

## Saintly prayer

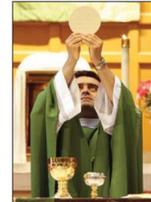
Sisters of Mercy promote founder's sainthood cause with prayer cards, page 3.



# FaithLife

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www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

August 6, 2006

## Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

### Wedding Anniversary Mass at Ss. Cosmas & Damian Parish, Punxsutawney – Aug. 13 at 2 p.m.

Bishop Trautman will offer this Mass for couples who are celebrating their 25th, 50th or 60th wedding anniversaries in 2006. A light reception for anniversary couples and their families will follow. To register, contact your church office or Catholic Charities' Family Life Office at 814.824.1250 or 800.374.3723 ext. 250 or go online at [www.eriebcd.org](http://www.eriebcd.org).



### Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation) – Aug. 15

"Finally the immaculate virgin, preserved free from all stain of original sin, when the course of her earthly life was finished, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, and exalted by the Lord as queen over all things, so that she might be the more fully conformed to her son, the Lord of lords and conqueror of sin and death." – *Catechism of the Catholic Church, No. 966*



## Clergy appointments

The Most Rev. Donald W. Trautman, STD, SSL, Bishop of Erie, announces the following clergy appointments:

**Deacon Charles Adamczyk**, appointed deacon assistant at St. James Parish, Erie, and chaplain assistant at Brevillier Village for a term of three years. Effective July 21, 2006.

**Deacon Robert Ball**, appointed deacon assistant at St. George Parish, Erie, effective July 21, 2006. Appointed associate campus minister at Mercyhurst College-North East, effective Sept. 1, 2006.

**Deacon Gerald Beeman**, appointed deacon assistant at St. Bernard of Clairvaux Parish, Bradford, and chaplain assistant at the Federal Correctional Institution McKean and to campus ministry at the University of Pittsburgh, Bradford campus, for a term of three years. Effective July 21, 2006.

**Deacon Robert Boal**, appointed deacon assistant at St. Patrick Parish, Franklin, for a term of three years and chaplain at the Polk Center. Effective July 21, 2006.

**Father James Faluszcak**, appointed diocesan Director of Campus Ministry while continuing as campus minister of Clarion University with residency at Immaculate Conception Parish rectory, Clarion. Effective July 25, 2006.

**Father Michael Ferrick**, appointed pastor of Queen of the World Parish, St. Marys, for a term of six years ending June 30, 2012. Effective Aug. 3, 2006.

**Msgr. Michael Gaines**, reappointed as director of the Office of Clergy Personnel for an additional two-year term concluding July 20, 2008. Effective July 20, 2006.

**Msgr. John Herbein**, appointed dean of the Oil City Deanery for a term ending June 30, 2010. Effective immediately.

**Father Gregory Passauer**, appointed temporary parochial administrator of St. Hippolyte Parish, Frenchtown, and Our Lady of Lourdes Mission, Cochranton. Effective Aug. 1, 2006.

**Father James Reardon**, appointed parochial vicar of St. Agatha Parish, Meadville, and its mission of St. Bernadette, Saegertown, for a term of three years ending June 30, 2009. Effective Aug. 1, 2006.

**Father William Rice**, appointed weekend sacramental assistant at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Erie, with residency at the parish rectory while continuing as a member of the faculty of Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie. Effective Aug. 1, 2006.

**Father B. Lamonte Sayers**, appointed pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Clarion, for a term of six years ending June 30, 2012. Effective Aug. 1, 2006.

**Deacon Jeffrey Swanson**, appointed deacon assistant at St. Peter Cathedral, Erie, and as chaplain at Select Specialty Care Hospital, Erie, for a term of three years. Effective July 21, 2006.

**Father Frank Ziemkiewicz**, OSB, will resume the pastorate of St. Mary Parish, St. Marys, after completing required military service. Effective Aug. 2, 2006. **Father Eric Vogt**, OSB, concludes his term as administrator. **Father Chrysostom Schlimm**, OSB, will return to St. Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe.

## All Saints' day



God. Not only this church building but you the living church, you the faith-filled followers of Christ, give praise and glory to God."

The two parishes officially consolidated in April 2005 and worshiped together at St. Matthew while both churches were being sold. Rather than combine the names of the two parishes, it

**Clockwise from top: The first Mass at the new All Saints Church; Bishop Donald Trautman and Father Tom Whitman during the Eucharistic Prayer; Father Tom Whitman and Deacon William Spinks incense the church; the front of the new All Saints Church.**

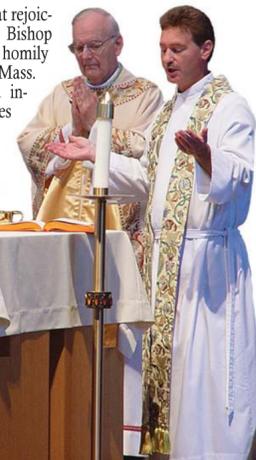
## Bishop, parish dedicate new church

By Jason Koshinski  
FaithLife editor

WATERFORD – For years St. Cyprian Parish in Waterford and St. Matthew in the Woods Parish in Erie dreamed of having new churches. What they dreamed alone remained a dream, but what they dreamed together has become a reality.

The two former parishes, which consolidated in 2005 to form All Saints Parish, celebrated the dedication of their new church July 15.

"This is a day of great rejoicing and thanksgiving," Bishop Trautman said in his homily during the dedication Mass. "This magnificent and inspiring new church gives praise and glory to



Photos by Jason Koshinski

outcome, going through the process of building something together, was more than what they thought it would be."

The new church seats 350 and includes some elements from the former churches. The crucifix, altar and ambo came from St. Matthew, and the tabernacle and Stations of the Cross are from St. Cyprian. Everything else is new.

"Once the building started to go up, people started to get excited," Father Whitman said. "They certainly needed a worship space that they could call their own, their church." Included with the church are a social hall that can also be divided into classrooms for religious education, office space and a rectory all under

Father Tom Whitman, who has served as pastor of both St. Cyprian and St. Matthew since 1999, said the building process has helped unite the parish families.

"This has been a lot of hard work from a lot of people both in the community and parish members," Father Whitman said. "There has been a tremendous outpouring of support for this particular project. I think a lot of people are surprised that the

See ALL SAINTS, page 4

## Benedictine Sisters donate pews, chapel fixtures to La. parish

By Jason Koshinski  
FaithLife editor

ERIE – Parishioners at hurricane-damaged Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish in Cameron, La., will be able to sit in pews again thanks to the Benedictine Sisters of Erie.

The sisters have donated the pews, lighting fixtures and ceiling fans from their Mount St. Benedict chapel, which is now scheduled for a major renovation, to the Louisiana church.

After Hurricane Rita, 90 percent of the homes in Cameron were destroyed. Fortunately, there were no deaths as the community was evacuated. The church building was left standing, however, but it was completely washed out. The only item left intact was the crucifix.

"A wall of water came through the front and literally blew the walls of the church out," said Morris LeBleu, director of com-

munications for the Diocese of Lake Charles, La. "The rectory and social hall were destroyed and the church was just a shell."

On July 23, the parish celebrated the first liturgy at Our Lady Star of the Sea since Hurricane Rita, even though the church is still empty, open to the air and has no electricity or air conditioning. Using a makeshift altar and lawn chairs, parishioners were eager to worship in their home parish, which has 160 families. The parish will incorporate the pews, lights and fans while the church is being rebuilt.

"This is a very important thing to these folks," LeBleu said. "These people have been able to go to a church but not their church. When we talk about the Catholic Church, the first thought of most people is the church they worship in. To not have a church has been very difficult for a lot of people." LeBleu noted that many pa-



Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish in Cameron, La., in the aftermath of Hurricane Rita. While the church withstood the storm's winds and surge, the rectory, religious education building and small house used for youth ministry activities located on campus were destroyed.

rishioners have attended Sunday Mass at a nearby chapel celebrated by the pastor of another coastal parish.

The real difficulty is there is no place for parishioners to live, he

See CHAPEL, page 3

## Erie abortion clinic open again with new doctor

By Jason Koshinski  
FaithLife editor

ERIE – After a year of being dormant, the only abortion clinic in the Erie Diocese has opened again.

American Women's Services, located in the Professional Building at 1611 Peach St. in downtown Erie, reopened in April after securing the services of a new doctor. The clinic closed in April 2005 because it did not have a doctor on staff.

"In hearing people's reaction to the reopening, it's clear that a lot of people were comfortable and confident that they were gone and

were never coming back," said Tim Broderick, president of People for Life, an Erie-based pro-life group. "On the other hand, the *Erie Times-News* was reporting right along that their intentions were to open as soon as possible and the only thing preventing them from doing so was that they were having trouble locating a doctor."

The latest doctor staffing the abortion clinic is Stephen Paul Regec, MD. According to a ChoiceTrust Health Pulse doctor credential history report, Regec, 59, holds a Pennsylvania medical license and has been practicing as an Ob/Gyn with addresses listed

in DuBois, Clearfield, St. Marys and Pittsburgh.

According to the Pennsylvania Department of State's Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs, Regec pleaded guilty in 1991 to three misdemeanor violations of the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, one violation of distribution by a practitioner to a drug dependent person and two violations of refusal or failure to keep or furnish records.

In Nov. 1991, he was sentenced to a total of \$10,000 in fines plus court costs and sentenced for 12 to 24 months, which was

suspended, the report states. Regec was instead placed on criminal probation for two years under the supervision of the Clearfield County Probation Department.

Also according to the report, Regec's state medical license was suspended in Jan. 1992 for four months and he was fined \$3,000. He was placed on probation by the state medical board. Regec completed his medical board and criminal probationary period in February 1994 and his license was reinstated, the report says.

According to a *Times-News* report, Regec is not the only physician linked with

American Women's Services' Erie clinic to have been disciplined by state medical boards.

Harvey Brookman, MD, was fired by AWS in 2004 for performing abortions at the Erie clinic without the proper medical license. Brookman has been disciplined by state medical boards in Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey.

Gerald Applegate, MD, a physician affiliated with AWS and has been seen at the Erie site, had his Pennsylvania medical license put on probation for 90 days. Applegate failed to maintain medical records when prescribing controlled

See ABORTION CLINIC, page 4

U.S.

**Former abortion clinic becomes a Catholic chapel**

BUFFALO, N.Y. (CNS) — The site of a former abortion clinic in Williamsville, a Buffalo suburb, has been turned into the chapel of a Catholic radio station. Bishop Edward U. Kmiec of Buffalo blessed and dedicated the Chapel of the Holy Innocents in June at the Station of the Cross, a four-station Catholic radio network based in Williamsville. Jim Wright, co-founder of Holy Family Communications, which owns the network, said he only recently learned from the previous owner of the building that the 330 square-foot chapel was being constructed in the space where abortions were once performed. "In the tradition of the early church, pagan temples were turned into holy spaces," Bishop Kmiec said. "We have done the same thing here today."

**Lily of the Mohawks seen as beacon of hope, model of Christian action**

BURIEN, Wash. (CNS) — Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha is seen as a beacon of hope by a man once mired in addiction to drugs and alcohol and by an archbishop as a model for carrying out the Christian responsibility in the world. The two roles were described by keynote speaker Richard Vendiola and by Archbishop Charles J. Chaput of Denver July 20 at the 67th annual Tekakwitha Conference held at John F. Kennedy High School in Burien. Blessed Kateri, known as the Lily of the Mohawks, died in 1680. She was the first American Indian to be beatified and her cause for canonization is pending. More than 1,000 American Indians from 23 Tekakwitha Circles in the United States and Canada registered for the three-day conference. The circles are groups of Catholic adults and youths who try to emulate the life of Blessed Kateri.

**Knights of Columbus raised \$10 million for Katrina relief**

NEW ORLEANS (CNS) — The \$10 million raised by the Knights of Columbus for hurricane relief on the Gulf Coast represents the largest disaster relief effort in the organization's 124-year history, said Patrick Korten, vice president for communications. Almost before the winds had died down on the Gulf Coast following Katrina in August 2005, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson had initiated a conference call with all state directors in the United States and Canada to begin relief efforts. "The first response was to place \$2.5 million aside for disaster relief immediately," said Korten. He said that even before local councils knew what was going on at the national level they were raising funds and collecting supplies. "The local Knights didn't wait, they were already doing something," Korten said.

**Carmelites' national shrine in Wisconsin designated a basilica**

HUBERTUS, Wis. (CNS) — As the Discalced Carmelites were celebrating the 100th anniversary of their presence at the National Shrine of Mary, Help of Christians, they could have expected to hear Milwaukee Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan praise their century of ministry. What they didn't expect to hear was that the hilltop shrine

a few miles northwest of Milwaukee — known locally as "Holy Hill" — has a new status. It is now a basilica. "We were totally surprised," said Carmelite Father Cyril Guise. Archbishop Dolan announced the news at the Mass he celebrated July 16 to mark the religious community's century of service.

WORLD

**Vox Clara reviews U.S. bishops' proposals for wording in Mass prayers**

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A Vatican-appointed committee of English-speaking bishops has reviewed the amendments and adaptations approved by the U.S. bishops in a new translation of the main prayers for Mass. Archbishop Alfred C. Hughes of New Orleans, a member of the Vox Clara Committee, said members reviewed and discussed each of the U.S.-proposed changes to the text prepared by the International Commission on English in the Liturgy. The Vox Clara Committee, which met July 17-21 at the Vatican, advises the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments on English-language translations. The congregation must approve translations adopted by a national bishops' conference before they can be used in parishes. Archbishop Hughes said Vox Clara spent a significant amount of time on the translation approved in June by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops because it was the only conference to have approved the text with amendments and adaptations.

**Vatican official: Kneeling expresses meeting Jesus in the Eucharist**

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Kneeling during the consecration at Mass is the most appropriate way to express the fact that in the Eucharist one meets Jesus, who was bowed down by the weight of human sin, said an article by a Vatican official. "The Lord lowered himself to the point of death on the cross in order to encounter sinful man, freeing him from sin," said the brief article published in *Notitiae*, the bulletin of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments. "If the Eucharist represents the sacramental memorial of the death and resurrection of the Lord, it seems appropriate that those for whom the Lord bowed himself down would bow down before this supreme mystery of love," said the article by Msgr. Stephan Hunseler, a congregation official from Germany.

**Pope says being silent about Christianity will not increase peace**

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In the name of peace, many people are tempted to think it is better not to speak about religion or their specific faith, but that runs the risk of giving free rein to those who abuse religion and the name of God, Pope Benedict XVI said. The pope made his comments July 23 at the tiny parish in the village of Rhemes-Saint-Georges, near where he was vacationing in the Italian Alps. "Today in a multicultural and multireligious world, many are tempted to say, 'It is better for peace in the world among religions and cultures not to talk too much about the specifics of Christianity, that is, of Christ, the church and the sacraments,'" the pope said. Many people reason to themselves, "Let's be content with the things we have more or less in common," he said. But that will not increase the chances for peace, the pope said.

By the Way...

Bishop Donald Trautman's March lecture on liturgy in Minnesota has received quite a bit of national attention. The lecture, titled "The Relationship of the Active Participation of the Assembly to Liturgical Translations," was published in the July issue of *Worship*, a scholarly review publication with a focus on liturgical renewal. The article is actually the text of the annual Godfrey Diekmann lecture Bishop Trautman delivered at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minn., on March 27. *Worship* is published by the monks of St. John's Abbey.



Jason Koshinski

It was also published in the July/August issue of *Emmanuel*, a magazine of Eucharistic spirituality, published by the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament.

Read the complete text of the lecture at [www.ErieRCD.org](http://www.ErieRCD.org). John Allen's June 23 "The Word from Rome" column at NCRonline featured a Q & A interview that gauges Bishop Trautman's thoughts on the result of the bishops' vote in Los Angeles, making the implementation of the new Mass successful and Rome's acceptance of the American amendments.

Father Jay Schultz, vicar of education of the Erie Diocese, will lead a trip to Alaska in 2007 that will benefit the Diocesan Student Congress, a consortium of all seven Catholic high schools in the diocese. Be part of a seven-day cruise on the M.V. Golden Princess July 13-21, 2007. There is also an optional pre-cruise "heart of Alaska" tour including Denali National Park July 10-13. For more information and a brochure, call Gail Mayer at 814.824.1220 or e-mail [JSchultz@ErieRCD.org](mailto:JSchultz@ErieRCD.org).

Gerald Iversen, national coordinator of Alternatives for Simple Living, and his wife Rita visited St. Mark Parish in Emporium on Aug. 4. Alternatives for Simple Living strives to "equip people of faith to challenge consumerism, live justly and celebrate responsibly." The program featured a discussion on the personal and global benefits of simpler living, meeting the needs of young adults in increasingly tough times, and Alternatives' resources and services. For more information on Alternatives, visit [www.simpleliving.org](http://www.simpleliving.org).

Bishop Trautman has announced the date for the next priesthood ordination. For those planning ahead, it is scheduled for Friday, June 8, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Peter Cathedral.

Word comes from our friends at Catholic News Service that Pope Benedict XVI is working on a new book. For the second year in a row, rumors were floating around that Pope Benedict was using his July vacation in the northern Italian Alps to work on a book he has been writing, on and off, for three or four years. The pope confirmed to journalists he is working on a book but would not explain the subject matter. The 2006 rumor was that he is trying to complete a major work on Christology, discussing various aspects of Catholic faith in Jesus Christ. The Holy Father used last year's vacation to write his first encyclical, *God is Love*, which was published in January.

Jason Koshinski is editor of FaithLife. Contact him at [JKoshinski@ErieRCD.org](mailto:JKoshinski@ErieRCD.org) or 814.824.1171.

U.S. Catholic population up, most other church data down

By Jerry Filteau  
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Catholic population rose by more than a million last year, but the church registered declines in Catholic school enrollments and in sacramental practice, according to figures in the 2006 Official Catholic Directory.

The 2,043-page tome, also known as the Kenedy Directory after its New Jersey publishers' imprint, came out at the end of June.

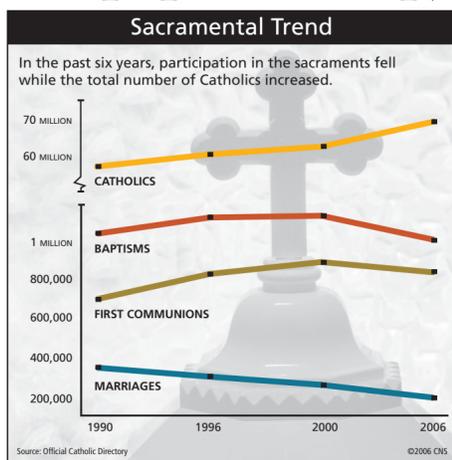
It lists all ordained U.S. Catholic clergy, parishes, missions, schools, hospitals and other institutions. It also gives statistical data on the church by diocese and nationally. Its national figures include data from Puerto Rico, a U.S. commonwealth, and U.S. territories overseas such as the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa and Guam.

Based on annual reports submitted by each diocese, the directory is supposed to be a snapshot of what the church looked like on Jan. 1, 2006.

The Catholic population rose about 1.3 million last year, to 69,135,254, the directory said. But it actually may have fallen once a correction is made for the plainly erroneous figures for the Boston Archdiocese.

The 2006 figures are also skewed by a lack of any data from the New Orleans Archdiocese, which was devastated by Hurricane Katrina last Aug. 29 and unable to provide statistical data for this year's directory.

Even with adjustments to account for lack of data from New Orleans, the U.S. church clearly registered declines in Catholic school enrollments and in almost every area of sacramental practice between 2005 and 2006, according to the directory.



The number of students in Catholic high schools dropped to just under 680,000, a decline of 13,000. Elementary schools enrolled 1.76 million children, almost 84,000 fewer than the year before.

The number of teachers in Catholic schools dropped by nearly 8,000, to just under 173,000.

There were some 729,000 high school students enrolled in parish religious education programs, 26,000 fewer than the previous year. Elementary students in religious education numbered nearly 3.5 million, but the total was 81,000 below the previous year's figure.

In all, the number of Catholic children receiving faith formation in Catholic schools or religious education programs last year was 204,000 lower than the year before.

Catholic colleges and universities reported 764,000 students, about 9,000 fewer than the year before.

The total number of priests in U.S. dioceses and religious orders was 42,271. This was 1,151 fewer than the year before. The number of women religious declined more than 2,000, to 67,773. There were 5,252 religious brothers, 265 fewer than the year before.

For the first time since the permanent diaconate was revived after the Second Vatican Council, the total number of permanent deacons in the United States — 14,995 — showed a decline, but it was very slight at 32 below the previous year's total.

Although 46 new parishes

were opened across the country last year, they did not offset parish closings or mergers. The 18,992 parishes listed represent a net loss of 305 parishes last year and mark the first time since 1983 that there were fewer than 19,000 Catholic parishes in the United States and its possessions.

The 1983 directory, which listed 18,839 parishes, reported a Catholic population of almost 52.1 million, or one parish per 2,765 Catholics. The figures in the 2006 directory indicate the ratio has now grown to one parish per 3,640 Catholics.

The 573 Catholic hospitals listed in the new directory are eight fewer than the year before, but in 2005 they served 84.7 million patients, 2.5 million more than the year before.

One anomaly in the 2006 edition's statistical summary was the apparent quadrupling of facilities for residential care of children, or orphanages, from 235 last year to 1,023 this year. The Diocese of Brooklyn, N.Y., was listed as having 800 orphanages this year, 794 more than it listed last year. Barbara Conley, Brooklyn diocesan director of child care and planning, told Catholic News Service that the diocese has six agencies whose services include residential care for children. Using that figure would give a national total of such agencies as 229.

A similar anomaly occurred in the 2001 directory when a typist keyed in 244, the number of stu-

Key sacramental moments:

- There were only about 212,000 church-recognized marriages last year, 11,000 fewer than the year before.
- Confirmations numbered more than 630,000, down 15,000 from the year before.
- First Communions numbered nearly 833,000, a drop of almost 40,000.
- Infant baptisms totaled 943,000, down by 34,000.
- Adult baptisms and receptions into full communion totaled more than 154,000, about the same as the year before.
- There were 438 priestly ordinations, 29 fewer than the year before.

Source: 2006 Official Catholic Directory

dents in a private Catholic high school in Guam, on the line that should have had the number of schools, which was one, making the national total 243 higher than it really was.

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# Sisters of Mercy promote founder's cause for sainthood

By Jason Koshinski  
FaithLife editor

ERIE – The Erie community of the Sisters of Mercy have joined other Mercy communities around the world to promote the sainthood cause for Catherine McAuley, founder of the Sisters of Mercy.

At a news conference July 19, the Erie community announced it is distributing special prayer cards to promote McAuley's sainthood cause at the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse and all Mercy ministries.

Three different five-by-seven cards have a brief biography of McAuley, a prayer for her beatification and a prayer titled "Suscipe," which was written by McAuley. Smaller cards have an assortment of McAuley's quotes on the spiritual life and a bookmark offers a prayer for those who are ill.

McAuley (1778-1841) founded the Sisters of Mercy in Dublin, Ireland, 175 years ago. In 1843, her sisters came to the United States where today they are called the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas.

Pope Paul VI opened McAuley's cause for sainthood in 1978. She was declared venerable by Pope John Paul II in 1990.

"We want the prayer cards to be a source of spiritual refresh-

ment for people and also call their attention to Catherine's cause for sainthood," said Sister Bernadette Bell, president of the Erie community of the Sisters of Mercy.

McAuley founded the Sisters of Mercy in 1831. With her own inherited wealth, she built the first House of Mercy for the poor women and children of Ireland. A year later, a cholera epidemic broke out in Dublin. She and her sisters went to all corners of the city to nurse those stricken with the illness.

"We are told that the places she visited had the lowest death rate for the area struck by the disease," said Sister Teresa Okonski, RSM, director of campus Ministry at Mercyhurst Prep High School, who recently returned from an education conference at the Mercy International Centre in Dublin, home to Catherine

lives, can look forward to being saints. But we need people like Catherine McAuley to be examples of extraordinary goodness," she said.



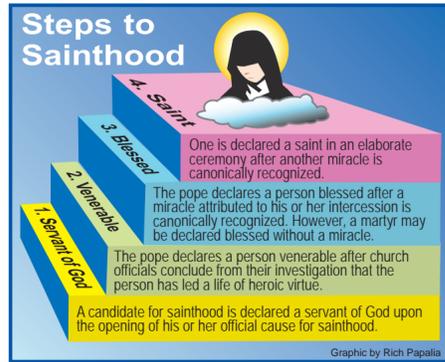
Photo by Jason Koshinski

Sister Teresa Okonski (left) and Sister Bernadette Bell pose in front of a portrait of Catherine McAuley in the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse holding prayer cards. The sisters are using the prayer cards to promote McAuley's cause for sainthood.

McAuley.

Sister Teresa said she returned with an appreciation of McAuley's generosity and her charisma directed toward the sick.

"All of us, if we lead good



lives, can look forward to being saints. But we need people like Catherine McAuley to be examples of extraordinary goodness," she said.

Beginning this fall, McAuley cause for sainthood will be promoted among Mercyhurst Prep students. Petitions placed on by the entire school body will also ask for the intercession of Catherine McAuley.

The sisters are hoping for a physical cure, through the intercession of Catherine McAuley, to add to her process of canonization. One miracle has been documented and another is currently being investigated in the Boston area, Sister Bernadette

said. Any person who receives a favor through Catherine McAuley's intercession is asked to contact Sister Anne Hannon at Sisters of Mercy, Riverside, Birr, Co. Offaly, Ireland or e-mail [annehannonrsm@eircom.net](mailto:annehannonrsm@eircom.net).

"It's interesting because at one time the saying was that Catherine McAuley did not want to be a saint," Sister Bernadette said. "But the comment has been made that Catherine has gone beyond the Sisters of Mercy, that she's become worldwide and international."

For more information on Catherine McAuley, visit the Mercy International Association's Web site at [www.mercyworld.org](http://www.mercyworld.org).

## People in the News

### OLC names George Ogeka new principal

ERIE – Our Lady's Christian School has named George Ogeka as its new principal. Ogeka, who had served as an assistant principal at East High School in Erie since 2003, officially began his duties on Aug. 1.



George Ogeka

He previously held positions as Behavior Specialist and Health and Physical Education teacher at East High, and has held various coaching positions in the City of Erie School District including head basketball coach at East and Central high schools. He started his career in education at Cathedral Center School in Erie.

Ogeka, 36, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in health and physical education at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and a Master of Education and Principal's Certificate from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania.

In addition to a new principal, Our Lady's Christian will welcome 50 new students from St. Andrew School during the 2006-07 school year. The school's 400 students will experience the first phase of a new enrichment program with the introduction of Mandarin Chinese to the kindergarten through eighth grade curriculum. Subsequent additions to the enrichment program will include a gifted program and after-school elective courses scheduled for the 2007-08 school year.

A ministry of St. Andrew, St. Jude the Apostle and St. Julia parishes, Our Lady's Christian School is a Catholic elementary school serving students in preschool through eighth grade.

## Briefly

### Clarion food distribution centers needed

Church groups or organizations interested in distributing food in Clarion County are asked to contact the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania.

Karen Seggi, executive director of Second Harvest, located in Erie, said their organization is hoping to increase the number of its member charitable agencies throughout the Clarion area in an effort to provide food to people in need.

Second Harvest is the only food bank within 11 counties in northwest Pennsylvania, and it is the major supplier of food to a network of currently 234 member hunger relief agencies. These agencies include food pantries, soup kitchens, Kids Cafes and homeless shelters.

Church groups and other organizations interested in becoming a food bank member agency in Clarion County should contact Rose Graham, director of agency relations for Second Harvest at 1.800.604.9186.

### Retreat for deaf & hard of hearing set for Sept. 8-10 at St. Thomas More House of Prayer

A retreat for the deaf and hard of hearing will be held at St. Thomas More House of Prayer in Cranberry (near Oil City) on September 8, 9 and 10. Cost is \$50 and scholarships are available. Carpooling can be arranged. The retreat will be directed by Deacon Patrick Graybill who serves as a permanent deacon at Emmanuel Church for the Deaf in Rochester, N.Y. He is retired from the National Institute for the Deaf after 23 years as a professor of performing arts and literature. He is well known for his acting, story telling and poetry, as well as directing retreats and other spiritual activities for the deaf. Interpretation will be available. For more information or to make reservations, contact Jackie Johnson at 814. 824.1257 V/Relay, 800.374.3723 ext. 257 V/Relay or e-mail [JJohnson@EricRCD.org](mailto:JJohnson@EricRCD.org).

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## Communications Campaign supports evangelization

The Catholic Communications Campaign, which supports the publication and distribution of *Faith* magazine, the *FaithLife* news bulletin and [www.ErieRCD.org](http://www.ErieRCD.org), will be held in parishes throughout the Erie Diocese the weekend of Aug. 12 and 13.

In a letter to parishioners urging participation in the campaign, Bishop Donald Trautman noted the importance of the collection.

"*Faith* magazine is mailed to every registered Catholic household in the diocese on a bi-monthly basis," he wrote, "an especially important outreach because more than half of these households do not attend Mass regularly. Your contribution will enable you to help spread the Good News throughout our diocese."

A number of parishes have elected to participate in this national collection the weekend of Aug. 19 and 20.

**catholic communications campaign**  
august 12-13, 2006

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CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ERIE  
[www.erieRCD.org](http://www.erieRCD.org)

## Benedictine Sisters donate pews, chapel fixtures to La. parish

CHAPEL, from page 1

said, recalling few, if any, livable structures standing after the storm.

"People have come back," LeBleu said. "They're living in trailers or tents just to be on their land. They are very hardy souls, very self sufficient."

With a shortage of contractors, the parish is waiting in line with folks who need their homes and businesses rebuilt. The hope is that once Our Lady Star of the Sea and other churches are rebuilt, people will come back.

"People here are very pleased to know that people such as the sisters and others around the country want to help. It's a wonderful thing to know that people care about us here in southwest Louisiana."

After more than two years of community discussion, the Benedictine Sisters have decided to renovate the Mount St. Benedict chapel, the first major renovation project at the 36-year-old monastery. Several improvements are needed to provide a gathering space that meets the physical and spiritual needs of



Workers remove stained-glass windows from the chapel at Mount St. Benedict. The pews, light fixtures and fans have been sent to Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish in Cameron, La. The Benedictine Sisters are planning a renovation of the monastery chapel that will be completed in 2007.

the sisters and their guests, said Sister Christine Vladimiroff, prioress of the Benedictine Sisters of Erie.

"When the hurricane happened, we were aware of loss to churches and religious communities," Sister Christine said. "When we decided our pew configuration would no longer

fit our needs, we contacted the affected areas to see who might need them. We're delighted that someone can use them. They're beautiful and worthy of being used in a worship space."

Plans call for the interior chapel to include leveling the inclined floor, upgrading HVAC and electrical systems and recon-

figuring the worship space in the monastic choir tradition. Other renovations include replacing the chapel roof and ceiling, creating a Blessed Sacrament chapel for contemplative prayer and reflection and incorporating a baptismal symbol in its design.

The last liturgy at the Mount St. Benedict chapel was held on July 16. During the last two weeks of July, the chapel was stripped and emptied of all its furnishings. The pews, lighting fixtures and fans were packed and shipped to Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish. J.H. Bennett Moving and Storage assisted the sisters in this project.

The altar, ambo and tabernacle stands have been placed in storage while the stained-glass windows have been removed for cleaning and repair.

Renovations began Aug. 1 and are expected to be completed in 10 months. Rededication and blessing of the renovated chapel is scheduled for July 11, 2007, the feast of St. Benedict. In the meantime, liturgies and prayer services will be held in the garden room, a multi-purpose space on the monastery's ground level.

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-Romans 1:11-12

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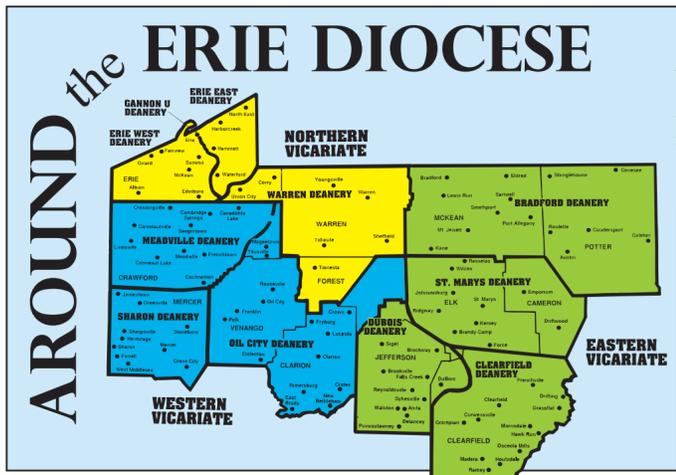
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**Parish correspondents**

*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. Mary of Grace to hold first parish dinner**



Head cook Carl Pirro poses by the parish's newly constructed BBQ pit built exclusively for the dinner.

MEADVILLE – St. Mary of Grace Parish will hold its first-ever bar-b-q chicken dinner on Sunday, Aug. 20 at the church, located at 1093 Water St. in Meadville. Dinners will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Cost is \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children 12 and under. Eat in or take outs are available. Other offerings include raffles and a baked goods sale.

**Student pianists excel in auditions**

ERIE — Eight young pianists excelled in the National Piano Playing Auditions which were held recently in the studio of their teacher, Sister Mary Daniel Meahl, at Mount St. Benedict. Seated at the piano is Spencer Campbell. In the front row, from left are Ian Campbell, Mitchell Campbell and Andrew Dolan. In the back row are Nicole Grychowski, Lainey Catalino, Alexander Campbell and Antoni Grychowski. All were adjudicated by Barbara Weller Crain of Altoona, who has judged for 25 years with the National Guild and is well known as both teacher and performer. An accomplished musician, Sister Mary Daniel celebrated 60 years of religious life in May. She has taught music throughout those years. At present, Sister Mary Daniel assists in liturgical music at the monastery



and is active in state and national associations of musicians, several of which have recognized her accomplishments with awards.

**Our Lady of the Lake breaks ground on new church**



EDINBORO – Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Edinboro held a groundbreaking ceremony June 10 for its new church. Father John Jacquel, pastor of Our Lady of the Lake, said construction is expected to take nine months. Interior work is scheduled to be finished so the parish can celebrate Easter in the new church, which will be adjacent to the current building on Maple Drive in Edinboro, south of Route 6N. Pictured from left to right are altar servers Hayden Kuhn, Chris Birchard, Lauren Scardina, Shay Kashey, and Molly Edwards at the groundbreaking.

**St. Mark Seminary 'on the road' open house coming to a parish near you**

The priests of St. Mark Seminary and the diocesan Vocation Office will be offering a series of informal open house sessions throughout the Erie Diocese. If a young man in high school or college or in the work force is wondering whether Christ is calling him to enter the seminary, these sessions may provide answers that will help. Family members, especially parents, are also welcome. "If anyone has questions about seminary or the priesthood, these sessions are the perfect time to learn more," said Father Ed-

ward Lohse, director of the diocese's Vocation Office. "The atmosphere is very informal and relaxed." Each evening will begin with daily Mass at 4:30 p.m. (except for Aug. 14 when Mass begins at 5 p.m. and satisfies the Holy Day of Obligation for Aug. 15). Mass will be followed by an open discussion and conclude with a cookout. The first open house was held July 31 at Notre Dame Parish in Hermitage. The remaining dates are as follows:

Monday, Aug. 7 • 4:30 p.m. at St. Mary of Grace, Meadville  
 Tuesday, Aug. 8 • 4:30 p.m. at St. Mark Seminary, Erie  
 Wednesday, Aug. 9 • 4:30 p.m. at St. Michael, DuBois  
 Monday, Aug. 14 • 5 p.m. at Queen of the World, St. Marys

Registration is not required but does help in preparation for the cookout. To register, call 814.824.1200 or 800.374.3723 or e-mail [vocations@ErieRCD.org](mailto:vocations@ErieRCD.org).

**Erie abortion clinic open again with new doctor**

ABORTION CLINIC, from page 1

substances to his wife, Karen Applegate, on 86 occasions.

Steven Brigham, MD, the physician who owns and operates American Women's Services clinics had his medical license revoked by the state medical boards of New York and Florida. Brigham was disciplined after two women were injured during second-trimester abortions at his clinics.

The *Times-News* has reported that an AWS spokesperson has cited "the local anti-choice group," Broderick said, and the group's weekly demonstrations outside the building as the reason the clinic has been unable to secure the services of a local doctor.

"That really made me feel pretty good," Broderick said. "I was hoping that when people became aware of that remark they would be more convinced of the importance of demonstrations and we'd have more demonstrators than we do. Other than our demonstrations and the demonstrations being reported in the newspapers, I can't imagine what would bother local doctors about our organization."

Aside from the demonstrations, People for Life maintains two offices in Erie. One is located on 26th Street, across

from Blessed Sacrament Parish, and the other, called Alternative Choices for Women, is on the third floor of the Professional Building just down the hall from the abortion clinic.

"We've been utilizing this office more and more, especially with the clinic open again," Broderick says of the Professional Building office suite.

The office is kept by a small volunteer staff that provides information on abortion, its physical and spiritual effects and abortion alternatives. Even while the abortion clinic was dormant, Broderick said the Alternative Choices for Women office encountered one or two women whom he calls abortion candidates every week. Since April, that number has increased to six or seven on average, he said.

"Some women are receptive and some obviously not," Broderick said. "There are some tough cases. One girl was far along, about five months. She was obviously having problems. The thing that bothers me is she

was sent (to American Women's Services) by a local doctor, and that's come up before. Another woman was referred to the abortion clinic by a doctor in Titusville. That's very disappointing. It's just mind-boggling that there are local healthcare providers that are so ignorant about the history and background of this place that they would send one of their own patients there."

People for Life is an affiliate of the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation in Harrisburg and one of more than 3000 local chapters of the Washington-based National Right to Life Committee.

**Bishop, community dedicate new church**

ALL SAINTS, from page 1

one roof.

Construction cost \$3.3 million with architecture and land acquisition making this close to a \$4 million project, Father Whitman said. All Saints lists 490 families.

"We are a Christ-centered people, therefore we are a Eucharist-centered people," Bishop Trautman said in his homily. "We carry out in this new church the commandment of Christ given to his first followers at the Last Supper: Do this in memory of me. That upper room in Jerusalem where Christ first celebrated the Eucharist is now this church. This is the new upper room."

To view an online slideshow featuring more photos of the All Saints dedication, visit the official Web site of the Diocese of Erie [www.ErieRCD.org](http://www.ErieRCD.org)

During the rite of dedication, Bishop Trautman installed a first-class relic of Pope Pius X beneath the altar. After a prayer of dedication, the bishop anointed the altar and church walls with sacred chrism.

"Over and over again, our ceremonies remind us that Christ is always the center of our lives," Bishop Trautman said. "Christ is the center of who we are and all we do. That's why the altar is in the center. That is why the image of Christ crucified is at the center of the church, so that we will never forget Christ is the center of everything that we do as Christians. We who are baptized are fed at the Lord's table and we are then sent into the world. We are sent to take his presence to the world around us. This church is a launching pad for us to go out into the world."

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