

# FaithLife

www.ErieRCD.org BI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE September 3, 2017

## Consider a gift



Catholics in the Diocese of Erie are asked to give generously to the Sept. 16-17 Catholic Education Collection, which allocates funds to the Religious Education Endowment Fund (REEF), as well as to the Catholic Foundation of the diocese, The Catholic University of America, and Catholic parishes in the 13-counties of northwestern Pennsylvania.

Since the first Catholic Education Collection more than 25 years ago, the people of the diocese have donated more than \$3 million. Half of the money collected stays in parishes to support education programs.

## Remember churches in estate planning

FAITHLIFE staff report

Retired businessman Bob Crowley of Warren advises his peers to ask themselves one question: "What do you want your legacy to be?"

Family comes first to Crowley, of course, but his legacy also is inextricably tied to his Catholic faith. That's why he and his wife, Barbara, have a provision in their will—through the Catholic Foundation—to benefit St. Joseph Parish in Warren.

"My Catholic faith is my family, too," says the 67-year-old Crowley, a retired senior vice president of Blair Corp.

In May, Crowley joined Betsy Williams, the advancement director of St. Joseph Par-



Courtesy photo

ish and School, and Bill Grant, director of the Office of Stewardship and Annual Giving of the Diocese of Erie, in organizing an estate planning seminar at St. Joseph. Nearly 40 people attended from Warren area parishes.

"If people do not make a will, the state of Pennsylvania will make one out for you, which may not distribute your estate according to your wishes," Grant says. "Remembering your parish in your will helps sustain it for the future."

A member of St. Joseph in Warren the past 39 years, Crowley is pleased with the ongoing support from individuals to grow separate endowments for the church, the parish school and scholarships. The interest income from those endowments ensures the viability of the three areas.

The need to enhance parish and school endowments was a key focus of recent pastoral planning recommendations in the Diocese of Erie, Grant says. He's hoping to offer more estate planning seminars this fall. Discussion is expected to include financial planning in such areas as bequests, life insurance, retirement funds and brokerage and financial accounts.

To inquire about estate planning, contact Grant at 814-824-1192, or email him at [wgrant@ErieRCD.org](mailto:wgrant@ErieRCD.org).

## Inner-city school opens with new name

BY MARY SOLBERG | FAITHLIFE

The first day of school was filled with firsts Aug. 28 at the newly named Mother Teresa Academy in inner-city Erie.

New principal, Jamie Brim, greeted the elementary school's students who poured through the front doors of the brick building on E. 9th Street. For the past century, the school has been known as Holy Family, but declining enrollment and financial concerns prompted the Diocese of Erie to rename it and reassess its outreach as a mission school.

Brim's jitters and excitement matched that of first-graders Baylee Lightner and Olivia Hughes, who walked past the large statue of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, the Holy Family that has greeted students for generations.

"To run a school named after Mother

Teresa is really overwhelming," Brim said. "I have very big shoes to fill. I just want to be the very best for these kids."

Brim wore a necklace engraved with a quote from Mother Teresa: "Do small things with great love."

"It's our philosophy here, day by day," Brim added.

First-grader Olivia Hughes walked into school with her mother, Amber Hughes, a graduate of Holy Family. Olivia attended a nearby public school for kindergarten, but was enrolled in Mother Teresa this year after Bishop Lawrence Persico announced its innovative tuition structure.

"It's nice because we wanted to send her to a Catholic school last year, but it was just not affordable," Amber Hughes said. "I knew Holy Family was a really good school for me, so I know she'll be really good here, too."

Although annual tuition will be set at \$5,000, those who qualify for free lunch under the Federal Poverty Guidelines for Free and Reduced Lunch will only have to pay \$250 per year. Families who qualify for reduced lunches pay \$500 per year. Needy families also benefit from before- and after-school care as part of the tuition costs.

Mother Teresa is modeled after Jubilee Catholic Schools in Memphis, Tenn., and other cities.

"I like it and I'm a little shy," Olivia Hughes admitted before meeting her art teacher, Griffin Currie.

Currie also is new to the school; it's her first year of teaching.

"I am very excited. I think it's a wonderful opportunity for the kids," Currie said.



This Jesus, Mary and Joseph statue had been a fixture at Holy Family School, Erie, but now looks over the new logo for Mother Teresa Academy.



Photos by Mary Solberg

Jamie Brim, principal at the new Mother Teresa Academy, welcomes Baylee Lightner to her first-grade year.

First-grader Baylee Lightner happily walked into Mother Teresa on the first day. She was a veteran, after all, having been in kindergarten at Holy Family. Her aunt, Jessica Green, dropped her off, along with Green's son, Shane, a sixth-grader.

Despite the tuition reduction, Green said she still would gladly pay whatever it costs for a Catholic education.

"I have no other choice but to send my son to a Catholic school in order to keep our faith. I feel like kids need more prayer in their lives," Green said.

Enrollment at Mother Teresa Academy doubled from what it was at Holy Family last year, jumping to 188 registered students. According to Chris Hagerty, director of strategic initiatives at the Erie Catholic Preparatory School, which includes Cathedral Prep and Villa Maria Academy, there is a waiting list of 100

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## SEARCHING for GOD

# Monk offers contemplative prayer retreat

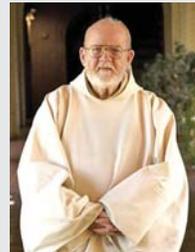
FAITHLIFE staff report

The laity need contemplation more than anyone else because of the stresses of everyday life, according to Father William Meninger, OCSO, a Trappist monk who will be in Erie this month to present a two-day retreat at Mount St. Benedict Monastery.

"Lay people live in a situation that doesn't necessarily commend itself to quiet and meditation," Father Meninger told *FaithLife* in a phone interview. "But they have a greater need for it because of the hectic life people live today."

One of three principal architects of the Contemplative Prayer movement, Father Meninger will lead the Sept. 15-16 retreat, *The Loving Search for God*, which is the title of his popular 1994 book printed by Bloomsbury Publishing. *The Loving Search for God* was inspired by the anonymous 14th-century spiritual classic, *The Cloud of Unknowing*, a little-known, dusty volume that Father Meninger found in 1974 in the library at St. Joseph Abbey in Spencer, Mass.

Although written in Middle English, *The Cloud of Unknowing* provided what Father Meninger considered a simple, teachable process by which to learn contemplative prayer. It would, he thought,



Father William Meninger, OCSO

"This is the highest form of prayer you can do. Everyone is called to love God."

in cloisters, convents or abbeys.

"No one even suspected it was a kind of prayer they could do," he said.

In 1994, he published *The Loving Search for God*. Today, at age 85, he still is presenting workshops on the various aspects of contemplation as an advanced form of prayer. Centering prayer as taught in *The Cloud of Unknowing* is just one of many forms of contemplation.

"It's simply loving God. This is the highest form of prayer you can do," he said. "Everyone is called to love God."

He believes the daily practice of contemplation is "transformative" and can lead to an elevated sense of insight and experience of God. One has only to look at the fruits of Pope Francis' papacy, he said, to see the benefit of centering one's thoughts and prayers on God alone.

"He [Pope Francis] has a handle on the pulse of the world," Father Meninger said. "He's not blinded by his position or the entrenchment of people who surround him and who are oblivious to what is going on in the church."

The weekend retreat is sponsored by St. George and Our Lady of Mercy parishes, both in Erie, the Benedictine Sisters of Erie, and House of Prayer in Erie.

enable the average person to prayerfully experience God.

He immediately began teaching contemplative prayer, using *The Cloud of Unknowing* as a guide. With his colleagues, Father Basil Pennington and Father Thomas Keating, he re-introduced the volume to the world and organized the Contemplative Prayer movement.

In the mid-1970s, contemplative prayer was "almost completely dead," Father Meninger said, except

### RETREAT SEPT. 15-16

#### The Loving Search for God

Cost: \$95, which includes the retreat program and four meals. Register online at [www.stigeorgeerie.org/news/weekend-retreat](http://www.stigeorgeerie.org/news/weekend-retreat). For more information, contact Joe Sarbak at 814-746-1015.

### Papal trip to Colombia

MEDELLIN, Colombia—A man works on a mosaic of Pope Francis on a wall outside Hogar San Jose children's home in Medellin, Colombia. The pope will visit the home Sept. 9 during his five-day trip to the South American country.



CNS photo

## Newsmakers



Snippets of Catholic headlines and stories from around the world from Catholic News Service

### Catholic groups mobilize after Hurricane Harvey's devastation

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Catholic dioceses and charities quickly organized to help in the aftermath of a Category 4 hurricane that made landfall with heavy rains and winds of 130 miles per hour late Aug. 25 into the Rockport, Texas, area, northeast of Corpus Christi. The National Weather Service said that the rainfall expected after Hurricane Harvey was "beyond anything experienced before."

Hurricane Harvey is said to be the strongest one to hit the United States in more than a decade and perhaps the strongest one to make landfall in Texas.

Catholic Charities USA, as well as the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Disaster Services, announced that they're mobilizing to help people affected by the hurricane.



CNS photo

People walk through floodwaters from Hurricane Harvey Aug. 27 after being evacuated in Dickinson, Texas.

Authorities reported at least five casualties as of Aug. 27, but because of safety issues, not many emergency teams have been able to respond to the aftermath and much of the damage is unknown. Texas Gov. Greg Abbott declared the state a disaster area, which will allow federal money to help in reconstruction. Catholic groups said they want to help with the immediate needs of the communities affected.

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"We will be sending in rapid-response teams to help our impacted St. Vincent de Paul councils and we are coordinating nationally with the Knights of Columbus, Knights of Malta and (Catholic Charities USA)," said Elizabeth Disco-Shearer, CEO of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul USA.

Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, on Aug. 27 urged "all people of goodwill to closely monitor future calls for assistance for victims and survivors in the days ahead."

### Racism called a 'pre-eminent sin'

BROOKLYN, N.Y. (CNS)—Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio of Brooklyn is forming a new commission to study the effects of racism in the Catholic Church and on the Brooklyn Diocese.

He made the announcement Aug. 24 at a specially called Mass for Solidarity and Peace to counter the recent displays of racism in demonstrations in Charlottesville, Va.

"Racism remains the pre-eminent sin of not only our nation, but also of our church," Bishop DiMarzio said.

He said that the commission would be named for Msgr. Bernard Quinn, a white Brooklyn pastor who established parishes and services for African-American Catholics in the first half of the 20th century.



CNS photo

Priests hold the Eucharist during a Mass for solidarity and peace Aug. 24 at St. James Cathedral Basilica in Brooklyn, N.Y.

## Q&A What does the Catholic Church say about war?

WASHINGTON (CNS)—In light of the escalation of tensions between the United States and North Korea, Stephen M. Colech, director of the U.S. bishops' Office of International Justice and Peace, recently answered some questions about Catholic Church teaching and war:

**Q:** Does the Catholic Church have any formal criteria for when war is justified?

**A:** Yes. Over the centuries, since the time of St. Augustine, the Catholic Church has developed a "just-war tradition" that allows for defense. It may be helpful to refer to the "just use of force," since modern wars are so much more destructive due to modern weaponry. We have a prior obligation "to work for the avoidance of war" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2308). The use of force must always be a "last resort."

**Q:** According to the church, are there limits to what is acceptable once war has been declared?

**A:** Absolutely, the tradition rejects "total war," in which anything goes. The church lifts up the principles of proportionality and discrimination. The use of armed force must not bring about greater evils than legitimate defense requires, and the use of force must not indiscriminately kill combatants and civilians alike. "Non-combatants, wounded soldiers and prisoners must be respected and treated humanely" (2313).

**Q:** Why doesn't the church just say that war is wrong?

**A:** Pope Francis captured the essence of the church's teaching on war: "War always marks the failure of peace, it is always a defeat for humanity. Let the words of Pope Paul VI resound again: '... War never again, never again war!' We must build peace. In the famous words of Blessed Pope Paul VI, "If we want peace, we must work for justice." In a fallen world in which

violence occurs, "governments cannot be denied the right of lawful self-defense, once all peace efforts have failed" (Catechism, 2308). At the same time, we should not underestimate the power of nonviolence and nonviolent resistance to evil. Pope Francis dedicated his Jan. 1, 2017, World Day of Peace message to "Nonviolence: A Style of Politics for Peace," a profound challenge in our day.

**Q:** How does the church's teaching about war apply to nuclear weapons?



CNS photo

Nuclear war protesters demonstrate outside the White House in Washington Aug. 9. Church officials called for dialogue to ease U.S.-North Korea tensions.

**A:** The use of nuclear weapons is morally problematic due to their disproportionate and indiscriminate destructive power. The church today is working for a world without nuclear weapons. Quoting the Second Vatican Council, the catechism teaches: "Every act of war directed to the indiscriminate destruction of whole cities or vast areas with their inhabitants is a crime against God and man, which merits firm and unequivocal condemnation." A danger of modern warfare is that it provides the opportunity to those who possess modern scientific weapons—especially atomic, biological or chemical weapons—to commit such crimes" (2314).

## Mother Teresa Academy opens

Continued from page 1

students eager to take advantage of the tuition break and enhanced academic environment.

An initial round of philanthropic community support and one "substantial" gift from an anonymous donor made it possible to open Mother Teresa, which will be owned and operated by Prep and Villa.

"Although fundraising has gone exceptionally well, we will always be looking for community partners to continue providing philanthropic support to this amazing mission," Hagerty told FaithLife.

For now, though, Brim is adjusting to her new life as principal and preparing for what is to come. For the past 11

years, she has been a teacher, instructional coach and school-wide support faculty at Wayne Middle School in the Erie School District.

Her husband helped landscape the front of the school in preparation for the first day of classes. And her staff welcomed children with chalk drawings on the sidewalk outside the school.

In January, Mother Teresa will open at its new site at the former St. Peter Cathedral School, located fewer than two miles away at W. 11th and Sassafras streets. Renovations at St. Peter are expected to be completed in late fall.

"There are a lot of great opportunities that are going to happen here," Brim said.

Left photo: Principal Jamie Brim greets students Aug. 28.

Right: Amber Hughes, standing, introduces her daughter, Olivia, to first-grade art teacher, Griffin Currie.



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## EVENTS

**Day of Remembrance event scheduled in Erie**

ERIE—All are invited to attend the fifth annual National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, 5711 West Lake Road, Erie, on Sept. 9 at 1 p.m. The remembrance will be held, rain or shine, at the Knights of Columbus memorial in the infants section at the west end of the cemetery.

**Pig roast to benefit Clarion County parish**

NEW BETHLEHEM—A pig roast will be held at St. Nicholas Church, 3028 Shannondale Road, Mayport, Sept. 9 from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Proceeds benefit St. Charles Parish, New Bethlehem, and its secondary mission church of St. Nicholas. Tickets are \$15 and include the meal, drinks and chances on two \$500 cash prizes. Only 300 tickets will be sold.

**Greensburg priest to offer healing Mass**

NORTH EAST—Father William Kiel, a recently retired priest from the Diocese of Greensburg, will offer a Mass for healing at St. Gregory Church, 48 South Pearl St., North East, on Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. All are welcome.

**St. Mark Seminary Auxiliary invites members**

ERIE—St. Mark Seminary Auxiliary extends an invitation to Catholic women and men interested in supporting St. Mark Seminary, spiritually and financially. The group meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the St. Mark Seminary Chapel.

The evening includes Mass and a meeting, with refreshments and an opportunity to meet the seminarians. The auxiliary has one fundraising event per year. Dues are \$5 per year or \$25 per lifetime membership. For further information, contact the Seminary Office at 814-824-1200, Dawn Schaff at 814-450-6761, or Patricia Straub at 814-520-6477. The first meeting this year is Sept. 12 at 7 p.m. in the St. Mark Seminary Chapel.

**Campout brings families together in diocese**

CARLTON, Pa.—The Chastity Education Office of the Diocese of Erie is sponsoring a campout at Custaloga Town in Carlton, Pa., Sept. 15-17. Mass will be celebrated Sept. 17 at 1 p.m. To learn more about this free weekend that will rejuvenate and reconnect your family, visit [www.ErieRCD.org/chastity\\_campout.htm](http://www.ErieRCD.org/chastity_campout.htm).

**Disabilities Office plans hoedown this month**

ERIE—The Office for People with Disabilities in the Diocese of Erie is planning a hoedown Sept. 16 for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. The picnic will be held at St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie, from 3:30 to 9 p.m. Festivities start with an anticipated Mass at 4 p.m., followed by a potluck dinner and an evening of dancing.

**Blessed Sacrament Parish to host fall festival**

ERIE—Blessed Sacrament Parish in Erie will host a fall festival on the church grounds, 1626 W. 26th St., on Sept. 17 from noon to 5 p.m. Nurses from the Erie Center on Health and Aging will be available to give flu shots from noon to 4 p.m., and the Community Blood Bank will conduct a blood drive from noon to 3 p.m.

The day also includes a \$500 drawing every half-hour from 12:30 to 3 p.m. At 3:30 p.m., there will be a drawing for \$1,500; at 4 p.m., a drawing for \$2,500; and at 4:30 p.m., a drawing for \$3,000. The grand-prize drawing for \$5,000 will be held at 5 p.m. An additional \$50 prize is given to each winner who is present. Grand-prize tickets are \$5 each.

**Partnered Erie parishes present parish mission**

ERIE—St. John the Baptist and Holy Rosary parishes in Erie are hosting a parish mission Sept. 24-27. Father Michael Sullivan of Villanova, Pa., is the mission presenter each day from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The evenings of Sept. 24-25 will be held at St. John, 509 E. 26th St., and the evenings of Sept. 26-27 will be held at Holy Rosary, 2701 East Ave.

**24-part Bible series scheduled in Sharon**

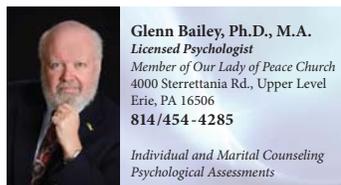
SHARON—St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Sharon is sponsoring "The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation," a 24-part study that will take participants on a journey through the entire Bible. Session 1 begins Sept. 26 and will run every Tuesday through Nov. 14 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at St. Stanislaus Koska Church, 370 Spruce Ave., Sharon. The one-time cost for all sessions is \$35 (for the book). For more information, call Mary Ann at 724-342-7391.

**Benedictines to lead silent peace walk**

ERIE—The Benedictines for Peace in Erie are sponsoring a silent walk to mark the International Day of Peace on Sept. 21. The walk will be held from 7 to 7:30 p.m. and begins at Perry Square in downtown Erie. For more information, contact [bf@mtsibenedict.org](mailto:bf@mtsibenedict.org).



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## Vocation News

**Mercy Sister professes first vows**

Mercy Sister Colleen O'Toole, a native of Rochester, N.Y., professed first vows with the Sisters of Mercy New York, Pennsylvania, West Community during a July 22 Mass at Mercyhurst University, Erie. In August, Sister Colleen began working as a kindergartener aide with Corryville Catholic School, Cincinnati.

**Mercy Associates welcomed in Erie**

Mercy Associates in Erie welcomed five new members at a ceremony during Mass Aug. 6 at the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse. Mercy Associates are women and men who discern a call from God to actively engage in a commitment to mercy within a formal relationship with the Sisters of Mercy. Pictured, from left, are: Alene Kraus, Amy Danzer, Mary Zenner, Katherine Krainski and Sarah Anderson. All associates in the photo are from Erie, except for Anderson, who is from St. Marys.

## OBITUARIES

**Sister Marie Celeste Bindseil, SSJ**

Sister Marie Celeste Bindseil, SSJ, 95, died Aug. 17 in her diamond jubilee year. Born Lieselotte Bindseil in Frankfurt, Germany, she entered the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1942 from St. John the Baptist Parish in Erie. She was given the name Sister Marie Celeste and professed final vows on Aug. 15, 1948. Sister Marie Celeste earned her



Sister Marie Celeste Bindseil, SSJ

bachelor's degree in business from Villa Maria College, Erie. She also achieved certification by the National Association of Catholic Chaplains in 1976.

Sister Marie Celeste taught at Sacred Heart School, Erie; St. Agatha School, Meadville; and at St. Leo Elementary/High School, Ridgway. She then ministered for more than 38 years at Saint Vincent Hospital, Erie, serving as director of admissions, director of purchasing, equipment coordinator, patient advocate and chaplain.

She served as the hospital's pastoral care chaplain for more than 10 years.

She held various other positions, having worked as an advocate for the Diocese of Erie's Marriage Tri-

bunal, and as a receptionist at the Villa Maria Conference Center and the Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network.

She volunteered for the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Regional Cancer Center, both in Erie.

Survivors include a brother, Lawrence J. Bindseil of Holly Springs, N.C.; several nieces and nephews and their families; and numerous cousins.

A Mass of Christian burial was held at the Sisters of St. Joseph Community Living Center. Interment was at Calvary Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Sisters of St. Joseph Mission and Ministries Foundation, 5031 West Ridge Road, Erie, PA 16506-1249.

**Sister M. Timothy Kelley, RSM**

Sister M. Timothy Kelley, RSM, died Aug. 16 at the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse in Erie. She was 98 and in her 70th year of religious life. Born in Mansfield, Ohio, she was baptized Jane Kelley. On Nov. 21, 1947—after teaching at Mercyhurst University, Erie, she entered the Sisters of Mer-



Sister M. Timothy Kelley, RSM

cy at St. Joseph Convent in Titusville. She professed perpetual vows on June 21, 1953.

Prior to entering the Sisters of Mercy, Sister Timothy earned a bachelor's degree from Marygrove College in Detroit, Mich., and a master's degree from Michigan State University. She taught in Ohio public schools, and at Mercyhurst University.

She served as principal of St. Titus School, Titusville, before becoming the founding principal at St. Luke School in Erie. Sister Timothy served as chairperson of the Home Economics Department at DuBois Central Catholic High School from

1960-66. After briefly serving as novice director, she went back to DuBois Central.

In 1984, she returned to Erie and directed food services at the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse and taught in the St. Luke Parish religious education program.

Survivors include several nephews.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated at the Sisters of Mercy Chapel in Erie. Burial was at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Erie.

Memorials may be made to the Sisters of Mercy Ministry Fund, 444 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie, PA 16504.

**Sister Dona Obenrader, OSB**

Sister Dona Obenrader, OSB, formerly Sister Alice Francis, died Aug. 19 at Mount Saint Benedict Monastery in Erie. She was 88 and in her 65th year of religious life.

In 1950, she entered the Benedictine Sisters of Erie from St. Michael Parish in Fryburg. She attended St. Benedict Academy, Erie, made her first profession of vows in 1952, and her perpetual profession in 1955.

Sister Dona held a bachelor's degree in education from Mercyhurst University.

She was a long-time teacher in the Diocese of Erie. She taught at St. Gregory, North East; Sacred Heart and St. Joseph, both in Sharon; Immaculate Conception, Clarion; and Mount Calvary, Erie.

She also worked as a school secretary and librarian at All Saints-St. John Vianney in Wickliffe, Ohio.

Later, she became an adult tutor at St. Benedict Education Center, a ministry of the Benedictine Sisters of Erie.

Sister Dona engaged in the ministry of hospitality as a monastery switchboard attendant.

Survivors include members of the Benedictine community in Erie.

A Mass of Christian burial was held at Mount Saint Benedict Monastery, Erie. Interment was at Trinity Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Benedictine Sisters of Erie, 6101 East Lake Road, Erie, PA 16511.



Sister Dona Obenrader, OSB

**Msgr. Edward J. Zeitler**

Msgr. Edward J. Zeitler, 87, died Aug. 18 at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh. He was a priest of the Diocese of Erie since his ordination at St. Peter Cathedral on May 12, 1958.

A native of St. John the Baptist Parish in Erie, he attended St. John Grade School and Cathedral Prep. He earned his bachelor's degree at Gannon University while at St. Mark Seminary. He did graduate work at Christ the King Seminary in Allegheny, N.Y.

Msgr. Zeitler was parochial vicar at St. Bernard Parish in Bradford, followed by assignments as parochial vicar at St. Peter Cathedral, Erie; Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Farrell; and at Immaculate Conception Parish, Clarion.

He also was pastor of Our Lady, Queen of the Americas Parish, Conneaut Lake; Notre Dame Parish, Hermitage; and Beloved Disciple Parish, Grove City.

During his nearly 60 years of priesthood, Msgr. Zeitler also served as a spiritual director for the Worldwide Marriage Encounter, dean of the Sharon Deanery, chairman of the Presbyterian Council, and member of the Priests' Personnel Board and College of Consultors.

He served as Crawford County coordinator for the diocesan Cursillo movement, and was active in the Knights of Columbus.

Survivors include two brothers, Charles and George; a sister, Mary Clare Malaszek; and nieces and nephews.

Bishop Lawrence Persico presided at a funeral Mass at Notre Dame Church in Hermitage. Burial was at Trinity Cemetery in Erie.



Msgr. Edward J. Zeitler



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# PHOTOS from AROUND the DIOCESE

Email news items to: [FaithLife@ErieRCD.org](mailto:FaithLife@ErieRCD.org)

Check out more photos at  
[www.ErieRCD.org/atd.htm](http://www.ErieRCD.org/atd.htm)

## Warren youth group participates in camps



**WARREN**—The youth group from St. Joseph and Holy Redeemer parishes in Warren participated this summer in the Catholic Heart Work Camp program in Rome, Italy, and Roanoke, Va. In Rome, the students worked in soup kitchens for the homeless and visited a refugee house. In Roanoke, they built several handicap ramps, worked in a soup kitchen, painted a diocesan facility, and did home repairs.

Pictured in Roanoke, in the front from left, are: Jennifer Wortman, Eileen Gerardi, Lindsey Dippold, Hannah Hoffman, Rachael Courson and Isabel Wortman. In the second row, from left, are: Jimmy Lobdell, Nate Eadie, Cameron Baker, Troy Shattuck, Jen Hoffman, Chuck Gerardi, Maribeth Baker, Rachel Cecco and Paige Rafalski.

## Secular Franciscans recognize student



**CONNEAUT LAKE**—Robert and Rhonda Brown stand with their son, Aaron Brown, who was recognized Aug. 13 by the Holy Cross Fraternity of the Order of Franciscan Seculars. Brown was presented a \$500 Faith Award for his active parish and civic engagement.

A graduate of Conneaut Area Senior High School, Brown is enrolled in the physician assistant program at Gannon University, Erie. He is a second-degree Knight of Columbus with strong ties to Our Lady, Queen of the Americas Parish, where he served as a lector and assisted with religious education classes. Also, he was a volunteer in both the Conneaut Lake and Linesville communities.

## Seminarian concludes six-week Bible study



**RIDGWAY**—Seminarian John Hepinger, center, recently brought to a close a six-week Bible study at St. Leo Magnus Parish in Ridgway. The Bible study group enjoyed a homemade Italian dinner. Pictured with Hepinger are parishioners Dolly MacDonald, Olivia Cerroni, Sue Landis, Kathy Roemer, John Cerroni, Coletta Corioso, Bryton Dybowski, Steve Shick, Tecla Pontious, Molly Fernan and Nancy Klawuhn.

## Knights present checks for seminary and support of the religious



**ERIE**—The newest Knights of Columbus Council in the Diocese of Erie, St. John XXIII of Curwensville, recently presented a total of \$3,806.60 to Bishop Lawrence Persico for seminary support and for the needs of retired religious. "I appreciate everything that the Knights do for the diocese," Bishop Persico said.

Pictured with the bishop, center, are, from left: Rhonda and Rick Carley, and Bernard and Harriet Carley, affiliated with the Curwensville Knights from St. Timothy Parish.

## Parishioners plan adoption program



**COALPORT**—Donna Clarkson and Karen Irvine, parishioners of St. Basil the Great Parish in Coalport, recently organized a Spiritual Adoption Program in which members of St. Basil as well as Holy Trinity Church in Ramey spiritually adopted unborn babies.

A community baby shower was held, netting more than 100 baby gift items that were donated to Life Line Pregnancy and Infant Services in Clearfield.

## Congratulations!



The people of God gathering at the Church of the Beloved Disciple in Grove City extend their **PRAYERS AND BEST WISHES TO** Brother Mark Maximilian Jaskowak **ORDER OF PREACHERS** on the occasion of his Profession of Vows, August 15, 2017.



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