

## Roar on the Shore

St. Patrick's Haven in Erie was the chosen charity for this year's popular bike rally. See page 3.



# FaithLife

## POPE QUOTE

INSPIRING WORDS FROM POPE FRANCIS:

"A serene childhood enables us to look trustfully upon life and to the future."

www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

August 31, 2014

## Erie Gives nets Catholic affiliates more than \$300,000

Catholic-affiliated nonprofit organizations received more than \$300,000 in the annual Erie Gives fundraiser, a 12-hour online philanthropic event held Aug. 12.

Forty-one Catholic agencies, schools, charities and other ministries received \$326,576 during the event. Maria House Project—the agency founded by the late Msgr. James Peterson to help men recovering from alcohol and other addictions, imprisonment, homelessness and mental illness—ranked among the top 10 non-profits to receive the most donations. With matching gifts, it received \$56,000.

According to Joe Tarquinio, director of Maria House, "The money goes to those whom the donors intended: the lonely, the addicted and those who want to honestly start over."

The Catholic Foundation received \$5,451, nearly three times more than what it earned last year.

"What a banner year," said Emma Lee McCloskey, president of The Catholic Foundation, after learning the results.

Overall, this year's Erie Gives took in a record \$2.2 million for 313 charities in the Erie area. The event was launched in 2011 by the Erie Community Foundation as part of a growing trend to seek online giving.

## Catholic Charities Ball distributes more than \$105,000 to needy

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Erie distributed \$105,260 this summer to affiliate agencies, programs and community outreach efforts that serve the neediest among us.

The funds were raised at the 19th annual Catholic Charities Ball held at Erie's Bayfront Convention Center in April.

Those receiving funding were:

- Better Housing, Erie
- Catholic Charities Counseling & Adoption Services
- Catholic Rural Ministry of Potter/McKean counties
- Catholic Rural Ministry of Oil City
- Good Samaritan Center, Clearfield
- Mission of Friendship, Yucatan, Mexico
- Harborcreek Youth Services
- Prince of Peace Center, Farrell
- St. Elizabeth of Hungary Center, Oil City
- St. Martin Center, Erie
- Bishop's Breakfast Program.



## Getting their 'selfies' back to school

Looks like it'll be an exciting school year for these Catholic schools students in the Diocese of Erie. Posing for a group selfie with Bishop Lawrence Persico are, front row, left to right: Howard Lang, Max Lang, Fox Ngo, Lillrose Lang; and second row, left to right: Bernadette Pritchard, Jonny Pritchard, Bishop Persico and Mary Grace Kelly.

Photo by Mark Fainstein

## School's in session

By Mary Solberg  
FaithLife

The Catholic school system in the Diocese of Erie has new teachers, new principals and one new headmaster for the 2014-15 academic year. An elementary school even has a new name.

Blessed John Paul II Elementary in Heritage is now officially Saint John Paul II Elementary School. School officials applied for the name change after Pope John Paul II was canonized last April.

Over the summer, the school received notification of the name change from the Pennsylvania Department of Education. On Sept. 2, Father Nicholas Rouch, vicar for education for the Diocese of Erie, will preside at the first Mass under the school's new name.

"We're honored to have this name attached to our school because of all that St. John Paul II stood for," said Bill Lyon, principal.

All but three schools in the diocese already have started classes.

"I'm excited about this year and I'm very excited to work with all of our new teachers, headmasters and principals," said Sam Signorino, director of Catholic Schools and School Personnel.

Forty-two new teachers have been hired and trained this year. There are currently 28 elementary schools, three middle and seven high schools in the diocese.

Enrollment figures will not be available until early October.

Here are the new leadership positions:

- Michael Armanini, headmaster of DuBois Area Catholic Schools
- Gretchen Caruso, principal, DuBois Area Catholic Elementary School
- Lisa Panighetti, principal, Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. Boniface schools, both in Erie
- Nancy Kremm, principal, St. Michael School, Greenville.

# New Pastoral Planning Committee asked to 'transmit faith into the future'

FaithLife staff

In an effort to "transmit the faith into the future," Bishop Lawrence Persico and a committee of clergy, sisters and lay people are moving forward with the first significant pastoral planning effort in the Diocese of Erie in several decades.

"How can we best use the human and financial resources we have to share the Good News of Jesus Christ in northwest Pennsylvania?" Bishop Persico asked when establishing the new seven-member Pastoral Planning Committee this summer.

Headed by Deacon Marty Eisert, the group met for the first time at a day-long retreat July 19 at Bishop Persico's residence in Erie. Committee members have been asked to oversee various task forces, including such areas as parish life, education, vocations, ministries and faith formation.

"My vision goes well beyond parishes and schools," the bishop told the group.

He asked them to be ready to review all programs and ministries of the diocese, to assess whether or not the needs of today are being met. Their next meeting is at the end of September.

Pastoral Planning Committee members are:

- Deacon Marty Eisert, chairperson, St. Andrew Parish, Erie
- Robert Crowley, co-chairperson, St. Joseph Parish, Warren
- Benedictine Sister Phyllis Schleicher, co-chairperson, Catholic Rural Ministries of the Bradford Deanery
- Barbara Brecht, St. Bernard Parish, Falls Creek
- Rosemary Carnovale, Holy Rosary Parish, Johnstown
- John Davidson, St. Joseph Parish, Sharon
- Msgr. Richard Siefer, pastor, St. Catherine of Siena Parish, DuBois.



Photo by Anne-Marie Welsh

The new Pastoral Planning Committee of the Diocese of Erie stands with Bishop Lawrence Persico, front center, outside his residence in Erie. Pictured behind the bishop in the first row, left to right, are: Deacon Marty Eisert and Robert Crowley; in the second row, left to right, are: Benedictine Sister Phyllis Schleicher, Rosemary Carnovale and Barbara Brecht; and in the third row, left to right, are: John Davidson and Msgr. Richard Siefer.

Planning experts from Gannon University and leaders from around the Diocese of Erie helped form the Pastoral Planning Committee, which is expected to work together for the next two years. Committee members were chosen for their depth of experience and knowledge of various parts of the diocese.

Visit [www.ErieRCD.org/planning.asp](http://www.ErieRCD.org/planning.asp) to learn more about the pastoral planning process. The web page will be updated regularly.

## Q&A

### Chair of pastoral planning team discusses future of diocese

**Editor's Note:** Deacon Marty Eisert, right, is chairperson of the new seven-member Pastoral Planning Committee for the Diocese of Erie. He responds to questions about the planning process:

Why should the Diocese of Erie conduct a pastoral plan?

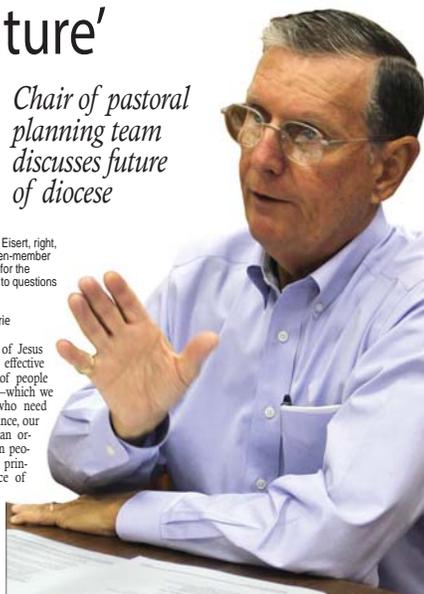
To proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ depends upon the effective and efficient organization of people in order to render services—which we call ministries—to those who need such services. Take, for instance, our Catholic schools. Each is an organization. Each relies upon people—namely teachers and principals—to render its service of teaching. Then, too, look at the vast array of ministries provided by Catholic Charities. Viewing the diocese in this manner, one can appreciate that periodic planning and evaluation is essential.

Is planning just another term for closing our Catholic schools?

That's not the intent of planning. Assuredly, some decisions will have to be made before the planning process has been completed. But the intent of planning is to grow the diocese. In this regard, the intent of planning is to increase the enrollment of our schools. Who knows? It may even lead to opening new schools.

Will parishes be closed?

Yes, that could well be. Look at it this way: populations shift, people move. Buildings can't be moved. In the course of our daily drive to work—or even to our parish church—we are surrounded by examples of buildings that were once vibrant with activity and are now boarded up. It's not that the building itself has





## ■ Pope phones family of slain reporter

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Francis phoned the bereaved family of a U.S. journalist killed by Islamic State militants in Syria.

Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, said the pope called relatives of the late James Foley on Aug. 21 to console them for their loss and assure them of his prayers. The pope's call came shortly after 2 p.m. New Hampshire time.

Pope Francis was particularly "struck by the faith" of the late journalist's mother, Diane Foley, Father Lombardi said. The pope spoke with her and the deceased's father, John Foley, through an interpreter. At one point, an unidentified family member came on the line and was able to converse with the pope directly in Spanish.

According to the Associated Press, U.S. officials confirmed a graphic video released Aug. 19 that showed Islamic State fighters beheading Foley, a 1996 graduate of Marquette University. He had been a freelance journalist for the past several years, mostly in the world's trouble spots. In 2011, Foley was kidnapped on a Libyan battlefield and held captive in Tripoli for 45 days.



CNS photo  
U.S. journalist James Foley was killed at the hands of the Islamic State militant group.

## ■ Pope thanks people for prayers for his family after deadly crash

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Francis, in mourning over the deaths of his nephew's wife and two small children, thanked people at his weekly general audience Aug. 20 for their prayers.

Pope Francis explained: "The pope has a family, too. We were five siblings, and I have 16 nieces and nephews. One of these nephews was in an accident. His wife died along with his two small children—one who was 2 years old and the other several months."

The pope's 35-year-old nephew, Emanuel Horacio Bergoglio, was critically injured in the accident Aug. 19. "I thank you. I thank you very much for your condolences and prayers," Pope Francis said.

## ■ 'Mass mob' movement grows

DETROIT (CNS)—Thom Mann believes Catholics in the Detroit metro area have always wanted to see Detroit's beautiful, historic inner-city churches filled again but just needed "a little push" to do so.

But what started as a little push has turned into a tidal wave for the so-called "Mass mob" movement. It began in early spring and has blossomed into a resounding "Amen" as pews have become packed with every successive outing.

The "Mass mob" is an offshoot of the flash mob craze in which large groups of people show up unexpectedly at public sites. On Aug. 10, more than 2,000 people attended Mass at a historic Polish church that hasn't heard that many "peace be with you's" in at least three decades. The site was St. Albertus Church, which closed as an active parish in 1990 but continues to operate as a center for Polish heritage in the city.

## ■ Archbishop outlines steps to 'dismantle systemic racism'

ST. LOUIS (CNS)—With the strife and violence continuing in the aftermath of Michael Brown's shooting death by a police officer in Ferguson, Mo., more than 500 St. Louis Catholics gathered for a votive Mass for peace and justice Aug. 20 at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis.

Brown, 18, was black, and Darren Wilson, the police officer who shot him Aug. 9, is white.

St. Louis Archbishop Robert J. Carlson celebrated the Mass with 27 priests and, in his homily, laid out important steps to "dismantle systemic racism." Among the steps are:

- Reestablishing the Human Rights Commission in the Archdiocese of St. Louis
- Assisting the churches in Ferguson to deal with issues of poverty and racism
- Asking each priest in the Archdiocese of St. Louis to offer a Mass for Justice and Peace.



CNS photo  
Father Mike Boehm, a chaplain with the St. Louis County Police Department, speaks with an officer Aug. 16.



## Editor's Notes

Mary SOLBERG

Emma Lazarus' *New Colossus* is like many poems whose meaning gets lost in repetition: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free."

Those words inscribed on the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty in New York City's harbor are heard so often that Americans don't think about their meaning or what they—historically and spiritually—call us to do, namely, to welcome those who come to this country to escape all kinds of violence and oppression.

A few weeks ago, I took the ferry to Manhattan with my family. I have often seen the Statue of Liberty—this "Mother of Exiles"—but her majesty and symbolism meant more to me this time.

Within a month or so, President Barack Obama is expected to issue executive orders that would give relief to the 11.7 million undocumented immigrants in the United States. Pope Francis, too, has called for humanitarian efforts to respond to the thousands of children crossing the border into the U.S. and other countries.

Last year at this time, Bishop Lawrence Persico joined bishops across the country in calling for "fair and compassionate immigration reform." The Benedictines for Peace have rallied for immigration reform every first Friday of the month in downtown Erie.

Church teaching—which has included papal encyclicals, bishops' statements and pastoral letters—has, according to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, "reinforced our moral obligation to treat the stranger as we would treat Christ himself."

Learn more about the status of immigration reform at [www.pacatholic.org](http://www.pacatholic.org) and [www.justiceformigrants.org](http://www.justiceformigrants.org)

As we await this reform, I would only

add a lesser known line from Lazarus famous poem: "Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me." I think Jesus would say the same.

Some of the volunteers who served the homeless this past winter at St. Joseph's Bread of Life in Erie are reaching out year-round. Nancy Murray, pastoral minister at the W. 24th Street parish, found parishioners who were happy to cook and serve an evening meal to the homeless on July 27 at Church of the Covenant in downtown Erie. "People really have gotten the idea that they are needed to help," Murray says.

A big thank-you to Cindy DeCoursey for her 10 years of service as editorial assistant in the Office of Communications, including *Faith* magazine and *FaithLife* newspaper. Cindy recently accepted a full-time position in the Marriage Tribunal Office of the diocese. Congratulations, Cindy!

It was nice to hear that the late Father J. Daniel Dymski was mentioned in the *DuBois Courier-Express* this summer. The newspaper credited Father Dymski for having the vision to establish DuFAST, the local bus service in DuBois, Falls Creek and Sabula, all towns in our diocese. The article also mentioned Father Dymski's important role in construction of St. Michael Terrace, a senior high-rise in DuBois.

Did anyone smell the smoke in Waterford this summer? In July, parishioners of All Saints Parish and their former pastor, Father Thomas Whitman, burned the church's mother, after only nine years of payments! All Saints was built in 2005 and combined the former parishes of St. Cyprian and St. Matthew in the Woods.

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## Small groups still growing after 25 years

By Mary Solberg  
*FaithLife*

Small faith communities in the Diocese of Erie are still growing strong after 25 years.

In an increasingly demanding world, people are finding a spiritual boost in small faith-sharing groups, according to Sister Nancy Fischer, SSI, director of Small Communities in the Diocese of Erie.

"In our diocese, there are probably a few thousand people who participate in small groups right now. In the United States as a whole, there are about 1 million who belong to these faith-sharing communities," Sister Nancy said.

On Aug. 9, about 100 people gathered at St. Peter Cathedral in downtown Erie to mark the silver anniversary of small groups in the 13-county Diocese of Erie. Bishop Lawrence Persico celebrated Mass and honored 16 parishes with certificates for keeping small Christian communities alive and well.

Brother Robert Moriarty, SM, director of the Pastoral Planning Department of Small Christian Communities, Hartford, Conn., presented a lecture before Mass. (Read about his talk in the September issue of *Faith* magazine.)

In the weeks leading up to the anniversary event, five more parishes in the diocese contacted Sister Nancy about establishing faith-sharing communities. Small groups of parishioners meet on an ongoing basis to share their faith and their lives. They have a five-fold purpose: prayer, support, sharing, learning and outreach.

"If you're authentically praying, God is go-



Photo by Anne-Marie Welsh  
David Jacquet of Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Harborcreek accepts a certificate from Bishop Lawrence Persico at the 25th anniversary Mass for small faith-sharing groups.

ing to call you out of yourself," Sister Nancy said.

Putting faith into action in everyday lives is the hallmark of small groups, she said. Participants grow spiritually through these encounters of faith.

In the 1980s, the Diocese of Erie first introduced small group faith-sharing in people's homes through the RENEW program.

In 1989, Bishop Michael Murphy made a commitment to this type of faith-sharing when he established the Office for Small Communities and Lay Ministry Training, under the direction of Sister Nancy.

Three parishes have been continuously active in the effort: Our Lady of Mercy in Harborcreek, Notre Dame in Hermitage, and St. Michael in Greenville.

## Happy anniversaries

Thirty-five years ago, Norbert and Norma Kuhl of Erie celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. This summer, they marked their 60th.

For both occasions, the Kuhls celebrated by participating in the annual diocesan-wide anniversary Mass sponsored by the Family Life Office of Catholic Charities.

"It's kind of like getting married all over again," says Norma Kuhl, 81.

For the diocese, that's exactly the point of the annual wedding celebration. Since 1979, the diocese has held anniversary Masses to recognize the commitment of couples marking milestone anniversaries. The Kuhls were one of the first event, which was held at Our Lady of Peace Parish in Erie.

As their 60th rolled around, Norma Kuhl kept looking for information about the diocesan event so she and her husband could participate again.

"It comes too fast, but it also seems like a long time," says Norbert Kuhl, 85.

This summer, 130 couples celebrating their 25th, 50th,



Norbert and Norma Kuhl of St. Jude Parish, Erie, were among 130 couples celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries at diocesan events this summer.

60th and higher attended two separate anniversary Masses in the diocese: one at St. Boniface Parish, Kelsey, and the other at Our Lady of Peace.

Each couple received a special certificate from Bishop Lawrence Persico or Bishop Emeritus Donald Trautman.

At the Erie Mass, Bishop Persico told those gathered: "The point of marriage is seeking the good of the other—your husband, your wife—and the subsequent others' being the children who may have been born from your union."

**FaithLife**  
The official newspaper of the Catholic Diocese of Erie. Published bi-weekly.  
St. Mark Catholic Center, 428 East Grandview Blvd., Erie, Pa. 16504  
Publisher: The Most Rev. Lawrence T. Persico

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

Website: [www.ErieRCD.org](http://www.ErieRCD.org)  
Volume 10, Issue 14  
Member of the Catholic Press Association  
Subscription: \$10/year  
Periodical postage paid at Erie, PA  
Postmaster: Send address changes to: [FaithLife@St.MarkCatholicCenter.org](mailto:FaithLife@St.MarkCatholicCenter.org)

Email: [FaithLife@ErieRCD.org](mailto:FaithLife@ErieRCD.org)  
Editorial: 814-824-1171  
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## News Briefs

### Let the Oktoberfests begin!

MEADVILLE—St. Agatha Parish in Meadville will hold its 8th annual Oktoberfest dinner on Sunday, Sept. 28, at the Seton School gym on Pine Street.

The event will be held from 1 to 6 p.m., but dinner will be served only from 1 to 5:30 p.m. Dinner will include ethnic foods, beer and wine. The cost for dinner is \$15 per person or \$35 for a family. Tickets are available at the door or at any of the three Meadville parishes before the event. Authentic German dances and other entertainment will be available.

### Author to speak at St. Jude the Apostle

ERIE—Author and speaker Justin Fatica will read from his new children's book, *You're Amazing*, at St. Jude the Apostle Church, 2891 W. 6th St., Erie, on Monday, Sept. 29, from 7 to 9 p.m. A pre-event is at 5:30 p.m. with refreshments.

Tickets are available at the door. The cost is \$10 per person, which includes a free copy of the book. Children under 12 are admitted free.

### 20th annual Rosary March scheduled Oct. 12 at St. Peter Cathedral

ERIE—The 20th annual Rosary March, sponsored by the World Apostolate of Fatima, will be held at St. Peter Cathedral, W. 10th and Sassafras streets, Erie, on Sunday, Oct. 12, beginning at 2 p.m.

Participants will process through the downtown area before returning to the cathedral for exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a homily and benediction.

Father David Renne, parochial vicar at Our Lady of Peace Parish, Erie, will be the guest speaker.

For information, contact John Walsh at 814-868-1100.

### Three-day retreat planned in Ridgway

RIDGWAY—St. Leo Magnus Parish in Ridgway will host a three-day mission/retreat Oct. 13-15, beginning each night at 7 p.m. The speaker will be Father John Collins, a member of the Paulist Fathers of New York City.

Father Collins helps people recognize the importance of developing their own faith story by appealing to their experience, both negative ("Why doesn't prayer work?") and positive ("In yearning to do good, we are uncovering the grace of God within").

His three talks are titled: "What Good is God" (Monday evening), "Why Prayers Don't Work" (Tuesday evening), and "Ten Kinds of People We Don't Have to Love" (Wednesday evening). There will be a social and refreshments each night following the program.

### Worldwide Marriage Encounter goes social

ERIE—The Worldwide Marriage Encounter of Western Pennsylvania is now using various social media to get the word out about the importance of healthy, happy marriages. Use this link to learn more about WWME: [www.yourmarriageisworthit.org](http://www.yourmarriageisworthit.org).

Here are other resources:

Search WWME-Western PA on Facebook

Follow @WWMEwpa on Twitter. Tweet a testimonial.

## In 'HOG' HEAVEN

It was "HOG" heaven this summer as Harley-Davidsons by the thousands converged on Erie's Roar on the Shore, an annual motorcycle rally hosted by the Manufacturer & Business Association. This year's ride benefited St. Patrick's Haven, a homeless shelter in Erie sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania.



Contributed photo

Father John Neff, pastor of St. Luke Parish, Youngsville, and St. Anthony Parish, Sheffield, participated in the bike parade from Presque Isle Downs and Casino to State Street in downtown Erie. He is shown standing next to his 2007 Honda Shadow Sabre 1100.



Photo by Mary Solberg

Sister Mary Fromknecht, SSJ, director of St. Patrick's Haven, had an unexpected visit with a former St. John student and avid motorcyclist, Dan Niemiec, one of 125 riders who participated in the Faith and Freedom Ride that kicked off the five-day Roar on the Shore event. Several Sisters of St. Joseph, including Sister Mary, participated in the ride as passengers.

## Q&A Pastoral planning chair discusses future of diocese

Q&A, from page 1

deteriorated. Rather, it's because the people who patronized the business housed by that building have moved or died or simply no longer see value in patronizing the business. Parish churches are similar. Quite often, they are located in neighborhoods and areas wherein the founding parishioners have moved away or died. And their children no longer live in the neighborhood. Without the sacramental presence of Christ, such parish churches become little more than museum pieces that house only the memories of a past that is no longer.

Are priests and bishops trained in planning?

Planning is one of those skills that is learned by doing. The more we do it, the better we become. It's kind of like being a parent. No one taught us. We learned by doing.

In our diocese, however, we are fortunate to have a bishop who is experienced in planning. He has been through the process of planning just once, but twice. So, he brings considerable experience with him.

Past diocesan efforts seem to have centered on Erie. What about the people in such areas as Coalport or Grassflat?

Bishop Lawrence Persico has gathered a Pastoral Planning Committee comprised of a cross-section of our diocese. We have lay women and men and religious and priests, most of whom live outside of Erie, some of whom live in the far reaches of our diocese. A clear effort has been made to obtain representation from all areas of our diocese...and, most notably, from outside of Erie.

How was the committee chosen? We have many talented people in our diocese, people who have used their God-given talents to achieve successful careers in diverse areas of expertise. Consulting with priests and administrators throughout our 10,000-square-mile diocese, we have identified people with considerable talent and expertise and invited them to become part of the formal planning process.

How will the bishop make difficult decisions?

Bishop Persico is the one who has coined the phrase "pastoral

planning process." In doing so, he has placed the emphasis on "pastoral." As the Good Shepherd has compassion toward his flock as recorded throughout the Gospels, so Bishop Persico has compassion for his flock known as the Diocese of Erie. To underscore this compassion, he is using the Good Shepherd as the visible image of the pastoral planning process.

How will the people of the diocese know what's going on?

At the heart of the pastoral planning process is communication. Using the expertise of the diocesan Communications Office, a multi-faceted communication plan has been devised to provide information in a timely manner to all of the faithful throughout the

Go to [www.ErieRCD.org/planning.asp](http://www.ErieRCD.org/planning.asp) to read the full Q&A

Diocese of Erie. The intent is to keep our faithful fully informed. We will use every platform available to us—from *Faith* magazine and *FaithLife* newspaper, to letters from the bishop, to our new web page dedicated to the process: [www.ErieRCD.org/planning.asp](http://www.ErieRCD.org/planning.asp).

Are there any guarantees for a successful future?

None of us is guaranteed a successful future. We are successful through hard work, prayer and collaboration. As Vatican II documents state, "We are the church." Only we can create our future. Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit to guide the church. Together—and plan has been devised to provide information in a timely manner to all of the faithful throughout the

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• Craft and Christmas room • Games of chance  
• Cornhole tournament • Theme baskets • Kids room  
• Religious goods • Mac and cheese cook-off!

**ERIE IRISH FESTIVAL 2014**  
Celebrating 177 Years of Irish Tradition  
SEPTEMBER 19-21  
St. Patrick Church 130 East 4th Street  
Fri. 5:00-11:00 PM  
Sat. Noon-11:00 PM  
Church of the Nativity 109 German Street  
IRISH BREAKFAST  
Sun. 8:30 AM-12:30 PM  
FREE ADMISSION • FREE PARKING • AUTHENTIC IRISH FOOD  
ENTERTAINMENT • IRISH DANCING  
[erieirishfestival.com](http://erieirishfestival.com)

**Largest memorial display in the area!**  
Monday-Friday 9 to 5 • Saturday 9 to Noon  
Evenings & Weekends by Appointment  
32980 Route 66 • Leeper, PA 16233  
**BORLAND MEMORIALS** (814) 744-8340  
[www.borlandmemorials.com](http://www.borlandmemorials.com)

**2nd Annual Knights of Columbus #5430 St. John the Evangelist Sportsman's Raffle**  
Saturday, September 27, 2014  
From 6 pm til 11 pm  
At St. John's Parish Center  
1001 Main St., Girard  
Doors open at 5:00 pm  
Free Refreshments and Food

- Must be 18 to Purchase Ticket and attend Raffle
- Small Games of Chance License #20145388
- All Winners will be notified; Need not be Present to Win
- Non-Smoking Event; Must be 21 for Alcohol & Gambling

All State, Local & Federal Laws Will Be Adhered To  
Photo ID will be required to take possession of all prizes  
First 19 Prizes issued at Gander Mountain, Millcreek Mall (Must be able to pass background check or cash option will be given)  
**19 SPORTSMAN PRIZES WITH CASH OPTION LIKE OUR 1ST RAFFLE PLUS...**

**GRAND PRIZE 2014 POLARIS SPORTSMAN 400 HO 4X4 ATV FROM OFF-ROAD EXPRESS 10320 WATTSBURG RD, ERIE DONATION \$10.00**

Tickets provided compliments of Pilewski Plumbing  
For tickets call the Church office 774-4108, John Hayden 440-3175, Joe Cicero 774-9397, Dave Jackson 774-0193

**Support Lifelong Learning!**  
**Catholic Education Collection**  
September 20-21, 2014  
Please use the offertory envelope provided by your parish.  
**HALF OF EVERY DOLLAR** donated to the collection stays in your parish to support its educational programs.  
The other half is invested in the Education and Formation Endowments to benefit current and future generations.  
24 Years of Helping to Support Catholic Education!  
[www.ErieRCD.org/schools.asp](http://www.ErieRCD.org/schools.asp)

## Diocese helps couples celebrate anniversaries



**KERSEY**—Bishop Emeritus Donald Trautman congratulates John and Marian Martini of St. Tobias Parish, Brockway, who attended the second of two diocesan-wide wedding anniversary celebrations this summer. The Martinis marked 65 years of marriage during the event at St. Boniface Parish, Kersey.

## Ecumenical Bible School held in Oil City



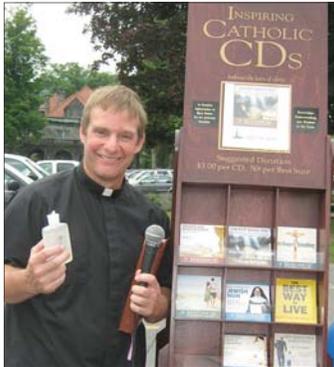
**OIL CITY**—Catholic churches in the Oil City area, along with Free Willow Street and Bethel United Methodist churches, held an Ecumenical Vacation Bible School in Oil City this summer. Playing a parachute game, left to right, are: crew leader Ryan Antrilli, Matthew Antrilli, Levi Vitka, and Michael and Eric Scott.

## BSS Class of 1974 celebrates 40th reunion



**ERIE**—About 30 members of the Class of 1974 gathered for a reunion at Blessed Sacrament School over the Fourth of July weekend. The group has gathered every five years since graduating 40 years ago. Pictured touring the hallways of their alma mater, in the front row, left to right, are: Debbie Fagan Rennie, John Scatizzi, Gary Fitch, Lisa DiSalvo Spiller, Mary Frances Benson Solberg; in the rear, left to right, are: Ed Jerge, Tom Dahl and Bernie Biroszak.

## Ridgway parish benefits from spiritual CDs



**RIDGWAY**—Father Brian Vossler, pastor of St. Leo Parish in Ridgway, blessed new "Lighthouse" spiritual CDs at the parish picnic this summer. The estate of Mary Butera donated financial assistance for this spiritual enrichment for the parish community. More than 200 parishioners attended the parish picnic, enjoyed breakfast and lunch, played games and had a chance to look over the CDs that will be available in the parish gathering space.

## Middle States awards reaccreditation to DuBois Central Catholic



**DuBOIS**—Father Edward Walk, assistant headmaster at DuBois Central Catholic, center, holds a plaque announcing the reaccreditation by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools of the pre-K through 12th grade school system. Pictured at the presentation, left to right, are: Msgr. Charles Kaza, president of DuBois Central Catholic; Kathleen Kunkle, academic dean of curriculum; Father Walk; Dawn Bressler, secondary principal; and Dr. Samuel Signorino, director of Catholic Schools and School Personnel of the Diocese of Erie.

## Let it grow in Potter County!



**ROULETTE**—Despite cool temperatures and heavy rains, the Catholic Rural Ministry community garden in Potter County has been producing well this summer. Displaying some fresh lettuce, Swiss chard and escarole, left to right, are: Benedictine Sister Mary Hoffman, Mary Jane Weeks and Benedictine Sister Phyllis Schleicher. Mary Jane Weeks and Nita Spencer started the food pantry in Roulette and use fresh produce from the Catholic Rural Ministry garden. About 45 people from the area visit the food pantry on the third Tuesday of each month.

## Two Warren parishes help in Kentucky



**BETSY LAYNE, Ky.**—Nineteen adults and youth from the churches of St. Joseph and Holy Redeemer in Warren attended the Catholic Heart Work Camp this summer in Betsy Layne, Ky. The volunteers participated in various programs and helped serve the local community. Meg Beyer of St. Joseph Parish is pictured here at a worksite.

## Parishioners from St. Marys attend conference



**ST. MARYS**—Parishioners from St. Mary Parish, St. Marys, and St. Joseph Parish, Lucinda, attended this summer's Defending the Faith Conference: Standing with the Church in Boldness, Zeal and Love, held at Franciscan University of Steubenville. Pictured at the conference in the first row, left to right, are: Brenda Wright, Patti Bauer, Linda Ida, Linda McClosky, Judy Wolbert and Karen Schmaeder. In the second row, left to right, are: Joe Ida, Marge Bauer and Doc Bauer.

Say "Yes" to God's Calling!  
 Plan to attend the inaugural  
**1:38 Women**  
**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE**  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4**

Warner Theatre  
 in downtown Erie  
**9:00 AM - 3:30 PM**  
 Fellowship • Inspiring national speakers • Lunch • Adoration • Reconciliation • Mass with Bishop Lawrence Persico

All faiths are welcome!  
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 OR (814) 455-7364 for more details and to register.



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Save the Date!  
**Saturday November 1, 2014**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Erie Men's Conference**

At Erie's beautiful Warner Theater 9:00AM to 3:30PM  
 Three nationally known Catholic speakers  
 Bishop Lawrence T. Persico in attendance  
 Adoration • Confession • Mass  
 Don't miss this opportunity to grow in faith!

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