

Happy Anniversary

Anniversary couples celebrate at Masses in Erie, Punxsutawney, page 3.



FaithLife

Thanks for your service

Serra Club honors women religious at picnic. See *Around the Diocese*, page 4.



www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

August 20, 2006

Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

Opening Mass of the Holy Spirit at Gannon University – Aug. 31

Bishop Donald Trautman will celebrate this Mass for the Gannon community at 11 a.m. in the Friendship Green/Yehl Ballroom.



Feast days

Aug. 21

☩ St. Pius X

Aug. 22

☩ Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Aug. 23

☩ St. Rose of Lima

Aug. 24

☩ St. Bartholomew

Aug. 25

☩ St. Louis of France,
☩ St. Joseph Calasanz

Aug. 28

☩ St. Augustine

Aug. 29

☩ Martyrdom of
☩ St. John the Baptist



St. Pius X



St. John the Baptist

Did You Know?

In 25 years of ministry, **2,000** men have stayed at the Diocesan Lodge, a healing community for men in transition. See our story beginning on this page.

Vatican changes dates for 2008 feasts of St. Joseph, Annunciation

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Because of conflicts in the Catholic Church's liturgical calendar, the Vatican has decided that in 2008 the dates of the feasts of St. Joseph and of the Annunciation of the Lord will be moved.

Working a year-and-a-half in advance to meet the needs of publishers of church calendars, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments published its notification on the 2008 changes in mid-July.

In 2008, if the feast of St. Joseph were to be celebrated as usual on March 19, it would fall on the Wednesday of Holy Week and if the feast of the Annunciation of the Lord were to be celebrated March 25, it would fall on the Tuesday during the octave of Easter.

While the two feasts are among the 14 solemnities marked with special care in the Catholic Church, they do not take precedence over the commemoration of Christ's suffering, death and resurrection.

Therefore, the congregation said, in 2008 the feast of St. Joseph will be celebrated March 15, the day before Palm Sunday, and the feast of the Annunciation will be celebrated March 31, the Monday after the second Sunday of Easter, which also is Divine Mercy Sunday.

Food Aid

Wheat and wheat flour are the most common donated food items, followed by coarse grains and rice.

top food aid recipients (metric tons)

1,097,240

Ethiopia

1,079,560

North Korea

877,590

Sudan

top food aid donors (metric tons)

4,026,382

U.S.

1,500,000

European Union

576,582

China

Source: World Food Program

©2006 CNS

St. Marys pastor returns from service as chaplain in IRAQ



By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

For the past year, providing spiritual and psychological counseling to U.S. troops in Afghanistan and Iraq has been part of Father Frank Ziemkiewicz's mission to serve God and country.

Father Frank, OSB, recently returned stateside and to the Diocese of Erie after a 12-month deployment overseas as a member of the U.S. Army Reserves where he served as chaplain. He has resumed his duties as pastor of St. Mary Parish in St. Marys.

In July 2005, his reserve unit was deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan for what was expected to be a 12- to 18-month deployment. After serving in the ground forces command in Afghanistan for six months, Father Frank was transferred to Baghdad, Iraq in January, where he oversaw the chaplaincy of all U.S. Army forces in the country.

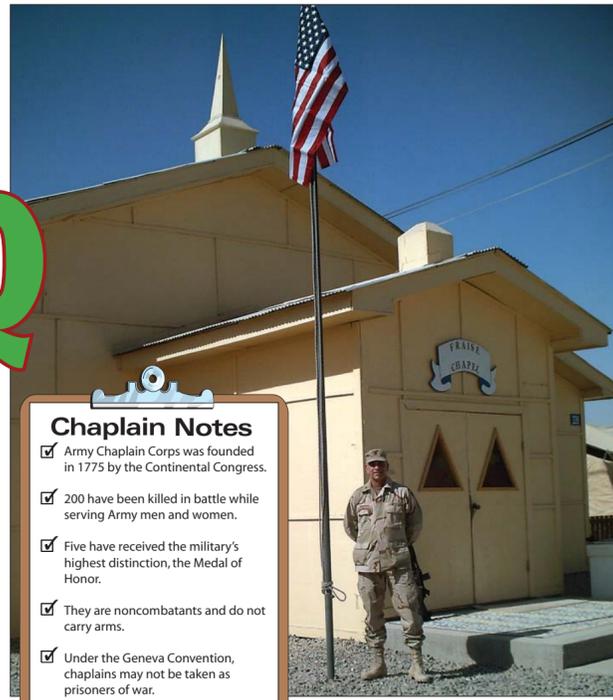
"It was a very rewarding experience," Father Frank

said. "There was a lot of interest about maintaining strong family ties and in general about how to be a better leader. They wanted to know how to best conduct their relationships in a theater such as this."

The Army has been a large part of Father Frank's life for some time. He received a commission in the Army's engineer branch in 1971 through ROTC and served on active duty until 1978. He left active duty to enter the monastery at St. Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, and has served as a reserve officer since his ordination when he transferred from engineer branch to chaplain branch. He also holds the rank of colonel.

He currently serves in the 464th chemical brigade out of Johnstown. Previously he was associated with the 339th general hospital unit of Pittsburgh, which has an element in Erie. He serves as chaplain for both.

"The purpose of the reserves is to augment the active component of the military. I've always believed in the mission of the reserves



Chaplain Notes

☑ Army Chaplain Corps was founded in 1775 by the Continental Congress.

☑ 200 have been killed in battle while serving Army men and women.

☑ Five have received the military's highest distinction, the Medal of Honor.

☑ They are noncombatants and do not carry arms.

☑ Under the Geneva Convention, chaplains may not be taken as prisoners of war.

☑ Military chaplains come from Christian, Muslim and Jewish faiths.

Source: U.S. Army © 2003 CNS Graphics

Father Frank Ziemkiewicz, OSB, stands outside Fraise Chapel in Kandahar, Afghanistan. The chapel is named after a chaplain assistant who was killed in Afghanistan.

and its position in Middle East policy," Father Frank said. "It was consistent with my own support for those missions. For me, it was like putting your money where your mouth is."

His daily duties in Afghanistan and Iraq included ministering to units located in his compound as well as "lots of staff work." When in Iraq, Father Frank was the senior Catholic priest in the country. His position was to advise the command concerning placement and the need for Catholic chaplains

throughout Iraq.

He visited bases to offer Mass for troops on a weekly basis. Confessions were also heard frequently.

"It was a very rewarding task," he said. "Typically I'd hear confessions after Mass but troops would stop by the office and ask me to hear them."

Faced with looming mortality on a daily basis, troops came to Father Frank for one-on-one counseling on how to handle it. They wanted to better their relationships both on the

battlefield and back home. They also wanted to develop their relationship with God, some for the first time. In Afghanistan, he saw a half-dozen troops brought into the Military Archdiocese's RCIA program. Nine more came through the program in Iraq.

Dealing with war-time casualties and its effects hits on the most emotional aspect of Father Frank's ministry.

"In a way it's totally different, and in a way it's

See ST. MARYS PASTOR, page 3

St. Mark's 'on the road' open houses answer questions about seminary

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

Father Edward Lohse wants to make sure a young man thinking about entering seminary has enough information and accurate information before making a decision.

That's why for the last few summers the Erie Diocese's director of vocations has packed up his car and taken St. Mark's Seminary on the road throughout northwest Pennsylvania. He visits with prospective candidates in high school, college or the work force at open houses hosted by parishes throughout the diocese. Their families are also invited.

This summer's open houses were hosted by Notre Dame, Hermitage; St. Mary of Grace, Meadville; St. Mark Seminary, Erie; St. Michael the Archangel, DuBois; and Queen of the World, St. Marys.

Some of those attending an open house typically already know each other through school, parish life or youth activities. Some are classmates, some are even brothers. Some think that they are the only one wondering about these questions and are both surprised and encouraged to find friends and classmates who are thinking the same thing.

The open house sessions begin with Mass and meeting Jesus in the Eucharist. Father Lohse then leads an open discussion about all aspects of seminary life. The atmosphere is very informal and relaxed.



Included in a packet handed out to each attendee are information on seminary life, tuition, curriculum and academic requirements.

The question-and-answers sessions are an open forum. No question is too broad or insignificant. Father Lohse fields questions on his vocation (Was the call gradual or did it hit you all at once?), other interests as potential priests (I'm into engineering. Will I still be able to do that if I'm a priest?) and seminary life (How do seminarians get to Gannon for class?). His answers? Gradual, we'll find a way to use your gifts, and either the seminary van, student cars or the number-seven bus.

If prospective seminarians are unsure if they are called to priesthood but are certain that they want to find out, Father Lohse said St. Mark's is the place for them. "If that's where you're at with this

For more information on St. Mark's Seminary, visit www.erievocations.org or call 1.800.374.3723 or 814.824.1200 or e-mail vocations@ErieRCD.org.

To read Father Lohse's steps on prayerful decision making, visit www.ErieRCD.org.

To register, call 814.824.1200 or 800.374.3723 or e-mail vocations@ErieRCD.org.

question, then this is the place to come to find out," he told the Erie group. "This is a place designed toward helping a young man find out if he is called to be a priest."

Father Lohse points out that the simplest way to spend some time in the seminary to discern a possible vocation to the priesthood with the least possible disruption to academic and personal life is as a college freshman. "Think about it," he said. "You have to take your freshman year of classes anyway, it doesn't delay your college graduation, you learn a lot about God and life and yourself, and you have the opportunity to spend a year discerning your life's vocation in a nurturing environment. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain."

Students at St. Mark's live lives grounded in Christ, he said. They build each other up in becoming good, Christian men and they challenge each other to do so.

"They're also college students and in many ways they lead normal college lives," Father Lohse said. "For example, when Gannon is not in session, neither is the seminary. In the summer, we encourage them to get a job, spend time with their friends and with their family, and stay connected to God."

Lodge, Maria House Project celebrates 25 years of healing

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

Drug addiction sent Jeff Grunzell's life into despair at an early age and has plagued him for most of his life. It caused him to lose his job of 11 years, a beautiful home and custody of his son. It even sent him to jail.

But it also sent him to the Diocesan Lodge and Msgr. James Peterson.

"This place is very special to me," Grunzell said of the Lodge. "When I came out here, I was a pretty broken man. I didn't know what was in store for me."

What he found was hope, healing and a way to a new life. A Life in the Spirit.

Grunzell joined other



Msgr. James Peterson visits with Scott Biemel and Bishop Donald Trautman after a celebration honoring 25 years of the Diocesan Lodge Aug. 9.

former and current Lodge residents, as well as friends, volunteers and staff on Aug. 9 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Lodge and Maria House Project.

Originally a barn donated to the Erie Diocese, the Lodge has become much more. Msgr. Peterson leads this healing community in Corry for men in transition, many

of them having battled drug addiction and alcoholism or having been incarcerated. Men are directed through Life in the Spirit seminars, Bible study and centering prayer as they attend Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meetings.

Remember what the Scripture says: With the Lord you can do anything; Without the Lord you can do nothing.

This is a house of healing, but I think it's more than that. It's a house of new beginnings. The instrument of the healing is Monsignor Peterson — Father Pete. The diocese of Erie is very proud of him. He's a real blessing to all of us."

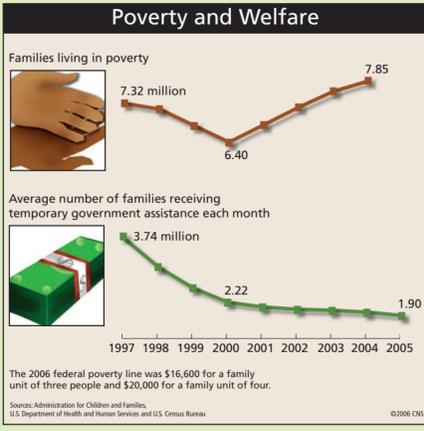
Grunzell recalled his first weekend at the Lodge was Father's Day and his son and family came out to visit him. That's when he noticed things started changing and he says he felt different inside.

"I had been to all kinds of rehabs and detoxes, but nothing stuck with me," he said as he shared his story with those gathered outside the Lodge on this summer evening. "I found out that my soul was

See LODGE, page 3

Welfare 10 years later: Stats may look good, but poverty continues

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Ten years after the nation's welfare system was reorganized, with new work requirements and built-in cutoff triggers for recipients, evaluating how well it has worked is a classic Washington numbers game. For some, there has been spectacular success with the 1996 legislation that did away with even the word welfare — rechristening the program Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, or TANF. They cite decreases in the number of people receiving assistance, fewer children living in poverty and a slowed rate of out-of-wedlock births. Other people point out that while there may be fewer people with incomes below the federal poverty level than there were in the mid-1990s, the number in "deep poverty" has climbed by 750,000 and overall poverty has been growing again since 2000. Strict rules and obstacles such as an inability to get into agency offices during business hours mean that fewer than half the people eligible for TANF participate.



U.S.

Diocese says women excommunicated in 'ordination' ceremony

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Risking excommunication from the Catholic Church, eight U.S. women participated in a riverboat ceremony near Pittsburgh that they said constituted ordination to the priesthood. At the July 31 ceremony, another four women said that they were ordained to the diaconate. "They have excommunicated themselves by walking away from the church and by not following church teaching on this matter," said Father Ronald Lengwin, Pittsburgh diocesan spokesman. A July 31 statement by the Pittsburgh Diocese called the ceremony "an invalid ritual" because of church teaching that only men can be ordained to the priesthood and diaconate. It also said those "attempting to confer holy orders" were removing themselves from the church. Father Lengwin said Catholics in his diocese have been asked to pray for the reconciliation of these women with the church and that the church was ready to welcome them back.

WORLD

Pope says he's disappointed about ignored Middle East peace calls

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI renewed his appeal for peace in the Middle East and said he was deeply disappointed that calls for an immediate cease-fire in Lebanon had been ignored. Peace is both a gift of God and the product of political commitment, and all people of good will have a duty to work for an end to hostilities, the pope said at a Sunday blessing Aug. 6. Several hundred pilgrims applauded the pope as he spoke from the balcony of his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo outside Rome. In a talk that marked the feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord, the pope said Christ's salvation was sorely needed in a world threatened by the "shadows of evil," including fratricidal conflict in the Middle East. "We well know that peace is first of all a gift of God, to implore with insistence in prayer, but at this moment I also want to recall that peace is the task of all people of good will. Let no one shrink from this duty!" he said. Pope Benedict donated two ambulances and emergency medical supplies to Caritas Lebanon.



Nuns care for leprosy patients on Chinese island

TAI KAM, China (CNS) — Three nuns from the Sisters of Charity of St. Anne have for years medically and spiritually helped more than 60 victims of Hansen's disease, or leprosy, on a small Chinese island. Around the clock, Sisters Omna, Lizzy and Elizabeth from Kerala, India, tend to the people of Tai Kam, located about 50 miles down shore from Macao in China's Guangdong province. They wake each day at 6 a.m. to pray with the patients and attend to their medical care by 8 a.m. Patients come through the clinic operated by the sisters to have their wounds cleaned and dressed. Most have been given shoes manufactured by an American priest who visited Tai Kam a couple of years ago. Hansen's disease, which affects the skin, leaves the patient's extremities with dry skin that forms cracks and infec-



tions. Most of the patients at Tai Kam have contracted the disease because it is airborne or because of poor hygiene. Patients are treated with a powerful combination of two and sometimes three drugs; treatment usually lasts six months to a year. During the day, patients go about their own business by gardening, sewing or playing the popular game Mahjong. The average age of the patients on Tai Kam is approximately 65. The oldest man on the island, 94, has been there since his early teens. The youngest is 43 years old. Some have been affected by the disease from as young as age 6.

PEOPLE

Volunteers urgently needed to repair homes devastated by Katrina

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (CNS) — Catholic Charities agencies in Louisiana and Mississippi are in desperate need of volunteers to clean or repair homes damaged nearly a year ago by Hurricane Katrina, according to Catholic Charities USA in Alexandria. An estimated 92,000 houses in New Orleans and 200,000 houses in the surrounding area were severely damaged or destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. In Biloxi, Miss., where more than 65,000 homes were flood-damaged, people are still living in tents and trailers as they wait for aid. Houses that need to have moldy drywall and debris removed before they can be cleaned and renovated remain in poor condition because no one is available to do the initial cleanup work. "We're hurting," said Deacon John Ferguson, director of field operations for Catholic Charities in New Orleans. "We would normally be gutting 20-25 homes per week, but for the past several weeks, we have not had any volunteers. Perhaps it is because of summer vacations; perhaps it is because of the heat. But we are totally dependent on volunteers." More information on volunteering in the Gulf Coast is available online at www.catholiccharitiesusa.org.



A year after hurricanes, Southern dioceses still trying to recover

By Carol Zimmermann
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — Southern dioceses from Texas to Alabama are still reeling from the swath of destruction left by last year's hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The Archdiocese of New Orleans and the Diocese of Biloxi, Miss., both hit hard by Hurricane Katrina Aug. 29, have taken steps toward recovery, but full-scale restoration is still a long way off as thousands of residents no longer have a place to live, churches and schools remain damaged and community service programs are no longer operational. The coastal area of the Archdiocese of Mobile, Ala., is also in the midst of recovery. Church structures have been repaired, but residents of the small fishing village of Bayou La Batre, Ala., are still living in trailers and trying to salvage what they can from destroyed homes and fishing livelihoods. Farther west at the Texas-Louisiana border, the impact of Hurricane Rita, which slammed the area Sept. 24, is evident in ongoing repair work. In the dioceses of Beaumont, Texas, and Houma-Thibodaux, La., there has been a flurry of repairs of homes, schools and churches, but in a storm-devastated area of the Diocese of Lake Charles, La., repairs are just beginning. Catholic Charities continues to provide immediate relief with food, medical care and shelter, but it is also inundated with long-term recovery needs from counseling to housing. The agency has been involved in gutting destroyed homes, remodeling apartments for the elderly and helping establish new communities. The New Orleans Archdiocese was hit with \$120 million in uninsured losses alone. Six churches have been permanently closed and 23 have closed temporarily. A number of churches are still undergoing repairs, and 24 churches and one mission that sustained extensive flooding damage have reopened. Sixteen schools are still closed and 21 have remained open while being repaired. The Biloxi Diocese suffered property damage of \$70 million and only half of the damage is covered by insurance. Thirteen churches were damaged, and three of them will not reopen. The future of one church is currently undetermined. Five are using temporary locations until their buildings can be repaired and four have been in use while undergoing major repairs. Katrina also destroyed five schools and damaged 10. The diocese consolidated six schools into three and has been doing repair work on 10 schools that remain open. Although Rita was overshadowed by Katrina, its destruction can't be dismissed by Texas residents now accustomed to the

By the Way...

Thirty-seven Gannon University students and alumni will further their education in health career studies in a variety of professional programs. With 34 undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degree programs in the health and natural sciences, Gannon is becoming known for its education offerings in the health sciences, particularly, in the areas of: nursing, physician assistant, occupational therapy, physical therapy, sport and exercise science, respiratory care and radiological science.



Jason Koshinski

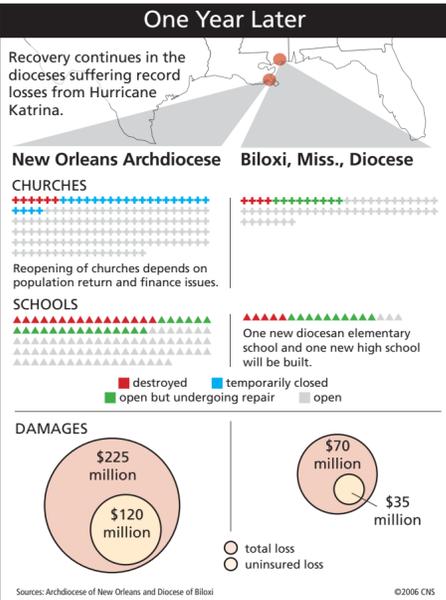
Selah Praise Band, the contemporary band at Our Lady of Peace Parish, presents an evening of praise and worship music on Wed., Aug. 23, at 7 p.m. at the Frontier Park Amphitheater (below the tennis courts off West Sixth Street at Frontier Park) in Erie. This event is sponsored by the City of Erie as part of its "Music Everywhere" concert series. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and join us for this special evening of spirit-filled music!

Father Justin Matro, OSB, has been named the rector of St. Vincent Seminary in Latrobe by Archbishop Douglas Nowicki, OSB, effective Aug. 14. Father Justin has been a member of the seminary faculty and staff for the past 13 years. For eight years, he served as director of spiritual formation. He has served as vice rector of the seminary and dean of human formation since 2003. An assistant professor of spiritual theology, he has taught at the seminary since 1993. St. Vincent is one of several major seminaries attended by seminarians from the Erie Diocese in their final years of study toward the priesthood.

Bishop Kevin Rhoades of Harrisburg, president of the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference, will be the keynote speaker at the Celebrate Life banquet Oct. 2 to benefit the work of the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation Education Fund. The banquet will be held at the Wyndham Harrisburg/Hershey (soon to be Sheraton Harrisburg). Bishop Rhoades spoke at the national March for Life in Washington in January and is considered a powerful spokesman for the sanctity of human life. The Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation is the state affiliate of National Right to Life. For ticket information, visit the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation Web site at www.paprolife.org or call 717.541.0034.

Our neighbors in the Diocese of Pittsburgh are investigating an alleged miracle credited to the intercession of the late Archbishop Fulton Sheen, who has been proclaimed a "Servant of God" by the church. Archbishop Sheen, a leading figure in the Catholic Church in 20th century America, is known by many from his popular TV program "Life is Worth Living," which originally aired from 1952 to 1957. The diocese has forwarded its investigation results to the Vatican's Congregation for the Cause of Saints.

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



ever-present blue tarps marking signs of repair. In Beaumont, one church closed because of hurricane damage and five closed temporarily for ongoing repairs. One Catholic school closed but will reopen for the upcoming school year. In the Lake Charles Diocese,

Rita caused severe damage in several counties and its strong wind and storm surges essentially flattened the civil entity of Cameron Parish, a region that includes five parishes and five mission churches, nine of which had been temporarily closed because of storm damage.

FOSTER HOMES NEEDED!

Erie County Office of Children & Youth

Training, preparation, mentoring, support, and reimbursement provided.

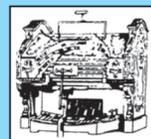
Muriel Alexander 796-4209
Nena Henningsen 602-4972

Make a difference in the life of a child!



We sponsor BUS TOURS to Pittsburgh, Cleveland, North Tonawanda and Buffalo to hear The Mighty Wurlitzers

\$40 for members, \$45 for non-members



Price includes show ticket, and round trip bus.

Erie Area Theatre Organ Society
Call Joe Luckey at 871-7276
Leave your number for a return call.

CLOCK REPAIR

Burdie's Clock Shop

238 South Main St.
Cambridge Springs, PA 16403
(814) 398-8263

"We Make House Calls"



FaithLife

The official news bulletin of the Catholic Diocese of Erie

Volume 2, Issue 16

General Information: (814) 824-1160
Fax: (814) 824-1170

E-Mail: FaithLife@erieRCD.org
Editorial: (814) 824-1171
Advertising: (814) 824-1168

Member of the Catholic Press Association. Published bi-weekly. Owned and operated by the Bishop of Erie. Subscription \$10/year. For more information, call (814) 824-1161.

The Office of Communications has been serving Catholics in the Diocese of Erie since 1874. Offices are located at St. Mark Catholic Center 429 East Grandview Blvd., Erie, Pa. Periodical postage paid at Erie, Pa.

Postmaster: Send address changes to FaithLife at St. Mark Catholic Center.

John Paul II Memorial Polish-American Calendar 2007
Daily Biographical Notes; Monthly Papal Recipes
\$5.95 mail to:
D. Samuli, 1312 Drexel St.
Dearborn, MI 48128

STUMP REMOVAL
Back yards and tight spots are our specialty. Small trees and shrubs removed. Insured.
Call for a free estimate.
Ken - (814) 474-2195

BACK TO SCHOOL B
UNIFORMS FOR EVERYONE
Back To School Hours start July 24th - Aug. 31st
Mon.- Fri. 10am to 6pm; Sat. 10am to 5pm
Check out our NEW K-12 gear for girls. Solids, navy and khaki. Value priced, great quality, updated styles.
Official distributor of Cathedral Prep uniforms.
Grey pants, Khaki pants, Van Heusen Oxfords.
NEW! Flat Front, longer shorts for boys, WIDER Belts for older boys, NEW Crew Socks, Red and Grey Socks, Red Sweaters for girls.
YEAR ROUND SERVICE: We Don't Disappear after August. EMBROIDERY and SCREEN PRINTING as well!
THE RED DOOR SCHOOL UNIFORMS
124 West 9th St., Erie
814-455-2551 • rdschooluniforms@verizon.net

Briefly

Annual charismatic conference set for Oct. 6-7

ERIE — The 16th annual Catholic Charismatic Conference will be held on Fri., Oct. 6, and Sat., Oct. 7 at St. Mark Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie. The featured speaker is Aggie Neck, who is currently chairman of the National Service Committee. Aggie is in full-time ministry at Servant House, a Catholic charismatic house of prayer in Marksville, La., where she serves as co-director.

The theme for this year's conference is "Go and Bear Fruit That Will Last." The conference begins Friday evening at 6:30 p.m. and ends with a healing service. Saturday's schedule, which begins at 9 a.m., includes a Mass celebrated by Father David Poulson, praise and worship, talks by Aggie Neck and a commissioning.

Reservations for the conference may be made by contacting the Word of Life Center at 814.824.1286 or writing to P. O. Box 10397, Erie, PA 16514-0397. The cost for the conference is \$35. An optional pasta bar lunch is available for an additional \$6.

WYD trip reservation deadline extended to Oct. 15

The Diocese of Erie has extended the reservation deadline to Oct. 15 for its sponsored trip to World Youth Day 2008.

The diocese is sponsoring a trip to Sydney, Australia, for World Youth Day July 11-27, 2008. Join the youth of the diocese on a pilgrimage with Pope Benedict XVI.

The group is limited to 36 students who will be between ages 16-20 as of July 11, 2008.

Contact Gail Mayer at 814.824.1220 or e-mail gemayer@eriecd.org to receive a complete brochure with a detailed itinerary or for more information.

Make your reservation of \$250 by Oct. 15, 2006 to hold your place on this historic once-in-a-lifetime trip. Deposits should be made out to the Diocese of Erie, c/o Gail Mayer, P.O. Box 10397, Erie, PA 16514-0397.

For more information on the events in Sydney, visit www.wyd2008.org.



Hahn to present program on Life-Giving Love Sept. 29 in Hermitage

HERMITAGE — Join author, speaker and theologian Kimberly Hahn for an evening of spiritual enrichment at 6:30 p.m. Fri., Sept. 29 at Kennedy Catholic High School in Hermitage.

Hahn will present a program titled *Life Giving Love: Enriching Christian Family Life*. This event will provide families and adults with new insights into marriage and family life while fostering healthy attitudes about dating and courtship. Session topics include life-giving love and dating and courtship followed by a question-and-answer period.

Advance tickets go on sale Aug. 26 and run through September. Tickets are \$8 per person, \$12 per couple. Tickets can also be purchased at a group rate of \$70 for 10 tickets. At the door price is \$10.

To order tickets, send a check payable to NFP Office, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie PA 16514-0397 and include your name and number of tickets requested. Tickets can be picked up at the door.

For more information, call 800.374.3723 ext. 259.



Kimberly Hahn

People in the News

Erin Landini named Catholic Charities' director of Parish Social Ministry/Respect Life Office

Catholic Charities has welcomed Erin Landini as its new director of the Parish Social Ministry/Respect Life Office.

As part of her duties, she will coordinate training and support for the office's volunteer programs in parish social ministry, justice and peace and respect life for the Diocese of Erie. Her first day was Aug. 2.

Landini is a native of Brockway and graduate of Gannon University where she received her bachelor's and master's degrees in mental therapy. She is expecting to complete her second master's degree in pastoral studies in May.



Erin Landini

Jackie Johnson named to Catholic Council on Mental Illness

Jackie Johnson, director of the Disabilities Office for Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Erie, has been named one of seven members of the Council on Mental Illness.

Established by the National Catholic Partnership on Disability, the council is designed to help the Catholic community reach out to people with mental illness and their families.

The council's work will include raising awareness to help develop relationships of support with people with mental illness in faith communities and sharing resources and information.

For more details, visit www.ncpd.org.

Anniversary couples say sacrifices, honesty key to good marriage

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

Edward and Rose Rozumalski of Erie and Angelo and Patricia Giavedoni of Punxsutawney know a little bit about married life. Between the two couples, they've had 110 years of love, honesty, raising children and good times and bad.

They are also two of 268 married couples throughout the Erie Diocese celebrating milestone anniversaries this year. Bishop Donald Trautman offered anniversary Masses for the couples July 30 at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Erie and Aug. 13 at Ss. Cosmas and Damian Parish in Punxsutawney.

During the liturgy, couples received anniversary scrolls. A light reception was held for couples and their families after the Masses. The annual celebrations are sponsored by the Family Life Office of the Erie Diocese.

The Rozumalskis, parishioners at Holy Rosary in Erie, met in high school. On their first date they went roller skating with friends. "He seemed very polite," Rose recalled. "His parents owned a floral shop and I remember I got to wear gardenias in my hair." Edward went into the service during World War II, but they kept in touch

Ss. Cosmas & Damian Count	Anniversary
1.....	63rd
3.....	60th
26.....	50th
11.....	25th
41 couples registered	

Blessed Sacrament Count	Anniversary
1.....	68th
1.....	67th
2.....	65th
31.....	60th
66.....	50th
30.....	25th
131 couples registered	
(16 unable to attend)	

Not attending either location but couples will be mailed a scroll

Count	Anniversary
1.....	70th
1.....	69th
30.....	60th
34.....	50th
2.....	40th
1.....	30th
27.....	25th
96 couples total	

268 couples total to receive scrolls



Rose and Edward Rozumalski



Patricia and Angelo Giavedoni

by writing letters to each other. When he came back, they got married. That was Oct. 5, 1946.

Sixty years, four children, nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren later, the couple is happy and thankful to have each other. "We've gotten this far," Edward said.

Their secret has included learning to make sacrifices for each other and being considerate of each other's feelings.

"I'm thankful for a good, Christian man in my life," Rose said.

Angelo and Patricia celebrated 50 years of marriage on Aug. 11. The party their children had for them was extra special — their granddaughter's boyfriend asked if he could propose at their party. He did and she said yes.

The couple are parishioners at Ss. Cosmas and Damian in Punxsutawney and have five children and 11 grandchildren.

"We've had our trials and tribulations," Patricia said. "We had five kids, we took care of

our parents. It makes life a little crazy sometimes, but we keep coming back to the fact that we love each other."

Their secret has been honesty.

"If you get through the bad times, the good times come around again," Patricia said.

A slideshow of the anniversary Mass celebrations will be posted at www.ErieRCD.org beginning Aug. 23.

Committee reviews concerns about embryonic stem cell research

By Amy L. Beisel
Pennsylvania Catholic Conference

HARRISBURG — Stem cells are in the news again. In July, President George Bush vetoed a bill that would have provided federal funding for embryonic stem cell research. Proponents of this controversial research will now pressure state government to support their efforts.

Rep. Tom Tangretti (D-Westmoreland), Rep. Tom Tighe (D-Luzerne/Monroe) and Rep. Richard Gruela (D-Northampton) hosted a hearing of the Pennsylvania House Democratic Policy Committee on the issue. Tangretti said embryonic stem cell research is confusing; there are many scientific and moral questions to consider. He hoped the hearing would inform the public that embryonic cells are not the only type showing promise. Ethical adult stem cell research is succeeding and yielding therapies that are healing people now. The July 25 meeting was the

committee's third on the topic.

Steve Johnson and his daughter Zara spoke to the panel. Johnson and his wife "adopted" Zara when she was a frozen embryo through the Snowflake Frozen Embryo Adoption Program. After implantation, Mrs. Johnson was able to give birth to Zara naturally. Johnson, himself a paraplegic from an accident, supports ethical, adult stem cell research.

Stephen Webster, CEO of Nureonix, discussed the business opportunities of stem cell research. His company researches and develops cellular treatments for heart disease.

Dr. Gary Friedman of the New Jersey Stem Cell Research and Education Foundation explained how successful stem cell therapies will be more important as the aging American population puts a strain on our health care system. For example, stem cell therapies might help the people on the rapidly growing organ transplant list.

Dr. Katherine High of the Center for Cellular and Molecular Therapeutics at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia was the lone speaker supporting embryonic research. She contends that without state funding Pennsylvania might be a "follower" instead of a "leader" in stem cell research which could hurt the commonwealth's economy.

Ethical considerations of embryonic stem cell research were discussed by Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk of the National Catholic Bioethics Center. He asked, "Just because we can, should we?" He reiterated that the Catholic Church does not oppose stem cell research, but advocates research on non-embryonic cells that does not destroy human life. Father Pachol-



Amy L. Beisel

czyk cautioned that describing embryos as "spares" to be discarded like medical waste creates "an unacceptable subclass of humans."

The Pennsylvania Legislature reconvenes in September. Expect embryonic stem cell research to be on the agenda.

In other news, Sen. Jane Orie (R-Allegheny) and Rep. Jerry Birmelin (R-Monroe, Pike, Wayne) added language in the law barring providers from spending certain federal and state family planning dollars on abortion related activities, and requires them to physically and financially separate their abortion related activities from family planning services. The new law applies to counseling and referral as well as performance of abortions.

Amy L. Beisel, APR, is communications director of the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference — the public affairs arm of Pennsylvania's Catholic bishops and the Catholic dioceses of Pennsylvania.

St. Marys pastor returns from service as chaplain in Iraq

ST. MARYS PASTOR from page 1

similar to tragedy here," he said. "People are always shocked in the moment and coming to grips with a loss, especially when it's someone you've been working with very closely. You're always grappling with the idea, 'Why did this one have to die?' By the same token, we aren't doing our deceased friends any good service by not following the beliefs that this country gave us to instill in this land. That comes at a price, and these people have paid a very heavy price. You keep your head and realize that most of the people out there want what you want."

The principle aim of the reserve forces has been to train the Afghani and Iraqi armies, Father Frank said. Religious differences were never the cause of any fighting. He recalled a conversation with a company commander who was also an Afghan soldier, who took great pains to say that religious differences between Christians and Muslims were not the dividing line there; it was terrorists.

"He said, 'Our enemies are

your enemies,'" Father Frank recalled. "The terrorists are trying to eliminate any possibility of people growing up in a free society. He supported our presence and welcomed it. He wants to raise his family in a peaceful environment."

While he describes his service as a fulfilling experience, Father Frank admits he was anxious to return to St. Marys and the 1,600 families at St. Mary Parish, where he has been a pastor since 1999.

"I missed the interaction," he said. "I think we have a great parish and community in general here in St. Marys. The support from the people here has been unbelievable."

During his service, he was flooded with cards, e-mails and care packages. The St. Marys confirmation classes and local scouts sent gifts for him and the troops.

"I've been so grateful for the attention that they gave," he said. "They never left any doubt that we were in their prayers and best wishes. I can't say enough."

Lodge, Maria House Project celebrates 25 years of healing

LODGE from page 1

damaged at an early age and for most of my life I lived in a shell just hurting inside. I felt a healing here, and that didn't happen anywhere else. This was the part I needed the most."

Bible study and centering prayer are part of the healing along with raising pheasants and driving a tractor to dust the fields in this community.

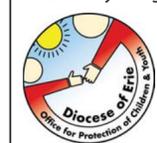
Joanne Papalia-Eisert, a Lodge volunteer, has taught a poetry class for the past five years. She's amazed at what comes out at her workshop sessions. She has helped publish four volumes of the poetry, appropriately titled, *For Pete's Sake*.

"Some of the guys would never have thought about writing poetry," Papalia-Eisert said. "We use it in the healing process. I'm always in awe and humbled at what is written."

Grunzell is on his own now. He recently got some good news. Because of his progress, his parole officer has cut the remaining two-and-a-half years of his term.

"I knew that if the Lord had brought me this far, he wasn't going to let go of me," he said. "I used to say, 'Lord, walk with me today' just to get through the day. Then I found myself saying, 'Lord, can I walk with you today?'"

For pastoral outreach and assistance for those abused by clergy or other church personnel, call



Doctor Robert Nelson
Pastoral Assistance Coordinator
for the Diocese of Erie
814.871.7723

For more information, visit
www.ErieRCD.org/protectyouth.htm

When Interest Income Counts, It's Time To Call Gen-See

7.1% Annually

Earn More Worry Less
Go with experience you can trust...

Since 1975, Gen-See investors have done better for 5 great reasons:

- Regular monthly checks • No fees or commissions
- Low minimum initial investment...\$5,000 • Term 3, 4 or 5 years
- Rate of interest guaranteed for term of certificate

Make a fresh start...RIGHT NOW **7.1% Annually** **1-800-507-4393**

Gen-See Capital Corporation
1-800-507-4393

BECOME A BETTER ATHLETE!
For Serious Athletes who want to GAIN the EDGE on the Competition

next level training
WITH COACH JIM TRAVERS

PLYOMETRIC / AGILITY / SPEED CLINICS

Plyometric Box Jumping, Hurdle Jumping, Agility Ladders, Mini Hurdles, Medicine Ball Workouts, PLUS a series of exercises to improve speed, strength, jumping ability, foot speed, etc.

6th - 8th Grade Boys and Girls & HS JV Girls: 6-7:30
HS Boys, Varsity HS Girls, College or Adult Athletes: 7:45-9:15

SEPT. CLINIC: Mon/Thurs 7-11-14-18-21-25-28-Oct. 2
OCT. CLINIC: Mon/Thurs 5-9-12-16-19-23-26-30
NOV. CLINIC: Mon/Thurs 2-6-9-13-16-20-Wed. 22nd-27

Clinics at Braendel Indoor Facility on Broad St.
Eight 90 minute workouts per Clinic, plus T-Shirt • ONE CLINIC: \$75, each additional clinic \$60

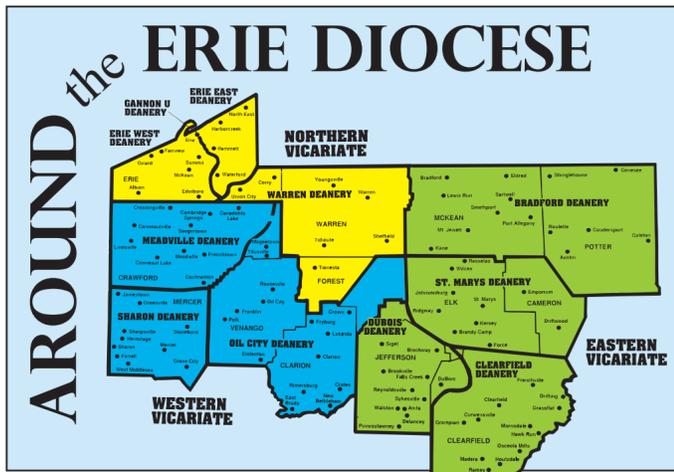
CLASSES LIMITED - SIGN UP EARLY!
CALL 455-2551 or e-mail Jim at rdsschooluniforms@verizon.net
Forms Available at The Red Door 124 W. 9th

Since 1947

RAS AUTO BODY

All your collision needs.
Special Wash & Wax...\$50
453-6185

Dave Ras owner
Amy Ras office
Carol Ras office
Jim Winarski mgr.



Holy Trinity to hold Zabawa festival Aug. 25-27



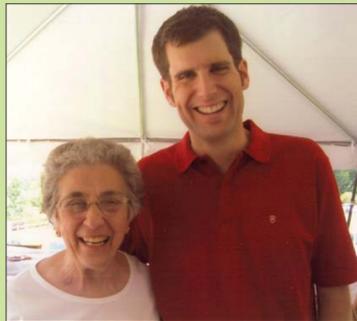
Children dressed in native costume lead the annual procession honoring Our Lady of Czestochowa from Mass into Holy Trinity's neighborhood.

ERIE — Holy Trinity Parish will hold its 13th annual Zabawa festival, a three-day celebration of Polish heritage, on Aug. 25-27. Festivities will be held on the parish grounds at 23rd and Reed streets in Erie. Polka Masses will be celebrated Aug. 26 at 5 p.m. and Aug. 27 at 11 a.m. Live polka music will be provided by bands from Erie, Pittsburgh and Ohio. Fare includes Polish dishes and desserts. Admission is free.

Serra Club honors women religious at picnic

ERIE — More than 90 women religious and 20 members of the Serra Club of Erie and their spouses recently gathered for a day of fun and fellowship. A picnic hosted by the Hilbert family was held July 29 at Bill and Rebecca Hilbert's home in Erie to affirm and thank the sisters for their dedication and service to the Erie Diocese and the community.

Father Michael Kesicki, spiritual director for the Serra Club of Erie, celebrated Mass.



Sister Jean Baptiste DiLuzio, SSJ, and Joe Hilbert



Sister Laura Beichner, OSB, James Garvey and Sister Marla Bleil, OSB.



Sister Dorothy Wilwohl, SSJ, Richard Martin and Sister Teresa Okonski, RSM.

ZABAWA

A three day Celebration of our Polish Heritage
 Holy Trinity Parish
 East 23rd & Reed Streets · Erie, PA

August 25, 26 & 27, 2006
 Friday 5-10pm • Saturday 1-10:30pm • Sunday 12-6pm

Polka Mass
 Saturday 5pm: Music by *Henny & the Versa's*
 from Pittsburgh, PA
 Sunday 11am: Music by *Eddie Biegor & the Crusade* from Toledo, OH

Polish Kitchen & Bakery
 serving Pierogi, Golabki,
 Potato Pancakes,
 "Pierogi Pizza,"
 Chrusciki, Sweet Bread
 and MUCH MORE!!!

**Live Polka Music,
 Dancing, Folk Dancers,**
 Special Raffles, Theme Baskets, Chinese
 Auction, Children's Activity Area

FREE Admission! Information: 456-0671

Family Fun Weekends

Spending a great weekend with your child. Memories last a lifetime!

Father & Son	Mother & Daughter
Sept. 22-24, 2006	Oct. 6-8, 2006
Oct. 20-22, 2006	Nov. 3-5, 2006
Jan. 12-14, 2007	Feb. 2-4, 2007

For children ages 6 to 14
 For more information or to reserve a spot
 visit our website or call
814-474-5001
www.campnotredame.com
 P.O. Box 74 • Fairview, PA

Parish correspondents

FaithLife encourages all parishes, missions, schools and groups to choose a correspondent who regularly submits news items to *Around the Erie Diocese*.

E-mail your parish news

Many parish correspondents have found e-mail to be a quick and easy way to send news to *FaithLife*.
FaithLife@ErieRCD.org

St. Marys native professes monastic vows at St. Vincent



Brother Michael Gabler, OSB, professes solemn vows before Archbishop Douglas Nowicki, OSB.

LATROBE — Brother Michael Gabler, OSB, a St. Marys native and monk of St. Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, made solemn profession of monastic vows on July 11.
 Brother Michael is the son of Michael and Margaret Gabler of St. Marys. He attended St. Marys parochial school and is a 1985 graduate of Elk County Catholic High School. He entered the St. Vincent monastic community in 2002 and made first profession of vows in 2003. He was installed in the Ministry of Reader on March 20.

Knights of Columbus establish fund to promote vocations



From left, Steve Cash, Dave Shipton, Bishop Donald Trautman and Jon Foulkrod pose with a check from the Knights of Columbus to be used to promote vocations.

The Knights of Columbus in Pennsylvania recently completed a fundraising program within its membership to support vocations and Special Olympics and to fund the councils' attendance at the annual state convention.

The vocations portion of this fundraiser is being divided equally among the two Eastern Rite dioceses and eight Latin Rite dioceses in Pennsylvania.

The Knights recently presented the Erie Diocese and Bishop Donald Trautman with a check in the amount of \$758.54 for use in the support of seminarians and the promotion of vocations within the diocese.

Annual conference discusses strategies to end homelessness

Margo Peters, project coordinator for the Partnership of Women Religious, recently attended the National Alliance to End Homelessness' annual conference in Washington to discuss effective strategies to end homelessness.

The conference brings stakeholders and concerned citizens from around the country together with government leaders and advocates who are demonstrating every day in their own communities that homelessness can be overcome. Senator Arlen Specter and New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg were the keynote speakers.



Margo Peters and Sen. Arlen Specter visit before his keynote address.

St. Joseph the Worker statue blessed

ERIE — A new addition to the grounds of the Sisters of St. Joseph Community Living Center was blessed on July 19. A statue of St. Joseph the Worker was donated in memory of Margaret and William Reed and their family (which includes Arlene Seib (deceased), William P. Reed (deceased), Thomas Reed and Sister Mary Alice Reed, SSJ). The statue is a gift to the Sisters of St. Joseph.

A St. Joseph Statue Committee that included Sisters Mary Francis Becker, Lucille DeStefano, Mary Alice Reed, Leonie Shanley, Anastasia Valimont, and Ricarda Vincent began meeting in December 2005. After viewing many statues, the statue of St. Joseph the Worker was chosen.

The base of the statue contains a copy of the Constitutions of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania, the names of all the living sisters and associates, the necrology of all the sisters and associates, a prayer to St. Joseph, a copy of the hymn, "Vir Fidelis" with the English translation, a St. Joseph medal commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Sisters of St. Joseph in the Diocese of Erie, photos of the Reed family, names of the members of the St. Joseph Statue Committee and a mosaic of sisters and associates.



Two Missouri Priests Host...

Alaska Cruise

And Pacific Northwest Vacation

On June 10, 2007, join your Spiritual Directors Father Bob Dorhauer, Father Jerry Nienhaus, and other Roman Catholics on this 15-day vacation including a seven-day deluxe Alaska Cruise with Holland America Line and a seven-day Pacific Northwest vacation with Your Man Tours. Mass will be celebrated daily while on board ship for those in the group who wish to participate. Your group will fly into Salt Lake City starting a six-night motor coach tour of the Pacific Northwest visiting Salt Lake City (including the Mormon Tabernacle, Beehive House and Great Salt Lake); Jackson Hole, Wyoming; Grand Teton National Park; West Yellowstone; two days in Yellowstone (Old Faithful) National Park; Montana; Lake Coeur d'Alene; the Grand Coulee Dam; Washington; the Cascade Mountains; and British Columbia. In Vancouver you will board your five-star ship, HAL's ms Zuiderdam.

Next, travel through a wondrous maze of forested islands and glacier-carved fjords, past charming coastal villages, migrating whales and calving glaciers to Juneau, Skaaway, Ketchikan and spectacular Glacier Bay.

After the cruise you'll take a scenic drive to Seattle, spending one night before flying home. Prices for this 15-day vacation start at only \$1848 (per person, double occupancy). Included is the seven-day deluxe Alaska cruise, seven nights in quality hotels, lots of escorted motor coach sightseeing throughout the Pacific Northwest, transfers, baggage handling, port charges and taxes. Add \$600 round trip airfare from Erie.

\$100 deposits are now due. Friends and family are welcome.

For Information, Reservations, Brochure, and Letter from Fathers Bob and Jerry Call 7 Days a Week:
'YOUR MAN' TOURS 1-800-968-7626