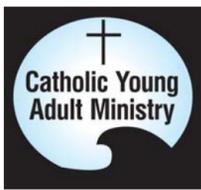


Looking for fellowship?

Bowling, beach Mass planned for Catholic young adults, page 2.



FaithLife

Divine Mercy Sunday

Our Lady of Peace, St. Ann in Erie to hold services, page 2.



www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

April 24, 2011

Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

Feast days



St. Mark



St. Catherine of Siena

April 25	St. Mark, evangelist
April 28	St. Louis de Montfort, priest, founder of the Company of Mary and the Daughters of Wisdom
April 29	St. Catherine of Siena, virgin, doctor of the church
April 30	St. Pius V, pope
May 1	Divine Mercy Sunday
May 2	St. Athanasius, bishop of Alexandria, doctor of the church
May 3	St. Philip and St. James, apostles
May 5	National Day of Prayer
May 8	Mother's Day

Confirmations

St. Joseph, Sharon – Saturday, April 30 at 5:15 p.m.

Ordination of transitional deacon – April 30

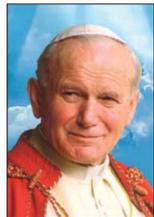
A seminarian for the Diocese of Erie will soon take another step toward priesthood. Bishop Donald Trautman will ordain seminarian Brandon Kleckner (Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Erie) into the order of the diaconate during a 10:30 a.m. Mass on Saturday, April 30 at St. Mark Seminary Chapel, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie. Kleckner is a third-year theology student studying for the priesthood at St. Vincent Seminary in Latrobe.



Brandon Kleckner

Beatification of Pope John Paul II – May 1

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has launched a new website to honor the legacy of the late Pope John Paul II. The site (www.usccb.org/popejohnpaulii/) features a 17-minute "John Paul II Memorial Video," which recaptures touching moments and key messages during the late pope's visits to the United States. Other contents on the site include a biography and a timeline, as well as major writings, backgrounders, canonizations and beatifications and more.



Pope John Paul II

The globetrotting, prolific author and long-reigning pope will be beatified May 1 at the Vatican, in a ceremony presided over by his successor, Pope Benedict XVI.

See the story on Page 2.

The new Roman Missal

Q: What about music parts of the Mass in the new translation?

A: Now that a final text is available, the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL) has prepared original chants that were adapted to the changes in the texts. These were prepared in a format for use by the publishers of the Missal. In addition, publishers of liturgical music are already prepared to offer musical settings for the new texts so that music directors in parishes will be ready to teach other new settings in addition to the chants contained in the Missal. These settings are not to be used for liturgical celebration until the date of implementation.



– United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)
There are 217 days to the implementation of the new Roman Missal (as of April 24)

The proof of Easter is in the empty tomb

An Easter message from Bishop Donald Trautman

Jesus of Nazareth died on a Friday afternoon. He was walking around alive on Sunday morning. What that meant to his disciples and followers for 2,000 years is the history of Christianity. It is the story of conversion of countless numbers of people from early Christian times down to the present. It is the story of witness and martyrdom and heroic missionaries. It is the story of ordinary people who belong to Christ and live Christ in the midst of the world. The resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth is the most decisive event in all history. Nothing will ever equal its importance.

When you buy a home appliance or purchase a new car, you receive a warranty that guarantees the product. The resurrection of Jesus is the warranty of our faith. It is the guarantee—the proof of proofs that all that Christ revealed and taught has been vindicated. Easter confirms the truth in the person of

the living, risen Lord. The risen Jesus has triumphed over death, over enemies, over Satan, over sin. The empty tomb is the proof that Christ alone is the way, the truth and the life.

What does the empty tomb mean for us? We cannot live the same as before. Easter is not an emotional or spiritual high. Easter is for conversion. Because of the risen Christ, we now have new priorities, new hope for handling disappointments and sorrows and crosses. Sinners have a new way of seeking happiness; happiness that lasts. The empty tomb tells us that we have a new beginning, and we have new strength that comes from the risen Lord. Christ is the fulfillment of our lives. We



Bishop Donald Trautman



(CNS photo)

An angel and three women are shown at the empty tomb of Christ in this depiction of Easter morning by German painter Peter von Cornelius.

need look for no other. Easter tells us that God has the final word. By his resurrection, Jesus has taken the tragedies of life and turned them into new life and hope. Sin and death could not hold Jesus down; he rose from the

dead, defying all the powers of evil. He won! And his victory gives us new hope and takes away discouragement and defeat. By his resurrection, Christ gives us the proof, the certitude, the assurance that

in the end, victory belongs to God. The resurrection is like the first eruption of a mighty volcano, exploding and shooting up from the depths of the

See EASTER, page 2

Renovated church rededicated at St. Leo, Ridgway

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

RIDGWAY – As a lifelong parishioner at St. Leo Magnus Parish in Ridgway, Nancy Kucenski thought she had seen it all.

She remembers the first church and when it was destroyed by fire in 1940. She recalls when the current church was built in 1941. Now, after more than four months of renovations, she can say she was there when it was rededicated.

"I just can't believe it's the same church," Kucenski said.

Bishop Donald Trautman presided at a rededication Mass April 14 at St. Leo with parishioners, clergy, religious and community members in attendance.

Father Brian Vossler, pastor of St. Leo, said the renovations were done with the future of the faith community in mind.

"We did this for the people and to enhance their faith," Father Vossler said. "The beauty of the church should reflect their faith."

The project moved quickly beginning in August. Parishioners Dennis and Rose Heindl donated more than \$1 million toward the restoration, and parishioners and contractors were quick to help with additional costs, donating items and services. Total cost of the

project was \$1.3 million.

The church itself was emptied Dec. 1 so the top-to-bottom refurbishing could commence. Sunday and vigil Masses were moved to Ridgway Area High School's auditorium.

"There was a lot of prayer and support for this project," Father Vossler said.

Dennis Heindl, who also served as clerk of the works on the restoration, said 95 percent of the work was done by local contractors and craftsmen from Ridgway, St. Marys, Johnsonburg, DuBois and other areas.

A number of special purchases were made to serve as centerpieces, including terracotta Stations of the Cross and marble items such as the altar of repose, the altar of sacrifice and the baptistery. A significant change was moving the tabernacle from the side of the altar area to the center of the altar of repose.

The angel mural painted on the sanctuary dome is based on the original church painting from 1941.

Intricate woodwork now frames the windows, doorways, statues, arches and new pulpit. Decorative ceiling tiles were installed with gold medallions and stenciling used as highlights. Wood graining and marbled painting techniques were used in a number

See ST. LEO, page 3



Bishop Donald Trautman celebrated a rededication Mass April 14 at St. Leo Magnus Parish in Ridgway. The church had been closed since Dec. 1 for top-to-bottom renovations and refurbishing.

'Your Kingdom is Glorious'

Middle school youth rally focuses on the joy of being Catholic

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

WARREN – Jackie Francois' imitations of accents and animal sounds kept nearly 400 middle schoolers from around the Diocese of Erie entertained April 10, but it was unabashed and unapologetic enthusiasm for being Catholic that left them inspired.

The Diocese of Erie's Youth and Young Adult Ministry sponsored the annual middle school youth rally April 10 at St. Joseph Parish in Warren.

The theme for the rally was "Your Kingdom is Glorious," which is the title of Francois' latest album. A singer, songwriter and speaker from Placentia, Calif., Francois taught herself how to play

the guitar at age 18. Now 27, she offers her witness of growing up Catholic and finding the love of Christ to teens throughout the United States and across the globe.

"True love is a choice," Francois said. "Laying down your life for someone, that's true love. Real love is sacrifice. I kept seeing what MTV was showing me about love; it's about what I can get, feelings and pleasure. But real love is about sacrifice and stepping up and being that man or that woman and saying, 'I want to learn how to really love.'"

She then sang the song, "Trading My Sorrows," and showed the audience how to do signs and hand signals at certain



Jackie Francois

See YOUTH RALLY, page 3

New translation of Roman Missal opens up richness, speaker says

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

ERIE – Sister Joyce Ann Zimmerman is very clear when talking about the Roman Missal.

"We're not getting a new Mass," Sister Joyce Ann said. "What we're getting is a new translation."

Sister Joyce Ann, a nationally recognized liturgical theologian and a member of the Sisters of the Precious Blood and director of the Institute for Theological Ministry in Dayton, Ohio, presented two talks April 7 on the Roman Missal at Mercyhurst College.

In an afternoon session for clergy and lay liturgical and music professionals, she spoke in the Mercy Heritage Room on "Leadership for Liturgy: Building Blocks to Help Us Implement the



Sister Joyce Ann Zimmerman

Third Edition of the Roman Missal." In the public evening session, her talk in Walker Recital Hall focused on "Learning About and Praying Liturgy Better: An Introduction to the New Roman Missal."

See ROMAN MISSAL, page 3

John Paul II being beatified for holiness, not his papacy, speakers say

By Catholic News Service

ROME — Pope John Paul II is being beatified not because of his impact on history or on the Catholic Church, but because of the way he lived the Christian virtues of faith, hope and love, said Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes.

"Clearly his cause was put on the fast track, but the process was done carefully and meticulously, following the rules Pope John Paul himself issued in 1983," the cardinal said April 1, during a conference at the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross in Rome.

The cardinal said the church wanted to respond positively to many Catholics' hopes to have Pope John Paul beatified quickly, but it also wanted to be certain that the pope, who died in 2005, is in heaven.

Cardinal Amato said the sainthood process is one of the areas of church life where the consensus of church members, technically the "sensus fidelium" ("sense of the faithful"), really counts.

"From the day of his death on April 2, 2005, the people of God began proclaiming his holiness," and hundreds, if not thousands, visit his tomb each day, the cardinal said. A further sign is the number of biographies published about him and the number of his writings that are translated and re-published.

"In the course of a beatification cause, there is the vox populi," he said, which must be "accompanied by the vox dei (voice of God) — the miracles — and the vox ecclesiae (voice of the church)," which is the official

judgment issued after interviewing eyewitnesses and consulting with historians, physicians, theologians and church leaders to verify the candidate's holiness.

Beatification and canonization are not recognitions of someone's superior understanding of theology, nor of the great works he or she accomplished, he said. Declaring someone a saint, the church attests to the fact that he or she lived the Christian virtues in a truly extraordinary way and is a model to be imitated by others, the cardinal said.

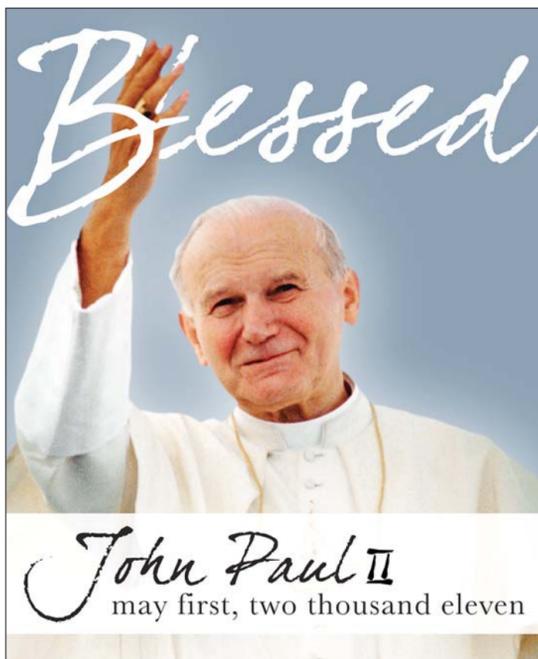
The candidate, he said, must be perceived "as an image of Christ."

Vatican announces Masses, Oct. 22 feast day

The feast day of Blessed John Paul II will be marked Oct. 22 each year in Rome and the dioceses of Poland.

When the Vatican made the announcement April 11, it also said Catholics throughout the world will have a year to celebrate a Mass in thanksgiving for his beatification. While thanksgiving Masses for a beatification — like the observance of a feast day — usually are limited to places where the person lived or worked, "the exceptional character of the beatification of the Venerable John Paul II, recognized by the entire Catholic Church spread throughout the world," led to a general permission for the thanksgiving Mass, said a decree from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments.

In the Diocese of Rome, where Pope John Paul served as bishop, and in all the dioceses of his native Poland, his feast day is to be inserted automatically into the



annual calendar, the decree said. Oct. 22 was chosen as the day to remember him because it is the anniversary of the liturgical inauguration of his papacy in 1978.

French nun cured of Parkinson's to speak at prayer vigil

The French nun whose healing was accepted as the miracle needed for Pope John Paul II's beatification will share her story with pilgrims at a prayer vigil in Rome the night before the beatification Mass.

Cardinal Agostino Vallini, the papal vicar for Rome, said the vigil April 30 would include "the precious testimony" of Joaquin Navarro-Valls, the former papal

spokesman; Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz of Krakow, Poland, who was the pope's personal secretary for almost 40 years; and Sister Marie-Simon-Pierre, the member of the Little Sisters of the Catholic Motherhood, who had been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and believes she was cured in 2005 through the intercession of Pope John Paul.

Rome expecting many pilgrims

Church and local government organizers are planning to accommodate at least 300,000 people in St. Peter's Square and the surrounding area for Pope John Paul II's beatification Mass May 1.

By the Way...

Happy Easter and welcome home to all Catholics returning to the church!

Father Ted Marconi provided WJAC-TV with commentary of Bishop Mark Bartchak's episcopal ordination and installation Mass April 19. While the Mass was at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona, Father Marconi was in a television studio a block away guiding viewers through the ordination rite. The pastor of Our Lady of Peace Parish in Erie had one of the best seats in the house.



Jason Koshinski

While serving the Altoona-Johnstown area, WJAC-TV reaches Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson and McKean counties in the Diocese of Erie.

Father Rich Toohey, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Warren, preached at all seven Catholic high schools in the Diocese of Erie over an 11-day period this Lent, urging students to experience the beauty of God's mercy in the sacrament of reconciliation. Father Rich's powerful, humorous, energetic and real message touched the hearts and souls of many teens; area priests heard hundreds of confessions.

Msgr. Charles Kaza, pastor of St. Tobias Parish in Brockway and episcopal vicar for the diocese's Eastern Vicariate, tells us that the penance services in the area have been well attended.

"There will usually be one in a different parish each night of the week," Msgr. Kaza said. "The confessions have been good, with a lot of people coming for the first time in many years."

Perhaps these members of the faithful have been inspired by the Catholics Come Home commercials that have aired on TV stations and cable outlets across the 13 counties of the diocese throughout the 40 days of Lent.

During his remarks at the April 14 rededication Mass at St. Leo Parish in Ridgway, Bishop Donald Trautman announced that upon his recommendation, Pope Benedict XVI has conferred the Papal Cross upon Dennis and Rose Heindl. The Heindls contributed more than \$1 million toward the church's \$1.3 million renovation. The bishop then presented the Heindls with a certificate. The award itself will arrive at a later date.

"This recognition comes as a result of your commitment to your Catholic faith and your dedication and continued support of the work of the church and the spread of the Gospel," Bishop Trautman said.

First given by Pope Leo XIII in 1888, the Papal Cross *pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* is given to clergy, religious and laity who have given exemplary service for the church and for the pope. Originally intended to honor those who were of direct service to the pope, today this cross is ordinarily awarded to those whose service is rendered primarily to the local church.

The rededication Mass was broadcast live by The Hound WDDH FM 97.5 in Ridgway.

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

Catholic Young Adult Ministry plans events for 2011

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

ERIE — Are you looking for fellowship with other Catholic young adults? Do you sometimes feel as if you're the only Catholic out there between the ages of 21-39?

The Erie Catholic Young Adult Ministry (CYAM) invites all Catholic young adults—single or married—for faith, fellowship, prayer and service to four major events planned for 2011.

- Bowling at Greengarden Lanes, 1583 W. 38th St. in Erie on Sunday, May 1 from 7 to 9 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person (cash only) for shoe rental and games.

- Mass on the beach — Sun-



day, June 26 (Save the date). This Mass and picnic will take place at Presque Isle State Park, with the beach and time to be determined.

- Volunteer/service project — Sunday, Sept. 25. Ideas include Habitat for Humanity, Second Harvest Food Bank, Adopt a Highway cleanup, etc. Sugges-

tions welcomed.

- Speaker with beer and Bible — November (final date and location to be determined).

"CYAM (Catholic Young Adult Ministry) is a ministry that meets young adults where they are in life," said Theresa Walsh, CYAM coordinator.

The group includes adults who are married, single or divorced, Walsh said, who fall between the ages of 21 to 39.

"Young adults are in various phases of life," she said. "They are buying their first homes, just had their second child or starting a new job. CYAM provides the opportunity to meet up with other young adults and provide a community of togetherness as we

help each other on our journey to Christ."

The theme for this year's events revolves around fellowship, faith, service and formation, Walsh said.

"It's our hope to see the Diocese of Erie's CYAM grow and foster in Erie's young adults a deeper relationship in the Catholic faith," she said.

Erie CYAM is affiliated with the Diocese of Erie and is under the direction of the Office of Young Adult Ministry.

For more information on the Erie C-YAMs and their activities, visit www.ErieRCD.org/cyam.htm or e-mail Theresa Walsh at CYAMerie@gmail.com.

The proof of Easter is in the empty tomb

EASTER, from page 1

earth. Christ rises from the dead, conquering all sin and death.

Easter is a day of hope reborn and of courage renewed. Good Friday was for a day, but Easter is forever. The church on earth may well be passing through its Good Friday, but Christ will have the last word and it will be a word of victory. Our task now is to have faith and trust in the Lord and to live Christ's Gospel in the midst of darkness.

The proof of Easter is in the empty tomb and in the changed lives of people: Mary Magdalene, Peter, Paul, Matthew, Luke, Benedict, Francis of Assisi, Elizabeth Ann Seton, Mother Teresa of Calcutta, Pope John Paul II and countless other followers of the Lord down through 2,000 years. These are the people who form the real Easter parade. Their lives are made new through the energy of the risen Christ. It is

the risen Christ who makes the difference. The Lord can make the difference also in our lives.

Easter power has never been withdrawn from the church. Down through the centuries, Christ has been raising and sustaining an Easter people. He alone is the creator of the real Easter parade—that long procession of a Christ-raised people, a Christ-changed people. Let us join in that Easter parade. Let us be Christ-centered and follow that parade into heaven. Amen. Alleluia.

Donald W. Trautman

Most Rev. Donald W. Trautman, STD, SSL
Bishop of Erie

FaithLife

The official news bulletin of the Catholic Diocese of Erie

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Golf Raffle & Casino Night

Friday, May 6

presented by Knights of Columbus, Council 11144
Our Lady of Mercy Church
Bartlett and Dutton Roads, Harborcreek
Doors open 6 to 11 pm

Donation: \$7.00 or 4 for \$25.00; must be 21 to enter (Tickets available at the door)

Free food and refreshments, casino, table games, raffles, 20 great prizes, 12 additional cash prizes for those who attend

Several of the top prizes include:

Weekend for 4 at a golf resort; Nascar tickets for 4 at Michigan 400 Speedway; Memberships to 3 local golf courses

2 Steelers tickets for club level seating



Saturday—April 30, 2011

7:00 p.m. - Midnight
Rainbow Gardens, Erie
(doors open at 6:00 p.m.)

Cash back drawings throughout the night

3 chances for \$200
3 chances for \$300
4 chances for \$500
1 chance for \$1,000
1 chance for \$2,500
Top Prize Drawing - \$10,000

Games of Chance ~ Video Horse Races ~ 50/50 ~ Instant Bingo
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Briefly

Reflection afternoon for women in Port Allegany

PORT ALLEGANY – The sisters of Catholic Rural Ministry in the Bradford Deanery will sponsor a reflection afternoon for women on Tuesday, May 3 from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Catholic Rural Ministry Center, 472 Sartwell Creek Road in Port Allegany.

The theme for the afternoon is “Uncommon Gratitude—Alleluia for All that Is.” The program includes presentations, time for conversation, private reflection and prayer.

Reservations are due by Friday, April 29. 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@zitomedia.net. Donation is \$5.

Catholic Charities Ball to honor Msgr. James Peterson, Peterson family

ERIE – The Triple Crown Event, the 16th annual Catholic Charities Ball, will be held on Friday, May 13 at the Erie Bayfront Convention Center beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Proceeds from the \$75 per person ticket will directly benefit families in need of all faiths.

The evening will honor Msgr. James Peterson (Father Pete) and the Peterson family, and offers music by The Chosen Few Band, extensive food stations, a celebrity dance contest and silent auction.

For tickets, call 814.824.1250.

Made2Worship at St. George, Erie

ERIE – St. George Parish in Erie will host Made2Worship, a new prayer movement that combines witness, word and worship by bringing faithful families together in praise and adoration.

Made2Worship blends real-life stories of faith, proclamation of the word and contemporary praise and worship.

The first Made2Worship event will be held on Wednesday, May 4 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. followed by fellowship. Individuals and families are encouraged to bring a free-standing candle. These events are scheduled on the first Wednesday of each month from May through November at the church, located at 5145 Peach St. in Erie.

The schedule of presenters and presiders is as follows:

- May 4 – Aaron Pfoutz/Father Steve Schreiber
- June 1 – Kathleen Peterson/Father Michael Kesicki
- July 6 – Buddy Stark/Father Johnathan Schmolt
- Aug. 3 – Annette Ahrens/Father Rich Toohey
- Sept. 7 – Dr. Jeff McGovern/Father Chris Singer
- Oct. 5 – Angie Amburn/Father Nicholas Rouch
- Nov. 2 – Damon Finazzo/Msgr. William Biebel

For more information, call 814.864.5755, e-mail Alive@Made2Worship.org or visit www.Made2Worship.org.



New translation of Roman Missal opens up richness, speaker says

ROMAN MISSAL, from page 1

The event was co-sponsored by the Diocese of Erie's Office of Worship and the Center for Mercy and Catholic Studies of Mercyhurst College.

“People are saying, ‘We just got used to the changes. Are you going to change everything again?’ The answer is no,” she said at the evening session. “What we are getting is a new translation, new words. Some of those words can be greatly misunderstood. In other cases, the words in the new translation really open up our imaginations in whole new ways.”

The third edition of the Roman Missal will be implemented in parishes throughout the United States beginning with the first Sunday of Advent, Nov. 27.

“Much of the media, as I've read it at least, has been pretty negative about what's coming,” said Sister Joyce Ann, who has worked with the text for the past three years. “The vast majority of the new translation is a great improvement over what we currently have. We don't really know the problems with our current translation because we have nothing to compare it with. Now we have a new translation that will allow for some comparison.”

Only when she sits down at her desk and looks at the Latin of the current translation and the new translation and compares them, she said she begins to see some of the problems with the current translation.

She gave several examples of

how the new translation brings about more richness in terms of language.

The second Eucharistic Prayer currently reads: “Lord, send down your spirit upon these gifts that they may become for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

The new translation of the prayer reads: “Make holy therefore these gifts we pray, by sending down your spirit upon them like the dewfall.”

“It's not in our current text, but it's in the Latin text,” Sister Joyce Ann said. “We've just not translated that for 45 years. Dewfall is a nice image. In the spring, we have those delightful mornings when we go out and the grass will be covered with dew. It smells fresh. And the dew is not discriminating. It doesn't just cover one tuft of grass; it covers everything. And it refreshes everything and brings everything back to life.”

“It's kind of an image of the Holy Spirit completely and totally covering these gifts, bringing life, bringing refreshment to them. It's a wonderful image to think about. We could take this image of dewfall and spend weeks reflecting on it.”

As the new translations of the prayers are unfolded, Sister Joyce Ann gave some advice.

“Don't let these images go by because what they do is they open a whole theology of the prayer for us and opens up a richness for us that we really never had available,” she said.



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Middle school youth rally focuses on the joy of being Catholic

YOUTH RALLY, from page 1

points during the lyrics.

Francois grew up Catholic. Her mother is Catholic; her father is not.

“We went to Mass every Sunday and at night we said our prayers,” she said. “All I really knew about Jesus was that he was a really good guy.”

When she was in 8th grade, she recalled saying that she didn't want to have sex until she was married, she didn't want to drink until she was of legal age and she didn't want to do drugs.

“I'm a very logical person, and for me it just made sense,” she said. “I just wanted to do well in school and go to college. But thank God that I made that commitment because I've stuck to it my whole life. And I still can say, I'm 27, I'm single and I'm still waiting for my husband, I've never had sex because I made that promise in 8th grade.”

After a round of applause, Francois said she made those decisions as a way to live for God.

In high school, she was part of a youth group but said she didn't tell people she was Catholic.

“I was afraid that they were going to make fun of me,” she said. “I was afraid they were going to ask me about my faith because I didn't know how to answer them.”

That all changed after her senior year. She attended a week-long retreat sponsored by Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio, which was holding them throughout the country.

“I was there for a week and I experienced a few things that changed my life,” Francois said.



Nearly 400 middle school students from around the Diocese of Erie attended the “For Your Kingdom is Glorious” youth rally April 10 at St. Joseph Parish in Warren.

“One of them was daily Mass. And I met people who were on fire for their faith. They knew so much about being Catholic, they were in love with the Eucharist and they were fun. They didn't have to use bad language or gossip to be cool. And I was like, I want that.”

A week later, she started going to daily Mass and studying the Scriptures.

“I had never opened a Bible by myself until I was 18 years old,” she said. “In college, people were shocked to find out I was Catholic because I was actually excited about Jesus. I think that people think that Catholics are very dull people or they've never experienced a Catholic who is on fire for their faith.”

She mentioned that one of

her favorite sayings comes from Mother Teresa who said, “Joy is the net of love by which we catch souls.”

“When you're in love, you can't help but tell anybody and everybody who comes your way about the love that you've experienced,” she said. “And I have never experienced a love like the one that God gave me.”

The youth rally began with Mass with Bishop Donald Trautman.

Twelve priests were on hand to hear confessions.

To see video highlights of the rally, visit www.OntheVine.us

What they're saying about 'Your Kingdom is Glorious'

“I thought the rally was really inspiring, especially Jackie.”

– Anna Falvo, St. Joseph, Warren

“Jackie told us her story and we could relate to it.”

– Jennifer Jaskolka, St. Joseph, Warren

“Just getting together with people from other parishes was fun.”

– Chris Little, St. Marys inter-parish youth group

“There were a lot of new people to meet here.”

– John Caskey, St. Marys inter-parish youth group

“I liked being together and talking about God.”

– Danielle Falls, St. John the Evangelist, Girard

Renovated church rededicated at St. Leo, Ridgway

ST. LEO, from page 1

of areas including the choir loft, confessional, railings, stairways, church doors, sacristy cabinets and windowsills.

Extensive rewiring was done throughout the church to accommodate a new sound system, video streaming of Mass on the parish website, security cameras and electronic votive candles.

New flooring throughout the church includes blue carpet in the main part of the church, gathering space and sacristies, rubber linoleum under the pews, marble and ceramic tile in the sanctuary and rubber material added to all steps. The pews were refinished and new seat padding, book racks and padded kneelers were added.

There are a number of new statues which are hand carved in wood including a figure of Blessed Mother Theresa holding a child and St. Leo based on the stone carving over the front entrance of the church.

Outside, the parking lot has been repaved and new lights added. A new sign with an elec-



A number of signature pieces were included with renovations at St. Leo Magnus Parish in Ridgway. Among them are a new sign with an electronic marquee and a hand-carved wooden statue of Blessed Mother Theresa holding a child.

tronic marquee greets visitors and passers-by.

In his homily, Bishop Trautman said St. Leo's parish community will carry out in the newly renovated sanctuary the same commandment that Jesus gave to his followers at the Last Supper—“Do this in memory of me.”

“That upper room in Jerusalem where Christ celebrated the first Eucharist is now this church—this is the new upper room. Just as the



source of your unity. The table of the Lord represents Christ and is the reason why this Catholic community exists.”

During the dedication, the bishop deposited relics of several saints beneath the altar before anointing the altar and walls with sacred chrism, which is the consecrated oil used in baptism, confirmation and holy orders.

“Today, we add to the legacy of this faith community by blessing and dedicating this beautifully renovated church, passing it on to future generations,” he said. “We have reason to rejoice and give thanks. Our magnificently renovated church makes a powerful statement. It says this is a vibrant parish community with an exquisite worship space. Let us be proud of this, our spiritual home.”

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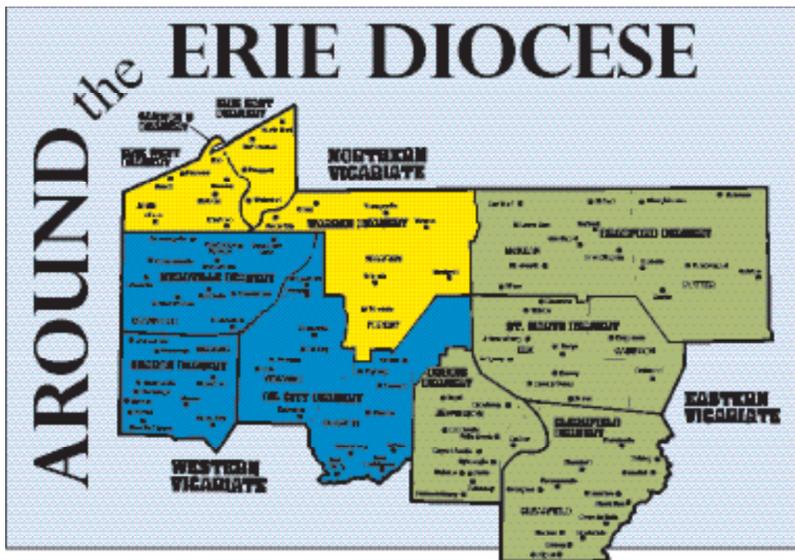
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Visit ErieRCD.org/faithlife.asp to download quick and easy photo tips on a wallet-size card.



Anointing Mass at St. Mary of Grace, Meadville

MEADVILLE – St. Mary of Grace Parish in Meadville held a special Mass on March 30 for the sacrament of the anointing of the sick.

Father Marc Solomon, pastor of St. Mary of Grace, was the celebrant and administered the sacrament to 58 people in attendance. Those who didn't receive the sacrament were given a special blessing.

After Mass, more than 85 people attended lunch in the parish center.

The sacrament of the anointing of the sick is given to people who suffer from an illness that affects their body, mind, personality or spirit.



Father Marc Solomon gives the sacrament of anointing of the sick.

Oil City youths receive St. Joseph service award

OIL CITY – Two youths at St. Joseph Parish in Oil City were recently honored for their service to the church.

Father Justin Pino, pastor of St. Joseph, presented Eric McMahon and Alyssa Zlotnicki with the St. Joseph Service Award on March 19, the feast of St. Joseph.

"They both work really hard to support the parish," Father Pino said of the honorees. "They do a lot of volunteer work. They're really good examples of faithful young Christians."

McMahon and Zlotnicki both attend Venango Catholic High School in Oil City and are altar servers at the parish.

The parish award was instituted in 1995 by former pastor Father Bill Miller.



Left to right are Eric McMahon, Father Justin Pino and Alyssa Zlotnicki.

Students participate in 24-hour famine at Immaculate Conception, Clarion

CLARION – Tenth grade religious education students from Immaculate Conception Parish in Clarion fasted March 12-13 as part of a 24-hour famine, raising \$1,000 for Food for Friends, which offers hot meals every Wednesday. The money raised came from sponsors who made pledges for the students to fast.

During the 24-hour famine, students enjoyed a scavenger hunt on the campus of Clarion University, cleaned the pews and kneelers in the church, prayed the Stations of the Cross and participated in the Sunday Mass.

The 10th grade parents provided the "break the fast" meal after Mass.

The Famine Youths were: Monica Barboza, Andrew Bigley, Taylor Clark, Clay Hawthorn, Ashley Hummell, Audrey Hummell, Jonathan Kenneson, Andrea Kiser, Kyle Kiser, Kyle Korchak, Noah Lingwall, Alicia McCauley, Caitlin Means, Tara Peterson, Erica Reddinger, Nick



Rombold, Thomas Sarvey, Ross Shingledecker, Tanner Steiner, Hannah Wolf, and Lucas Zacherl. Their chaperons were Monica and Ken Martin, Ann Enderle Liska, and Lynne Fleisher.

Living Stations at St. Stephen, Oil City

OIL CITY – Eighth grade students at St. Stephen School in Oil City presented their annual Living Stations of the Cross on April 8 at St. Stephen Parish and again on Holy Thursday, April 21 at the school.

Practicing their parts are (left to right) Nathan Dudzic (soldier), Chance Chase (Simon), Scott Toy (Jesus) and Luke Plumer (soldier).



Venango Catholic students earn Science Olympiad honors

OIL CITY – Venango Catholic High School in Oil City recently competed in the Northwestern Pennsylvania Regional Science Olympiad at Clarion University on March 24, with 27 schools in attendance.

VCHS received medals in the following categories: Disease Detectives, food borne illness (2nd place) – Luke Ziegler and Julia Sporer; Microbe Mission (1st place) – Jake Smith and Kayla Cook; Mission Possible (1st place) – Smith and Cook; Fossils (4th place) – David Brooker and Nicholas Barletta.

Pictured left to right are: (front row) Front row: Julia Sporer, Kayla Cook, Nicholas Barletta, (back row) Luke Ziegler, Jake Smith and David Brooker.



DCC middle school students stage annual Passion play

DUBOIS – DuBois Central Catholic's 6th graders staged their annual re-enactment of the Stations of the Cross during Holy Week. Staging a Passion play is the final project for their current study of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

On April 19, the group performed in the school's auditorium for DCC's elementary school students and staff before taking the play on the road later that day for the residents of Christ the King Manor in DuBois.

On April 20, secondary students and staff viewed the play. Family, friends and the general public also attended a performance in the evening.



Cast members for this year's Passion play, pictured left to right: (kneeling) Zachary Logan, Brian Elias, Markus McCullough, Rebecca Pifer, Sadie Peck, Emily Metzger, Hannah Flynn, Libby Maurer, Jordan Frank, (middle row) Nicole Snyder, Starleen Young, Gabby Caruso, Riley Assalone, Jackson Frank, Pedar Garred, Abby Aughenbaugh, Noah Donahue, Trisha Gupta, Alex Pendolino, (top row) Macey Hanes, Michael Misiewicz, Austen Cogley, Jonathon Dixon, Riley Meyers, Noah Pettenati, Bethany Stoddard, Lauren Holdren, Emily Rhoades, Jacob Ishman and Michael Micknis.

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