

Pilgrim of Peace

In Lebanon, Pope Benedict XVI's presence was the message, page 2.



FaithLife

SSJ Spirit of Courage

Annual event honors individuals who overcome adversity, page 3.



www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

September 23, 2012

Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

Feast days



St. Vincent de Paul



St. Francis of Assisi

- Sept. 26 Ss. Cosmas and Damian
- Sept. 27 St. Vincent de Paul
- Sept. 28 St. Wenceslaus; St. Lawrence Ruiz and companions
- Sept. 29 Ss. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael
- Oct. 1 St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus
- Oct. 2 Holy Guardian Angels
- Oct. 4 St. Francis of Assisi
- Oct. 6 St. Bruno, Blessed Marie Rose Durocher
- Oct. 7 Respect Life Sunday

Confirmations

- St. Mark, Emporium – Saturday, Oct. 20 at 7 p.m.
- Our Lady of Mercy, Harborcreek – Sunday, Oct. 28 at 11 a.m.
- St. Callistus, Kane – Sunday, Nov. 4 at 10:30 a.m.
- St. Mark the Evangelist, Erie – Saturday, Nov. 17 at 5 p.m.

Respect Life Sunday – Oct. 7



October has been traditionally designated as Respect Life Month in the church, an annual observance that focuses attention on the sanctity of human life at every stage and the responsibility that Catholics share to protect and defend it.

Respect Life Sunday, celebrated on the first Sunday in October, annually kicks off the year-long Respect Life Program sponsored by the U.S. bishops.

Although the Respect Life program itself has been a year-round initiative, U.S. Catholics across the country have used the month of October to focus on life and human dignity. Many parishes will hold a special Respect Life Mass Oct. 7, Respect Life Sunday.

Pastors are asked to please balance Respect Life Sunday with the inauguration of the Year of Faith Oct. 6-7.

For more information and resources on Respect Life Sunday, visit www.usccb.org.

Meet-and-greet events with Bishop-elect Persico

Bishop-elect Lawrence Persico has selected six days in October when he will visit the Northern, Eastern and Western Vicariates of the diocese. Each of the events will follow the same schedule with a parish Mass at 7 p.m. followed by a public reception. Locations include:

- Tues., Oct. 9 at St. Tobias, Brockway
- Thurs., Oct. 11 at Notre Dame, Hermitage
- Mon., Oct. 22 at St. Callistus, Kane
- Tues., Oct. 23 at St. Agatha, Meadville
- Wed., Oct. 24 at St. Jude the Apostle, Erie
- Thurs., Oct. 25 at St. Joseph, Warren



Find information on Bishop-elect Lawrence Persico's ordination and Year of Faith resources.

Bishop-elect Persico 'anxious to get started'

Oct. 1 ordination to be televised live

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

ERIE — Bishop-elect Lawrence Persico is looking forward to becoming the new shepherd of the Diocese of Erie.

"I'm anxious to get started," he said.

After his appointment was announced July 31, Bishop-elect Persico said he has had some time to reflect on what his new role will mean.

"I think the biggest thing is realizing first what an awesome task lies ahead," the bishop-elect said from his office at St. James Parish in New Alexandria, where he has served as pastor since



Bishop-elect Lawrence Persico

1998. "It's very humbling to think that this responsibility has been given to me to shep-

herd the Diocese of Erie. It's with mixed emotion knowing that it is a very important responsibility but also knowing that God gives us the grace to do what he calls us to do. No matter what it is in life, we have to have faith in him that it can be accomplished."

Bishop-elect Persico is tying up his affairs in the Diocese of Greensburg where he also serves as vicar general. Last week, he began his goodbyes to his home diocese first at a gathering with the clergy then at a diocesan Mass and celebration at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Greensburg. He will visit with his parishio-

See PREVIEW page 3

Want to watch?

WJET-TV Channel 24, an ABC affiliate, will air the Oct. 1 ordination Mass live at 2:30 p.m. Coverage will begin at 2 p.m. with interviews and commentary.

A printable copy of the ordination Mass worship aid—the same one being distributed at St. Peter Cathedral—is available on the diocesan website at www.ErieRCD.org.

EWTN also plans to air the Mass in its entirety within two weeks of the event. The diocesan website will post the date and time as soon as it becomes available.



YEAR OF FAITH Oct. 11, 2012 - Nov. 24, 2013

Diocese set to begin Year of Faith with Masses Oct. 6-7

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

Parishes in the Diocese of Erie will welcome the Year of Faith at Masses Oct. 6-7.

The regular Sunday Masses will be substituted with the second votive Mass, which is for "The Mercy of God," and will include special prayers and readings for the Year of Faith.

"While we understand that the Year of Faith doesn't begin until Oct. 11, the best way to highlight this for the local church was to celebrate the Sunday liturgies on the seventh as a means to inaugurate the Year of Faith four days later," said Father Michael Allison, pastor of Be-

loved Disciple Parish in Grove City and chairman of the diocese's Year of Faith committee.

The committee includes priests, deacons, women religious and laity who put forth a number of ideas to celebrate the Year of Faith. The committee and the Office of Worship have developed a ritual for parishes to use that will help "open the doors of faith." The ritual, readings and prayer, along with an overview, recommendation and resources, can be found on the diocesan website at www.ErieRCD.org.

Last year, Pope Benedict XVI announced a special "Year of Faith" to help Catholics appreciate the gift of faith, deepen their relationship with

God and strengthen their commitment to sharing faith with others. The observance begins Oct. 11, 2012 — the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council — and concludes Nov. 24, 2013 — the feast of Christ the King.

"It will be a moment of grace and commitment to an ever fuller conversion to God, to reinforce our faith in him and to proclaim him with joy to the people of our time," the pope said.

Father Allison said the goal of the coming year is for a renewal of faith.

"Hopefully people in parishes throughout the diocese will come to a wonderful appreciation of what was



The Year of Faith logo features a boat, which is a traditional symbol for the church. Its main mast is the cross and, with the sails, it forms the initials IHS, the "Christogram" standing for Jesus, savior of men. Behind the IHS, the sun evokes a eucharistic host.

achieved by the Second Vatican Council," he said.

Fifty years ago this October, Blessed John XXIII and more than 2,500 bishops and heads of religious orders from

around the world gathered in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome for the opening session of the Second Vatican Council.

See YEAR OF FAITH page 3

Diocese seeks injunction over HHS mandate

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

ERIE — The Diocese of Erie is asking a federal judge to prohibit the government's enforcement of its U.S. Department of Health and Human Services mandate forcing it to abandon its religious beliefs and compromising its mission or violate the law and face the serious penalties.

Catholic organizations have objected to the mandate since it proposed in August 2011 by Kathleen Sebelius, HHS secretary, and finalized in February 2012.

"The fundamental issue with the federal mandate is that it violates our religious liberties guaranteed by the First Amendment," Bishop Donald Trautman said May 21 in announcing the diocese's filing of a lawsuit to prevent the mandate from taking place. "We now look to the judicial system to secure our constitutional rights."

In a Sept. 6 filing in the federal court in Erie, the diocese asked the court "for preliminary and permanent injunctions so they can continue to serve the needy in a manner consistent with their religious beliefs."

The Diocese of Erie's request for an injunction is in response to the U.S. Justice Department's brief filed Aug. 6 calling for the lawsuit's dismissal, saying it is legally premature and "not fit for judicial review."

Besides the diocese's contention that the mandate constitutes an "unlawful violation of fundamental religious freedoms" are the moral implications of the mandate, namely the government's regulation that the diocese provide for its employees abortion-inducing drugs, sterilization procedures and contraceptive drugs or face serious financial penalties.

In his May statement, Bishop Trautman reminded the faithful of the dioceses that "the Catholic Church has advocated for healthcare reform for many decades with special concern for the poor, the inclusion of legal immigrants and always with the absolute necessity that it respects the life and dignity of every person, from conception to natural death."

Sisters of Mercy honored in Titusville

TITUSVILLE — Nearly 40 Sisters of Mercy, Mercy Associates and others traveled by bus to Titusville on Sept. 2 to participate in a special day recognizing more than 100 years of ministry to generations of people in the Titusville area.

The sisters were honored at a Mass at St. Titus Parish, which is across the street from where the Sisters of Mercy St. Joseph Convent formerly stood. During the Mass, an image of Catherine McAuley, Sisters of Mercy founder, was blessed and placed on permanent display at the entrance of the church.

A large plaque on West Main Street, detailing the Sisters of Mercy ministry in text and photos, was dedicated following the Mass. The sisters also were treated to a luncheon at St. Walburga Parish in Titusville and then visited St. Catherine's Cemetery where many Sisters of Mercy are laid to rest.

In Titusville, the sisters ministered at the former St. Joseph Academy, a boarding school and later a high school that became one of the first state-accredited schools in Pennsylvania, and the former St. Titus and St. Walburga grade schools.

"At long last, we have a physical marker that will remind people of the dedicated contribution of the Sisters of Mercy to the education and



Pictured in front of an historical marker recognizing the Sisters of Mercy, from left, are Sister JoAnne Courneen, RSM, president of the Sisters of Mercy New York, Pennsylvania, Pacific West Community; Father Walter Packard, pastor of St. Titus and St. Walburga parishes in Titusville; and Sister Bernadette Bell, RSM, Erie motherhouse coordinator.

welfare of the people of Titusville," said Sister Bernadette Bell, RSM, local development coordinator for the Sisters of Mercy. "Many great women religious brought to Titusville the message of Mercy when it was needed most."

Father Walter Packard, St. Titus pastor, noted the Sisters of Mercy came to Titusville only eight years after the parish was founded. St. Titus is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year. "The Sisters of Mercy have played an integral part in our parish history, and this is a fitting way to honor the sisters for their ministry," Father Packard said.

The Sisters of Mercy first came to Titusville in 1870 to educate the children of oil drillers. The three-story motherhouse, a longtime Titusville landmark, included living quarters, a chapel, a music conservatory, classrooms, a dining hall and a community room large enough to accommodate the entire community. The motherhouse was razed in 1974 and today the area on which it stood is a vacant lot.

IN THE U.S.

Religious leaders decry attack on diplomat in Libya, urge understanding

Religious leaders from across the spectrum were quick to condemn the hate message of an anti-Islam film and the violent attack it supposedly provoked Sept. 11 in which the U.S. ambassador to Libya, three other Americans and several Libyan soldiers were killed in the consulate in Benghazi, Libya. Such eruptions of violence supposedly in the name of religion "are a clarion call for people of faith to work together toward mutual understanding," said Bishop Gerald Kicanas of Tucson, Ariz., chairman of the board of Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. bishops' overseas relief and development agency. The victims were killed inside the consulate, reportedly while trying to arrange for the building to be evacuated as protesters armed with guns and rocket-propelled grenades swarmed the compound. It was the second assault by a mob on a U.S. diplomatic post that day. Earlier, hundreds of people swarmed the embassy in Cairo, pulling down the American flag and replacing it with an Islamic banner.



Demonstrators hold signs during a rally Sept. 12 in Benghazi, Libya, to condemn the attack on the U.S. consulate in the city.

Bishop Kicanas, who traveled to the Middle East recently in his capacity with CRS, said Sept. 12 that such situations are reminders that "we need to understand what faith groups hold dear," and that violence in the name of faith is not in keeping with the teachings of Islam, Christianity or other religions.

Cardinal Dolan traces historic role of religious freedom in U.S.

To the enthusiastic reception of an audience of John Carroll Society members Sept. 10, New York Cardinal Timothy Dolan traced the historic origins of U.S. religious freedom in light of a current battle with the government over those rights. Saying that he wanted to "restore the luster" on "this first and most cherished freedom," Cardinal Dolan, who also is president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said he was afraid "that the promotion and protection of religious liberty is becoming caricatured as some narrow, hyper-defensive, far-right, self-serving cause." Rather, he said, "freedom of religion has been the driving force of almost every enlightened, unshackling, noble cause in American history."



Cardinal Timothy Dolan

This year, the U.S. bishops have waged a campaign to draw atten-

tion to what they describe as "religious liberty under attack" through a variety of governmental policies and societal trends. Cardinal Dolan, who holds a doctorate in American church history, said a historical perspective can help explain that the defense of religious freedom "is not some evangelical Christian polemic, or wily strategy of discredited Catholic bishops, but the quintessential American cause, the first line in the defense of and protection of human rights."

AROUND THE WORLD

Ten Commandments are God's recipe for a good life, pope says

The Ten Commandments are a gift from God to help people live a correct relationship with God and with others, Pope Benedict XVI said. "God gave us the commandments to educate us about true freedom and authentic love so that we could be truly happy," he said in a video message played Sept. 8 in Rome's Piazza del Popolo. The big public square in Italy's capital was the site of the launch of "Ten Commandments," a project of the Italian charismatic renewal movement, the Italian bishops' conference and the Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization. The project — evenings of reflection, music and dance — will focus on a different commandment in a different city each month.

Pope Benedict said people may ask what sense the Ten Commandments have today in cultures heavily marked by secularism and relativism. The answer, he said, is that the commandments are "a sign of the love of God the Father (and) his desire to teach us the correct discernment between good and evil, true and false, just and unjust."

PEOPLE

'The Lord has given me a lot of fires to put out,' says Philadelphia archbishop

After his installation as shepherd of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia's almost 1.5 million Catholics a year ago, Archbishop Charles Chaput immediately began to put out fires of the crises he'd inherited. Many were unprecedented in the more than 200-year history of the archdiocese: a severely contracting Catholic school system, deteriorating church finances, parishes under threat of closure or consolidation. Add to that the ongoing fallout of the priest sexual abuse scandal that saw priests on trial in criminal court and priests whose ministerial status remained in limbo.

"I'd like to set fires rather than put them out," said the archbishop, who sat for an interview with CatholicPhilly.com days before his Sept. 8 one-year anniversary as head of the archdiocese. "The Lord has given me a lot of fires to put out, where my preference is to light fires. But I think things are getting better," he said. "The second year will be more a matter of lighting fires. The most important one is the new evangelization: The fire of living the Gospel and religious commitment and religious identity." Archbishop Chaput will be the ordaining prelate at Bishop-elect Lawrence Persico's Oct. 1 ordination Mass in Erie.



Archbishop Charles Chaput

By the Way...

We led off our column Aug. 12 with a local take on "Habemus papam" ("We have a pope"), the announcement given in Latin by the senior cardinal upon the election. So excited were we by Bishop-elect Lawrence Persico's appointment that we gave an incorrect ending to the singular noun. It should have been, "Habemus episcopum" ("We have a bishop"). Even after two years of Latin in high school and three semesters in college, we're a bit rusty.



Jason Koshinski

St. Peter Cathedral in Erie is expected to be packed for Bishop-elect Persico's ordination Mass. In addition to those from the Diocese of Erie, guests will include many priests from the Diocese of Greensburg and parishioners from St. James in New Alexandria, where the bishop-elect has served as pastor since 1998.

Bishop Donald Trautman, who served as a co-consecrator for Bishop Lawrence Brandt's episcopal ordination, will serve as a co-consecrator for Bishop-elect Persico's ordination, along with Bishop Brandt, who was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Erie. The episcopal ordination is also the first for Archbishop Charles Chaput, who will serve as principal consecrator because he is the metropolitan archbishop of Philadelphia. The ecclesiastical province of Philadelphia encompasses the dioceses of Pennsylvania.

On Tuesday, Oct. 2 for the first time, the bishops of Pennsylvania will meet in Erie for their semi-annual provincial meeting. It is a convenient time for the bishops, as they will already be in town to attend Bishop-elect Persico's ordination the previous day.

Approximately 300 teens are already registered for the High School Youth Rally on Sunday, Sept. 30 at Elk County Catholic High School in St. Marys. The theme is "True North." Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life," from John 6:68.

National youth speaker and musician Cooper Ray (www.cooperay.com) will be the main presenter. All rally information can be found online at www.onthevine.us.

We offer our condolences to Msgr. Joseph Wardanski, chaplain of St. Mary's Home in Erie, on the passing of his sister, Dorothy Witkowski of St. Mary's Home East. Please remember the Wardanski and Witkowski families in your prayers.

The Apostleship of Prayer, the Jesuit-run outreach that has brought Catholics the pope's monthly prayer intentions since 1890, is in the midst of a serious effort to re-create itself and broaden its outreach. Membership in the Apostleship of Prayer involves a commitment to beginning each day with a prayer offering one's life to God and praying for the needs of the universal church and the intentions of the pope. For more information on the Apostleship of Prayer, visit www.apostleshipofprayer.org.

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

In Lebanon, Pope Benedict XVI's presence was the message

By Francis X. Rocca
Catholic News Service

BEIRUT — When Pope Benedict XVI stepped off the plane in Beirut Sept. 14, he said he had come to Lebanon, and to the Middle East in general, as a "pilgrim of peace."

In five major talks over the next three days, the pope repeatedly called for peace and underscored the role of Christians in promoting it. Yet his most eloquent message of hope to the troubled region lay not in the diplomatic language of his public statements but in his very presence and the response it evoked from his hosts.

Throughout his trip, Pope Benedict limited himself to general statements of principle on the most contentious political issues, and he avoided some topics altogether.

His insistence that religious freedom is a basic human right and a prerequisite for social harmony was a bold statement in the context of a region where most countries restrict and even pro-

hibit the practice of any faith besides Islam. But like the document he came to Lebanon to present, a collection of his reflections on the 2010 Special Synod of Bishops dedicated to Christians in the Middle East, the pope said nothing specific about where and how the region's Christians are regularly deprived of that right.

The pope twice deplored the human cost of the civil war in neighboring Syria, but his only practical recommendation for an end to the fighting there was a neutral call to end the importation of military arms, which he called a "grave sin."

With regard to religiously inspired violence, the pope made a single general reference to terrorism and a possible allusion to the subject in the statement that "authentic faith



CNS photo

People cheer and wave Lebanese and Vatican flags during the outdoor Mass celebrated by Pope Benedict XVI on the Beirut waterfront Sept. 16. The pope was wrapping up his three-day visit to Lebanon.

does not lead to death."

Pope Benedict said nothing at all about the incendiary subject that dominated news coverage in the run-up to his trip: an American-made anti-Islamic film that had inspired often-violent protests in at least a dozen Muslim countries, including Lebanon. Awareness of that furor no

doubt heightened the caution with which the pope treated the most volatile topics during his trip. Ironically, the crisis may also have helped him to get his message across.

With turmoil over the movie spreading across the Middle East, the papal visit suddenly became a much more dramatic and thus more appealing story to the secular press, which probably gave it more coverage as a result, observed Msgr. John Kozar, president of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, who attended the papal events.

For the Lebanese, the pope's willingness to travel in spite of security concerns — he told reporters on the plane from Rome that he had not considered canceling the trip and that no one had advised him to do so — powerfully underscored his commitment to the country and the region.

The mere fact that the Holy Father came at this difficult moment is an indication that Christians here are not forgotten," said

Habib Malik, a professor of history at Lebanese American University.

The pope's visit served as a showcase for Lebanon, which for years was a model of peaceful coexistence and religious freedom in the Middle East. The show of enthusiasm across sectarian and political lines, in a nation still recovering from the 1975-90 civil war, was a dramatic statement of unity to the outside world and to the Lebanese themselves.

Epitomizing the welcome by Muslim leaders, Lebanon's grand mufti gave Pope Benedict a written message stating that "any attack on any Christian citizen



is an attack on Islam." And as Lebanon's *Daily Star* newspaper reported Sept. 17, Lebanon President Michel Sleiman cited the unanimity among political factions over the weekend in arguing that the "way to capitalize on the pope's visit is via dialogue."

FaithLife
The official news bulletin of the Catholic Diocese of Erie
Volume 8, Issue 16
General Information: (814) 824-1161
Fax: (814) 824-1170
E-Mail: FaithLife@ErieRCD.org
Editorial: (814) 824-1171
Advertising: (814) 824-1188
Postmaster: Send address changes to FaithLife at St. Mark Catholic Center.

CLOCK REPAIR
Burdie's Clock Shop
238 South Main St.
Cambridge Springs, PA 16403
(814) 398-8263
"We Make House Calls"

WE BUY TEXTBOOKS!
WERNER BOOKS
3514 Liberty Street
Liberty Plaza
Erie, PA
814-864-1565

60 Years of Excellence
Since 1947
RAS AUTO BODY
All your collision needs.
Special Wash & Wax... \$55
453-6185
Dave Ras owner, Amy Ras office, Carol Ras office, Jim Winarski office

ProximoTravel
Your Catholic Tour Company
Trips to Scotland, France, Ireland, Shrines of Europe and much more... ranging from \$3,999—\$4,699 for 2012 and 2013.
Prices are ALL INCLUSIVE W/ Airfare from anywhere in the continental USA
Italy/Switzerland: Apr. 6-18, Apr. 13-25, Apr. 20-May 2...
Italy Regular: Apr. 6-14, Apr. 13-21, Apr. 20-28, Apr. 27-May 5, May 4-12, May 11-19, May 18-26, May 25-Jun. 2...
Holy Land: Nov. 5-15, Apr. 11-11, Apr. 8-18, Apr. 15-25...
Holy Land/Italy: Apr. 1-14, Apr. 8-21, Apr. 15-28, Apr. 22-May 5, Apr. 29-May 12, May 6-19, May 13-26...
Ireland/Scotland: Apr. 27-May 9, May 4-16, May 11-23...
Tuscany/Assisi/Cinque Terre: Apr. 27-May 8...
Visit our website www.proximotravel.com for more information and dates!
855-842-8001 | 814-479-4165
Carmela A. Dupuis Executive Director

PARISH DAY
Sacred Heart's Annual Roast Beef Dinner
Sunday, October 7 from Noon-5:30 PM
Sacred Heart Auditorium, 26th and Liberty, Erie
Adult: \$7.50, Child: \$4.50, Under 5: FREE
Baked Goods, Instant Bingo, Chinese Auction, Theme Baskets, Win a 55" Samsung TV and...
GRAND PRIZE
2012 SLP Camaro
"ZL 585" (#21)
OR \$40,000
For more info: Rose 866-5356 or Kathy 528-4981

Briefly

Family day of eucharistic adoration at St. Joseph/Bread of Life, Erie

ERIE — All families of the Diocese of Erie are welcome at the Bread of Life Chapel at St. Joseph Parish/Bread of Life Community, 24th and Sassafras streets in Erie, for a family day of eucharistic adoration Sunday, Sept. 30. Families may adore the Blessed Sacrament anytime between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Use the side entrance of the parish community center.

'Faith and the Cosmos' event at Mercyhurst University

ERIE — A Franciscan sister who's both a noted theologian and a respected scientist will draw on both specialties when she speaks at Mercyhurst University in October.

Sister Iliia Delio, OSF, Ph.D., will examine "Faith and the Cosmos: Exploration into God, Evolution and the Mystery of the Universe."

The Center for Mercy and Catholic Studies at Mercyhurst is sponsoring Sister Iliia's talk, which is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 2, at 7:30 p.m. in the university's Taylor Little Theatre. This event is free and open to the public.

Sister Iliia is a senior fellow at Woodstock Theological Center, Georgetown University, where she concentrates in the area of science and religion. Before joining Woodstock, she was professor and chair of spirituality studies at Washington Theological Union, where she taught general spirituality, Franciscan theology and science and religion.

Her most recent book, "The Emergent Christ: Exploring the Meaning of Catholic in an Evolutionary Universe," was published in 2011.



Sister Iliia Delio, OSF

Motor for the Mission road rally

ERIE — The Motor for the Mission road rally to benefit the Diocese of Erie's Mission of Friendship with the Archdiocese of Yucatan, Mexico, will be held Saturday, Oct. 6.

This event, sponsored by the diocese's Mission Office, is similar to TV's "Amazing Race." Teams of navigators and sleuths will follow 11 clues along a 20-mile route in Erie, stopping to earn points through simple activities completed at each stop. Collect points and vie for prizes.

The road rally will begin and end at St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd. in Erie. Check-in is at 9 a.m., with the rally beginning at 9:30. Lunch is at noon followed by a basket raffle at 12:30 p.m.

Cost is \$15 per person and includes lunch. Children under 8 ride free. To register a team, call 814.824.1250 or e-mail kochs@ErieRCD.org or visit www.eriecd.org/missions.asp.

St. Hildegard of Bingen subject of enrichment series at Mount St. Benedict

ERIE — Pope Benedict XVI will proclaim St. Hildegard of Bingen, a 12th-century German abbess, as a doctor of the universal church Oct. 7 in Rome.

St. Hildegard (1098-1179) is renowned for her many gifts and talents. She was a mystic and theologian as well as a poet, musician and scientist.

"The Story of Hildegard" will be presented on Sunday, Oct. 7 at 7 p.m. at Mount St. Benedict Monastery, 6101 E. Lake Road in Erie, as part of an ongoing enrichment series sponsored by the Benedictine Sisters of Erie. This event is free and open to the public.

Presenters include Sister Carolyn Gorny-Kopkowski, OSB, Sister Jean Wolbert, OSB, and Sister Margaret Zeller, OSB.

For more information, contact Sister Stephanie Schmidt, OSB, at 814.899.0614 or formation@mtsbenedict.org.

Catholic charismatic conference

ERIE — Word of Life Catholic Charismatic Renewal Center is sponsoring its annual Catholic Charismatic Conference at St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd. in Erie, Oct. 12-13.

The theme, "Intercessory Prayer — Clothed with Power from on High," will be presented by Father Robert Franco, bishop's delegate to Catholic Renewal Ministries in the Diocese of Cleveland. In addition to the main track, a young adult track for ages 18-30 will also be presented by Father Jason Feigh.

To register, call 814.824.1286 or e-mail wofcc@ErieRCD.org. For more information on Word of Life, visit www.wordoflifecrc.org.



Father Jason Feigh

18th annual rosary march

ERIE — The 18th annual rosary march, sponsored by the Diocese of Erie's World Apostolate of Fatima, will take place on Sunday, Oct. 14. All are invited to gather at St. Peter Cathedral, West Tenth and Sassafras streets in Erie, at 2 p.m. to begin a walk through downtown.

The rosary procession will extend through the downtown area before returning to the cathedral. For those unable to participate in the march, the rosary will also be recited in the cathedral.

The guest speaker will be Father Daniel Hoffman, vice chancellor of the Diocese of Erie.

In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will take place inside the cathedral.

Speaker to present on 'How the Sexual Revolution Failed Women'

CLARION — Dr. Angela Franks, speaker, author and teacher on such subjects as the history of Planned Parenthood, sexual ethics, life issues and the theology of the body, will present a talk on "How the Sexual Revolution Failed Women" on Monday, Oct. 15 at 7 p.m. in Hart Chapel on the campus of Clarion University.

Franks has a doctorate in systematic theology and a master's degree in philosophy. She is the author of "Margaret Sanger's Eugenic Legacy: The Control of Female Fertility." She is the director of theology programs for the Theological Institute for the New Evangelization at Saint John's Seminary in Brighton, Mass.

For more information on Franks, visit www.angelafranks.com.

This event is sponsored by Clarion Students for Life.

For more information, contact Dr. Thomas Rourke at TRourke@Clarion.edu.



Dr. Angela Franks

SSJ Spirit of Courage Annual event honors individuals who overcome adversity

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania will host the 16th annual SSJ Spirit of Courage dinner on Tuesday, Oct. 2 at the Bayfront Convention Center in Erie.

The SSJ Spirit of Courage honors individuals who have shown remarkable courage in overcoming adversity. The event is an opportunity to raise awareness about the sisters' various ministries that provide outreach and services to numerous in-

dividuals who are striving to overcome adversity in their own lives.

For more information on the SSJ Spirit of Courage or to reserve seats for the dinner, go to www.ssj.org or call 814.836.4054.

This year's honorees include Juanita Mae Allen, Susan Rose D'Aurora, Sharon Marie Haraczy-Bond, Promete Haragirimana, and Joseph A. Turano.

Juanita Allen

Through inner strength, her faith and her perseverance, Allen is living a life free of addiction and economic hardship. There are many things about her life that would force another person to give up. She has endured abuse, alcohol and drug addiction, poor relationships, economic hardship and the devastating loss of her rights to her three youngest children. But Allen has learned to rely on a great support system, but more important, she relies on God.



Susan D'Aurora

Imagine being a wife and a mother of three who never had any health issues then suddenly being diagnosed with severe sepsis. D'Aurora developed septic shock, her heart stopped, she had streptococcus in her blood stream, her organs shut down and she went into renal failure. She needed blood transfusions and kidney dialysis. She survived but not un-



scathed. She had many surgeries, including two below-the-knee amputations. She has overcome many obstacles and continues to do so each day.

Sharon Haraczy-Bond

Haraczy-Bond is a married mother of three teenagers who could be described as an average person except that she lives each day confined to a wheelchair because of Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (EDS). Her fragile skin and unstable joints are common afflictions to those with EDS. The disease weakens the cartilage and then succumbs to wear and tear making everyday life almost impossible. She encounters inconveniences and setbacks with faith, humor and strength. Sharon is very generous with her time and talent with the Girl Scouts, her church and her children's sports activities.



Promete Haragirimana

In 1994, Haragirimana and his family fled Rwanda for a refugee camp in Congo. Two years later rebels attacked the camp. He was just 7 years old when he was separated from his family. With 2,000 other refugees, he walked and ran for several

months. He met a man named Silva who cared for him and taught him skills to help pay for school tuition. In 2010, he was forced to relocate to a new refugee camp in Zambia. Someone recognized him there and told him that his family was alive and had moved to the United States. For 16 years, Haragirimana was separated from his family until he was reunited with his family in Erie earlier this year.



Joseph A. Turano

Fifteen years ago, Turano was an athlete with a promising future when he learned that he had Primary Progressive Multiple Sclerosis (PPMS). Only 15 percent of people diagnosed with MS have this form of the disease; it is most commonly diagnosed after the age of 40. A dedicated father to his 14-year-old son who sees him as a role model and a fighter, he leads by example as a mentor and inspires and encourages others to be the best they can be.



Oct. 1 ordination of bishop-elect to be televised live

PREVIEW, from page 1

ners at St. James a final time after Masses Sept. 22-23 before moving to the episcopal residence in Erie Sept. 24.

The public is invited to vesper (evening prayer) at St. Peter Cathedral, 230 W. 10th St. in Erie, the night prior to the installation, Sunday, Sept. 30 at 7:30 p.m. No ticket will be necessary.

Evening prayer includes a hymn, praying several psalms followed by a reading and homily. Bishop Donald Trautman will preside and give the homily. Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, apos-

toxic nuncio to the United States, will also be present.

After the homily, Bishop-elect Persico will be asked to make a profession of faith and take an oath of fidelity. The bishop-elect's insignia, including his mitre, crozier, pectoral cross and episcopal ring—all symbols of the office of bishop—will also be blessed during evening prayer. They will be given to him the following day during his ordination.

A wine and cheese reception, also open to the public, will be held immediately following eve-

ning prayer at St. Peter Cathedral School, 160 W. 11th St.

Bishop-elect Persico will be ordained and installed as the 10th bishop of Erie on Monday, Oct. 1 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie during a 2:30 p.m. Mass and ceremony.

Because of the number of people that are being invited to the ordination Mass from the Diocese of Erie and the Diocese of Greensburg, admittance to the Mass Oct. 1 will be by ticket only.

However, WJET-TV Channel

24 will air the Mass in the Erie area live at 2:30 p.m. Plans call for the Mass to replay nationally on EWTN and Catholic TV at a later date.

The ordaining prelate will be Archbishop Charles Chaput, the archbishop of Philadelphia. Bishop Trautman and Bishop Lawrence Brandt of the Diocese of Greensburg will act as co-consecrators. The homilist at the Mass will be Archbishop Chaput.

Diocese set to begin Year of Faith Oct. 6-7

YEAR OF FAITH, from page 1

Over the following three years, Vatican II would issue 16 major "pronouncements" on such fundamental questions as the authority of the church's hierarchy, the interpretation of Scripture and the proper roles of clergy and laity. Those documents, and the deliberations that produced them, have transformed how the Catholic Church understands and presents itself within the context of modern secular culture and society.

The diocese's Year of Faith committee recommends that the

renewal occur in the context of adult education and small faith communities.

"We are suggesting that parishes treat this in three six-week sessions," Father Allison said. The sessions can be timed for fall 2012, Lent 2013 and fall 2013.

Plans are also in the works for a speaker series for the larger church, with Gannon University offering to sponsor the series. Each event will be a two-night session, with the series taking place at Gannon University in

Erie and Immaculate Conception Parish in Clarion on consecutive days.

Speakers and dates will be announced shortly, Father Allison said.

For updates on the Year of Faith, visit www.ErieRCD.org.

Catholic News Service contributed to this report.

THOMAS M. CLICKEIT MEMORIALS, INC.

When Creating Memorials!

GRANITE BRONZE

FINAL DATE LETTERING

COMPETITIVE PRICES

814-438-7349

Route 8 South Union City, PA

ERIE DIOCESAN CEMETERIES

VARIOUS OPTIONS STILL AVAILABLE IN THE NEW CALVARY MAUSOLEUM

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT

814-838-7724

www.eriecd.org

St. Joseph's Church
Bread of Life Community

Win this New Mercedes Benz
visit us at winanewbenz.com

Purchase your tickets NOW!
Buy \$50 or more and get entry into a drawing every two weeks to win a \$50 Visa Gift Card. (one entry per person)

Buy tickets online or stop at the Parish Office
24th and Sassafras St., Erie

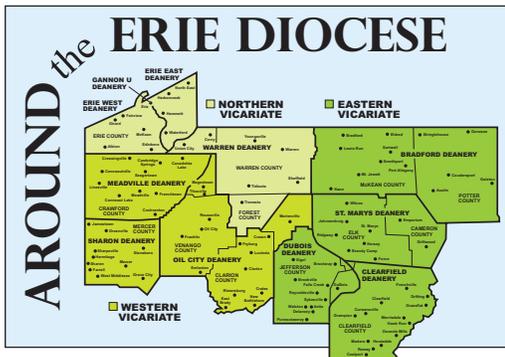
GANNON UNIVERSITY

SUMMER CAMPS 2012

Basketball • Engineering
Journalism • Soccer • Theatre
Volleyball • Writing

GANNON UNIVERSITY

Enroll now at
GANNON.EDU/CAMPS



All parishes, missions, schools and groups are encouraged to choose a **correspondent** who can regularly e-mail news items to "Around the Erie Diocese" at <mailto:FaithLife@ErieRCD.org>

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



Our Lady of Peace, Erie, spends service week at YPWC

FRENCHVILLE — A group from Our Lady of Peace Parish in Erie spent a mission week July 15-21 serving at Young People Who Care in Frenchville.

Young People Who Care (YPWC) is a grass roots ministry in which volunteers respond to the needs of people in Central Appalachia Pennsylvania. The service hours from Our Lady of Peace's group included roof repair, building and painting handicap ramps, apartment and home renovations and many hours of painting, gardening and yard work.



The OLP group is pictured with staff members of YPWC along with students and adults from other parish volunteer groups.

The OLP group included adult leaders **Father Jason Feigh,**

Quinn, Katie Cordier, Jonathan Bunting, Bryan Welsh, Craig McCoy, Charlie and Annie Rutkowski and Andrew Sisinni, students **Olivia and Nicholas Sisinni, Kevin Holland, Abby**

St. Boniface, Erie, donates to Emmaus Ministries

ERIE — St. Boniface Parish in Erie held its first-ever, Old-Fashioned Country Festival in June.

A change from its traditional summer festival, the Country Festival featured a classic car show, horse-drawn hay rides, square dancing, line dancing, family games, a bake sale, Country Cupboard, a home-style chicken dinner, raffles of tickets to country music concerts, a Chinese auction, country craft demonstrations and bluegrass music.

Primarily intended to support the parish and school, St. Boniface also tithed a portion of its proceeds to Emmaus Soup Kitchen.



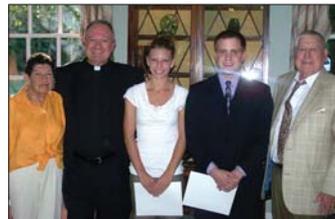
Presenting a check for \$1,077 to Sister Mary Miller, OSB, (center)

of Emmaus Ministries are festival leaders (left to right) **Penny Warmbrod, Ruth Siles, Cathy Mester and Linda Gladitz,** representing more than 100 parishioners involved in the festival.

Clarion Campus Ministry honored, awards scholarship

CLARION — Dr. Karen Whitney, president of Clarion University, hosted a reception Aug. 1 at her home to honor the Catholic Campus Ministry Board of Directors.

Recognized for their support of campus ministry were Bishop Donald Trautman and Lyn and Dick Schmaier. Also acknowledged for their dedicated service were Dr. Miguel and Xhonane Olivas.



The Campus Ministry Board of Directors awarded \$500 scholarships to **Todd Garrett** (Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Mercer), **Jessica Rex** (Immaculate Conception Parish, Clarion) and **Julia Sporer** (Venango Catholic High School, Oil City). The scholarship recipients were recognized for their ongoing commitment to the mission of campus ministry at Clarion University.

Pictured left to right are **Lyn Schmaier, Msgr. Jan Olawin, Jessica Rex, Todd Garrett and Dick Schmaier.**

St. Leo School takes first place in Ridgway Firemen's Parade

RIDGWAY — Students from St. Leo School and their parents took first place in the annual Firemen's Parade July 21 in Ridgway.

The group created a float decked out in red and white, the colors of St. Leo School. Signs and banners also touted the benefits of Catholic education. Students who rode on the float passed out candy to those on the parade route.

For its winning effort, St. Leo School was awarded a \$400 check to benefit the school.



High school grads recognized at St. Timothy, Curwensville

CURWENSVILLE — St. Timothy Parish in Curwensville recently recognized its student members of Curwensville High School's class of 2012.

Pictured left to right: (front row) **Father Mark Mastrian,** pastor; **Savannah Strickland, Madison Peterman, Maria Angelo, Deacon Tony Indelicato,** (back row) **Zachary Kolesar and Alex Holland.**

Strickland and Angelo were the recipients of the **Father James McKee Scholarship** and **Peterman** received the **Rosary and Altar Society Scholarship.**



10th Annual **St. Joseph Church/Bread of Life Community**
24th and Sassafras Streets, Erie
Oktoberfest
October 12th, 13th and 14th
Authentic German cuisine
Heated Beer Tent, 100 Theme Baskets and Kids Game Room!
Mercedes Benz drawing: Sun. at 5 p.m. / Free Parking and Admission

STUMP GRINDING
by Ken Eaton
Back yards - tight spots - No problem
Free estimates, Insured, Shrubs and small trees removed. Prompt service
Ken (814) 474-2195 or (814) 397-0384 LICENSE PA 056587

St. Mary of Grace Church Annual Columbus Day Spaghetti Dinner
Social Center, 1085 Water St., Meadville
Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012, 11:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Pasta dinner features homemade Italian sauce, meatballs, salad, beverage and dessert.
Cost: \$8 for adults; \$5 for children ages 5-10.
Dine in or take out. Lucky money tree, unique gift baskets, used book sale and bake sale.
(homemade cannoli available for purchase)
EXCITING RAFFLES! CASH DRAWING!

YOUR HOMETOWN PHARMACY
B.J. Moon, R.Ph.
John Pontoriero, R.Ph.
3106 Buffalo Road
Erie, PA 16510
814 / 898-2085
Fax 814 / 898-2086
Hours: 9:00-6:00 Monday-Friday, 9:00-2:00 Saturday

mi scuzi
restaurant italiano
Hours: Tuesday through Thursday, 5 to 9 pm
Friday and Saturday, 5 to 10 pm
NOW OPEN SUNDAYS! 1 to 5 pm
Reservations recommended
Please call us at 814-454-4533
27th & Myrtle Street, Erie, PA 16508
www.miscuzirestaurant.com

Blessed Sacrament Fall Festival
Sunday, September 23 from noon to 6 p.m.
W. 26th St. and Greengarden Blvd., Erie / 814-454-0171
Chicken & Biscuit Dinner begins at Noon
Adults: \$8.00, Child 5-12: \$5.00
Child 5 and under: FREE
Family Fun: Bake sale, crafts, games for children and adults, theme baskets, flu shots and **\$25,000 Home Remodel!**

While you're living longer, you can also be living better.
People are living longer than ever before. Still, not everyone is equally prepared for what that might entail. Knights of Columbus long-term care insurance can help. Our plans protect you from the expense of nursing home or assisted living care, which are beyond those provided by most health insurance policies.
Contact me to schedule an appointment.
Ardire Agency
Seven Agents Servicing the Diocese of Erie
Mark Masolotte, Erie
Paul Hohman, Philipsburg
Tyler Weaver, New Bethlehem
Dick Bowser, Brookville
John Ghering, Franklin
Call 814-375-1205 or email arthur.ardire@kofc.org

Family Fun Weekends
Father & Son: Sept. 21-23, 2012; Oct. 19-21, 2012; Jan. 11-13, 2013
Mother & Daughter: Oct. 5-7, 2012; Nov. 2-4, 2012; Feb. 1-3, 2013
For parents and their children ages 6 to 14!
Spend a great weekend with your child.
For more information or to reserve a spot, visit our web site or call:
814-474-5001
www.campnotredame.com
P.O. Box 74 • Fairview, PA 16415
Fairview, PA • 814.474.5001 • CampNotreDame.com
CELEBRATING 52 YEARS

There's Still Time to Register!
Awaken the Wonder!
Art • Music • Science
for children 3-5 • half-day programs
Mercy Center of the Arts
444 East Grandview Blvd.
814-824-2519
mercycenterofthearts.com
A Sponsored Ministry of the Sisters of Mercy

Knights of Columbus INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE
LIFE • DISABILITY • LONG-TERM CARE • RETIREMENT
There is no more highly rated insurer in North America