

**U.S. bishops' spring meeting**

Liturgy, stem cells, sex abuse among topics, page 2.



# FaithLife

**Prayer and thanks for the Blessed Sacrament**

Notre Dame to host adoration 'Gathering', page 3.



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BI-WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

June 1, 2008

## Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

### Feast days



St. Boniface



St. Anthony of Padua

- June 1 St. Marcellinus and St. Peter
- June 2 St. Charles Lwanga and his companions
- June 5 St. Boniface
- June 6 St. Norbert
- June 9 St. Ephrem
- June 11 St. Barnabas
- June 13 St. Anthony of Padua

### Confirmation schedule

St. Francis of Assisi, Clearfield – Sat., June 7 at 5:30 p.m.

Diocesan Jubilee Mass for women religious – June 4

Bishop Donald Trautman will celebrate the annual diocesan Jubilee Mass for women religious at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, June 4 at St. Mark Seminary Chapel. The Mass honors women religious celebrating 25, 40, 50 and 60 years of service in 2008.

Ordination to the priesthood – June 6

Bishop Donald Trautman will ordain Deacons Timothy Balliett and Johnathan Schmolt to the priesthood on Friday, June 6 during a 7 p.m. Mass and ceremony at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie. Balliett and Schmolt will be the 38th and 39th priests ordained by Bishop Trautman for the Erie Diocese since 1991.



Deacon Timothy Balliett



Deacon Johnathan Schmolt

Spring meeting of U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops – June 12-14

Matters of liturgy and language will dominate the agenda of the U.S. bishops' spring meeting June 12-14 at the Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress in Orlando, Fla. But such hot-button issues as embryonic stem-cell research, medically assisted nutrition and hydration, and clergy sex abuse also will come before the bishops. See the preview on page 2.

## Clergy appointments



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

Father Zab Amar, appointed pastor of St. Basil the Great Parish, Coalport, and Holy Trinity Parish, Ramey, for a term of six years. Effective June 20, 2008.

Msgr. Casimir Bogniak, appointed full time campus minister at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania and sacramental assistant at Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Edinboro. Effective June 20, 2008.

Father Thomas Dugan, appointed senior associate at St. Joseph Parish, Sharon, for a term of six years. Effective July 1, 2008.

Father Matthew Kujawinski, appointed pastor of St. Bartholomew Parish, Sharpville, for a term of six years. Effective June 20, 2008.

Msgr. Robert Malene, appointed temporary parochial administrator of St. Michael Parish, Emlenton. Effective May 28, 2008.

Father Jerome Simmons, appointed chaplain to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania while continuing residence at Sacred Heart Parish, Erie, for a term of five years. Effective June 14, 2008.

# 'REMAIN IN MY LOVE'

## Nine men ordained permanent deacons

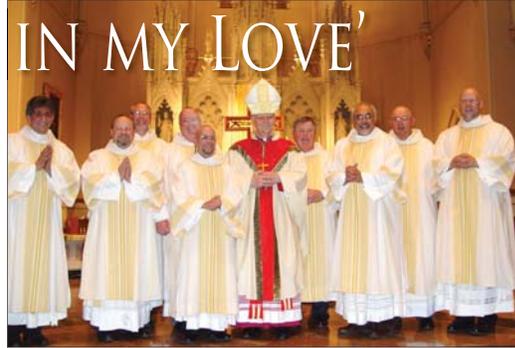
By Jason Koshinski  
FaithLife editor

Nine men were ordained permanent deacons for the Erie Diocese during a festive and joyful Mass and ceremony on May 16 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie.

The cathedral was filled with the newly ordained deacons' families, friends, parishioners, priests and fellow deacons.

The new deacons include: Denis Coan (St. John the Baptist, Erie), Larry Caggese (St. Leo Magnus, Ridgway), Ray Ehrensberger (St. Mary, St. Marys), Frank Lombardo (Holy Rosary, Erie), John Mang (St. Francis Xavier, McKean), Tom Matusiak (Holy Trinity, Erie), Ken Reisenweber (St. Brigid, Meadville), Owen Wagner (Notre Dame, Hermitage) and Tim Wren (St. Joseph, Oil City).

The deacons will begin serving their respective parishes immediately as they await their ministry assignments from the bishop.



From left to right, newly ordained deacons Frank Lombardo, Ray Ehrensberger, Denis Coan, Ken Reisenweber, Tim Wren, Bishop Donald Trautman, Owen Wagner, Larry Caggese, Tom Matusiak and John Mang.

"Tonight the Lord gives new life to the church," Bishop Donald Trautman said in his opening remarks of the ordination Mass.

During the rite of ordination, the candidates were called by name before the gathered congrega-

tion gave its consent through a round of applause. For Bishop Trautman's homily, the nine candidates were seated around his cathedra chair.

See DEACONS, page 3

# Tomorrow's priest: Johnathan Schmolt

By Jason Koshinski  
FaithLife editor

**Editor's note:** This is the second of two profiles of men who will be ordained priests June 6 for the Diocese of Erie.

Beginning around the sixth grade, Johnathan Schmolt off and on thought about being a priest.

"It was one of the options I could do," Schmolt said. "The idea came and went. I didn't really think about anything too serious until my senior year of high school."

Schmolt, along with classmate Deacon Timothy Balliett, will be ordained to the priesthood during a 7 p.m. Mass and ceremony on Friday, June 6 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie.

He initially thought about being involved in the church through religious life. He was looking at religious orders while attending college.

"It didn't really sit with me," said Schmolt, originally from Cincinnati.

In 1991, he was looking for an opportunity to do full-time volunteer work for the summer. One place he could find to do that was Young People Who Care in Frenchville. He went there for a week, then came back the following summer which ended up becoming a nine-month stay.

After graduating from Northern Kentucky University, he began working for a textile manufacturer in Cincinnati doing database programming work for a year and a half.

"While doing the computer work, I felt called to come back to Pennsylvania," Johnathan said. "I was tugged by God back to the mission experience."

He stayed at the Bethany Retreat Center

### Deacon Johnathan Schmolt

**Age:** 35  
**Hometown:** Coalport; grew up in Cincinnati  
**Home parish:** St. Basil the Great, Coalport

**Family:** Parents, Paul and Jeanine Schmolt; siblings, Annie Schmolt and Kristen Favro.

#### Schools attended:

- ▶ Immaculate Heart of Mary School, Cincinnati
- ▶ Covington Latin School, Covington, Ky.
- ▶ Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, Ky. (B.A. in chemistry)
- ▶ St. Mark Seminary formation program, Erie
- ▶ Gannon University, Erie (B.A. in philosophy)
- ▶ St. Mary's Seminary and University, Baltimore (S.T.B., M.Div.)

#### Deacon assignments:

- ▶ St. Stephen Parish, Oil City
- ▶ Holy Apostles Parish, Gambrils, Md.

#### Other assignments:

- ▶ St. John the Baptist Parish, Erie
- ▶ St. Mark Parish, Emporium
- ▶ Prince of Peace Center, Farrell, residing at St. Joseph Parish, Sharon

**Inspiring prayer:** "Come Holy Spirit fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created and you shall renew the faith of your church." "I have a strong devotion to the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is God acting in our world and in my life. He works in me to ever mold my life to be one with the Father in Christ Jesus. I sincerely believe that the Spirit will enliven our church if we let him."

In Frenchville for a year-and-a-half as the social service coordinator for the mission.

When he left the mission, he stayed at a mission house in Coalport, reconnecting with his for-



Deacon Johnathan Schmolt

mer job in Ohio, ending up as an independent computer consultant for six years.

"While living in Coalport, I became a member at St. Basil," he said. "I sang in the choir, became a eucharistic minister, taught religious ed. and got involved with the parish life."

He ended up getting connected with Penn State's Bread of Life charismatic community and attended their weekly

See SCHMOLT, page 3

## Class of 2008

More than 600 seniors will graduate from the seven Catholic high schools in the Erie Diocese this spring along with more than 1,800 seniors in parish religious education programs.

Receiving degrees at Gannon University's May 3 commencement were 1,011 candidates: 91 earned doctoral degrees, 433 earned master's degrees and 487 earned bachelor's degrees.

Mercyhurst College graduated 947 students from three campuses – including the first graduates of its new Mercyhurst West campus – during commencement weekend May 17-18.

### National Graduation Rates

Catholic high schools have the highest graduation rate in the U.S.

#### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

99%

#### OTHER RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS

98%

#### PUBLIC SCHOOLS

actual high school diploma 71%

includes GED certificates 87%

Source: National Catholic Educational Association ©2008 NCEA

## Cardinal McCarrick offers Gannon grads practical advice

By Jason Koshinski  
FaithLife editor

In his words to Gannon University graduates, Cardinal Theodore McCarrick advised them to always put trust in our best friend—God—whose grace helps us to do things we could never dream of doing by ourselves.

Cardinal McCarrick, archbishop emeritus of Washington, D.C., was the keynote speaker and the recipient of two honors at Gannon University's spring commencement May 10 at the Erie Civic Center. He received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree and the university's Ut Diligatis Invicem award, named in memory of the university's founder, Archbishop John Mark Gannon, and his motto: "That you may love one another."

Cardinal McCarrick also presided at the university's baccalaureate Mass earlier that morning at St. Peter Cathedral.



Cardinal McCarrick, archbishop emeritus of Washington, D.C., delivers the keynote speech during Gannon University's spring commencement May 10.

"It's a joy to be with you," Cardinal McCarrick said greeting the crowd. "I want to greet my classmates. I am very happy to be among you today. I want to greet your families and your parents, your brothers and sisters in a special way, all those who take such a special joy in seeing you graduate. Many of you, and you know this better than I, are the first college graduates in your family and nobody's happier

than your parents."

In his commencement address, Cardinal McCarrick called Gannon a "special place" with a "solid reputation among the universities in our country."

"Among the Catholic universities, Gannon has a reputation of being authentic in every way," he said.

Catholic institutions, he See McCARRICK, page 3



## IN THE U.S.

■ **Proposed legislation in Michigan that would require employers who provide prescription drug coverage to pay for contraception** is "a direct assault upon the religious freedom rights" of Catholic and other religious employers, according to an official of the Michigan Catholic Conference. Paul Long, the conference's vice president for public policy, testified May 14 before the state Senate Health Policy Committee about Senate Bills 41 and 42, which would mandate contraception coverage for employers providing prescription drug coverage to their employees. Similar bills introduced during past legislative sessions also have not included exemptions for religious organizations that oppose the use of contraception. "This legislation would impose a mandate upon Catholic religious institutions to provide contraceptive insurance coverage, coercing essential ministries of the Catholic Church under the color of law to act contrary to one of the church's most profound religious teachings on matters of morality and social justice," Long said.



■ **Archbishop George Niederauer of San Francisco and other California Catholic leaders condemned the May 15 ruling by the California Supreme Court** that struck down the state's ban on same-sex marriage. In a statement released shortly after the ruling, Archbishop Niederauer said Catholic teaching on marriage is clear and based on the teaching of Jesus Christ, who said God "made them male and female" and "for this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife." "At a moment in our society when we need to reinforce the strength of marriage and family, this decision of the Supreme Court takes California in the opposite direction," he said. Several gay and lesbian couples joined the

city of San Francisco and gay rights groups to sue the state government to overturn the ban on same-sex marriage. The 4-3 ruling — which said that domestic partnerships currently recognized by the state are an inadequate substitute for marriage — would make California the second state after Massachusetts to allow same-sex couples to wed. Opponents said they would fight the ruling; the court's order was to become final in 30 days.



Archbishop George Niederauer

■ **CBS will be broadcasting an interfaith special on forgiveness June 8.** The program is titled "Choosing to Forgive" and was produced by the Interfaith Broadcasting Commission. The group is comprised of representatives from the National Council of Churches, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, multiple Jewish organizations and the Islamic Society of North America. Viewers should check their local listings to determine when the program will be aired in their area. The program will focus on both the religious aspects and psychological aspects of the concept of forgiveness. It will include Robert Enright, author and professor of psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, who is a leader in the field of forgiveness therapy. There also will be numerous interviews with individuals who used forgiveness to help them get past tragedies; they include relatives of victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, relatives of drug and alcohol addicts, parents of murdered children and a rape victim.

## AROUND THE WORLD

■ **Every Christian has an obligation to share the love of Christ with others** and the primary means for doing so is to engage in or support the church's mission-

ary activity, Pope Benedict XVI said. "It is love that must push us to proclaim to all men and women the truth that saves with frankness and courage," the pope said May 17 in a meeting with participants in the annual assembly of the pontifical missionary societies. The assembly brought together top Vatican officials and the 129 national directors of the missionary societies: the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, the Holy Childhood Association, the Society of St. Peter Apostle and the Missionary Union of Priests and Religious.

■ **Abortion has not solved the problems plaguing many women and families in the world, Pope Benedict XVI told Italian pro-life groups.** Rather, allowing for the termination of a pregnancy has "opened a further wound in our society unfortunately already burdened by deep suffering," he said. The pope spoke during a May 12 audience at the Vatican with members of Italian pro-life groups; the 30th anniversary of the legalization of abortion in Italy was marked this May.

## PEOPLE OF FAITH

■ **Pope Benedict XVI called on the universal church to pray that Catholics in China never live in fear of spreading the Gospel.** The pope said he remains loyal to the Holy See.



In a special prayer released by the Vatican May 16, the pope asked that, despite the hardships Catholics in China face, they "continue to believe, to hope, to love." Last June, Pope Benedict established May 24, the feast of Our Lady, Help of Christians, as the world day of prayer for the church in China. Mary is venerated under that title at the Marian shrine in Sheshan, outside Shanghai, China.

## By the Way...

Plans for the World Youth Day home event at the Young People Who Care Center in Frenchville continue to come into focus. Coordinated with this summer's World Youth Day in Sydney, Australia, July 13-20, pastors, teachers, principals and parents are invited to send individuals or groups of high school students to one of two components of the week in Frenchville.



Jason Koshinski

Approximately 20 spots remain for chaperoned students age 16 and older for the week-long service-oriented experience beginning July 13. These students will then serve as leaders for the two-day World Youth Day home event at YPWC open to students age 14 and older, July 19-20.

Sister Suzanne Thibault, CA, says all are invited to pray, to consider helping to defray the cost of the event for youth and most importantly, to encourage groups to contact Young People Who Care to make arrangements to participate in this unique event. For more information, call Sister Suzanne at 814.263.4177 or e-mail [behanayouth@pennswoods.net](mailto:behanayouth@pennswoods.net). Details and registration forms are available at [www.ericcd.org/youth.asp](http://www.ericcd.org/youth.asp).

Father Bill Sutherland and Father John Jacquel, co-directors of the Erie Diocese's Cursillo movement, will concelebrate the weekly sign interpreted Mass for the deaf at noon on June 1 at St. Patrick in Erie in thanksgiving for their 25 years of priestly service. Father Sutherland is the spiritual director for the diocese's deaf ministry. Mass will be followed by a reception at the parish's Cawley Center.

The 2008 diocesan Anniversary Celebrations for couples marking 25th, 50th or 60th wedding anniversaries will be held at two locations in the diocese: Sunday, Aug. 3 at Our Lady of Mercy in Harborcreek and Sunday, Aug. 10 at St. Tobias in Brockway. Both Masses, celebrated by Bishop Donald Trautman, will begin at 2 p.m. Anniversary couples will be presented with scrolls and a reception for couples and their families will follow each Mass. To register, contact your parish office or the Family Life Office at Catholic Charities at 814.824.1250 or 800.374.3723 Ext. 250; or go online at [www.ericcd.org/familylifeoffice.asp](http://www.ericcd.org/familylifeoffice.asp).

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# Liturgy, stem cells, sex abuse among topics at bishops' June meeting

By Nancy Frazier O'Brien  
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — Matters of liturgy and language will dominate the agenda of the U.S. bishops' spring meeting June 12-14 at the Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress in Orlando, Fla. But such hot-button issues as embryonic stem-cell research, medically assisted nutrition and hydration, and clergy sex abuse also will come before the bishops.

Much of the three-day meeting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops will be closed to the media, with the schedule calling for executive session, regional meetings and an afternoon of prayer and reflection.

As they begin what Bishop Arthur Serratelli of Paterson, N.J., chairman of the USCCB Committee on Divine Worship, called "the final phase of the process of translation and approval of the Roman Missal for use in the United States," the bishops will vote on a new translation of the proper prayers for each Sunday and feast day during the liturgical year.

But in a break from previous practice, the 700-page draft text of the readings was distributed to the bishops not on paper but only in electronic form, except for special requests.

"In an effort to save on paper and to 'go green,' we've been trying to get people using the Web more" for documentation ahead



At their June 12-14 meeting in Orlando, the U.S. bishops will:

- Vote on a new translation of the proper prayers for each Sunday and feast day during the liturgical year
- Consider a policy statement from the Committee on Pro-Life Activities on embryonic stem-cell research
- Begin revising passages in the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services that relate to medically assisted nutrition and hydration
- Hear a presentation by researchers on the study of the causes and context of clergy sex abuse in this country

of the bishops' meeting, said Mercy Sister Mary Ann Walsh, director of media relations for the USCCB. "The liturgy document is so large it seems wasteful" to print copies unnecessarily, she added.

On a Spanish-language liturgical matter, the bishops will be asked to approve a change from the formal "vosotros" to the more familiar "ustedes" in Spanish-language Masses in the U.S.

Although both words mean

the plural "you" in English, "vosotros" is "no longer current speech" in most of the Spanish-speaking world, except in Spain, Bishop Serratelli said in an introductory note to his fellow bishops on the proposed change.

After the liturgical readings, the longest text to come before the bishops in June is a seven-page policy statement from the Committee on Pro-Life Activities on embryonic stem-cell research. The document is aimed at providing "background for the more pastoral educational resource on why Catholic couples should not resort to some reproductive technologies," said Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia, committee chairman, in an introduction to the draft text.

The document rejects a number of arguments made in favor of permitting stem-cell research involving the destruction of human embryos, saying that "once we cross the fundamental moral line that prevents us from treating any fellow human being as a mere object of research, there is no stopping point."

"The issue of stem-cell research does not force us to choose between science and ethics, much less between science and religion," the draft text says. "It presents a choice as to how our society will pursue scientific and medical progress... We must pursue progress in ethically responsible ways that respect the

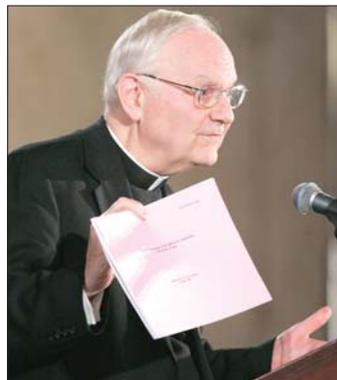


Photo by CNS

Bishop Donald Trautman holds up a copy of a document concerning proposed changes to a new English translation of the Roman Missal during a previous meeting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. During their June 12-14 spring meeting, the bishops will vote on a new translation of the proper prayers for each Sunday and feast day during the liturgical year.

dignity of each human being. Only this will produce cures and treatments that everyone can live with."

The document on reproductive technologies is to come before the bishops at a later meet-

ing session in the "Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services" that relate to medically assisted nutrition and hydration. The directives guide Catholic health care facilities in addressing a wide range of ethical questions.

The proposed revisions would be drawn up in consultation with the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities and would go back to the bishops for a vote before being finalized.

The Orlando meeting also will include a 45-minute presentation by researchers from the John Jay College of Criminal Justice of the City University of New York on their study of the causes and context of clergy sex abuse in this country. The study is set for completion in 2009.

The bishops will consider a recommended structure for dialogue between priests and bishops about how the church has handled sex abuse allegations against clergy and how the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People," adopted by the bishops in Dallas in June 2002, has been implemented.

The agenda also features a presentation on the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate's survey on "Sacraments Today: Belief and Practice Among U.S. Catholics" and the Pew U.S. Religious Landscape Survey. The surveys were released in April and February, respectively.

The policy statement must be approved by a majority of the bishops present at the Orlando meeting.

The same group will be asked to accept a request from the Committee on Doctrine to begin

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## Catholic Services Appeal parish projects

The 2008 Catholic Services Appeal, "Of One Heart and Mind," supports the Erie Diocese in helping to provide health and social services, education, diocesan administration and pastoral services throughout the 13 counties of northwestern Pennsylvania.

The goal for the 2008 CSA is \$3.65 million. So far, the total amount pledged has exceeded \$5.5 million, which is slightly ahead of last year's \$5.4 million at this point.

Parishes also benefit from the appeal. Each parish is assessed a financial goal. Once a parish reaches its assessment, every dollar pledged over that amount stays within the parish for local projects. To date parishes have raised more than \$1.8 million over goal to be used for local projects.

Here's a look at what some parishes are doing with their CSA average funds:

### Oil City Deanery

**Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Oil City** — Rebuilding side stairway of church

**Immaculate Conception, Clarion** — Building maintenance

**Our Lady Help of Christians, Oil City** — Refurbishing the pews

**St. Charles, New Bethlehem** — Continue to raise funds for the restoration of the church steeple

**St. Eusebius, East Brady** — General fund

**St. Joseph, Lucinda** — Paving the parking lot

**St. Joseph, Oil City** — Roof improvement on church

**St. Mary, Crown** — Repairs and provide for the liturgical space in the back of church; repair the roof at St. Ann

**St. Michael, Emlenton** — Help fund improvements to make parish more handicap accessible

**St. Michael, Fryburg** — Finish repair on church roof, insulation of church, repair heating system

**St. Patrick, Franklin** — Building fund

**St. Stephen, Oil City** — Handicap ramp to the chapel

**St. Titus, Titusville** — Repave parking lot, air condition church

**St. Venantius, Rouseville** — Recoating and striping of parking lot

**St. Walburga, Titusville** — New church roof, repave parking lot

**Immaculate Conception, Mageetown** — No project listed

**St. Nicholas, Crates** — Regular upkeep of parish and grounds

**St. Richard, Rimersburg** — General fund



## Nine men ordained permanent deacons

DEACONS from page 1

The applause was an enthusiastic endorsement and affirmation from God's people, Bishop Trautman said, and a way of thanking the candidates for their courage and perseverance in pursuing their vocation.

"A few moments ago, after hearing your name called, you responded 'present.' That is exactly what the prophet Isaiah said when he heard God's voice asking, whom shall I send? Isaiah responded, 'Here am I. Send me.' When you answered present, you answered just as Isaiah did. You came forth to serve God and God's people. Present—one word but a word of faith and trust in the God who calls. Present is a word of surrender to do God's will, a word that signifies a willingness to receive ordination so that you can be empowered to carry on Jesus' mission. Present means yes, Lord, here am I, send me."

In thanking the candidates' wives, children and all who have brought them to this moment for their prayers and support, the bishop said they have given Christian witness in marriage and parenthood and now will give new witness as ordained disciples of Christ.

Deacons are sent by Christ to serve the church in a three-fold ministry: the Word, at the altar and in charity. Deacons are called to proclaim the Gospel message by preaching and teaching in and

### Deacons...

- can officiate at baptisms, weddings, wakes and funerals
- can assist the priest at Mass by proclaiming the Gospel, preaching and distributing Communion
- must be at least 35 years old when applying to the diaconate formation program
- may be married but must be married before ordination; they cannot be married after they have been ordained

For more information on the Permanent Diaconate Formation Program in the Erie Diocese, call 814.824.1130, e-mail director Msgr. Robert Smith at [rsmith@eriercd.org](mailto:rsmith@eriercd.org) or visit online at [www.eriercd.org/diaconate.asp](http://www.eriercd.org/diaconate.asp).



Deacon candidates lie prostrate in front of the altar during their ordination ceremony as a sign of obedience to God and the church.

out of church, the bishop said.

They also minister at the Eucharist, witness marriages, perform baptisms, preside at wakes and funerals, conduct prayer services and bring the Eucharist to the dying.

"But the ministry of charity is the principle theme, the essential meaning of the permanent diaconate," Bishop Trautman said. "It entails serving the poor and the marginalized, caring for the sick and imprisoned, bringing Christ to the forgotten and abandoned. Like St. Francis the deacon, you are to bring Christ's love and truth to the alienated and outcast."

After the laying on of hands and the prayer of ordination, the newly ordained were invested with a stole and dalmatic.

"The stole symbolizes the power and authority Christ shares with you, but let us always remember that power and authority means service—humble service, the ministry of charity," Bishop Trautman said. "Tonight, Christ sends you on a mission of service to his people."

In recalling the origin of the permanent diaconate, Bishop Trautman said while it is true to say that the diaconate originated in the first century church, it is equally true to say that the modern permanent diaconate originated in a less likely place—the Nazi concentration camp in Dachau. A group of priests in Cell Block 26 at Dachau had long discus-

sions on how the church could be rebuilt after the war, he said.

"They tried to analyze how the so-called Christian nations could permit the sin of Nazi-ism and how the church lost the working person and lost the church on Sunday to just another day of the week. These priests agreed that the permanent diaconate would be a way to keep the church closer to the marketplace. The idea took hold among a group of German social workers inspired by St. Francis."

Permanent deacons were not intended to be mini-priests, he said, but rather official witnesses and leaders in the marketplace, in the home and in secular life, bringing Jesus' Gospel message to the world. Theologians then brought the idea to the Second Vatican Council where it was authorized.

## Tomorrow's priest: Johnathan Schmolt

SCHMOLT from page 1

prayer meetings. He then attended Penn State with a goal of getting a computer science degree.

"Basically, I had the question, what do I want to do? Is computer work what I want to do for the rest of my life?" Schmolt said. "I didn't feel satisfied with that. Since my mission experience, I kind of stepped away from that question. Now I was asking, 'God, what do you want me to do?' It was kind of clear as day. I got this almost verbal response back that, 'I want you to be a priest.'"

After meeting many priests through his mission work—including Father Alex Amico, Father Samuel Bungo and Msgr.

Charles Kaza — he turned his eyes toward becoming a diocesan priest.

"I had met all these great and inspiring priests in the diocese through the mission," Johnathan said. "These men really enjoyed the priesthood and were faithful in their own ways of how to be a priest. They were happy and they didn't look overworked. At the base of it, they like being a priest. And that was appealing."

After two months of wrestling with the thought and some time in spiritual discernment, he entered St. Mark Seminary in Erie. "I've been loving it ever since," he said. "My time at St. Mark's and St. Mary's have been very good experiences. I've gotten to know a lot of good guys in dis-

cernment and priests of the diocese."

He says he's also seen some personal growth — he's become calmer and surer of himself.

"I've learned more about the ever-growing capacity of recognizing that God loves me and that in his infinite mercy takes whoever and wherever people are and molds us so that we can serve others," he said.

Through the pastoral formation program at St. Mary's Seminary, Schmolt said because there are fewer priests today, new priests are trained to be able to walk into a parish and very quickly assess where people are in their faith journey and use the tools available to help move people forward in the faith lives.

"As a representative of Christ in the church, that's an awesome responsibility," he said. "And to take it seriously is very important. I'm hopeful to tap into the grace of holy orders, that God will help me have the capacity to minister to his people the way he wants them ministered to. There's a lot of challenge happening within that because we live in a dynamic church."

Although he doesn't know who he'll meet or what situations he'll face during his priesthood, Schmolt said part of his experience as a diocesan priest will come from the people he'll minister to.

"I'm helping them in their faith and they'll help me in mine," he said.

## Briefly

### Notre Dame to host adoration 'Gathering'

HERMITAGE — The Shenango Valley Eucharistic Adoration Committee will present the "Gathering," an evening of communal adoration, prayer and thanks to the Lord for the Blessed Sacrament, at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 12 at Notre Dame Parish in Hermitage.

The date and time listed for this event in the May/June issue of *Faith* magazine was incorrect.

Registration and social will run from 6-7 p.m. and includes refreshments and music offered by the Kennedy Catholic High School praise band.

The program includes a talk given by Father James Campbell, parochial vicar of St. Michael Parish in Greenville titled "God So Loved the World that He Gave His Only Begotten Son in the Eucharist," followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The Notre Dame folk group will provide praise music.

The event is open to people from all parishes.

"The Gathering first and foremost is a tremendous opportunity to promote unity within our parish community as well as all Catholics in the county," said Emory Beal of the Shenango Valley Eucharistic Adoration Committee. "It promotes unity because all Catholic regardless of parish affiliation are united in the Blessed Sacrament."



## People in the News

### Seton Catholic School names Longo as director of advancement

MEADVILLE — Seton Catholic School in Meadville announced that Jamie Longo has been named the school's director of advancement.

Longo will be working directly with principal Regina Merritt to enhance and develop recruitment and marketing means to advance the school. She will help develop a comprehensive program that includes annual giving and major gifts, along with maintaining a relationship with the school and its graduates. She will also be working on the school's scholarship fund.

"We'll be marketing the school, which gives us a chance to let people know what Seton Catholic School has to offer," Longo said. "I've had several parents and teachers tell me that this is giving them hope to continue and strengthen what we're doing here."

Merritt said the position was created in part due to a series of seminars sponsored by the Erie Diocese's Catholic Schools Office.

The diocese has been conducting a series of Advancement Counsel workshops designed specifically for the advancement of Catholic schools. Along with the workshops, the diocese has suggested that schools consider creating a director of advancement position. Many are in the process of doing so.



Jamie Longo

### YOUTH MINISTER POSITION:

The Parishes of Our Lady of Mercy, Harborcreek, and St. Mark, Lawrence Park, are seeking an energetic, creative person dedicated to working with teens to fill the position of youth minister to plan, run and enhance various activities ministering to the youth of both parishes and address the needs of the youth in our community. All interested persons should submit resumes and references to:

Irene Lucas, 837 Bartlett Rd., Harborcreek, PA 16421 OR Pat Marshall, 695 Smithson Ave., Erie, PA 16511.

**DEADLINE IS JUNE 6.** Any questions can be directed to: Irene Lucas (Our Lady of Mercy) at 814.899.1312, e-mail: [lucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:lucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) or Pat Marshall (St. Marks) at 814.899.3000 x12, e-mail: [pmarshall@stmark.org](mailto:pmarshall@stmark.org)

## Cardinal McCarrick offers practical advice

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added, must have three characteristics.

First, he said they have to be authentically Catholic.

"I know some of you, maybe many of you, are not Catholic yourselves," he said. "That's fine. But you have to know who we are. We have to be honest in presenting our nature, our vision, our understanding of who we are. A Catholic institution must be authentically Catholic in every way, and Gannon is like that."

Secondly, he said a Catholic institution has to be looking forward.

"You must always be striving for excellence, always striving for something that is beyond where you are now," he said. "As I see the new buildings, the new development, the new programs, I know that that's true here."

And thirdly, he said a Catholic institution must always be open to the poor.

"You give someone a chance

to do something very special and very wonderful because they can't do it without that foundation," he said. "And Gannon is giving that foundation, has done it since the beginning and continues to do it."

In his address, he also commended Bishop Donald Trautman for being a leader in the U.S. bishops' conference.

"You've had great bishops here in Erie, from Archbishop Gannon and Bishop Mike Murphy, and Bishop Don Trautman is one of the best," he said. "I'm very grateful to see him as a friend, and you are very blessed to have him as your bishop. He is a man of great vision, which is so very important to the church."

In closing, Cardinal McCarrick offered graduates three pieces of advice.

First, he said never become separated or estranged from your family.

"Your family got you here today," he said. "Don't let them down. Some of you will move away from home. Don't cut your

ties or ever be lost to your family."

Second, he told them to hold onto their friends.

"You've made good friends here," he said. "You'll make more of them. Hold onto them. Find out who your good friends are and hold onto them. Good friends are a treasure. Even the Bible tells us that."

Finally, he said remember always that God is with you.

"God will always be your best friend," he said. "And realize that if the world seems terribly dark, the Lord is always your light. If

the world seems terribly dismal, the Lord is always your joy. And if the world seems terribly distant, his grace and his love can make it easier. May the angels go with you. May you be happy and successful. And may you never lose the company of the Lord. God bless you all."

Cardinal McCarrick served from January 2001 to May 2006 as archbishop of Washington. As archbishop of the nation's capital, he placed an emphasis on vocations, education and meeting the needs of new immigrants.

## Director of Advancement

**OUR LADY OF PEACE SCHOOL** is seeking a dedicated individual to take a leadership role in implementing development activities to include: advancement office management • enrollment management • strategic planning • financial resource development • public relations/communication. The candidate must believe in the importance of Catholic Schools and possess the professional skills and experience necessary to meet the requirements of the position. To review the complete job description, please go to [www.olg.org/school](http://www.olg.org/school) and click on the link for **Director of Advancement Job Description**.

Please respond with your current resume and cover letter to: Advancement Director Search Committee, Our Lady of Peace, 2401 West 38th St, Erie, PA 16506

*Congratulations*  
Msgr. Richard Sullivan  
and God's Blessings on Your 50th Jubilee

*Prayers and love from*  
Saint Andrew Parish

**Notre Dame Church**  
to Host  
**The Gathering**  
**Communal Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

- \* A Talk - Father James Campbell  
St. Michaels Parish - Greenville, PA  
"God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son in the Eucharist"
- \* Witnessing - Eucharistic Adoration Adorers, Liturgy of the Hours, with Exposition
- \* The Evening Prayers of the Church
- \* Enjoy singing with the Notre Dame Folk Group

**Notre Dame Church**  
2335 Highland Road, Hermitage, PA  
**Thursday, June 12th at 7:00 pm**  
Social with Refreshments 6:00-7:00 pm  
KCHS Glory and Praise Band will provide music

