

Shroud of Turin
Shroud will be displayed to the public for the first time in a decade in 2010, page 2.



FaithLife

Happy anniversary
Anniversary celebrations set for Aug. 3 & Aug. 10, page 3.



www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

June 15, 2008

Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

Feast days



St. Aloysius Gonzaga St. Cyril of Alexandria

- June 19 St. Romuald
- June 21 St. Aloysius Gonzaga
- June 24 Nativity of St. John the Baptist
- June 27 St. Cyril of Alexandria
- June 28 St. Irenaeus
- June 29 St. Peter and St. Paul

Peter's Pence Collection — June 21-22

The Peter's Pence collection is taken up annually and provides funds so that the Holy Father can sponsor charitable works responding to some of the world's most urgent needs including emergency relief efforts and bring hope to those who suffer from war, oppression, disease and natural disaster.

"We need only to think of the recent typhoon in Myanmar and the earthquake in China to envision some of those for whom this aid is destined," said Bishop Donald Trautman.

By our response both in prayer and in financial support for this special collection taken up June 21-22 in parishes in the Erie Diocese, the faithful can contribute to the charitable ministry of the successor of St. Peter, Pope Benedict XVI.

Emmaus Convocation — June 23-26

The annual Emmaus Convocation for priests, deacons and seminarians of the Erie Diocese will take place June 23-26 at St. Vincent College in Latrobe.

Rooted in the Emmaus walk from St. Luke's Gospel, it is the one time of year when diocesan clergy get together for fraternity. Aiding the spiritual renewal are opportunities for confession and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, prayer and Mass. This year's presenter is Msgr. John Strykowski, STD, rector of Cathedral Basilica of St. James in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Other events include a diocesan dialogue with Bishop Donald Trautman and the annual jubilarian Mass and banquet honoring priests celebrating 25, 40, 50 and 60 years of priesthood in 2008.

Please consult your parish bulletin for Mass times and Communion services during the week of Emmaus.

Opening of special jubilee year dedicated to St. Paul — June 28

Pope Benedict XVI has proclaimed a year dedicated to St. Paul as a model of Christian evangelization, to run from June 28, 2008, to June 29, 2009, to mark the approximately 2,000th anniversary of the saint's birth.

Look for more information about the special Pauline year in the June 29 issue of FaithLife.



Conversion of St. Paul

Clergy appointments



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

Father John Detisch, VF, reappointed pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Erie, for a term of six years ending June 30, 2014.

Msgr. John Herbein, VF, reappointed pastor of St. Patrick Parish, Franklin, for a term of six years ending June 30, 2014.

Msgr. Desmond McGee, reappointed pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Clearfield, for a term of six years ending June 30, 2014.

Father Larry Richards, reappointed pastor of St. Joseph Parish/Bread of Life Community, Erie, for a term of six years ending June 30, 2014.

Msgr. Richard Sullivan, reappointed pastor of St. Andrew Parish, Erie.

Deacon Stephen Washek, appointed diocesan director of campus ministry for a term of three years. Effective June 1, 2008.

'Do this in memory of me'

Balliett, Schmolt ordained to the priesthood

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

ERIE — On June 6, the feast of St. Norbert, two young men from the Erie Diocese gave their hearts to the priesthood of Jesus Christ.

Bishop Donald Trautman ordained Timothy Balliett and Johnathan Schmolt to the priesthood in front of a crowd of family, friends, diocesan priests and guests at St. Peter Cathedral.

Family and friends from Balliett's home parish of Blessed Sacrament in Erie attended the ceremony as well as a busload of well wishers from his deacon assignment at St. Tobias Parish in Brockway. Schmolt's guests came from his home parish of St. Basil the Great in Coalport and Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Cincinnati,

where he grew up.

The evening's Gospel was from Luke 22:14-20, 24-30 where Jesus is with his disciples in the upper room at the Last Supper. During the Passover meal, "he took the bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of me.'"

After the Gospel, Father Michael Kesicki, rector of St. Mark Seminary, presented the candidates, who were then elected by the bishop. The warmth of the evening was matched by the emotion of the gathered assembly; the people gave their consent through a hearty round of applause, signifying their approval of having these men serve them as the people of God.

Bishop Trautman then delivered his homily to the two



From left to right, Father Timothy Balliett, Bishop Donald Trautman and Father Johnathan Schmolt. View this and other ordination photos online at www.ErieRCD.org.

candidates, who were seated directly in front of his chair.

Luke's Gospel gives the origin, context and background of Christ's words, "Do this in memory of me," the bishop said, when on the night before he died, he gave his disciples two parting gifts: the gift of the Eucharist and the gift of priesthood.

"Do this in memory of me.' We have come to this cathedral tonight to fulfill these words," Bishop Trautman said. "This is the reason why Tim and Johnathan are seeking to become priests. They want to continue Jesus' saving actions of teaching and sancti-

fy and shepherding God's people. They want to give their lives to Christ. They want to keep his memory alive. They want to transmit his presence to others. And especially, they want to continue his words and actions at the Last Supper by taking, blessing, breaking and giving the bread and wine transformed into his body and blood."

Christ's words sum up his calling of two new disciples, commissioning them to be his priests and co-workers in the ministry of salvation, the bishop said.

"Christ wants to speak to his people today through your

voice," he said. "He wants to consecrate Eucharist and forgive sins and anoint through you. He wants to help with your hands and save through your ministry. And so he empowers you to act in his person. 'Do this in memory of me.'"

Before the ordination rite, Bishop Trautman advised the candidates that the gift of the Holy Spirit is more than sufficient to help them fulfill Christ's words.

"Tonight, Christ shares with you his own priesthood. Be not afraid," he said.

See ORDINATIONS, page 3

Many new U.S. priests in their 30s and foreign-born: study

Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — The age and nationality of many of the new priests to be ordained in the United States this year continues a trend of recent years as more foreign-born men in their mid-30s are entering the priesthood.

The average age for this year's ordinands is 36 for diocesan priests and 39 for priests joining religious orders. About 30 percent of new priests are between 25 and 29 years of age and about 39 percent are in their 30s, according to a national study.

The annual survey of new priests is conducted by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University. The survey was initially developed in 1998 by the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Vocations and Priestly Formation. Two years ago, CARA began conducting the survey for the U.S. bishops.

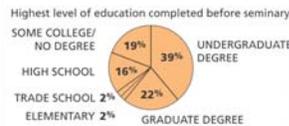
The study of the ordination class of 2008 shows that one-third of this year's new priests were born outside the United States. The largest numbers are from Mexico, Vietnam, Poland and the Philippines. The percentage of foreign-born ordinands is nearly the same this year as last year (32 percent compared to 31 percent), but is a significant increase from the 22 percent in 1999.

Of this year's 401 ordinands, 335 responded to

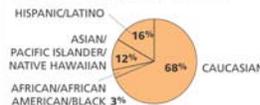
See U.S. PRIESTS, page 3

Ordination Class of 2008

As many as 401 potential ordinands could enter the priesthood this year.



Race and ethnic background of ordinands



Results from 333 ordinands responding to survey by March 1, 2008. Source: Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate



Crisis management

Conference focuses on faith-based response in disaster training

By Mary Sirianni
FaithLife

During disasters, the role played by faith-based communities can be considerable, and preparation and planning for such events is invaluable, according to crisis intervention consultant John Weaver.

As the threat of natural, biological and man-made crises increases, preparations for such events becomes more important, as does involvement from faith-based organizations. Representatives from Catholic Charities of the Erie Diocese attended a May 29 conference at Penn State-Behrend that highlighted the need for faith-based communities in crisis relief.

Weaver, a clinical social worker from Nazareth, Pa., and founder of Eye of the Storm, Inc. consultation and education firm, was the keynote speaker.

"This conference was necessary and educated us on how to respond to emergencies," said Erin Landini-Grogan, director of Parish Social Ministry/Respect Life for Catholic Charities in the Erie Diocese.

"We have many natural disasters throughout the country, and there is always the threat of pandemic emergencies," she said. "We always need to be aware of these threats."

Weaver said faith-based groups are often left out of the gov-

World Youth Day coming to Frenchville

Home event to connect local, universal church

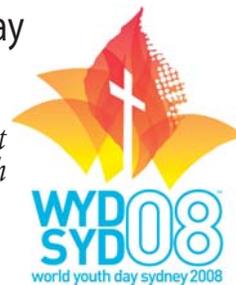
By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

FRENCHVILLE — While distance and expense are major factors for pilgrims deciding whether or not to attend World Youth Day this summer in Sydney, Australia, that doesn't have to be the case for young people in the Erie Diocese. World Youth Day will be coming here.

Young People Who Care Center in Frenchville is hosting a World Youth Day Home Event, which will be held in conjunction with events in Sydney July 13-20.

"We're hopeful that students would experience the broader church and have an experience of faith that can be taken home and bear fruit there," said Sister Suzanne Tibbault, CA, with Young People Who Care (YPWC) Ministries. "It could be a change-agent in their lives. They can learn how to be a witness and live out their faith in the world today."

The home event consists of two components: a one-week retreat experience of spirituality, service and community building for youth, who will then become youth leaders during a weekend event open to hundreds of



youth throughout the diocese.

The theme of "Be My Witnesses" is taken from Acts 1:8 where Jesus tells his disciples, "You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth."

So far, 33 students from seven parishes and seven adult chaperones have committed to the week-long experience. There are openings for 12 more students and five more adults, Sister Suzanne said.

During the retreat, youth minister Ed Curtin will work with students on their peer leadership development while Sister Suzanne and Father Ted Marconi, pastor of St. Leo Parish in Ridgeway, will focus on spirituality. The service aspect will focus on ministry to the poor with emphasis on Catholic social teaching on the dignity of



IN THE U.S.

■ New research shows that poor and marginalized students attending Catholic schools have significantly higher retention and graduation rates than their peers in public schools. Conducted by Loyola Marymount University's School of Education in Los Angeles, the study focused on a group of Catholic school students in Los Angeles. All of the students received tuition funding from the Catholic Education Foundation of the Los Angeles Archdiocese between 2001 and 2005. According to the researchers, this study was the first time the foundation opened its records to a university and provided Catholic school data in such detail. Information on the study was released by the Catholic university May 19. The study followed 603 students from eighth to ninth grade and 205 students from ninth grade to high school graduation at about 30 schools in Southern California.

■ A federal appeals court's May 20 decision overturning Virginia's ban on partial-birth abortion thwarts "the clear and common sense of our state's citizens that a child who is almost entirely born should never be the victim of this brutal practice," according to the executive director of the Virginia Catholic Conference. Speaking on behalf of the state's two Catholic bishops, Jeff Caruso said he hoped a higher court would "remedy the grave harm done" by a panel of the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, based in Richmond, Va. By a 2-1 majority, the panel said Virginia's Partial-Birth Infanticide Act of 2003 "imposes an undue burden upon a woman's right to choose a pre-viability second-trimester abortion" and is therefore unconstitutional. "I cannot imagine that protecting the gruesome practice of partial-birth abortion is what our country's forefathers had in mind when they crafted our Constitution over 200 years ago," Caruso said by e-mail. "Yet somehow two judges have found a way to declare Virginia's ban on the procedure unconstitutional."

AROUND THE WORLD

■ The Shroud of Turin, revered by many as the burial cloth of Christ, will be displayed to the public for the first time in a decade in 2010. Pope Benedict XVI announced during a June 2 audience with pilgrims from Turin that he had approved the shroud's removal from its protective casket for display to the public in the spring of 2010. According to tradition, the 14-foot by 4-foot linen cloth is the burial shroud of Jesus. The shroud has a full-length photonegative image of a man, front and back, bearing signs of wounds that correspond to the Gospel accounts of the torture Jesus endured in his passion and death. The church has never officially ruled on the shroud's authenticity, saying judgments about its age and origin belonged to scientific investigation. Scientists have debated its authenticity for decades, and studies have led to conflicting results.



■ Pope Benedict XVI called for prayers for all those who have been hit by natural disasters in China and Myanmar. Before praying his noonday Angelus June 1, he asked for the "maternal intercession" of Mary to help those suffering in the aftermath of China's earthquake and Cyclone Nargis that struck Myanmar. He called on Mary to help those affected by these "natural calamities and for those dealing with the many situations of suffering, illness, and material and spiritual misery that mark hu-

manity's journey." The Chinese government said June 1 that the official death toll from the May 12 quake had risen to more than 69,000; it also said more than 360,000 people were injured and some 19,000 people were still missing. More than 15 million had been evacuated from areas affected by the quake, government officials said.

■ The Australian Catholic Students Association has launched a Web site linking international pilgrims with Australian Catholics as they prepare for World Youth Day in July. Sydney Cardinal George Pell launched the Web site, www.vbenedict.org, in late May at a Spanish-themed party in Sydney, where World Youth Day will be held July 15-20. The Web site offers daily pilgrim news in English and Spanish for the final days leading up to World Youth Day events. It will be translated into Spanish by Mexican youths who are in Sydney volunteering for the events.



■ Pope Benedict XVI urged the international community to combat the causes of hunger, saying starvation and malnutrition were unacceptable in a world that can produce plenty to eat. Any further increase in global food production will help alleviate hunger "only if it is accompanied by the effective distribution" of the food, which needs to be "primarily channeled to satisfy essential needs," Pope Benedict said June 3 in a message to the World Food Security Summit in Rome. "The great challenge today is to globalize not only economic and commercial interests, but also the expectations of solidarity," he wrote. Numerous heads of state and nongovernmental organizations attended the high-level, three-day summit, dedicated to addressing the current world food crisis, the challenges of climate change and the development of biofuels.

By the Way...

There are many proud smiles on the faces of the teachers and faculty members of St. Luke School in Erie this graduation season. This year, at all three Catholic high schools in Erie, the highest academic award went to a former St. Luke student.



Jason Koshinski

Gabriella Bensus (Mercyhurst Prep valedictorian), Michael Dzurick (Cathedral Prep Golden Achievement Award for highest GPA) and Abby Sorensen (Villa Maria Academy valedictorian) are all alumni from the St. Luke School Class of 2004. The Serra Club of Erie, which fosters and promotes vocations to the priesthood and religious life through prayer, awareness, affirmation and support, handed out its annual awards June 3 during a dinner and reception at Gannon University's Yeh Room. Mass was celebrated prior to the event at Gannon's Mary, Seat of Wisdom Chapel.

Sister Nancy Fischer, SSI, coordinator for the diocese's Rite of Christian Initiation program (RCIA) and director of community formation and lay minister training including the *Why Catholic?* program, was honored as the Sister of the Year. She was nominated for the honor by the club's outgoing president, Buddy Stark, who fondly remembers the great difference she made in his life the year he transferred to St. Andrew School as a sixth grader.

Mgr. Tom Snyderwine, pastor of St. Luke Parish in Erie, was named Priest of the Year and Deacon Marty Eisert from Holy Trinity Parish in Erie was the club's first-ever Deacon of the Year. Msgr. Snyderwine celebrates his 40th jubilee this year.

"Vatican Splendors: From Saint Peter's Basilica, the Vatican Museums and the Swiss Guards," an exhibition of 2,000 years of Vatican art and history, opened May 31 at the Western Reserve Historical Society in Cleveland. The exhibit includes Michelangelo items and works by Bernini, Giotto and others and artwork dating back to the third century. From the venerated relics (bone fragments) of St. Peter to items from the election of Pope Benedict XVI, this exhibit comprises one of the largest Vatican collections ever to tour North America. Many items have never before been on public view.

Tickets are available in person at the Western Reserve Historical Society box office or at Ticketmaster locations, by phone at 1.888.5VATICAN or online at www.ticketmaster.com. For advance group discount information and reservations, contact sales@TicketsForGroups.com or call 1.800.840.1157. For more information on the exhibit, visit www.vatican Splendors.com. For more information on the Western Reserve Historical Society, visit www.wrhs.org or call 216.721.5722.

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U.S. commission cites Vietnam as major violator of religious freedom

China, others designated as countries of particular concern

By Regina Linsky
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — A U.S. watchdog group has named Vietnam as one of the world's worst violators of religious freedom because of its participation and acceptance in suppressing its citizens' ability to worship freely.

Vietnam's religious communities, including Catholics, face ongoing and serious problems because the reforms meant to improve the situation are inconsistent and vary throughout the country, said the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom's annual report on the status of religious freedom in countries around the world.

Vietnam also continues to detain religious prisoners and, overall, the human rights situation is deteriorating, said the report released in May by the commission.

The commission is an independent, bipartisan, federal agency mandated by Congress to review international religious freedom and recommend to the U.S. secretary



of state which countries be designated as "countries of particular concern" for their engagement in or toleration of systemic and egregious violations of religious freedom. The agency also recommends a "watch list" for those countries where conditions require close monitoring.

Vietnam earned the designation for reasons including that "independent religious activity remains illegal, and legal protections for government-approved religious organizations are both vague and subject to arbitrary or discriminatory interpretations based on political factors," it said.

While the Vietnamese government has made strides in improving religious freedom by "expanding the zone of permissible religious activity" and releasing some prisoners, the report said, "the notable progress occurred alongside persistent abuses, discrimination and restrictions."

In addition to Vietnam, the U.S. commission also recommended that Myanmar, North Korea, Eritrea, Iran, Pakistan, China, Saudi Arabia, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan be designated as countries of particular concern. Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia and Nigeria were on its watch list.

Crisis conference focuses on faith-based response in disaster training

CRISIS from page 1
ernment's disaster-readiness programs. Empowering faith-based groups to deal with crises, he said, is an important first step to disaster management, since people first turn to their churches during a disaster.

Ann Badach, director of Family Life for Catholic Charities, agreed. Nearly 90 ordained and lay ministers from different religious backgrounds attended the conference, showing that "the sponsors recognizing that faith-based groups are the first points of contact after an emergency," she said.

Because the conference was sponsored by the Pennsylvania Departments of Welfare and Health and the Western Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, Weaver felt this demonstrated that "the government is concerned about disasters."

He also called on faith-based groups to advocate within federal crisis-management programs for the poor, migrant workers, the elderly, infants and the disabled.

"You have morality on your side," he said. "You need to be there to remind (the government) about its moral obligations to help the marginalized people." Moderators and attendees also emphasized faith-based leaders' need to know their city, county and state's plan for emergencies in order to create an appropriate response program.

Catholic schools throughout the diocese already have established plans for emergencies on school grounds, but, in response to the conference, Landini-Grogan said the diocese has begun evaluating parish response systems.

"It's important for us to have these conversations now," she said.

Landini-Grogan said the most useful part of the conference stemmed from the session in psychological first aid, moderated by Erik Wittmann, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services consultant.

"Learning how to address the spiritual and emotional needs of people affected by disasters—rather than just taking care of their physical needs—was paramount," she said.

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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.

On Sunday, June 14, Bishop Donald Trautman will celebrate the 11 a.m. Mass at St. Peter Cathedral for the intentions of the benefactors of this year's appeal.

While the \$3.65 million goal for the appeal benefits the ministries of the diocese, 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:

East Erie Deanery

- Holy Rosary, Erie** - New carpet for sacristy and Mother's Chapel
- Holy Trinity, Erie** - Creation of a small-group gathering room
- Mount Calvary, Erie** - Continued property maintenance and debt reduction
- Our Lady of Mercy, Harborcreek** - Debt reduction
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Erie** - Repaving of parking lot
- St. Boniface, Erie** - Parish capital campaign
- St. Gregory, North East** - General church repairs
- St. James, Erie** - Replace the roof on St. James Place
- St. John the Baptist, Erie** - Refinish church floors
- St. Luke, Erie** - Parking lot resurfacing, recaulking stained glass windows
- St. Mark the Evangelist, Erie** - Raise final funds needed to replace church roof
- Holy Family, Erie** - Raise funds for starting an advancement effort for Holy Family School
- Immaculate Conception, Erie** - No project listed
- St. Ann, Erie** - Help make church more handicapped accessible
- St. Casimir, Erie** - New sidewalks in front of church
- St. Hedwig, Erie** - Debt reduction
- St. Mary, Erie** - General fund
- St. Patrick, Erie** - Replacing windows on first floor of rectory
- St. Stanislaus, Erie** - Debt reduction



Balliett, Schmolt ordained to the priesthood

ORDINATIONS from page 1

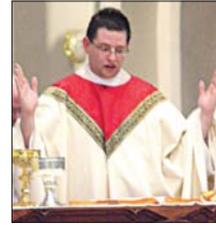
"Christ is with you. Have confidence in the risen Lord. His power and work within you can do more than you can hope or imagine. Rejoice in Christ's love. And may you always find joy and peace and fulfillment in Christ's words: 'Do this in memory of me.'"

During their examination, the candidates expressed their intentions to be faithful to the bishop, the worship life of the church, the Gospel and Christ. After a promise of obedience, the candidates reclined face down on the sanctuary floor while the congregation sang the litany of saints. This posture symbolizes their unworthiness for the gift of priesthood and their total abandonment and trust in God.

Bishop Trautman then conferred holy orders on the candidates through laying on of hands and the prayer of consecration. Sponsoring priests then vested the new priests with a stole and chasuble. Msgr. John Hagerty and Msgr. Daniel McGraw vested Father Balliett, and Father Mark Hoffman and Father Kesicki vested Father Schmolt.

The hands of the newly ordained were anointed with sacred chrism, fulfilling the practice of the Old Testament in setting a person apart for sacred duties and enabling them to carry out their sacramental ministry in a totally committed fashion.

After Communion, Bishop Trautman went



At left, Bishop Donald Trautman confers the sacrament of holy orders on Tim Balliett through the laying on of hands. Above, Father Johnathan Schmolt during the Eucharistic Prayer.

to the pulpit to thank the Balliett and Schmolt families, as well as the many priests, teachers and mentors for helping the formation of the newly ordained priests. He then announced where the new priests would be assigned as parochial vicars.

Father Tim Balliett is assigned to St. George Parish in Erie, and Father Johnathan Schmolt is assigned to St. Jude the Apostle Parish in Erie.

The new priests celebrated their first Masses of Thanksgiving the same weekend. Father Balliett offered his first Mass June 7 at Blessed Sacrament in Erie. He will also celebrate the 10:30 a.m. Mass on June 15 at St. Tobias in Brockway. Father Schmolt celebrated his first Mass June 7 at St. Basil the Great in Coalport. He will offer Mass at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Cincinnati on June 15 for family and friends.

Many new U.S. priests are in their 30s and foreign-born, study says

U.S. PRIESTS from page 1

the CARA survey, they included 242 ordinands to the diocesan priesthood and 77 ordinands to religious orders. Another 16 ordinands did not specify whether they were being ordained diocesan or religious-order priests.

The report found that most ordinands have been Catholic since birth, although close to one in 10 became Catholic later in life. Fifty-one percent of the respon-

dents attended a Catholic elementary school, similar to 49 percent of U.S. Catholic adults. Ordinands are somewhat more likely to have attended a Catholic high school and they are much more likely to have attended a Catholic college. They were also predominantly active in parish ministries before entering the seminary.

The youngest ordinand in this year's class is 25 and the oldest is 76. Five ordinands are 65 or older. Among those who became

Catholic later in life, the average age at their conversion was 20. Ordinands who came from another faith tradition or denomination are about evenly divided among mainline Protestant traditions, evangelical or conservative Protestant traditions and those raised without a faith tradition. Three ordinands converted to Catholicism from Judaism.

Deacon Brandon Jones, a transitional deacon for the Diocese of Charlotte, N.C., who will be

ordained a priest in June, grew up as a Southern Baptist. The Rev. Chandler Jones is now an Anglican minister.

The ordination class of 2008 reflects a wide variety of ages and experiences. Among the ordinands are a widower who is a former dean of the University of Notre Dame Law School; a former U.S. Marine officer and engineer for Texaco; and a former Walt Disney programmer, project manager and systems analyst.

Briefly

Anniversary celebrations set for Aug. 3 in Harborcreek and Aug. 10 in Brockway

Couples celebrating 25th, 50th or 60th wedding anniversaries are invited to attend the annual Diocesan Anniversary Celebrations on Sunday, Aug. 3 at Our Lady of Mercy in Harborcreek or 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 for either event or to receive a scroll by mail, please contact your parish office or the Family Life Office at Catholic Charities at 814.824.1250 or 800.374.3723 ext. 250 or online at www.eriecd.org/familylifeoffice.asp.



World Youth Day coming to Frenchville

WORLD YOUTH DAY from page 1

the whole person and care for the poor and God's creation. Service activities will include repairing and painting homes, planting gardens and yard work.

The weekend event for July 19-20 will be broader in scope, focusing on both the local and universal church.

The youth gathered in Frenchville will be connected via satellite to the events happening in Sydney, particularly to the welcoming ceremonies for Pope Benedict XVI, as well as the homily he shares.

Father James DiLuzio, a Paulist priest from New York City, will be the keynote speaker for Saturday. His presentation will focus on inviting people to be a witness for Christ in the world today.

Saturday will also include a bag lunch and community building exercises, culminating with entertainment put on by participants.

The Sunday Mass will be offered by Bishop Donald Trautman.

Although no numbers have been confirmed, the Young People

For questions or to register, contact Sister Suzanne Thibault, youth director of Young People Who Care, at 814.263.4177 or e-mail BethanyYouth@pennswoods.net.

The week-long retreat July 13-20 is \$200 per person

The weekend event July 19-20 is \$50 per person

Visit Young People Who Care on the Web at www.yppwcmministries.org

Sydney is expected to attract 120,000 pilgrims for World Youth Day 2008. This will be among the largest events Australia's ever hosted.

Past WYD Turnouts

1.6 million	Czechoslovakia, Poland	1991
4 million	Maria, Philippines	1995
2 million	Paris	1997
2 million	Rome	2000
1 million	Cologne, Germany	2005

Who Care Center has housing for up to 400. Sister Suzanne reminded parishes and youth groups to firm up their commitments for the home event weekend.

In addition to student and adult participation, YPWC is looking for sponsors to help defray the cost of the event. It has received several major donations from in-

dividuals and two from parishes.

The World Youth Day Home Event will be similar to the Journey to Emmaus retreat YPWC hosted in 2000, said Sister Suzanne. That event was sponsored through the diocesan Youth and Young Adult Ministry Office.

"Journey to Emmaus was very well received," she said. "It was an amazing weekend, and the subsequent years were wonderful experiences. For those who are familiar with it, this home event will be similar to that."

DEATH NOTICES

Father David Findlay dies at 69

Meadville native, long-time pastor, parish priest

The Very Reverend David Findlay, V.F., 69, died May 28, 2008 at Saint Mary's Asbury Ridge, Erie.

Born July 9, 1938 in Meadville, he was the son of the late George and Mary Ann Nageotte Findlay. Upon graduating from St. Bridgid Grade School in Meadville in 1952, Father Findlay attended Meadville Area High School, graduating in 1956. He then attended Gannon College (now Gannon University), graduating in 1961. From 1961 to 1962, he studied at the School of St. Philip Neri in Boston and then entered St. Mary Seminary and University in Baltimore, where he completed his studies in 1967.

He was ordained as a priest on May 27, 1967 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie by Bishop John Whealon. Fr. Findlay's home parish was St. Bridgid, Meadville. Following ordination, Father Findlay was assigned as assistant



Father David Findlay, V.F.

pastor at St. Stephen Parish in Oil City from 1967 to 1972, serving also as chaplain to the Oil City campus of Clarian University.

In 1972, he was assigned to the team ministry at St. Cosmas and Damian Parish in Punxsutawney, becoming assistant pastor there in 1974. In 1976, he was assigned as assistant pastor at St. Paul Parish in Erie, and then in 1977 as assistant pastor at Christ the King Parish in Houtzdale. In 1982, he was named pastor of Holy Rosary Parish in Johnsonburg and in 1989 he was named pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Erie. He served there as sole pastor until 1995 and as co-pastor until 2002 when he was named pastor of St. Bridgid Parish, Meadville, where he served until his death.

In addition to parish assignments, Father Findlay also served as defender of the bond in the diocesan marriage tribunal, as a member of the diocesan Presbytery in Baltimore, and from 2005 until his death he served as dean of the Meadville Deanery. He also served in the US Army Reserves.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated May 31 at St. Bridgid with Bishop Donald Trautman presiding. Burial followed in St. Bridgid Cemetery.

Sister Charles Francis Stoerber, OSF, dies at 86

Formerly of Erie, she taught in N.Y., Fla., N.J., Va.

Sister Charles Francis Stoerber, OSF, died May 26, 2008 at St. Elizabeth Motherhouse in Allegheny, N.Y.

Born March 12, 1922 in Springfield, Pa., she was a daughter of the late Mary Christina Stoerber and Charles Clement Stoerber, formerly of Erie. She and her family were members of St. Andrew Parish.

She was received into the Congregation of the Franciscan Sisters of Allegheny, N.Y., at St. Elizabeth Motherhouse on August 15, 1942, and professed her final religious vows on August 16, 1949.

Sister Charles Francis received her B.S. in Education from St. Elizabeth Teachers College.

From 1943 until 1965, she ministered as an educator at St. Elizabeth School, Croghan, N.Y.; St. Francis School, Ft. Myers, Fla.; St. Helen School, Rochester, N.Y.; St. Bonaventure School, Allegheny, N.Y.; St. Mary School, Rome,

N.Y.; St. Mary School, Lampasas, Texas; Christ the King School, Hadonfield, N.J.; St. Louis School, Alexandria, Va.; and St. John School, Olean, N.Y.

In 1965, Sister Charles Francis began new ministries of service to her Franciscan sisters and the elderly at: Villa Mary Immaculate, Albany, N.Y.; St. Henry's, Averill Park, N.Y.; St. Francis House, Woonsocket, R.I.; and St. Elizabeth Motherhouse, Allegheny, N.Y. Sister returned to ministry in schools in 1977 at St. Joseph School, Niagara Falls, N.Y., as a remedial reading teacher, librarian and religious education teacher in the parish. In 1987, she retired and volunteered in the laundry at St. Elizabeth Motherhouse.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held in the Chapel of St. Elizabeth Motherhouse at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, May 29, 2008. Interment followed in St. Bonaventure Cemetery, Allegheny, New York.

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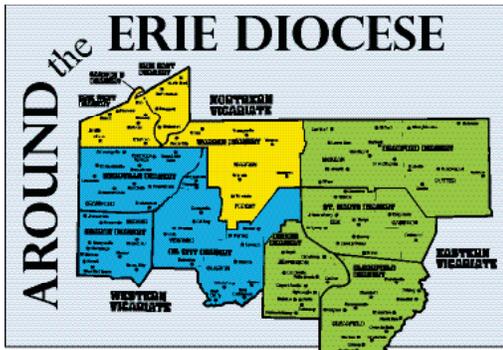
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All parishes, missions, schools and groups are encouraged to choose a correspondent who can regularly e-mail news items to "Around the Erie Diocese" at FaithLife@ErieRCD.org

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



DCC art students support Big Brothers/Big Sisters Bowl for Kids' Sake

DUBOIS — Five advanced art students at DuBois Central Catholic High School accepted a challenge by DCC art teacher Sharon Aaron to decorate 24 bowling pins for fundraisers sponsored by Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Clearfield County. Aaron estimates that students spent about two-and-a-half hours of design work on each bowling pin. According to Aaron, an important part of the process was coming up with unique ways to personalize each pin.



Pictured from left to right, Christian Spilman, Ben Ellenberger, Nicole Braun, Liz Heasley and Kayla Bigar proudly display several of their character-inspired and colorfully-decorated bowling pins.

The Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Clearfield County hosted three county-wide bowling events to support the work of their community-based program for county youth at risk. The proceeds from Bowl for Kids' Sake events at the MoValley Super Bowl, held on March 16, and the events at DuBois Lanes on March 30 and the Clearfield Lanes on April 6, will help ensure that the personal outreach to youth at risk remains strong and the mentoring program continues in Clearfield County.



"The students deserve huge thanks for getting these pins decorated. They are really striking. We appreciate the great help and support from Central Catholic."



Cathedral Center, Prep students give money collected during papal trip to bishop

ERIE — Students from Cathedral Center School and Cathedral Prep High School in Erie recently met with Bishop Donald Trautman to present him with funds raised during their trip to New York for the papal Mass celebrated as part of Pope Benedict XVI's apostolic visit. As they traveled around New York, 32 students from Cathedral Center and 20 from Cathedral Prep would make a donation everytime they got on their bus.



"We wanted to do something in thanksgiving and they came up with the idea of taking up a collection for the bishop as a way of saying thank you for the tickets to the papal Mass," said Karen Hund, youth minister at St. Peter Cathedral and Cathedral Center.

"They would put their pocket change or bills in a bucket." After presenting Bishop Trautman with \$238.98, the bishop then donated the money to St. Martin Center's Upper Room, which prepares meals for the homeless.

Pictured from left to right are: (seated) Michael Gouchie, Martin Zegarelli, Maddy Retchel, Lily Engro, (standing) William Clark, Dan Cooney, Bishop Donald Trautman, Kyle Conrole and Jared Stebbel.

Seton Catholic bird sanctuary earns national distinction

MEADVILLE — The 5th graders at Seton Catholic School in Meadville continue the Cornell University Bird Watch Project under the guidance of Marcia Carone. They are earning national recognition with this project through certification of achievement, which confirms that the Seton Catholic School Bird Sanctuary is now recognized as an official National Wildlife Federation Certified Wildlife Habitat site.



The property attracts a variety of birds, butterflies and other wildlife, while helping to protect the local environment. The students now join a prestigious group of NWF members across the country that has been recognized for protecting and nurtur-

ing wildlife in their own yards, schools, educational settings and community spaces.

St. Boniface School, Kersey, honors volunteers

KERSEY — St. Boniface School in Kersey recently honored its many volunteers who help with fundraisers throughout the school year. Volunteers were served a breakfast, which was followed by Mass celebrated by Father John Kuzilla, as a thank you for their many efforts. They were given a packet of seeds that represented "seeds of faith" that they continuously plant, said Marie Giazzoni, St. Boniface principal. Pictured from left to right are: Christine Geci of the St. Boniface School Parents' Association,



along with her daughters (left to right) Amanda, Allison, Tami and Samantha. Her son, Andy, is not pictured.

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Parish Summer Events

July 24, 25, 26
St. Stephen Heritage Festival
Church parking lot, corner of State and Front Streets, Oil City
Thurs., 7-10pm, Fri and Sat, 5-11pm.
Quilts, money, basket raffles, games, bake sale and Chinese auction.
Concession stands Thurs, 7-10pm; Fri, 5-11pm; Sat, 11am, prior to and during parade; open again 5-11 pm.

August 1-3, Lawn Festival
Ss. Cosmas and Damian
616 W. Mahoning, Punxsutawney
Fri and Sat 6-11pm; Sun, Noon-11pm.
Sat: Polka Mass at 5:30pm
Sun: Buffet dinner, Noon-4:30pm
Grand prize raffle: 2009 Pontiac Vibe AWD or \$15,000; games, kiddyland, food, fun, and fellowship.

July 28, Our Lady of Lourdes Old Fashioned Strawberry Social
Our Lady of Lourdes Social Hall
251 South Franklin St., Cochranton
4-8pm; ice cream, cake, strawberries, sloppy joes, chicken sandwich and hot dogs available; Chinese auction. Cost: \$3.50

August 3
Parish Picnic/Festival
St. Anthony of Padua
804 Idaho St., Sharon
Noon-7pm

July 24
Lawn Festival, St. Teresa
9 Third Ave., Union City
4-10pm; games, food, raffles, prizes, Chinese auction, pony rides, bake sale, crafts, music and more! Grand prize drawing, \$500; other prizes awarded at 10pm (need not be present to win).

August 22-24
Zabawa Polish Heritage Festival
Holy Trinity
East 23rd and Reed Streets, Erie
Fri, 5-10pm; Sat, 11:30-10pm; Sun, 12-6pm.
Polka Mass: Sat at 5pm, Sun at 11am. Polish kitchen and bakery, live polka music with 4 bands, raffles, theme baskets, auction, children's activities area, folk dancers, free admission!

July 26-27
Holy Rosary Parish Festival
2701 East Ave, Erie
Sat, 4-10pm; Sun, 11:30am-5pm including chicken breast dinner; takeouts available.
Food, drinks, adult games of chance; music Sat night. Grand award and huge Chinese auction! 814-824-5936

September 12-14, St. Patrick Annual Erie Irish Festival
Rainbow Gardens, intersection of 6th and 8th Streets, Fri, 5-10pm; Sat, 11:30am-10:30pm; Sun, 10:30-6pm.
Adult: \$3/day, \$5 for weekend; under 16: free.

July 13
SummerFest '08, Our Lady of Mercy
837 Bartlett Rd., Harborcreek
BBQ chicken dinner, Noon-5pm; takeouts, Noon-4pm. Something for everyone: raffles, game tables, Chinese auction, children's activities. 814-899-5342

October 5, Parish Day Raffle
Sacred Heart, 816 W. 26 St., Erie
Raffle: 2008 Mustang Roush "BlackJack" Stage 3 Limited Edition or \$40,000.
Tickets: \$10 each, \$3 for \$20, 10 for \$50, www.winastang.com, 814-456-6256.
Winner announced at dinner, need not be present to win.

July 18-20, 25-27
St. Boniface 9th Annual All-School Summer Musical: "Anything Goes"
Blasco Library, Hirt Auditorium, Erie
Fri and Sat at 7:30pm, Sun at 2:30pm.
Tickets at the door! 814-825-4439

October 10-12, Oktoberfest
St. Joseph Church Bread of Life Community, 147 W. 24 St., Erie
Win-a-Beemer raffle: 2008 BMW 328Xi or \$25,000, tickets: 1 for \$10, 3 for \$20, 10 for \$50, www.winabeemer.com.
Drawing will be held on Sun.
If present, winner will also get a \$500 gas card. 814-452-2982

July 27
St. Adalbert's Church Festival
Kennedy Catholic High School, Shenango Valley Freeway, Hermitage
Noon-6pm, food, beverages, music (Danny Klancica Band), bingo, Chinese auction. Takeouts available.

July 27, 112th Annual Ham or Chicken Dinner
St. Hippolyte, 26012 N. Frenchtown Rd., Rte. 27, Frenchtown
Noon-6:30pm, ham or chicken dinner, takeouts available. 814-789-2022

August 1-2, Annual Summer Festival
St. Joseph, Oil City
Corner of Washington and Seeley Ave.,
Fri and Sat 7-11pm. Food, games and prizes galore, Chinese auction, baked goods, raffles: rosary quilt, bed and bath accessories, Canadian bacon, ham, roast beef. Grand prize: \$2,000.

