, Pope Benedict XVI wrote that it was Father Ricci's great respect for Chinese traditions that "distinguished his mission to search for harmony between the noble and millenary Chinese civilization" and the Christian faith.

By the Way...



Jason Koshinski

At the recommendation of the pastoral council of St. Boniface Parish in Kersey, the Erie Diocese recently approved the sale of the former Guardian Angels Church in Coal Hollow to the Guardian Angels Clothing Center for \$1. The center is using the former church for its growing storage needs. Guardian Angels had been a mission church of St. Boniface. The mission was closed in the 1980s, and the last time the church was used was in 1985.

Located in Elk County's Fox Township, Coal Hollow was built by the Northwestern Mining and Exchange Company for the miners in the nearby coal mines and their families. Aside from the church, the village at one time also included a company store and public school.

A DVD commemorating St. Mark Seminary's 50th anniversary is now available. On Nov. 30, the diocese celebrated 50 years to the day that St. Mark's officially opened its doors at its current location at 429 E. Grandview Blvd. in Erie. For \$10, copies of the DVD can be purchased by contacting the seminary office at 814.824.1200 or mail requests to St. Mark Seminary, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie, PA 16514 or e-mail seminary@ErieCD.org. Please make checks payable to the Diocese of Erie.

The office of the diocese's Cursillo Movement has moved from downtown Erie to St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., P.O. Box 10397, Erie, PA 16514. The new phone number is 814.824.1118. The e-mail address (ericursillo@neo.rr.com) remains the same. Cursillo means "short course" in Christianity. The next men's Cursillo will be held Feb. 18-21; the next women's Cursillo is March 11-14. Both will be held at Our Lady of Mercy in Harborcreek. For more information, visit www.ericursillo.org.

Candidates and catechumens participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program at their respective parishes in the Erie Diocese will celebrate the Rite of Election on Sunday, Feb. 21, the first Sunday of Lent. The Rite of Election will be celebrated at 3 p.m. at two sites: St. Peter Cathedral in Erie and St. Michael the Archangel in DuBois.

All new members of the Catholic Church will be received into their own parishes at the Easter Vigil on April 3.

The Rite of Election formally acknowledges the readiness of those preparing to receive the sacraments of initiation—baptism, confirmation and the Eucharist.

Thank you to all who have donated to the Catholic Relief Services' Haiti relief through Catholic Charities. As of press time, the donations from all parishes had not yet been tallied. That figure will be published in a future issue of *FaithLife*.

Donors are urged to check with their employers as many, including General Electric, are providing matching gifts. It's a wonderful way to double your gift.

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

Youth rally & Mass, march blanket Washington with life message

MARCH FOR LIFE, from page 1

ter. Hundreds of seminarians and dignitaries also joined the throng.

During the rally, Bishop Donald Trautman of Erie greeted diocesan groups and local seminarians at their seating locations.

Archbishop Donald Wuerl of Washington was the principal celebrant of the Mass. Concelebrants included Bishop Trautman, Chicago Cardinal Francis George, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops; Cardinal Daniel DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, chairman of the U.S. Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities; Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States; and more than 30 bishops and 250 priests.

Prior to the Mass, Archbishop Sambi read a message to the participants from Pope Benedict XVI, who said their "generosity, idealism and concern inspire youth to raise their voices in defense of the unborn." He urged them to embrace "a culture of life grounded in the unchanging truth of who we are as God's children" and to "rise to this urgent moral challenge and witness to the sacredness of God's gift of life."

In welcoming the youths, Archbishop Wuerl said, "We gather together to pray God's blessing on our efforts to promote the value and dignity of all human life." He also prayed that God would "fill the hearts of all with the fire of your love ... (and) secure justice and equality for every human be-

ing." Archbishop Wuerl praised "the huge number of young people who recognize the dignity of all life" and assured them that "your bishops encourage you in living the Gospel of life."

Father Lawrence Swink, a young priest who is associate pastor of St. Pius X Parish in Bowie, Md., delivered the homily. He shaped his remarks around what he called the "three P's" — protect life, remain pure and pray.

Father Swink added that it is "not enough" to be pro-life and to just have the "goofy bumper stickers." "We are called to live it, we are called to be saints," he said. "We are going to pray, we are going to march and we are going to win."

Madeline Guay, a graduate of the Academy of the Holy Cross in Kensington, Md., who has Down syndrome, was featured in a video shown on a giant screen at the rally. Guay said she has a "life just like yours," and that she enjoys hanging out with friends, connecting with people on Facebook and playing the piano. Ninety percent of pregnant women whose children are diagnosed with Down syndrome decide not to carry their pregnancy to term, the film noted.

After the Mass, the youths filed out of the arena and joined the national march already in progress. The rally's opening prayer asked God to grant the march participants "the courage



March for Life participants from the Erie Diocese begin their journey just outside the Verizon Center in Washington. Marchers made their way up Constitution Avenue to the Supreme Court building in the annual anti-abortion demonstration marks the 1973 Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion across the nation.

to be a voice for the voiceless."

A statement posted on the March for Life Web site afterward did not give a count but said the size of the crowd for this year's rally and the march that followed it "far exceeded" last year's number. In 2009 the organization estimated the crowd to be 100,000.

One estimate stated the attendance at 250,000, while others had the crowd between 300,000 and 400,000.

Several speakers told the tens of thousands at a rally on the National Mall — bundled in winter gear and holding aloft placards with pro-life messages or banners identifying where they were from — that they were now in the majority and would continue to make inroads in society and in

government policies.

The crowd cheered enthusiastically when speakers stressed that abortion should never have been part of health care reform legislation before Congress or when speakers criticized President Barack Obama's support for legal abortion.

With the U.S. Capitol in the background, 23 Catholic bishops and 21 members of Congress joined pro-life leaders on the rally's stage.

After the rally, participants walked to the Supreme Court, then many planned to meet with their representatives to lobby for anti-abortion measures. The marchers talked with one another, sang and prayed as they made their way down Constitution Avenue.

DEATH NOTICE

Father John Kuzilla

Father John Kuzilla, 80, recently retired pastor of St. Boniface Parish in Kersey, died January 23, 2010 at Christ the King Manor in DuBois.

Born October 18, 1929 in Grassflat, he was the son of the late Michael and Veronica Terpak Kuzilla. Father Kuzilla attended Grassflat Elementary School and Cooper Township High School.

Upon entering the seminary, he completed his high school education at Cathedral Preparatory School in Erie in 1947. From 1947-49, he pursued seminary studies at St. Mark Seminary and Gannon University, Erie. He continued his seminary studies at St. Mary's Seminary and University in Baltimore (1949-51) and at Theological College and the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. (1951-55), where he earned a

master's degree in 1955.

He was ordained as a priest on May 19, 1955 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie by Bishop Edward McManaman, auxiliary bishop of Erie. His home parish was St. Peter and Paul, Grassflat.

Following ordination to the priesthood, Father Kuzilla was assigned to the faculty of Cathedral Prep, where he served from 1955 to 1968, with residence at St. John the Baptist Parish (1955-63), Holy Rosary Parish (1963-64) and St. Ann Parish (1964-68).

He was appointed to the mission church of St. Anthony in Tionesta, serving as administrator (1968-69), assistant pastor (1969-71) and finally as pastor of the mission church of St. John in Tionesta and St. John Parish in Tidououte (1971-73). In 1973, Father Kuzilla was appointed pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Clarion. In 1989 he was appointed pastor of St. Bernard Parish in Bradford, and in 1993 he was appointed pastor of St. Boniface Parish, Kersey, where he served until his retirement in 2009.

During his years of priestly service, Father Kuzilla also served as chaplain to the Knights of Columbus and as dean in Kersey.



Father John Kuzilla

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• Benefits the Ministerium food pantry
More info/questions? Call 814-563-4452

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Briefly

Rainbows begins new session

ERIE – Rainbows, a support group for children who have suffered a significant loss in their lives, either by separation, divorce or other painful transition, will begin its next session at 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 15 at St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd. in Erie. The session will run each Monday for 12 consecutive weeks.

For more information or to register, contact Sister Ann Bannon at 814.824.1250 or e-mail ABannon@EricRCD.org.



World Marriage Day – Feb. 14

World Marriage Day, sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter, is celebrated annually on the second Sunday in February. This day honors the husband and wife as head of the family, the basic unit of society. It salutes the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice and joy in daily married life.

The theme of World Marriage Day is "Love One Another." This phrase is the commandment given by Jesus in John 15:12. It speaks to us in a simple but challenging way of how God wishes us to live.

For tips and resources to strengthen your marriage, visit www.foryourmarriage.org, an initiative of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Holy hour for life at Gannon

ERIE – Gannon University Students for Life will host a holy hour for life at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 23 at the university's Mary Seat of Wisdom Chapel. The hour of prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament will be dedicated to reverencing the dignity of all human life.

The chapel's main entrance is located at the corner of Peach and Fifth streets in downtown Erie. This event is open to the public.

Lenten vigils at Mount St. Benedict

ERIE – The Benedictine Sisters of Erie will host Lenten Vigils every Saturday during Lent at 7 p.m. at Mount St. Benedict Monastery, 6101 E. Lake Road in Erie.

The vigils are open to the public.

The following sisters will offer reflections:

- Feb. 20 – Sister Cindy Hoover, OSB
- Feb. 27 – Sister Susan Doubet, OSB
- March 6 – Sister Marian Wehler, OSB
- March 13 – Sister Mary Lou Kownacki, OSB
- March 20 – Sister Christine Vladimiroff, OSB, prioress
- March 27 – Sister Dorothy Stoner, OSB



Natural Family Planning classes in Erie, DuBois

Natural Family Planning is a way of following God's plan for achieving and/or avoiding pregnancy. It consists of ways to achieve or to avoid pregnancy using the physical means that God has built into human nature.

The Erie Diocese's Natural Family Planning Office is sponsoring the following classes:

- Erie – Classes begin Monday, Feb. 15 from 7-9 p.m. at St. George Parish, 5145 Peach St. Call Gretchen at 814.866.3008.
- DuBois – Classes start Thursday, March 11 from 7-9 p.m. For more information, including class location, call Judy at 814.371.5852.

Retrouvaille weekend for troubled marriages

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.

Catholic Charities is sponsoring a Retrouvaille weekend Feb. 26-28 in Erie.

Following the completion of the Retrouvaille weekend, couples are encouraged to attend a six-week follow-up program.

For confidential information or to speak with a couple experienced in the Retrouvaille program, contact the Family Ministries Office at 1.800.374.3723 or 814.824.1261. To register, call 814.437.9377. For more information, visit www.retrouvaille.org.

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Church aids in crisis as agencies gear up to help in long term

HAITI, from page 1

water and sanitation, and psychological and social assistance for about 40,000 families, or 200,000 people. The Vatican has asked CRS, which already had a large presence in Haiti, to take the lead in the Caritas effort.

Jesus Refugee Service USA in Washington had opened several medical centers to assist injured people in some of the poorest neighborhoods of the Haitian capital and the surrounding area.

CRS sent a plane with medical supplies and equipment as well as medical personnel and additional staff from Miami Jan. 19.

CRS also opened a supply pipeline from the Dominican Republic border town of Jimani, about 35 miles from Port-au-Prince, to the Haitian capital.

Shelter kits, bedding, mosquito nets, water and food were being distributed from one of two CRS warehouses in the capital.

Now, nearly three weeks after the Haitian earthquake, Catholic aid agencies must gear up to provide longer-term food, housing and health care assistance to people who lost their homes and possessions.

But even the massive amount of aid pouring into the country is dwarfed by the overwhelming needs of people who lost their homes, families, jobs and possessions in the quake, said Hector Hanashiro, Caritas emergency coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean.

In late January, a government spokesman said 150,000 bodies had been buried, and some officials said the death toll could be as high as 200,000.

About 2 million people were affected in Port-au-Prince, and 1 million more in other cities, including Jacmel, Gressier, Carrefour and Petit-Goave. Some 500,000 people who lost their homes are living in makeshift camps around the Haitian capital.

In a country where basic services were scant and about 75 percent of the population lived in poverty even before the quake, the most pressing needs are food, health care, water, sanitation services and housing.

Replacing and repairing the infrastructure of the church in Haiti will take years, according to Archbishop Jose Gomez of San Antonio, head of the U.S.



(CNS photo)

Workers walk past the destroyed Sacred Heart Church in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Jan. 25. Haiti's Prime Minister Jean-Max Belleville said the nation needs at least five to 10 years of reconstruction help after its people were "bloodied, martyred and ruined" by the Jan. 12 earthquake.



(CNS photo)

Workers with Catholic Relief Services unload hygiene kits in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Jan. 17 for distribution to earthquake survivors. The kits, which included items such as soap, mosquito nets and towels, were packed in the Dominican Republic.

bishops' Subcommittee for the Church in Latin America.

"The beleaguered church in Haiti will remain a primary focus of our work in the months and years to come" within the com-

mittee, he said.

In a Jan. 22 letter to his fellow U.S. bishops, Archbishop Gomez listed some of the damage done to the church in the impoverished Caribbean nation, including to-

tal destruction of the cathedrals in Port-au-Prince and Jacmel as well as the destruction of "at least five" other major churches, many smaller church buildings, two major seminaries, many convents and schools and a Catholic radio station.

Moreover, the archbishop said, "the reported tragic loss of so many priests, sisters, seminarians and laity is irreplaceable."

Amid the rubble of the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Assumption, Haitians celebrated the lives of the archbishop and vicar general of Port-au-Prince, both of whom were killed in the country's earthquake.

Church officials — including some from the United States — joined crowds of Haitian faithful Jan. 23 for the funerals of Archbishop Joseph Serge Miot, who died when the impact of the Jan. 12 quake hurled him from a balcony, and Msgr. Charles Benoit, the vicar general in the impoverished Caribbean nation, including to-

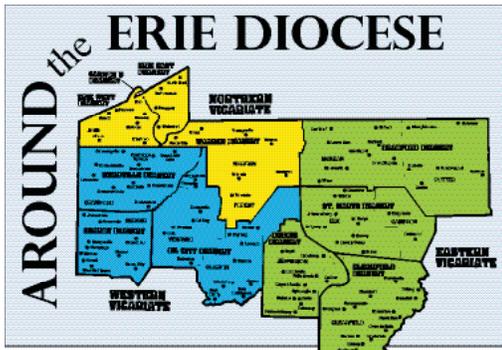
Lenten Dining

fish entrées

menu

<p>BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH 1626 West 26th Street, Erie, PA February 19 / March 5, 19 4:30-7:00 pm</p> <p>BAKED SCROD AND CHEESE RAVIOLI SCROD includes french fries or macaroni and cheese. All dinners include coleslaw, green beans, roll, sherbet and beverage Adult \$8.00, Child \$5.00</p> <p>MACARONI AND CHEESE Adult \$5.00, Child \$3.00</p> <p>* Takeout available (814) 454-0171 Stop by the bake sale after dinner!</p> <p>ST. BONIFACE PARISH School Cafeteria 355 Main Street, Kersey, PA Ash Wednesday, February 17 February 19, 26 / March 5, 12, 19, 26 April 2, 4:00-7:00 pm Large \$9.00, Small \$8.00, Child \$4.00</p> <p>BAKED OR FRIED FISH Includes french fries or baked potato, coleslaw, macaroni salad, roll, dessert and beverage</p> <p>CHILD ENTREE CHICKEN FINGERS Includes french fries and applesauce Info (814) 885-8941</p> <p>ST. ANTHONY PARISH St. Paul Center 746 West Main Street, Sheffield, PA February 19, 26 March 5, 12, 19, 26 / April 2 4:30 pm until sold out</p> <p>DEEP FRIED HADDOCK Includes french fries, coleslaw, dessert and beverage Adult \$8.00, Child \$5.00 (814) 968-5915</p>	<p>ST. TERESA PARISH Parish Center 9 Third Avenue, Union City, PA February 19, 26 / March 5, 12, 19, 26 4:30-7:00 pm</p> <p>BAKED OR FRIED FISH Includes french fries or baked potato, coleslaw, roll, dessert and beverage Adult \$8.00, Child 5-12 \$4.00 4 and under free, Info: (814) 438-2000</p> <p>ST. JOHN PARISH School Cafeteria 27th and Wallace Streets, Erie, PA Ash Wednesday, February 17 4:30-7:30 pm</p> <p>LAKE ERIE PERCH Includes coleslaw/salad, potato, vegetable and beverage Adult \$8.00, Senior \$7.50 Child 12 and under \$5.00</p> <p>CHILD ENTREE FISH OR MACARONI AND CHEESE * Takeout available</p> <p>Tickets will be sold in advance and only 225 dinners will be sold Info/Reservation: Diane Speice (814) 456-1183 (after 5 pm)</p> <p>ST. LUKE PARISH Knights of Columbus School Cafeteria 421 East 38th Street, Erie, PA February 19 / March 5, 12, 19 5:00-7:00 pm Adult \$8.50, Child 7-12 \$5.00 6 and under free</p> <p>ICELANDIC COD Includes french fries, green beans, coleslaw or applesauce, macaroni and cheese or pierogi, fresh bread, ice cream, coffee, tea, milk, soft drinks Info: Gary Carmosino, Grand Knight (814) 868-2765 or (814) 836-0555 x102</p>
<h2 style="margin: 0;">fish and more</h2>	
<p>POLISH STYLE MARDI GRAS HOLY TRINITY PARISH Social Center East 23rd and Reed Streets, Erie, PA February 14, Noon-5 pm (11:00 am Mass) Dinner includes a Polish platter, jambalaya, cajun sausage, pierogi pizza, bakery, imported Polish beer, wine booth</p> <p>Free admission, cash prize drawings, small games of chance, auction, theme baskets, beads and hats * Frozen pierogi available for takeout (814) 834-4017</p>	<p>FISH AND SHRIMP SACRED HEART PARISH SACRED HEART ACTIVITY CENTER 325 Center Street, St. Marys, PA February 19, 26 March 12, 19 / April 2 4:00-6:30 pm Large \$8.50, Small \$7.50 Child under 10 \$5.00</p> <p>BAKED OR FRIED FISH/SHRIMP Includes french fries or baked potato, coleslaw, meatless soup, roll, dessert and beverage</p>
<p>ALL SAINTS PARISH 11264 Route 97 North, Waterford, PA February 19, 26 / March 5, 12, 19, 26 4:30-7:00 pm Adult \$8.00, Child 12 and under \$4.00 Toddlers free</p> <p>* Takeout available (814) 796-3023</p> <p>ST. JOSEPH PARISH 17735 Bennetts Valley Highway, Force, PA Ash Wednesday, February 17 and every Friday during Lent 4:00-7:00 pm</p> <p>BAKED OR FRIED HADDOCK Includes french fries or baked potato, roll, coleslaw, dessert and beverage Adult \$8.50, Child 12 and under \$5.00</p> <p>* Takeout available, (814) 787-4819 We deliver in Bennetts Valley</p> <p>ST. BRIGID PARISH St. Brigid Parish Center 383 Arch Street, Meadville, PA February 19, 26 / March 5, 12, 19, 26 4:30-6:30 pm</p> <p>Adult \$7.50, Child \$4.00 MACARONI AND CHEESE OR GRILLED CHEESE \$5.00 * Takeout available</p> <p>FISH AND PIEROGI ST. STANISLAUS PARISH 516 East 13th Street, Erie, PA February 19 / March 5, 19, 4:00-7:00 pm</p> <p>Adult \$9.00, Child 6-12 \$4.00 5 and under free * Takeout available \$9.50 (814) 452-6606</p> <p>FISH AND HOMEMADE PIEROGI OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL Scheffner Hall 1553 East Grandview Boulevard, Erie, PA February 26 / March 12, 26 4:00-7:00 pm</p> <p>Adult \$8.50, Child 7-12 \$4.00 6 and under free * Takeout available for 50 cents more Info: Florence Sova at (814) 899-0370</p> <p>FISH/SHRIMP/CRAB LEGS ST. JOSEPH PARISH, School Cafeteria Route 66, Lucinda, PA February 19, 26 / March 5, 12, 19, 26 April 2, 4:00-7:00 pm</p> <p>BAKED OR FRIED FISH/SHRIMP/CRAB LEGS Includes choice of potato, coleslaw, roll, dessert and beverage Adult \$7.95, Child \$5.95 Preschool and under free Crab leg dinner \$10.95</p> <p>LUNCH 11:00 am-1:00 pm (Takeout only) FISH SANDWICH \$6.00 Includes french fries and coleslaw (814) 226-8310</p>	

takeout available at certain locations



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

Visit ErieRCD.org/faithlife.asp to download quick and easy photo tips on a wallet-size card.



New Eucharistic ministers at DRMC

DUBOIS - New extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist were welcomed to DuBois Regional Medical Center on Nov. 19. A Mass was celebrated by Msgr. Charles Kaza, vicar of the Eastern Vicariate, in the chapel at DRMC West. Msgr. Kaza was assisted by Deacon Robert DeNoon.

The new extraordinary ministers will be bringing the Holy Eucharist to Catholic patients. A reception was held after the Mass.

From left to right are: (front row) Pat Funair of St. Tobias, Brockway; Bill Mumma of St. Catherine of Siena, DuBois; Juanita Erickson of St. Catherine of Siena, DuBois, (back row) Msgr. Kaza; Ray Graeca, president of DRMC; and Deacon DeNoon. Also new extraordinary minis-



ters of the Eucharist at DRMC are William and Margaret Hough, both of St. Michael the Archangel, DuBois, and Linda Ward, St. Tobias, who were unable to attend the Mass.

St. Callistus students highlight Epiphany



KANE - Students in the 5th grade religious education class at St. Callistus Parish in Kane recently completed two projects to highlight the feast of the Epiphany, which was celebrated Jan. 3.

One project featured a number of stars on a wall with the words, "How will you follow the star?" In each of the stars, students wrote ways they can follow the light of Christ in the new year.

The second project involved a traditional home blessing involving the three magi. Using blessed chalk, students wrote 20 + C + M + B + 10. The digits appearing at the beginning and end designate the new year. "CMB" stands for the traditional names of the magi

(Casper, Melchior and Balthasar). The CMB also conveniently stands for the Latin prayer Christus Mansionem Benedicat, meaning "May Christ bless this house."

Students then took the blessings home to place above a doorway. Pictured are members of the 5th grade class showing their Epiphany blessings, along with Father Philip Pinczewski, pastor of St. Callistus, and catechist Elaine Saf.

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St. James School takes 1st place in Quiz Bowl

ERIE - St. James School, Erie, took first place in Cathedral Prep's annual Quiz Bowl competition held Nov. 14.

Seventh and eighth graders from 18 parochial and public schools participated, and there was a challenging range of questions. The final round featured St. James and Villa Maria Elementary. Students from the St. James team took home medals, as well as a first-place plaque for the school.

Pictured from left to right are team members Raffaele DiLullo, Alexa Wawrzyniak, Patrick Brennan and Luke Holland. The team was coached by Gail Blaszczyk.



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Holy Land: April 19-29 / May 29-June 8 / June 30-July 10 / Sept 9-19 / Sept 20-30 / Oct 7-17 / Oct 18-28
Ireland / Scotland: May 29-June 10 / July 10-22
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