



Newly ordained priests Father Sean Kerins, Father Kyle Seyler and Father David Whiteford

2017 PRIEST ORDINATION

New priests assigned to parishes, schools

FAITHLIFE staff report

Father Sean Kerins, Father Kyle Seyler and Father David Whiteford—ordained June 9 at St. Peter Cathedral in downtown Erie—will assume positions in parishes and schools in the Diocese of Erie this summer.

The newly minted priests bring to 123 the number of active priests serving the diocese. Bishop Lawrence Persico called their ministry “a sign of hope.”

“Indeed, your willingness to serve the people of God as priests is not merely a noble effort on your part. It is a sign of hope for the church as each of us attempts to live our baptismal promises and journey to the Lord,” Bishop Persico told the men at their ordination Mass.

Bishop Persico assigned Father Kerins, 26, to the faculty of Kennedy Catholic High School, Hermitage, with residence at Good Shepherd Parish, West Middlesex. Father Kerins is a graduate of Kennedy Catholic, where the serious discernment of his vocation began.

“I was surprised and shocked by the assignment, but I’m very excited, too,” said Father Kerins, who just finished his major seminary studies at St. Mary’s Seminary & University in Baltimore.

Bishop Persico appointed Father Seyler parochial vicar of Our Lady of Peace Parish, Erie, and Father Whiteford to the faculty of DuBois Central Catholic, with residence at St. Tobias Parish, Brockway.

Father Seyler, 27, is excited to begin his ministry at Our Lady of Peace, one of the largest parishes in the diocese that also includes a school. During his seminary years, he had been assigned to the Erie parishes of Holy Rosary and St. John the Baptist.

“I’m hoping to bring to Our Lady of Peace my reverence for the Mass and the sacraments, and my passion



Photo by Anne-Marie Welsh

Bishop Lawrence Persico accepts the blessing of newly ordained Father Sean Kerins, followed by Father David Whiteford and Father Kyle Seyler.

for vocations,” Father Seyler said.

Father Seyler was overcome with emotion immediately after being ordained. As he sat behind the altar at St. Peter Cathedral, he waited to say Mass for the first time with Bishop Persico, Bishop Emeritus Donald Trautman and other fellow priests.

“I was just sitting there looking out at everyone. I was really

so happy to see so many people there and sitting with my classmates and other priests who I would soon be standing with at the altar,” Father Seyler said.

Patty Seyler, Father Seyler’s mother, said she was overwhelmed watching her son be ordained after eight years in formation. Father Seyler studied with Father Kerins at St. Mary’s Seminary & University.

For both mother and son, Father Seyler’s vesting by Msgr. John Herbein, their home pastor at St. Patrick Parish, Franklin, was a powerful moment. They weren’t sure whether Msgr. Herbein would be able to attend due to recent health issues.

“That was so meaningful,” Patty Seyler said.

Father Whiteford, 26, was surrounded by family and friends all weekend, including a large picnic at his home in Waterford. The day after his ordination, he said his first Mass at the Carmelite Monastery in Erie.

A graduate of Gannon University and St. Vincent Seminary in Latrobe, he is looking forward to teaching at DuBois Central. During his previous parish assignments at Queen of the World Parish in St. Marys, and Notre Dame Parish in Hermitage, he had a chance to be around young students.

“I enjoy being with young people to help them see their faith as something important,” Father Whiteford said.

His sister, Kate Whiteford, who is director of the Chastity Education Office for the Diocese of Erie, said she felt a sense of peace when she witnessed her brother’s ordination with Father Seyler and Father Kerins.

“This is what Dave, Kyle and Sean have been working toward by the grace of God. They are responding to a call, and this is them saying, ‘yes,’ and it’s final,” she said.

‘A renewed passion for the Gospel’

BY MARY SOLBERG | FAITHLIFE

Bishop Lawrence Persico received a surprise letter one day from a young man he had just confirmed in the Diocese of Erie.

The student asked how a young person could continue his faith journey if there were no opportunities for learning and growing in a parish.

“That really gave me pause,” the bishop said. “People are hungry, but we’re not always feeding them. We need to think about the needs of young adults, of parents, of those in middle age, and even of senior citizens. Our parishes



Photo by Anne-Marie Welsh

Bishop Lawrence Persico addresses the crowd gathered for a June 14 faith formation presentation at Notre Dame Parish in Hermitage.

must provide opportunities for learning and for growth on the path of discipleship for every age and stage of life.”

Bishop Persico shared his thoughts on the student’s letter with hundreds of parish leaders who gathered last week at three different locations in the diocese. The meetings were organized to present the recommendations of the

>> See RECOMMENDATIONS, page 2

Task force recommends faith formation changes



Prayer - Planning - Possibilities

Lifelong formation

WE MUST:

- Recognize that a vision limited only to forming elementary and high school students is not sufficient.
- Shift the culture of the whole diocese to view faith formation as a lifelong process. It must encompass all age groups, including those beyond elementary school and high school age.
- Shift the culture of parish life to be more attuned to the needs of every age group.
- Encourage collaboration to support more effectively our youth and young adult ministries, campus ministry, and ministries to married, retired, homebound, etc.
- Include people of every age in the daily life of the parish and be welcoming of them.

Vision

WE MUST EXPAND OUR VISION TO UNDERSTAND THAT:

- Almost everything we do in one way or another forms people in the faith.
- We must strive to capture the hearts as well as the minds of those we are forming in the faith.
- Faith formation is a lifelong process. It will not only embrace existing programs such as religious education and youth ministry, but also faith formation efforts yet to be developed. It will be directed toward all age groups as well as to the needs of various audiences.

- Religious education programs are but one part of faith formation. They will remain a vital education ministry, but now be considered as part of an overall and expanded faith formation effort.

- Many other existing efforts are also part of lifelong faith formation. Pre-Cana and Engagement Encounter, e.g., should be understood under the umbrella of faith formation.

- Worship, service and community are also part of lifelong faith formation.

Parish leadership

- Every parish should be able to call on the help of a trained professional. These individuals will be trained to coordinate, promote, and assist in parish ministries or apostolates, whether involving youth, young adults, religious education, worship, sacramental preparation, campus ministry, ministry to couples, ministry to the sick, etc.
- The trained professional must understand the vision of lifelong faith formation and be committed to implementing it at the parish level.
- Religious education programs will remain an important part of parish life, but they will be part of a much broader vision of lifelong faith formation.
- The director of religious education and the trained professional could be the same person, or two separate people. Criteria are in place for the education and certification of DREs, but we need to explore practical ways to help parishes ensure that their people are getting the training they need.

- Collaboration is widely encouraged. Not every parish needs, or can afford, a full-time trained professional. Collaboration, especially among smaller parishes, can make access to a trained professional possible.

- We will need to develop funding models that include more effective utilization of existing funding sources as well as consideration of new funding sources. Just as with schools and parishes, the changes we’re calling for may require investment.

Diocesan leadership

THE DIOCESE WILL:

- Develop and provide diocesan standards for the selection, hiring, training and supervision of professionals in faith formation under the supervision of the appropriate diocesan staff position.
- Certify properly trained professionals.
- Establish salary ranges for trained professionals.

- Oversee the role of professionals, through appropriate diocesan guidelines, and provide appropriate professional support to these individuals.

- Help to coordinate collaboration between parishes, ministries, etc.

Role of the family

WE MUST:

- Seek to involve parents in all aspects of their child’s faith formation.
- Recognize the diverse family structures existing in our parishes, schools, etc.
- Recognize the need for flexibility in our efforts, remembering that a one-size-fits-all approach will not work. Programs and approaches must adapt to various needs and abilities. We must be willing to bend when necessary.
- Encourage families to maintain or develop faith traditions and rituals in their home.

Lay ministry

- Regarding leadership, we will need to train lay people to assume leadership positions in various ministries in collaboration with their pastors.
- Regarding ministry in general, we must encourage training and development for anyone involved in ministry.
- Encourage collaboration for every apostolic and missionary undertaking sponsored by a local parish. This, too, may require some restructuring of funds or new investment.

ONLINE SURVEY

To respond to these recommendations or to fill out a survey form, visit:

www.eriecnd.org/planning.htm

News-makers

Snippets of Catholic headlines and stories from around the world
from Catholic News Service

World Day of the Poor

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—This is the logo for the World Day of the Poor, to be celebrated Nov. 19.

It focuses on the Apostle John's call to love "not with words, but with deeds."



CNS photo

Feds investigate shooting of Catholic congressman, others

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (CNS)—Federal authorities are investigating the June 14 shooting that resulted in serious injuries for Republican Congressman Steve Scalise and others during a practice for an annual congressional baseball game.

At press time, Scalise was listed in serious condition after he underwent surgery for an injury to his hip. The suspected gunman, who was shot and killed by police, was identified as James Hodgkinson of Illinois.

Scalise is the U.S. House Majority Whip and represents Louisiana's 1st Congressional District. He and his wife, Jennifer, belong to St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Metairie, a suburb of New Orleans. The couple's children attend the parish school.

Arlington Bishop Michael F. Burbidge said in



CNS photo

Jesuit Father Patrick J. Conroy, chaplain of the U.S. House of Representatives, leads Democrats and Republicans in prayer before they face off in the annual Congressional Baseball Game June 15 at Nationals Park in Washington.

Friars recognized



CNS photo

NEW YORK (CNS)—Father Gabriel Bakkar, a member of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, listens to a woman's confession during a block party June 13 at St. Crispin Friary in the Bronx, N.Y. The friars recently received Vatican recognition as a religious institute "of pontifical right," a term for ecclesiastical institutions.

a statement he was "profoundly saddened" by the events and offered prayers for those wounded in "this senseless attack."

Four named to board for the protection of children

INDIANAPOLIS (USCCB)—Three women and one man have been appointed to serve on the National Review Board (NRB) by Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). The NRB advises the bishops' committee on the Protection of Children and Young People, and the Secretariat for Child and Youth Protection at the USCCB.

The new NRB members are:

- Amanda Callanan, director of communications for the Claremont Institute.
- Suzanne Healy, a licensed marriage and family therapist and former victims assistance coordinator for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.
- Dr. Christopher McManus, owner and president of CP & RP McManus, MD, Ltd., where McManus practices internal medicine in the Diocese of Arlington, Va.
- Eileen Puglisi, former director of the Office for the Protection of Children and Young People in the Diocese of Rockville Centre, N.Y.

Francesco C. Cesareo, Ph.D., president of Assumption College in Worcester, Mass., remains chair of the NRB.

For the love of Fatima



Editor's Notes
Mary SOLBERG

Eighty-five-year-old Lou Ann Nowosielski has had a lifelong devotion to the Blessed Mother. But now seemed like the best time to share her inspiration with the larger community.

To commemorate this year's 100th anniversary of Mary's appearance to three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal, Nowosielski donated her original oil painting of Fatima to Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Harborcreek.

She painted the image from a picture she saw while visiting Fatima in 1950 as part of a women's sodality group from St. Mary Church in Erie. That trip occurred four years before the famous Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary was completed to accommodate the overwhelming number of tourists and pilgrims who visited the site.

The mother of seven children and 15 grandchildren, and the

owner of Erie's well-known Kraus Department Store, she has managed to set time aside time to visit other Marian shrines throughout the world.

In the 1980s, she and her late husband visited the Black Madonna of Czestochowa, also known as Our Lady of Czestochowa, the revered icon of the Virgin Mary housed at the Jasna Góra Monastery in Poland.

In 1988, she traveled to Medjugorje, in the Herzegovina region of Bosnia and Herzegovina, to experience the site of reported apparitions of Mary. About 10 years ago, she and her daughter traveled to Mexico City to see the venerated image of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Lou Ann has visited numerous Marian shrines in the U.S., too, but she doesn't have any plans to do much more travel.

"I'll pray here. Mary's all over the place," Lou Ann says, with a smile. "Mary's message and the Fatima message is, 'Pray.' Let her Immaculate Heart take care of us. Follow her Immaculate Heart. Mary is the mother of everyone."

Mary Solberg is the editor of FaithLife. Email: msolberg@ErieRCD.org Call 814-824-1171 Twitter: @ERIERCDSolberg



Photo by Mary Solberg

Lou Ann Nowosielski, 85, stands in front of her oil painting of Fatima.

Recommendations

Continued from page 1

diocesan task force on faith formation, or what the bishop calls "the most exciting" aspect of the pastoral planning process that began three years ago.

According to the bishop, faith formation is at the heart of pastoral planning. Without it, the changes implemented in parishes and schools would be hollow.

"With some of the logistics behind us, it's finally time for you to go back to your parishes and your schools and to stir into flame a renewed passion for the Gospel, and a deeper understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ," Bishop Persico said.

The faith formation task force—headed by Benedictine Sister Phyllis Schleicher—



Sister Phyllis Schleicher, OSB

examined how the diocese can support and sustain all parishioners in their lifelong conversion of heart, mind and spirit. In essence, faith formation should not end with confirmation.

Their recommendations deal with six

key areas: lifelong formation, vision, parish leadership, diocesan leadership, the role of the family, and lay ministry [see specific details on page 1].

All aspects of the faith formation recommendations shift the culture of the diocese and parish life toward the needs of every age group, not solely children.

Specifically, some of the recommendations call for training and development of anyone involved in ministry and establishing salary ranges for trained professionals.

"Unlike the recently unveiled recommendations dealing with our Catholic schools and parishes, which involved changes concerning physical structures such as reconfiguring schools and partnering or merging parishes, ... the faith formation recommendations deal more with new directions about how to form the faith," said Deacon Marty Eisert, chairperson of the pastoral planning process.

Those who attended the faith formation meetings last week were encouraged to return to their parishes to brainstorm about the recommendations. They were provided questions to guide them through group discussions.

All are welcome to provide feedback to the recommendations, which can be viewed at www.eriegcd.org/planning.htm. A feedback form is available on the site.

Online submissions are preferred, but written responses may be mailed to: Faith Formation Task Force, St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie, PA 16504.

The deadline to submit is July 28. The pastoral planning web page will be updated regularly on the faith formation component.

The Faith Formation implementation team plans to create a guide for parishes this fall.

FaithLife The bi-weekly newspaper of the Catholic Diocese of Erie.
St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 East Grandview Blvd.
Erie, Pa. 16504
Publisher: The Most Rev. Lawrence T. Persico

Executive Editor: Anne-Marie Welsh
Editor: Mary Solberg
Graphic Design: Rich Papalla
Advertising Manager: Brenda Williams
Advertising Designer: Elizabeth Butterfield

Website: www.ErieRCD.org
Volume 13, Issue 12

Member of the Catholic Press Association
Subscription: \$10/year
Periodical postage paid at Erie, PA
Postmaster: Send address changes to:
FaithLife at St. Mark Catholic Center

Email: FaithLife@ErieRCD.org
Editorial: 814-824-1171
Advertising: 814-824-1161
General Information: 814-824-1161

The Office of Communications has been serving Catholics of the Diocese of Erie since 1874.

McGonigle
Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc.
724-347-7575
www.McGonigleFuneralHomeandCrematory.com

ERIE DIOCESAN CEMETERIES
Mausoleum and niche space available at Calvary cemetery
CALL 814-838-7724

Are you 65 or older and concerned about your Medicare benefits?
CONTACT THE WILLIAM J. ANDERSON INSURANCE AGENCY
814-730-4653
ANDERSONWILLIAM56@YAHOO.COM

Representing Western Catholic Union A Fraternal Organization
Not affiliated with or endorsed by the United States government or federal Medicare program.

Try our new ONLINE MEMORIAL DESIGNER from the comfort of home

Monday - Friday 9 to 5 • Saturday 9 to Noon
Evenings & Weekends by Appointment
32980 Route 66 • Leeper, PA 16233

BORLAND MEMORIALS (814) 744-8340
www.borlandmemorials.com

ProximoTravel
Pilgrimages for Catholics and people of all faiths

Travel to the Holy Land with Father Paul Siebert; St. Mark Parish; September 27, 2017– October 07, 2017; \$4,000

We also offer several other trips to different destinations: the Holy Land; Italy; France, Portugal, & Spain; Poland; Medjugorje, Lourdes, & Fatima; Ireland & Scotland; England; Austria, Germany, & Switzerland; Greece & Turkey; Budapest; Prague; Our Lady of Guadalupe; Colombia; Brazil; Argentina; Domestic Destinations; etc...

We also specialize in custom trips for Bishops, Priests, and Deacons.

Call us 24/7 508-340-9370
Hablamos Español 855-842-8001
www.proximotravel.com anthony@proximotravel.com

EVENTS

Zabawa Festival needs more volunteers

ERIE—Volunteers to help serve food are needed for the Holy Trinity Parish Zabawa Festival in August. Organizers are looking for 10 to 12 energetic volunteers (teenagers and up) for each shift. Sign up for as many hours as you'd like by contacting Sarah at schermack@eriefamilylaw.com. High school students in need of service hours are welcome.

Father Cooper Golf Classic scheduled in July

CORRY—The annual Father Cyril Cooper Charitable Golf Classic will be held July 29 at North Hills Golf Course in Corry. A shotgun start is at 8 a.m. The cost is \$75 per person or \$300 for a foursome. The cost includes greens fees, cart, steak lunch and prizes. Register online at www.stthomastheapostle.church, or with the parish office at 814-663-3041 or secretary@stthomastheapostle.church.

Fortnight for Freedom resources available

ERIE—The Diocese of Erie joins dioceses around the country in celebrating the importance of defending religious freedom. This year's Fortnight for Freedom, sponsored by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, started June 21 and will continue through July 4.

Visit www.eriecd.org/fortnight.htm for more information and resources that can be used by individuals and/or parishes.

Fourth of July celebration planned in Lucinda

LUCINDA—The 78th annual Fourth of July celebration will be held July 4 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Joseph Parish, 112 Rectory Lane, Lucinda.

The event will feature chicken and ham dinners, games of skill and chance for all ages, quilt tent, called-number games, live entertainment and a grand prize drawing worth more than \$10,000 in cash and prizes.

Dinners will be available in the dining room from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., with take-outs available from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dinner tickets are \$9 for adults, \$4.50 for children ages 6 to 12, and free for children under 6. Proceeds benefit St. Joseph School.

For more information, visit www.st-joseph-lucinda.org or call 814-226-7288.

Lucinda parish to host 5K run/walk

LUCINDA—St. Joseph Parish in Lucinda will host its Liberty 5K Run/Walk July 1 at 9 a.m. at the historic Lucinda Train Station, 1040 Lander Drive, Lucinda. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m., with the race starting at 9 a.m. at the nearby Rail 66 country trail.

Pre-registration is encouraged and forms are available at www.st-joseph-lucinda.org/fourthofjuly or by calling 814-226-7288.

Mercy Hilltop Center presents Hilltop Hop

ERIE—The Mercy Hilltop Center, 444 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie, will hold its Hilltop Hop July 13 from noon to 3 p.m.

The event will feature 1950s- and '60s-themed fun, with a lunch followed by a performance featuring Jim Moore as Elvis Presley. Register in advance by calling the Mercy Hilltop Center at 814-824-2214.

Tickets are \$7 for members and \$10 for non-members. Everyone is encouraged to bring memorabilia, including photos, and wear school colors or dress from the 1950s and 1960s.

Got questions about life? Attend Alpha series

ERIE—Save the date for the Alpha series, a 10-part interactive program on the basics of the Christian faith, beginning Sept. 7 from 6:15 to 8:30 p.m. in the auditorium of Sacred Heart Parish, 816 W. 26th St., Erie.

To learn more, go to www.Alphausa.org/Catholic.

For more details about the schedule or for other questions on the series, contact Sister Ricarda Vincent, SSJ, at rvincent@velocity.net or at 814-456-6256.

Save the date for 23rd annual Rosary March

ERIE—Set aside Sunday, Oct. 8, to participate in the annual Erie Diocesan Rosary March at St. Peter Cathedral at W. 10th and Sassafras streets, Erie.

This year's event marks the 100th anniversary of the appearance of the Blessed Mother to the three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal.

The event begins at 2 p.m. with a walk through the downtown area, followed by Benediction at the cathedral and a homily offered by Bishop Lawrence Persico. The march is sponsored by the World Apostolate of Fatima.

Enrollment up in Erie Catholic School System

End of era for three schools

BY MARY SOLBERG | FAITHLIFE

Three Catholic schools in Erie closed for good this month after a combined 340 years of existence. Yet, diocesan officials are placing hope in the success of the newly formed Erie Catholic School System (ECSS).

At press time, the total enrollment (preschool through grade 8) at the six campuses of ECSS stood at 2,688. That's an increase in combined enrollment from the previous year at those six schools (Blessed Sacra-

are bolstered by another 69 students from the public-school sector who enrolled in the new Catholic school system.

"The rate of enrollment exceeds projections," said Jim Gallagher, superintendent of Catholic schools in the Diocese of Erie. "It demonstrates the commitment of families to Catholic education. I think people recognize that we are serious about strengthening and improving Catholic education in all of our schools."

Last year, the diocese set forth a historic plan ("Building in Truth and Love), to reinvigorate Catholic schools in all of its 13 counties. Declining enrollment and financial concerns forced the closing in June of St. Boniface and Our Lady of Mount Carmel schools. And the aging religious community of the Sisters of St. Joseph opted to close Villa Maria Elementary at the end of this academic year, because, as Sister Mary Herrmann, president, said, "We give up a particular ministry when that need can be met by others."

In a letter to Catholic school families in May, Damon Finazzo, president of the Erie Catholic School System, acknowledged the difficulty families and students faced in light of the closures. Finazzo holds a unique perspective as a parent of students at Villa Maria Elementary and as the school's principal.

In his new position as

“I think people recognize that we are serious about strengthening and improving Catholic education in all of our schools.”

— Jim Gallagher

ment, Our Lady of Peace, St. George, St. James, St. Jude and St. Luke).

Children and families from St. Boniface, Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Villa Maria Elementary were saddened by the closures of their schools in June. Yet, an estimated 58 percent of their students have enrolled in ECSS for the upcoming academic year.

Additionally, a full 97 percent of students already attending one of ECSS's six campuses re-enrolled. Those figures



Contributed photo

Ryan Jones, a fifth-grader at Our Lady of Mount Carmel School, Erie, enjoyed a last hug from middle-school science teacher Sara Cowan. Ryan pushed the start button for the 18-minute fireworks show held on the parish grounds June 8.

CURRENT NUMBERS for Erie Catholic School System

(Blessed Sacrament, Our Lady of Peace, St. George, St. James, St. Jude and St. Luke)

97% of students from the six campuses re-enrolled for the 2017-18 school year.

58% of students from the now closed St. Boniface, Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Villa Elementary schools have enrolled in the new Erie Catholic School System.

69 children from the public school sector have enrolled in the Erie Catholic School System.

2,688: Total enrollment (preschool through 8th grade) at press time.

Source: Catholic Schools Office, Diocese of Erie

president of the school system, he sees all sides.

"As president, I tried to look to the future for our Villa Maria Blue Wings. I visualized them succeeding in their new schools, in new and exciting ways. As principal, I concentrated my efforts on celebrating the difference that we made in each of our students' lives while here at VME," Finazzo said. "As a parent, I had to remain strong and positive for my children. While they were going through their range of happy and sad emotions, they looked to me to be a steady force in this time of transition."

Lisa Panighetti, principal at St. Boniface and Our Lady of Mount Carmel schools, felt similarly. In the past six months, she tried to keep students positive and forward-looking. Panighetti has been appointed the new principal at Our Lady of Peace School.

She and Our Lady of Mount Carmel pastor, Father Raymond Hahn,

agreed earlier this year to hold a final school celebration at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. The event would include a fireworks display put on by parent Pat Jones, whose son, Ryan, was a fifth-grader.

Ryan pushed the start button for the 18-minute show, operated by his dad's pyrotechnic company, Fat Cats Fireworks.

"I think it was more of a celebration of the 55 years of the school than a sad goodbye," Jones said. "It was more, 'Let's go out with a bang. Let's not close the doors and leave crying. Let's celebrate the time we had together.'"

St. Boniface, which closed after 160 years of operation, has deep roots in the Erie area. But at the time of its closing, it only had 62 students in preschool to grade 4. A June 3-4 alumni celebration eased some of the pain.

"There is some comfort in knowing that the majority of our kids have enrolled in the school system. They're my No. 1 priority," Panighetti said.



Contributed photo

Pat Jones, a parent of a student at Our Lady of Mount Carmel School in Erie, put on an 18-minute fireworks display to mark the closing of the school after 55 years.

LEARN ROSARY MAKING
LEWIS & COMPANY
Contact us for a catalog and introductory offer.
rosaryparts.com
(800) 342-2400

CRIME VICTIM CENTER
BINGO
Tuesday Evenings at 6:30 PM
EEB 6:00 PM • EB 6:15 PM
Kury Hall • 512 Kelso Drive
For more information call Bev at 392-9588

YOUR HOMETOWN PHARMACY
FREE Delivery
B.J. Moon, R.Ph.
John Pontoriero, R.Ph.
Chad Jantzi, Pharm. D.
3106 Buffalo Road Erie, PA 16510
814 / 898-2085 Fax 814 / 898-2086
Hours: 9:00-6:00 Monday-Friday, 9:00-2:00 Saturday

Johnston's Evergreen Nursery, Inc.
GARDEN CENTER 10000 Wales Road Erie, PA 16510 (814) 739-2820
Since 1953
WHOLESALE OFFICE (814) 897-1900
"We grow our plants with you in mind"
johnstonplants.com
I-90, Exit 35, South 3.5 miles (or) From Route 8, North onto Wales Rd.

The Diocese of Youngstown Pilgrimage FATIMA AND LISBON, PORTUGAL
SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR The Most. Rev. George V. Murray, S.J.
SEPTEMBER 14-20, 2017
COST \$2,299.00 PER PERSON (includes airfare taxes and fees) Roundtrip from Pittsburgh (PIT) Airport
ACCOMMODATIONS Private, air-conditioned motorcoach and professional tour escort 4-star hotels with breakfasts and dinners at hotel restaurants
SIGHTSEEING SANTAREM "Miracle of the Bleeding Host" FATIMA Capelinha "Chapel of the Apparitions" and the Basilica which contains tombs of the Fatima children VALINHOS Our Lady apparition and Baptism site of the children ALFAMA Church of St. Anthony to celebrate Mass and more AND MORE RELIGIOUS SITES PLUS DAILY MASS!
MORE INFORMATION Diocese: 330-744-8451, ext. 252 or ltedde@youngstown.org Catholic Tour Company: 1-855-564-1008

Glenn Bailey, Ph.D., M.A.
Licensed Psychologist
4000 Sterrettania Rd., Upper Level Erie, PA 16506
814/454-4285
Individual and Marital Counseling
Psychological Assessments
E.M.D.R. for Trauma Therapy

PHOTOS from AROUND the DIOCESE

Email news items to: FaithLife@ErieRCD.org

Check out more photos at www.ErieRCD.org/atd.htm



Two Benedictine novices make first profession of monastic vows



ERIE—Two novices with the Benedictine Sisters of Erie made their first profession of monastic vows June 3 in the chapel at Mount St. Benedict Monastery. Benedictine Sisters **Dina Lauricella**, left, and **Karen Oprenhok** professed stability, obedience and fidelity to the monastic way of life for a period of three years. With this profession, they enter the Scholasticate, the third stage of initial monastic formation. They will continue their study of the monastic way of life and discern a permanent commitment guided by Sister Diane Rabe, scholastic director, while also engaging in full-time ministry.

Sister Dina, a former motorcycle instructor from Lusby, Md., currently works at St. Benedict Community Center and St. Benedict Education Center, both in Erie. Sister Karen, of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, and a former office worker for the Canadian federal government, works at Emmaus Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry and Benetvision.

St. Bartholomew Catholic Parish hosts annual Mother's Day Tea



SHARPSVILLE—St. Bartholomew Parish in Sharpsville hosted its annual Mother's Day Tea May 6 at the church. Pictured are some of the 70 women who attended the event that was hosted by the Immaculate Heart of Mary Women's Guild. Guitar music was provided by Dach.

DuBois Central Catholic awarded \$80,000 grant



DuBOIS—DuBois Central Catholic recently received an \$80,000 grant from the A.J. & Sigismunda Palumbo Charitable Trust for technology and collaborative learning centers that are part of the school's Classrooms of the Future initiative.

Pictured, from left, are: **William Champlin**, director of technology; **Gretchen Caruso**, incoming headmaster; **Michael Ar-**

manini, outgoing headmaster; **Joseph Palumbo** of the Trust; **Robert Ordiway** (board of trustees); **Karen Pflingstler** (board of trustees); **Belinda Vasbinder**, business manager/CFO; and **Angela Edwards**, assistant director of technology. Missing from the photo are **Tara Kramer** and **Sharon Varischetti**, director of advancement.

Erie Serra Club names outstanding priest, sister, deacon, lay person

ERIE—The Erie Serra Club recently celebrated its annual installation Mass and dinner, naming the outstanding priest, sister, deacon and lay person of the year.

Pictured, from left, are: outstanding priest, **Msgr. Gerald Koos**, who dedicated much of his priesthood to assignments as a hospital and prison chaplain; outstanding sister, **Mercy Sister Rita Panciera**, director of the House of Prayer in Erie; outstanding lay person, **William Bloomstine**, insurance executive and active volunteer; and outstanding deacon, **Steve Washek**, vice national leader of L'Arche USA.



Titusville parish raises funds for pregnancy program

TITUSVILLE—The Altar/Rosary Society and Faith Formation Program at St. Titus Church in Titusville recently organized a mock baby shower with food and games to benefit pregnancy programs at local Catholic Charities offices. The event drew 41 women and children, including, from left: **Hazel Spoharski**, **Chris Ditty**, **Bernadette Barnes**, **Sarah Oviatt** and **Carolyn Bienio**.

Organizers made formal invitations to the shower and distributed them to all the women of the church, as well as advertised in the church bulletin. More than 400 gifts—diapers, baby wipes, clothing, baby blankets, baby board books, gently used toys, and other essentials—were donated. The parish Knights of Columbus contributed \$400 of baby supplies, including 1,408 diapers, baby wipes, socks, and 60 onesies and sleepers.



Search Diocese of Erie on Facebook and Twitter

Your devoted Carmelites invite you to the
60TH ANNUAL
Days of Prayer
FATIMA REVISITED

Carmel of the Holy Family Monastery
510 East Gore Road, Erie
July 11-July 16, 2017
(Sunday, July 16, fulfills Sunday obligation)
7:15 AM Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet
8:00 AM Mass
6:45 PM Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet
7:30 PM Benediction and Exposition
GUEST SPEAKER **Father James Campbell**
Pastor, St. Eulalia and St. Gabriel
MORE FATIMA DAYS
Aug. 13, Aug. 19, Sept. 13 and Oct. 13

This is the 100th anniversary of Mary's appearance at Fatima. On the third day (midpoint of the week) emphasis will be on the enrollment of the Brown Scapular in honor of the day Mary showed the vision of Hell to the children.
"Whoever dies clothed in this Scapular will not suffer eternal fire." OUR LADY AT FATIMA IN 1251

"My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way that will lead you to God."
OUR LADY AT FATIMA IN 1917

COLLEGES OF
CATHOLIC
2016 2017
DISTINCTION

MERCYHURST UNIVERSITY

St. Joseph's 78th Annual 4th of July Celebration
Parish Grounds - 112 Rectory Lane - Lucinda, PA
I-80 Exit 60, Rt. 66 N 10 Miles
July 4 • 11 AM - 4 PM
Rain or Shine - Canopy Covered

Liberty 5K Run/Walk • July 1 • 9 AM
Lucinda Train Station, 1040 Lander Dr., Lucinda

Our Traditional "all-you-can-eat" **Chicken & Ham Dinners**
Nearly 2,000 dinners served each year

Homemade Pie & Soup with Our Famous Homemade Noodles
Dining Room Serving 11 am - 3 pm
Takeouts 11 am - 2 pm
Dinner Ticket Sales Open 10:00 am
Adults \$9.00, Children 6 - 12 \$4.50
Children under 6 Free

- ★ Over 15 HANDMADE QUILTS
- ★ Live Entertainment
- ★ Games of Skill & Chance
- ★ Festival Food ★ Bingo

OVER \$40,000 In Cash & Prizes!

★ **GRAND PRIZE \$5000⁰⁰** ★

Festival proceeds benefit St. Joseph School
Parking Shuttle Available

st-joseph-lucinda.org • 814-226-7288