

Bishop Michael Murphy

Read the complete obituary, page 3.

Diocese to publish tribute, page 3.



Prep plans

Cathedral Prep to build athletic complex in downtown Erie, page 3.



Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

Feast days



St. Joseph the Worker Ss. Philip and James

- April 23 St. George, St. Adalbert
- April 24 St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen
- April 25 St. Mark
- April 28 St. Peter Chanel, St. Louis Mary de Montfort
- April 30 St. Pius V
- May 1 St. Joseph the Worker
- May 2 St. Athanasius
- May 3 Ss. Philip and James

Confirmation schedule

Blessed Sacrament, Erie – Thurs., April 26 at 7 p.m.

St. Agatha, Meadville – Fri., April 27 at 7 p.m. Confirmation classes include St. Brigid Parish, Meadville; St. Mary of Grace Parish, Meadville; and St. Agatha Parish, Meadville.

All Saints, Waterford – Tues., May 1 at 7 p.m. Confirmation classes include Mount Calvary Parish, Erie, and All Saints Parish, Waterford.

Christ the King, Houtzdale – Wed., May 2 at 7 p.m. Confirmation classes include Holy Trinity Parish, Ramey; Immaculate Conception Parish, Osceola Mills; St. Agnes Parish, Morrisdale; St. Basil the Great Parish, Coalport; and Christ the King Parish, Houtzdale.

St. Peter, Conneautville – Thurs., May 3 at 7 p.m. Confirmation classes include Our Lady Queen of the Americas Parish, Conneaut Lake; St. Philip Parish, Linesville; and St. Peter Parish, Conneautville.

Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg – Fri., May 4 at 7 p.m. Confirmation classes include St. Anne Parish, Wilcox, and Holy Rosary Parish, Johnsonburg.

St. Hippolyte, Frenchtown – Sun., May 6 at 10:30 a.m. Confirmation classes include Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Cochranton, and St. Hippolyte Parish, Frenchtown.

St. Bernard of Clairvaux, Bradford – Sun., May 6 at 4 p.m. Confirmation classes include Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish, Lewis Run; St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Bradford; and St. Bernard of Clairvaux Parish, Bradford.

Scouting awards ceremony – April 22

Individual and group badges, patches, honors and awards will be presented to Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts and Brownies throughout the Erie Diocese for their achievements in the areas of spiritual growth on Sunday, April 22 at St. Peter Cathedral, Erie, at 2:30 p.m. For more information on scouting in the Erie Diocese, visit www.ErieRCD.org/scout.asp.

Transitional deacons – April 28

Two seminarians will take another step toward priesthood as they are ordained transitional deacons. Bishop Donald Trautman will ordain seminarians Timothy Balliett and Johnathan Schmolt into the order of the diaconate during a 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Mark Seminary Chapel, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie.



Timothy Balliett Johnathan Schmolt

World Day of Prayer for Vocations – April 29

Here is an excerpt from Pope Benedict XVI's message for the 44th annual World Day of Prayer for Vocations, which the church will celebrate on April 29:

"The annual World Day of Prayer for Vocations is an appropriate occasion for highlighting the importance of vocations in the life and mission of the church, as well as for intensifying our prayer that they may increase in number and quality."

To read the complete text of the Holy Father's message, visit the Web at: www.usccb.org/vocations/wdp.shtml

'A great gift of God for the church'

Bishop Michael J. Murphy remembered for faith, wit & wisdom at funeral Mass



Bishop Michael J. Murphy

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

ERIE – A good and gifted priest. A teacher and prophet full of wit and wisdom. A faithful servant, friend and shepherd.

Bishop Michael Joseph Murphy was remembered as all of these and much more during his funeral Mass on Easter Monday, April 9 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie.

Bishop Murphy, 91, retired bishop of the Diocese of Erie, died April 3 at the infirmary of the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse in Erie.

In 1978, he was named coadjutor bishop of the diocese with the right of succession. In 1982, upon Bishop Alfred M. Watson's retirement, he became the eighth bishop of the Diocese of Erie. He served as bishop until his retirement in 1990.

Because Bishop Murphy died on the Tuesday of Holy Week and the church was preparing to enter the Paschal Triduum, the funeral was postponed until after Easter. Bishop Donald Trautman directed that no black bunting be displayed at diocesan churches, as the signs of mourning gave way to these sacred days.

During Holy Week, parishes were encouraged to place a picture of Bishop Murphy in their church sanctuaries along with a lighted vigil candle and to include a petition for him in the general intercessions of the Masses of Holy Thursday and Easter.

For Bishop Murphy's visitation and funeral Mass, St. Peter Cathedral was beautifully decorated in its Easter splendor as arrangements of lilies and other flowers filled the sanctuary. Visitation was held April 8, Easter Sunday, and prior to the funeral Mass April 9.

During visitation hours, framed photo collages of Bishop Murphy's life sat on easels and lined both sides of the cathedral's main aisle. He was dressed in a set of vestments that were given to him by his late friend, Father John Gerrity of Cleveland, which included his coat of arms along with a matching zucchetto and miter. For his casket, Bishop Murphy had chosen a simple pine box that was crafted at a Trappist monastery.

Prior to the Sunday visitation hours at the cathedral, the hearse carrying Bishop Murphy's casket stopped outside St. Patrick Church in Erie after morning Mass, where parishioners paused and prayed.

Upon his retirement in 1990, Bishop Murphy took residence at St. Patrick and lived there until earlier this year. "Keep it joyful, keep it simple." Those were among the hand-written instructions Bishop Murphy left for his successor, Bishop Trautman, concerning his funeral. Bishop Trautman did his best to honor those instructions, overseeing the extensive plan-



Photo by Art Becker

Bishop Donald Trautman, center, celebrates the funeral Mass for retired Bishop Michael Murphy, along with a number of visiting bishops from neighboring dioceses. Bishop Murphy, 91, died April 3.

ning that went into the Mass and burial. An only child, Bishop Murphy requested to be interred in the family plot at St. Joseph Cemetery in Cleveland, next to his parents.

A string quartet provided music as the Knights of Columbus, the Knights and Ladies of St. Patrick and 175 priests from the dioceses of Erie and Cleveland—Bishop Murphy's hometown—pro-

cessed into the cathedral, which was filled with 1,000 people: bishops, priests, women religious, staff members, friends and admirers.

Cardinal Justin Rigali, archbishop of Philadelphia, presided at the funeral liturgy, which was celebrated by Bishop Trautman. Bishop A. James Quinn, auxiliary bishop of Cleveland, gave the homily.

"I count it as a great grace that

See BISHOP MURPHY, page 3

Our Lady of the Lake dedicates new church

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

EDINBORO – It was a day of festivity and faith for Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Edinboro filled with joy and celebration. But most of all, it was a day of thanksgiving.

After years of planning and dreaming, the parish dedicated its new church with a Mass on March 31.

"We give thanks to God for this magnificent and inspiring new church," said Bishop Donald W. Trautman, who celebrated the dedication Mass. "A dream has become a reality. Our prayers have been answered. Our hope fulfilled. You, the faith-filled community of Our Lady of the Lake, have struggled and sacrificed to build this house of God. May the Lord bless and reward your faith and generosity, may he bless your trust and perseverance. On this day of dedication, let us give thanks and praise to God."

For the Catholic community of Edinboro, the new church has been a long

time coming. Father John Jacquiel, pastor, recalls being involved with initial building studies and fundraising when he came to the parish 10 years ago.

"There have been indeed a great number of people who have made this a reality," he said in front of the congregation. "It has taken us a few years," he said pausing between words for effect, as some light laughter came from the pews. "It is truly a joy to be here and share this with you all."

The congregation gathered in the old church at 128 Sunset Drive one final time for the blessing of palms, as the Mass also celebrated the vigil for Palm Sunday. Participants then processed to the new church, adjacent to the old building, singing Psalm 122, "Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord," where the building was handed over to the bishop, who accepted it in the name of the diocese.

The new church has seating for 400, which is double the capacity of the old worship space, and features a chapel for daily Mass and a



Photo inset, parishioners process into the new Our Lady of the Lake Church in Edinboro. The first Mass at the church celebrated the Palm Sunday vigil on March 31 and included the rite of dedication.

bride's room, which can be used for group meetings.

Many features of the new church have the imprint of its parishioners. The new altar was handcrafted in oak by parishioners, and the parish's Knights of Columbus council made the crucifix for the sanctuary. The corpus is also new and came from Italy. A parishioner also designed the new baptismal font and another donated the stonework behind the altar.

The old church, originally built as a chapel in 1950, will be converted into the parish's thrift store, Thrifty Threads. The building that currently houses the store on the parish campus will be demolished.

Cost of the building project is \$1.6 million.

During the rite of dedication, a fragment of the bone of St. Anthony of Padua was placed into the altar. This custom calls to mind the first Christians who erected altars over the burial places of martyrs which led to the practice of sealing relics of saints within or beneath them.

In his brief remarks after Communion, Bishop Trautman said the Edinboro community has known great excitement and joy in recent weeks, referring to General McLane High School winning the state football championship and state boys basketball championship.

"And may I suggest that we add a champion churchman, Father John Jacquiel." The congregation then gave Father Jacquiel a standing ovation.

The bishop's words were again greeted with applause after he announced that he has reappointed Father Jacquiel for a new term as pastor.

"I commend and thank all who shared their gifts and talents to make this an inspiring house of God," Bishop Trautman said.

"This new church makes a powerful public statement. It says, Our Lady of the Lake Parish is a vibrant Catholic community and is prepared for the future, prepared to hand on the faith for the next generation."



Father John Jacquiel (left), pastor of Our Lady of the Lake, and Father Brian Vossler greet parishioners outside the new church after Mass.

IN THE U.S.

■ Buoyed by the resounding defeat of an assisted suicide bill in Vermont March 21, opponents of AB 374 — the California Compassionate Choices Act — are stepping up statewide campaign efforts against the measure proposing the legalization of physician-assisted suicide.

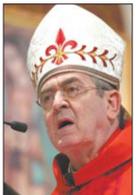
■ Pope Benedict XVI has accepted the resignation of Auxiliary Bishop Emil A. Wcela, 75, of Rockville Centre, N.Y. He also named another priest of the Rockville Centre Diocese, Msgr. Peter A. Libasci, 55, as an auxiliary bishop there.

■ Bishop George Vance Murry was installed as the fifth head of the Diocese of Youngstown March 28 at St. Columba Cathedral in Youngstown, Ohio. Bishop Murry is the first Jesuit and the first African-American to head the Youngstown Diocese in its history.



Bishop George Vance Murry

■ In an April 4 letter to the Senate, Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, urged U.S. senators to vote down a bill that would permit the destruction of human embryos to obtain their stem cells. The Senate was expected to vote on the bill shortly after it returned from its Easter recess.



Cardinal Justin Rigali

■ Chicago Cardinal Francis E. George returned home from the hospital on Easter after falling and breaking the upper part of his right leg while blessing food baskets a day earlier.

■ Pope Benedict XVI has accepted the resignation of Bishop Joseph L. Charron of Des

Moines, Iowa, for reasons of health. A successor was not immediately named.

AROUND THE WORLD

■ With prayers, song and formal oaths in Latin, officials of the Diocese of Rome concluded the initial phase of the process for the canonization of Pope John Paul II in the Basilica of St. John Lateran on April 2, the second anniversary of the pope's death. During this phase, more than 120 people who knew Pope John Paul were interviewed about his actions and character, and studies were conducted on his ministry, the way he handled suffering and how he faced his death, said Cardinal Camillo Ruini, papal vicar of Rome. The documents from the investigation were placed in five chests, latched, tied with a red ribbon, then sealed with red wax. They will be delivered to the Congregation for Saints' Causes for further study.

■ Keeping in step with the fast pace of communications technology, the Vatican television center is to begin broadcasting in high definition. The first papal event to be aired using the new format was a special April 15 Mass celebrating Pope Benedict XVI's April 16 birthday.

■ Pope Benedict XVI has earmarked the money collected during his Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday for Caritas Somalia's medical operations. The Mass celebrated at the Basilica of St. John Lateran in Rome is the only papal Mass with a collection; all the money goes to a cause chosen by the pope.

■ Recent threats against Catholic institutions, indigenous and human rights organizations along Colombia's Pacific coast have formed a pattern of intimidation that has increasingly interfered with the church's human rights work, said the Colombian bishops' conference.

■ Pope Benedict XVI will meet with young people, recovering drug addicts and political leaders before opening a major assembly of Latin American bishops in Brazil in

May. The pope will also canonize a Brazilian Franciscan, Blessed Antonio Galvao, during his May 9-13 visit.

■ A Catholic rehabilitation center in Bangladesh has inspired more than 50 former drug addicts to start similar centers throughout the country. Bangladesh Rehabilitation and Assistance Center for Addicts, or BARACA, has helped more than 1,800 drug addicts since it was begun in 1988 by Caritas Bangladesh.

PEOPLE OF FAITH

■ Pope Benedict XVI has named Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, Vatican secretary of state, to serve as the camerlengo, the chamberlain of the Holy Roman Church. While the pope is alive, the job is basically just a title. But when a pope dies, the camerlengo is charged with sealing the papal apartments, chairing consultations about the papal funeral, making the practical preparations for the conclave to elect the next pope and chairing a committee of cardinals taking care of the temporal affairs of the church until a new pope is elected.



Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone

■ Auxiliary Bishop Joseph W. Estabrook of the Archdiocese for the Military Services will spend a year stationed on the West Coast of the United States, visiting members of the military services west of the Mississippi and in Alaska and Hawaii.

■ In ceremonies marking its 150th anniversary, the American College of the Catholic University of Louvain honored Father Raymond F. Collins, a noted U.S. Scripture scholar, for his contributions to the university and the American College. It gave him the Russell J. McVinney Medal, named after the Providence, R.I., bishop who was chiefly responsible for the reopening of the American College following its closure during World War II.

By the Way...

Tony Melendez and the Toe Jam Band performed in front of 400 people during a concert April 15 at Queen of the World Parish in St. Marys. Born without arms, Melendez plays the guitar with his feet. For years, he has traveled the world and said the tour stop in St. Marys was a "message of hope." In 1987, Melendez performed the song "Never Be the Same" for Pope John Paul II during a meeting with young people in Los Angeles. The late Holy Father was so moved that he left his seat to embrace him.



Jason Koshinski

The Mass and concert at Queen of the World were sponsored by Life Teen, the interparish youth ministry and religious education program of Queen of the World, St. Mary and Sacred Heart parishes in St. Marys. From St. Marys, Melendez traveled to Venezuela for four days of concerts and events. Look for a story on Melendez and the event in the May/June issue of *Faith* magazine.

Approximately 140 moms and pre-teen girls attended three **Mother-Daughter Teas** sponsored by the Natural Family Planning/Chastity Education Office. That number includes attendees at teas held April 1 at **St. George Parish** in Erie, April 14 at **Immaculate Conception Parish** in Clarion and those registered for the April 22 tea at **St. Marys Catholic Middle School** in St. Marys.

Created for girls ages 10 to 12 to attend with their moms, the teas give them a chance to discuss growing up. This year's events proved so popular that the NFP office is planning to offer four teas next year. Girls attending the teas represented 17 different schools from Erie, six from Clarion and homeschool students.

The fourth Sunday of Easter is commonly called **Good Shepherd Sunday**. The name is derived from the Gospel reading which depicts Jesus as the shepherd who cares for and watches over his flock. During the weekend Masses of April 28-29, the Erie Diocese will have a second collection to provide for the health and welfare of our older and infirm priests, who have watched over and cared for the spiritual needs throughout the diocese.

St. Mark Seminary will host a St. Mark day celebration for seminarians, their families and pastors on April 25. After Mass and dinner, Bishop Trautman will give seminary assignments to those who are moving on to major seminary.

The **Benedictine Sisters of Erie** will have a rite of blessing for their newly renovated chapel at Mount St. Benedict Monastery on April 29. There will be an open house for the public that afternoon from 3-5 p.m., which will include a brief tour of the architectural and liturgical highlights of the chapel.

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

Bishop Michael J. Murphy remembered for faith, wit & wisdom at funeral Mass

BISHOP MURPHY from page 1

we have known Bishop Michael Murphy," said Bishop Quinn, who fulfilled a personal request from Bishop Murphy by serving as homilist. "I think we struck it very rich to be included among those he preached to by word and example. He really was a good and gifted priest, prophet and shepherd leader who taught us well."

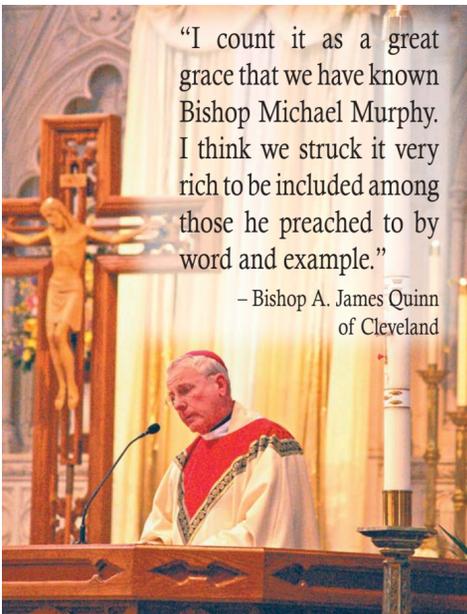
Bishop Quinn is a former student of Bishop Murphy, who spent more than half his active priesthood at teacher, vice rector and rector of St. Mary Seminary in Cleveland.

He said humor was a quality of Bishop Murphy's that merits mention because it is an attitude that enables us to see our blessings and see ourselves as we really are.

"Humor lifts spirits, mends bodies, lightens loads, cheers friends," he said. "Humor enables us not only to laugh at things but to laugh off painful things. There was ample seriousness in Bishop Michael Murphy, but he was veined with a levity that lifts spirits. He taught us that the sacred doesn't have to be grim."

During Communion, the cathedral choir sang "Faith, Hope and Love" by composer Alexander Peloquin. The piece was commissioned by Bishop Murphy in 1973 for the occasion of the 125th anniversary of the foundation of St. Mary Seminary.

One of the most powerful



"I count it as a great grace that we have known Bishop Michael Murphy. I think we struck it very rich to be included among those he preached to by word and example."

— Bishop A. James Quinn of Cleveland

moments of the funeral came after the prayer of commendation when the congregation sang "In Paradisium" to the tune of "Danny Boy," followed by an a cappella version of the traditional Marian hymn "Salve Regina" sung by the 200 clergy present.

After the Liturgy of the Eucharist, Bishop Trautman offered a eulogy which he opened by reading a letter of condolence from

Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, secretary of state of the Vatican, on behalf of Pope Benedict XVI.

"This man of keen intellect and quick wit and wisdom was a great gift of God for the church and especially this diocese," Bishop Trautman said. "On the episcopal chair sat a humble person, a kind person, a scholarly person, a man of deep faith, a man of God."

He said that above all, people



Photos by Art Becker

Pallbearers carry Bishop Michael Murphy's casket out of St. Peter Cathedral following his funeral Mass. Bishop Murphy was interred in the family plot at St. Joseph Cemetery in Cleveland.

will remember Bishop Murphy's "perseverance in faith—strong faith, uncompromising faith, a faith prayed and personalized, a faith meditated and reflected upon. His homilies give evidence of that personal prayer and reflection."

Bishop Trautman shared one final written instruction Bishop Murphy gave him for his funeral. He wrote, "Let hope and Christian joy prevail."

"Yes, Michael, we celebrate this Eucharist for you with hope and joy," Bishop Trautman said.

"For you, Michael, the strife is again. And we all rejoice with over, the battle won. Easter has you and for you. Amen! All-come and you have been born luia!"

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\$40 for members, \$45 for non-members
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Erie Area Theatre Organ Society
Connected with the restoration of the Sheas Theatre Pipe Organ project.
Call Joe Luckey at 871-7276
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ST. PETER'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL, BEAUFORT, SC
St. Peter's Catholic School, in Beaufort, South Carolina, seeks candidates for positions in Early Childhood K4, K5, 1st grade, 5th grade and Middle School Social Studies for the 2007/2008 school year.
We are seeking warm, caring certified individuals. St. Peter's is a K4-8th grade school with 200+ students. Visit our website at: www.stpeters-church.org.
Please send letter of interest and resume to:
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St. Peter's Catholic School
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Beaufort, SC 29907
Call (843) 522-2163 OR e-mail: blacombe@stpeters-church.org

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The 30th Annual **Rosary March**
Sunday, May 6 at 3 p.m.
in the Expo I Building at the Clearfield Fair Grounds
GUEST SPEAKER- Dr. Thomas Petrisko
Dynamic speaker, author of 17 books and editor/publisher of Queen of Peace Newspaper.
Join us in the outdoor Rosary and Eucharist Procession
"Pray the Rosary everyday in order to obtain peace for the world!" (O.L. of Fatima 1917)
There will be Religious Articles, Books, Literature, Food and Much More!
In case of inclement weather, the Rosary Procession will be moved into the Expo I Building
For more Information, CALL Bill Moore at (814) 765-0171

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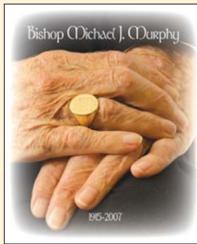
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Briefly

Diocese to publish Bishop Murphy tribute

The Erie Diocese's Office of Evangelization for Communications will publish a Bishop Michael J. Murphy commemorative tribute that will be distributed to parishes and available at Masses April 28-29.

This special issue will include an overview of his life and works, photos, reflections from friends and admirers and Bishop Murphy's last interview, an in-depth conversation he had with Msgr. Tom McSweeney, director of communications for the Erie Diocese.



Clearfield to hold 30th annual rosary march May 6

CLEARFIELD – The 30th annual Clearfield rosary march will be held on Sun., May 6. The event begins at 3 p.m. in the Expo I Building at the Clearfield Fair Grounds.

The guest speaker is Dr. Thomas Petrisko, author of 17 books and editor/publisher of *Queen of Peace* newspaper.

The march includes an outdoor rosary and Eucharist procession. There will also be religious articles, books, literature, food and more. In case of inclement weather, the march will be moved into the Expo I Building.

For more information, contact Bill Moore at 814.765.0171.

Fifth annual spirituality in mental health conference is May 22

ERIE – Several organizations will sponsor the fifth annual spirituality in mental health conference on Tues., May 22 at the Avalon Hotel in downtown Erie. The conference is titled "Many Facets of Spirituality in Mental Health Recovery."

The conference is from 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m. and includes lunch, keynote speakers and workshops.

Download a conference brochure and registration form at www.ErieRCD.org or www.peoplebridge.org.

The conference is sponsored by Catholic Charities, Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance of Pennsylvania, Erie County Mental Health/Mental Retardation, Northwest Pennsylvania Arc Health Education Center, Mental Health Association of North Western Pennsylvania, People Bridge, Safe Harbor Behavioral Health and Stairways Behavioral Health.

DEATH NOTICE

Bishop Michael J. Murphy, D.D., S.T.L., dies at 91

Retired bishop served Erie Diocese from 1978-90

ERIE — Bishop Michael J. Murphy, D.D., S.T.L., 91, retired bishop of the Diocese of Erie, died Tuesday, April 3, 2007 at the infirmary of the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse in Erie.

He was born July 1, 1915 in Cleveland, the only child of the late William and Mary Bridget (Patton) Murphy.

Raised in Cleveland, he attended grade school at St. Rose and St. James schools; he graduated from Cathedral Latin High School in 1933. He studied two years at Niagara University, Niagara Falls, N.Y., before entering St. Mary's Seminary in Cleveland in 1935.

He was assigned to complete his priesthood studies at North American College and Gregorian University in Rome, where he received a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy. His studies in Rome were interrupted in 1940 by World War II and he returned to the U.S. to enroll at the Theological College of the Catholic University of America in Washington. There he earned a Licentiate in Sacred Theology in 1942.

He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Cleveland on Feb. 28, 1942 by the late Bishop James McFadden at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist. He was appointed to the faculty of St. Mary's Seminary in 1943. In 1944, he was named the seminary's dean of students. In 1946, he was assigned to graduate studies at the Catholic University of

America. Returning to Cleveland in 1948, he was appointed vice rector of St. Mary's Seminary. He served as Rector of St. Mary's Seminary, Cleveland from 1963 to 1976.

On June 11, 1976, he was appointed auxiliary bishop of Cleveland and served as episcopal vicar for the Summit County area while living in Akron.

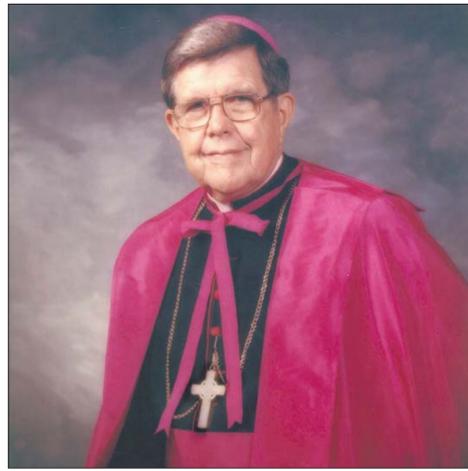
On Dec. 27, 1978, he was installed as coadjutor bishop of the Diocese of Erie with the right of succession. This appointment was among the first by the late Pope John Paul II.

While serving under Bishop Alfred M. Watson, Bishop Murphy traveled to every parish in the diocese, wrote a pastoral letter on marriage, implemented a policy of marriage preparation for all couples planning to be married in the Erie Diocese and undertook an extensive study of Catholic secondary schools.

When Bishop Watson retired on July 16, 1982, Bishop Murphy became the eighth bishop of the Diocese of Erie.

In 1983, Bishop Murphy founded the Emmaus program, an annual convocation of priests in the diocese offering them an opportunity to continue their education and spiritual formation.

In 1984, he announced a three-year plan to raise \$9 million to cover diocesan expenses, including renovation of St. Peter Cathedral. The appeal, titled "Share His Gifts – His Mission," temporarily replaced the annual



Bishop Michael J. Murphy

diocesan stewardship appeal and netted more than \$13 million in pledges.

The bishop delayed renovations on the cathedral following the release of Pope John Paul II's encyclical "On Social Concerns." Some of the funds were targeted to meet the educational and social needs of the diocese.

In 1985, Bishop Murphy took several actions that affected parishes: He established a policy of limited tenure for pastors and adhering to the Code of Canon Law, he ordered each parish to establish finance councils. He also announced that Renew, a three-year process of spiritual growth, would begin in parishes and institutions in the fall of 1986.

According to the Code of Can-

on Law, all bishops must submit a letter of retirement on their 75th birthday. Bishop Murphy turned 75 on July 1, 1990. His tenure as bishop of Erie officially ended on July 15, 1990 when Bishop Donald W. Trautman took canonical possession of the Erie Diocese.

Upon retirement, Bishop Murphy resided at St. Patrick Parish in Erie. On Feb. 28 of this year, he celebrated the 65th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. A Mass of Christian burial was held at St. Peter Cathedral on April 9. Interment was in the family plot at St. Joseph Cemetery in Cleveland.

Memorials may be made to the Bishop Michael J. Murphy Scholarship Fund at the Diocese of Erie, St. Mark Catholic Center, P.O. Box 10397, Erie, PA 16514.

Cathedral Prep to build athletic complex in downtown Erie

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

ERIE – Cathedral Prep High School has announced it plans to develop a multi-sport athletic complex in downtown Erie that will benefit not only students at Prep but also those within the Catholic elementary schools in the area.

At an April 4 news conference at the school, Cathedral Prep announced it has entered into an agreement with Gunite EMI Corporation and Accuride Corporation to purchase an eight-acre parcel that was formerly the EMI Foundry Building on the southeast corner of 12th and Cherry streets, as well as three acres on the west side of Cherry.

The athletic complex will include a multi-sport A-Turf field, an eight-lane all-weather track and an indoor facility that will house a 1,800-seat gymnasium, a 400-seat natatorium, a wrestling room and a weight room.

The development is part of a

comprehensive capital campaign Cathedral Prep will launch in the next 18 to 24 months, said Chris Hagerty, the school's director of advancement. The campaign is part of a five-year strategic plan that will include renovations to the school's science wing and auditorium. The targeted figure for the capital campaign is between \$10-12 million, Hagerty said.

"We're hopeful that we'll be able to make this project a reality by breaking ground sometime in the next three to five years," he said.

The property and initial development of the site will be paid for with a \$1.5 million donation from a Prep alumnus who wishes to remain anonymous, school officials said.

"This is obviously a very exciting day in the history of Cathedral Prep," said Father Scott Jabo, the school's headmaster. "Anyone who is familiar with Cathedral Prep, particularly our students and alums, know how landlocked our facility is. We've



A rendering of Cathedral Prep's envisioned athletic complex that will be located on 12th Street in downtown Erie. Its multi-purpose field will be used for football, soccer, lacrosse and other

been able to produce tremendous athletes with limited facilities over the years. What we have now is the opportunity to develop athletic facilities, which will help our students de-

velop into the very best athletes they can be."

Father Jabo said the announcement is also a message of strong hope for the Catholic grade schools in Erie.

sports. The natatorium will include a regulation size swimming pool, which will allow the school to host water polo and swim meets.

"They, too, will have access to these facilities to help better their programs," he said. "Our Catholic grade school students will have an opportunity to play on state-of-the-art fields and use

state-of-the-art facilities."

Father Nick Rouch, the Erie Diocese's vicar for education, said the diocese encourages Prep's loyal alumni to consider supporting the fundraising for this development, as well as other academic initiatives at the school.

"The diocese supports this effort because it's envisioned not just to build up the formation of Prep students but to welcome other students from our Catholic grade schools where they can compete well with each other in an environment of Christian faith and values."

The development, which will be adjacent to the Prep campus, will help beautify Erie's 12th Street corridor, Father Jabo said, and will be housed on property that is currently vacant. In lieu of property taxes, the school will contribute \$7,000 annually to the City of Erie. The amount roughly equals the tax revenue the city would receive from the vacant property, officials said.

Rally on Iraq anniversary calls for 'Peace! Now!'

By Anne-Marie Welsh
FaithLife executive editor

ERIE – It was a bitterly cold and windy day, but more than 1000 marchers bundled up and gathered in downtown Erie on March 18, the slow bang of a drum marking time. Sponsored by the Erie Peace Initiative, a conglomeration of five organizations committed to peace and non-violence, the march drew attention to the fourth anniversary of the United States' presence in Iraq.

"We urge the President to engage in diplomatic and political negotiations seeking a comprehensive cease fire by all factions in Iraq and the region," said Sister Christine Vladimiroff, OSB, prioress of the Benedictine Sisters of Erie, who addressed the group from the gazebo in Perry Square prior to the march.

Sister Christine later led the march along with Sister Bernadette Bell, RSM, president of the Mercy Regional Community of Erie and Sister Ricarda Vincent, SSJ, president of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania.

Speakers and marchers were careful to underscore their support for the troops that have been and will be deployed.

"Women and men serve our country in this war with dedication and sacrifice; we pray for a prompt and safe return to their families," Sister Bernadette told the crowd.

The marchers snaked through downtown Erie to the Armory at 6th and Parade streets where many left flowers or handmade paper peace cranes on a chain-link fence, creating a temporary memorial.

"What do we want? Peace!" they chanted.

"When do we want it? Now!"

The Erie Peace Initiative, with member organizations in Erie and Crawford counties, has four goals: bringing American troops home from Iraq now; ending additional troop deployment; preventing the establishment of permanent military bases in Iraq; and increasing funding for Iraq war veterans. The group is committed to education and action to stop the war on terrorism and to work for justice and peace.

Mercyhurst Prep sophomore Sadie Curtin, framed by peace cranes carried by a number of marchers in the recent March for Peace held in downtown Erie, sang an cappella version of "Amazing Grace" in Perry Square as part of the event.



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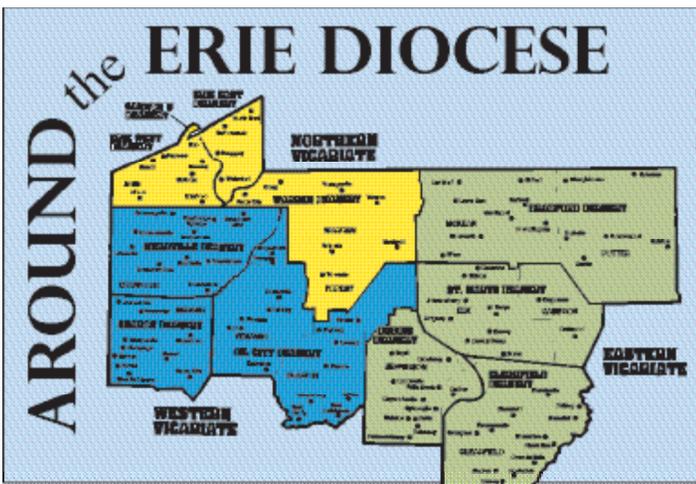
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Prayer shawls blessed at St. Michael, Greenville

GREENVILLE — The Prayer Shawl Ministry at St. Michael Parish in Greenville, a part of Michael's Mantle Care and Concern group from St. Michael Parish and St. Margaret Mission, celebrated a prayer shawl blessing on March 12 at St. Michael Church. Msgr. Andrew Karg, pastor of St. Michael, blessed 16 shawls, which were knitted or crocheted by 10 ladies who are members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Sister Mary Gertrude McElhinny, SC, will distribute these shawls along with a prayer card to residents of a local nursing homes, the sick and new mothers. Pictured from left to right are Msgr. Karg with altar servers and Prayer Shawl



Ministry members Dorothea McElhinny, Josephine Sunback Resek, Sister Mary Gertrude and Betty Stubert.

Knights of Columbus free-throw winners

TIONESTA — The Knights of Columbus regional free-throw competition was held Feb. 25 at West Forest High School in Tionesta. The winners of each class advance to the state championship May 10 at Trinity High School in Camp Hill.



The winners are: (front row, left to right) Carly Kriner and Sean Fye, Council No. 492, Titusville; Zack Price and Michele Jahn, Council No. 6191, Edinboro; (back row) Sara Stetler, Council No. 409, Clearfield; Roni Crowell, Council No. 8101, Morristdale; Juliana Ziroti, Council No. 4071, Erie; Justin Dahl, Edinboro; Kevin Klus, Council No. 4070, Union City; and Jimmy Lasher, Edinboro. Price netted 23 of 25 free

throws, with Ziroti, Klus and Lasher scoring 22 of 25. Lasher actually totaled 27 of 30 and Klus 31 of 35 due to shootouts resulting from ties. Photo by Melvin L. Ruminski

Children's author visits St. Patrick School

FRANKLIN -- Author Matt Janacone of New Castle (pictured with students) recently talked to several classes at St. Patrick School in Franklin about being an author of fiction books for both children and adults. Janacone was a physics major in college before he became interested in writing. His children's books include Finny the Friendly Shark, Timmy the Timid Dolphin and Barry the Oil Barrel. Photo by Jerry Sowden/The Derrick



St. Joseph students get visit from soldier home from Iraq

LUCINDA — Fourth grade students at St. Joseph School in Lucinda recently received a visit from Sgt. Deven Laird of Corry, who was on a two-week break from service in Iraq. The students have been writing to Laird, who has been stationed in Iraq for the past eight months. The class enjoyed lunch with Sgt. Laird, played games and spent time talking. Laird will return to Iraq to finish his duty and should return to the states in September. The students will continue to write to him, said 4th grade teacher Betsy Ochs.



Sgt. Deven Laird of Corry visits with students at St. Joseph School in Lucinda during a two-week break from duty in Iraq.

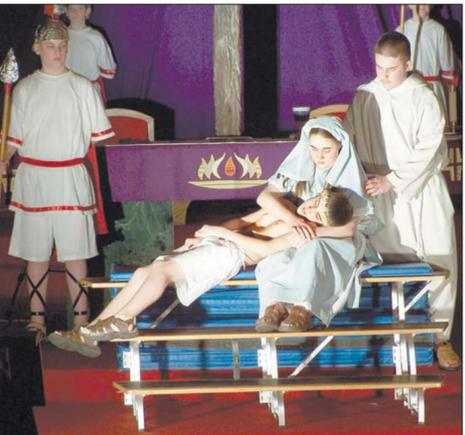
St. Boniface students walk through Jesus' final hours

KERSEY — Fifth graders at St. Boniface School in Kersey are pictured portraying the fourth Station on the Cross where Jesus meets his mother, Mary. "They walk through the last hours of Jesus as a way to help others remember the suffering that Jesus experienced before he died," said principal Marie Giazzoni. Pictured are Anthony Cesa as Jesus and Jordyn Lenox portraying Mary.



OLP presents Living Stations for school, parish

ERIE — The 5th and 6th grade students at Our Lady of Peace School in Erie presented the Living Stations of the Cross on March 9 to the school in the afternoon and then the parish family in the evening. Pictured from left to right are Ryan Kramer (soldier), Andrew Harrington (Jesus), Catherine McElhinny (Mary), Casey Schultz (St. John), and Elizabeth Galleher (soldier).



Cathedral Center students thinking of troops in Iraq

ERIE — In a recent service project, 7th and 8th graders at Cathedral Center School in Erie collected 75 pounds of supplies to send to the troops in Iraq. The items will be sent to and dispersed by Dan Heller, brother of 8th grader Samantha Heller, who is serving his second tour of duty in Iraq. Pictured left to right are: Ellen Zegarelli, Nicholas Bird, Natalie Kretzing, Samantha Heller and Dominic Flaminio.



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