

Sister Margaret Frank honored

Funds raised by alumni, co-workers, board members and parents, page 3.



FaithLife

Scouts camp out at OLP



Annual retreat brings 160+ scouts and leaders together, page 5.

www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

May 12, 2013

Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

Feast days



St. Matthias



Pentecost Sunday

May 14 St. Matthias, Apostle

May 19 Pentecost Sunday

May 26 The Most Holy Trinity

Confirmations

Bishop Lawrence Persico and Bishop Emeritus Donald Trautman will visit the following churches to offer the sacrament of confirmation:

St. Joseph, Force — Sun., May 12 at 1 p.m. Confirmation classes include St. Joseph, Force and St. Boniface, Kersey.

St. Leo Magnus, Ridgway — Sun., May 12 at 5 p.m.

St. Hippolyte, Frenchtown — Mon., May 13 at 7 p.m. Confirmation classes include St. Hippolyte, Frenchtown and Our Lady of Lourdes, Cochran.

St. George, Erie — Thurs., May 16 at 7 p.m.

St. Peter Cathedral, Erie — Sat., May 18 at 5 p.m. Confirmation classes include St. Peter Cathedral, Erie; St. Joseph/Bread of Life, Erie and Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mercer.

St. Joseph, Oil City — Sun., May 19 at 1 p.m. Confirmation classes include St. Joseph, Oil City; St. Stephen, Oil City; Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Oil City; Our Lady, Help of Christians, Oil City and St. Venantius, Rouseville.

St. Titus, Titusville — Sun., May 19 at 6 p.m. Confirmation classes include St. Titus, Titusville and St. Walburga, Titusville.

St. Francis Xavier, McKean — Mon., May 20 at 7 p.m. Confirmation classes include St. Francis Xavier, McKean and All Saints, Waterford.

Our Lady of the Lake, Edinboro — Thurs., May 23 at 7 p.m. Confirmation classes include Our Lady of the Lake, Edinboro and St. Anthony of Padua, Cambridge Springs.

Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg — Fri., May 24 at 7 p.m. Confirmation classes include Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg and St. Ann, Wilcox.

Our Lady of Fatima, Canadohta Lake — Thurs., May 30 at 7 p.m. Confirmation classes include Our Lady of Fatima, Canadohta Lake; St. Thomas, Corry; St. Elizabeth, Corry and St. Teresa of Avila, Union City.

St. Patrick, Franklin — Sat., June 8 at 5:15 p.m.

St. Andrew, Erie — Sun., June 9 at 11 a.m. Confirmation classes include St. Andrew, Erie; Sacred Heart, Erie and St. Paul, Erie.

Bishop to celebrate Memorial Day Mass

The Most Rev. Lawrence Persico, bishop of Erie, will offer a Memorial Day Mass at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, 5711 West Lake Road in Erie, Monday, May 27 at 9 a.m. The public is invited to attend.



Youth rally: '... a joyful experience'

Anne-Marie Welsh
FaithLife

"Offering middle school kids a joyful experience of Christ and the church," was the goal behind the the 2013 Diocesan Middle School Youth Rally held at Kennedy Catholic in Hermitage on Sunday, April 28.

More than 500 young people and leaders can now testify to the fact that the goal was resoundingly accomplished. Whether they were jumping in the bounce house, singing their hearts out at the karaoke station backed by a live band, listening to a young man's personal testimony, experiencing the sacrament of reconciliation or feeling the power of the Spirit as they celebrated Mass with 500 equally enthused peers, it's clear they felt the joy.

Among those participating from St. Michael School in Greenville were Anna Marie Berger, Kathy Williams, Hattie Shrock and Caroline Hoobler, who talked about moving out of their comfort zone during the day as they danced on stage and dressed up in silly costumes for photo-booth pictures. Their general sense was that the day was much more fun than they had anticipated, but they were also clearly

tuned in to the messages being shared.

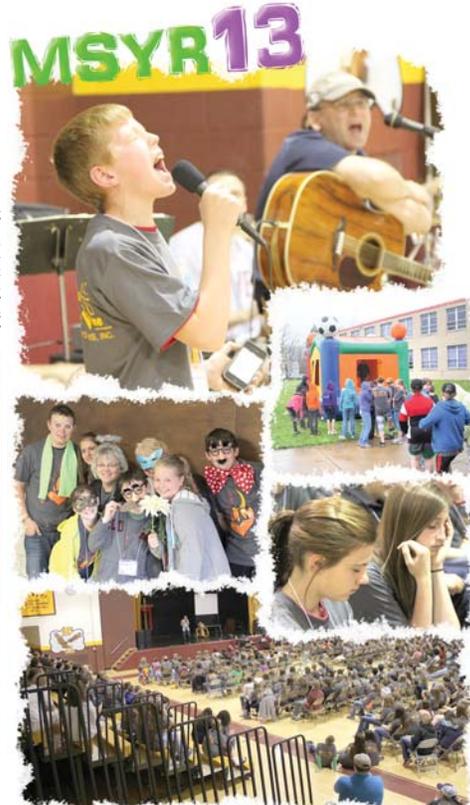
"When the MYRACLE team shared their stories, it really showed you how to look out for what God wants you to do in your life," Hoobler said. The St. Michael students were in attendance with their



teacher, Emily Zgonc, who went to middle school and high school rallies when she herself was a student.

"I loved the experience so much I wanted my students to share in that," Zgonc said, noting the great energy level at the event. "It's good to be with other kids from all over the diocese. I still remember

See YOUTH RALLY, page 3



Photos by Anne-Marie Welsh

Springtime sacraments create teachable moments

Pope Francis preaches on reconciliation, confirms 44, ordains 10

Reconciliation:

"not like a dry cleaner"

By Carol Glatz and Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Going to confession isn't like heading off to be tortured or punished, nor is it like going to the dry cleaners to get out a stain, Pope Francis said in a morning Mass homily.

"It's an encounter with Jesus" who is patiently waiting "and takes us as we are," offering penitents his tender mercy and forgiveness, he said April 29.

Members of the Vatican's investment agency and a group of religious women joined the pope for the Mass in the chapel of the Domus Sanctae Marthae, where the pope lives.

People have to start out with the humility of realizing "we are all sinners, all of us," Pope Francis said.

The Holy Father said even though it is embarrassing to admit to and tell the truth about one's thoughts and deeds, embarrassment or "shame is a true Christian and human virtue" linked to the traditional virtue of humility.

When the Lord forgives, he is performing an act of justice, the pope said, "because he came to save and forgive us," welcoming us with the affection of a father toward his children. People need to believe that when they sin, Jesus will defend them because he is just and wants people to have "that

peace that only he can give." However, people must go before the Lord with courage, even joy, "with our truth of being sinners," he said.

Confirmation:

"Swim against the tide; it's good for the heart"

Administering the sacrament of confirmation to 44 people, including two teenagers from the United States, Pope Francis shared words of encouragement.

In a partially improvised homily at Mass April 28 in St. Peter's Square, Pope Francis encouraged young people to hang on to their ideals and pursue them. "We Christians weren't chosen by the Lord to do little things," he said.

After making the sign of the cross with chrism oil on the foreheads of those being confirmed, Pope Francis rubbed the oil all over their foreheads, sealing them with the Holy Spirit. Wishing them peace, he gave each a quick kiss on the cheek.

The two U.S. teens confirmed were Brigid Minter, 14, and Anthony Merjio, 17, from Our Lady of Mount Carmel parish in Ridgewood,



CNS photo

Pope Francis administers the sacrament of confirmation to Brigid Minter, 14, of Ridgewood, N.J., during a Mass in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican April 28.

N.J. The Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization asked the candidates' 22 bishops to choose represen-

tatives. Archbishop Rino Fisichella, council president, said See SACRAMENTS, page 2

Harrisburg Bishop McFadden dies unexpectedly

Catholic News Service
Pennsylvania Catholic Conference and staff reports

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) — Bishop Joseph P. McFadden of Harrisburg died suddenly May 2 in Philadelphia where he was attending a meeting of Pennsylvania's Catholic bishops including Bishop Lawrence Persico and Bishop Emeritus Donald Trautman.

Bishop McFadden fell ill upon waking and was taken to a hospital where he was pronounced dead at about 7:40 a.m. No cause of death was immediately available.

He was 65 and had been bishop of Harrisburg for just three years. He was president of the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference, the public policy agency of Pennsyl-



Bishop Joseph P. McFadden

vania's bishops, where he focused on legislation to uphold the dignity of every human person from conception to natural death, supported

See McFADDEN, page 3



CNS photos by Paul Haring

A sign with a dove symbolizing the Holy Spirit is seen as Pope Francis greets the crowd after celebrating a Mass at which he confirmed 44 people in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican April 28.



PEOPLE

■ **Dad waiting for heart transplant gets to see daughter's first Communion in hospital**



CNS photo by Mike Crupri, Catholic Courier
Tim Day kisses his 8-year-old daughter Erin during her first Communion Mass at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, N.Y., April 26. Day is confined to the hospital as he awaits a heart transplant so special arrangements were made for Erin to receive her first Communion from Retired Bishop Matthew H. Clark of Rochester in the hospital's Interfaith Chapel.

IN THE U.S.

■ **FDA 'acted irresponsibly' in lowering age for emergency contraceptives**

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Food and Drug Administration "acted irresponsibly" with its decision to lower the age limit from 17 to 15 for purchasing an over-the-counter emergency contraceptive, said an official of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. "No public health consideration justifies the unsupervised sale of such drugs to young teens," said Deirdre McQuade, spokeswoman for the USCCB's Secretariat for Pro Life Activities. Plan B One-Step now will be sold openly on pharmacy shelves while the generic brands will still be sold under pharmacy counters and only for those 17-years of age. Those who purchase the drugs will have to show identification to prove their age. A ruling by a federal judge in early April said the Food and Drug Administration must make emergency contraceptives available to all ages by May 6. The Justice Department announced May 1 that it is appealing this decision, saying the judge who issued the ruling had exceeded his authority and that his decision should be suspended while the appeal is underway. The appeal and a request for an injunction will not affect the FDA's April 30 decision to allow emergency contraceptives to be sold without a prescription to 15-year-olds.

■ **Bishop says failure on gun measure shows 'failure in moral leadership'**

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Bishop Stephen E. Blaire of Stockton, Calif., said the U.S. Senate's failure "to support even modest regulations on firearms" is "a failure in moral leadership to promote policies which protect and defend the common good." The head of the U.S. Bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development expressed "deep disappointment" that the lawmakers failed to pass gun-control legislation. Bishop Blaire made the comments in an April 18 letter to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell. On April 17, the Senate failed to pass amendments

to a firearms measure that would have expanded background checks for gun purchases, increased penalties for gun trafficking, reinstated an assault weapons ban and imposed restrictions on civilian access to high-capacity ammunition magazines. Bishop Blaire noted that many of the provisions of the bill enjoyed bipartisan support. On April 10, the day before debate began, Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., and Sen. Patrick Toomey, R-Pa., announced a compromise deal on the background-checks provision of the bill. These checks would not have applied to unadvertised gun sales, according to the compromise. Further, gun owners who have passed background checks within the past five years for a concealed-carry permit can use that permit to buy guns in other states. The compromise would have relaxed some restrictions on hunters traveling with their guns through states that ban them. It also would have allowed active members of the military to buy firearms in their home states, the practice is illegal when they are stationed outside their state.

WORLD

■ **Vatican official says Archbishop Romero's sainthood cause 'unblocked'**

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, president of the Pontifical Council for the Family and the official promoter of the sainthood cause of the late Archbishop Oscar Romero of San Salvador, said the process to beatify and eventually canonize the slain Salvadoran archbishop has been unblocked. Archbishop Paglia, who has been the postulator of Archbishop Romero's cause for years, made the announcement in a homily April 20, just a few hours after meeting with Pope Francis. The Italian archbishop, who was preaching at a Mass in the Italian city Molletta to mark the 20th anniversary of the death of the diocese's Bishop Antonio Bello — widely known by the diminutive Don Tonino — said, "Today, the anniversary of the death of Don Tonino, the cause for the beatification of Archbishop Romero was unblocked." The archbishop gave no more details, and his office said April 22 that no more would be said until there is something "concrete" to report. In his homily, Archbishop Paglia said, "Martyrs help us live, help us understand there is more joy in giving than in receiving. This is why we need to preserve their memories."

■ **Retired Pope Benedict XVI greets Pope Francis at Vatican**



The 86-year-old retired pontiff, who had been staying at the papal summer villa in Castel Gandolfo since retiring Feb. 28, returned to the Vatican May 2 to live in a monastery in the Vatican Gardens.

By the Way...

Catholic Charities created a unique online countdown to the **Catholic Charities Ball** at www.ErieRCD.org/countdown.asp. Log on to learn more about the many ways the organization reaches out to those in need.

"Open the Doors" is the theme of the ball, which will be at the Bayfront Convention Center in Erie on Friday, May 17 from 6:30 to 11:30 p.m. Hats off to Emma Lee McCloskey who oversees the annual event with an amazing team of dedicated volunteers along with a herculean effort by the staff of Catholic Charities.

Proceeds benefit families in need of all faiths; last year the ball raised \$74,000 which was used to provide direct aid: food, shelter and emergency assistance in all corners of the diocese. The Helping Hands Award will be presented to John and Dolores Campbell. Beautiful food stations, live music by the Chosen Few and the always-popular celebrity dance contest will be among the highlights. It's not too late to order tickets—call 814.824.1250.

Men in the diocese who are feeling called to the permanent diaconate will be interested to know applications are being accepted to the formation program. During the months of June and July, representatives from the program will be traveling to different areas of the diocese to host information meetings, a good forum for asking questions. Watch your parish bulletins over the next few weeks to find out when a meeting will be held in your area. Questions may also be directed to Deacon Richard Shewman at 814.824.1140 or by email to rshewman@ErieRCD.org.

Style, relationships, lifestyle and culture: Most women's magazines touch on these categories, but an innovative new effort is being launched next month. Five young Catholic women who work in everything from fashion to medicine in New York City are behind "Verily," a magazine they bill as "a real alternative for modern women." The website is promising. Created with single women in mind, it will be interesting to see if it can find traction; if so, we could see a new trend. They're already on Facebook and Twitter. Check it out today and subscribe at www.verilymag.com.

We are nearing the end of the time when people can sign up for the **Year of Faith pilgrimage** offered by *Faith* magazine through Spiritual, Inc. Father Ted Marconi, spiritual director for the trip, is working on a number of ways to make sure this journey is uplifting and memorable. Visit www.ErieRCD.org for details or call 800.777.7432 to reserve your spot.

Those making the pilgrimage will remember the intentions of those who are not traveling. I invite you to send your prayer requests to Year of Faith Intentions, St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie, PA 16504. Be as specific or general as you'd like, they will only be read by Father Ted. But know that we will bring those intentions on the pilgrimage and lift them up at Mass each day, whether we're near the tomb of St. Peter in Rome, at the catacombs where the early Christians worshipped or in the hometowns of St. Francis of Assisi and St. Catherine of Siena. Intentions should be sent by August 15.

Anne-Marie Welsh is serving as interim editor of *FaithLife*. Contact her at amwelsh@ErieRCD.org or 814.824.1167.



Anne-Marie Welsh

Springtime sacraments create teachable moments

SACRAMENTS, from page 1

the candidates were chosen to reflect "the face of the church present where people live and suffer in order to give everyone hope and the certainty of a future."

In his homily, Pope Francis said the Holy Spirit brings "the new things of God. He comes to us and makes all things new; he changes us." If Christians allow it and are open to it, he said, the Holy Spirit starts making things new now, in this life, in preparation for "the ultimate newness which awaits us and all reality: the happy day when we will see the Lord's face — his beautiful face — and be with him forever in his love."

Pope Francis told the young people that the new things the Holy Spirit brings are not like the new trends and fads of modern life; the newness of the Holy Spirit lasts forever. "The

Holy Spirit is truly transforming us and through us, he also wants to transform the world in which we live," he said.

"How beautiful it would be," he said, if each person allowed himself or herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit. Each night he or she would be able to review the day and say, "Today at school, at home, at work, guided by God, I showed a sign of love toward one of my friends, my parents, an older person."

Encouraging them not to grow disheartened, the Pope said young people should remain steadfast in the journey of faith. "Listen carefully, young people," he said. "Swim against the tide; it's good for the heart, but it takes courage."

An estimated 70,000 young people who have been confirmed or will be confirmed this year also were present for the Mass in St. Peter's Square, one of the ma-

nor events scheduled months ago for the Year of Faith.

**The Ordination:
"Learn to hear
Jesus' voice"**

Before ordaining 10 men to the priesthood, Pope Francis prayed privately with them in the sacristy and entrusted them to Mary's care. The moment was a repeat of a practice he began as bishop before celebrating an ordination Mass, according to Vatican Radio.

The 10 new priests — six Italians, two Indians, a Croatian and an Argentine — had prepared for the priesthood in one of three Rome diocesan seminaries. Pope Francis' homily, the Vatican said, was basically the text suggested for ordinations by the Italian bishops' conference, although Pope Francis added personal

remarks and observations as he delivered it. He told the new priests they would have "the sacred duty of teaching in the name of Christ the teacher. Impart to everyone the Word of God which you have received with joy."

The pope who frequently mentions the wisdom and lessons he learned from his grandmother, told the men, "Remember your mothers, your grandmothers, your catechists, who gave you the word of God, the faith — the gift of faith." He exhorted them to believe what they read, teach what they believe and practice what they teach. Pope Francis told the new



CNS photo

Pope Francis embraces one of the 10 priests he ordained in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican April 21.

priests to remember they are chosen from among the faithful and "appointed on their behalf for

those things that pertain to God. Therefore, carry out the ministry of Christ the priest with constant joy and genuine love, attending not to your own concerns, but to those of Jesus Christ."

Reciting the "Regina Coeli" prayer later that day with tens of thousands of people in St. Peter's Square, Pope Francis pointed to the day's Gospel reading which said the sheep hear Jesus' voice and follow him. "This is a beautiful parable," he said.

The pope asked young people to listen carefully for Jesus' voice and to ask for help in discerning his call, his plan for their lives and then have the courage to follow him.

A group of young people in the square began chanting the pope's name in Italian — "Francesco." "Thank you very much for the greeting," he said. "But greet Jesus, too. Shout 'Jesus, Jesus' loudly."

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Italy Regular: Jun. 15-23, Jun. 22-Jul. 7, Jul. 6-14, Aug. 31-Sep. 8, Sep. 7-15, Sep. 14-22 ...
Holy Land: Jun. 17-27, Jun. 24-Jul. 4, Aug. 28-Sep. 5 ...
Holy Land/Italy: Jun. 10-23, Jun. 17-30, Jun. 24-Jul. 7, Jul. 1-14, Aug. 26-Sep. 8, Sep. 2-15, Sep. 9-22 ...
Italy South: Jun. 15-27, Aug. 31-Sep. 12, Sep. 7-19 ...
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Briefly

Two parishes offer free concerts:

ERIE—Our Lady of Peace Parish, 2401 W. 38th Street in Erie, invites the public to an uplifting concert featuring David Kauffman on Tuesday, May 21, at 7 p.m. Kauffman will present songs from his new solo release, *A Hand to Hold*. A free will offering will be taken. Visit www.ulp.org for details.



David Kauffman

All are also invited to attend a free concert at St. Charles Catholic Church, 201 Washington Street, New Bethlehem, on Sat., June 1 at 7:30 p.m. to benefit the New Bethlehem Community Center. A free will offering will be taken.

Rummage sale planned in Crossingville

CROSSINGVILLE—St. Philip Parish in Crossingville, 25797 State Highway 98 in Edinboro, will hold a rummage sale May 23 to 25. Come support this parish event on Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. until noon. Questions? Call 814.720.3669.

Camp Notre Dame Sets Open House Date

ERIE—Camp Notre Dame celebrates its 53rd Open House on Sunday, June 2, beginning with Mass celebrated at 12:15 p.m. The event, including free food and refreshments, wagon rides and camp tours, will continue until 4 p.m. The entire family is invited, and campers can register for day or overnight camp. Visit www.campnotredame.com for more information.

Sign up to run!

ERIE—The 6th Annual Art & Sole 5k Run/Walk to benefit the Inner-City Neighborhood Art House will be held on Saturday, June 8 at 9 a.m. The event begins at the Neighborhood Art House, 201 East 10th Street, proceeds through downtown Erie and ends at the Neighborhood Art House.

Artwork by the children at the Neighborhood Art House will be awarded to top individual finishers in each category. New this year, gather five or more of your co-workers, family or friends for the "Team Challenge." Minimum of 5 runners/walkers needed to form a team. Prizes awarded to the top three teams with the best times. Early bird registration discounts for all who register by May 28, and all teams must meet that deadline.

For more information call the Neighborhood Art House at 814.455.5508.

Musicians gather to improve craft through vocal workshop



Parishes throughout the Diocese of Erie are no doubt already benefiting from "Lift Your Voice," a vocal workshop sponsored by the area chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians held on Sunday, April 21 at St. Agatha Parish in Meadville.

Dr. James Niblock, assistant professor of music and director of choral activities at Allegheny

College, led the workshop which covered everything from how to get parishioners invested in singing to vocal and rehearsal tips. Prior to the workshop, Dr. Niblock directed performances by the college's chamber choir, the women's ensemble and the college choir.

The group then enjoyed fellowship at its annual spring banquet.



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Sister Margaret Frank, SSJ, feted

By Anne-Marie Welsh
FaithLife

There could not have been a more fitting theme for the dinner held April 20 to honor Sister Margaret Frank, SSJ, for her 35 years of service to Villa Maria Elementary in Erie. To see the former students, school families, board members and other admirers who gathered at the Ambassador Center in Erie was to see a, "Legacy of Love" in action. People near and far, including Vincent Robinson of San Francisco, who entered first grade the first year Sister Margaret was principal at Villa Maria Elementary, enjoyed the mix of speakers who shared memories and insights into the life and heart of Sister Margaret.

Current VME Principal Damon Finazzo not only spoke about the many people who tell him—daily—he has really big shoes to fill, but offered a series of humorous photos showing him as he tried to get through his school day in a pair of gigantic shoes.

Sister Clare Marie Beichner, a member of the Sisters of St. Joseph leadership team, de-

scribed Sister Margaret as "a woman open to the transforming love of God" who has stood daily before her Creator, aware that all is gift. "She continues to be an inspiration for all of us," Sister Clare said, citing her "outstanding gift to engage children, to see their capacity and to help them realize their potential."

The centerpiece of the evening was Sister Margaret's turn at the microphone.

"Now what in the world would anyone say?" she asked, beginning a sometimes playful, sometimes serious response to the toasting and roasting. Acknowledging it was hard to accept what she called, "all the fuss," she nevertheless regaled attendees with stories of her life as a high school student who surprised herself by entering the convent, as a young teacher who delighted in her students, as someone who suddenly found herself being named as a school principal and then as a dedicated administrator nourished by the faith and commitment of hardworking parents, faculty and staff.

The bottom line for Sister Margaret: "Somehow God grabbed me and I've just been so grateful for everything!"



Photo by Anne-Marie Welsh

Sister Margaret Frank, SSJ, was especially touched by the alumni who attended the dinner held to honor her 35 years of service to Villa Maria Elementary School on April 20. Vincent Robinson of San Francisco entered first grade at VME the year Sister Margaret became principal.

The following morning a Mass was celebrated on the campus of Villa Maria Elementary in honor of Sister Margaret and all of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

Youth rally: '... a joyful experience'

YOUTH RALLY, from page 1

how powerful the Masses were. To be with 500 other kids at Mass—you can really sense the Holy Spirit."

Father Steve Schreiber, director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry for the Diocese of Erie, and Kathleen Peterson, program coordinator, spent several months laying plans for and praying about the rally. One of their inspired decisions was to involve the MYR-ACLE Team from Mercyhurst University, a group of students who have developed retreat programming.

"One of the student leaders, Nick Cianci, was a student of mine at Kennedy Catholic," Father Schreiber said. "We knew these kids would do a great job and it is neat for the middle schoolers to interact with Catholic college-aged kids who are on fire for Christ."

Among the activities available at a variety of stations was a service project, where students could decorate crosses to be distributed at area nursing homes. Another table had strips of construction paper and markers for students and adults to write out their prayer intentions. Matt Wagner, who participates in the Catholic Youth Adult Ministry, was among the volunteer leaders at the table.

"A lot of people offered prayers for the people in Boston," he said, looking over the growing chain. "Others wanted to pray for their families, friends, people who are sick, the souls in purgatory or the end to abortion." The chain was later brought into the gymnasium during Mass, a tangible sign of the many prayers offered by participants.

The 2013 high school rally is set for Oct. 12 at DuBois Central Catholic.



Photo by Anne-Marie Welsh

Members of Mercyhurst University's MYRACLE Team shared personal stories and led group activities at the 2013 Middle School Youth Rally held at Kennedy Catholic in Hermitage April 28.

Boy Scout retreat/camporee held at Our Lady of Peace

AJ Czerwinski
special to FaithLife

The field behind Our Lady of Peace Church in Erie was the setting for the annual Oliver Perry District Boy Scout retreat. Using the theme, "The Search for God," this year's camporee took place on the last weekend of April. Howard and Carol Richards co-chaired the event.

"The retreat is held every year at various locations," said Howard Richards, "and this was the first time for Troop 59 of Our Lady of Peace to host the event."

Father Ted Marconi, pastor of Our Lady of Peace and longtime scouting enthusiast, facilitated the opening ceremony in the church on

Friday evening. Seven priests were available afterward to hear Confessions. Father Marconi celebrated Mass on Saturday evening, while services for scouts of other denominations were also held throughout the weekend.

The weather was perfect as 127 scouts and 40 scout leaders from 10 troops participated in a rotation of nine activities that included kickball, tee shirt painting depicting the weekend's theme and the decorating small handmade wooden crosses.

The scouts also enjoyed practicing their fundamental camping skills at this year's event.

"The weekend was successful," said Richards. "It gave kids time to reflect and meet scouts from other troops."



Photo by AJ Czerwinski

Kick ball was among the activities enjoyed by 127 Boy Scouts and 40 leaders at their annual retreat/camporee, held this year at Our Lady of Peace in Erie. Beautiful weather prevailed as the field behind the parish was populated with rows of tents for two nights in late April.

Harrisburg Bishop McFadden dies unexpectedly

McFADDEN, from page 1

Catholic education, safeguarded religious liberty and protection of the poor and vulnerable. He was also chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Catholic Education and served on the bishops' Task Force on Faith Formation and Sacramental Practice.

A funeral Mass was to be celebrated May 8 at Holy Name of Jesus Church in Harrisburg.

While studying at St. Joseph University in Philadelphia, he played on the freshman basketball team, and also started coaching basketball, including at his high

school alma mater.

Upon graduation from St. Joseph, he took a teaching job at West Catholic High School for Boys, and coached basketball and baseball teams there. He entered the seminary in 1976 and was ordained for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia in 1981.

In 1982, he was named administrative secretary to Cardinal John Krol of Philadelphia; he became president of Cardinal O'Hara High School in 1993. In 2001, Bishop McFadden was named pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Downingtown, Pa., where he served until he was appointed

auxiliary bishop of Philadelphia in 2004. He served in that capacity until taking the reins of the Harrisburg Diocese in June 2010.

Both Bishop Persico and Bishop Emeritus Trautman had returned to Erie when they received the news. Both had interacted with Bishop McFadden during the meeting in Philadelphia, and were shocked by the news of his death.

Bishop Persico, who received the news during a meeting of the administrative cabinet, immediately led those present in prayer for the repose of Bishop McFadden's soul.

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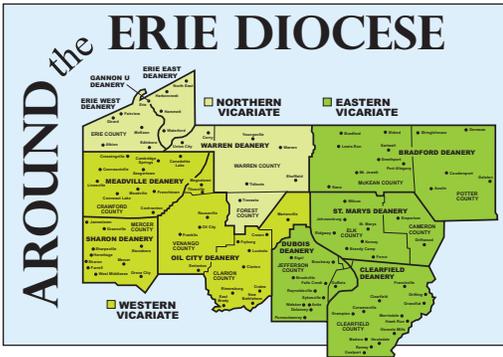
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DuBois Central Catholic Middle Schoolers stage Passion Play



DUBOIS—Sixth graders at DuBois Central Catholic Middle School offered their annual reenactment of the Stations of the Cross during Holy Week as the final project for their study of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Students performed for DCC's elementary, middle and high school students and staff, for the residents of Christ the King Manor and for family, friends and the

general public.

Cast members for this year's DCC Passion Play included, kneeling, left to right: Justin Minkis, Caleb Elias, Anne Lataska, Ashley Wruble, Haley Pettenati, Alyssa Bittner, Ashley Mayes, Eriq Donahue and Egan Peck.

Middle row: Teachers Nicole Snyder and Starleen Young, Antonio Willar, Ethan Stoddard, Andre Hanes, Lillian Lee, Tyler McIntosh, Lexie Szyplski, Paige Dushac, Abby Pettenati, Emma Cooper, Cody Warnick, Dominic Torretti and teacher Michael Micknis.

Top row: Thad Johnson, Courtney DeHaven, Zach Vandervort, Leyton Mangiantini, Jacob Snyder, Carley Semanick, Zach Edwards and Austin Lidde. Missing from photo are Makenzie Park, Hunter Benton and Sherry Anderson.

Saint Peter Cathedral School teacher honored

ERIE—Mrs. Mia Cornelius, a 5th and 6th grade social studies teacher at St. Peter Cathedral School in Erie, received the Golden Apple Award from WJET-TV and Edinboro University on March 27.

She was nominated by 5th grade student Daniel Cooper, who said in his nomination that Mrs. Cornelius makes school fun and special.

The goal of the program is to recognize teachers who are making a difference in the lives of their students and inspiring the desire to learn.



Greenville coaches recognized

GREENVILLE—Coaches at St. Michael School in Greenville were honored at an All Sports Banquet earlier this spring. The coaches were thanked for their volunteer hours and honored for their successful seasons.

Several coaches and parents involved with the program are alumni of the school, making it possible for the programs to continue.

Those who received recognition included: Row 1, left to right: Matt McElhinny, Natalie Blatt and Rachel Mariacher. Row 2: Jaymene Svrbly, Cindy Addison, Jill Harspt, Jen Groleau, Mary Liszka and Pam Toth. Row 3: Matt Brewer, Sean Belback, Gene Cianci, Rich Williams, Joe Ribley, Vince Utlak and Doug Shannon.



Inset: First-year SMS Athletic Director Shawn Harpst was cited for going above and beyond to help grow the basketball programs for both girls and boys, as well as for bringing soccer back to the school.



Catholic Foundation Scholarships help educators

ERIE—Scholarships from The Catholic Foundation bridged the gap to provide funding for training in curriculum, instruction and assessment for early childhood educators from Catholic schools around the diocese this year.

Through the Dr. Barbara Behan Immaculate Heart of Mary Education Endowment Fund, The Catholic Foundation provided funding for 45 teachers to increase their knowledge and skills in these areas.

To date, more than \$16,000 has been distributed from this endowed fund in tuition scholarships for preschool and kindergarten enrollees.

Pictured left to right are: Marietta Stalsky, workshop facilitator, Linda Sommerfeld, Blessed



John Paul II, Hermitage; Dr. Jennifer Berke, presenter and director of the Early Childhood Program at Mercyhurst North East; Rosemary Estok, St. Patrick School, Franklin; Darlene Pamula, Villa Maria Elementary School, Erie; and Dr. Emma Lee McCloskey, president, The Catholic Foundation.

St. Marys students raise funds for the missions

ST. MARYS—The students at St. Marys Catholic Elementary School in St. Marys held a dress-down day and collected money for the missions in Guatemala. They participated in a live video conference with Kim Lytle portraying St. Therese de Lisieux, who told of her love for the poor.

Kim also spoke of her trip to the missions in Guatemala and the needs of the children and people living there.

Pictured is first-grader Hailey Fleming presenting a check from the fundraiser to Director of Curriculum for the Diocese of Erie Kim Lytle. The funds will address some of the needs Lytle saw during her trip.



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