

We love a parade

Diocesan groups make appearance in Perry 200 event, page 2.



FaithLife

It's a home run!
Venango Catholic honors former headmaster, page 3.



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BI-WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

June 9, 2013

Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

Feast days



St. Barnabas St. Anthony of Padua

June 11 St. Barnabas
June 13 St. Anthony of Padua
June 21 St. Aloysius of Gonzaga
June 22 St. John Fisher and Thomas More

Confirmations

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

St. Andrew, Erie — Sun., June 9 at 11 a.m. Confirmation classes include St. Andrew, Sacred Heart and St. Paul, Erie.

St. Eulalia, Coudersport — Sat., June 15 at 5 p.m. Confirmation classes include St. Eulalia, Coudersport and St. Gabriel, Port Allegany.

Clergy appointments

The Most Rev. Lawrence Persico, J.C.L., Bishop of Erie, makes the following clergy appointments:



Monsignor Charles Kaza, re-appointed to the office of pastor, Saint Tobias Parish, Brockway, effective May 14, 2013 for a term of six years

Father James McCormick, re-appointed to the office of pastor, Saint James Parish, Erie, effective May 14, 2013 for a term of six years

Father Scott Detisch, re-appointed to the office of pastor, Holy Cross Parish, Fairview, effective May 14, 2013 for a term of six years

Father Michael Ferrick, to the office of rector of Saint Peter Cathedral, Erie, effective June 10, 2013, term unspecified

Retiring from the active ministry with Bishop Persico's approval are:

Father Thaddeus Kondzielski effective April 29, 2013

Monsignor William Biebel effective June 10, 2013

JUNE 21 to JULY 4, 2013
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World Youth Day locations

- 1987 Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1989 Santiago de Compostela, Spain
- 1991 Czestochowa, Poland
- 1993 Denver, Colorado, United States
- 1995 Manila, Philippines (The closing Mass, attended by 5 million youth, was recognized as the largest crowd ever assembled by Guinness World Records.)
- 1997 Paris, France
- 2000 Rome, Italy
- 2002 Toronto, Canada
- 2005 Cologne, Germany
- 2008 Sydney, Australia
- 2011 Madrid, Spain



Tornadoes exact deadly toll

'Outpouring of prayer, love and support'

Catholic News Service

OKLAHOMA CITY (CNS) — As communities across central Oklahoma continued to recover from the "powerful and deadly tornadoes" of May 19 and 20, they have experienced an "overwhelming" outpouring of "prayer, love and support from across our great state and from around the nation," said Oklahoma City's Archbishop Paul S. Coakley.

Even after the initial death toll was cut by more than half, the human and material devastation of a string of tornadoes that buffeted areas of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City May 19-20 was incalculable. "Our first concern is for the victims who have lost their lives or loved ones and suffered injury or loss of property," the archbishop said. "We are moved by the efforts of the first responders who have put their own lives on hold to help in this time of need. We owe them a debt of gratitude and assure them of our prayers."

St. Andrew the Apostle Church in Moore, an Oklahoma City suburb that bore the brunt of the EF5 tornado that hit mid-afternoon May 20, was spared. Ordained to the priesthood in the Diocese of Wichita, Kan., Archbishop Coakley said he had been in Wichita attending to matters dealing with the estate of his recently deceased father when he got word of the first round of storms. "I immediately returned, soon after the storms had gone through. But it was impossible to get into Moore. I-35 was closed down," the archbishop told CNS. "It was

just utter chaos there. There was a lot of debris in the roads and utter gridlock." He added the Our Lady of Guadalupe Youth Camp had suffered "some pretty severe structural damage" in the initial round of tornadoes May 19. The revised number of those confirmed dead stood at 24, including at nine children. News reports also said that more than 200 people were injured. Archbishop Coakley said the consensus is that this twister "even surpasses the one that's become the most well-known one in Oklahoma — May 3, 1959. They're saying that this one appears to have been even greater in terms of damage and property that has been destroyed."

Officials with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul met with members of the society's local conferences in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City to assess needs of tornado victims throughout the state.

Elizabeth Disco-Shearer, executive director of the society's south-central region, told Catholic News Service her three-member team traveled to the site from West Texas, as where she was assisting families who lost homes in a mammoth fertilizer factory explosion April 17. Disco-Shearer has been scrambling of late; her office also was assisting families in the north Texas communities of Granbury and Cleburne struck by violent tornadoes in mid-May. "Catholic Charities OKC and we as an archdiocese will work with many others to ensure a smooth and compre-



An aerial view shows homes destroyed by an EF5 tornado in a neighborhood in Moore, Okla., May 21. The city of Moore was the epicenter of the tornado the previous day that decimated neighborhoods in the Oklahoma City area, leaving a 20-mile path of death and destruction.

CNS photo/Rick Wilking, Reuters

hensive response not only to the immediate needs of those affected by the violent storms, but also to their long-term needs as they rebuild their lives." Archbishop Coakley said in a statement.



A massive tornado approaches the town of Moore, Okla., May 20.

CNS photo/Richard Rowe, Reuters

In a May 21 letter to Archbishop Coakley, Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, president of the U.S. Bishops' conference said, "Our hearts ache with you. The deaths of so many, especially beloved children in their

Collection for needs of storm victims and the church to be taken June 15-16

Bishop Lawrence Persico has directed pastors in the Diocese of Erie to take up a collection the weekend of June 15-16 to help those in need as a result of the tragedy in Moore, Oklahoma and other disasters that could likely occur this year.

This request comes as a result of a letter from Cardinal Timothy Dolan, president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, who noted that, "Unfortunately, devastating storms and natural disasters are becoming more and more commonplace." Referring to the ongoing needs of victims of Hurricane Sandy, the cardinal said, "the church must serve as a primary source of healing and peace when tragedies such as this occur."

The funds collected in this one-time special appeal for the 2013 storms and disasters will be used to support the efforts of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic Charities, USA, the official domestic relief agency of the U.S. Catholic Church, as they respond to immediate emergency needs for such necessities as water, food, shelter and medical care, as well as to the long-term need to rebuild after widespread destruction, and for the pastoral and reconstruction needs of the church.



school, call us to join you and the faithful of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in prayer for the consolation of all who feel this terrible loss."

Contributing to this story were Mark Pattison, Dennis Sadowski and Patricia Zapor in Washington.

Pilgrims from diocese prepare to attend World Youth Day

CNS and FaithLife staff

Amanda Novosel, a member of Queen of the Americas Parish in Conneaut Lake, will be in the air for more than 24 hours on a round trip flight in July. But she's not thinking about the demands of travel. Instead, she's focused on the adventure that awaits in Rio de Janeiro, where she and four other travelers from the Diocese of Erie will encounter an estimated 2.5 million young people gathering for World Youth Day.

"I've just always wanted to go to World Youth Day," she said, a desire which led her to a connection with Susan Kline of St. Callistus Parish in Kane, who made the pilgrimage to World Youth Day when it was held in Toronto, Canada, in 2002. The group also includes seminarians Gerald Stumpf and Kevin Holland as well as Amanda's sister, Rebecca Novosel.

The pilgrims raised funds for the trip by speaking at Our Lady of Peace Parish in Erie and St. Michael Parish in Greenville. In addition, a benefactor from Our Lady, Queen of the Americas, Patricia Henninger, stepped forth to cover a significant amount of their travel expenses. As they continue working on logistics, the travelers are preparing themselves with prayer.

The theme of World Youth Day 2013, which will be held July 23-28, is: "Go and make disciples of all nations." The highlight for many, including Novosel, will be seeing



Young Catholics receive the World Youth Day cross from sailors of the Brazilian Navy during their arrival at Icarai beach in Niteroi, Brazil, May 19.

CNS photo/Ricardo

the new Holy Father in person. The Brazilian location of World Youth Day 2013 means Pope Francis will return to South America for the first time since he was elected by the College of Cardinals. Ironically, the opportunity echoes the first return trip Pope Benedict made to his native Germany when he traveled to Cologne for World Youth Day 2005.

The Vatican has announced Pope Francis' World Youth Day schedule, which includes a welcome celebration with young people on Rio's famous Copacabana beach, an opportunity to pray the Stations of the Cross together, a night-time prayer vigil and Mass. While planning for the event before his resignation, Pope Benedict XVI invited youth to consider their personal history, looking at how the faith was passed down to them from previous generations. Addressing young Catholics around the world—not just those traveling to Rio—the pope emeritus encouraged them to reach out with love to their questioning or doubting peers, helping them find the hope and meaningful faith brings.

On his trip to Brazil, Pope Francis will also meet with slum-dwellers and powerful politicians, bishops and seminarians as well as prisoners.

The location for both the vigil and the closing Mass will be in Rio de Janeiro's Guarat-

Bluebirds find happiness



Photos by Maggie Hoag

When workers at Calvary Cemetery and Mausoleum in Erie recently went to repair a statue of St. Francis, they were surprised to discover a family of bluebirds had built a nest right inside the wooden sculpture.

Natural weathering has created a few holes in the likeness of the beloved patron saint of animals, carved from a tree several years ago,

creating a perfect setting for the feathered family.

According to Linda Chrzanowski, family services representative at Erie Diocesan Cemeteries, repairs have been put on hold until the birds move out.

The statue can be viewed in section 12 of Calvary Cemetery, 3325 West Lake Road, Erie.

the neighborhood, which was once considered as a possible site for the archdiocesan cathedral. While a different location was eventually selected, in

July, the expected 2.5 million World Youth Day pilgrims will use the location to send a message of witness and discipleship to the entire world.



AROUND THE WORLD

At Roman parish, pope gives children first Communion, catechism lesson

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Visiting an ordinary Roman parish for the first time as the city's bishop, Pope Francis gave a group of children their first Communion and a catechism lesson on the meaning of the Trinity. The pope celebrated Mass May 26, the feast of the Most Holy Trinity, outside the Church of Sts. Elizabeth and Zechariah, about nine miles north of Vatican City in the Rome suburb of Prima Porta. Pope Francis arrived at the church by helicopter shortly after 9 a.m. and went inside to hear the confessions of several people before celebrating Mass at an altar under a canopy in front of the church. In the rural setting of rolling hills, sheep could be seen grazing in a nearby field. "We understand reality better not from the center, but from the outskirts," he told the several thousand people in attendance at the beginning of Mass. Most of the pope's short homily was addressed to the children. "How many gods are there?" he asked. "One? But they told me that there are three: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit! How do you explain that? They are three in one, three persons in one," he said. "The Father creates everything, he creates the world; Jesus saves us," the pope said. "And the Holy Spirit? He loves us! How does Jesus give us strength?" he asked. "In Communion." Then he asked: "Does a piece of bread give you such strength?" Engaging the children in a dialogue, he provided the answer: "It is not really bread. ... It is the body of Jesus."



CNS photo/Paul Harris

First communicants wait in line as Pope Francis celebrates Mass at Sts. Elizabeth and Zechariah Parish on the outskirts of Rome May 26.

he told the several thousand people in attendance at the beginning of Mass. Most of the pope's short homily was addressed to the children. "How many gods are there?" he asked. "One? But they told me that there are three: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit! How do you explain that? They are three in one, three persons in one," he said. "The Father creates everything, he creates the world; Jesus saves us," the pope said. "And the Holy Spirit? He loves us! How does Jesus give us strength?" he asked. "In Communion." Then he asked: "Does a piece of bread give you such strength?" Engaging the children in a dialogue, he provided the answer: "It is not really bread. ... It is the body of Jesus."

Saying kids suffer most, Vatican again calls for end to Syrian violence

GENEVA (CNS) — The Vatican has reiterated its call for negotiations to end the violence in Syria, saying that children are suffering the most. "Silencing the guns is the priority," Archbishop Silvano Tomasi, the Vatican's permanent observer to U.S. agencies in Geneva, told the Human Rights Council May 29 during a debate on Syria. This means people must



CNS photo/Macaffa/Salman, Reuters

A boy displaced by fighting in Syria attends a class in the governorate of Idlib, Syria, May 27.

reject "personal revenge" and the "inordinate ambitions of dominance by any group," he said. Syrian rebels are demanding the resignation of Syrian President Bashar Assad. Both sides have been accused of atrocities. Calling the violence in Syria "the terrain of the violation of all human rights," Archbishop Tomasi said the tragedy risks intensifying regional and global conflicts. He also cited statistics from the more than two years of conflict: Tens of thousands killed; 1.5 million Syrians have fled to other countries; more than 4 million people have lost their homes.

PEOPLE OF FAITH

Competing on game show 'good witness' of joy of giving life to Christ

WASHINGTON (CNS) — "The right earlobe, right thumb and right big toe," answered Sister Peter Joseph. The crowd cheered as host Jeff Foxworthy affirmed her answer to the question of what parts of the body God instructed Moses to anoint. Sister Peter Joseph, along with Sister Mary Suso and Sister Evangeline — from the Ann Arbor, Mich., community of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist — competed in the cable TV show, "The American Bible Challenge." The Game Show Network's most successful show to date, now in its second season, has three teams of three participants in games and trivia to win money for their favorite charity. "It's a great show," Sister Peter Joseph told Catholic News Service in a telephone interview. While she hopes it encourages people to go read the Bible, "at the very least they're learning something from the questions, and it's a very positive game show, which is something exciting nowadays."



CNS photo/Lisa Rose, courtesy GSN

Sister Maria Suso explained, "It's lighthearted, and through it people realize the things they don't know about the Bible. There's so much beauty and humor in the details of the text." The three sisters made it to the finale of the show May 23 but were bested there by the Wagner Warriors, a team of three brothers from Oklahoma.

Sisters Evangeline, Peter Joseph and Maria Suso participate in "The American Bible Challenge." The three Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist made it into the final round of the Bible trivia program on cable TV's Game Show Network. Even though they didn't win, they brought home more than \$55,000 they'll use to support aging members of their Ann Arbor, Mich., order.

By the Way...

I was sorry to hear of the death of Father Andrew Greeley, a Chicago archdiocesan priest and well-known novelist, journalist and sociologist. He was 85 years old. A controversial figure, he dedicated his life to the Catholic Church and loved it deeply. According to Father Greg Sakowicz, who restored the parish in Chicago where Father Greeley often filled in at weekend Masses, "You either loved him, or you just shook your head."

Michelle Martin of the *Catholic New World*, the newspaper of the Archdiocese of Chicago, referenced a 2003 interview in which Father Greeley spoke of the importance of story to the religious imagination, saying he tried with his novels to do what the stained-glass artists of Renaissance Europe did with their windows: to spark the imagination and lead it to faith.



Anne-Marie Welsh

I had the opportunity to interview Father Greeley very early in my career, and will always be grateful for the patience and kindness he showed a very young and inexperienced writer.

On a happier note, Catholic News Service reports that for the second straight year, seminarians at the Pontifical North American College in Rome took home the championship title in a soccer series played each year among various Roman seminaries. The NAC Martyrs beat the Legionaries of Christ's Mater Ecclesiae College 1-0 in the final playoff May 18. The Italian Sports Center, a Catholic sports association that founded the annual soccer series, named it the Clericus Cup—a prize name rivaled, perhaps, only by *Dancing with the Stars'* mirrorball trophy.

Thanks to Father Phil Piniczewski, pastor of St. Callistus Parish in Kane, for letting us know about Deacon David Galvin, who just received the pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Cross, a papal award recognizing priests, religious or laity who have advanced the life and mission of the Catholic Church. Deacon Galvin, a native of Kane, is now a permanent deacon at St. James Parish in Charles Town, West Virginia. He and his wife, Laura, have three children, Hannah, Peter and Claire Mari. He is the son of Dennis and Jari Lee Galvin, who still belong to St. Callistus.

A correction is in order: in the last issue of *FaithLife* I wrote about the egg-hatching success of 5th grade students at Immaculate Conception School in Claron. I listed annual production of eggs in Pennsylvania at just 24,392 per year, leaving off the critical three zeroes at the end of that number. It should, of course, have read 24,392,000.

This is my final edition of *FaithLife* as interim editor; I have thoroughly enjoyed the ride but will happily revert to my role as executive editor with the next issue, which will be overseen by Mary (Benson) Solberg. Some of you may remember her as a writer at the *Lake Shore Visitor*; her most recent work has been with Allegheny College in Meadville. We are most fortunate—her experience, creativity and enthusiasm will serve the diocese well.

Anne-Marie Welsh is serving as interim editor of *FaithLife*. Contact her at amwelsh@ericrcd.org or 814.824.1167.

Diocese well represented at Perry 200 parade

Anne-Marie Welsh
FaithLife

The Catholic population has played a central role in the history of the City of Erie as well as northwest Pennsylvania. So it was with great pride that organizations, parishes and cultural groups associated with the Diocese of Erie participated in the Grand Patriotic Parade as part of the region's Perry 200 Commemoration on Saturday, May 25.

Nestled among larger-than-life balloons of Scooby Doo, Arthur and various all-American symbols were floats celebrating the 50th anniversary of Our Lady of Mount Carmel School and a



Roush Mustang being auctioned off from a number of parishes marched in the parade, including Troop 9 of St. Luke Parish and

Lawrence Persico. Boy Scouts Troop 50 of Our Lady of Peace. Marching bands from Canbada, Philadelphia and several counties within the diocese



represented organizations and schools, while Polish, Irish and Italian communities created floats or participated in the parade in traditional costumes. Father Jay Schultz had fun portraying Archbishop John Mark Gannon in the division dedicated to historic figures and Cursillo—also celebrating a 50-year anniversary this year—shared plenty of colorful spirit with a float depicting the resurrection. A special nod to the people involved with Marriage Encounter who not only garnered attention with their bright yellow "Love Bug" in the parade, but also brought smiles to the crowd with their twist on Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry's famous "Don't give up the Ship" line, with a float that read: "Don't give up the relationship!"

The Perry 200 Commemoration, which will include concerts, lectures and a tall ships festival, recognizes Erie's role in Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry's naval victory in the Battle of Lake Erie during the War of 1812.

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Holy Land/Italy: Aug. 28-Sep. 8, Sep. 2-15, Sep. 9-22, Sep. 16-29, Sep. 23-Oct. 6, Sep. 30-Oct. 13, Oct. 7-20 ...
Italy South: Aug. 31-Sep. 12, Sep. 7-19, Sep. 14-26 ...
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Briefly

Permanent diaconate program offers information sessions throughout diocese

ERIE—Have you been discerning a call to ministry in the church as a permanent deacon? Over the past 20 years, the Diocese of Erie has been blessed with a growing corps of men who have committed their lives in service to the church as permanent deacons. The diocese is currently accepting applications from men who would like to begin exploring the possibility of entering the formation process for the permanent diaconate. Information meetings are being held during June and July at a variety of locations. Sessions are scheduled for:

Tues., June 25 at St. Stephen Parish, 21 State St., Oil City
Thurs., June 27 at St. Elizabeth Parish, 26 W. Pleasant St., Corry
Mon., July 8 at St. Catherine of Siena Parish, 116 S. State St., DuBois, (in social hall under the church)
Thurs., July 11 at St. Callistus Parish, 342 Chase St., Kane.

All of the presentations will begin at 7 pm and will include time for questions and answers. Information about the permanent diaconate, along with a link to the podcast, "Understanding the Diaconate," is available at www.ErieRCD.org/diaconate.asp. Questions? Call Deacon Richard Shewman, associate director of the Permanent Diaconate Program, at 814.824.1140.

Knights of Columbus sponsor Communion breakfast with Bishop Persico

ERIE—The Knights of Columbus Council No. 15035 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie will sponsor a Communion breakfast with the Most Rev. Lawrence T. Persico, J.C.L., as the keynote speaker. The breakfast will be held Sunday, June 30 in the Cathedral Prep cafeteria following the 8:30 am Mass at the cathedral, 230 W. 10th St. in Erie. The menu will include pancakes and eggs with sausage, coffee, tea, milk and juice. Tickets will be available at the door. Cost is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children ages 4-12; children 3 and under are admitted free of charge.

Pa. Catholic Conference urges action on pro-life state HB 818

To ensure that elective abortion is not included in the federal insurance exchange being set up in Pennsylvania, the commonwealth must pass a law. House Bill 818—which the bishops of Pennsylvania support without amendments—will prohibit the taxpayer-supported insurance plans from covering elective abortions. The bill has already passed the Pa. House of Representatives by a vote of 144 to 53. Now it must pass the Senate. Catholic advocates are urged to contact their state senators and ask them to vote yes on HB 818 without amendments. You can let your voice be heard on this issue by clicking a link at www.pacatholic.org designed to connect you to your state reps and senators based on your zip code. You will be able to personalize a message on this vote, or simply forward the one already provided by the PCC.

Studies show that in-person visits from constituents have the most impact on legislators and their staff—more than emails, phone calls and letters. Therefore, the PCC has designed an Advocacy Toolkit for those who would like insight into navigating such a visit. Learn how to set up, attend and follow up on an in-person visit with your legislator. The toolkit is a 6-page PDF that can be downloaded by visiting www.pacatholic.org and typing "toolkit" in the search bar.



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Sisters, students visit NYC to witness profession of vows

Four students who had attended December's Testify retreat at the St. Thomas More House of Prayer joined Sister Kathleen Marie Dietz and Sister Josephine Vuodi of the Spiritual Family The Work on a trip to New York City to witness two novices of the sisters' community profess their vows. The April 20 ceremony was presided over by Cardinal Timothy Dolan, archbishop of New York.

"The students were greatly impressed by the ceremony and found joy in watching the sisters profess their vows," said Sister Josephine.

Hannah Stiller of St. Patrick Parish in Franklin, who interviewed her companions and offered a short reflection on the trip, declared the nine-hour drive to the city "worth every minute of it."

"The beauty and solemnity of the ceremony made for an amazing experience," she said. The students enjoyed the opportunity to see Sister Martina Ortega, F.S.O., of Spain, and Sister Catherine Murphy, F.S.O., of the United States, before they received their robes.

"One of the most memorable parts of the trip was the incredible joy of the ceremony, the joy of the all those who traveled from various parts of the world to take part in this special event," said Nora Wenke, of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Olean, NY. She also called the joy radiating from the faces of the two newly professed sisters "absolutely beautiful."

The young women also had the chance to see a few sights of New York while visiting, but came away from the experience more bolstered by the profession ceremony, which was the main goal of their trip. They were also pleased to meet sisters in attendance from all over the world.

"Just being able to witness the sisters giving themselves wholly and joyfully to God," is a mem-



Newly professed Sister Martina Ortega, F.S.O., left, and Sister Catherine Murphy, F.S.O., right.

ory that stood out strongly for Katie Ahrens of Sacred Heart Parish in Erie. Dr. Nicholas Sala and his wife, Lori, also accompanied the group to New York. The celebration continued in Erie with

a vacation prayer vigil held in Gannon's Mary, Seat of Wisdom Chapel, on April 24 with Bishop Lawrence Persico presiding.

Sister Martina, one of the newly professed, as well as Mother Margaret Binder, F.S.O., superior general, were both present, along with four other sisters of the community.

"Many friends of the Spiritual Family The Work were inspired by Sister Martina's personal witness of how God called her to religious life," said Sister Kathleen, noting that many promised to pray more fervently for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Special thanks to Hannah Stiller for her contribution to this story, as well as Sister Kathleen Marie Dietz, F.S.O.

Venango Catholic surprises Father Malthaner with field dedication

Former Venango Catholic High School Headmaster Father John Malthaner returned to the school as a guest on Friday, May 17, to celebrate Mass with the students. Or so he thought.

After Mass he was taken to a surprise ceremony at the entrance to the school's baseball field, where students unveiled a large stone and plaque.

Knowing Father Malthaner is an avid baseball fan, and in honor of his service and dedication to the school during his 13 years as headmaster, the field was renamed Fr. John Field.

All of the materials to install the marker were donated by area businesses and individuals. Venango Catholic is grateful to Franklin Granite for the stonework; Franklin Bronze Plaques for the plaque, which is a life-



Contributed photos

sized model of "home plate," Venango Supply for delivering the rock and Bob Aaron, who donated the stone.

Five Venango Catholic seniors dug the hole where the stone was placed.

June 15, St. Bernadette Chicken BBQ
222 Renner Ln., Saegertown, 12-7 pm;
sausage sandwiches, hot dogs, pulled pork, BBQ chicken, cakes, ice cream, strawberries. Children's menu, auction, raffle, bake sale, pastry pantry; 814-763-2831.

June 22, Our Lady of Lourdes Old-Fashioned Strawberry Social
251 S. Franklin St., Cochranton 4-7:30 pm;
Ice cream, cake and strawberries: \$3.50. Also available: chicken sandwich, sloppy Joe, hot dogs and homemade macaroni salad; 814-789-2022.

June 23, St. Boniface Parish Old-Fashioned Country Festival
Coleman Center, 9363 Watsburg Rd.
11 am-5 pm; home-style chicken dinner: \$9 adult, \$5 child, \$22 family. Baked chicken, stuffing, green beans, potatoes and gravy, rolls, homemade coleslaw and famous homemade pies. Bluegrass music, barbershop quartet, bake sale, Chinese auction, family games, hay rides, line dancing, country cupboard and classic car show; 814-825-4238.

June 26, Holy Rosary 4th 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. Contact Ken at 814-825-7375 to register and/or for more info.

July 4, St. Joseph's 74th 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: \$8, child 6-12: \$3.50, 5 and under: free. Games of skill and chance, live entertainment, bingo and over \$40,000 in cash and prizes including 25 handmade quilts.
www.st-joseph-lucinda.org; 814-226-7288.

July 14, SummerFest '13 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, fresh funnel cakes and bake sale; 814-899-5342.

July 25 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 28, 117th Annual Frenchtown 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, gift 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 2-4 St. Cosmas and Damian Lawn Festival
616 W. Mahoning St., Punxsutawney
Fri. and Sat., 6-11 pm; Sun., 12:30-11 pm
Grand prize: 2013 Chevy Cruze LTZ RS. Food, fun, Sunday buffet and nightly entertainment. www.sscchurch.com; 814-938-6540.

August 9-11 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 from 6-10 pm; Sunday: 11 am Mass with Bishop Persico followed by procession of the Virgin Mary statue, spaghetti dinner from 12-5 pm and music from 5-9 pm. Daily activities include: homemade 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 23-25 20th 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 with Bishop Persico, 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.
www.holytrinityrc.org; 814-456-0671.

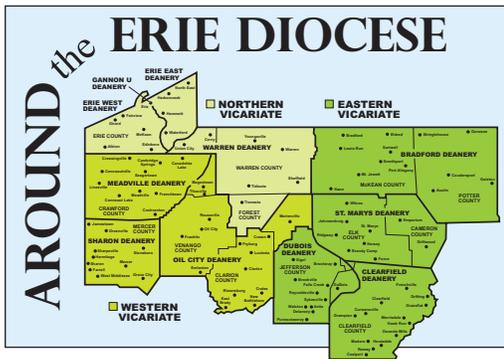
September 15 10th Annual Slavic Festival
St. Peter & Paul Social Center
3415 Wallace St.; Noon to 7 pm.
Welcome Divine Liturgy at 11 am; Ethnic foods and pastries, religious and heritage displays, Polka music by the Mar-Vels, Living Traditions Dance Ensemble performances at 1:30 and 4:30 pm, church tours, gift shops, hourly gas card drawing, gift basket raffle. Free parking and free admission; look for \$1 off coupon in the Erie Times Showcase, Erie Visitor's Guide and at the church website:
www.ericcountycatholic.org; 814-825-8140.

September 21, St. John the Evangelist Roast Beef Dinner
1001 Main Street, Girard
Noon to 10 pm. Food available, roast beef dinner, 3-8 pm.
Music by Timeless, 7-10 pm.
Huge Chinese auction, kid's Chinese auction, casino area for adults.
1st prize: \$2,013, 2nd prize: \$213, 3rd prize: big screen TV; 814-774-4108.

October 6 Sacred Heart Parish Day/Car Raffle
816 W. 26 St., Erie, Noon-6 pm
Roast beef meal and car raffle: 2013 Roush Mustang 3 or \$40,000. Tickets: \$10 each, 3 for \$20, 10 for \$50. Winner announced at dinner time (need not be present to win).
www.winstantang.com; 814-456-6256.

October 11-13, 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



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>



Venango Catholic students shine

VENANGO—Kelsey Ghering of Franklin graduated as Valedictorian of Venango Catholic High School in Oil City this year while LaTrobe Barnitz of Oil City earned the distinction as salutatorian.

Both had the opportunity to speak at graduation in the school's Msgr. Lawrence J. Antoun Auditorium on Sun., June 2.

Ghering, the daughter of John and Holly Ghering of Franklin, will study health sciences at Gannon University in Erie.

Barnitz is the son of LaTrobe and Christine Barnitz of Oil City and will study history at Clarion University of Pennsylvania in Clarion.

One hundred percent of the students in the 2013 graduating class of Venango Catholic are pursuing post-secondary education; two of the 16 classmates



have also committed to military service. The solid education provided by the school is evident as each

member of the class is receiving an average of over \$21,500 in merit-based scholarships for college.

Warren parish makes Year of Faith pilgrimage

WARREN—Latrobe and Pittsburgh were the destinations for parishioners of St. Joseph in Warren who participated in a Year of Faith pilgrimage May 20 and 21.

The pilgrims visited St. Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe as well as a number of churches in Pittsburgh including St. Paul Cathedral and St. Anthony's Chapel, home of more than 5,000 sacred relics.

The group was accompanied by St. Joseph Pastor Father Rich Toohy and seminarian Tom Trocchio. The pilgrims are pictured outside St. Anthony's Chapel in Pittsburgh.



Clarion students raise funds, empathize with the hungry

CLARION—Tenth grade religious education students at Immaculate Conception Parish in Clarion participated in a 24-hour famine March 9 and 10, raising \$750 for the Cancer Care Campaign. During the fast, participants scrubbed pews and helped with a service project for the local fire department. They then celebrated their success with a taco bar after the 11 am Mass.

Pictured is Dr. Joseph Grunewald, chair of the Cancer Care Campaign at the Clarion Hospital, receiving the funds from class members.



Vocations: theme of St. Marys students' visit to Erie



ERIE—Middle school students from the St. Marys area visited with Bishop Lawrence Persico on a special day highlighting vocations on May 6.

This is the second year that the school set aside a day with the 5th grade to underscore the importance of church vocations.

The children visited the Carmelite sisters at Holy Family Monastery as well as various offices at St. Mark Seminary. Before lunch, the students had a chance to meet and interact with Bishop Persico, pictured with students above, who invited them to consider the priesthood or religious life.

Students then toured St. Peter Cathedral where they attended Mass. According to Father Mi-

chael Ferrick, who accompanied the class, students were especially

impressed with the pipe organ and the size of the cathedral.

50 DuBois students + dedication = successful fundraiser



DUBOIS—More than four dozen elementary and middle school students participated in DuBois Central Catholic's 2013 Math-a-thon to raise money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. The service program is de-

signed to help students understand the importance of Christian service and to reach out to those who are less fortunate. The Math-a-thon, the most successful service project the school runs, raised \$3,200 this year.

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FRIENDS OF THE CARMELITES ANNUAL LUNCHEON
 July 17 at 11:30 am; Kahkwa Club, Erie; \$20.00 per person, other donation opportunities at event. Must purchase by June 30. NO tickets at the door. To receive an invitation, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Carmelite Tickets, c/o Susan Mehler-Bostick, 47 September Circle, E. Stroudsburg, PA 18301. Checks payable to Susan. Prize donations: Ann Mehler, 814-864-9124.
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