

Putting her 'life on the line'

Mercy Sister Tina Geiger was screened for Ebola after doing mission work in Nigeria.

PAGE 2



FaithLife

POPE QUOTE

INSPIRING WORDS FROM POPE FRANCIS:

"Marriage is a symbol of life, real life; it is not fiction."

www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

September 28, 2014

People in Diocese of Erie asked to pray for Synod

Sept. 28 has been set aside by Bishop Lawrence Persico and the Family Life Office of the Diocese of Erie as a day of prayer for the success of the extraordinary Synod of Bishops in Rome Oct. 5-19. The theme of the synod is, "Pastoral challenges to the family in the context of evangelization."

People across the diocese are asked to join Catholics around the world in this effort. The faithful, especially families, are asked to include this intention in their personal prayers and also to pray the rosary for the work of the Synod.

In late 2013, Catholics in the Diocese of Erie and across the globe were invited to share their thoughts in a survey on key issues the church faces regarding marriage and family life. Bishop Persico made the survey available on the Diocese of Erie's website and then used those responses to craft his report to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The USCCB submitted a national response to Rome, for discussion at the October Synod. More than 250 people—including cardinals, bishops, priests, women religious and married laity from five continents—are expected to attend the Synod.

A regular world Synod of Bishops on the family will meet in October 2015 to continue discussions on challenges facing the family.

CLIP & SAVE this Prayer for Families

Pope Francis'
Prayer for Families

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendor of true love; to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families, too, may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division; may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may the approaching synod of bishops make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family and its beauty in God's plan.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer.

Amen.

A must-read: Young Catholic America

BY DANIEL S. MULHALL | CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Since its inception in 2002, the National Study of Youth and Religion has provided church ministry practitioners a goldmine of valuable information about the religious beliefs and values of young people and their parents. The first full report of the study was published in *Soul Searching: The Religious and Spiritual Lives of American Teenagers* (2009) by Christian Smith and Melinda Lundquist Denton. Several additional books have followed as that data was unpacked.

The young people who participated in the original study in 2002 have now grown into young adults. Researchers have now gone back to these young people to collect data on their present-day religious lives. Data from the most recent study is presented in the new Oxford University Press publication, *Young Catholic America: Emerging Adults In, Out of, and Gone from the Church*, which is again written by Smith, along with several of his research colleagues.

For those engaged in ministry within the church or for those concerned with the state of religion in the United States, the writing of Smith and his team remain "must-reads." Captured here is a snapshot of where Catholic young people between the ages of 22 and 28 currently are in their relationship with the church and how they express their faith.

The findings are interesting. Emerging adults—those who are of age but who have not yet moved fully into adult responsibilities—hold religious and spiritual beliefs not too different from previous generations but may lack the language to express those beliefs. They also are less likely to participate in weekly religious practices and have less of a commitment to the institutional church.

While recognizing the declining church membership among young people, Smith finds that marriage and having children seems to bring young people back to religious practice. The problem, though, is that many young people are delaying or avoiding marriage entirely.

Young Catholic America feels less compelling than the previous works in the series. As with all long-term studies it is important to remember that each "snapshot" reflects only that period of time and not the end of the journey. It will be interesting to follow these young people as they move into full adulthood.

Mulhall is a catechist who lives in Laurel, Md.

Microscope on the modern family

Divorce, migration contribute to change



EXTRAORDINARY SYNOD OF BISHOPS on the Family OCTOBER 2014

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The family under discussion when the extraordinary Synod of Bishops convenes at the Vatican Oct. 5 will bear little resemblance to the family of 50 or even 20 years ago.

Blended and extended families created by high rates of divorce, remarriage and cohabitation—along with the worldwide migration prompted by economic turmoil and war—

have combined to change forever the view of family as limited to a mother, father and their children.

Children are still most likely to live in two-parent families in all countries except South Africa, according to the World Family Map 2014, a research project sponsored by the Bethesda, Md.-based nonprofit Child Trends and a variety of educational and nongovern-

mental institutions.

"The family is the core institution for child-rearing worldwide, and decades of research have shown that strong families promote positive child outcomes," said Laura Lippman, co-director of the World Family Map and senior program director for education at Child Trends.

The report, co-written by Lippman and W. Bradford Wilcox, an associate professor of sociology at the University of Virginia, found that "growing up with a single parent is especially common in sub-Saharan Africa, in Central and South America, and in several English-speaking Western countries." One-fifth or more of children in the United States, the United Kingdom, New Zealand and Canada live with only one parent, while Asia, the Middle East and Eastern Europe have the world's lowest rates of single parenthood.

Auction at the Art House

By Mary Solberg | FaithLife

Thirteen-year-old Christian Kakulu thinks only in vibrant colors. Nevermind that he was born in war-torn Congo and lived in the bleak surroundings of a refugee camp in Zambia.

An 8th-grader at Pfeiffer-Burleigh and a student at the Inner-City Neighborhood Art House in downtown Erie, Christian has set aside the plain paper and pencil that were his medium of choice in Africa.

Using bold orange, yellow, green, red and black, he recently created a large painted tapestry on muslin that was the featured piece for auction at an Art House fundraiser Sept. 9.

Christian masterfully designed the tapestry with acrylic paints, markers and fabric paint. The piece—called "Earth and the Universe"—depicts the interrelatedness of the sun, trees, birds and planets.

"I started adding stuff to the drawing to make it interesting. It's just what came out of my mind," says Christian of his choice of colors and content. "I like everything about art. It just makes me feel like myself."

The Benedictine Sisters of Erie, who have operated the Neighborhood Art House for nearly 20 years, named Christian the featured artist for the 2014 Taste of the Arts fundraiser. His tapestry sold for \$2,000.



Photos by Mary Solberg

13-year-old's tapestry sells for \$2,000

Christian Kakulu, originally from the Congo and Zambia, proudly displays his colorful tapestry that fetched \$2,000 in the annual Taste of the Arts fundraiser Sept. 9 at the Inner-City Neighborhood Art House in Erie.

Christian's other works also sold that day. His contributions included a chalk pastel drawing of flowers, an acrylic print of a dragonfly, a watercolor of a blue lagoon, prints of an airplane and a mountain, and a digital photo titled, "Change of Seasons."

Despite his difficult upbringing, the beauty of the natural world is at the heart of Christian's work. For 10 years, he lived in a Zambian refugee camp with his parents and two brothers and

two sisters. Today, they live in Erie and the children attend religious education classes at the Eastside Catholic Faith Formation Program at Holy Rosary Parish.

His father, Eugene, is proud of Christian's talent, saying it's a long way from the Congo, where war claimed the lives of his own parents and a brother. Christian's mother, Hugette, also lost her father. Eugene works as a porter for Champion Ford in Erie, and Hugette is a waitress.

At the refugee camp, Eugene tried to make ends meet by selling food. Christian and his brothers and sisters were able to attend school and learn impeccable English. With their parents' encouragement, they were able to see a glimmer of their full potential.

"The refugee camp is hard. Life there is very, very hard," Eugene says. "To have something to eat is hard."

After moving to Erie in November 2012, Eugene Kakulu encouraged Christian to go to the Neighborhood Art House. Soon, his other children started attending classes there, too.

"I encourage them to go to the Art House," Eugene Kakulu says. "Everybody's got a talent. There they can have their talent."

Next year marks the 20th anniversary of the opening of the Neighborhood Art House. It provides free classes in the visual, performing and literary arts to at-risk children in Erie. At the recent fundraiser, 65 student art pieces were displayed; all but 15 were sold.

According to Benedictine Sister Annette Marshall, executive director, the event raised an estimated \$100,000, including sponsor donations. Less expenses, those funds will go directly back to the program. A portion of the sale of each work goes to the student artist.

Sarah Everett, who teaches printmaking at the Neighborhood Art House, is impressed with the creativity of all the children who attend classes. She's particularly fond of Christian's work, though, having guided him through the tapestry process.

Christian, she says, is meticulous and devoted to his artwork. In addition to attending art classes, he often comes to do extra work after school.

"He's a really positive influence in the class and he's got a very mature attitude toward his work," Everett says.

For Christian, art is a chance to show beauty. Even the bird in his tapestry, he says, speaks to "peace of mind."

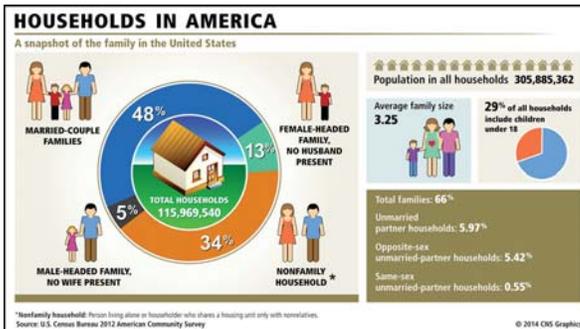
"A bird," he says, "doesn't do stuff that people do. The bird feeds his family without any distractions. It flies in peace."



Christian Kakulu and his mother, Hugette, pose outside the Neighborhood Art House in Erie. Christian's dad, Eugene, was working and unavailable for the photo.



An acrylic print of a dragonfly, one of Christian Kakulu's many art pieces.



Newsmakers

Snippets of Catholic headlines and stories from around the world

from Catholic News Service

■ Senate action urged to stop coverage of abortion in health care plans

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Members of Congress and pro-life leaders Sept. 18 criticized the federal government for failing to ensure federally subsidized health plans will not cover elective abortions.

"Health care should always support the dignity and life of the human person. It can never be about taking a life," said Melissa Swearingen, adviser and spokeswoman for Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

She joined in a news conference held outside the Capitol in response to a new report from the nonpartisan Government Accountability Office showing that in several states subsidized health plans under the Affordable Care Act's exchanges are covering abortions.

■ New archbishop named for Chicago

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Pope Francis has named Bishop Blase J. Cupich of Spokane, Wash., as archbishop of Chicago, succeeding Cardinal Francis E. George, who has headed the archdiocese since 1997.

Archbishop Cupich, 65, will be installed in Chicago during a special Mass Nov. 18. He replaces Cardinal George, 77, who had a recurrence of cancer two years ago and is participating in a clinical research trial for a new cancer drug.

■ Pope makes one-day visit to Albania

TIRANA, Albania (CNS)—In a world "where an authentic religious spirit is being perverted and where religious differences are being distorted and exploited," Albania is an "inspiring example" to everyone that peaceful coexistence is possible, Pope Francis said during a one-day visit to the country Sept. 21.

An estimated crowd of 300,000 people gathered in Mother Teresa Square to see Pope Francis. Many people in attendance were Muslims, who make up more than half of the country's population.



Pope Francis passes an image of Mother Teresa as he arrives in Albania on Sept. 21. CNS photo

Mercy Sister encounters Ebola scare during mission work

By Mary Solberg | FaithLife

Mercy Sister Tina Geiger spent almost two weeks with a medical mission team in Nigeria this August—at the height of the Ebola outbreak in West Africa—but she was more fearful of a mosquito bite than of catching the virus that has claimed nearly 3,000 lives.

"You have to have a lot of trust in God when you're called to mission work. To be honest, I was more afraid of a mosquito bite because of malaria or yellow fever," says Sister Tina, co-director of Catholic Rural Ministry of the Oil City Diocese.

Sister Tina, who has been a Sister of Mercy for 31 years, traveled to Enugu, Nigeria, with the Mercy Medical Mission, based in Baltimore, Md. The group of doctors, nurses and aides traveled to the West African nation to do routine assessments and surgeries at two clinics.

Although the missionaries knew Ebola was spreading, they felt safe going to Nigeria, which in early August had experienced far fewer cases than the hard-hit countries of Liberia and Sierra Leone. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Preven-

tion, there have been 19 laboratory-confirmed cases of Ebola in Nigeria, with eight deaths as of mid-September.

"My sister said, 'I don't want to get between you and your calling, but I don't think it's wise to go,'" Sister Tina recalls of the period before she left for Africa on Aug. 18.

But Sister Tina left anyway. She served with the mission for 10 days, assisting as an aide during 66 surgeries, mostly hernia operations. She held patients still and cared for them in recovery. Although she is not medically trained, she once served as a scrub nurse.

"Sweat was pouring down my back; it was 90 degrees with no air conditioning. Once, we did surgery by headlight lamp," Sister Tina recalls.

Despite the challenging conditions, everyone adhered to sterile practices throughout the mission trip. Nevertheless, the Mercy Medical Mission team couldn't quite escape the ever-present concern about Ebola.

On Aug. 29, while waiting on a plane to leave Lagos, Nigeria, the missionaries saw workers in hazardous material outfits approaching. For the next couple of hours, all passengers—including Sister

Tina—were examined for symptoms of Ebola, such as fever, weakness, diarrhea, vomiting and stomach pain.

Everyone was asked to fill out a medical form, in addition to the one they had already submitted before departing Enugu earlier in the day. Of all the people on-board, three were pulled aside for further examination; one was detained for observation.

Although Sister Tina didn't display any Ebola symptoms, many people remained apprehensive about shaking her hand or hugging her when she returned to the U.S. It wasn't until Sept. 20, after the incubation period passed, that there was a collective sigh of relief.

Benedictine Sister Marian Wehler, who directs Catholic Rural Ministry with Sister Tina, happily welcomed her back home.

"I am so proud of her for going," Sister Marian says. "There is so much fear of the Ebola virus, but there is such beauty in mission work."

Sister Tina, in fact, says that if she were trained as a nurse or a doctor, she would consider returning to Africa to help in the Ebola outbreak, "even though I



Mercy Sister Tina Geiger holds the first intravenous line that she removed following a surgery in Nigeria. The patient, center, received a ball from the medical team and shows it off to his family. Continued photo

might die."

"Sisters of Mercy treated cholera in Ireland and treated the wounded on the battlefield in the

voice their concerns to legislators on a variety of issues. Tens of thousands of people already are participating. Go to the website at www.pacatholic.org.

Editor's Notes

Mary SOLBERG

It's a little out of the ordinary to credit politicians in the days leading up to an election, which will be held here in only six weeks. But kudos go out to Pennsylvania legislators for their passage this summer of Senate Bill 75.

Pennsylvania was one of 37 states to pass tougher laws to combat human trafficking, particularly in the areas of prosecution, victim protection and evidentiary confidentiality, to name a few. Just recently, the Polaris Project—an organization that runs the 24-hour national human trafficking resource hotline—named our Commonwealth one of the most improved states in the areas of sex trafficking statutes, labor trafficking, investigative tools, and victim assistance services.

These improvements were made—in large part—due to exemplary efforts by the Pennsylvania Catholic Advocacy Network of the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference.

I have been most interested in the authentic concern the PCC has for another piece of legislation making its way through the system.

The Pennsylvania Senate Aging and Youth Committee recently amended House Bill 162 to provide consideration of birth parents who do not want to reveal their identities in adoption proceedings. When the bill was originally passed in October 2013, the Pennsylvania Department of Health would have been required to provide a summary of an adoptee's original birth record without the consent of the birth parents.

The Catholic Advocacy Network was among the first to object to the original law, saying that all of the parties in an adoption "have rights which must be reasonably respected."

Voters can go through the network to

♦ ♦ ♦

Cathedral Prep senior Norman Stark is a real class act. Although he was forced to call off his two attempts to swim Lake Erie this summer, he is continuing to swim long distance and raise money for the Intrapred Fallen Heroes Fund.

He raised \$15,005 for the fund during training this past year. On Aug. 31, he presented the donation to the organization on the deck of the aircraft carrier Intrepid, which is berthed on the Hudson River.

According to Stark, "I plan to keep my website [www.iswimforever.com] and continue doing long open-water swims to raise money and awareness for the IPHF."

Stark's outreach and his efforts to swim the lake point only to victory. In fact, he says that despite heading off to college next year, he wants to attempt the Lake Erie swim again.

♦ ♦ ♦

Bishop Kurt Burnette of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic, N.J., wrote recently to Bishop Lawrence Persico about the upcoming beatification of the late Sister Miriam Teresa Demjanovich, a member of the Sisters of Charity and a Ruthenian Greek Catholic.

Born in 1901, in Bayonne, N.J., Sister Miriam Teresa is credited with curing a boy's blindness in 1963.

"I believe many Americans will be edified to know that a fellow citizen is on the road to canonization," Bishop Burnette wrote.

Angelo Cardinal Amato, the prefect of the Congregation for the Saints, will declare Sister Miriam Teresa "Blessed" at a Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark. She will be the first American to be beatified in the United States.

Read more about Sister Miriam Teresa at www.scnj.org and click on "Venerable Sister Miriam Teresa."

Mary Solberg is the editor of FaithLife.

Email: msolberg@ErieRCD.org

Call 814-824-1171

Twitter: @ERIERCDsolberg

The bi-weekly newspaper of the Catholic Diocese of Erie.
St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 East Grandview Blvd.
Erie, Pa. 16504
Publisher: The Most Rev. Lawrence T. Persico

FaithLife

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

Member of the Catholic Press Association
Subscription: \$10/year
Periodical postage paid at Erie, Pa.
Postmaster: Send address changes to:
FaithLife at St. Mark Catholic Center

Email: FaithLife@ErieRCD.org
Editorial: 814-824-1171
Advertising: 814-824-1168
General Information: 814-824-1161

The Office of Communications has been serving Catholics of the Diocese of Erie since 1974.

Grandfather Clock Repair

(814) 282-6435
(Leave Message)

mi sozì

Hours: ristorante italiano
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.misozirestaurant.com

67 Years of Excellence

Since 1947

RAS AUTOBODY

All your collision needs.
Special Wash/Wax/Interior - \$100.00 plus tax
453-6185

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

ProximoTravel
Your Catholic Tour Company

Prices starting at \$2,699 - with Airfare Included in this price
Prices are ALL-INCLUSIVE w/Airfare from anywhere in the continental USA

Several trips to different destinations: the Holy Land; Italy; France, Portugal, & Spain; Poland; Medjugorje, Lourdes, & Fatima; Ireland & Scotland; Austria, Germany, & Switzerland; Greece & Turkey; Camino de Santiago; Viking Cruises; Budapest, Prague, etc...

We also specialize in custom trips for Bishops, Priests, and Deacons.

Call us 24/7
www.proximotravel.com
anthony@proximotravel.com
carmela@proximotravel.com

508-340-9370
855-842-8001
Carmela Marano
Executive Director

Largest memorial display in the area!

Monday-Friday 9 to 5 • Saturday 9 to Noon
Evenings & Weekends by Appointment
32980 Route 66 • Leeper, PA 16233

BORLAND MEMORIALS (814) 744-8340
www.borlandmemorials.com

News Briefs

World religions class underway at St. Ann

ERIE—An adult education course—World Religions & Religious Denominations—is underway at St. Ann Church in Erie. Classes are held Thursday evenings through Dec. 18 from 7 to 8:30 p.m., in the downstairs social hall of St. Ann Church, located at the corner of E. 10th Street and East Avenue. Father Jerry Priscaro leads the program. Course materials are provided and classes are free. There is ample opportunity for open discussion and questions. Below is the class schedule through October.

- Oct. 2—Eastern Orthodox
- Oct. 9—Lutheran and Baptist
- Oct. 16—Anglican and Episcopal
- Oct. 23—Presbyterian and Methodist
- Oct. 30—Disciples of Christ and Christian Missionary Alliance.

Lecture at Mercyhurst University: 'Pope Francis and Catholic Social Thought'

ERIE—The Center for Mercy and Catholic Studies at Mercyhurst University in Erie will present a lecture by noted theologian Christine Firer Hinze, a professor of theology and director of the Francis and Ann Curran Center for American Catholic Studies at Fordham University, on Oct. 1 at 7:30 p.m. at Walker Recital Hall.

Hinze focuses on U.S. Catholic social and economic thought, including issues such as workplace justice, women and families, the state of the economy and the growing gap between rich and poor in this country and around the world. Her talk—"Is Economic Solidarity Bad Economics? Reflections on Pope Francis and Catholic Social Thought"—is free and open to the public. For information, contact Mary Hembrow Snyder at msnyder@mercyhurst.edu.

Sisters of Catholic Rural Ministry host Reflection Afternoon for Women

PORT ALLEGANY—The Sisters of Catholic Rural Ministry of the Bradford Deanery will host a Reflection Afternoon for Women at the Catholic Rural Ministry Center, 472 Sartwell Creek Road, Port Allegany, Oct. 19 from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

The afternoon is designed to help nurture mindfulness, trust and prayer, and to create a world of love. For more information, contact Margaret French at 814-945-6245 or Sister Phyllis Schleicher, OSB, at 814-544-8017 or sisterphy@gmail.com. Registration is due Oct. 16.

Is your marriage in need of healing?

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio—The Retrouvaille program of Youngstown, Ohio, will begin its fall session with a weekend seminar Oct. 31 to Nov. 2 at Villa Maria Educational and Spirituality Center in Palaski, Pa.

Couples will learn a new way to communicate with each other. Registration is \$100. The program also includes follow-up sessions. For registration or more information, call Guy or Tricia at 330-501-9377 or 330-502-6081, or email retro3035@aol.com. Read more at www.helpourmarriage.com.

WIN a 2014 Mercedes!

Tickets Purchase in parish office or online

Mercedes 1 for \$10; 3 for \$20
10 for \$50; 30 for \$100
120 for \$300

SLK250 St. Joseph Church Bread of Life
147 W. 24th St., Erie

www.WinaNewBenz.com

LIFE RUN 5K OCTOBER 11, 2014

A 3.1 mile race (timed) and walk through the orchards and vineyards of Burch Farms & Winery, 9210 Sidelink Rd., North East. Sign-In: 7:30 a.m. * Start Time: 8:30 a.m.

Registration: \$30 * Ages 7-13: \$20 * 6 and under free
Free: Sport-Tek T-shirt, Wine Tasting, Babysitting, and more

Online registration: www.peopleforlife.org/runinfo
Questions: Kelly at (814) 864-1613 | kckojan@verizon.net
FUNDRAISER FOR PEOPLE FOR LIFE

Schutte
WOODWORKING, LLC

2831 Zimmerman Road, Erie 814-453-5110

custom cabinetry • church furnishings
millwork • wall units

www.schuttewoodworking.net

YOUR HOMETOWN PHARMACY

B.J. Moon, R.Ph.
John Pontoriero, R.Ph.
Chad Jantz, Pharm. D.

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

Local Catholic • Family Owned

Activecare
Physical Therapy, LLC

Ehren Trout, MPT, ATC, Cert. MDT
Owner/Physical Therapist

NEW BUSINESS LOCATION:
3425 Peach Street
Erie, PA 16508
(814) 864-4100

www.activecareerie.com

- 20 Years Experience
- Athletic Trained, Division I
- McKenzie Certified
- Hands-On Therapy
- Private Treatment Rooms

Cross on the Hill

Brother, sister help create Memorial Walkway

By Mary Solberg | FaithLife

The story goes that one August afternoon, nearly 25 years ago, the abundance of elk in the community of Benezette in Elk County simultaneously bugled their love call for one solid hour. Nearby, on Mount Zion Road, people had just erected a large wooden cross at the top of a hill. "The hand of God has been upon it," Msgr. John "Ted" Carter said at the time about the placement of the cross. A group of faithful, known as The Holy Family, was instrumental in preparing the location.

The following year—in 1991—more than 500 people attended an outdoor Mass at the cross site, a scenic area (elevation 1,800 feet) overlooking Spring Run Creek in Jay Township. Many visitors reportedly experienced God's peace in profound ways.

So many people started to visit Mount Zion Road that the corporate owners of the land asked that the cross be moved. In 1993, thanks to a benefactor, The Holy Family group purchased property adjacent to the original site and erected a new cross.

Today, a second 13-by-8-foot wooden cross is located about 150 yards from the first spot. It overlooks the same grand vista and continues to draw visitors.

For Bill McMahon and other members of The Holy Family, their life's passion is promoting the spiritual refreshment that comes from the area. "You experience God's peace there," says McMahon, a parishioner of St. Catherine of Siena Parish, DuBois.

This summer, several people in the community—including a brother and sister from neighboring Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Sykesville—helped create the Cross on the Hill Interfaith Memorial Walkway. It winds behind trees along Mount Zion Road and leads to the cross.

The walkway features seven stations related to Mary and/or the Holy Family. Three-by-three-foot waterproofed metal sheets depict Simeon's prophesy, the flight into Egypt, the loss of the child Jesus, the meeting between Jesus and his Mother, the crucifixion, the removal of Jesus from the cross, and Jesus' entombment.

The pictures for each station were first drawn on paper by Katherine Lang, a member of Blessed of the Virgin Mary Parish and a student at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kan. As part of her Girl Scout Gold Award, she also laid the red bricks for the path and created a pamphlet to help visitors understand the Scriptural passages of each station.

Her brother, Christopher, as part of his Eagle Scout project, laid gray bricks in the ground to form a cross at each station along the Interfaith Memorial Walkway.

"Doing the artwork for the stations really made me have to enter into the Scripture passage or scene that I was trying to depict, which helped me to come to a better understanding of the relationship between Jesus and Mary and the sacrifices that both of them



Contributed photos

Many visitors are drawn to this 13-by-8-foot wooden cross overlooking a beautiful vista near Benezette in Elk County.



Katherine Lang and her brother, Christopher, helped lay the bricks for the Cross on the Hill Interfaith Memorial Walkway as part of their respective Girl Scout and Eagle Scout projects.

Visit the Cross on the Hill Interfaith Memorial Walkway

Set your GPS to:
2041 Mount Zion Road, Weedville, PA 15868

had to make," says Katherine. 18. Construction of the walkway took about 90 hours this summer, not including the 25 to 30 hours that Katherine contributed to creating the station pictures.

Christopher Lang, who is a homeschooled senior, says he accepted a lot of advice and help from individuals in the community and members of The Holy Family group.

"During the project, I felt it was a big job, but afterward we got lots of reactions from people on how it made them feel," Christopher Lang explains. "At that point, it hit me, 'Wow, this is pretty big.'" Their mom, Sheri Lang, is proud that her children participated in the project. She walked the prayer path recently and was moved by the experience.

"I pray that many people will be drawn closer to the Lord as they use this prayer walk," Sheri Lang says.

The Holy Family organization is accepting orders for memorial bricks to be placed on the walkway.

Sale of the bricks is expected to help offset the estimated \$10,000 cost of the entire project. For more information, contact Peggy Coppola at 814-787-5624 or pcoppola46@windstream.net.



Jesus Meets his Mother is one of the seven stations along the path. The stations were cut out of sheet metal and waterproofed.

STUMP GRINDING
by Ken Eaton

Backyards • sight spots • No problem
Free estimates, Insured, Shrubs and small trees removed. Prompt service
Ken (814) 474-2195 or
(814) 397-0384 LICENSE PA 056082

ERIE DIOCESAN CEMETERIES

Mausoleum/Niche space and Full size/cremation grave space available

CALL 814-838-7724

www.eriecdc.org

Save the Date! Saturday November 1, 2014

2nd Annual Erie Men's Conference

At Erie's beautiful Warner Theater
9:00AM to 3:30PM

Three nationally known Catholic speakers

Bishop Lawrence T. Persico in attendance
Adoration • Confession • Mass

Don't miss this opportunity to grow in faith!



www.2232Men.com

For Art's Sake Gallery & Frames

The Cat's Meow Village • Custom Framing

Original Art • Prints • Gifts

We're the official framer for several area schools.

Quality work at a reasonable price.

For Heaven's Sake

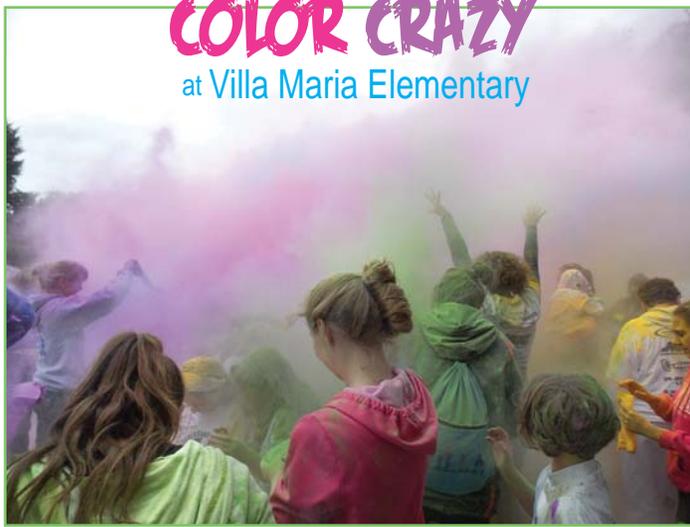
Religious Gifts (inside For Art's Sake)

Largest selection of DeColores gifts in the area!

7547 W. Ridge Rd. Fairview, PA 16415

(814) 474-3033





COLOR CRAZY at Villa Maria Elementary



ERIE—At least it's not toxic! More than 100 people, at left, were sprayed with a food-safe color during the Smile Mile run/walk at Villa Maria Elementary in Erie on Sept. 13. The event benefited the W. 8th Street elementary school.
 Above, Principal Damon Finazzo gets doused with color, too!

Students raise dollars for non-profits



ERIE—Students at Our Lady's Christian School in Erie have raised money for numerous non-profits in Erie County. The Our Lady's Christian School summer program held car washes to benefit such agencies as the Mercy Center for Women. Pictured, left to right, are: Stephen Nemenz, principal; fourth-graders Kamryn Taylor, AJ O'Neil and Natalie Markowicz; and Christine Tombaugh, executive director of Mercy Center for Women.

Meadville Knights conduct clean-up



Photo by Ed Mallard

MEADVILLE—Members of the Knights of Columbus Council #388 cleaned up a portion of Route 322, south of Meadville, on Sept. 8. More than a dozen Knights took part in the task, which is part of Pennsylvania's Adopt-A-Highway program. Along the two-mile stretch of highway, the local Knights have collected about 40 large bags of trash so far this year. Pictured, left to right, are: Knights Don Kircher, William Mantz (background), Richard Albaugh, John Hall (background) and Mark Bellini.

Crusadie is back at St. Luke



ERIE—Crusadie, the larger-than-life frog, is back in its rightful place in front of St. Luke School in Erie. The figure was stolen at the end of last school year, but she reappeared one night—broken and damaged—on the nearby campus of Mercyhurst University. Posing with the refurbished Crusadie are: George Lyons, left, owner of Contemporary Motor Cars and a St. Luke grad, who did the necessary repair work; and Erie artist Scott Rispin, who provided a make-over.

PULAKOS Chocolates
A Sweet Stop!
 2530 Parade Street, Erie, Pa 16503
 380 Millcreek Plaza, Erie, Pa 16565
 (Outside the Millcreek Mall)
www.pulakoschocolates.com 800.627.0926

20th Annual Erie Diocesan Rosary March

Sunday, October 12, 2014
 Saint Peter Cathedral
 (10th and Sassafras Streets, Erie)

Assemble at 2:00 pm
Speaker: Fr. David Renne
Pray the rosary with us!
 More info: John Walsh, 814-868-1100

Sponsored by The World Apostolate of Fatima

PARISH DAY

Sacred Heart's Annual Roast Beef Dinner
Sunday, October 5 • Noon-5:30 PM
 Sacred Heart Auditorium, 25th and Liberty, Erie

Adult: \$8, Child: \$4.50, 5 & under: FREE
 Bake Sale, Chinese Auction, Theme Baskets

MOO AND OINK RAFFLE

- Chest Freezer, Side of Beef, Side of Pig
- \$100 Gift Card, 1/4 Side of Beef, 1/4 Side of Pig
- 1/4 Side of Beef, 1/4 Side of Pig

TICKETS \$5.00 each
Need Not Be Present to Win

Also raffling 2 Kindle Fire HDX 8.9" Tablets

More info: Rose 866-5356 or Kathy 528-4981

St. Joseph Church / Bread of Life Community 24th and Sassafras Sts., Erie

Oktoberfest

October 10th 5 PM to 11 PM Keystone Bavarians Jackson Station	October 11th 1 PM to 11 PM Heimat Klara Troupe The Mad Bavarian The Man's Room Band	October 12th 12 PM to 6 PM Keystone Bavarians Augsburg German Band
---	--	--

Authentic German cuisine
 Heated Beer Tent, Theme Baskets & Kids Game Room!
 Follow us at winanewebnz.at

Mercedes Benz drawing: Sunday at 5 PM
Free Parking and Admission

Say "Yes" to God's Calling!

Plan to attend the inaugural
1:38 Women
CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4
Warner Theatre in downtown Erie
9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Fellowship • Inspiring national speakers • Lunch • Adoration • Reconciliation • Mass with Bishop Lawrence Persico

1:38 Women

All faiths are welcome! Visit WWW.138WOMEN.COM
 OR (814) 455-7364 for more details and to register.

Family Fun Weekends

Father & Son
 Sept. 26-28, 2014
 Oct. 24-26, 2014
 Jan. 9-11, 2015

Mother & Daughter
 Oct. 10-12, 2014
 Nov. 7-9, 2014
 Feb. 6-8, 2015

For parents and their children ages 6 to 14!

Spent 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
 © Est. 1960 • P.O. Box 74 • Fairview, PA 16415

CAMP NOTRE DAME
 © Est. 1960

Fairview, PA • 814.474.5001 • CampNotreDame.com

CELEBRATING 54 YEARS