

'For Greater Glory'

Film revisits the many sides of Mexico's Cristero Rebellion, page 2.



FaithLife

Left to tell

Rwanda genocide survivor to speak in DuBois, page 3.



www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

June 3, 2012

Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

Feast days



Sacred Heart of Jesus Immaculate Heart of Mary

- June 5 St. Boniface
- June 6 St. Norbert
- June 9 St. Ephrem
- June 10 Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)
- June 11 St. Barnabas
- June 13 St. Anthony of Padua
- June 15 Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
- June 16 Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Confirmations

Bishop Donald Trautman will visit the following churches to offer the sacrament of confirmation:

Our Lady of the Lake, Edinboro – Monday, June 4 at 7 p.m. Confirmation classes include St. Anthony of Padua, Cambridge Springs, and Our Lady of the Lake, Edinboro.

St. Mary, Crown – Sunday, June 10 at 3 p.m. Confirmation classes include St. Michael, Fryburg; St. Joseph, Lucia; and St. Mary, Crown.

Ordination to the priesthood – June 8

Deacon Brandon Kleckner from Sacred Heart Parish in Erie will be ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Donald Trautman during a 7 p.m. Mass and ceremony on Friday, June 8 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie.

The community of St. Mark Seminary invites the public to evening prayer in preparation for Deacon Kleckner's ordination on Thursday, June 7 at 7 p.m. in the seminary chapel, 429 E. Grandview Blvd. in Erie.



Deacon Brandon Kleckner

Spring meeting of U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops – June 13-15

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) will meet June 13-15 for their annual spring general assembly.

The bishops will have floor discussion on domestic and international religious freedom.

They will also hear an address by Carolyn Woo, Ph.D., the new president and CEO of Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic Church in the United States.

Other items on the agenda include a 10-year progress report by the National Review Board on the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* and a report on committees collaborating for the Year of Faith.



Diocese sues federal government

Local church, agencies join others in seeking to overturn HHS mandate

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

ERIE – The Diocese of Erie announced that it has filed a lawsuit against the federal government in response to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' "unprecedented attack on citizens' cherished freedom to practice religion without government interference."

The lawsuit, filed May 21 in U.S. District Court in Erie, is designed to prevent the federal mandate from taking effect. Although the HHS mandate would force employers to provide insurance coverage that includes abortion-inducing drugs, as well as contraceptives and sterilization procedures, Bishop Donald Trautman emphasized a broader concern during a news conference announcing the filing.

"We are now challenging this federal regulation because it requires religious organizations to provide and pay for insurance coverage for services that violate our religious beliefs," Bishop Trautman said. "The regulation unconstitutionally authorizes the federal government to determine which organizations are sufficiently religious to warrant an exemption. However, the fundamental issue with the federal mandate is that it violates our religious liberties guaranteed by the First Amendment."



Bishop Donald Trautman announces the Diocese of Erie's lawsuit against the federal government regarding the Department of Health and Human Services' mandate. Bishop Trautman is flanked by Cheryl Kobel, chief executive officer of St. Martin Center in Erie, and Joe Flecher, executive director of Prince of Peace Center in Farrell. The Catholic Charities agencies were also named as plaintiffs in the diocese's lawsuit.

Plaintiffs in the suit include Bishop Trautman as bishop of Erie, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie and St. Martin Center in Erie and Prince of Peace Center in Farrell, both nonprofit corporations and affiliates of Catholic Charities.

Defendants in the suit include Secretary Kathleen Sebelius and the United States Department of Health and Human Services; Secretary Hilda Solis and the United States Department of Labor; and Secretary Timothy Geithner and the United States Department of Treasury.

"This lawsuit is about an unprecedented attack by the government on one of America's most cherished freedoms: the freedom to practice one's

religion without government interference," the opening of the 56-page suit states. "It is not about whether people have a right to abortifacients, sterilization services, contraceptives and related counseling services. It is about whether the government may force plaintiffs—all Catholic entities—to subsidize, provide and/or facilitate those services contrary to their firmly held religious beliefs."

The diocese and the agencies are being represented pro bono in the lawsuit by the law firm of Jones Day. No diocesan or agency funds are being used in the lawsuit.

In a statement, Jones Day said the HHS mandate "is in violation of the re-

See LAWSUIT, page 2

Twelve lawsuits filed in grassroots effort against HHS mandate

The Diocese of Erie's lawsuit was one of 12 filed May 21 across the country against the federal government as part of a coordinated, grassroots effort by 43 different ecclesiastical complainants including Catholic archdioceses, dioceses, charitable organizations, universities and schools. They include:

- **District of Columbia**
Archdiocese of Washington
Consortium of Catholic Academies
Archbishop Carroll High School
Catholic Charities of Washington
The Catholic University of America
- **Eastern District of New York**
Archdiocese of New York
ArchCare
Diocese of Rockville Centre
Catholic Health Services of Long Island
Catholic Charities of Rockville Centre
- **Western District of Pennsylvania (Erie Division)**
Diocese of Erie
St. Martin Center
Prince of Peace Center
- **Western District of Pennsylvania (Pittsburgh Division)**
Diocese of Pittsburgh
Catholic Charities of Pittsburgh
Catholic Cemeteries Association of Pittsburgh
- **Northern District of Texas (Dallas Division)**
Diocese of Dallas
- **Northern District of Texas (Fort Worth Division)**
Diocese of Fort Worth

See LIST, page 2

Religious scouting awards recognize faith development

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

ERIE – Katie Jordan and Amber Little looked over every inch of St. Peter Cathedral.

It was the girls' first visit to the mother church of the Diocese of Erie.

"I think it's really beautiful," Little said.

The girls, accompanied by their families, made the two-and-a-half hour trip from their homes. Jordan, 10, attends St. Basil the Great Parish in Coalport and St. Francis School in Clearfield.

Little, 9, is from Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Sykesville and goes to DuBois Central Catholic School.

The day was all about receiving the Holy Family emblem from Bishop Donald Trautman. The girls earned the honor as members of Girl Scout Troop 28148



Amber Little from Girl Scout Troop 28148 at St. Francis of Assisi in Clearfield receives her Holy Family emblem from Bishop Donald Trautman at the annual Religious Scouting Awards May 20 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie.

from St. Francis of Assisi in Clearfield. They joined Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts and Brownies throughout the 13-county diocese who were

recognized for furthering their spiritual development during the annual Religious Scouting Awards held May 20 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie.

Bishop Donald Trautman presented more than 140 individual and group badges, emblems and honors to students for their achievements in areas of spiritual growth. Adult troop and pack leaders were also saluted for their commitment to helping instill the values of the faith.

The awards ceremony is sponsored by the Department of Religious Education, the Office of Youth Ministry, the Catholic Committee on Boy Scouting and the Catholic Girl Scout Committee.

"It was a really nice day for them," said Pat Miller, who directs the Holy Family program of the Clearfield-based troop.

The Holy Family Award is given to Junior Girl Scouts to

promote advancement in religious knowledge and spiritual formation. The project consists of five steps and takes between two and six months to complete.

"We had a booklet that we had to write about the Holy Family," Little said. "We had to visit a shrine and pray the rosary."

They visited the Our Lady of Grace Marian Grotto at Bethany Retreat Center in Frenchville. Other aspects included Bible study and discussions with their parents.

For Little, the Religious Scouting Awards was her first encounter with the bishop. It was the second for Jordan.

"I got to meet him at confirmation," Jordan said.

During his remarks, Bishop Trautman congratulated the scouts on receiving their awards.

See SCOUTS, page 3

Diocesan spelling bee winner gets redemption on 'rhubarb'

Sara Prischak spelled "rhubarb" correctly this time.

The long-leaf plant with a strong, tart taste was Prischak's nemesis in the diocesan spelling bee two years ago, eliminating her from the competition. So when it came up this year, she knew she had done her homework.

Prischak, who attends Our Lady of Peace School in Erie, took first place in the 2012 diocesan spelling bee with "rhubarb" as the winning word.

Participants included 21 students who each won their individual Catholic school's spelling bee. Students in grades 4-6 were eligible. The event was sponsored by the Diocese of Erie's Catholic Schools Office.

The top winners received monetary prizes including \$100 for first place, \$75 for second place and \$50 for third place. Two students tied for third with each receiving \$50.



Pictured left to right are: Alyssa Van Slyke from St. James School, Erie, and Isaac Gradl from St. Boniface School, Kersey (tied, third place); Meghan Graeca from DuBois Central Catholic Middle School (second place); and Sara Prischak from Our Lady of Peace School, Erie (first place).

Anniversary celebrations



Couples celebrating 25, 50 or 60 years of marriage in 2012 are invited to attend the annual Diocesan Anniversary Celebrations on Sunday, Aug. 12 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Erie or Sunday, Aug. 19 at St. Catherine of Siena in DuBois.

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 register online at www.eriecfd.org/familylifeoffice.asp.

IN THE U.S.

Georgetown criticized for having Sebelius speak at commencement

Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius delivered her remarks as scheduled May 18 at Georgetown University at an awards ceremony during the university's commencement week events. The Archdiocese of Washington was among those who strongly criticized her appearance at the Catholic university because of her role in the HHS contraceptive mandate.

A May 15 statement from the archdiocese noted that because of the "dramatic impact this mandate will have on Georgetown and all Catholic institutions, it is understandable that Catholics across the country would find shocking the choice of Secretary Sebelius, the architect of the mandate, to receive such special recognition at a Catholic university. It is also understandable that Catholics would view this as a challenge to the bishops."

Franciscan University drops student health insurance plan

Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio, is discontinuing its student health insurance plan in the upcoming school year in opposition to the Obama administration's mandate requiring most religious employers, including colleges, to provide no-cost contraceptive and sterilization coverage in its health insurance plans. Media outlets announced that the university was the first Catholic college to drop students from its health insurance plan because of the contraception mandate required by the Department of Health and Human Services.

"We never thought we would be in the position to choose between faith and health care," said Michael Hernon, vice president of advancement, adding that the university's decision was not just to protect its student liberty but to prevent its students from paying increased costs of religious health care insurance with the new federal health care policy. The statement on the university's website outlining the new policy says: "We will not participate in a plan that requires us to violate the consistent teachings of the Catholic Church on the sacredness of life."

AROUND THE WORLD

Secular society needs Catholicism, pope tells U.S. bishops

In five speeches over a period of six months, Pope Benedict XVI warned visiting U.S. bishops of the threats that an increasingly secular-

ized society poses to the Catholic Church in America, especially in the areas of religious liberty, sexual morality and the definition of marriage. Yet the pope did not advise that American Catholics withdraw from a largely hostile environment in order to preserve their values and faith.

Instead, as part of his call for a new evangelization within the church and beyond, he urged believers to engage even more closely with wider society for the benefit of all Americans. Pope Benedict addressed regional groups of U.S. bishops making their periodic "ad limina" visits to the Vatican, which began in late November and ended May 19. The speeches touched on themes applicable to dioceses across the country. One constant was the pope's warning against the demoralizing effects of secular culture, which he said had led to a "quiet attrition" among the church's members, who must therefore be the first targets of "re-evangelization."

AT THE MOVIES

Film revisits the many sides of Mexico's Cristero Rebellion

"For Greater Glory" is a powerful historical drama recounting the persecution of the Catholic Church during Mexico's three-year Cristero Rebellion in the 1920s under the presidency of Plutarco Calles and the popular reactions — both peaceful and violent — it provoked. The fact-based, faith-quickening movie tells the story of the rebellion that saw Catholic clergy and laity taking up arms to oppose government efforts to harshly restrict the influence of the church and defend religious freedom.

In the end, the rebellion of the Cristero — soldiers for Christ — was quelled in 1929, leaving the church sidelined for much of the last century and its role limited to a pastoral concern with no say in the public policy arena. "What price would you pay for freedom?" posed the synopsis for the movie, which stars Andy Garcia and Eva Longoria and opened June 1.



Bishop Donald Trautman met with Pope Benedict XVI during his "ad limina" visit Dec. 5 at the Vatican.



Andy Garcia stars in a scene from "For Greater Glory."

By the Way...

Bishop Donald Trautman will offer Mass for the intentions of all the donors of the 2012 Catholic Services Appeal on Saturday, June 16 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie at 5 p.m. The annual appeal helps fund the day-to-day operations and expenses of numerous diocesan ministries throughout our 13 counties.



Jason Koshinski

"Celebrating the Eucharist for our donors is the best way I can say thank you," Bishop Trautman said.

Jean Heintzel, a parishioner from St. Julia Parish in Erie, tells us that she's had many inquiries about her rosary book for children. Heintzel and her book, "A Very Special Bouquet," were featured in the May 6 issue of *FaithLife*. Copies of the paperback book, which cost \$5 each, can be ordered by sending an e-mail request to jhb112@yahoo.com.

Dr. Michael DeSanctis, a liturgical design consultant and professor of fine arts at Gannon University, has an article on church architecture featured in the May 28 issue of *American* magazine, the national Catholic weekly published by the Jesuits. In his article, "Upon This Foundation: Are new church designs taking us backward?" DeSanctis looks at the trend toward building new Catholic churches using elements of traditional design.

The online version of the essay is available at www.americamagazine.org. Accompanying the article is a slideshow featuring several churches not mentioned in the article. The entire issue of the magazine is dedicated to liturgy and design. DeSanctis' piece is based in part on a paper he delivered a few weeks ago at a conference at Walsh University in North Canton, Ohio, titled, "Vatican II Reconsidered."

The diocese's Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry is already working on how to top this year's middle school youth rally. More than 700 youth from every corner of the diocese attended the April 29 event at St. Mark Catholic Center in Erie.

Father Steve Schreiber, who directs the youth office, program coordinator Kathleen Peterson and the many volunteers did an amazing job engaging the youth for a fun day centered on Christ.

Save the date for the next youth rallies. The high school youth rally is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 30 at Elk County Catholic High School in St. Marys. Next year's middle school youth rally will take place on Sunday, April 28 at Kennedy Catholic Middle School in Hermitage.

We offer our condolences to two diocesan priests who recently lost a parent. Jack Brown, father of Father Tom Brown, pastor of St. Raphael in Eldred, St. Mary in Sartwell and St. Theresa in Shinglehouse, died May 9 in Medford, N.J. Rosella Marconi, mother of Father Ted Marconi, pastor of Our Lady of Peace in Erie, died May 12 in Kane. Let us keep Father Brown, Father Marconi and their families in our prayers.

Jason Koshinski is editor of *FaithLife*. Contact him at JKoshinski@ErieRCD.org or 814.824.1171.

Diocese, church agencies join others in seeking to overturn HHS mandate

LAWSUIT, from page 1

religious liberties guaranteed by the First Amendment, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act and other federal laws."

The suit is one of 12 that were filed simultaneously across the nation May 21 in a coordinated, grassroots effort from dioceses, Catholic schools and universities, Catholic health systems and Catholic charitable organizations, all of which would be forced by the federal mandate to facilitate and fund activities that violate their religious and moral convictions.

While other Catholic organizations have filed suit, this is the first time Catholic dioceses have taken legal action in an attempt to stop the mandate.

The Diocese of Erie, through its agencies, schools and affiliates, has provided numerous services to people of all faiths for nearly 160 years.

St. Martin Center provides individuals and families with social services, housing services, an early learning center and hospitality industry training, among others. Prince of Peace Center provides various social and self-sufficiency services including family support services, emergency assistance programs, a thrift store, a soup kitchen, computer classes for

From the U.S. Constitution: The First Amendment of the Bill of Rights

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

adults and various programs and charity drives.

"The government has created an extremely narrow definition of organizations it deems sufficiently religious to be exempt from this mandate," Bishop Trautman said. To be considered a "religious employer" for purposes of the mandate, he said a Catholic organization must — among other requirements — serve primarily Catholics.

"The Diocese of Erie, St. Martin Center and the Prince of Peace Center do not meet the government's stringent definition of religious employer because they serve a diverse group of people with great needs, many of whom are not Catholic," Bishop Traut-

man said. "The church does not consider whether or not a person is Catholic when determining whom we serve, he continued. "As Catholics, we believe our neighbors deserve compassion because of their inherent human dignity, not because of their religious beliefs. In effect, the mandate would prohibit us from asking what we've asked for more than 200 years in the history of our nation. Rather than asking people in need, 'How can we help?' the church and its agencies would have to also ask, 'Are you Catholic?'"

Because the diocese and its organizations serve the public without regard to their faith, Bishop Trautman said they would be severely hurt in their outreach efforts.

Erin Shields, HHS director of communications for health care, said that the department cannot comment on pending litigation. In a statement, Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, applauded the Catholic agencies for filing the individual lawsuits saying the

Twelve lawsuits filed in grassroots effort against HHS mandate

LIST, from page 1

- Southern District of Ohio (Columbus Division)
 - Franciscan University of Steubenville
 - Michigan Catholic Conference
- Southern District of Mississippi (Gulfport Division)
 - Diocese of Jackson
 - Diocese of Biloxi
 - Catholic Charities of Jackson
 - Vicksburg Catholic School
 - St. Joseph Catholic School
 - De l'Epee Deaf Center
 - Catholic Social & Community Services
 - Resurrection Catholic School
 - Sacred Heart Catholic School
 - St. Dominic-Jackson Memorial Hospital
- Northern District of Indiana (South Bend Division)
 - University of Notre Dame
- Northern District of Indiana (Fort Wayne Division)
 - Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
 - Catholic Charities of Fort Wayne-South Bend
 - St. Anne Home
 - Franciscan Alliance
 - Our Sunday Visitor
 - University of Saint Francis
- Northern District of Illinois
 - Diocese of Joliet
 - Diocese of Springfield
 - Catholic Charities of Joliet
 - Catholic Charities of Springfield
- Eastern District of Missouri (St. Louis Division)
 - Archdiocese of St. Louis
 - Catholic Charities of St. Louis

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services mandate violates religious freedom.

"We have tried negotiation with the administration and legislation with the Congress — and we'll keep at it — but there's still no fix," Cardinal Dolan said. "Time

is running out, and our valuable ministries and fundamental rights hang in the balance, so we have to resort to the courts now."

Though the USCCB is not a party to the lawsuits, Cardinal Dolan is listed as a plaintiff in the Archdiocese of New York's suit.

Visit www.eriecd.org/lawsuit.asp to view the complete statement, full lawsuit complaint or to send a message to HHS and your elected officials in support of religious liberty.

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Briefly

Irish singer Dana to perform in DuBois

DUBOIS - St. Michael the Archangel Parish in DuBois will kick off its 100th anniversary celebration with a concert by international Irish singer Dana Scallon on Tuesday, June 5 at 7 p.m. at the church, 15 Robinson St. in DuBois.

Dana is established as one of Ireland's most successful entertainers, having enjoyed outstanding acclaim through best-selling Catholic and commercial recordings and major headlining concerts both in Ireland and abroad. Her song, "We Are One Body," was chosen as the theme song for World Youth Day in 1993 which she performed for Pope John Paul II.

Tickets are free but required and must be reserved in advance. For tickets, call St. Michael the Archangel Parish at 814.371.5773 using Ext. 1 or 2. For more information on Dana, visit www.dana-music.com.



Dana Scallon

Organ concert at St. Peter Cathedral, Erie

ERIE - An organ concert will be held at St. Peter Cathedral, 230 W. 10th St. in Erie, on Sunday, June 10 at 4 p.m.

The concert will feature Pittsburgh native Nicholas Capozzoli, a student at the Oberlin College Conservatory of music. This event is free and open to the public.

Rwanda genocide survivor to speak in DuBois

DUBOIS - Immaculee Ilibagiza, a Rwanda genocide survivor, will speak about her experiences of "Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust" on Wednesday, June 13 at DuBois Area Middle School, 404 Liberty Blvd. in DuBois.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with the event beginning at 7.

Immaculee is the author of "Left to Tell" and "The Boy Who Met Jesus." A book signing will take place following her presentation.

Tickets are \$15. To order, call Tillie at 814.371.4116, Marie at 814.375.4667, Ben and Peggy at 814.781.1633, Bill at 814.371.1765 or Jeff at 814.541.4913.

To learn more about Immaculee Ilibagiza's story, visit her website at www.immaculee.com. This event is sponsored by The Holy Family in St. Marys.



Immaculee Ilibagiza

Bone marrow drive at St. George, Erie

ERIE - A bone marrow drive will take place at St. George Parish, 5145 Peach St. in Erie, on Saturday, June 23 from 1-4:30 p.m.

Sponsored by Be The Match Foundation, discover if you may be a match for someone with a life threatening illness in need of a bone marrow or stem cell transplant. Become a member of a donor list with a simple non-invasive test done by a qualified medical person on site.

For more information, visit www.marow.org or contact Cathy Dudenhofer at 814.868.0888 or Ellie Gavio at 814.864.0729. The drive is in memory of Sherry Cipolla.

Religious scouting awards recognize faith development

SCOUTS, from page 1

"You earned your badges, medals and emblems by growing in your knowledge of Jesus and helping your neighbor," he said. "We are proud of you."

Several parish scouting programs received the Bishop Trautman Honor Unit Award, which is given to programs that have demonstrated outstanding leadership, service and worship during the year. Recipients included Boy Scout Pack 82 of St. James, Erie, Frenchcreek Council, and Girl Scouts from Our Lady of Peace, Erie.

Our Lady of Peace, Erie,

Troop 59 also received the Pope Paul VI Catholic Quality Unit Award, which is based on adult leadership training in Catholic Scouting development and scout participation in the religious emblems program.

The Diocese of Erie once again received the Quality Unit Award from the National Catholic Committee for Boy Scouting. A quality diocese must achieve a number of objectives determined by the national committee.

For more information on scouting in the Diocese of Erie, contact the Scouting Office at 814. 824.1213 or visit www.ErieRCD.org.



Bishop Donald Trautman pins the Ad Altare Dei Cross on Timothy Caulfield from St. George in Erie. The Ad Altare Dei Cross is given in recognition to a Scout in 7th or 8th grade for advancement in the study of the sacraments.

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June 27, Holy Rosary 3rd Annual Four-Person Golf Scramble
Venango Valley Golf Course
\$75 per person, \$300 per foursome; includes golf and cart, lunch, beverages, raffle prizes, Chinese auction, 50/50 and steak dinner. Proceeds benefit Holy Rosary Church, Erie. Deadline to register is June 10, 2012. Contact Ken at 814-825-7375 to register and/or for more info.

June 23 St. Bernadette Chicken BBQ
222 Renner Ln., Saegerstown
12-7 pm; sausage sandwiches, hot dogs, cake and ice cream topped with strawberries. Children's menu, auction, raffle, bake sale. 814-763-2831.

July 4, St. Joseph's 73rd Annual 4th of July Celebration
St. Joseph Parish Grounds, 112 Rectory Lane, Lucinda (along Rt. 66).
11 am-4 pm, rain or shine. Canopy-covered and handicap accessible. Chicken and ham dinners, soup with homemade noodles and homemade pies. Dinner tickets on sale at 10 am; dinner: 11 am-3 pm; takeouts: 11 am-2 pm; adult: \$7.50, child 6-12: \$3.50, 6 and under: free. Games of skill and chance, live entertainment, bingo and over \$35,000 in cash and prizes including 25 handmade quilts.
www.st-joseph-lucinda.org; 814-226-7288.

July 8, SummerFest '12 Our Lady of Mercy
837 Bartlett Rd., Harborcreek
Noon-5 pm; BBQ chicken dinner, something for everyone: raffles, game tables, Chinese auction, children's activities, hand-crafted items and bake sale; 814-899-5342.

July 26 St. Teresa of Avila Parish Lawn Festival
9 Third Ave., Union City
5-9 pm, rain or shine; games, food, raffles, prizes, Chinese auction, pony rides, bake sale, crafts and music. Grand prize drawing (\$500) and other prizes awarded at 9 pm (need not be present to win). Come to the festival for good food, family fun and games; 814-438-2000.

July 29 116th Annual Ham or Chicken Dinner
St. Hippolyte, 26012 N. Frenchtown Rd. on Rt. 27, Frenchtown
Dinners served Noon-6 pm (or until sold out): 1/2 chicken or ham, homemade pies. Noon to 7 pm: games, bingo, Chinese auction, quilt/afghan raffle, kids area. Shuttle service to parking areas; takeouts available. Adult: \$8.50, senior citizen: \$7.50, child: \$5.50; 814-789-2022.

August 3-5 St. Cosmas and Damian Lawn Festival
615 W. Mahoning St., Punxsutawney
Fri. and Sat., 6-11 pm; Sun., 12:30-11 pm. Grand prize: 2012 Chevy Equinox or \$18,000. Food, fun, Sunday buffet and strawberries. Children's menu, auction, raffle, bake sale. 814-938-6540.
www.sscdchurch.com, 814-938-6540.

August 5 Polka in the Forest
St. Anthony Parish/St. Paul Center
7266 Rt. 6 Sheffield (Saybrook) 2-6 pm; \$10 per person; The Boys Band from Baltimore, MD; food and beverages available; for tickets/info: 814-968-5915 or stanthony@windstream.net.

August 10-12 St. Paul Italian Festival
453 W. 16th St., Erie; Fri., 6-10 pm; Sat., 1-10 pm; Sun., 12-8 pm. Friday: 5:15 pm Mass, pasta fagioli dinner and music by The Contels from 6-10 pm; Saturday: 4:30 pm Mass and music by The 4-Jays from 6-10 pm; Sunday: 11 am Mass followed by procession of the Virgin Mary statue, spaghetti dinner from 12-5 pm and music by Ruby Port from 5-9 pm. Daily activities include: home-made foods, games, prizes, bingo, games of chance and children's activities. Free trolley shuttle service from Erie Central Mall or from parking lot at 18th and Hickory St.; 814-459-3173.

August 24-26 19th Annual Zabawa Polish Heritage Festival
Holy Trinity Church, E. 23rd and Reed streets, Erie; Fri., 5-10 pm; Sat., 1-10:30 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm.
Polka Mass: Sat. at 5 pm, Sun. at 11 am. Live music with nationally known bands, Polish kitchen and bakery, drawings, theme baskets, auction, games, children's activities area, folk dancers and free admission! Handicapped accessible; Additional parking and trolley to grounds from St. Peter & Paul Church lot. 814-456-0671, www.holytrinityrc.org.

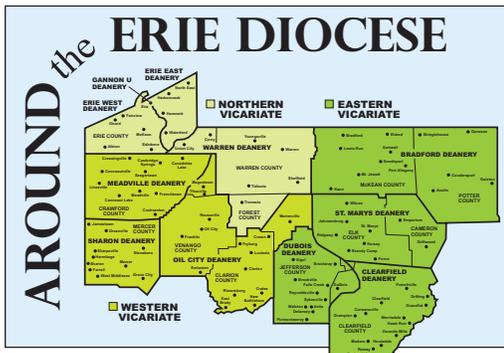
September 14-16 St. Patrick Annual Erie Irish Festival
Rainbow Gardens at Waldameer Park, intersection of 6th and 8th streets. Plenty of continuous Celtic live entertainment, dance, food, bakery and family fun! 814-454-8085, www.ErieIrishFestival.com.

September 15 St. Anthony Festival and Chicken BBQ
St. Anthony Parish Center, South Main St., Cambridge Springs.
4-10 pm; bingo, bake sale, basket auction, big basket raffle and games. BBQ chicken dinners: \$8, takeouts available. Tickets on sale now at St. Anthony's or by calling 814-398-4234.

October 7 Sacred Heart Parish Day/Raffle
816 W. 26 St., Erie
Noon-6 pm; includes roast beef meal and raffle: 2012 SLP Camaro "ZL 585" or \$40,000, 585 horsepower, #21. Tickets: \$10 each, 3 for \$20, 10 for \$50. Winner announced at dinner time (need not be present to win). 814-456-6256; www.winahotcamaro.com.

October 12-14 Oktoberfest
St. Joseph/Bread of Life Community 24th and Sassafras Sts., Erie
Authentic German food and music. Friday: Jackson Station; Saturday: Man's Room Band; Sunday: The Mad Bavarian; 814-452-2982.

Sizzlin' Summer Parish Events



AROUND the

ERIE DIOCESE

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 <mailto:FaithLife@ErieRCD.org>

Photo Tips

Quick, important tips for taking good digital pictures. <http://www.ErieRCD.org/faithlife.asp>



SSCD students place in American Legion essay contest

PUNXSUTAWNEY — The American Legion Post 62 Auxiliary recently sponsored an essay contest on the theme "How Can I Show My Patriotism in My Community?"

Three hundred and sixty-five students from Punxsutawney area schools participated. Of the 14 winners chosen, three were from St. Cosmas and Damian School in Punxsutawney.

Maggie Prutzal (7th grade) was a first-place winner at both the local and bi-county level. **Emily Griebel** (5th grade) was a first-place winner at the local level and also placed second at the bi-county level. **Mia Lingenfelter** (6th grade) was a third-place winner.

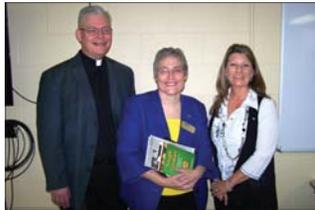


Each student received a certificate and monetary reward, and the two county-level winners were guests at the dinner meeting April 12 where they had the opportunity to read their essays. Pictured left to right are Lingenfelter, Prutzal and Griebel displaying their award certificates from the American Legion essay contest.

CDA in Clarion raise funds for outreach program

CLARION — The Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court 2454 from Immaculate Conception Parish in Clarion raised \$1235 for Charitable Deeds and Services, a local outreach program that serves the poor and needy in Clarion, Venango and Forest counties and other surrounding areas of western Pennsylvania.

The funds came from book review luncheons sponsored by the court on April 11, 18 and 25. **Father Monty Sayers**, pastor of Immaculate Conception, reviewed "11/22/63" by Stephen King; **Dr. Karen Whitney**, regent of Clarion University, reviewed "Tough Cookies" by Kathy Clon-



ing, and **Dr. Donna Poljanec**, retired Clarion University faculty member, reviewed "Welcome to Your Brain" by Sandra Amoldt and Sam Wang. Pictured are Father Sayers, Dr. Whitney and **Jolene Cypfert**, regent of Court 2454.

Students from Holy Family School, Erie, participate in May crowning

ERIE — Students from Holy Family School in Erie participated in the May crowning on May 11 at St. Ann Church in Erie. The children, along with **Sister Kevin Berdis**, OSF, principal of Holy Family, joined **Father James O'Hara** and **Father Jerry Priscaro** for Mass followed by recitation of the Divine Mercy chaplet and the rosary.

Pictured left to right are **Angelina Conners**, crown bearer **Ryan**



Dizins, **Savanna Chrzanowski**, who crowned the statue of the Blessed Mother, and **Casimara Berdis**.

Young restaurateurs at St. Joseph School, Lucinda

LUCINDA — Sixth graders at St. Joseph School in Lucinda recently traded in their textbooks and pencils for aprons and placemats. Through the Junior Achievement program, the young entrepreneurs opened their own Italian restaurant, The Olive Terrace, at St. Joseph Parish's social hall.

Students organized a full menu of pizza, ravioli, spaghetti, garlic bread, pudding and other items and sent out menus in advance. Dressing the part of hosts and servers, students decorated the hall to give diners a true restaurant experience. Parents signed up to help with food service in the kitchen.

Students served lunch for a day to teachers, staff and their fellow students in preschool through fifth grade.

Menu items were priced for a



nominal fee to help cover costs. After covering their expense, the students were left with a profit of \$123.25, which they donated to the mission trip funds of AIM USA (Alliance for International Monasticism). This Junior Achievement activity was under the direction of instructor and coordinator **Janet Hanst**. Pictured left to right are (front row) **Josh Homan**, **Marion Bauer**, **Brandon Fitzgerald**, (back row) **Kera Cuzzins**, sixth grade teacher **James Steudler** and **Kyle Moore**.

People in the News

Sisters of St. Joseph trained as presenters on human trafficking

ERIE — The Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania hosted a workshop to train individuals in offering basic presentations on the reality of human trafficking as a global, national and local issue. The workshop was held April 13 at the Sisters of St. Joseph Community Living Center.

The workshop, an effort of the Collaborative Initiative to End Human Trafficking, a program of Humility of Mary Housing, Inc., was presented by **Sister Anne Victory**, HM, MSN, education coordinator, Collaborative Initiative Sisters of the Humility

of Mary of Cleveland, and **Sister Marilyn Nichol**, CSI, MSW, justice coordinator of the Congregation of St. Joseph in Cleveland.

Nineteen participants completed the workshop training and are qualified to conduct presentations in the community. They are: **Sister Mary Claire Kennedy**, SSJ



Sister Mary Claire Kennedy, SSJ

Kennedy, SSJ; **Sister Mary Fronk**, SSJ; **Sister Marie Stuckert**, SSJ; **Sister Natalie Rossi**, RSM; **Sister Bernadette Bell**, RSM; **Carol Finotti** and **My Blackman** of the Crime Victims Center; SSJ Associates **Deb Seng** and **Donna Nicholas**. Fifteen others attended as observers but were not being trained as presenters.

If you are interested in arranging a presentation for your group, contact **Sister Mary Claire Kennedy**, SSJ, at 814.836.4153 or e-mail mckennedy@sjerie.org.

Sisters of Mercy named to leadership positions

ERIE — Sisters of Mercy with the New York, Pennsylvania, Pacific West Community elected two sisters from Erie to leadership during a major assembly in Buffalo April 17-22.

Sister JoAnne Courneen, RSM, was elected president of the five-member leadership team;



Sister JoAnne Courneen, RSM

Sister Natalie Rossi, RSM, was selected as councilor. **Sister JoAnne** is a councilor on the current leadership team, while **Sister Natalie** is the local leader for Erie.

Round- ing out the new team are **Sisters Patricia Prinzing**, RSM, of Rochester, vice presi-



Sister Natalie Rossi, RSM

dent, and councilors **Sister Sheila Stevenson**, RSM, of Rochester and **Sister Sheila Walsh**, RSM, of Buffalo. Their terms begin on July 1.

Nearly 250 sisters, Mercy Associates and support staff attended the assembly at the Millennium Hotel.

The New York, Pennsylvania, Pacific West Community is one of six reconfigured communities of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas. Based in Buffalo, it also includes Erie, Pittsburgh, Rochester and the Philippines.

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Tuscany/Assisi/Cinque Terre: September 3-14 ...

France/Portugal/Spain: June 30-July 12, Sept. 1-13 ...

Ireland/Scotland: June 24-July 6, June 30-July 12 ...

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