

**Chrusciki, anyone?**

See what this dad and daughter are doing for Easter treats.

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# FaithLife

**POPE QUOTE**

**INSPIRING WORDS FROM POPE FRANCIS:**

"To care for a sick person, to welcome him and serve him is to serve Christ. The sick are Christ's flesh."

www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

March 1, 2015

**Win a trip**  
*Lucky family will go to World Meeting of Families*

The Diocese of Erie is looking for a family to send to the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia this September. The trip is valued at \$5,000.

Families registered in a parish of the diocese are encouraged to visit [www.ErieRCD.org/win.htm](http://www.ErieRCD.org/win.htm) to submit an entry form that asks three simple questions. The winning family will participate in the World Meeting of Families and papal events planned for Sept. 21-28, 2015, and will be featured in the November edition of *Faith* magazine. Entry deadline is March 17 at midnight.



**Lenten practices and regulations**

The season of Lent concludes this year with the Paschal Triduum of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord, beginning at the start of the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, April 2.

Traditional Lenten practices of PRAYER, FASTING and ALMSGIVING and other forms of self-denial are recommended by the church. Daily Mass is particularly encouraged.

**Lenten observances:**

■ **ASH WEDNESDAY, ALL FRIDAYS IN LENT and GOOD FRIDAY** are days of abstinence from meat for those 14 years of age and older.

■ **ASH WEDNESDAY and GOOD FRIDAY** are also days of fasting for those ages 18 to 58, inclusive. (On these days, those bound by the law of fasting may take one full meal. Two smaller meals, sufficient to maintain strength according to one's needs, are also permitted. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids including milk and fruit juices are allowed. When health or work is seriously affected, the law does not oblige.)

**Peeps alive!**

*Villa Maria Elementary sponsors spring art show*



It's all about the Peeps!

Villa Maria Elementary School invites the public to participate in its first annual Erie Peeps Show March 20-29. Anyone is welcome to submit artwork that is made of or features the popular marshmallow Peeps.

Participants may include businesses, classrooms, organizations and individual artists. Even the Peeps parent company has authorized use of its name and logo to contribute to the school's effort.

"They are providing some swag for the award winners—first, second and third voters' choice and possibly a special merit award or two," said Jessica Nelson, director of development.

Proceeds from the art show benefit the elementary school's arts program.

Find registration forms at [www.vmelementary.com](http://www.vmelementary.com). There is a \$10 registration fee.

Artwork must be submitted by Wednesday, March 18. The Erie Peeps Show will be held March 20-29 at Villa Maria Elementary's Medallion Room, 2531 W. 8th St., Erie. Hours will be Monday through Friday from 4 to 8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Cost of admission is \$1, or no more than \$5 per family.

Those who wish to vote for their favorite artist or piece can purchase vote chips. For more information, contact Jessica Nelson at 814-838-5451, extension 223, or [eriepeepshow@gmail.com](mailto:eriepeepshow@gmail.com).

**Religious communities open doors to public**



Mount St. Benedict Monastery, Harborcreek



Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse, Erie



Sisters of St. Joseph Community Living Center, Erie

Have you ever wanted to visit the motherhouse of a religious community? Well, next week is your chance.

Three communities of women religious in the Erie area will celebrate National Catholic Sisters Week by inviting the public to a series of open houses to acquaint them with the sisters, their religious life and ministries.

The week is being celebrated nationally March 8-14—during National Women's History Month—to recognize the service and presence of Catholic women religious. The effort is being funded by a three-year grant from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation to St. Catherine's University, St. Paul, Minn.

Here is the schedule of open houses:

- **March 8—Sisters of Mercy, New York, Pennsylvania, Pacific West Community, Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse**, 444 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie. A liturgy will be held in the Our Lady of Mercy Chapel at 10:30 a.m., followed by brunch and a brief presentation in the Community Room. For information, contact Sister Mary Ann Bader, RSM, at 814-824-2516 or [mbader@mercyppawp.org](mailto:mbader@mercyppawp.org).
- **March 14—Benedictine Sisters of Erie, Mount St. Benedict Monastery**, 6101

East Lake Road, Harborcreek. A Lenten prayer vigil will be held at 7 p.m. in the monastery chapel, followed by a monastery tour and refreshments. For information, contact Sister Marilyn Schaubel, OSB, at 814-899-0614, ext. 2424, or [marlynosb@mtsbenedict.org](mailto:marlynosb@mtsbenedict.org).

- **March 22—Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania, Community Living Center**, 5031 West Ridge Road, Erie. A prayer service will be held at 3 p.m., followed by a light lunch, tours, and visits with sisters until 5 p.m. For information, contact Sister Mary Ann White, SSI, at 814-836-4100, or [swhite@ssjerie.org](mailto:swhite@ssjerie.org).

The purpose of National Catholic Sisters Week is to promote awareness of Catholic sisters and to make their presence more visible on a national level.

"In addition to highlighting the significant role that Catholic sisters have had historically, National Catholic Sisters Week focuses on a contemporary view of these women—their lives, their mission and their works," according to Sister Nancy Fischer, SSI, director of the Office for Religious in the Diocese of Erie. "The goal is to shed light on the tremendous impact Catholic sisters continue making today."

**Traveling kits explain religious life**



Photo by Rich Popolis

Here are some of the contents of the traveling museum.

As part of the 2015 Year of Consecrated Life, the Diocese of Erie is circulating among Catholic elementary and middle schools informational kits about religious life.

Continuing through October, each school will keep the kit for about three weeks. It teaches students about the role of religious

sisters in the past and includes information about current ministries. Students have the opportunity to learn about and reflect upon different vocations in the church.

Featured in the kit is a kind of "traveling museum" that includes items specifically designed for vocation lessons in grades kindergarten through eight.

**Mom of 10 reflects creative image of God**

BY MARY SOLBERG | FAITHLIFE

Stephanie and Michael Caulfield have two children in college, but they're far from being empty-nesters. The Erie couple still has eight more kids at home.

While Michael teaches mathematics at Gannon University, Stephanie happily adds to her mom-of-10 role by home-schooling and organizing the Christmas and spring schedule of the Caulfield Family Singers, which includes their children, ages 6 to 25: Maria, Joseph, Catherine, Stephen, Theresa, Timothy, Peter, Thomas, Clare and Mark.

"I'm living in the image and likeness of God," Stephanie says. "God's image is creative so why wouldn't I do that myself?"

In fact, Stephanie will deliver a lecture, titled "In His Image" at St. Mark Catholic Center March 26 from 7 to 9 p.m. She'll discuss how humans reflect God, both masculine and feminine, through our interactions with each other and in our willingness to create life and love.

"To image God isn't to just look like him, but to participate in his life. He's our Father," Stephanie explains.

Although Stephanie is busy enough at home, she brings to her lecture a thorough knowledge of St. John Paul II's teachings, especially his early talks on what has become known as the "Theology of the Body."

"Theology of the Body" was the topic of a series of 129 lectures given by St. John Paul II during his papal audiences in St. Peter's Square and

Paul VI Audience Hall between Sept. 5, 1979 and Nov. 28, 1984. It was the first major teaching of his pontificate. The complete addresses were later compiled and expanded upon in many encyclicals, letters and exhortations.

A native of Baltimore, Stephanie was still in high school when John

Paul II became pope. He was all over the television newscasts and she eagerly went to see him during a papal visit to Washington, D.C. Her parish priest in Glen Burnie, Md., invited her to join him in reading and discussing the new pope's messages published in *L'Osservatore Romano*, the Vatican newspaper.

**In His Image**

A discussion led by Stephanie Caulfield  
St. Mark Catholic Center, March 26 from 7 to 9 p.m.  
Sponsored by the Natural Family Planning Office



Stephanie and Michael Caulfield are surrounded by their 10 children. They are members of St. George Parish, Erie.

**Bishop reviews latest ruling on Affordable Care Act**

FAITHLIFE staff

The Diocese of Erie is continuing to review a recent 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision that brings into question religious liberty and the requirements of the federal Affordable Care Act. Bishop Lawrence Persico is studying the Feb. 11 decision of a three-judge panel—based in Philadelphia.

The court reversed a lower court's ruling that allowed the diocese of Erie and Pittsburgh to offer health insurance that doesn't include contraception, sterilization and abortion-inducing drugs mandated under federal law.

The circuit court judges stated that an accommodation incorporated into the Affordable Care Act actually protected the rights of the dioceses and their affiliated religious organizations.

The "accommodation places no substantial burden" on the dioceses, according to the ruling.

Bishop Persico said he is reviewing the latest decision with the Pittsburgh-based law firm Jones Day.

He called the decision "disappointing," saying that he is considering whether to ask the full 3rd Circuit to hear the case or possibly appeal it to the U.S. Supreme Court.

In May 2012, the Diocese of Erie joined the Diocese of Pittsburgh and 10 other Catholic dioceses nationwide in suing over the constitutionality of the federal mandate. Lawyers from Jones Day sought exemptions from the requirement that the dioceses provide contraceptive services to some of their employees through a third party. Currently, the diocese is exempt from the man-

date, but the agencies and schools it operates are not exempt.

"Religious liberty means more than being able to go to Mass on Sunday," Bishop Persico said in a statement. "It also means we should have the ability to contribute freely to the common good of all Americans in accordance with our religious beliefs."

In December 2013, a lower court granted a permanent injunction, agreeing that the Affordable Care Act—even with the accommodation—violated the dioceses' right to religious freedom under the First Amendment.

The Obama administration has continued to maintain that the government's accommodation—which included third-party health care coverage—preserved the dioceses' constitutional rights.

## ■ New Center for Child Protection launched at Rome university



CNS photo

Jesuit Father Hans Zollner, president of the Center for Child Protection at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, speaks at a news conference officially launching the center. Also pictured is Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley, head of the Pontifical Commission for Child Protection.

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Francis, who has called for zero tolerance for the “despicable” crime of sexual abuse of minors, has praised new efforts aimed at helping the church better protect children.

In a letter to Jesuit Father Hans Zollner, president of the Center for Child Protection at Rome's Pontifical Gregorian University, the pope said he was “happy about what you are doing and I sincerely congratulate you.” Boston Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley read the letter aloud at a news conference Feb. 16 inaugurating the official launch of the center and its activities. The launch followed a three-year pilot project phase.

The pope wrote that he was confident “all this work will bear fruit.”

The center, which offers an onsite and online prevention and child protection program and diploma, was established in 2012 as a way to help build awareness and train religious and lay leaders globally about the problem of abuse.

## ■ Pope tells Ukraine's bishops to unite against unfolding tragedies

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Francis urged Ukraine's Catholic bishops to focus on the social and human tragedies unfolding in their country and avoid politicizing their role as church leaders.

He asked bishops from the nation's Eastern- and Latin-

rite traditions to work together and be a clear moral voice calling for peace and harmony as well as strong defenders of families, the poor and weak.

“The sense of justice and truth is moral before being political, and such a task is entrusted to your duties as pastors, too,” he said in a written address.

The pope met Feb. 20 with bishops from Ukraine's Byzantine- and Latin-rite communities, who were in Rome Feb. 16-21 for their “ad limina” visits to report on the state of their dioceses. The Vatican said the pope had his two-page written speech handed out to the bishops rather than read aloud.

## ■ La Salle University names first lay person, female president

PHILADELPHIA (CNS)—La Salle University, founded 152 years ago in Philadelphia by the Brothers of the Christian Schools, has made history by choosing a laywoman as its new president.

Colleen N. Hanzyc is the first female president in the school's history and also is the first lay president, other than interim presidents. Her appointment was announced Feb. 17 and she will begin her tenure in July.

She succeeds Brother Michael J. McGinniss, the most recent in a line of 28 Christian Brothers to lead the school. He stepped down from the presidency after 15 years of service last May. James P. Gallagher is serving as interim president until Hanzyc's term begins. Colleen N. Hanzyc is head of Brescia University College in London, Ontario, a Catholic college founded by the Ursuline Sisters and the only all-women college in Canada.

La Salle, on the other hand, was an all-male college for its first century, although now women make up almost two-thirds of the student body.

“What stands out for me is that Lasallian tradition of building authentic community,” she said in an interview with CatholicPhilly.com, the news website of the Philadelphia Archdiocese.

“This is a pivotal moment in La Salle's history,” said William R. Sautter, La Salle's board chair. “She is an innovative academic leader with an impressive record as an agent of positive change.”



## Editor's Notes

Mary SOLBERG

You know anything is possible when Lady Gaga sheds her costumes made of meat and starts singing songs from “The Sound of Music.”

Social media was going crazy after last week's 87th Academy Awards when Gaga—who is classically trained—belted out a surprisingly stunning medley of songs from the popular 1965 musical starring Julie Andrews.

Also during the show, J.K. Simmons, the winner of the Oscar for best supporting actor, recognized his wife and the mother of his children, saying it's important to be close to your parents.

“If I may, call your mom... or your dad,” Simmons said. “If you're lucky enough to have parents or two alive on this planet, call them. Don't text, don't email.”

Winners from the civil rights film “Selma” and the black comedy drama “Birdman” touched on the need for immigration reform and continued vigilance when it comes to racism.

In an otherwise typically self-absorbed broadcast, all of these moments showed that Hollywood can inspire and maybe even motivate people to action. So many entertainers have used the Oscar platform to energize fans to work for peace and justice, including care for the homeless, AIDS patients and Native Americans.

I am never impressed by the opulence displayed on the red carpet and by some of the X-rated content of many films. The entertainment industry should take advantage of some “golden” opportunities to reach higher and do better.

Speaking of celebrities, Oprah Winfrey is interviewing **Ere Benedictine Sister Joan Chittister** this weekend on OWN TV. Sister

Joan is a guest on Winfrey's “Super Soul Sunday” series airing Sunday, March 1, at 11 a.m. on OWN. It is being simulcast on [www.facebook.com/supersoulsunday](http://www.facebook.com/supersoulsunday).

Sister Joan is a former prioress of the local religious community and is a best-selling author and international speaker. She and Winfrey are expected to talk about God, women in the church and in society, and the images of divinity that arise from the meeting of theology and science.

◆ ◆ ◆  
**Sister of St. Joseph Mary Claire Kennedy** of Erie is a go-getter on many social justice fronts, most recently in efforts to establish Erie County's first coalition against human trafficking.

On March 25 at 7 p.m., Mercyhurst University's Department of Religious Studies will present 86-year-old Sister Mary Claire with its Oscar Romero Award, recognizing her decades of work feeding the poor, fighting against human trafficking, and standing up for victims of violence in the Erie region.

◆ ◆ ◆  
Happy 100th birthday to **Anna Kaminski**, a lifelong member of Holy Trinity Parish in Erie.

Anna, who lives now at Saint Mary's Home, East, was baptized and married at the eastside church, attending its schools and raising her own children there.

◆ ◆ ◆  
There's still time to reserve a seat for this September's five-day pilgrimage from Erie to Philadelphia for the World Meeting of Families, featuring a Mass with Pope Francis. One bus already is full, but organizers are still taking reservations through April 20.

The pilgrimage includes transportation and hotel accommodations, with admission to the World Meeting of Families and a papal Mass.

For more information or to register, go to <http://www.ErieRCD.org/wmf.htm>.

Mary Solberg is the editor of FaithLife. Email: [msolberg@ErieRCD.org](mailto:msolberg@ErieRCD.org) Call 814-824-1171 Twitter: @ERIERCDsolberg

# Confirmation retreat attracts 115 youth



Photos by Ray Beitel

ST. MARYS—Confirmation students representing 14 parishes from all over the Diocese of Erie came together Feb. 8 for a retreat at Elk County Catholic High School in St. Marys.

Eight priests attended the event, hearing the confessions of the 115 high school juniors who attended.

Pictured at left, above, are students participating in one of the many activities held in the school gymnasium.

In the bottom photo, Father Stephen Schreiber, diocesan director of youth ministry, gives Communion to Alexander Bowes, a student at Mercyhurst Preparatory School and a parishioner of St. Theresa of Avila Parish, Union City.

Father Schreiber called the multi-parish gathering “an incredible blessing.”

“We offered this confirmation retreat fully knowing that, consciously or not, teens are desperately seeking to encounter Christ,” Father Schreiber said. “Sadly, many kids go through a lot of years of church and religious instruction, but they never really meet Christ in a personal and life-changing way.”

Although the retreat satisfied a requirement for confirmation, students enjoyed the opportunity to meet their peers from throughout the diocese, from Erie to McKean counties and south to Jefferson County. They had time for activities, discussion and meditation before the Blessed Sacrament.

# Pope: Go beyond meatless Fridays this Lenten season

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Fasting isn't just restricting food choices; it must also include cleansing the heart of all selfishness and making room in one's life for those in need and those who have sinned and need healing.

Pope Francis said Feb. 20 during his homily in a morning Mass celebrated in the chapel of the Domus Sanctae Marthae, where he lives.

Faith without concrete acts of charity is not only hypocritical, “it is dead; what good is it?” the pontiff said, criticizing those who hide behind a veil of piety while unjustly treating others, such as denying workers fair wages, a pension and health care.

Being generous toward the church, but selfish and unjust toward others “is a very serious sin.

It is using God to cover up injustice,” he added.

The pope's homily was based on the day's reading from the Book of Isaiah in which God tells his people he does not care for those who observe penance passively—bowed “like a reed,” lying quietly in a “sackcloth and ashes.”

Instead, God says he desires to see his people crying out “full-throated and unreservedly” against injustice and sin, “setting free the oppressed, breaking every yoke; sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless.”

In the reading, God also points out the hypocrisy of the faithful who fast, but treat their workers badly and fight and quarrel with others.



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Executive Director

## News Briefs

### Easter Market accepting pre-orders

ERIE—Pre-orders for homemade baked goods from the Holy Trinity Easter Market will be accepted through March 9 by calling 814-456-0671.

Items for sale include homemade pierogi, potato pancake batter, Polish sweet bread (from Buffalo), Swiconka baskets, blessing loaves, nutrolls, homemade breads, chrusci, homemade cookies and butter lamb.

Orders will be available for pick-up during market hours at the Holy Trinity social center, located at 2220 Reed St., Erie.

Market hours are March 27 from 4 to 7 p.m. and March 28 from 3 to 6 p.m.



Ken Koszegi and his daughter, Erin, enjoy making chrusci every year for the Easter Market.

Photos by Mary Solberg

### Totus Tuus Academy scheduled in Shenango Valley

WEST MIDDLESEX—The Shenango Valley Totus Tuus Academy will host its next youth gathering March 2 from 6 to 9 p.m. at Church of the Good Shepherd Parish, 3613 Sharon Road, West Middlesex.

Totus Tuus (Totally Yours) is a Catholic movement for teens in grades 7 through 12. Meetings feature music, a positive and accepting environment, food, games, worship and inspiring speakers. Participants will be challenged to go deeper in their faith and realize they are not alone in their struggles. Sponsored by the Diocese of Erie, the program is not affiliated with any particular parish. Youth are invited to participate regardless of which church or school they attend. For more information, call Mark Jaskowak at 724-748-6700, ext. 113.

### Warren parishes sponsor Catholic Community Mission

WARREN—The Warren Area Catholic Community Mission—featuring Holy Cross Father Patrick Hannon of Portland, Ore.—will be held at Holy Redeemer Church, Warren, March 8-11.

The mission is titled, "The Prayer of the Prodigal Son: Searching for, discovering and celebrating the God who loves us." Father Hannon will speak at all weekend Masses at both St. Joseph and Holy Redeemer parishes. Morning Mass Monday through Wednesday that week will be held at Holy Redeemer at 9 a.m. The sacrament of penance is available Tuesday evening. A presentation will be given each day at 7 p.m. A social time will follow both morning and evening presentations. Child care will be available each evening.

Both Holy Redeemer and St. Joseph parishes in Warren are sponsoring the mission. For more information, contact Father Jim Gutting at 814-726-3360, Father Rich Toohy at 814-723-2090, or Deacon Joseph Lucia at 814-730-7166.

### Human trafficking conference scheduled at Gannon

ERIE—The Northwest Pennsylvania United Against Human Trafficking Conference will be held at Waldron Campus Center at Gannon University, Erie, on March 14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The day will feature panelists who will offer perspectives from the Crime Victims Center of Erie County, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania, the FBI, the U.S. Border Patrol, and a student veteran.

Up to four continuing education credits are available for social work and nursing professionals. For more information, email Gannon University's Students United Against Human Trafficking at [saht.erie@gmail.com](mailto:saht.erie@gmail.com). To register for the March conference, go to [www.gannonuniversity.edu/human-trafficking-conference](http://www.gannonuniversity.edu/human-trafficking-conference).

### Diocese to hold conference on Catholic youth ministry

ERIE—This year's ReVision: Diocesan Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry will be held March 19 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie. The theme is "ReVisioning our Role with the Young Church."

Mike Patin, a nationally known speaker, is the guest presenter. The event is open to all who work with young people in ministry, including youth directors, campus ministry directors (high school and college), religious education leaders, catechists, Catholic school teachers, pastors, coaches, Scout leaders and concerned parents. The day-long event is an opportunity to gather, learn, pray and share fellowship in order to best minister to young people.

Bishop Lawrence Persico will officiate at a Mass that day. Besides Patin's presentation, there will be break-out sessions, a continental breakfast and a lunch. There is no cost to attend, but participants must register by going to <http://revision2015.eventbrite.com>. For those traveling from the Eastern Vicariate, rooms are available free on a first-come, first-served basis at St. Mark Catholic Center. For information, contact Kathleen Peterson at 814-824-1218 or [kpeterson@ErieKCD.org](mailto:kpeterson@ErieKCD.org). ReVision is sponsored by the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry. To learn more, go to [www.ontnevine.us](http://www.ontnevine.us).

## Bank gives more than \$1 million in past decade

BY MARY SOLBERG | FAITH/LIFE

Students in the Diocese of Erie got a helping hand recently when Northwest Savings Bank contributed nearly \$370,000 for need-based scholarships.

The figure is double what the bank donated to the diocese last year, and brings the total it has given toward tuition assistance to more than \$1 million over the past decade.

"The money we are able to give this year helps over 600 kids go to Catholic schools," said Northwest Savings Bank Erie Region President James E. Martin.

Martin presented this year's check to Bishop Lawrence Persico and Father Nicholas Rouch, vicar for Education. Northwest, like many financial institutions, has contributed to the diocese's STAR Foundation with funds from Pennsylvania's Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program.

STAR money provides scholarships to more than 1,500 children attending Catholic schools in the 13 counties of the diocese.

Martin, who is a parishioner of St. George Parish, Erie, believes that the annual contribution is "the single easiest way" that Northwest can help



Photo by Rich Pappalardo

Northwest Savings Bank Erie Region President James E. Martin, center, presents a check to Bishop Lawrence Persico, left, and Father Nicholas Rouch, vicar for Education.

children and families.

According to Charles Banducci, director of School Financial Services for the diocese: "The support of Northwest Savings Bank is a true commitment to the STAR Foundation and the diocese. Through their continued generosity, we are able to reach out to a number of children who otherwise would not be afforded the opportunity of receiving a Catholic education."

## OBITUARIES

### Msgr. Carter, 90, was devoted to centering prayer

Msgr. John "Ted" Carter—a priest of the Diocese of Erie for 65 years—died Feb. 17 at Saint Mary's Home East in Erie. He was 90.

Msgr. Carter was born Aug. 24, 1924, in Rochester, N.Y., the son of the late John W. and Marie (Fitzgerald) Carter. He was raised at St. Joseph's Home in Erie and attended St. Patrick and St. Andrew grade schools.

A graduate of Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie, he completed his college and major seminary formation at St. Vincent College and Seminary in Latrobe. Bishop John Mark Gannon ordered him a priest of the diocese on May 26, 1949, at St. Peter Cathedral.

On the occasion of his 60th anniversary to the priesthood, Msgr. Carter discussed the importance of centering prayer in his life.

"This form of prayer is a way to experience the deepest relationship

with God," Msgr. Carter said at the time. "It allows one to experience the divine union now."

Msgr. Carter began his priestly ministry as parochial vicar of Sacred Heart Parish in Erie, where he remained until 1955. He served in the same role at Holy Rosary Parish in Erie and St. Joseph in Oil City, before becoming pastor of the following parishes: St. Anthony in Sheffield, Holy Redeemer in Warren, and St. Titus in Titusville.

Msgr. Carter also served as chaplain of Saint Vincent Hospital and St. Joseph Home, both in Erie, and was on the faculty of Cathedral Prep. Additionally, he served the diocese as as-

stant director of youth activities, director of the Charismatic Movement, director of charismatic activities, priest-moderator of the Bread of Life Community, and member of the Diocesan Priests' Personnel Board.

Msgr. Carter rounded out his time of active ministry as senior associate at St. George Parish, retiring from active ministry in 2007.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Robert and William. Survivors include cousins of the Fitzgerald family; and members of the Kimberly Lytle family who were dear friends and caretakers of Msgr. Carter for more than 30 years.

Memorials may be made to St. George Parish and School, 5145 Peach St., Erie, PA 16509, and to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania, 5031 West Ridge Road, Erie, PA 16506.



Msgr. John "Ted" Carter

### Mercy Sister Audrey Claus was Fulbright scholar

Mercy Sister Audrey Claus died Feb. 6 at the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse in Erie. She was in her 68th year of religious life.

Sister Audrey was born July 15, 1927, in Buffalo, the daughter of the late Emil and Anna Hilburger Claus.

She entered the Sisters of Mercy from Seven Dolours Parish, Buffalo, on Sept. 7, 1947. At her reception into religious life, she was given the name Sister Mary Peter, but later returned to her baptismal name. She pronounced her final vows on June 21, 1953, and celebrated her diamond jubilee in 2007.

Sister Audrey earned a bachelor's degree in English and history from Mercyhurst College in 1956, a master's in French from Fordham University, New York, in 1962, and a doctorate in French from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, in 1972. In 1961, she received a Diplôme de Langue de la Française from Sorbonne University in Paris, France, through a Fulbright scholarship.

From 1948-80, Sister Audrey taught in elementary and



Sister Audrey Claus, RSM

high schools in the Pittsburgh and Erie Catholic dioceses: St. Justin in Pittsburgh, and at St. Cosmas & Damian, St. Patrick, St. George, Cathedral Preparatory School and Mercyhurst Preparatory School, all in Erie. Afterward, she taught conversational French and served as a translator for employees of General Electric in Erie.

Sister Audrey reached out to handicapped children and adults from 1975-85, serving at Polk State Center in northwestern Pennsylvania; at Beacon Lodge Camp for the Blind in Mount Union, Pa.; at Barber National Institute, Erie; and at L'Arche-Erie, as a home counselor. She also volunteered for the Red Cross and in prison ministry. From 1988 to 2011, she worked with the elderly at Brevillier Village, Erie. During her retirement, Sister Audrey was a faithful aide for her home community at the Sisters of Mercy Health Care Center.

Besides her religious community, Sister Audrey is survived by one sister, Anne Claus of Buffalo, and by many nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one sister, Paula, and three brothers: James, Charles and David Claus.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Sisters of Mercy Ministry Fund, 444 East Grandview Blvd. Erie, PA 16504.

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## Veterans honored during Catholic Schools Week

GREENVILLE—Gary Haverdick of Greenville recently returned to his alma mater, St. Michael School in Greenville, as part of its annual Veteran's Day program during Catholic Schools Week.

Many veterans from the parish, community and St. Michael School families attended the program and luncheon at Lateran Hall. The St. Michael School junior band and those attending sang patriotic songs.

Haverdick displayed his own medal box—which included a Purple Heart and Bronze Star—from his service in Vietnam from 1969-71.



## Knights honor local veterans at Soldiers and Sailors Home



ERIE—Residents of the Pennsylvania Soldiers and Sailors Home and Knights of Columbus Council #11818 from Sacred Heart Church, Erie, gathered for a fun event this winter. About 30 residents attended the event and had a chance to win a prize for each game they played. Pizza and pop were served during bingo. Pictured with four veterans are Gary Michalik, Grand Knight; Lewis Nordin Sr., Jack Hewitt and his son Ryan, Charles Lehr, and John Falbo and his sons John and Paul.

## Book collection benefits Sisters of St. Joseph project



ERIE—Members of the student council of St. George School in Erie collected books during Advent to benefit the Sisters of St. Joseph and their new downtown project/education center. The students and their principal, Larry Neubauer, and teacher Marielle Lefaro are pictured delivering the books by bus.

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## Worshipping with song

WARREN—Chris Bray, a full-time traveling worship artist and speaker, performed at an assembly for St. Joseph School in Warren. The winner of many Gospel Music Association Covenant awards, Bray has numerous top 10 and No. 1 hit songs on Christian radio in

Canada. He leads hundreds of conferences and retreats throughout the country. His message and music were an inspiration and enjoyed by all.

## Seventh-grader wins poster contest



MEADVILLE—Isaac Fieli, a seventh-grader at Meadville Area Middle School, won the recent Meadville Knights of Columbus Council 388's "Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest." Local winning posters go on to the K of C's state and possibly international competitions.

Pictured, left to right, are: Father Matthew Kujawinski, pastor of Meadville's St. Agatha and St. Mary of Grace parishes, and chaplain of Council #388; Scott Hamilton, grand knight; Isaac Fieli; and Father Jonathan Schmitt, associate chaplain and Fieli's pastor at Meadville's St. Brigid Church.

## Soccer league names all-stars



DuBOIS—Seven DuBois Central Catholic High School athletes were recognized by the Upper Allegheny Mountain Soccer League as AML All-Stars for the 2014 fall soccer season. Both the boys' and girls' squads also were runners-up in District 9 Class A.

Seated, left to right, are: Caitlin Drahushak, Trisha Kreydt, Riley Meyers and Riley Assalone. Standing, left to right, are: Dawn Bressler, principal; Nick Szczerba, Ryan Anderson and Dane Aucker, and John Wineberg, athletic director. Anderson also was named MVP of the AML League. Coaches for the boys' squad were Erik Peterson, Frank Szczerba, John Wineberg and Jay Barnett. Coaches for the girls' squad were Rusty Meyers and Jenn Graeca.

## Mercyhurst Prep senior is National Merit finalist



ERIE—Mercyhurst Preparatory School senior Katie Butler, left, proudly displays a certificate of merit that announces her recognition as a National Merit finalist. She poses with principal, Deborah Laughlin. Butler was honored for her distinguished performance and high academic potential. She is among 15,000 students nationwide to earn finalist status. The National Merit Scholarship Corporation will soon select about 8,000 merit scholarship winners from among this group.

## Students raise money for Warming Center



ERIE—Our Lady's Christian School students recently raised \$222.72 for the Warming Center in downtown Erie. Members of the student council raised awareness about the importance of sharing and collecting winter items to keep the homeless warm and nourished. Pictured, left to right, are: organizer Mary Cardot, student Albert Caldwell, Tom Swanson of the Warming Center, students Logan Dimperio and Jamison Cook, Principal Stephen Nemenz, and students Ela Springer and Kelly Fessler.

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**Sunday, March 8**  
**Serving 11am-6pm**  
 Dinner includes savory spaghetti and meatballs with original, authentic Italian sauce (since 1953), salad, bread and butter, dessert and beverage.  
**Adult: \$8.00, Child (6-12): \$4.00**  
**Under 6 FREE**  
 Carryouts available from 11:00 a.m. (Please bring your own containers.)  
**Theme baskets • Cash award • Bake sale**  
 Chief chefs: Lisa Lopez and Linn Lopez Rater  
 For info, call 814-456-6256