



## Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

### Feast days



St. John of God



St. Patrick

- March 3 St. Casimir
- March 7 Ss. Perpetua and Felicity
- March 8 St. John of God
- March 9 St. Frances of Rome
- March 17 St. Patrick

### Confirmations

Bishop Lawrence Persico and Bishop Emeritus Donald Trautman will visit the following churches to offer the sacrament of confirmation:

**Queen of the World, St. Marys** – Sunday, March 3 at 1 p.m. Confirmation classes include Sacred Heart, St. Marys, St. Mary, St. Marys, and Queen of the World, St. Marys.

**St. Francis of Assisi, Bradford** – Sunday, March 10 at 11 a.m. Confirmation classes include Our Mother of Perpetual Help, Lewis Run; St. Raphael, Eldred; St. Bernard, Bradford; and St. Francis of Assisi, Bradford.

**St. James, Erie** – Monday, March 11 at 7 p.m.

**Christ the King, Houtzdale** – Friday, March 15 at 7 p.m. Confirmation classes include Immaculate Conception, Osceola Mills; St. Basil, Coalport; St. Agnes, Morrisdale; and Christ the King, Houtzdale.

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## Conclave

### The 'rigid, highly formal' rules for electing a pope

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — The voting by cardinals to elect the next pope takes place behind the locked doors of the Sistine Chapel, following a highly detailed procedure that underwent major revisions by Blessed John Paul II and a small, but very significant change, by Pope Benedict XVI.

Under the rules, secret ballots can be cast once on the first day of the conclave, then normally twice during each subsequent morning and evening session. Except for periodic pauses, the voting continues until a new pontiff is elected with at least two-thirds of the votes.

Bishop Juan Ignacio Arrieta, secretary of the Pontifical Council for Legislative Texts, reviewed the rules with reporters at the Vatican Feb. 27.

Introducing Bishop Arrieta, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, the Vatican spokesman,

said Pope Benedict at any minute might be signing a document with minor changes to the law, but the changes would make sense only if one knew the general laws for a conclave.

Many observers had expected Pope Benedict to clarify that the cardinals have the option of beginning the conclave once all the cardinals are in Rome, even if that occurs sooner than the law's required 15 days after the beginning of the "sede vacante," literally the vacant see, left by the pope's resignation.

Bishop Arrieta told reporters that in his opinion the cardinals could make that decision on their own, without a change to the law, since the law was "clearly written with a 'sede vacante' because of death in mind." However, he also said that as the church's supreme legislator, Pope Benedict, before leaving, also could set the date for the conclave, "although I have no information that he would do so."

The written rules for the conclave, which have developed in reaction to the problems — political and moral — that have arisen throughout history, are "rigid and highly formal," the bishop said.



CNS photo

Pope Benedict XVI leads his final Angelus as pope from the window of his apartment overlooking St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Feb. 24. His papacy officially ended Feb. 28 at 8 p.m. Rome time.

For example, he said, Pope Paul VI's rules excluded cardinals who were 80 years old or older on the day the conclave began. Blessed John Paul changed the rule to 80 years on the day the papacy became vacant. The change ensured cardinals did not choose a conclave start date specifically

to include or exclude a cardinal close to the age of 80. Under current rules, only cardinals who are under the age of 80 Feb. 28, the last day of Pope Benedict's pontificate — can vote in the conclave. There were 117 cardinals eligible, but Feb. 21 Indonesian Cardinal Julius Darmaatmadja, the 78-year-old retired archbishop of Jakarta, announced he would not travel to Rome because of his health. Scottish Car-

dinal Keith O'Brien, 74, also announced he would not participate in the conclave. Pope Benedict XVI had accepted the Cardinal O'Brien's resignation as archbishop of St. Andrews and Edinburgh Feb. 18. The British newspaper *The Observer* reported Feb. 23 that three priests and a former priest had accused the cardinal of "inappropriate conduct."

See CONCLAVE, page 3

## Rite of Election

### Church to welcome new members at Easter Vigil

Tens of thousands of new Catholics will join the church at the Easter Vigil.

The Diocese of Erie will welcome 185 new members this year.

Sixty catechumens and 125 candidates, along with their sponsors, families and guests, filled St. Peter Cathedral in Erie and Queen of the World Parish in St. Marys for the Rite of Election ceremony Feb. 17. Approximately 700 people participated in both locations.

Bishop Lawrence Persico presided over services at the cathedral, Bishop Emeritus Donald Trautman presided at Queen of the World.

The Rite of Election, celebrated annually in cathedrals and churches around the world on the first Sunday of Lent, marks the official countdown to initiation or admission into the church. It formally acknowledges the readiness of those preparing to receive



Bishop Lawrence Persico greets candidate Frank Hannah of Notre Dame Parish in Hermitage during the Rite of Election Feb. 17 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie. Catechu-

men Bobbie Haag from St. Patrick Parish in Franklin signs the Book of the Elect while her sponsor Theresa Nestor looks on.

raments of initiation into the church.

101 candidates who are already baptized in another religion but seeking membership in the Catholic

the sacraments of initiation—baptism, confirmation and the Eucharist—at the Easter Vigil, this year on March 30.

Candidates and catechumens are participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) at their parishes.

Those participating included: 60 catechumens, those seeking baptism and the sac-

See RITE OF ELECTION, page 2

## Witnesses for life

### Diocesan church represented at local, national pro-life rallies

From staff and wire reports

WASHINGTON — Participants at the annual March for Life in Washington Jan. 25 demonstrated just how determined they are not only by showing up in such large numbers on a bitter cold day but by continuing a 40-year tradition of protesting the U.S. Supreme Court's decision legalizing abortion.

"Forty years ago, people thought opposition" to the Supreme Court's decision "would eventually disappear," Boston Cardinal Sean O'Malley told the crowd assembled on the National Mall for a rally prior to the march along Constitution Avenue to the front of the U.S. Supreme Court.

He noted that Nellie Gray, founder of the annual march who died last year, "was not going to allow that to happen" nor was the pro-life movement.

"The march grows stronger every year," said the cardinal, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Pro-Life Activities.

Various media outlets put the estimate for this year's March for Life crowd at between 500,000 and 650,000.



Mercyhurst University's Lakers for Life led the Jan. 12 Erie March for Life.



More than 70 people from the Warren area Catholic Community attended the 2013 March for Life in Washington, D.C. Pictured on the steps of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception are members of St. Luke Parish in Youngsville, St. Joseph Parish in Warren, Holy Redeemer Parish in Warren and St. Anthony Parish in Sheffield.

## Ash Wednesday



Bishop Lawrence Persico distributes ashes on Ash Wednesday Feb. 13 in the Roman Catholic Chapel at Millcreek Mall in Erie. Ash Wednesday marked the first day of Lent, a time for Christians to prepare for Easter by doing penance and seeking spiritual renewal through prayer, fasting and good works.



**IN THE U.S.**

■ **Vocation, contributions of religious brothers called 'vital to church'**

Religious brothers say they are an invisible group in the church, but that it's not such a bad thing because it allows them the freedom to be ordinary men performing an extraordinary ministry. That's the view of brothers and other participants at a think tank convened last fall to examine their vocation. "Our vocation is one of the church's best-kept secrets," said Holy Cross Brother Paul Bednarczyk, executive director of the National Religious Vocation Conference. "We are vowed religious who commit ourselves to a particular ministry, live in community and share prayers. We are not part of the hierarchy of the church, which gives us more freedom in ministry to respond to those most in need. Our vocation complements the religious priesthood."

The number of religious brothers in the United States fell from 12,271 in 1965 to 4,477 in 2012, according to statistics compiled by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate. More than half are at, or close to, retirement age.

**AROUND THE WORLD**

■ **Between popes: Vatican business continues as usual – almost**



Members of the Carabinieri, the Italian military police force, patrol around St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Feb. 21.

When Pope Benedict XVI officially left office Feb. 28, most of the top-level Vatican officials lost their jobs, but that does not mean the majority of Vatican employees get a vacation. Although Catholics inside and outside the Vatican love to complain about its unwieldy bureaucracy, coordinating the universal ministry of the church involves a steady flow of paperwork, correspondence and meeting planning. All of that continues even when there is no pope. However, the publication of documents, the nomination of new bishops and the approval of statutes for Catholic universities and religious orders are suspended. Anything that must be issued in the name of the Vatican or in the name of the pope must be approved by Pope Benedict's successor. "The general rule is that all ordinary business continues," the secretary of one Vatican congregation said during the "interregnum" — the period between popes — in 2005. "Like in most bureaucracies, most of our business is ordinary business." Commissions and subcommittees continue to meet, reports continue to be prepared, letters are answered and Vatican officials try to tidy their desks enough to be able to inform the new pope about exactly where their various projects stand.

**PEOPLE**

■ **Dr. Billings dies at 95; she helped develop widely used method of NFP**

Dr. Evelyn Billings, who with her husband, John, pioneered research that led them to develop a form of natural family planning supported by the Catholic Church, died Feb. 16 after a short illness. She was 95. The Australian pediatrician joined her physician-husband's team in 1965 as he was researching a more reliable method to prevent pregnancies than the rhythm method, known as the "calendar" method, which was developed in the 1930s. By the late 1960s, the research team had established the procedures for identifying fertile days and teaching centers began to be set up around the world. The method, known as the Billings ovulation method, allowed women to monitor periods of fertility through close examination of naturally occurring physiological signs, and use that information to prevent pregnancy or space births. Methods of natural family planning, or NFP, are approved by the church as a morally acceptable way for Catholic couples to plan their families.



Dr. Evelyn Billings

Evelyn Billings co-wrote "The Billings Method" with medical journalist Ann Westmore in 1980. It has since undergone seven new or revised editions, 16 printings and has been translated into 22 languages. According to the World Organization of Ovulation Method Billings, known as WOOMB, women in more than 100 countries practice the method.

■ **Shipyard chairman, financial consultant appointed head of Vatican bank**

In one of his last efforts to clean up the image of the Vatican bank, Pope Benedict XVI approved the hiring of the chairman of a German shipyard as the bank's new president. Ernst von Freyberg, 54, fills a nine-month-long vacancy at the helm of the bank after its former president, Ettore Gotti Tedeschi, was ousted in May for incompetence. The commission of cardinals for the Vatican bank, formally called the Institute for the Works of Religion, announced the appointment Feb. 15 in a six-month-long hiring process that included the help of an independent head-hunting agency. "The Holy Father has closely followed the entire selection process ... and he has expressed his full consent to the choice made by the commission of cardinals," the Vatican said in a written statement.



Ernst von Freyberg

Von Freyberg is chairman of Blohm+Voss Group, a Hamburg-based shipbuilding company that builds and repairs yachts and ocean liners and is part of a consortium that builds warships for the German navy. Responding to journalists' inquiries about whether the company's activities conflicted with Catholic values, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, said working in the shipbuilding industry does not disqualify a competent candidate, especially when the businessman is heavily involved with charity and "has a notable human, Christian sensibility."

**By the Way...**

St. Patrick School in Franklin will commemorate the burning of its mortgage March 16 during the 5:15 p.m. Mass at St. Patrick Parish. Bishop Lawrence Persico will be the celebrant.



Jason Koshinski

The school was more than 100 years old when renovations began in 2002. While building an addition to house a library, computer lab, multi-purpose room, offices and classrooms, the original structure received updated electrical work along with new flooring and windows. The school took out a 10-year mortgage to finance the project.

"We make our last payment in September," said Heidi Lucia, parish secretary.

Following Mass and the mortgage papers turning to ash, students from the school and parish religious education program will present a dinner theater program.

In his last week as pontiff, Pope Benedict XVI issued new rules for conclaves, including a clause that allows the College of Cardinals to move up the date for the beginning of the conclave to elect his successor. However, the cardinals cannot set the date until after the pope leaves office Feb. 28. So by the time you are reading this, a start time may have been reached.

The pope laid out the new rules in an apostolic letter issued "motu proprio" (on his own initiative) Feb. 22, the feast of the Chair of St. Peter. The Vatican released the document Feb. 25 (the day FaithLife went to press).

The changes affect the rules established in Blessed John Paul II's apostolic constitution governing the election of popes, "Universi Domini Gregis."

Under the current rules, which remain in effect, upon the vacancy of the papacy, cardinals in Rome "must wait 15 full days for those who are absent" before they can enter into a conclave and begin the process of electing a new pope.

However, Pope Benedict inserted an additional provision that grants the College of Cardinals "the faculty to move up the start of the conclave if all the cardinal-electors are present," as well as giving them the ability "to delay, if there are serious reasons, the beginning of the election for a few more days."

The conclave still must begin no more than 20 days after the start of the "sede vacante."

Using recent history as a guide, the conclave should not be expected to take too long. Pope Benedict XVI (2005), Pope John Paul II (1978) and Pope John Paul I (1978) were all elected on the second day of the conclave. The cardinals took three days to elect Pope Paul VI (1963).

By being the first pope to resign in almost 600 years, Pope Benedict opened a whole box of questions that could not be answered immediately such as what title he would use after Feb. 28. With many church observers voicing their opinions, the one most often cited has been "bishop emeritus of Rome."

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

**Diocesan church represented at local, national pro-life rallies**

MARCH FOR LIFE,  
from page 1

Many speakers praised the resiliency of the crowd, braving a cloudy 20-degree day and standing on snow-dusted ground, but they also spoke of the pro-life movement getting re-energized by young people who are becoming the movement's new torch-bearers.

This year's march and rally took place three days after the anniversary of the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision to better accommodate participants, since the official Jan. 22 anniversary was the day after public ceremonies for the presidential inauguration.

Speakers on the stage stood below the message "40=55 million," referring to the number of abortions reported to have been performed since abortion was legalized.



Students from St. Leo School in Ridgway held their own March for Life through downtown Ridgway. Led by Police Chief Ralph Tetris and joined by parents, grandparents and friends, students carried banners, sang, prayed and chanted as they marched on Main Street. The march ended on the lawn of St. Leo Parish in front of a marker for the unborn. Students ended by praying a decade of the rosary and laying roses at the marker.

**Church to welcome new members**

RITE OF ELECTION,  
from page 1

Church. ■ 24 candidates who are previously baptized Catholics completing the sacraments of initiation—penance, Eucharist and confirmation.

In his homily, Bishop Persico said the Rite of Election is an important day in the faith journey of the candidates and catechumens, but it is also an important day in the life of the diocese.

"My sisters and brothers, especially you, our catechumens and candidates, Jesus is speaking to you today," Bishop Persico said. "He is telling you: 'It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain.'"

The Rite of Election ceremony is the second step in Christian initiation. It closes the period of the catechuminate proper, which is the lengthy period of formation of catechumens' and candidates' hearts and minds.



Bishop Emeritus Donald Trautman celebrated the Rite of Election Feb. 17 at Queen of the World Parish in St. Marys. Those participating represented areas of the Eastern Vicariate including Brockway, DuBois, Kane, New Bethlehem, Ramey, Ridgway and St. Marys.

The Rite of Election also marks the beginning of the period of final, more intense preparation for the sacraments of initiation, he said, during which the elect will be encouraged to follow Christ with greater generosity.

Bishop Persico said. "This ceremony is celebrated with the expectation that you have undergone a conversion in mind and in action and have developed a sufficient acquaintance with Christian teaching as well as a spirit of faith and charity."

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## Briefly

### Year of Faith speakers series continues

The second presentation of the three-part Year of Faith speaker series offered by the Diocese of Erie will take place March 12 in Gannon University's Yeh Ballroom and March 13 at Immaculate Conception Parish in Clarion at 7 p.m. each evening.

Dave Roncolato, director of community service and service-learning at Allegheny College, will be the keynote speaker. Roncolato spent 20 years working for the church, first as a youth minister at St. Brigid Parish in Meadville and later as Catholic campus minister at Allegheny College. His talk will draw from the spiritual well of "Gaudium et Spes," the Vatican II document that addresses the role of the church in the modern world, touching on issues including poverty, social justice and culture.

The events are free and open to the public.

### Knights and Ladies of St. Patrick dinner

ERIE — A St. Patrick's Day dinner sponsored by the Knights and Ladies of St. Patrick will be held Sunday, March 17 at St. Peter Cathedral Center, 140 W. 11th St., in Erie.

Join the Knights and Ladies of St. Patrick for Irish food, entertainment and refreshments. Doors open at 6:45 p.m.

Cost is \$25 for adults and \$13 for children 6-12. Purchase tickets by March 11 by calling Colleen Welch at 814.455.8571. No tickets will be sold at the door.

### DuBois Central Catholic presents 'Seussical'

DUBOIS — DuBois Central Catholic will present "Seussical" April 4, 5 and 6 in the school auditorium.

The rhymes and characters of "Seussical"—a musical based on the books of Dr. Seuss—come off the page into a story that proclaims "Anything's possible" and "A person's a person no matter how small."

The cast includes 28 high and middle schoolers, 16 elementary students, several teachers and musical facilitators with 20 parents and grandparents as volunteer builders, set decorators, painters, artists and costume designers.

Show times are 7 p.m. each evening along with a 1:30 p.m. matinee April 6.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for students and \$5 for children ages 4 and under.

The school will also hold a "Green Eggs and Ham" brunch at noon April 6. Cost is \$8 for adults and \$5 for students; children ages 4 and under are admitted free of charge.

To purchase tickets or make reservations, call DuBois Central Catholic at 814.371.3060.

### Middle school youth rally

HERMITAGE — The annual middle school youth rally will be held Sunday, April 28 at Kennedy Catholic Middle School in Hermitage.

The rally will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (doors open at 9 a.m.) for youth in grades 6, 7 and 8.

With a theme of "Hearts on Fire" (John 13:34), the rally will feature the Myracle team and include confession, music by Pat Brown & the Bandoids, Sunday Mass, adoration, a photo booth, food and fun.

Contact your youth leader, religious education leader or campus minister for registration information. Registration is \$15 for youth and adults; an early bird price of \$10 is offered if registered by March 28. The first 500 who register will receive a free T-shirt.

Visit [www.onthevine.us](http://www.onthevine.us) for details, paperless registration and other information.



## The 'rigid, highly formal' rules for electing a pope

CONCLAVE, from page 1

In theory, any baptized male Catholic can be elected pope, but current church law says he must become a bishop before taking office; since the 15th century, the electors always have chosen a fellow cardinal.

Each vote begins with the preparation and distribution of paper ballots by two masters of ceremonies, who are among a handful of noncardinals allowed into the chapel at the start of the session.

Then the names of nine voting cardinals are chosen at random: three to serve as "scrutineers," or voting judges; three to collect the votes of any sick cardinals who remain in their quarters at the Domus Sanctae Marthae; and three "revisers" who check the work of the scrutineers.

The paper ballot is rectangular. On the top half is printed the Latin phrase "Eligo in Summum Pontificem" ("I elect as the most high pontiff"), and the lower half is blank for the writing of the name of the person chosen.

After all of the noncardinals have left the chapel, the cardinals fill out their ballots secretly, legibly and fold them twice. Meanwhile, any ballots from sick cardinals are collected and brought back to the chapel.

Each cardinal then walks to the altar, holding up his folded ballot so it can be seen, and says aloud: "I call as my witness Christ the Lord who will be my judge, that my vote is given to the one who before God I think should be elected." He places his ballot on a plate, or paten, then slides it into an urn or large chalice.

When all of the ballots have been cast, the first scrutineer shakes the urn to mix them. He then transfers the ballots to a new urn, counting them to make sure they correspond to the number of electors.

The ballots are read out. Each of the three scrutineers examines each ballot one-by-one, with the last scrutineer calling out the name on the ballot, so all the cardinals can record the tally. The last scrutineer pierces each ballot with a needle through the word "Eligo" and places it on a thread, so they can be secured.

After the names have been read out, the votes are counted to see if someone has obtained the two-thirds majority needed for election. The revisers then double-check the work of the scrutineers

for possible mistakes.

At this point, any handwritten notes made by the cardinals during the vote are collected for burning with the ballots. If the first vote of the morning or evening session is inconclusive, a second vote normally follows immediately, and the ballots from both votes are burned together at the end.

When a pope is elected, the ballots are burned immediately. The ballots are burned with chemical additives to produce white smoke when a pope has been elected; they are burned with other chemicals to produce black smoke when the voting has been inconclusive.

The conclave is organized in blocks: three days of voting, then a pause of up to one day, followed by seven ballots and a pause, then seven more ballots and a pause, and seven more ballots.

### Cardinal electors by region

There will be 115 cardinals under age 80 eligible to vote for a new pope after Feb. 28.



Countries with more than one cardinal elector

ITALY	28	INDIA	5	ARGENTINA	2
U.S.	11	FRANCE	4	NIGERIA	2
GERMANY	6	POLAND	4	PORTUGAL	2
BRAZIL	5	MEXICO	3		
SPAIN	5	CANADA	3		

### U.S. cardinals eligible to participate in conclave

There will be 117 cardinals under age 80 eligible to vote for a new pope after Feb. 28. The second largest voting block is Americans — 11 electors.



**Sacred Heart Altar Society's 60th Spaghetti Dinner**

Auditorium, W. 25th and Liberty Streets, Erie  
**Sunday, March 10**  
 Serving noon-6pm

Dinner includes savory spaghetti and meatballs with original, authentic Italian sauce (since 1953), salad, bread and butter, dessert and beverage.

**Adult: \$7.50, Child (6-12): \$4.00**  
 5 and under FREE

Carryout orders from 11:30 a.m. (Please bring your own containers.)  
 Italian theme basket; Two cash awards; Bake sale  
 Chief chefs: Lisa Lopez and Linn Lopez Rater

**St. Joseph's fish shrimp crab leg dinners**

**All Fridays in Lent (March 8-March 29)**  
**4:00-7:00 pm** Route 66 Lucinda, PA

**Adult: \$8.25, Child: \$4.25, Preschool: Free (with adult meal)**  
**All crab leg dinners: \$12.50, Bowl of soup: \$3.50 (with meal)**

Dinners include choice of **baked or fried fish, shrimp or crab legs.**  
 Choice of one side (fries, baked potato, mac and cheese)  
 Plus coleslaw, dessert and drink

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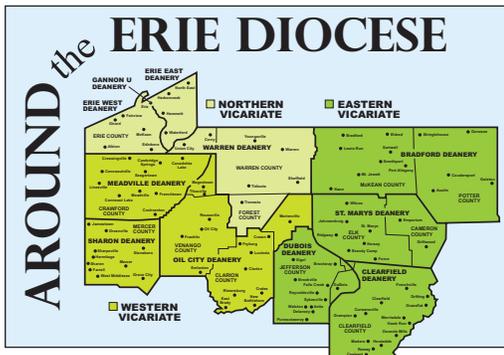
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All parishes, missions, schools and groups are encouraged to choose a **correspondent** who can regularly e-mail news items to "Around the Erie Diocese" at <mailto:FaithLife@ErieRCD.org>

**Photo Tips**

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



**Cursillo Dance raises funds for Mother Teresa House**

ERIE — The past presidents of the Erie Diocesan Cursillo Movement recently held their annual charity dance at Holy Rosary Parish in Erie. The 2013 dance raised \$1359.66. Proceeds went to the Mother Teresa House (MTH), an intentional Catholic community for young adults residing in the former priests' quarters at St. John the Baptist Parish in Erie.



Cursillo seeks to enhance the faith life of its attendees through a "short course" in Christianity weekend experience. Pictured from left to right are MTH residents **Katie Chandley**, **Patrick Extein** and **Matthew Durney**, along with **Msgr. Dan Arnold**, co-spiritual director for Cursillo, and **Tim Nowakowski**, lead coordinator of the dance.

Also benefiting from the event was **Msgr. James Peterson's** Maria House Project, which helps men recover from the effects of drug and alcohol abuse, imprisonment, homelessness and/or mental illness. Due to the generosity of **Bill and Judy Flynn** of Union City, Maria House was granted the 50-50 winnings in the amount of \$408.

**PNC Bank supports Catholic education**

ERIE — PNC Bank recently contributed \$75,000 to Catholic education in the Diocese of Erie through the STAR Foundation. The program provides need-based tuition assistance to students attending diocesan schools. The funds will be dispersed for the 2013-14 school year. In the photo are **Bishop Lawrence Persico** and **Marlene Mosco**, regional president at PNC Financial Services Group.



Through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program, eligible businesses are able to receive tax credit for contributions to a scholarship or educational improvement organization.

"The tax credits are a way for us to return money to the community," Mosco said. "We are able to provide a way for students to receive a Catholic education."

**St. Joseph School in Warren celebrates Catholic Schools Week with Mass, fun**



WARREN — **Bishop Emeritus Donald Trautman** visited St. Joseph School in Warren Feb. 2 during Catholic Schools Week for the school community and took time to visit with students.

Another highlight of Catholic Schools Week saw **Father Rich Toohy**, pastor of St. Joseph Parish, and **Dr. Howard Ferguson**, principal of St. Joseph School, participate in a game of "Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?" All questions at each grade level were written by St. Joseph students.

The contest was enjoyed by an enthusiastic audience of students and adults.

**St. Joseph School students help at fish fries in Lucinda**

LUCINDA — First grade students at St. Joseph School in Lucinda grease potatoes as part of a service project, doing prep work for the parish and school's Lenten fish fries.



St. Joseph students pictured include: **Ava Best**, **Sarah Zona**, **Lily Bell**, **Madison Gilara**, **Brynn Siegel**, **Alice Moll**, **Madilyn Baker**, **Erika Moore**, **Kaitlyn Zona**, **Wade Peters**, **Jacob Homan**, **Benjamin Foy**, **Gabriel Martz**, **Devon Lauer**, **Gavin Howarth**, **Mason Montana** and **Brooke Schmadler**. First grade teacher **Angela Fye** is standing at right.

**DuBois Central Catholic teacher receives Saint Vincent College award**

DUBOIS — **Bishop Lawrence Persico** recently presented DuBois Central Catholic School teacher **Kate Kunkle** with an award from Saint Vincent College in Latrobe.



**Bishop Persico** gave **Kunkle** the award Jan. 31 during a Catholic Schools Week Mass in the DCC gym. **Kunkle** was presented with a certificate of honor awarded through the Great Teacher Recognition Program of Saint Vincent College.

According to **Brother Norman Hipps**, president of Saint Vincent College, the award recognizes secondary educators for excellence in teaching that provides a positive and enduring influence on students.

In addition to her teaching duties at DuBois Central Catholic, **Kunkle** also serves as the academic dean of curriculum for the DuBois Area Catholic Schools, Inc.

**T-shirt sales at Kennedy Catholic Middle School benefit Sandy Hook students**

HERMITAGE — Following the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., students at Kennedy Catholic Middle School in Hermitage wanted to do something to let the Sandy Hook community it was in their thoughts and prayers.



**Kennedy Catholic** eighth grader **Taylor Galaska** designed a green T-shirt to remember the students lost in the shooting. The shirts were then sold at Kennedy Catholic with the proceeds benefiting Sandy Hook. T-shirt sales raised approximately \$1,900, which was sent to the Sandy Hook school library to purchase books.

During Catholic Schools Week, Kennedy Catholic students posed for a photo while wearing their green shirts in the shape of a cross. A copy of the photo was included with the check sent to Sandy Hook Elementary School.

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Proceeds benefit Youth Mission Trip to KY and School Building Fund.

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