

25 days for 25 years

Diocesan family invited to mark Bishop Trautman's anniversaries, page 3.



# FaithLife

Mercy beyond our borders

Sister Marilyn Lacey to give Archbishop Romero Lecture, page 4.



www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

March 7, 2010

## Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

### Feast days



St. John of God St. Frances of Rome

- March 8 St. John of God
- March 9 St. Frances of Rome
- March 17 St. Patrick
- March 18 St. Cyril of Jerusalem
- March 19 St. Joseph

## Confirmations

St. Stanislaus Koska-Holy Trinity, Sharon - Sunday, March 7 at 3 p.m. Confirmation classes include Our Lady of Fatima, Farrell; St. Adalbert, Farrell; St. Anthony of Padua, Sharon; and St. Stanislaus Koska-Holy Trinity, Sharon.

St. Boniface, Erie - Monday, March 8 at 7 p.m.

St. Gregory, North East - Thursday, March 11 at 7 p.m.

Christ the King, Houtzdale - Friday, March 12 at 7 p.m. Confirmation classes include Christ the King, Houtzdale; Holy Trinity, Ramey; Immaculate Conception, Madera; Immaculate Conception, Osceola Mills; St. Agnes, Morrisdale; St. Basil the Great, Coalport; St. Mary, Frenchville; and St. Peter and Paul, Hawk Run.

St. Michael, Fryburg - Sunday, March 14 at 3 p.m. Confirmation classes include St. Ann, Marienville; St. Joseph, Lucinda; St. Mary, Crown; and St. Michael, Fryburg.

St. Joseph, Warren - Monday, March 15 at 7 p.m. Confirmation classes include Holy Redeemer, Warren; St. Anthony, Sheffield; and St. Joseph, Warren.

St. Joseph/Bread of Life, Erie - Thursday, March 18 at 7 p.m.

Sacred Heart, St. Marys - Friday, March 19 at 7 p.m.

St. Mary, St. Marys - Saturday, March 20 at 10 a.m. Confirmation classes include Queen of the World, St. Marys, and St. Mary, St. Marys.

Good Shepherd, West Middlesex - Sunday, March 21 at 11:30 a.m. Confirmation classes include Good Shepherd, West Middlesex, and St. Bartholomew, Sharpville.

## St. Patrick's Day parade and installation of Knights & Ladies of St. Patrick

The Erie St. Patrick's Day Parade, sponsored by St. Patrick Parish and the Knights and Ladies of St. Patrick, will be held Saturday, March 13. Featuring local bands and groups from throughout the greater Erie Community, the parade launches at 2 p.m. at 11th and State streets and ends at St. Patrick Church.

Bishop Donald Trautman will install new Knights and Ladies of St. Patrick during the 5 p.m. Mass at St. Patrick March 13.



A ministry of the parish, the Knights and Ladies is an organization of Catholic men and women of all nationalities who have been recognized by the Bishop of Erie for their contributions to the community in the name and spirit of Christ. In addition, they take as their special ministry the Sister Mary Pascal Gray, SSI, Food Pantry, giving of their time, talent and treasure in support of its mission.

## 70th anniversary of Blessed Sacrament School, Erie

Bishop Donald Trautman will celebrate a Mass for the 70th anniversary of Blessed Sacrament School, Erie, at 9 a.m. on Friday, March 19 at Blessed Sacrament Church. Father Raymond Geger opened the school in 1939, just one year after the parish was established.



To undergo a conversion when it comes to fundraising, Sister Sue Mosteller said people need to look at how they view their own wealth.

By Jason Koshinski  
FaithLife editor

Money conversations in our families and churches are often more taboo than talking about sex or religion, said Sister Sue Mosteller, CSI, quoting the late Father Henri Nouwen.

"It's taboo, especially about personal money," Sister Sue said. "We might need to be converted just around our own relationship to our own resources."

Sister Sue, a longtime member of L'Arche Day-break in Richmond Hill, Ontario, just outside Toronto, and executor of the Catholic author's literary estate, recently visited the Erie Diocese to share her first-hand experience on the spirituality of fundraising that she heard from Nouwen himself.

"Fundraising really calls us to conversion. First we have to look at our own response to our own wealth."

- Sister Sue Mosteller

She spoke to pastors, clergy and parish council members at stops in Erie, Grove City and Kane. "Fundraising really calls us to conversion," Sister Sue said. "First we have to look at our own re-

sponse to our own wealth. That conversion is a deep change in attitude about the way we look at, feel and respond to our own resources."

Without any answers, Sister Sue asked a series of questions for those in the audience to gauge where they were in their own relationship to their resources.

"Why?" she said. "Because if we're going to ask other people to change their attitudes toward their resources and to give we have to ask ourselves, are we willing?"

The reflection questions included:

- Who knows how much money you

See FUNDRAISING, page 2

## RITE OF ELECTION

### Church prepares to welcome new members at Easter Vigil

The Diocese of Erie will welcome 224 new members at this year's Easter Vigil.

Sixty-two catechumens and 163 candidates, along with their sponsors, families and guests filled St. Peter Cathedral in Erie and St. Michael the Archangel Parish in DuBois for the Rite of Election ceremony Feb. 21.

About 1,000 people participated in both locations.

Bishop Donald Trautman presided over services at the cathedral. Msgr. Robert Smith, vicar general of the Erie Diocese, presided at St. Michael the Archangel.

The Rite of Election, celebrated annually in cathedrals and churches around the world on the first Sunday of Lent, formally acknowledges the readiness of those prepar-

ing to receive the sacraments of initiation—baptism, confirmation and the Eucharist—at the Easter Vigil, this year on April 3. Candidates and catechumens are participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) at their parishes.

Catechumens (those who have never been baptized) are preparing for reception into full communion with the Catholic Church by receiving the sacraments of initiation—baptism, confirmation and Eucharist—at the Easter Vigil. Candidates (those baptized in another faith tradition) are preparing to receive confirmation and/or Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

The Rite of Election includes several distinct parts. First, the candidates are

each called by name, come forth and are greeted by the bishop. The bishop speaks to candidates and asks their sponsors and the assembly if they will support them with their prayers.

Following the readings and homily, the catechumens are called by name to come forward. The bishop offers a brief instruction and asks the assembled group a few questions. He asks their godparent (those who have pledged personally to support each individual with prayer and instruction) and all of the assembled family and friends if they will continue to support the catechumens with their prayers.

Then, the catechumens sign their name in the Book of the Elect. Their signature serves as a public display that they have answered the call of Christ.



Bishop Donald Trautman greets candidate John Guild of St. George Parish in Erie during the Rite of Election Feb. 21. Catechumen Natasha Polley of Our Lady Queen of the Americas Parish in Conneaut Lake signs the Book of the Elect while her sponsor Doug Veverka looks on.

## Solemnity of St. Joseph

### Lenten regulations for feast day

According to the Lenten regulations for the Diocese of Erie, Ash Wednesday, all Fridays in Lent and Good Friday are days of abstinence from meat for those 14 years of age and older.

However, in observance of the solemnity of St. Joseph on Friday, March 19, Catholics are not obliged on that day to abstain from meat.

For the complete Lenten regulations, visit [www.ErieRCD.org](http://www.ErieRCD.org).



## Clergy appointments

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

Father Thomas Aleksa, appointed temporary parochial administrator of St. Patrick Parish, Franklin. Effective February 18, 2010.



## Lenten Sacrifice

The season of Lent calls for special preparations before the celebration of Easter. Christians are encouraged to devote time to prayer, works of charity and self-denial.

- ABSTINENCE**  
No meat can be taken by those 14 and older on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays.
- FASTING**  
A limit of one full meatless meal by those 18-59 on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- SELF-DENIAL**  
Voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended on weekdays during Lent.
- PRAYER AND CHARITY**  
Can include daily Mass, Scripture study, Stations of the Cross, almsgiving and showing mercy and kindness to others.

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## Did You Know?

On July 5, 1874 Pope Pius IX granted a **plenary indulgence** to any Catholic living in the Diocese of Erie who would visit a church dedicated to **St. Patrick** on his feast day, **March 17**. The pilgrim is required to pray at least one Our Father and one Hail Mary. The faithful may obtain this indulgence under the usual conditions, which are: sacramental confession within 10 days before or after, reception of Holy Communion, pray for the intentions of the pope and a firm desire to sin no more. Churches dedicated to St. Patrick in the diocese are St. Patrick in Erie and St. Patrick in Franklin. St. Patrick is the patron saint of the diocese.



### IN THE U.S.

■ **Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington closed its 80-year-old foster care and public adoption program** in the District of Columbia so the agency would not have to violate church teaching by licensing same-sex couples as foster or adoptive parents. The program — which covered 43 children and their biological families, 35 foster families and seven staff members — was transferred to the National Center for Children and Families Feb. 1. Under a new law allowing same-sex marriage in the District of Columbia, Catholic Charities would have been required to place children with same-sex parents for foster care and adoption, which would violate church teaching that marriage is a permanent union between one man and one woman. The law is currently under congressional review, but the district is scheduled to begin issuing marriage licenses for same-sex couples in March. Two members of Congress have introduced legislation that would require the district to hold a referendum on the same-sex marriage issue before licenses could be issued.

■ **Pope Benedict XVI has named Msgr. Joseph C. Bambara, 53, as bishop of the Diocese of Scranton, Pa.,** and Father Terry R. LaValley, also 53, as bishop of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, N.Y. Bishop-designate Bambara and Bishop-designate LaValley had both been serving as administrators of their respective dioceses. The appointments were announced Feb. 23 in Washington by Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States. In Scranton, Bishop-designate Bambara succeeds Bishop Joseph F. Martino, who resigned last August for health reasons. His



Bishop-designate Joseph C. Bambara

episcopal ordination and installation with be April 26 at St. Peter's Cathedral in Scranton. Bishop-designate LaValley succeeds Bishop Robert J. Cunningham, who was named to the Diocese of Syracuse, N.Y., last April. His episcopal ordination and installation will be April 30 at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.

■ **Researchers at Marquette University's Institute for Natural Family Planning are recruiting couples** interested in preventing pregnancy naturally for a study involving two Web-based methods of natural family planning. The study, which is funded by a \$595,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, will compare two methods of natural family planning. The "high-tech" Marquette Model of natural family planning uses the Clear-



Blue Easy fertility monitor to estimate the beginning and end of the time of fertility in a woman's menstrual cycle, while the "low-tech" method monitors cervical mucus as the sole biological indicator of fertility. For more information about the study, go to [www.marquette.edu/nursing/FederalResearchStudy.shtml](http://www.marquette.edu/nursing/FederalResearchStudy.shtml).

### AROUND THE WORLD

■ **Pope Benedict XVI said priestly sexual abuse was a "heinous crime" and a grave sin,** and he urged Irish bishops to act courageously to repair their failures to deal properly with such cases. At the end of a two-day Vatican summit on the sex abuse scandal in Ireland, the Vatican said in a statement Feb. 16 that "errors of judgment and omissions" were at the heart of the crisis. It said church leaders recognized the sense of "pain and anger, betrayal, scandal and shame" that those errors have provoked among many Irish Catholics. "All those pres-

ent recognized that this grave crisis had led to a breakdown in trust in the church's leadership and has damaged her witness to the Gospel and its moral teaching," the statement said. "For his part, the Holy Father observed that the sexual abuse of children and young people is not only a heinous crime, but also a grave sin which offends God and wounds the dignity of the human person created in his image," it said. "While realizing that the current painful situation will not be resolved quickly, he challenged the bishops to address the problems of the past with determination and resolve, and to face the present crisis with honesty and courage," it said.

### PEOPLE OF FAITH

■ **Pope Benedict XVI will create six new saints Oct. 17,** including Blessed Mary MacKillop, who will be Australia's first saint, and the Canadian Blessed Andre Bessette, who will be the first saint of the Holy Cross Brothers. Blessed MacKillop, founder of the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart, was born Jan. 15, 1842, in Fitzroy near Melbourne; she died in Sydney Aug. 1, 1909. Blessed Bessette founded St. Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal in Montreal and was known for his intense piety, famed for miraculous cures and praised for his dedication to building the shrine to honor St. Joseph. The others to be canonized Oct. 17 are: Blessed Stanislaw Soltys Kazimierz, a Polish-born member of the Canons Regular of the Lateran, who lived 1433-1489; Blessed Juana Josefa Ciprieta Barriola of Spain, who founded the Daughters of Jesus; Blessed Giulia Salzano, the Italian founder of the Catechetical Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus; and Blessed Camilla Battista Varano, an Italian Poor Clare who lived 1458-1524.



Blessed Mary MacKillop

## By the Way...

If you attend Mass at St. Patrick Parish in Erie, you may notice that the priests are using a different chalice which belonged to Msgr. Peter Cauley. He and his three brothers served as the parish priests there for years and were responsible for building the present church and rectory.



Jason Koshinski

Jason Koshinski, director of the diocese's Catholic Refugee Ministry since 2001, was honored with a reception at St. Hedwig Parish's church hall in Erie following Mass on Feb. 27. Father Santor, a native of St. Hedwig, retired from active ministry as of Jan. 1. He has been with both St. Hedwig and St. Patrick for many years.

Bishop Donald Trautman's Ash Wednesday visit to the Roman Catholic Chapel at the Millcreek Mall in Erie garnered some local and national media attention. In the Feb. 19 edition of *USA Today*, the bishop made Pennsylvania's top new story.

"It's Ash Wednesday so Erie's Roman Catholic bishop is going to the mall? Bishop Donald Trautman and another priest were at the Roman Catholic Chapel in the Millcreek Mall to hear confessions and distribute ashes on the first day of Lent. Trautman opened the mall chapel on Ash Wednesday 2008."

Business was brisk that day as the bishop and Father Ed Lohse, chancellor of the diocese, had steady streams of "customers" throughout the day.

The chapel's confession schedule will remain the same throughout Lent. The sacrament of reconciliation will take place on Wednesdays from 2 to 4 p.m. and on Saturdays (including Holy Saturday) from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. On Good Friday, confessions will be heard from 7 to 8 p.m.

Richard Proulx, a choral conductor and prolific composer and arranger of music, died Feb. 18 at 72. Proulx led the musical program at Chicago's Holy Name Cathedral for 14 years.

"Everybody knows the Community Mass of Richard Proulx and many of his psalm settings for the Liturgy," says William Herring, music director of St. Peter Cathedral in Erie.

Herring met Proulx a number of years ago at a National Pastoral Musicians liturgical workshop and he says they became good friends. As director of the diocese's Office of Worship, Herring brought Proulx to the cathedral twice, with more than 400 people attending each workshop.

"He wrote more than 300 published pieces of music including commercial music for TV," Herring says. "He wrote liturgical dramas, organ and choral works. His volume of work is just unbelievable."

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

## The spirituality of fundraising

FUNDRAISING, from page 1

- make?
- What is your personal plan around saving and giving money to others?
- What do you spend your money on?
- Do you ever ask advice from friends or family about money matters that are bothering you?
- Who else knows what you are worth?
- Who do you share with about other sources of income, such as gifts, besides you salary?

"The big question would be, 'Do I donate to the things that I ask money for?'" she said. "This is the conversion that's needed. The ministry of fundraising is about us as much as it is about others."

Another way to go through a conversion process, Sister Sue said, is for fundraisers to look at their attitudes toward donors.

"How do we look at the donor? How do we see people who are rich?" she asked.

She told a story about Fred Rogers introducing Father Nouwen to Joan Croc, wife of McDonald's founder Ray Croc, who was in need of spiritual help. Father Nouwen visited her California mansion. For a week, Croc took him shopping, out to eat, to the dog track—something different each day. When Croc announced plans for a particular day, Father Nouwen refused to go. He said it was time to talk about her.

Stunned, Croc asked him how he had been there a week and not asked her for money.

"He saw her as a person, a spiritually lost person," Sister Sue said.

Sister Sue's talks were sponsored by the diocese's Office of Stewardship.

"One of our objectives is to show that stewardship is not just about money," said Joseph Hoag, director of Stewardship and Annual Appeals. "But giving money is part of stewardship, and we should not be reluctant to talk about raising funds in our parish. I believe there's a real value in this message—the spirituality of stewardship."

## Speaker recalls Nouwen as pastor, teacher

By Jason Koshinski  
FaithLife editor



Father Henri Nouwen

Sister Sue Mosteller, CSJ, says the late Father Henri Nouwen taught her a lot about the spiritual life.

Sister Sue, a member of the L'Arche Daybreak community just outside of Toronto, first met Father Nouwen at a talk in Providence, R.I.

"We had a really nice conversation, and at the end he said, 'Why don't we stay in touch?'" she recalled. "About five or six years later, we were talking in our little community of L'Arche about having a pastor because we were lost spiritually."

L'Arche is a worldwide organization that provides homes for the mentally and physically handicapped.

When Father Nouwen was taking a sabbatical at the L'Arche community in France, Sister Sue wrote to him.

"I said we don't know what it means to have a pastor, and you probably don't know what it means to be a pastor of this community," she said. "But we're inviting you to come and maybe we could learn together. We were a community with so many differences yet so much unity and so much desire for God."

So he came. Originally a three-year arrangement, Nouwen stayed for 10 years until he died in 1996.

Ordained in Holland and trained as a psychologist and theologian, Father Nouwen taught at Notre Dame before becoming a professor at the Yale Divinity School. He also taught theology at Harvard.

Better known in the United States and Canada than in his native Netherlands, he was a public speaker, a retreat leader and the author of 38 books, many of which were translated into several foreign languages.

After his death in 1996, Sister Sue was named executor of his literary estate and completed his last books.

"He taught me a lot about the spiritual life," Sister Sue said. "He really had a great gift for breaking open God's Word. When he talked about it, he opened it for us in ways that most people didn't. He had a very deep sense of going into the Word to really understand it."

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**Catholic Community of Titusville's Lenten Fish Dinners**  
Dates: February 19, 26 / March 19, 26  
Time/Place: 5-7 p.m. at the former CAC building  
Dinner includes baked or deep fried fish, coleslaw, baked potato/fries/french/mac and cheese, rolls, beverage and dessert  
Cost: Adult \$8.00, Child \$4.00  
Hosted in conjunction with the YMCA

**Fish and Shrimp Dinner**  
Fridays: March 12, 19, 26  
4:30-7:00 pm  
Holy Cross Catholic Church - Fairview  
7100 West Ridge Road  
Adult: \$8, Child: \$5, Takeouts available

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## Briefly

### Spring art show at Mount St. Benedict

ERIE – The Benedictine Sisters of Erie will open their Spring Art Show on Sunday, March 7 from 10:30 a.m. until noon in the Chapter 57 Gallery at Mount St. Benedict, 6101 East Lake Road, Erie.

The annual show, titled "Looking Large," celebrates Women's History Month and is an invitational show of the Benedictine Sisters, oblates and friends. It continues through April 11.

Gallery hours are Sundays 10:30 a.m. until noon and weekdays from 3-5 p.m.

For more information, contact Sister Margaret Ann Pilewski, OSB, at 814.899.0088 (Benetwood Apartments) or 814.455.5508 (Neighborhood Art House).

Sister Margaret Ann is the art coordinator for the Inner-City Neighborhood Art House and the manager of Chapter 57, the fine arts gift shop at Mount St. Benedict. She works in photography, ceramics and stained glass.



### Catholic youth skating party

ERIE – Catholic Connection Youth Ministries, a combined program of Blessed Sacrament, Sacred Heart and St. Andrew parishes in Erie, will host a St. Patrick's Catholic youth skating party from 7-9 p.m. on Thursday, March 18 at Evans Skateland, 5162 West Lake Road, Erie.

Cost is \$6 per skater, and all proceeds benefit Catholic Connection Youth Ministries. This family event is open to all ages. Wear your green!



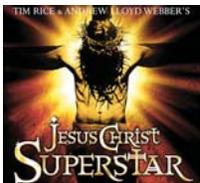
### 'Jesus Christ Superstar' at Prep

ERIE – Cathedral Preparatory School and Villa Maria Academy will present "Jesus Christ Superstar" by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice at

the H. David Boves Auditorium at Cathedral Prep, 10th and Myrtle streets in Erie, on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 25-27 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 28 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for seniors and students and are available at the door.

For more information, call Father Mike DeMartinis at 814.453.7737.



### Reflection Day for Women in Kane

KANE – A Reflection Day for Women will be held Saturday, March 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Callistus Parish Center, 342 Chase St., Kane.

The program "Where Does Holy Week Lead Us?" is sponsored by the sisters of Catholic Rural Ministry and includes presentations, time for conversation, private reflection and prayer.

Reservations are due Wednesday, March 24. An offering of \$15 includes lunch and a copy of the book, "The Liturgical Year."

For more information or to register, call Margaret French at 814.945.6245 or Sister Phyllis Schleicher, OSB, at 814.544.8017 or e-mail crm@zitmedia.net.

### Mother-Daughter Teas

The Erie Diocese's Office of Natural Family Planning/Chastity Education is sponsoring several Mother-Daughter Teas throughout the diocese.

The program, for girls ages 10 through 12 and their moms, explores God's gift of human fertility and the beauty and wonder of growing up and becoming a woman.

The purpose of the program is to provide an atmosphere of love and learning to discuss the important topic of growing up and to establish a foundation for continued communication between parent and child.

The program is presented by women involved in the diocesan Natural Family Planning program.

■ Brookville – Sunday, March 21 from noon-2:30 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Parish, 129 Graham Ave. (Register with Penny Rakovan at 814.648.0839)

■ Hermitage – Sunday, April 11 from 1-3:30 p.m. at Notre Dame School, 2335 Highland Road. (Register with Jane Djakovich at 724.346.6324)

■ Erie – Sunday, April 18 from 1:30-4 p.m. at Our Lady of Peace School, 2401 W. 38th St. (Register with Kristen Corritore at 814.864.2922)

Cost per family is \$15. An "early bird" rate of \$12 is offered for registrations received two weeks before date of tea.

For more information, contact the Office of Natural Family Planning/Chastity Education at 814.824.1259.

## PROXIMO TRAVEL 2010

**Italy / Switzerland:** April 10-22 / May 1-13 / May 15-27 / May 29-June 10 / June 26-July 8 / July 3-15...

**Italy Regular:** April 17-25 / June 26-July 4 / Sept 18-26...

**Tuscany:** June 30-July 10 / October 7-17

**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 / Nov 8-18

**Ireland / Scotland:** May 29-June 10 / July 10-22

**France:** June 30-July 12 / July 12-24 / October 2-14

**Spain:** June 30-July 12 / Sept 18-30

**Greece:** June 30-July 10 / Sept 18-28

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## 'The Power of God's Love for You'

### Middle School Youth Rally April 25 in Grove City

GROVE CITY – The annual Middle School Youth Rally is scheduled for Sunday, April 25 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Beloved Disciple Parish in Grove City.

The theme of this year's event, "The Power of God's Love for You!" is based on the Scripture from Jeremiah 20:9, "Like fire burning in my heart."

Young people experience fun, fellowship and faith in a bold and positive way. Featured during the rally will be a Mass celebrated by Bishop Donald Trautman at 11



Nearly 200 middle school youth attended last year's rally with singer, songwriter and storyteller Jesse Manibusan at St. Bernard School in Bradford.

a.m., music and drama, witness and exhortation, unbridled silliness, the opportunity for confession, a multimedia presentation of the Luminous Mysteries of the rosary, vocalist and musician Michael Rodgers and Father Steve Schreiber, diocesan director of youth and young adult ministry, with a little talk on God's love.

For a complete schedule, release forms and more, visit [onthevine.us](http://onthevine.us).

Registration forms are due to your parish/school office by Monday, March 22. For additional information, please contact your parish youth leader or Linda Lecce, program coordinator for the Department of Religious Education at 814.824.1218.

## 25 days for 25 years

### Diocesan family invited to mark Bishop Trautman's anniversaries



Most Rev. Donald Trautman will celebrate 25 years as a bishop on April 16 and 20 years as bishop of the Diocese of Erie on July 16.

To mark both events, Bishop Trautman plans to offer a Mass of thanksgiving at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 13 at St. Peter Cathedral. Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia and many bishops from around the country will join hundreds of faithful from around the diocese for

the occasion. As a gift from the people of the Erie Diocese, anyone who would like to participate is invited to offer 25 days of prayer and sacrifice for the intentions near and dear to Bishop Trautman's heart including priestly and religious vocations, young people and those in material or spiritual poverty.

Parishes and parish organizations, schools, religious education programs, agencies, boards

and other groups in the diocese are encouraged to join in this effort.

To keep this simple and flexible, those who would like to participate are free to approach it in the way that best suits them. Here are a few considerations:

- To let Bishop Trautman know who has been offering prayers on his behalf, please let the diocese's Office of Communications know you are joining in the effort.
- The information can be given to Cindy DeCoursey by e-mail at [CDeCoursey@ErieRCD.org](mailto:CDeCoursey@ErieRCD.org) or with a phone call to 814.824.1166 no later than April 9 at noon. The earlier you can provide the information, the better.

## YOUR HOMETOWN PHARMACY

B.J. Moon, R.Ph.

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Fax 814 / 898-2086

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For pastoral outreach and assistance for those abused by clergy or other church personnel, call



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Victim Assistance Coordinator  
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109 University Square  
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### Sister Marilyn Lacey, RSM, to give Archbishop Oscar Romero Lecture at Mercyhurst College

ERIE – Sister Marilyn Lacey, RSM, a Mercy sister who has dedicated her life to making the world a more welcoming place for refugees, will receive Mercyhurst College's Archbishop Oscar Romero Award for 2010 during a visit to Erie on Tuesday, March 9.

Sister Marilyn is the founder and executive director of Mercy Beyond Borders, a non-profit agency whose mission is to partner with displaced women and children overseas in ways that help them overcome extreme poverty.

She will deliver a free public lecture, "Mobilizing Mercy Beyond Our Borders: An Invitation to Justice and Joy," at 8:15 p.m. in the college's Walker Recital Hall.

A Sister of Mercy since 1966, Sister Marilyn has spent more than 25 years working with refugees – persons forced to leave their homelands because of war or persecution – in the United States, Africa and Southeast Asia. For many years she directed programs for refugees and immigrants at Catholic Charities in San Jose, Calif., including helping to resettle many of the Lost Boys of Sudan. She has spent time in some of the most war-ravaged places on earth, including the Lao-Thai border, Sudanese and Somali camps in Kenya and the



Sister Marilyn Lacey, RSM, is surrounded by some of the children she met on her trips to Sudan.

Sudan. The Dalai Lama honored her in 2001 as an "Unsung Hero of Compassion."

Sister Marilyn first visited Mercyhurst in March 2009. Since then, a remarkable relationship has developed between the college community and Mercy Beyond Borders. Many students and faculty members have undertaken service and fundraising projects to assist the group, which named Mercyhurst its "Ambassador of the Month" last June.

Mercyhurst College presents the Archbishop Oscar Romero Award annually to an individual "living the call of faith and justice in an extraordinary manner."

This event is sponsored by the college's Department of Religious Studies and the Office of the President.

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### St. Catherine of Siena Parish in DuBois receives OCP grant

DUBOIS – For a number of years, Msgr. Richard Siefer, pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Parish in DuBois, has applied to OCP, a Catholic publishing company, for a music grant. And every year, he's been shut out.

"Every year I keep applying," said Msgr. Siefer. "This year, we got the grant!"

OCP parish grants support music ministry projects by providing direct financial assistance to enhance the experience of Catholic parishes in the United States. This year, OCP awarded more than \$135,000 to 76 parishes.

"There definitely was a sense of surprise," Msgr. Siefer added. "It's kind of like the lottery where you can't win if you don't play. Well, you're not going to get the grant if you don't apply."

The grant is for \$2,000 and will be used for one of two things, Msgr. Siefer said: The hiring of a part-time musician for one of the



parish's Sunday Masses or doing some repairs on the church's pipe organ.

Several parishes in the Erie Diocese received OCP grants in 2007 including St. Mary in St. Marys, St. Michael in Greenville and St. Stanislaus Kostka in Sharon.

In 2003, St. Boniface in Erie was the recipient of an OCP grant.

"We use OCP's 'Breaking Bread' and much of their music, so we've been familiar with them for a long time," Msgr. Siefer said.

### St. Joseph Parish in Sharon celebrating sesquicentennial

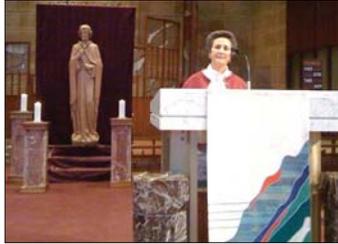
SHARON – St. Joseph Parish in Sharon recently kicked off a year-long celebration of its 150th anniversary.

Sister Linda Fusco, SSI, offered a meditation of the spirituality of St. Joseph at all Masses Feb. 13-14. A Mardi Gras dinner followed the Feb. 13 Mass.

The parish's next event is a mission with Father Ray Kempf, who teaches at Georgetown University and is a research fellow of the Woodstock Theological Center. He will speak at all Masses the weekend of March 6-7, and lead a mission each evening at 7 p.m. March 7-10.

On May 16, the 150th anniversary of the first Mass of the parish, Bishop Donald Trautman will preside at the noon Mass which will be followed by a reception.

Later events will include a parish picnic where the parish community will celebrate the transferred feast of St. Joseph. In October the Sisters of St. Bene-



Sister Linda Fusco, SSI, spoke at St. Joseph Parish in Sharon Feb. 13-14 about the spirituality of St. Joseph. The event was the beginning of the parish's year-long 150th anniversary celebration.

dict, who has a long association with the parish school, will make a presentation. There will also be a concert by the Notre Dame Glee Club.

The anniversary celebration will conclude on Nov. 21, the feast of Christ the King, with a concert by the parish and community musicians and a final reception. For more information about any of these events, call the parish office at 724.981.3232.

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Monsignor Robert Malone - Pastor Good Shepherd in West Middlesex and a former Military Chaplain

**Tuesday - March 23rd 6:30 pm**  
Father Steve Schreiber - Associate Director of Vocations Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry

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