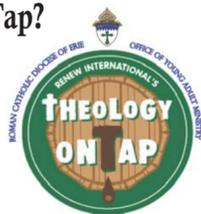


Who's on Tap?

Speakers announced for Theology on Tap series, page 3.



FaithLife

WHY CATHOLIC?

JOURNEY THROUGH THE CATECHISM

Faith formation workshops focus on four modes of Christ's presence at Mass, page 3.

www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

April 8, 2007

Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

Feast days



Divine Mercy



St. Anselm

- April 15 Divine Mercy
- April 21 St. Anselm

Confirmation schedule

St. Tobias, Brockway – Sat., April 14 at 11 a.m. Confirmation classes include Assumption Parish, Sykesville; Holy Cross Parish, Brandy Camp; St. Bernard Parish, Falls Creek; St. Mary Parish, Reynoldsville; and St. Tobias Parish, Brockway.

St. Bartholomew, Sharpville – Sat., April 14 at 4:30 p.m. Confirmation classes include Good Shepherd Parish, West Middlesex, and St. Bartholomew Parish, Sharpville.

Ss. Cosmas and Damian, Punxsutawney – Sun., April 15 at 11:30 a.m. Confirmation classes include St. Adrian Parish, Delancey; St. Anthony Parish, Walston; St. Joseph Parish, Anita; and Ss. Cosmas and Damian Parish, Punxsutawney.

St. Joseph, Force – Sun., April 15 at 4 p.m. Confirmation classes include St. Boniface Parish, Kersey, and St. Joseph Parish, Force.

Holy Redeemer, Warren – Mon., April 16 at 7 p.m. Confirmation classes include St. Anthony Parish, Sheffield; St. Joseph Parish, Warren; St. Luke Parish, Youngsville; and Holy Redeemer Parish, Warren.

St. James, Erie – Tues., April 17 at 7 p.m.

St. George, Erie – Wed., April 18 at 7 p.m.

Holy Cross, Fairview – Thurs., April 19 at 7 p.m.

St. Catherine, DuBois – Sat., April 21 at 11 a.m. Confirmation classes include St. Joseph Parish, DuBois; St. Michael the Archangel Parish, DuBois; and St. Catherine Parish, DuBois.

St. Patrick, Franklin – Sat., April 21 at 5:15 p.m.

Catholic Charities Ball – April 20

The 12th annual Catholic Charities Ball will be held Friday, April 20 at Lake Shore Country Club in Erie beginning at 7 p.m. Music will be provided by Tennessee Backporch. Kathy and Dan Dahlkemper will be honored with the Helping Hands Award, which is given annually to an individual, family or organization for having demonstrated outstanding dedication to their community.

The ball is the premiere charitable event for Catholic Charities. Last year, attendees raised \$30,000 for Rainbows, a support program for children who have experienced a loss in their lives through separation, divorce or death. For more information, contact Catholic Charities at 814.824.1250.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Diocese of Erie

Diocesan appointments



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

Dr. John J. DeMarco, M.D., appointed a member emeritus of the diocesan Medical/Moral Advisory Committee. Effective March 14, 2007.

Mary Flamini, appointed a member of the diocesan Medical/Moral Advisory Committee. Effective March 14, 2007.

Dr. Mark Vatauvuk, M.D., appointed a member of the diocesan Medical/Moral Advisory Committee. Effective March 14, 2007.

Christ is the fulfillment of our lives

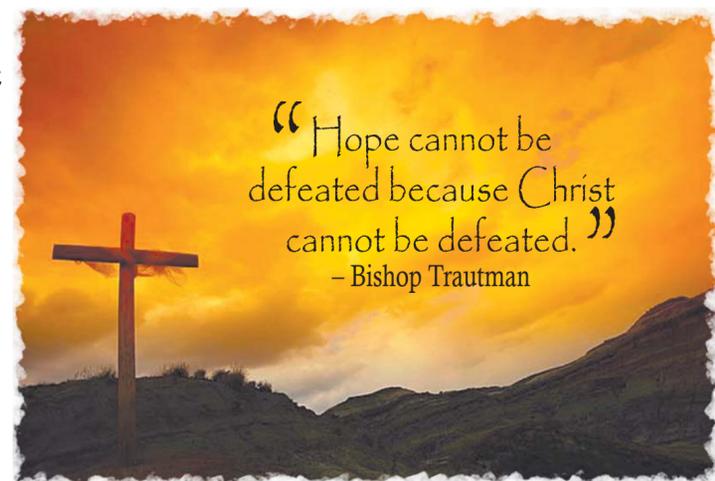
An Easter message from Bishop Donald W. Trautman

Why did Christianity develop so rapidly with such power? Why did Christianity spread so quickly to distant lands? Why did believers risk everything to embrace this new faith with its high moral teachings? The resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth from the dead is the answer.



The earliest Christians held two strong convictions that secured their faith. First, they believed with all their heart and mind that Jesus' tomb was empty on Easter morning; and secondly, they believed with all their heart and mind that Jesus appeared to his followers alive in bodily form. The risen Jesus is the explanation – the proof of proofs – for the strong faith of the first Christians and the rapid growth of the church and its continuance for more than 2,000 years. The resurrection of Jesus is the warranty of our faith.

The first Christians faced their world with a startling message: Christ had conquered, he was the king, the Lord, the God of the living and the dead. They did not guess, they knew firsthand the risen Lord. They had experienced his appearances in the upper room, at the seashore, on the road to Emmaus. They concluded that they would give their all to proclaim the gospel of Christ because they had experienced the risen Christ. They could endure ridicule and



jails, persecution and death, because they knew the power of the risen Lord. They were followers of a victorious king. They would not be intimidated by earthly powers whose violence could only kill the body. They knew the risen Christ, the Lord of all power, the king of kings.

This Easter we continue to proclaim that the risen Jesus is with us. The risen Jesus stands at the center of our faith, and he offers hope to our world. There is an ugly side to our beautiful world. Many bear the cross of illness, loneliness, financial worry. Many are victims of war, injustice, poverty. In these instances we share in the trials and sufferings of Jesus, but the risen Jesus teaches us that discouragement and despair do not have the final say. Christ has conquered sin and death. The risen Christ teaches us that Christian hope can never be extinguished.

People have witnessed the loss of their homes, their cities, even their loved ones by earthquakes, floods and tornados. Hope cannot be defeated because Christ cannot be defeated. He has conquered every possible crisis. For the person with terminal cancer, Easter speaks of another life without pain and sickness. For the family struggling to pay its bills or put food on the table, Easter speaks of new strength and courage. For the young adults struggling with identity and purpose, Easter gives new di-

rection and proven truth. For those in hospitals and nursing homes, Easter speaks of a love and life that lasts forever. For those struggling with relationships and pressures, Easter speaks of self-worth and inner peace. For the person who just lost his or her job or best friend, Easter promises a life with no more tears, no more sadness, no more death. For those addicted to alcohol or drugs, Easter proclaims new hope and strength. These Easter graces are not automatic. We must remember that Jesus showed himself after death only to those who loved him.

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 lasting happiness. The empty tomb tells us that we have a new beginning and new strength that comes from the risen Lord. Christ is the fulfillment of our lives.

Christ's resurrection teaches us a new standard of judging, a new way to face problems, a new life. Alleluia.

Donald W. Trautman

Most Rev. Donald W. Trautman
Bishop of Erie

Believing in Gannon University

University unveils branding campaign, hires marketing director

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor



Gannon unveiled its new word mark in January.

ERIE – In January, Gannon University unveiled its *Believe* marketing and branding initiative and announced the hiring of the university's new executive director of marketing.

According to Gannon president Dr. Antoine Garibaldi, both moves are expected to have the local and regional communities *believing* in the possibilities of the diocesan university.

"It's even more than locally and regionally. It really is national," said Dr. Garibaldi. "That part comes over time. I see this largely as an initiative where we convey what we really are today. There are

many people who haven't set foot on this campus in 10, 15 years and longer. The Gannon that they think about is maybe the Gannon of 30 or 40 years ago. If they come here today, they'll see all the new academic and master's programs that we have. Our message is both internal and external."

At a news conference, the university announced the hiring of Ron Kerman as its executive director of marketing. Kerman joins Gannon after

serving as director of marketing communications for Ave Maria University, a Catholic university in Naples, Fla., since 2003. He will report directly to Dr. Garibaldi.

Gannon also unveiled a new logo and word mark. The graphic features the university's crimson and gold colors with the school's name in front of a rising sun with multi-shades of golden rays.

"We wanted something that was vibrant and showed our mission," said Jennifer Mailey, the university's director of public affairs and communications. "The rays symbolize enlightenment, wisdom, knowledge and vision. It has both an academic and spiritual dimension which is very important to us."

The word mark replaces the former Gannon University logo.



Ron Kerman, Gannon University's new executive director of marketing, sits in the Mary Seat of Wisdom Chapel on campus.

Billboards will be on display in Erie and Crawford counties throughout the year featuring Gannon student Keary Wagle and alumnus

Matt Walker. A recent ad in U.S. Airways in-flight magazine features Wagle in front of the Lake

See GANNON, page 2

Handservant of the Lord

Cathedral youth minister consecrated a virgin of the church

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

ERIE – Wearing a white dress, Karen Hund processed down the aisle of St. Peter Cathedral ready to become a bride of Christ.

On March 26, the feast of the Annunciation of the Lord, Hund was consecrated a virgin of the church by Bishop Donald Trautman.

Hund is director of religious education and youth minister at St. Peter Cathedral. She says her journey of faith has been an ongoing one. At one point, she did explore community life, spending time with the Sisters of St. Joseph. In her twenties, she dated someone seriously enough to discuss marriage but grew into a sense that marriage wasn't her calling. "I know I have a call to



Photos by Anne-Marie Welsh

Karen Hund (right) is greeted by some of her students after her rite of consecration as a virgin of the church March 26 at St. Peter Cathedral, Erie. Hund serves as director of religious education and youth minister at the cathedral.

prayer and that I needed to give my life to God," Hund said.

By pledging her virginity, she said she hopes to provide "a real witness," especially

among the youth. "I can find happiness and peace and joy," she said. "I totally respect people called to family life so beautifully. But especially in this job, I

think it's an important sign of contradiction to the culture in our society to say you can find joy and love in God."

In the opening prayer of the Mass, Bishop Trautman said Hund had a wonderful description of the feast of the Annunciation.

"She said this is the feast of saying yes," he said. "Tonight, Karen is saying yes to God's call."

In his homily, Bishop Trautman said that without exaggeration, the Annunciation is the most dramatic moment in all of human history.

"God wanted to make himself present to us in human form," he said. "It was good news, and it was Mary's response that made this good news possible for all of us."

In the early church, he said the custom of consecrating women to a life of virginity flourished. The practice was so common that it led to the designation of a common rite. A consecrated virgin was a sign of the church's love for Christ, he said, as well as a

sign of the world to come.

"God gives the grace of virginity," the bishop said. "A consecrated virgin has the dignity of offering her virginity for the sake of Christ and the church. She is freeing herself to serve God's people in prayer and ministry. Tonight, Karen responds to God in the words of Mary our Blessed Mother: I am the handservant of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say."

During the prayer of consecration, Bishop Trautman laid his hand over Hund, who was kneeling in front of the altar. The bishop later placed a veil on Hund's head. She also received a ring "that marks you as a bride of Christ" and a book of the Liturgy of the Hours.

The scriptural reference for consecrated virgins is strong, said Father Edward Lohse, vocation director and vice chancellor for the Erie Diocese. In Christ's wedding parable (Matthew 25:1-13), the wise and foolish virgins await the coming of the bridegroom.

"The principal image is the wise virgin who is ready with lamp to greet the bridegroom when he

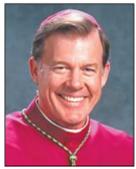
See VIRGIN, page 2



IN THE U.S.

Members of the South Carolina House of Representatives have approved legislation that would make their state the first in the nation to require women to see the ultrasound images of their child before an abortion.

In a joyful afternoon ceremony that included nearly 60 bishops, archbishops and cardinals from across the country, Bishop John C. Wester was officially installed as the ninth bishop of the Diocese of Salt Lake City March 14.



Bishop John C. Wester

The Vermont House of Representatives March 21 defeated H. 44, a bill that would have allowed a terminally ill patient with a prognosis of six months or less to live to ask a physician for a prescription that would end his or her life.

Pope Benedict XVI's post-synodal exhortation on the Eucharist reminds Catholics that "the Eucharist is a mystery to be believed and to be celebrated and to be lived," said Washington Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl, one of four representatives of the U.S. bishops at the 2005 world Synod of Bishops on the Eucharist.

The biggest city in the world to be named for St. Anthony of Padua welcomed a relic of the saint to its San Fernando Cathedral for the first time March 3-4. The event closed the jubilee year proclaimed by Pope Benedict XVI to mark the 275th anniversary of the cathedral in San Antonio.

The Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio will add a major in sacred music this fall. For the first semester, the program will accept five to seven students, but once the major is fully up and running it will be able to accommodate up to 25 students.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Phoenix recently celebrated 20 years of its perpetual adoration chapel. Over the last two

decades, the parish has logged more than 300,000 hours before the Eucharist. Phoenix Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted recently celebrated a Mass to recognize these parishioners.

AROUND THE WORLD

God's mercy and love are great, but those who reject him should know that hell, "which isn't spoken about much in our time, exists and is eternal for those who close their hearts to his love," Pope Benedict XVI said during a visit March 25 to a Rome parish.

Pope Benedict XVI will visit Austria Sept. 7-9 to celebrate the 850th anniversary of Austria's most important Marian shrine, the Shrine of Our Lady of Marizell, the country's bishops announced.



Pope Benedict XVI

Catholic health care professionals, including hospital administrators, have an obligation to refuse to participate "in any medical intervention or research that foresees the destruction of human life," said the Pontifical Academy for Life in a statement dated March 15.

The British section of Amnesty International has endorsed a policy in support of legalizing abortion which could change the human rights group's global neutral policy on abortion. The Amnesty International UK move, which formally adopted the legalization of abortion in cases of rape, incest, sexual assault and when the mother's life is at risk, came despite the results of a year-long consultation which showed that the majority of regular members did not want to abandon the neutral position.



Amnesty International

The teaching of the bishops and unity with the pope guarantee that one's faith truly is the faith taught by Jesus to his apostles, Pope

Benedict XVI said. "The true Gospel is that imparted by the bishops, who have received it in an uninterrupted chain from the apostles," the pope said March 28 at his weekly general audience.

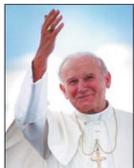
A report published by the Archdiocese of Mexico City said only 6 to 9 percent of its Catholics attend Sunday Mass regularly. The report said the archdiocese's churches are packed for Christmas, Ash Wednesday and popular saints' feast days. Nearly 90 percent of Mexico City's population say they are Catholic.

The biggest sin committed against the poor and the hungry is indifference, Capuchin Father Raniero Cantalamessa, the preacher of the papal household, told Pope Benedict XVI and top Vatican officials March 23 while leading the traditional Friday Lenten reflection. "The parable of the rich man and poor Lazarus is being repeated today among us on a global scale," he said, with wealthy nations representing the rich man living in splendor and the developing world representing Lazarus who longed to be fed with the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table.

PEOPLE OF FAITH

An NBC Easter special, *Come to the Water: The Adult Journey to Baptism*, will focus on Catholics in the Archdiocese of Seattle who recently joined the church. The program will air on Easter, April 8. *Come to the Water* follows a group of Catholics through the year-long Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults process of adult education and initiation, which culminates with their baptism at the Easter Vigil.

In connection with the sainthood cause of Pope John Paul II, a graphologist and a psychiatrist were called as expert witnesses in the investigation into the presumed healing of a nun suffering from Parkinson's disease.



Pope John Paul II

By the Way...

Divine Mercy Sunday is celebrated annually on the Sunday after Easter, which is next week, April 15. Pope John Paul beatified, then canonized Sister Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun of the convent who promoted recognition of God's divine mercy as demonstrated in his sending his son to die for the sins of humanity.



Jason Koshinskie

The Erie Apostolate of Divine Mercy of St. Ann is sponsoring several events. On Wed., April 11, a one-hour movie titled "The Life of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska" will be shown on a large screen at St. Ann Parish, 10th and East Avenue in Erie. The movie was filmed in Rome, Krakow, Warsaw, Czestochowa and her birthplace of Swince. Father Seraphim Michalenko, MIC, vice postulator of Sister Faustina's cause for sainthood, narrates the video.

St. Ann's will also hold Divine Mercy services on April 15 with confessions at 1:45 p.m., praying of the Divine Mercy chaplet and rosary at 2:30 and Mass at 3:15, with guest homilist **Father James McCormick**.

Our Lady of Peace Parish in Erie will also have a Divine Mercy Sunday celebration. On April 15, confessions will be heard at 2 p.m. followed by the solemn celebration of the "Hour of Great Mercy" with **Father Thomas Brooks** and **Father Marc Solomon**. The Divine Mercy chaplet will be sung, and this celebration will include exposition and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Do you know a young person between the ages of 13 and 19 whose experiences, activities or commitment to Gospel values will inspire his or her peer? *Faith* magazine would like to hear from you. *Faith* is seeking nominees for its **Teen of the Year** awards. Nomination forms are available at www.ErieRCD.org or can be requested through the *Faith* office at 1.800.374.3723 ext. 161.

The winners will participate in a photo shoot for the cover of the magazine's September/October issue and will be featured in the cover story. They will also be awarded funds to donate to the charity of their choice. Nominations must be received in the *Faith* office by April 17.

Congratulations are in order to all the boys and girls basketball teams of our diocesan schools on another outstanding season. In the single-A boys bracket, **DuBois Central Catholic** fell 58-33 to Reading Central Catholic in the state championship game March 23. DCC defeated **Kennedy Catholic** 51-50 in the semi-final to advance to the title game.

In the double-A girls bracket, **Villa Maria Academy** fell to York Catholic 58-44 in the title game to finish the season as the state runner-up.

Jason Koshinskie is editor of *FaithLife*. Contact him at JKoshinskie@ErieRCD.org or 814.824.1171.

Believing in Gannon University

GANNON from page 1

Erie shoreline, the new word mark and the slogan "Believe in the possibilities."

Kerman said he will begin his new job by communicating the university's accomplishments and news internally. By doing so, the broad, long-range goals of the campaign can begin with the university community.

"We need to communicate all those great things that our departments are doing to each other," Kerman said. "There are accomplishments here that they should know about internally so they can be ambassadors externally."

To emphasize his point, Kerman used a recent example. At the request of Shriners Hospital, he said the university's mechanical engineering students have designed an apparatus to help children with scoliosis sit upright in their wheelchairs. The design is in prototype and awaiting testing.

"It's a wonderful service, and that's something people should know about," he said.

Garibaldi, in his sixth year as Gannon's president, said talk of a comprehensive marketing campaign began shortly after he arrived.

"We were talking about true marketing, not just advertisements," Garibaldi said. "We wanted branding and marketing that really defined and also identified some of our strengths and unique characteristics."

One of those unique characteristics is the bond the university shares with the Erie Diocese. Gannon is one of only eight diocesan colleges or universities in the United States and the only diocesan university in Pennsylvania.

"Our being a diocesan university may not mean as much to the typical person until I explain to them how Bishop Gannon created Gannon," Dr. Garibaldi said. "When I tell people about that, their eyes are a bit more opened

Gannon University open house

Sunday, April 22

All prospective students & families are welcome. Mass at 11 a.m.

Registration 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Welcome from Dr. Garibaldi 12:30-1 p.m.

Presentations from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- Meet faculty, administrators, coaches and student development representatives
- Tour campus
- Admissions and financial aid presentations

to what we are."

About one-third of Gannon's students come from Erie County. In the fall, the university enrolled 516 students from the Erie Diocese.

"When you think about it, that's a huge amount for an undergraduate population of 2,600 students," Dr. Garibaldi said.

Offering diocesan students unique opportunities for grants and scholarships is another way the university maintains that connection. Gannon offers diocesan high school, diocesan parish grants and Bishop Academic Achievement Awards, among others.

Gannon awarded nearly \$4 million in financial aid funds to the 516 Catholic students from the Erie Diocese in 2005-06.

For the second year in a row, Gannon has been recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* as being a "Great School, Great Price."

For more information on Gannon's marketing campaign or diocesan financial aid opportunities, visit www.gannon.edu on the Web or call 1.800.GANNON.U.

Cathedral youth minister consecrated a virgin of the church

VIRGIN from page 1

comes," said Father Lohse. "That is the origin of the whole symbolism of the ceremony."

After the Gospel reading, Hund lit a candle near the altar, which remained lit throughout Mass. She carried it out with her during the recessional in imitation of the wise virgin, Father Lohse said.

According to the commentary of Canon Law, both men and women lived consecrated virginity in the early church. The practice led to the formation of a solemn rite. Today the rite is reserved exclusively for women.

The three effects of this rite cause the candidate to:

- Become a sacred, consecrated person.
- Become a sign of the church as the bride of Christ.
- Become a sign of eschatological witness of the world to come.

"That means this person is forsaking the things of this world for the next, which becomes a sign in the fact that we believe in the



Karen Hund pauses during rehearsal for her rite of consecration March 26.

world to come," Father Lohse said.

Beyond a candidate's own commitment to live perpetual virginity and live a life of service to the church, there are no other obligations, he said.

He added that there are two forms of this rite of consecration,

which includes both the consecration of virginity of women living in the world and the consecration of nuns.

The Erie Diocese now has two consecrated virgins. Several years ago, Bishop Trautman celebrated the consecration for Sister Teresa Mary of the Eucharist, who went on to start a new foundation of discolored Carmelite nuns in Novosibirsk, Russia. Today, Sister Teresa Mary has three young Russian women in her cloister.

According to the United States Association of Consecrated Virgins, consecration is open to a woman who has never married or lived in open violation of chastity and must be admitted to this consecration by her local bishop. The association also states that in the U.S. there are more than 150 consecrated virgins who are clas-

sified as living in the world.

Consecrated women living in the world have very different obligations than that of a religious or priest, Father Lohse said. They have no vow of poverty or obedience, have no superior or religious community and continue to live independently, own their own homes and have their own jobs.

"But they choose to consecrate their perpetual virginity to Christ in service to the church," he said. "It's a whole different vocation. Some people are called to live this way in a community, and some people are not."

For more information about consecrated virginity, visit the United States Association of Consecrated Virgins on the Web at www.consecratedvirgins.org.

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FaithLife

The official news bulletin of the Catholic Diocese of Erie

Volume 3, Issue 7

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Briefly

Mary Gordon to speak at Mercyhurst

ERIE — The Catholic Studies Speaker Series at Mercyhurst College will present noted author Mary Gordon on Wed., April 11 for a talk titled "Catholicism Through a Literary Lens." She will speak at 8:15 p.m. in the Walker Recital Hall at Mercyhurst. The program is free and open to the public.

For more information about Gordon's visit, contact Dr. Mary Ellen O'Donnell in Mercyhurst's Religious Studies Department at 824.2033.

Silent No More comes to Clarion

CLARION — Two women from the Silent No More campaign, which raises awareness of the devastation abortion brings to women, men and their families, will speak in Hart Chapel on the campus of Clarion University on Thurs., April 12 at 7:30 p.m.

This event, which is free of charge and open to the public, is sponsored by Students for Life at Clarion University.

Silent No More, a joint project of Priests for Life and Anglicans for Life, gives voice to women who have had abortions and whose painful experiences have too long been ignored. The campaign creates opportunities for women to break their silence on the emotional and physical effects of abortion.

This event is for mature audiences only.

Father Andrew Skeabeck, CSSR, dies at 85

Redemptorist father served as parochial vicar at St. Gregory, North East

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. — Father Andrew Skeabeck, C.S.S.R., 85, died March 21, 2007 at St. John Neumann Residence, a Redemptorist nursing facility in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

He was born June 2, 1921 in Beyer, Pa., a son of Susan (Harchick) Skeabeck and the late Andrew Skeabeck of Erie.

Father Skeabeck attended St. Ann School and Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie, and was a native of St. Ann Parish, Erie. He studied for the priesthood at St. Mary's Seminary, North East, and pursued further studies at the Catholic University of America in Washington.

He was ordained to the Redemptorist order on June 22, 1947 in Esopus, N.Y.

A longtime teacher, his assignments took him to St. Mary's Seminary, North East, major seminary in Esopus and minor seminary in Suffield, Conn.

He served as parochial vicar at St. Gregory Parish, North East, from 1987 to 1996 when the pastoral care of the parish was transferred to the Diocese of Erie. He also served at the Redemptorist San Alfonso Retreat House in West End, N.J.

One of his sisters, Sister Mary Carmel, is a Sister of St. Joseph.



Father Andrew Skeabeck

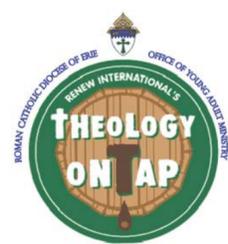
Theology on Tap

Bishop Trautman will discuss 'Faith in a Messy World'

ERIE — When Bishop Donald Trautman opens his Theology on Tap discussion, he says he's hoping to dialogue with young adults about faith, the church and how to navigate through the messiness of today's world. But he will not preach.

"I'm hoping to discuss some current issues in the church and elicit from them directions where they can improve their spirituality and find God in a more meaningful, direct way," Bishop Trautman said.

The diocese's Office of Young Adult Ministry will host a series of Theology on Tap discussions at The Brewererie at Union Station in downtown Erie on four consecu-



tive Fridays beginning April 13. Bishop Trautman will be the first presenter. His discussion will focus on "Finding Faith in a Messy World."

"It really sums up where a lot of people are today," the bishop said. "They are baptized Catholics but how do they practice their faith, how do they reclaim their faith, how do they express their faith in this very secularized environment, this messy world?"

"These are good people because they have an interest in faith and they want to respond to their environment. And their environment is very secular—non-Christian, if you will—and we need to try to guide people how to find Christ in this world in the midst of all this messiness."

A popular outreach to young

Theology on Tap speakers:

- April 20, "Happy Hour: 9 to 5" — Barb Lindstrom, campus minister at Harborcreek Youth Services, will offer insights into how all work is holy, whether you work for the church, the state or Starbucks.
- April 27, "Just War Theory, Pacifism and the War in Iraq" — Father Robert Susa, director of the honors program at Gannon University, will offer an opportunity to find a realistic and faithfully Christian response to war in today's world.
- May 4, "You Think You Know But You Don't: What Does the Catholic Church Teach About Sex and Love?" — Dr. Mary Ann Rivera, director of the master's program in Theology and Pastoral Ministry at Gannon University, will guide through the complexity and the gift of sexuality and relationships for today's young adults.

adult Catholics, Theology on Tap targets singles and married couples between the ages of 21-40 for faith-inspired discussions in a pub style setting.

"I think the whole concept of Theology on Tap is an exciting adventure because it's a non-threatening environment where people can probe further into their spiritual lives, probe about theology where the church stands today on different key issues," Bishop Trautman said.

The format is casual. For each session, the guest speaker will make a 15-minute introductory presentation; the majority of the time will be spent in discus-

sions around the tables in smaller groups. After the table conversations, the program will return to the larger group.

Theology on Tap sessions

7-9 p.m. on Fridays

April 13, 20, 27 and May 4

The Brewererie at Union Station
123 W. 14th St., downtown Erie
7 p.m. — gathering, get food & drinks
7:30 — talk, discussion, question & answer
9 til ? — social
\$2 cover at the door
No registration required

Diocese offers Why Catholic? faith formation workshops

Focus is on four modes of Christ's presence at Mass

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

The Erie Diocese is sponsoring *Why Catholic?* faith formation workshops at four locations throughout the diocese April 14-18.

The workshops are open to all *Why Catholic?* faith sharing groups, as well as any parishioners at participating parishes. No registration is necessary.

Why Catholic? is a four-year program that focuses on Scripture related to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Small faith-sharing groups will meet once a week during two six-week sessions each year. Many groups have just finished the first six-week session for 2007. The second session will begin in the fall.

The theme of the workshops is "A Eucharistic Spirituality for Today." This faith enrichment focuses upon the four modes of Christ's presence in the celebration of Mass. Sister Tina Geiger,

RSM, of Renew International, will lead the workshops.

The workshops will be in a different format than the small faith sharing groups of *Why Catholic?*, said Sister Nancy Fischer, director of community formation and lay minister training for the diocese.

"In the small groups, there is faith sharing but there is no teacher," Sister Nancy said. "In groups, people are looking at different parts of the catechism and applying it in their own lives. In the workshops, someone is presenting."

She said this particular workshop will go beneath the layers of the catechism with a deeper understanding from someone who is trained in theology.

"I think it will help us gain a deeper understanding of the liturgy we celebrate every Sunday, which is the source and summit of our Catholic life," Sister Nancy said. "Hopefully that will help our own celebration of the liturgy each week."

WHY CATHOLIC? Book II

JOURNEY THROUGH THE CATECHISM

Liturgy and Sacraments — faith formation workshop

"A Eucharistic Spirituality for Today"

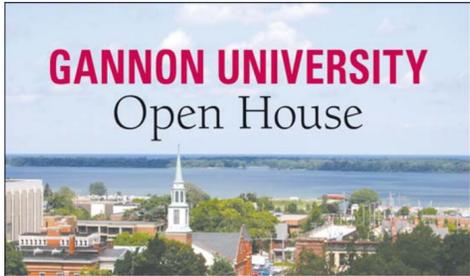
The four modes of Christ's Presence in the celebration of Mass

1. *Christ's Presence in the Assembly* — what does that mean and how can we be more aware of Christ's presence in the assembly?
2. *Christ's presence in the Presider* — what does this mean and in what ways can we be one with the presider to make the celebration of Mass more meaningful for everyone?
3. *Christ's presence in the Word* — this includes spiritual reflection on the Liturgy of the Word and how we can better prepare ourselves to really hear the Word of God.
4. *Christ's presence in the Eucharist* — spiritual reflection on the Liturgy of the Eucharist and how can we be more attentive to Christ in the Eucharist.

The workshop schedule is as follows:

Sat., April 14	Queen of the World, St. Marys	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Mon., April 16	St. Mary of Grace, Meadville	7 - 9 p.m.
Tues., April 17	St. Mark Catholic Center, Erie	7 - 9 p.m.
Wed., April 18	Kennedy Catholic High School, Sharon	7 - 9 p.m.

No registration necessary.



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Sunday, April 22 • Noon - 4 p.m.

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- Meet with dynamic faculty from every academic program
- Take a tour of campus and downtown Erie
- Hear presentations from admissions and financial aid

For more information or to make reservations, call the Office of Admissions at (814) 871-7240, e-mail us at admissions@gannon.edu, or visit www.gannon.edu.

Gannon Applied Math Contest
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Camp Notre Dame conducts capital campaign for dining hall

New hall to be ready for summer 2008

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

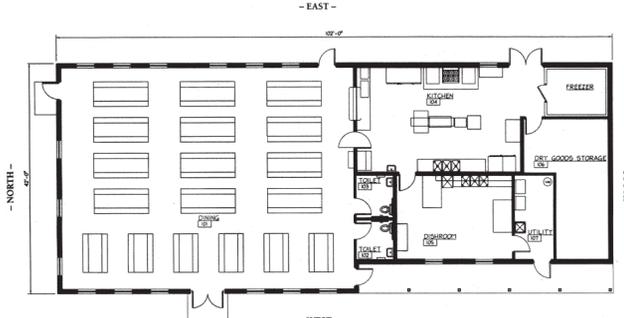
FAIRVIEW — Camp Notre Dame is conducting a capital campaign for a new dining hall and kitchen that will be ready for the 2008 camping season.

The camp's lease on the current dining hall ends in 2007 and is non-renewable. Camp neighbors who own the dining hall have been nice enough to lease it out to the camp for as long as they have, said John Yonko, executive director of Camp Notre Dame.

"In 1999, when the camp was reorganized, the dining hall no longer became the center of camp," Yonko said. "The new dining hall is going to kind of be the final piece of the puzzle, as far as summer camp goes."

After management and the board of directors discussed what the camp's needs would be for the next 30 years, Yonko said they approached community leaders, local vendors and friends of the camp regarding the campaign. So far, Camp Notre Dame has been able to secure donations of windows, shingles, block and other materials, as well as \$60,000 in donations and pledges.

The cost to build a new dining hall and



The floor plan for the new Camp Notre Dame dining hall, which will accommodate 200 campers and staff.

Camp Notre Dame open house June 3, 1-4 p.m.

Mass at noon • Refreshments, wagon rides, camp information
400 Eaton Road • Fairview, Pa. • 814.474.5001
www.campnotredame.com

kitchen, install a new septic system and move the camp's current equipment is estimated at \$450,000.

"We're very thankful and still looking for

other donations to help make this an affordable project," Yonko said.

The camp is a few weeks from breaking ground on the project, Yonko said. Visitors can expect to see some progress, including the roof, by the June 3 open house. Plans call for construction to be completed in the fall in anticipation of opening in the summer of 2008.

Camp Notre Dame, under the sponsorship of the Erie Diocese, is a resident and day camp located on the shores of Lake Erie in Fairview. Camp Notre Dame is open year-round and offers programs for the entire family.

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Parish correspondents

FaithLife encourages all parishes, missions, schools and groups to choose a correspondent who regularly submits news items to *Around the Erie Diocese*.

E-mail your parish news

Many parish correspondents have found e-mail to be a quick and easy way to send news to *FaithLife*.
FaithLife@ErieRCD.org

St. Bonaventure lives out corporal works of mercy

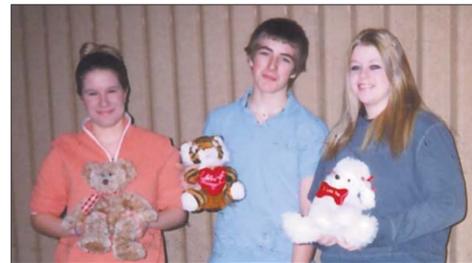
GRAMPIAN — St. Bonaventure religious education students have been busy the past several months putting their faith into action by living out the corporal works of mercy. Along with the support of the parish, students have been able to provide: stuffed animals at Christmas for Ridgeview Elder-care residents, a baby shower gift box for the Life Line Crisis Center in Clearfield, Valentine's Day gifts and a party for Marion Manor II residents and a cash donation from a Souper Bowl of Caring fundraiser to Good Samaritan Center in Clearfield. "By doing these small acts of kindness and love, we are encouraging our students to reach out and become more aware of the importance of the works of mercy in their everyday lives," said Terri Clarkson, coordinator of religious education.



Ninth graders Jess Bloom, teacher Jean Levin, Emily Levin, Stacey Johnson and Brett Sutika display items collected for the Life Line Crisis Center.

OLMC s-p-e-l-l-i-n-g champs

ERIE — Our Lady of Mount Carmel School in Erie held its annual diocesan spelling bee March 15 for students in grades 4-8. Twelve students vied for the top spot, which was won by 4th grader Colton Barger (right). Two sisters, Clare and Emma Weisenfuh (left and center), took second and third place, respectively. Barger will represent the school at the regional spelling bee, which will be held April 25 at St. James School in Erie.



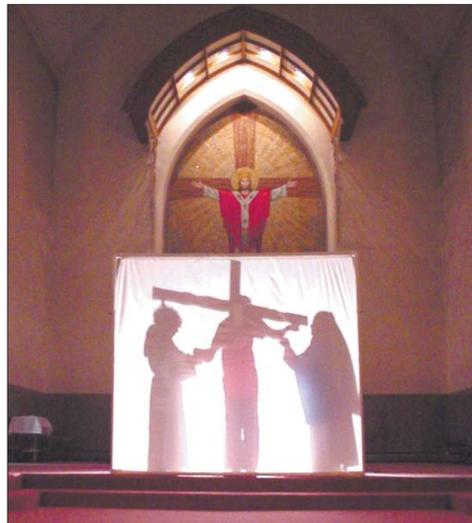
Tenth graders Jenna Levin, Justin Smith and Samantha Anderson helped collect stuffed animals as part of a Valentine's Day project.

St. Francis School class donates blankets for needy



CLEARFIELD — The fourth grade class at St. Francis School in Clearfield collected blankets that have been distributed to those in need in inner-city Erie. Students designed posters for the collection and wrote a letter detailing the project that was sent to all students and parents. They also set up collection stations throughout the school. Sister Therese Dush, CA, principal of St. Francis School, said the blankets were donated to St. Martin's Center in Erie. Most of the blankets went to a family that lost their house in a fire, she said.

SSCD students present Shadow Stations



PUNXSUTAWNEY — Students from Sts. Cosmas and Damian School in Punxsutawney presented Shadow Stations as part of Holy Week. Students in grades 6-8 have worked hard to bring this meaningful presentation to life for the student body and public, said Sue Dahrourge, who directed the group. Pictured from left to right are 7th graders Justin Ray, Danny O'Connor and Adrienne Hess.



Sixth graders Cameron Troupe, Austin Turner and Jalisa Levin put together gift bags for residents of Marion Manor II.

VMA club supports education in Haiti



ERIE — Officers of VMA's Interact program, the high school division of the Rotary Club, recently presented a check to the Erie Rotary Club in the amount of \$596 for the education of children in Haiti, which is a Rotary Club initiative. The funds were raised with a jeans day, parking meter donations and lunchtime snack sales. Presenting the check to Rotary President Dave Tofel (right) were club officers (left to right) Nicole Cagnoli, treasurer; Kate-Lynn Czerwinski, historian; Lindsay Cowan, vice president; Jen Ballman, secretary; and Morgan Gregory, president.

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The national **Family Honor** organization is presenting a special program for parents and their children to help them **build happier, healthier families**. This two-day event is designed to help parents of 7th and 8th graders communicate more effectively with their children about the goodness of human sexuality and the virtue of chastity. **Don't miss this great opportunity to build bridges of communication and understanding between you and your children.**
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Sat., April 21 • 8:45 a.m. - 4 p.m.
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