

Coming home

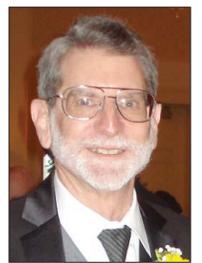
Bishop Mark Barchak to preside at St. Stan's Corpus Christi celebration, page 3.



FaithLife

Thanks, Mr. Eisert

OLCS Legacy Gala raises \$100,000, honors longtime teacher Mark Eisert, page 4.



www.ErieRCD.org

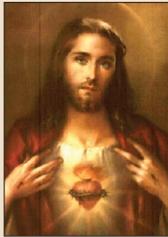
BI-WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

June 19, 2011

Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

Feast days



Sacred Heart of Jesus



Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha

- June 19 Most Holy Trinity
- June 24 Nativity of St. John the Baptist
- June 26 Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)
- June 29 Ss. Peter and St. Paul
- July 1 Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
- July 2 Immaculate Heart of Blessed Virgin Mary
- July 11 St. Benedict
- July 14 Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha
- July 15 St. Bonaventure
- July 16 Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Confirmation

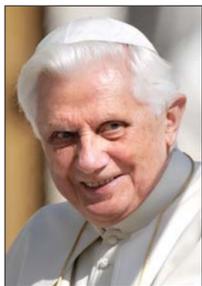
St. Joseph, Force – Sunday, June 26 at 11 a.m. Confirmation classes include St. Boniface, Kersey, and St. Joseph, Force.

Peter's Pence collection – June 25-26

Every year near the feast of Ss. Peter and Paul (June 29), the church throughout the world takes up the annual Peter's Pence collection.

This collection supports the charitable works of the Holy Father, the successor of St. Peter, as he responds to some of the most urgent needs on earth. These needs include sending relief to victims of earthquakes, floods and other natural disasters. The Holy Father also supports seminaries and religious houses, orphanages, AIDS treatment centers and other medical facilities in developing nations, as well as many other charitable works.

Parishes in the Diocese of Erie will take up the Peter's Pence collection at Masses June 25-26.



'Feed my lambs, feed my sheep'

Father Jason Feigh ordained to the priesthood

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

ERIE—On June 10, Bishop Donald Trautman ordained Father Jason Feigh, a native of St. Basil the Great Parish in Coalport, to the priesthood for the Diocese of Erie in front of a gathered crowd of priests, deacons, women religious, family, friends and well wishers at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie.

Prior to the ordination rite, Father Michael Kesicki, rector of St. Mark Seminary in Erie, presented Deacon Feigh as priesthood candidate to the bishop and the assembly. The congregation offered an enthusiastic and joyful applause

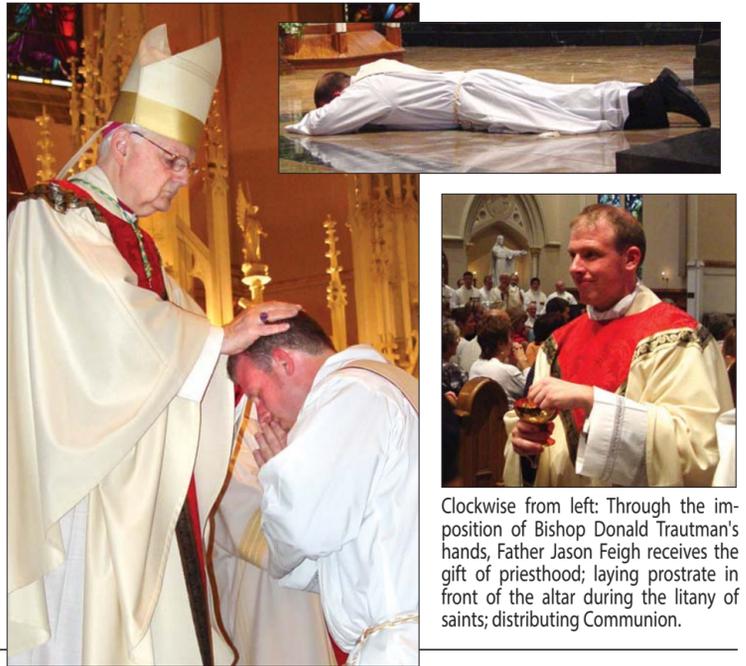
as a sign of their approval of his ordination.

"You have answered the Lord's call to serve God and to serve God's people," Bishop Trautman said.

The bishop then directed his homily toward Deacon Feigh who was seated in front of the bishop's cathedra chair. He noted that in the Gospel reading (John 21:15-17), Jesus asks Peter three times, "Do you love me?" After Peter responds yes each time, Jesus tells him to "Feed my lambs" and "Feed my sheep."

"Jason, Jesus feeds you these same words tonight," Bishop Trautman said. "Feed

See FEIGH, page 3



Clockwise from left: Through the imposition of Bishop Donald Trautman's hands, Father Jason Feigh receives the gift of priesthood; laying prostrate in front of the altar during the litany of saints; distributing Communion.

St. Basil the Great Parish in Coalport producing priests

Small parish sees three native sons ordained in five years

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

COALPORT – St. Basil the Great Parish in Coalport is a small community with big faith.

Coalport is little town America—a small town that's seen its share of depression and loss of industry. Father Justin Pino, a native son of the parish, likens it to Bedford Falls from "It's a Wonderful Life."

"It's a little country church that really hasn't changed much in 100 years," Father Pino said. "Everyone knows everybody."

It's also a place where a vocation can grow. In the last few years, something extraordinary has been happening at this nearly 125-year-old faith community. It has been giving priests to the church in the Diocese of Erie in abundance, particularly for a parish its size. In the past five years, three vocations to the priesthood have come from this parish of 280 families.

Father Pino was ordained in 2007, followed by Father Johnathan Schmolz in 2008. Father Jason Feigh's ordination this year rounds out the trio.

"It is a great parish," said Father Alex Amico, who served as pastor of St. Basil the Great from 1984 to 2006. Father Amico is now the pastor of St. Paul Parish in Erie. "I was there for 23 years. I had these young men who were open to the will of God. We got three vocations out of this small parish, so the Spirit is alive and well there."

The three recently ordained priests from the parish credit Father Amico and Father Zab Amar, St. Basil the Great's current pastor, with fostering their vocations.

For Father Amico, it was



St. Basil the Great Parish in Coalport has given three priests to the Diocese of Erie in the past five years. Pictured from left to right are: Father Johnathan Schmolz (2008), Father Zab Amar (current pastor), Father Ja-

son Feigh (2011), Bishop Donald Trautman, Father Alex Amico (pastor from 1984 to 2006) and Father Justin Pino (1997) following Father Feigh's ordination June 10.

simple. "I was just myself," he said. As soon as the young men began to show an interest in

going to seminary, he did what his pastor—Msgr. Geno J. Monti—did with him. He started out with some of the more ordinary jobs.

"We'd go down to the church every night after dinner and he'd say, 'I need the

See COALPORT, page 3

New translation of Roman Missal provides new insights, speaker says

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

DUBOIS – According to Msgr. James Moroney, the new translation of the Roman Missal can be a guide to help the Catholic Church reconnect with her past and the Mass of the saints.

"The most important thing for people to be able to gain in the new translations is a contact with the prayer that the church has been praying for over 2,000 years," Msgr. Moroney said, "to pray in the same voice and the same words as St. Francis, as St. Clare, as St. Dominic and St. Scholastica, as all of the saints with whom we are one in heaven, to pray in the same words, the same prayer from the depth of our hearts."

Msgr. Moroney, a frequent lecturer on liturgical matters and a priest of the Diocese of Worcester, Mass., presented two talks May 17 on the Roman Missal at St. Catherine of Siena Parish in DuBois.

His afternoon session was tailored for priests of the Diocese of Erie and the evening session was open to lay liturgy leaders and the public.



Msgr. James Moroney

Msgr. Moroney served as executive director of the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for the Liturgy from 1996 to 2007. Pope John Paul II appointed him as a consultant to the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments. Pope Benedict XVI reappointed to the congregation. He also serves as executive secretary to the

Vox Clara, a committee appointed by the Vatican in 2001 to advise the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments on matters related to the translation of Latin liturgical texts into English.

The third edition of the Roman Missal will be implemented in parishes throughout the United States beginning with the first Sunday of Advent, Nov. 27.

As a member of Vox Clara, he presented Pope Benedict XVI with the first copy of the third edition of the Roman Missal in English in April 2010.

"The Roman Catholic Church does liturgy in a radically different way than any other Christian church because we do liturgy by translation," Msgr. Moroney said. "It's one of the things we've done well."

And, he said, the church keeps improving. For example, with the 1962 missal, people in the pews would hear 17 per-

Key Events

The Roman Missal contains the prescribed prayers and instructions for the celebration of Mass in the Roman Catholic Church. These are key events in the development of the modern missal.

1963
Second Vatican Council calls for reform of the liturgy

1969
Pope Paul VI issues 'typical edition' of Roman Missal

1970
Vatican approves English translation of Mass

1975
Pope Paul VI issues 'second typical edition' of missal

2000
Pope John Paul II announces 'third typical edition' of missal

2004
Draft translation given to English-speaking bishops

2010
Vatican grants 'recognitio' for English translation

2011
New Roman Missal in use at U.S. parishes beginning in late November.



Source: U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

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cent of the verses of the New Testament during the three-year lectionary cycle. Today, we hear 71 percent.

There have been theological differences among the three editions

See MISSAL, page 2

Sixty hours for 60 years

Church to observe pope's 60th anniversary of ordination



Catholics worldwide are asked to mark the sixtieth anniversary of Pope Benedict XVI's ordination to the priesthood with 60 hours of Eucharistic prayer for vocations.

The pope will celebrate his anniversary June 29, the Solemnity of Ss. Peter and Paul. In honor of his anniversary, the Vatican Congregation for Clergy suggested Catholic clergy and faithful be invited to participate in Eucharistic Adoration with the intention of praying for the sanctification of the clergy and for the gift of new and holy priestly vocations.

Dioceses nationwide are planning special prayers before the Blessed Sacrament in June, offered continuously or across various days in the month.

Bishop Donald Trautman has invited priests in the Diocese of Erie to participate in this effort by

offering one hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament between June 29, the feast of Ss. Peter and Paul, and July 1, the solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the World Day of Prayer for Priests. Parishioners are also invited to join in this effort either by gathering with local priests or by offering a period of adoration at a separate time.

The results of this effort will be sent to Archbishop Pietro Sambi, the apostolic nuncio to the United States, so that the Holy Father may receive it as a spiritual bouquet of prayer and spiritual union on the day of his anniversary.

For this occasion, the U.S. bishops' Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations has designed a prayer card that can be downloaded at www.foryourvocation.org.

IN THE U.S.

■ Pope meets US vice president

Pope Benedict XVI met with U.S. Vice President Joseph Biden in an unannounced visit June 3. Biden, the first Catholic vice president in U.S. history, met with the pope in what was termed "a personal and private visit," according to a U.S. official. In an unusual move, the Vatican did not announce or comment on the papal audience, which, sources explained, was because it was not an official visit. However, *L'Osservatore Romano*, the Vatican newspaper, ran a headline and one-sentence summary reporting the pope's audience with Biden, Biden's wife, Jill, and entourage. The vice president and leaders from about 80 other countries were in Rome to take part in Italy's June 2 celebration of its 150th anniversary as a unified nation. Biden, who supports keeping abortion legal, has said he accepts church teaching that life begins at conception, but that he does not want to impose his beliefs in the public policy arena. Pope Benedict, then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, outlined in a 2004 memo to U.S. bishops, principles under which bishops or other ministers may deny Communion to Catholic politicians who consistently promote legal abortion.



Vice President Joseph Biden

■ Illinois dioceses file suit over risk of losing foster care services

The Catholic Charities agencies in the Illinois dioceses of Peoria, Springfield and Joliet have filed suit seeking legal clarification of whether they can continue to place foster children with only married couples and single non-cohabiting individuals now that the state's civil unions law has taken effect. Signed by Gov. Pat Quinn, who is Catholic, the Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Union Act authorizes the state to recognize civil unions for same-sex couples, giving those couples all the rights spouses have, such as parental and adoption rights. The law took effect June 1. It includes a clause saying the law does not interfere or regulate religious practice, meaning institutions would not be required to sanction a same-sex union.

AROUND THE WORLD

■ Pope says Croatia can promote Catholic values in Europe

Croatia has the responsibility to promote Christian values and the role of the family in education and social life as it prepares to enter the European Union, Pope Benedict XVI said. In his first public appearance since returning from a pastoral trip to Croatian capital of Zagreb June 4-5, the pope also emphasized the essential role of marriage and marital fidelity in a Europe, which has rising rates of divorce and separations. The pope spoke warmly of his brief visit to the overwhelmingly Catholic former Yugoslavian country. One of the trip's highlights was the Croatian church's first National Catholic Family Day June 5. Some 400,000 people attended, including families, clergy and faithful from nearby countries. Pope Benedict, who has often lamented the decline of Christianity in European society and public life, praised the still-strong Catholic traditions of Croatia, which he said should be encouraged in the rest of the continent.

PEOPLE OF FAITH

■ Twin Franciscan brothers who died on same day had always been together



Franciscan Brothers Adrian and Julian Riester

Identical twins and Franciscan Brothers Julian and Adrian Riester — who were born seconds apart and died hours apart June 1 at St. Anthony Hospital in St. Petersburg, Fla. —

were remembered by friends, family members and colleagues for their constant companionship. The twins, natives of Buffalo, N.Y., who spent the past three years in retirement at a Franciscan friary, had been Franciscan brothers for 65 years. Both men were admitted to the hospital just days before both died of heart failure at age 92. A major part of the brothers' story is not just the coincidental timing of their deaths, but their constant togetherness — spending only their first assignments apart.

■ Boston Archdiocese opens canonization cause of Opus Dei priest



Father Joseph Muzquiz

The Archdiocese of Boston has opened the canonization cause of an Opus Dei priest, Father Joseph Muzquiz, who established the organization in the United States and worked for many years in the greater Boston area. Father Muzquiz was born in Spain in 1912. He joined the nationalist army during the Spanish Civil War after his city was taken over by nationalist forces. In 1941, he was admitted to Opus Dei. He was ordained to the priesthood June 25, 1944, but before his ordination he worked as a railroad engineer, building bridges and railroad stations. Upon coming to the United States in 1949, he helped establish Opus Dei centers in Chicago and Washington. He also laid the foundations for Opus Dei's work in Canada, Japan and Venezuela. The organization, a personal prelature of the pope, today has about 87,000 members around the world, including about 1,900 priests.

By the Way...

Happy birthday wishes go out this week to Bishop Donald Trautman, who will celebrate his 75th birthday on June 24. The bishop's birthday typically falls during the diocese's annual Emmaus convocation for priests and it will again this year. He'll celebrate with his brother priests at St. Vincent in Latrobe.



Jason Koshinskie

The birthday is also a milestone not only for its number but for what it means to the diocese. At age 75, bishops are requested to submit their resignation to the pope. It is the age of retirement from active ministry for Catholic bishops.

Bishop Trautman already submitted his letter to Pope Benedict XVI earlier this year. That letter can now be officially accepted, and a new bishop could be named for the diocese at any time. As an example, Bishop Joseph Adamec of Altoona-Johnstown turned 75 on Aug. 13, 2010. Bishop Mark Barchak was named as Bishop Adamec's successor on Jan. 14 this year and installed April 19.

The Diocese of Erie won't be the only diocese in the United States to see a potential change in shepherds this year. Twenty-one U.S. bishops (including five cardinals) could retire for age reasons in 2011. Of those 21, there are 15 active U.S. bishops (including three cardinals) who have already turned 75.

Pope Benedict, like his predecessor Pope John Paul II, often has asked cardinals to stay on the job after they reached the age of 75. Even when a cardinal retires in his 70s, he remains an active member of the College of Cardinals, eligible to enter a conclave and vote for a new pope, until age 80.

Father Jason Feigh's appointment as parochial vicar at Our Lady of Peace Parish in Erie may trigger a lot of movement regarding priest assignments. Father Bill Barron, who has served Our Lady of Peace for four years, announced at Masses that he will be leaving the parish for an as-yet-unknown assignment (at least as of this writing). Father Barron is a part-time parochial vicar at OLP who also serves as associate director of vocations for the diocese.

There are a number of open pastorates throughout the diocese. Expect to see a high number of clergy appointments in one of our next issues.

With that said, *FaithLife* will take a one-issue break for the summer. The next edition will be in parishes July 24.

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

New translation of Roman Missal provides new insights, speaker says

MISSAL, from page 1

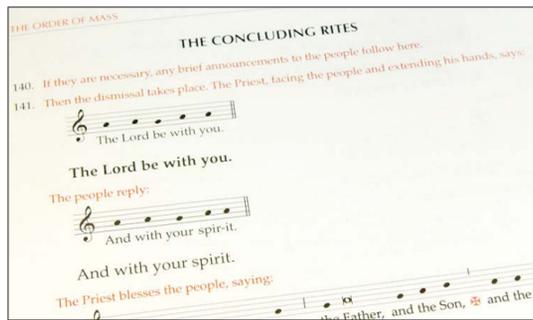
of the English missal (1970, 1975 and 2000). Only seven percent of the pages were changed from the 1970 edition to the second edition in 1975. In 2000, after 15 years of consultation, Pope John Paul II promulgated the third edition of the Roman Missal. In 2002, it was published in Latin; 25 percent of the pages are different from the 1975 edition.

"Before you even speak about translation, a quarter of the book is different from what it was in 1975," Msgr. Moroney said. "The changes are editorial, updating, major changes with new theological insights."

What happened? *Liturgiam Authenticam*, a 2001 document from Rome, changed the rules for translating from the principal of dynamic equivalence—attempting to convey a thought expressed in a source text—to formal equivalence, which attempts to translate word-for-word.

In the new translation of the missal, 55 percent of the lines in the Gloria have changed.

"When you pray it, you may say, 'It doesn't seem that way,'" Msgr. Moroney said. "Well, it



CNS photo

A page proof from the new edition of the Roman Missal is pictured at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington May 26. It shows a change in the people's response during the dismissal at Mass. After the priest says, "The Lord be with you," the people now respond, "And with your spirit." The new Roman Missal will go into use in the United States Nov. 27, the first Sunday of Advent.

doesn't seem that way because for 10 years it was worked on by poets, musicians and others to try to produce a text that had the same feel as the original and in fact could be set in the same way as the original text."

The changes seen in the third edition aren't just in English; 24 percent of the Latin text of the Roman Missal's third edition was changed.

"The people's parts haven't changed greatly," Msgr. Moroney said. "The priests' parts are going to be the challenge."

In the church's liturgical texts, 85 percent of the major prayers date to before the ninth century, he said.

"That means that the opening prayer you hear next Sunday at Mass in all probability was heard by Francis and Clare," he said. It

nourished the faith of Benedict and Scholastica. It means the Chris M mass preface that the bishop prays here was the same preface that was heard when Thomas Aquinas was ordained a priest. It creates a unity across time and space."

The new translation, he said, can provide new theological insights to those prayers.

He also likened adapting to the new translation of the Roman Missal to eating a jelly donut.

"I love jelly donuts," Msgr. Moroney said.

He recalled one Sunday after church when, as a boy, he asked his grandmother how the jelly donut becomes part of him.

"She said, 'You bite off the donut and chew it until you can really taste it,'" he said. "And then you have a decision to make—whether or not you're going to swallow it. Because if you do, it will go down deep inside you to a place you will never see and that donut will become part of you from the inside out."

He said the same is true with the sacred liturgy.

"We've got to take these sacred rites and prayers, these ancient texts that go back to the

first days of the church, and we've got to bite them off and chew them until we can really taste them," Msgr. Moroney said. "Then we've got a decision to make—whether or not

we swallow them. If we do, they will go way down deep inside us to a place we will never see. God will take these ancient rites and prayers and make them part of us from the inside out."

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Briefly

St. Boniface Players offer summer shows

ERIE – The St. Boniface Players have announced their summer season which includes three shows.

“You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown” opens Thursday, June 23 at 7:30 p.m. This Broadway hit features songs and scenes from the Peanuts gang. Student director for this family musical is Casey Conrad-Medvis, and the director is Father Jay Schultz. Additional performances are Friday and Saturday, June 24 and 25 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, June 26 at 2:30 p.m.

The rollicking British comedy, “Run for your Wife,” by Ray Cooney will be presented July 7, 8 and 9 at 7:30 p.m. with a matinee July 10 at 2:30 p.m. This farce, in the British comedy tradition, tells the story of a hapless London taxi driver who finds that one little lie often snowballs out of control. While the language is not offensive, the play does deal with more mature subject matter.

The third show is the annual all-school musical, “Aida,” by Elton John and Tim Rice. It tells the story of ancient Egypt and the power of love. The show is being directed by Father Mike DeMartini with musical direction by Father Schultz and choreography by Carolyn McIntyre. Show dates are July 22-31.

All three shows will be presented at Cathedral Prep’s H. David Bowes Auditorium, located at Myrtle and West 10th streets in Erie. A patron and ad drive is now underway to support the shows. Audition, show and ticket information is available at www.saintbonifaceplayers.org.

Bishop Bartchak to preside at St. Stan’s Corpus Christi celebration

ERIE – Bishop Mark Bartchak will preside over the Corpus Christi procession June 26 at St. Stanislaus Parish, 516 E. 13th St. in Erie.

A native priest of the Diocese of Erie and a priest at St. Stanislaus for 20 years, Bishop Bartchak was installed at the bishop of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown April 18.

The parish’s traditional outdoor procession will begin at 2 p.m.



Bishop Mark Bartchak

Finding out more about refugee ministry

ERIE – Catholic Charities Counseling and Adoption Service/Refugee Resettlement Program (CCAS/RR) is sponsoring several sessions in the Erie area on the “Spirituality of Refugee Ministry.” These sessions will also discuss refugee ministry volunteer opportunities. There will be three sessions:

- June 21 – Our Lady of Mercy, Harborcreek (classroom)
- June 28 – St. George, Erie (meeting room)
- June 30 – St. John the Baptist, Erie (parish center)

Sessions will run from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Attendees will experience the witness of refugees about why they left their home country, their journey here and what it has been like “being resettled.”

For more information or to RSVP, contact the CCCAS/RR office at 814.456.2091 Ext. 116 or Deacon John Brophy at 814.528.3623 or e-mail jbrophy@cccas.org.

Carmelite Days of Prayer July 11-16

ERIE – The 54th annual Carmelite Days of Prayer will be held July 11-16 at Carmel of the Holy Family Monastery, 510 E. Gore Road, Erie. The morning service, each day at 8 a.m., consists of Mass, homily and prayers. The evening service, daily at 7:30 p.m., consists of homily, prayers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome.

The featured speaker this year will be Father Ron Cyktor, a priest of the Diocese of Greensburg.

There are no services the evening of the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel July 16.



Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Motor for the Mission road rally to benefit Mission of Friendship

ERIE – The Diocese of Erie’s Mission Office is sponsoring a Motor for the Mission road rally on Saturday, July 23 to benefit the Mission of Friendship.

This event will be similar to TV’s “Amazing Race.” Teams of “navigators” and “sleuths” will follow clues, collect points and vie for a prize. The event is limited to 30 registered teams.

The road rally will begin and end at St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd. in Erie. Check-in is at 9 a.m., with the rally beginning at 9:30. Lunch is at noon followed by a basket raffle at 12:30 p.m.

Cost is \$15 per person (early registration \$10 per person due June 30). Children under 8 ride free. To register a team, call 814.824.1250 or e-mail kochs@ErieRCD.org or visit www.ErieRCD.org.

Father Jason Feigh ordained to the priesthood

FEIGH, from page 1

my lambs, feed my sheep.’ This is the essence of priesthood. The lambs and sheep are God’s people. They do not belong to you; they belong to Jesus.”

As a priest, the bishop said Father Feigh will lay down his life in the service of the Gospel and the sacraments.

After the homily, Deacon Feigh expressed his intention to be faithful to the bishop, the worship life of the church, the Gospel and Christ followed by a promise of obedience.

During the litany of saints, Deacon Feigh laid prostrate on the cathedral’s marble floor in front of the altar signifying his total surrender and dependence on Christ.

Through the imposition of the bishop’s hands and prayer of ordination, he received the gift of priesthood.

Father Zab Amar, pastor of St. Basil the Great, then vested Father Feigh with a stole and chasuble.

The hands of the new priest

were also anointed with sacred chrism oil.

Following Communion, Bishop Trautman gave some remarks from the pulpit.

“Tonight we rejoice and give thanks to God who has given new life to our diocese, new life to the church, new life in the presence of Father Feigh,” he said.

The bishop acknowledged those who traveled a great distance to attend the ordination ceremony including members of the St. Isaac Jogues Parish youth group from Baltimore, Md., where Father Feigh served while attending St. Mary’s Seminary & University. He also welcomed those from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Erie, where Father Feigh served as a deacon, including members of the 8th grade boys soccer team, who recently captured the parochial league championship.

“Many share in the thanks of the church for the ordination of our new priest,” Bishop Trautman said. “I thank all who helped and

inspired this new priest, but most of all this church gives thanks to his parents, John and Mary Jane Feigh. You have given life, love and faith to Jason.”

He also recognized Father Feigh’s brother and sister-in-law, Matt and Kathy Feigh, and their family.

He acknowledged the parish community of St. Basil the Great in Coalport, which has given three priests to the diocese in five years (see sidebar).

“You know the expression—good things often come in small packages,” Bishop Trautman said. “St. Basil the Great Parish in Coalport is a small parish but big in God’s grace.”

“Our newly ordained brings great gifts to his new ministry: a good mind, a good heart,” the bishop said. “He has the heart of a servant and he goes above and beyond the call of duty. He has a good pastoral sense, very adaptable and approachable and he works extremely well with teens

and young adults. He is humble, sincere and a prayerful person.”

He announced that Father Feigh will be assigned as a parochial vicar at Our Lady of Peace Parish in Erie.

He then gave Father Feigh a personal piece of advice.

“Jason, tonight you are beginning your active ministry and I am coming to the end of my active ministry, and perhaps this is my last ordination,” Bishop Trautman said. “My message is this: Love your priesthood. Be faithful to the end. See in your priesthood the Gospel treasure for which it is worth giving up everything. God bless you.”

Father Feigh celebrated his first Mass on June 11 at Carmel of the Holy Family Monastery in Erie, home of the cloistered Carmelite nuns, and June 12 at his home parish of St. Basil. He will celebrate a Mass of thanksgiving at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Erie on June 19 at 11 a.m.

Small parish sees three native sons ordained in five years

COALPORT, from page 1

garbage taken out, I need these clothes taken to the convent and the altar cloths and candles need to be changed.”

As Father Amico got older, he began doing some of the business work such as answering phones and putting together the Sunday bulletin.

“I said, ‘I worked for me so I’m going to try it with these guys,’” he said. “It’s not always going to be glamorous.”

Father Pino remembers those jobs. He recalls shoveling snow, planting flowers and cutting grass.

“For me, it was being around the parish all the time,” Father Pino said. “You saw what a pastor did up close.”

After some of the grittier jobs came the holy work like becoming an altar server, which he said helped him fall in love with the liturgy.

“When I was 8, Father Amico gave me a sacramentary and said, ‘Start practicing,’” Father Pino said.

When Father Pino celebrated his first Mass, he used the same sacramentary that Father Amico had given him years earlier. It’s the only time he’s ever used it as a priest.

“As our pastor, he certainly knew us inside and out,” he said. “He taught us first holy Communion, he was our religious education teacher and he was my

confirmation sponsor. He was always happy. He showed that the priesthood is joyful.”

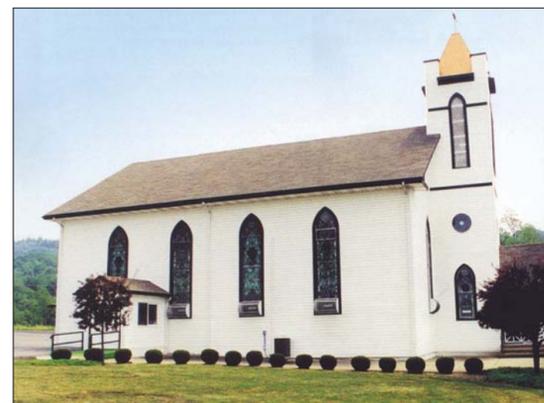
Father Schmolz, a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, came to St. Basil as a parishioner after working as the social service coordinator for the Bethany Retreat Center in Frenchville. He stayed at a mission house in Coalport and reconnected with his former job in Ohio. He immersed himself in parish life by singing in the choir, becoming a eucharistic minister and teaching religious education. After belonging to a large parish in Cincinnati, he said he found the people to be very supportive of one another in prayer.

“Faith was not something that was kept in the background,” Father Schmolz said. “It was a part of everyday conversation.”

He said the people of the parish were always supportive of his journey toward the priesthood, particularly Father Amico.

“He was always encouraging me,” Father Schmolz said. “He demonstrated happiness in his priesthood. You could tell he enjoyed it.”

Father Feigh said his vocation has been influenced by Father Amico and Father Amar, but also Father Jack Bauer and Father John Chaplin who served the parish between the two pastorates. He said his home parish is a unique place.



A faith community of 280 families, St. Basil the Great Parish in Coalport has produced three vocations to the priesthood in the past five years. Originally a mission church of Immaculate Conception in Osceola Mills, St. Basil the Great is nearing its 125th anniversary.

“Coalport is a small town, but it’s also a very religious town,” Father Feigh said. “No matter what the denomination, they will support you. There has always been a lot of prayerful support.”

He said one of his earliest memories as a young parishioner was hearing Father Amico praying and asking for prayers for vocations to the priesthood and

religious life.

“I think this is the fruit of that prayer,” Father Feigh said. “The Spirit is working in our community. Right now I’m praying it doesn’t end with me.”

Father Amar echoed that thought.

“Right now, Jason is the last one,” he said. “But hopefully with God’s help there will be more.”

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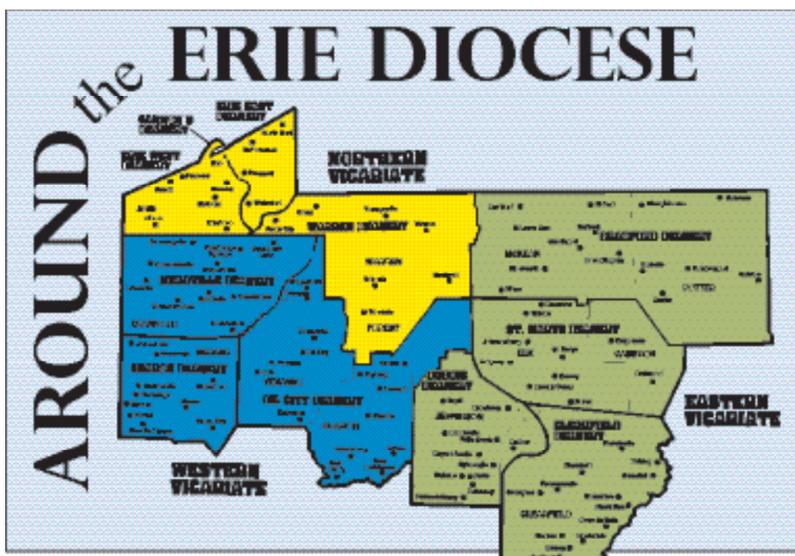
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OLCS Legacy Gala raises \$100,000, honors longtime teacher

ERIE – Our Lady's Christian School in Erie held its annual Legacy Gala on May 14 at the Ambassador Banquet and Conference Center. The event helped the school raise \$100,000 and honored Mark Eisert, an alumnus and teacher, who retired this month after 42 years of service to OLCS.

The school also announced its first named scholarship—the Mark E. Eisert Scholarship Fund—established by two donors who wish to remain anonymous and numerous friends of the school. The scholarship, which has secured \$53,000 in gifts, will



Mark Eisert

allow a child from a need-based family to receive a Catholic edu-

cation on a yearly basis. Proceeds from the Legacy Gala will be restricted to technology, scholarships and school wishes. The Ambassador welcomed 265 guests, including alumni from Texas, who wanted to pay tribute to a teacher and friend who influenced the lives of many in a positive manner. Jim and Mary Rutkowski and Mark and Lisa Fatica served as chair-couples for the event. Fundraisers included silent and live auction items and raffles. OLCS art teacher Karen Eggleston displayed several pieces of student work.

St. Joseph School holds graduation for 8th graders

OIL CITY – St. Stephen School in Oil City celebrated the graduation of its 8th graders with Mass on May 26 at St. Stephen Parish.

Father Matthew Ruyechan, pastor of St. Stephen, offered the Mass, and Father Justin Pino, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Oil City, gave the homily prepared for the graduating students.

The students also participated in a longstanding graduation tradition at the school—signing each other's shirts.

Members of the graduation class include: Chance Chase, Colleen Cunningham, Nathan Dudzic, Christopher Fink, Allison Guth, Nathan Goreczny,



Jacob Hargenrader, Taylor Moltz, Claire Niederritter, Luke Plumer, Abigail Southwick, Jennifer Walter, Devin Zagar, David Zlotnicki, Alex Karg, Riley Jenkins Roos and Scott Toy.

Villa Maria Academy celebrates Mary's Day

ERIE – Villa Maria Academy in Erie held its Mary's Day celebration on June 1. The May Queen, May court members and their escorts are selected by classmates in this long-standing school tradition. The criteria for selection includes "the individual character and moral integrity of their classmates and their commitment to the faith community of Villa."

All members of the senior class are eligible to be selected. A first ballot by the senior class narrows the list. Faculty and seniors ballot again. The May Queen and court are then selected using the four highest vote totals.



Pictured left to right are (front row) May Queen Amy Boxer, court members Nicole Shellenbarger, Erika Kaveney and Maria Neville and (back row) escorts Nic O'Brien, Stephen Sanders, Sam Bohlen and Peter Frezza.

IC School tops in Great American Can Roundup

CLARION – Immaculate Conception School in Clarion recently won the first-prize award of \$1,000 in its first year of participation in the Great American Can Roundup.

Immaculate Conception middle school students were asked to bring in as many aluminum cans as possible for monthly weigh-ins. With the help of their families and under the leadership of math teacher Lauren Rice, the students were able to bring in enough cans to place Immaculate Conception School at the top of the leader board above all other participating Pennsylvania schools.

The Great American Can Round-Up is designed to help fight litter, save valuable resources and conserve energy. In celebration of the 200th anniversary of the aluminum can, the round-up was launched to help schools,



community groups, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H Clubs, charities and businesses learn to recycle beverage cans into cash. The contest ran nationally from National Recycle Day in November to Earth Day in April. Pictured from left to right are students Claire Eckert and Maeve Smith, middle school math teacher Lauren Rice and student Daniel Brooker.

DCC students earn 2nd place at state PJAS competition

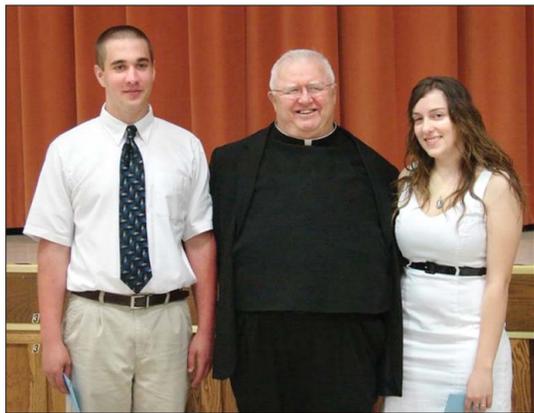
DUBOIS – Two students from DuBois Central Catholic recently earned second-place awards at the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS) state competition.

Sarah Aravich (junior) and Kallie Crawford (sophomore) were two of 11 students the school sent to PJAS regionals (pictured).

Secondary science teachers Jennifer Graeca and Renee Gressler prepared the students and served as chaperones at the PJAS events.



Holy Redeemer awards scholarships



Kurt Sherrard, Msgr. John Lucas and Kaylie Paris

WARREN – Holy Redeemer Parish in Warren recently awarded scholarships to two parish youth.

This year's recipients were Kurt Sherrard, son of Mike and Jeni Sherrard, and Haylie Paris, daughter of Buddy and Trish Paris. They were chosen because of their outstanding service to the parish, said Msgr. John Lucas, pastor of Holy Redeemer. Each

received a \$900 scholarship. The scholarship fund at Holy Redeemer was established in 1999 as a student award fund that was used to recognize students who had given much of their time and talent to the parish during their four years of high school. Award recipients must have regular attendance at Sunday liturgies, plans for attending a school of higher learning and demonstrate a good

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Cathedral Prep, VMA students raise money for Japan relief

ERIE – Seniors Adam Tome of Cathedral Prep and Nicole Shellenbarger at Villa Maria Academy have made it their mission to help the victims of the Japanese tsunami.

They designed and sold T-shirts that included the phrase "Do Somethin'" along with a map outline of Japan. Proceeds from T-shirt sales went to Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Erie to be sent toward the Japanese relief efforts.

Tome and Shellenbarger presented a \$1,580 check to Mary Maxwell, executive director of Catholic Charities, on May 26.

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