

# FaithLife

www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

April 29, 2018

## DIOCESAN NEWS

### School principal candidate program launched

Through a partnership with Gannon University, the Catholic Schools Office of the Diocese of Erie is working to recruit and cultivate future Catholic school leaders.

A new Catholic School Principal Candidate Program was launched this spring by inviting Catholic school teachers who may want to earn Pennsylvania principal certification. Twenty-five teachers already have expressed an interest in the program, which offers diocesan discounts for Gannon credit.

"The Catholic Schools Office also has secured additional professional development grants that will bring course costs down to about \$50 per credit," said Jim Gallagher, superintendent of Catholic Schools.

The new program features these components:

- One- and two-year tracks for completion
- Training in Catholic school concepts such as Catholic identity, Catholic school law and Catholic school finance
- Stipends for workshop attendance and program completion.

The program is open to those interested in becoming either elementary or secondary school principals. Candidates must be recommended by a principal, pastor or school system president.

Those who have been invited to apply to the program will be vetted and interviewed before being accepted. Candidates also will be able to earn stipends, which cover the cost of the principal exam (Praxis Exam) and the application for certification from the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

### Worldwide Marriage Encounter celebrates 50th

Married couples in the Diocese of Erie and throughout the globe will celebrate the 50th anniversary of Worldwide Marriage Encounter this week.

Eternal Word Television Network's "Church Universal" television program will air Worldwide Marriage Encounter's 50th anniversary convention on three different dates and times, beginning April 29.

The 30-minute show will air April 29 at 5 p.m., May 1 at 5 a.m., and May 2 at 6:30 p.m.

The show's host, Father Joseph Mary, MFA, will interview Peter and Sheila Oprysko and Father Tom Griffith, SVD, the WWME ecclesial chairs of the 50th anniversary Worldwide Marriage Encounter convention.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers married couples the opportunity to spend time together away from the busyness of the world to focus on each other. It offers tools for building and maintaining a strong, Christian marriage in today's world.

To learn more about Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends, go to [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org) or contact the WWME Office at 909-332-7309.

## CLERGY ASSIGNMENTS

The Most Rev. Lawrence Persico, JCL, bishop of Erie, makes the following clergy appointments:

- **Father Jeffrey Lucas, VF,** dean of the Meadville Area Diocese, effective March 8, 2018, until June 2020.
- **Father Jerry Priscaro,** chaplain to the World Apostolate of Fatima (Blue Army), effective April 6, 2018.
- **Father John Malthaner, VF,** parochial administrator of Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Erie, while remaining pastor of St. Luke Parish, Erie, effective April 11, 2018.

### RE-APPOINTMENT:

- **Father Casimir Wozniak,** faculty of Gannon University, Department of Theology, as well as sacramental assistant at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Erie, effective March 22, 2018, for a period of two years.

## THREE-PEAT for KENNEDY CATHOLIC



Raising three fingers, members and coaches of the Kennedy Catholic High School boys basketball team celebrate their third consecutive state championship March 26 at the Giant Center in Hershey, Pa. Head coach Rick Mancino is pictured in the back row, left, in the burgandy shirt.

HERMITAGE—For the third consecutive year, Kennedy Catholic High School captured the PIAA Class 1A boys basketball championship this spring in Hershey.

The Golden Eagles will move up to Class 6A next year and will be in the same region as Cathedral Preparatory School in Erie.

"The excitement and enthusiasm around the basketball program has grown a lot in the past three years," said

Father Jason Glover, president of Kennedy Catholic. "The team members are not only great athletes, but they're great students."

With Division I recruits Oscar Tshiebwe and Maceo Austin combining for 53 points, Kennedy beat out Lourdes Regional for the title on March 26, by a score of 78-36. It is the ninth state boys basketball championship in school history.

"This is the most state championships

for any school in Pennsylvania. That's pretty nice," said Rick Mancino, who is in his ninth year as head coach.

Mancino played in the first state championship team at Kennedy in 1986. It's a winning atmosphere, he said.

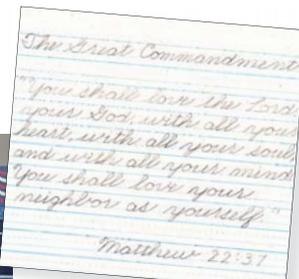
"We've been fortunate to have players who are all good kids," Mancino said, adding, "This [win] is a tribute to all of the players and all of the coaches and the whole community who put the time and effort into the program."

## 'Go with the flow'

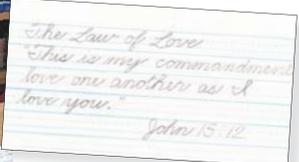
Lucinda students recognized for cursive talent



Teacher James Steudler of St. Joseph School in Lucinda offers instruction in cursive to Lily Bell, left, and Kaitlyn Guth.



Handwriting sample from Kaitlyn Guth Fifth-grader, St. Joseph School, Lucinda



Handwriting sample from Lily Bell Sixth-grader, St. Joseph School, Lucinda

BY MARY SOLBERG | FAITHLIFE

Eleven-year-old Lily Bell poises her pencil just above the faint blue line of dashes on the off-white page.

She moves the lead tip to begin writing the first word of St. John's verse about the law of love: "This is my commandment: love one another as I love you" (John 15:12).

Lily's effort may seem painstaking in its precision, but practicing cursive, she says, is actually fun.

"I like that when you do it [cursive] it just moves with your fingers and it looks really nice," says Lily, a sixth-grader at St. Joseph School in Lucinda. "I kind of just go with the flow and it really looks neat."

Lily and St. Joseph fifth-grader Kaitlyn Guth know a thing or two about the art of penmanship. Both were named this year's Zaner-Bloser Pennsylvania State

Grade Level winners in the annual Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest. They are being considered for Zaner-Bloser's Grand National Champion honor to be announced May 1.

"Hats off to them," says their teacher, James Steudler, who has been instructing students in the proper methods of cursive for the past 38 years. During his career, he has taught at St. Joseph and at Holy Rosary School in Johnstown.

At age 63, Steudler represents the generation raised in the Palmer Method of handwriting. Penmanship was once considered a mainstay at all levels of education, both public and private.

But with the advent of computers, cell phones and keyboard instruction, handwriting seemed to be "put on the back burner," he says.

Common Core standards do not require teaching cursive in public schools,

but in the Diocese of Erie, it is expected, says Kim Lytle, curriculum director of diocesan schools.

"A growing body of research by psychologists and neuroscientists indicates that cursive helps to improve student comprehension of texts and to transform ideas into the written word," Lytle says.

According to neaToday, an online publication of the National Education Association, studies "have shown that learning cursive not only improves retention and comprehension, it engages the brain on a deep level as students learn to join letters in a continuous flow. It also enhances fine motor dexterity and gives children a better idea of how words work in combination."

Zaner-Bloser's volume, *Handwriting Research*, states that "handwriting competen-

### Pio relics tour United States

WICHITA, Kan. (CNS)—A mother talks with her children about a relic of St. Pio of Pietrelcina April 13 in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Wichita, Kan. The relics are on tour through the United States, Canada and Mexico as part of the 50th anniversary of Padre Pio's death.

Padre Pio was born May 25, 1887, in Pietrelcina, Italy, and was a friar, priest, stigmatist and mystic. He was canonized by St. John Paul II in 2002. The tour, sponsored by the St. Pio Foundation, will not be in the Erie Diocese. For more information, go to [www.saintpiofoundation.org](http://www.saintpiofoundation.org).



CNS photo

## Newsmakers



Snippets of Catholic headlines and stories from around the world

from Catholic News Service

### ■ Catholic universities prepare students for dialogue



CNS photo

Pope Francis greets Jay and Patricia Wright during a private audience with a delegation from Villanova University at the Vatican April 14. Jay Wright, coach of the Villanova University men's basketball team, presented the pope with a basketball signed by the players who won the 2018 NCAA tournament.

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Catholic universities are "called to be workshops of dialogue and encounter in the service of truth, justice and the defense of human dignity at every level," Pope Francis told a delegation from Pennsylvania's Villanova University.

Administrators, top officials and members of the board of trustees from the Augustinian-run Villanova met the pope April 14 at the Vatican. At the end of the meeting, Jay Wright, head coach of the Villanova men's basketball team, presented him with a ball signed by the 2018 NCAA national championship team.

Pope Francis offered words of encouragement and praise for the Catholic university, which he described as "an heir to the great Augustinian tradition."

### ■ Work begins for Amazon synod



CNS photo

Pope Francis joins members of the preparatory council for the Synod of Bishops for the Amazon region in this photo dated April 12-13 and released by the Vatican April 14.

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Francis met with members of the preparatory council for the Synod of Bishops for the Amazon region, which will take place in Rome in October 2019.

Meeting in Rome April 12-13, the pre-synod council worked with Cardinal Lorenzo Baldisseri, secretary-general of the Synod of Bishops, to finalize the preparatory document and related questionnaire for the special assembly next year.

The council members and several experts on the Amazon, who were invited to attend, discussed the pastoral needs in the territory, especially the need "for a more incisive inculturation of the Gospel for the people who live there, particularly the indigenous people," the Vatican said in a statement April 14.

They also reflected on the ecological crisis affecting the region and underlined the need for promoting an integral ecology espoused in Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, "On Care for Our Common Home."



### Editor's Notes

Mary SOLBERG

For 50 years, Al Charney kept diocesan properties in a tip-top shape. The former head of the maintenance department at St. Mark Catholic Center, Al died on Good Friday, March 30.

Those of us who knew him at St. Mark Catholic Center, the diocesan hub, were impressed with Al's knowledge of every nook and cranny of the building, which he maintained from 1961 to 2011. He left a lasting legacy.

Sympathies to Diane Dennington, housekeeper at St. Mark Catholic Center, whose mother, Kay Anderson, died April 7.

Kay worked for 10 years as the cook at St. Mark Seminary. For another 25 years, she worked in the same capacity at the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse in Erie.

It is said that cooking wasn't just a job to Kay. She cooked and baked for family and friends, even in her spare time.

Renaming the Prep & Villa Events Center (see story below) seems fitting given the Hagerty family's contributions to Villa Maria Academy and Cathedral Prep.

Besides Chris Hagerty's impressive work in marketing and fundraising, other members of the family have made significant contributions to both schools.

Msgr. John B. Hagerty was a Prep alumnus and served as a faculty member and the school's headmaster. Many people also have fond memories of Chris Hagerty's mother, the late Adrianna Hagerty, who taught for many years at Villa Maria.

Congratulations to Kennedy Catholic High School's robotics team for its first effort to build a robot for a recent regional RoboBots competition.

Considering this was the team's first effort, their ranking of 16 out of 45 was a great achievement. The Catholic Schools Office helped fund the project.

Good luck in future robo adventures to teacher/coach Paul McMahon, as well as students Tom Lin, Bella Cano, Ryan Wilson, Kayleigh Trobek, Jacob Johnson and Bernard Michalek.

Ethan Junkin, a sophomore at Cathedral Prep, won first place in the ninth- through 10th-grade competition of People for Life's annual high school oratory contest this month.

High school students were asked to give a five- to seven-minute original speech on any human life issue. Ethan was recognized for his timely consideration of the recent Parkland High School massacre in Florida.

He reflected on how difficult it is to fully comprehend the tragedy of even one life lost, much less multiple deaths at one time. He cautioned that lives lost in such a tragic manner can be easily ignored, as is the case with abortion.

Congratulations to Ethan and three other winners, all of whom are home-schooled:

- Peter Caulfield, a member of St. George Parish, Erie, took first place in the 11th- and 12th-grade competition, speaking on human stem cell science.

- Grace Larimer, a member of Sacred Heart Parish, Erie, placed second in the 11th- and 12th-grade division, speaking on adoption.

- Valerie Larimer, also a member of Sacred Heart, placed second in the ninth- and 10th-grade competition, speaking on euthanasia and doctor-prescribed suicide.

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## Cursive talent

Continued from page 1

cy lays the groundwork for academic achievement."

At St. Joseph, Stuedler teaches his fourth- through sixth-graders the basic strokes of cursive, positioning of paper and pencil, and posture. He incorporates cursive in each academic subject. During his tenure, St. Joseph has had 13 state grade-level handwriting winners, two national-level winners, and one student named grand national champion two years in a row.

"Students need to write it and read it, especially when they go to historical places and see historical documents," he says. "Hopefully, it doesn't become a lost art."

Principal Betsy Ochs believes students who practice cursive become better readers and writers.

"It teaches discipline, too," she says. "When I watch them writing, I can't believe their intensity."

Cursive offers another benefit: pride. For grade-level winner Kaitlyn Guth, cursive is more "proper and prettier" than printing. She thinks everyone should give it a try.

"When I first started the writing competition, my hand would always shake," Kaitlyn says. "Be confident; don't be nervous."

## Gala recognizes Hagerty family, others

There was more than one celebration at the April 14 Legacy Gala at the Bayfront Convention Center in Erie.

According to official estimates, the annual event raised more than \$450,000 to enable Cathedral Preparatory School and Villa Maria Academy in Erie to maintain quality educational programs and keep tuition affordable.

Also, Father Scott Jabo, president of Erie Catholic Preparatory School, announced that the new Prep and Villa Events Center (PVEC) has been renamed The Hagerty Family Events Center. Prep and Villa's biggest benefactor exercised his naming rights and wanted to recognize the contributions of the Hagerty family to Prep and Villa and the larger community.

Many members of the extended Hagerty family are graduates of the schools or had taught at them. Chris Hagerty, current director of strategic initiatives, has been largely responsible for securing significant donations and developing successful marketing efforts.

A graduate of Prep, Hagerty was among three people inducted at the gala into the President's Hall of Fame. The others were: Jim Mantyla (posthumously), Almitra Clemente Clerkin and Nancy Scalzitti Hilbert.



Photo courtesy of Prep/Villa

Chris Hagerty, director of strategic initiatives for Prep and Villa, is pictured in the center with his wife, Jennie, and members of their family after the announcement that the Prep and Villa Events Center in Erie has been renamed The Hagerty Family Events Center.

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EVENTS

■ Cathedral concert

St. Peter Cathedral in downtown Erie will host a concert performed by the University of Pittsburgh Men's Glee Club on May 1 at 7:30 p.m. The group has traveled all over the United States and Europe and features undergraduate and graduate students. The concert is free and open to the public.

■ Men's Night Out

Our Lady of Mercy Church, 837 Bartlett Road, Harborcreek, is offering a Men's Night Out May 4 at 6 p.m., with featured speaker U.S. Congressman Glenn Thompson. Congressman Thompson will speak on the status of pro-life legislation and other issues important to Pennsylvania's 5th Congressional District. Food and refreshments will be provided. A free-will offering will be accepted. The event is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus/Our Lady of Mercy. RSVP to [secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org), [knowle@yahoo.com](mailto:knowle@yahoo.com), [legler.phil@gmail.com](mailto:legler.phil@gmail.com) or call 814-899-5342.

■ Night at the Races

Our Lady Queen of the Americas Church, 155 S. 9th St., Conneaut Lake, is hosting its Night at the Races May 5 beginning at 6 p.m. There will be 10 professionally announced races, a gift auction, \$0.50 food and fun. Call 814-382-7522 to purchase tickets and reserve a table.

■ Healing Mass

The Son of God Prayer Group in Erie invites everyone to a healing Mass on May 8 at 6:30 p.m. at Holy Rosary Church, 2701 East Ave., Erie, with Father Richard Toobey, Father Kyle Seyler and Deacon Jerry Peterson. Music will be provided by St. Joseph/Bread of Life Community. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. to provide time to write petitions on a simulated brick wall, which will be presented at the offertory procession. For more information, call Pat at 814-823-3968.

■ Golf and sports raffle

Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Harborcreek and its Knights of Columbus will hold a golf and sports raffle May 11 from 6 to 11 p.m. at Our Lady of Mercy Church, 857 Bartlett Road. Tickets are available in the parish office Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., or by calling 814-899-5342. Tickets also are available at the door the night of the raffle. The cost is \$10 a ticket and includes food, beverages and a chance on 19 great prizes. The grand prize is a cruise trip for two to Bermuda.

■ Mid-Life/Life-Long Retreat

The Benedictine Sisters of Erie are offering a Mid-Life/Life-Long Retreat for personal and spiritual growth May 18-20 at Mount Saint Benedict Monastery, 6101 East Lake

Road, Erie. This retreat is designed for adults seeking to refocus in the midst of life's changes. For more information or to register, contact Sister Rosanne Loneck, OSB, at 814-899-0614 or email her at [srosanne@mtsbenedict.org](mailto:srosanne@mtsbenedict.org). The retreat will be offered again Sept. 7-9.

■ Anniversary celebrations

Save the dates for the upcoming diocesan wedding anniversary celebrations (25, 30 or 60-plus years) sponsored by the Family Life Office of the Diocese of Erie. The celebrations will be held at:

- St. George Church, Erie, Aug. 5 at 2 p.m.
- St. Cosmas and Damian Church, Punxsutawney, Aug. 19 at 2 p.m.

Registration will be available online at the end of May at [www.ErieRCD.org/anniv](http://www.ErieRCD.org/anniv). Contact the Family Life Office for more information at 814-824-1261 or at [familylife@ErieRCD.org](mailto:familylife@ErieRCD.org).

■ Life in the Spirit course

St. Joseph Parish in Lucinda is hosting The Gift: A Life in the Spirit course May 18-19 at the church hall, 112 Rectory Lane, Lucinda. The May 18 class runs from 6 to 9 p.m.; the May 19 class from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Bring a bag lunch. Beverages will be provided. Registration is required by calling Denise Vero by May 16 at 814-744-8199.

The Word of Life Catholic Charismatic Renewal of the Diocese of Erie is sponsoring this free course.

■ Support group

Transitions is a monthly peer ministry for those who are widowed, divorced or separated. The next meeting is May 20 from 2 to 4 p.m. at St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie. For more information, call the Family Life Office at 814-824-1261 or visit [www.ErieRCD.org/transitions.htm](http://www.ErieRCD.org/transitions.htm).

■ Summer Discipleship Camp

The Diocese of Erie's Summer Discipleship Camp (Camp Totus Tuus) will be held July 15-18 at St. Philip Church in Linesville. The camp is for middle school students who want to strengthen their relationship with Jesus and who want to spend time with other Catholic Christians. Camp begins with a family Mass at 1 p.m. on July 15, and ends with a family picnic at 6 p.m. on July 18. The cost is \$175 per person; financial aid is sometimes offered by a parish or school. The cost includes all snacks and meals, overnight accommodations, a T-shirt, binder and materials for the week. Register online at [www.ErieRCD.org](http://www.ErieRCD.org) or contact Jennifer Durney with the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry at [jdurney@ErieRCD.org](mailto:jdurney@ErieRCD.org) or at 814-824-1219.

# St. George jump-starts parish involvement

## One of 30 parishes nationwide to offer Welcome program

BY MARY SOLBERG | FAITHLIFE

Ann and Chris Thunell moved to Erie from St. Louis, Mo., three years ago, but they didn't feel connected to a community, even after joining St. George Parish.

"We were on fire when we moved here, but with four children moving into a big parish, we really didn't feel the welcome," says Ann Thunell. Fortunately, the couple drew upon a previous retreat experience, called Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP), to create a path toward belonging. CRHP, a parish-based spiritual renewal process offered in the U.S. since 1969, has recently been renamed Welcome.

The Thunells approached Father Brian Vossler, pastor, about having St. George join one of 30 parishes nationwide to offer a pilot Welcome program. Father Vossler, himself new to the parish, wholeheartedly agreed. "He said, 'Let's just do it,'" Ann Thunell recalls.

According to Father Vossler, the parish community of 1,800 households—while committed to their Catholic faith—needed the boost. "I've always been of the mindset that if you take care of the spiritual needs of the people, the rest will follow," Father Vossler says. "It's developing a family."

Deacon Bob Ball of St. George believed that Welcome would be a "catalyst for participation." It already has.

This month, 80 parishioners attended men's and women's Welcome retreats at St. George. About half of those were parishioners



Andy Heinlein, a St. George parishioner and the invitation coordinator for the parish's new Welcome program, looks over all the cots and mattresses assembled for the recent men's retreat weekend at the Erie parish.

serving as team members. They worked for months to coordinate both overnights.

Anonymous donors contributed funds and materials—including about 40 cots and air mattresses—for the program. Other parishioners helped pay for the cost of materials, so there was no direct cost to the parish itself.

Those attending the Welcome weekends participated in small and large group discussions, went to Mass, and listened to presentations. Father Vossler and Father Jamie Power, parochial vicar, offered reconciliation. The priests also provided support throughout the planning process.

According to Deacon Ball, there has been a noticeable increase in the number of people visiting the adoration chapel on weekends. And those who attended both the men's and women's retreats have asked about becoming more active in various parish ministries.

"People are trying to do something. They're becoming more aware of their own talents," Deacon Ball says.

For the Thunells, the change in the parish is noticeable. When Chris Thunell now walks into the church on Sunday, he sees "38 lighthouses," referring to the number of men who participated in the men's retreat.

"I knew only one person going into the retreat, so it opened doors for me to meet new people. Everyone should do this," Chris Thunell says.

Ann Thunell says she now has several new "sisters" at the parish. "Now when we go to church, we don't just walk out anymore; we actually go over and talk to people," she says.

Welcome, she says, also could make a difference in the lives of young families who may not feel a connection between the school community and the parish. Welcome is part of the village that could help raise children, she adds.

The Thunells and parish leadership would like to offer Welcome once a year at St. George. Ideally, more parishioners will become leaders and even share the program with other parishes.

For more information about the St. George program, call the parish office at 814-864-0622.



Forty-five women planned and/or attended the April overnight Welcome retreat at St. George Parish in Erie. Father Jamie Power, parochial vicar, standing at far right, was the spiritual director for the women's retreat.

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 Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield covers the cost of this walk so that 22 nonprofits can participate with no expense. Every penny you raise for St. Martin Center, Inc. stays with us!  
 Register at Event or: [www.walkforahealthycommunity.org](http://www.walkforahealthycommunity.org)  
 \$30 donation online or at the event earns you an event t-shirt!

The 41st Annual **Rosary March**  
 Sunday, May 6 at 3 p.m.  
 in the Expo I Building at the Clearfield Fair Grounds  
 GUEST SPEAKER Rev. John L. Miller, Pastor, St. Joseph Parish and St. Stephen Parish, Oil City, PA  
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Email news items to: FaithLife@ErieRCD.org

Check out more photos at [www.ErieRCD.org/atd.htm](http://www.ErieRCD.org/atd.htm)



## Fourth-graders present Living Stations



MEADVILLE—Ryder Say, 10, a fourth-grader in Regina Kuppinger's class at Seton School in Meadville, plays the part of Jesus in the school's presentation of the Living Stations of the Cross during Lent. He is pictured with Sydney Walker, portraying Veronica. All 25 fourth-graders participated.

## Franklin students recite devotion to Jesus



FRANKLIN—Aide Rose Estok and students Maddy Strawbridge, Cole Harmon, Logan Rakow and Shane Clark are among those who recited the Chapter of Divine Mercy in observance of Divine Mercy Sunday at St. Patrick School in Franklin. Students in kindergarten through eighth grade gathered in the gym and recited a prayer that corresponded to their bead.

## Blessing the fields at Johnston's Nursery



ERIE—Gary Johnston and his daughter Julie Sins bless the fields April 15 at the family owned Johnston's Evergreen Nursery on Wales Road. The blessing is an annual tradition.

## Eighteen attend annual weekend for boys



UNION CITY—Eighteen young men attended the annual Mercyhurst Preparatory School Boys Weekend March 16-18 at Hope House in Union City. Jim Gallagher, superintendent of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Erie (and proud father of two of the attendees), related his own vocation story and encouraged the boys to seek God's will for their lives. Prayer, particularly the Mass and Eucharistic Adoration, highlighted the weekend. Pictured in front is Gabe Gallagher. In the middle, from left, are: Matteo Ianiro, Michael Deutsch, Michael Kuhn, Jacob Durmis, Kyle Bogdanski, Camden McLellan, Ryan Patterson and Nicholas Mecca. In the back row, from left, are: Michael Gallagher, Connor McLellan, Jon Reddinger, Matt Ahrens, Andrew Applebee, Steve Kehl, Ben Rosenthal, David Rathburn and Mitch Razanaukas.

## Seven receive their Eagle Scout Award

ST. MARYS—Seven young men received their Eagle Scout Award March 18 during a ceremony at Queen of the World Church in St. Marys. All of the scouts are members of Troop 199, which comprises the three St. Marys churches (St. Mary's, Sacred Heart and Queen of the World). Five of the seven will graduate this year from Elk County Catholic High School.

Pictured, from left, are Eagle Scouts Sam Nicklas, Luke Caskey, Steven Labant, Nick Herzog, Ed Bucher, Drew Dagher and Sam Wolfe.



## Students raise funds for the Mission of Friendship

WARREN—Students from St. Joseph School in Warren raised \$677.50 for the Mission of Friendship, a mission shared by the Diocese of Erie and the Archdiocese of Yucatán in Mexico.

The money raised will go directly to the girls at Nueva Vida, an after-school enrichment program sponsored by Mission of Friendship.

A number of St. Joseph students are pen pals with Nueva Vida girls.

Pictured, from left, are students Anabelle Harvey, Adriana Royo, Adam Strandburg, Taylor Alexander and John Harvey.





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