

Quo Vadis and Fiat Days Call Young Men and Women to Discernment

By TARA CONNOLLY
Staff writer

The Blessed Mother and the archangels St. Michael, St. Gabriel and St. Raphael guided 91 young men and women discerning their life’s path July 14-18 during 2019 Quo Vadis and Fiat Days at DeSales University, Center Valley.

The five-day event, sponsored by Diocesan Office of Vocations, kicked off with Mass celebrated by Father Mark Searles, director of the Diocesan Office for Vocations Promotion.

“The noise of this world can so easily distract us from God’s voice and his holy will for us, but we must be faithful to him in every circumstance and we must prepare and pray for the inner strength and the grace to make good and healthy choices,” said Father Searles.

“That is why Quo Vadis and Fiat are so important and a beautiful sign of life and the Holy Spirit guiding the Church. Even when the enemy is attacking the sources of life in this world, most especially the family and the Church, life-giving love is the heart of every vocation, and the grace and power of our Lord Jesus Christ and his presence in the most holy Eucharist is far more powerful than the evil that we see and hear around us.

“God’s mercy is more powerful than sin and evil. And that is why God has called about 100 young people to encounter here this week at Fiat and Quo Vadis.”

The week featured talks by Bishop of Allentown Alfred Schlert, diocesan seminarians, diocesan priests and a team of women religious from the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Mary, Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, and Daughters of the Divine Zeal.

In addition, there was time for personal and group prayer, Mass and other Catholic devotions, campfires, and recreational sports.

Father Allen Hoffa, pastor of St. Joseph, Summit Hill, offered the talk “Reconciliation, Breaking the Barriers to Sainthood” and discussed the realities blocking the young men from sainthood.

Please see VOCATIONS
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Above, women religious and young women prepare for a game of water balloon toss at Fiat Days at DeSales University, Center Valley. (Photos by John Simitz)



Left, Father Mark Searles, director of the Diocesan Office for Vocations Promotion, kicks off Quo Vadis and Fiat Days by celebrating Mass for 91 young men and women and their families.

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Diocese to Host Grand Opening of Nation’s First Catholic High School for Students in Recovery

Recognizing the critical need to provide spiritual, academic and emotional development for students who are in recovery from addiction, the Diocese of Allentown is ready to open the nation’s first faith-based recovery high school.

Kolbe Academy will host a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to open its first school year Monday, Aug. 26 at St. Francis Center for Renewal, Bethlehem.

It will welcome students in need from all faiths from all five counties of the Diocese: Berks, Carbon, Lehigh, Northampton and Schuylkill, and beyond.

“Our existing high schools, which are based on our strong Catholic values, are well known for academic excellence and ongoing formation of every student’s intellectual, spiritual, social, cultural and emotional gifts,” said Dr. Brooke Tesche, diocesan chancellor of education.

“This school follows the model of our other high schools and offers a specialized curriculum for students in recovery. The Diocese is excited to give all high school students in this region the education and support they need to succeed.”

The Diocese’s Department of Education worked with the Sisters of St. Francis to open the high school in Mullen Hall, the site of the former St. Francis Academy. The school is guided by a board of directors, led by a principal, and supported through the Diocese of Allentown.

Kolbe Academy will be the seventh diocesan high school serving students in 9th through 12th grade. The Diocese has a total of 40 elementary and high schools in its five-county area.

Kolbe Academy is named after St. Maximilian Kolbe, the patron saint of those with addiction.

For more information regarding Kolbe Academy, call the Office of Education at 610-866-0581, or visit the school website www.kolbe-academy.com or the school Facebook page at @KolbeAcademyLV.



**KOLBE
ACADEMY**



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Episcopal appointments

Bishop of Allentown Alfred Schlert has made the following appointments, effective Tuesday, Sept. 3.

Father Robert Alex Sander Anthony, M.S.C. to assistant pastor, Holy Family Parish, Nazareth.

Father Jaya Kumar Francis, M.S.C. to assistant pastor, St. Ann Parish, Emmaus.

Father Jojappa Adagatla, M.S.C. to assistant pastor, St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish, Whitehall.

Father Franklin Kulandai Yesu Arockia Dass, M.S.C. to assistant pastor, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Roseto.

Appointed to the College of Consultors for a term of five years, effective Tuesday, Sept. 3:

Monsignor David James.

Father Adam Sedar.

Monsignor Joseph DeSantis.
Father Andrew Gehringer.
Monsignor William Glosser.
Monsignor John Murphy.
Monsignor Stephen Radocha.
Monsignor Thomas Koons.
Father David Loeper.
Father Brian Miller.
Father Anthony Mongiello.

Also appointed, effective Aug. 12:
Father Gregory Karpyn also to chaplain, St. Pio of Pietreclina Prayer Group.

Effective July 15:
Father John Rother also to priest director, Catholic Youth Organization, District 1.

Father Christopher Zelonis also to priest director, Catholic Youth Organization, District 5.

Father David Loeper also to chaplain, Serra Club, Schuylkill and Carbon deaneries.

Because We Are Catholic

Advocating for Children When Their Parents Cannot

By PAUL WIRTH
Diocesan Communications Staff

It's a sad fact that some children need to be taken from their parents by a legal system determined to protect them from neglect, drug abuse or abandonment.

For these children, life can be a years-long roller coaster of encounters with social workers, courts, foster families, schools and medical professionals. It can be a scary and difficult time.

Vince Wohlheiter aims to ease that burden on children, and to become a consistent and reassuring presence in their lives. He is a volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocate, working with one child or group of siblings at a time, for the entire time they are away from their parents.

"The goal is to monitor a case so the child doesn't get lost in the system, and to make sure the voice of the child is heard," Wohlheiter says.

This can mean meeting with the child's foster parents, checking in at school and getting to know teachers, and sometimes going along to medical appointments. He periodically reports back to the court, functioning as the eyes and ears of the judge to ensure that the court's orders are being carried out in the child's best interest.

"This is my way of giving back to a community that has been so generous to me," says Wohlheiter, 76, of Allentown, a member of Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena Parish. He began his work almost immediately after retiring as an electrical engineer, and is one of 35 such advocates in Lehigh County.

Wohlheiter's work also has a strong tie-in to his faith. "Jesus said 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself,'" he says. "I believe we all ought to love our neighbors a little more."



"Because We Are Catholic" tells the stories of how the people of the Diocese of Allentown make a difference in the lives of others, bringing the Light of Christ to each other and to our community. Videos of people in the series are available on the Diocesan website at

www.allentowndiocese.org/bishop-blog.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR

The Diocese of Allentown provides assistance to anyone who, as a minor, was sexually abused by a priest, deacon or employee/volunteer of the Diocese/Parish.

Parents, guardians, children and survivors of sexual abuse are invited and encouraged to contact the Diocese of Allentown for more information about this program. The fullness of compassion should be extended to these victims by the Church.

To speak directly to the Victim Assistance Coordinator, please call the direct line 1-800-791-9209.

To learn more about the Diocese of Allentown's Youth Protection Programs, Sexual Abuse Policy and Code of Conduct, please visit www.allentowndiocese.org and click on "Youth Protection" at top right.

COORDINADOR DE ASISTENCIA A LAS VÍCTIMAS

La Diócesis de Allentown provee asistencia a cualquier persona que, como menor de edad, fue abusado sexualmente por un sacerdote, diácono o empleado/voluntario de la Diócesis/Parroquia.

Los padres, tutores, niños y los sobrevivientes de abuso sexual están invitados a contactar la Diócesis de Allentown para obtener más información sobre este programa. La plenitud de compasión debe extenderse a las víctimas por la Iglesia.

Para hablar directamente con el coordinador de asistencia a las víctimas por favor llame a la línea directa 1-800-791-9209.

Para obtener más información acerca de los Programas de Protección de la Juventud, Política de Abuso Sexual y el Código de Conducta de la Diócesis de Allentown, por favor visite www.allentowndiocese.org y haga clic en "Protección de la Juventud" en la parte superior derecha.



Vocations

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"When you think about who we are called to be as Catholic men – we look to St. Michael the Archangel and in our battle against evil," he said.

"Satan is constantly pulling us away from what God wants for us. Satan does not want you to have a relationship with God. Satan doesn't want you to have any of the good stuff. He will break down every opportunity for us to have a good relationship with God, and St. Michael can help us in that battle."

While speaking about St. Raphael, who is associated with healing, Father Hoffa said healing begins with confession.

"When we go to confession, we say 'Lord, here is my heart. It is really messed up, full of scars and beaten up.' What the Lord does through priests is that he heals the heart so we can go out and love completely," said Father Hoffa.

In 2019, he said, the most confessed sin was impurity.

"The more it stays a secret – the more it can't be healed, and then you will be unable to be the man God is calling you to be," said Father Hoffa.

"Healing is an opportunity to step up – whether for yourself or for someone else – that's what the saints did. What the saints did is that they got knowledgeable of others' sins and they stepped up. You may be the saint someone needs to help them heal."

As for St. Gabriel, who is found in the story of the Annunciation, where he appears to Zechariah and the Virgin Mary, foretelling the births of John the Baptist and Jesus, Father Hoffa said sharing the Good News with others is a quality of a saint.

Other talks presented for the young men were "Called to be Saints" by seminarians Phillip Maas and Matthew Kuna; and "Holy Orders, a Path to Sainthood"

by Father Jared Zambelli, assistant pastor of St. Peter the Apostle, Reading.

Bishop Schlert presented "The Diocese of Allentown, a History and Church Built by Saints," for both young men and women.

During Fiat Days, Sister Lisa Valentini presented "Qualities of a Saint in the Making," while playing her guitar and singing Marian songs intermittently for 50 young women discerning their vocation in life.

"Just because you are a saint in the making – doesn't mean it will be easy. Temptation is coming your way. You need something to fall back on when you are down and sad," she told the young women.

She also advised them that some of the qualities in becoming a saint involve looking to the Blessed Mother as a role model, listening, keeping an open heart, and looking to be of service to others – especially the most neglected, the most forgotten and the most undesirable.

"A saint in the making strives to do what is good for others. We look out for our friends. It's not easy to see a friend go down the wrong path – especially at your age – but we must help them and point them toward God," said Sister Lisa.

"We need the help of God. We need to go to Mass. We need to be part of the life of the Church."

In addition, she encouraged the young women to have friends that are "better than them" because they can "drag them up."

"Sometimes friends can take you down and put things in your mind and heart that shouldn't be there. But if you know you are the apple of God's eye – he can help you make the right choices," said Sister Lisa.

"It's not something to be afraid of – God always wants to shower us with his love. Now you have it. What are you going to do with it," she asked the young women.

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A young man places a candle before the altar at Evening Prayer during Quo Vadis.



Young men gather around the piano in the DeSales University Center to play and sing a song.



Matthew Kuna, left, diocesan seminarian, sings with the young men and women during a prayer service.



Above, young women learn about the history of MBS during Fiat Days.

Right, Yessenia Hernandez, right, and Alex Hernandez, second from left, lead a warm-up exercise with participants in Quo Vadis and Fiat Days.



Young women tour Most Blessed Sacrament, Bally during a pilgrimage



Vocations

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Other talks included “Called to be Saints” by Sister Marietta Castellano; “Vocation Tips from Saints” by Sister Elizabeth Bartholomew; and “Going Forth with the Saints – Our Intercessors” by Sister Mary Jo Ely.

Quo Vadis and Fiat Days also included a pilgrimage to Most Blessed Sacrament, Bally, which was founded in 1741 and is the third oldest Catholic Church in Pennsylvania.

For more information, contact Father Searles in the Office for Vocations Promotion, 610-437-0755 ext. 199 or msearles@allentowndiocese.org.



A young woman wears the Fiat Days T-shirt bearing a quote from St. Catharine of Siena.



Above, Sister Lisa Valentini tosses a water balloon to her partner during one of the games during Fiat Days.



Left, diocesan seminarians and young men enjoy conversation and lunch together at Quo Vadis.

Below, Father Searles, back right, joins diocesan seminarians and young men for a group photo.

Below, women religious come together with young women participating in Fiat Days for a group photo on the final day.



More photos on the diocesan website www.allentowndiocese.org under “Latest News” on the homepage.

Institute for Catechesis and Formation Courses

The Institute for Catechesis and Formation is offering the following courses. ICF courses are meant for any adult Catholic looking to grow deeper and learn more about the faith. There are no prerequisites for these courses.

Live courses cost \$30 per course; on-line courses \$35. Register at www.allentowndiocese.org/icf.

ICF 101 – Christian Anthropology

What does it mean to be human? This course will examine who God is as the One who seeks to share himself with his creation. A brief survey of salvation history will be traced to Jesus Christ, the Re-

deemer who saves humanity, and teaches us what it means to be a human person.

Presented online by Heather Maigur, Monday, Aug. 26 to Sunday, Sept. 22.

ICF 102 – The Old Testament.

The Bible is God’s revelation of himself to his creation and the story of his love for us. This course will provide a brief introduction to the origin of Sacred Scripture: its source, how the Canon was formed, and the senses in which we can interpret Scripture.

The remainder of the course will focus on the Old Testament: the creation of the earth and God’s covenant of love with

the human person, the fall into sin, and the revelation, over time, of God’s plan of salvation.

Presented online by Father Daniel Kravatz, Monday, Sept. 16 to Sunday, Oct. 13.



Berks County Traditional Latin Mass Community

St. Mary’s Roman Catholic Church
250 South 12th St.
Reading, PA 19602

Mass
Every 2nd Sunday @ 12:30pm

Reconciliation at Noon
Social after mass

Facebook: Berks County
Traditional Latin Mass Community

Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 Confirmation Schedule

The diocesan Office for Divine Worship has announced the 2019-20 confirmation schedule as follows. All confirmations will begin at 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 1 – Most Blessed Sacrament, Bally and St. Columbkille, Boyertown.

Wednesday, Oct. 2 – St. Stephen of Hungary, Allentown.

Thursday, Oct. 3 – Holy Guardian Angels, Reading.

Tuesday, Oct. 8 – St. Ignatius Loyola, Sinking Spring and St. Francis de Sales, Robesonia.

Wednesday, Oct. 9 – Immaculate Conception BVM, Douglassville.

Thursday, Oct. 10 (rescheduled from Oct. 24) – Divine Mercy, Shenandoah; St. Joseph, Sheppton; St. Mary, Ring-

town; St. Teresa of Calcutta, Mahanoy City; and St. Richard, Barnesville.

Wednesday, Oct. 16 – Holy Family, Nazareth.

Thursday, Oct. 17 – St. Catharine of Siena, Reading.

Tuesday, Oct. 22 – Sacred Heart, Palmerton; Assumption BVM, Slatington; and St. Nicholas, Walnutport.

Wednesday, Oct. 23 – St. Charles Borromeo, Ashland and St. Joseph, Frackville.

Tuesday, Oct. 29 – Our Lady of Mercy, Easton and St. Anthony of Padua, Easton.

Wednesday, Oct. 30 – Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Roseto and Our Lady of Good Counsel, Bangor.

Tuesday, Nov. 19 – Sacred Heart, Bath.

Wednesday, Nov. 20 – St. John Baptist de la Salle, Shillington and St. Benedict, Mohnton.

Thursday, Nov. 21 – Sacred Heart, West Reading and Holy Rosary, Reading.

Tuesday, Dec. 3 – St. Margaret, Reading, St. Paul, Reading and (rescheduled from Oct. 3) St. Joseph, Reading.

Wednesday, Dec. 4 – St. Peter, Reading.

Tuesday, Dec. 10 – Snow date.

Tuesday, Feb. 4 – Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, St. Paul and St. Francis of Assisi, all Allentown.

Wednesday, Feb. 5 – Immaculate Conception BVM, Our Lady Help of Christians, St. John the Baptist, and SS. Peter and Paul, all Allentown.

Thursday, Feb. 6 – Holy Trinity and

St. John the Baptist, both Whitehall; St. Peter, Coplay.

Tuesday, Feb. 11 – Sacred Heart of Jesus, Allentown.

Thursday, Feb. 13 – St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Whitehall and Annunciation BVM, Catasauqua.

Tuesday, Feb. 18 – Notre Dame of Bethlehem.

Wednesday, Feb. 19 – St. Anne, Bethlehem.

Thursday, Feb. 27 – St. Thomas More, Allentown.

Tuesday, March 3 – Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Bethlehem.

Wednesday, March 4 – St. Rocco, Martins Creek and St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Pen Argyl.

Thursday, March 5 – Assumption BVM and Queenship of Mary, both Northampton; St. John Fisher, Catasauqua.

Tuesday, March 10 – St. Ann, Emmaus.

Wednesday, March 11 – St. Joseph the Worker, Orefield.

Thursday, March 12 – St. Theresa of the Child Jesus, Hellertown; St. Ursula, Fountain Hill; Sacred Heart, Holy Ghost, Incarnation of Our Lord, and SS. Simon and Jude, all Bethlehem.

Tuesday, March 17 – St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Easton.

Thursday, March 19 – Assumption BVM, Bethlehem.

Tuesday, March 24 – St. Joseph, Coopersburg.

Wednesday, March 25 – All Saints, McAdoo and St. John XXIII, Tamaqua.

Thursday, March 26 – St. Mary, Hamburg and St. Mary, Kutztown.

Tuesday, March 31 – Holy Infancy, Bethlehem.

Thursday, April 2 – St. Joseph, Summit Hill.

Tuesday, April 21 – St. Ambrose, Schuylkill Haven.

Thursday, April 23 – St. Peter the Fisherman, Lake Harmony; SS. Peter and Paul, Lehigh; Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph, both Jim Thorpe.

Tuesday, April 28 – Most Blessed Trinity, Tremont; St. Matthew the Evangelist and St. Michael the Archangel, both Minersville.

Wednesday, April 29 – St. Clare of Assisi, St. Clair; Holy Cross, New Philadelphia; St. Stephen, Port Carbon; St. John the Baptist and St. Patrick, both Pottsville.

Thursday, April 30 – Snow date.



ST. FRANCIS CENTER FOR RENEWAL

610.867.8890

395 Bridle Path Road Bethlehem PA 18017

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www.stfranciscr.org

How can 12 Step Spirituality
help people who are NOT Addicts

October 5 8:45AM-3:00PM OFFERING: \$45

Father Patrick Lamb will explore the wisdom of the 12 steps and how they can be a spiritual guide for anyone striving to live a spiritual life. Spirituality basic to all major world religions is contained in the 12 steps. The 12 steps are so practical, real and down to earth, that they work to enhance anyone's spiritual life, addict or not.

The Gift of Music - Lifting the Heart & Feeding the Soul

October 15 6:45-9:00PM OFFERING: \$25

Fr. Anthony Mongiello's most recent CD, "From the Heart, For the Soul," is a compilation of both spiritual and secular songs which reflect his love of music which inspires emotion and faith. This Twilight Retreat will provide an opportunity to explore how music can nourish our spirits, giving hope and joy even when they seem distant and unattainable. Be prepared to open your ears and raise your voice.

HEALTH & WELLNESS SEMINARS

October 9 6:45-9:00PM OFFERING: \$25

LIVING LIFE HEARTFULLY

The Resilience Advantage Workshop from HeartMath

All of us wish to live our lives to the fullest. Join us for a workshop that will take a look at the science behind the connections of our mind, body and spirit. The information will be understood through the use of a biotechnology tool from HeartMath that is utilized to help people learn resilience. Facilitator:

Gena Tallarico, RN, MA, COHN-S, a HeartMath Certified Provider

Thriving Despite Loss

October 23 6:45-9:00PM OFFERING: \$25

Have you suffered from loss...loss of a loved one, loss of a job, loss of good health, loss of a way of life or a sense of our youth? If so, you are not alone! Living with a sense of loss can lead to depression. Jason Boyko, LPC will be sharing his extensive experience in helping us to understand how to overcome the challenge of dealing with loss and grief.

Facilitator: **Jason Boyko, LPC**

United Nations International Day of Peace Interfaith Service

September 21 - 7:00 PM, Convent Chapel



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Why Purchase Burial Rights in Catholic Cemetery?

The story is told of a family saddened by the news that an older brother had been diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Over the next five years the family watched Paul go in and out of hospitals and in and out of remission with his cancer.

One day the family received a call to come to the hospital where he had gone for a minor procedure. He had

developed a septic coma. The family remained silent, living in hope that their son would not die. Five days later, Paul died at age 32. Now, in a very emotional time, they needed to make difficult decisions such as where to bury and in what cemetery.

Why preplan? Making cemetery

arrangements in the Diocesan or local parish cemetery can alleviate forced decisions and provide peace of mind at the time our loved ones die in the hope of the Resurrection.

The Catholic cemetery represents the continuation, even in death, of the harmony and spiritual alliance that makes us all Catholics of one great family, thereby constituting it in an actual family plot, crypt or niche for cremated human remains.

In the Mass of Christian Burial and Final Commendation and Farewell at the grave, the Church gives voice to her belief in the Christian doctrines of the Resurrection of the body, the Communion of Saints, and life everlasting; but as a further seal and symbol of that faith she sets apart and blesses the place in which the bodies of her faithful departed await the day of Resurrection.

Holy Saviour Cemetery in Bethlehem and Resurrection Cemetery in Allentown provide for above-ground entombment. Each cemetery has a garden mausoleum with crypt spaces. Spouses or relatives can be entombed in the same crypt space (one compartment called a companion crypt), end to end with a bronze plaque to memorialize the two names on the crypt front. The option to purchase the Rite to Entombment in crypts side by side (separate compartments) with two separate bronze plaques is available.

The mausoleums are six crypts high. A roof connects the "Resurrection" and "Ascension" areas of the mausoleum. Each of the areas has four sides where entombments are made. All are external crypts with some sheltered by the roof.

By Monsignor William Bayer, diocesan director of cemeteries; vice president of the Catholic Cemeteries Conference; and pastor of SS. Simon and Jude, Bethlehem.



There are also separate structures at each cemetery called columbaria for cremated human remains. One urn is placed per niche space with its own bronze plaque. Spouses would need to purchase two if both are cremated.

Both diocesan cemeteries offer burial privileges in single-, two-, three-, four-, six- and eight-grave lots. Burials can be double depth in each grave. Both in-ground burial and above-ground entombment sites can be acquired preneed with payment over time with some interest payment.

The Catholic Church strongly encourages burial and entombment in the Catholic cemetery. We attend funerals of friends and family and think about our own burial and what our Church teaches. Now is the time to preplan.

Upcoming Issues of The A.D. Times

Publication Date	Advertising Deadline	News Deadline	Publication Date	Advertising Deadline	News Deadline
Sept. 12	Sept. 2	Sept. 5	Nov. 28	Nov. 18	Nov. 21
Oct. 3	Sept. 23	Sept. 26	Dec. 19	Dec. 9	Dec. 12
Oct. 17	Oct. 7	Oct. 10	<u>2020</u>		
Oct. 31	Oct. 21	Oct. 24	Jan. 9	Dec. 30	Jan. 2
Nov. 14	Nov. 4	Nov. 7	Jan. 23	Jan. 13	Jan. 16

If you have moved, or the mailing label on your copy of THE A.D. TIMES is incorrect, e-mail adtimes@allentowndiocese.org; call 610-871-5200, ext. 2264; or mail your mailing label along with your new address information and parish to: The A.D. Times, P.O. Box F, Allentown PA 18105-1538.

Annual Diocesan Charismatic Day of Renewal
"The Beginning and the End:
The Healing of Past Soul Wounds"
September 21 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Diocesan Center, Harrisburg



Father Paul CB Schenck, the Presenter, is parochial vicar at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Mechanicsburg and Director of Deacon Formation for the Diocese of Harrisburg.

To register, or for more information, visit www.aliveinthespirit.net or www.hbgdiocese.org/renewal, or call Joyce at 717-308-7245.

By mail, send a check payable to "Diocese of Harrisburg" for \$20 per person (\$10 for students age 16 through college) to Jackie Curran, Office of Catholic Life and Evangelization, 4800 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg, Pa., 17111. Lunch sandwich choices are ham, turkey, tuna and low gluten salad. Deadline to RSVP for lunch is Sept. 9.

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Serra Clubs to Gather Nov. 2 in Philadelphia

The Serra Clubs of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Region will hold a Conference and Pilgrimage Saturday, Nov. 2 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Shrine of St. John Neumann in Philadelphia.

The event will include speakers and a panel discussion about "Saints and Blesseds of the Region."

Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, museum and gift shop will be available. The \$99 registration also includes three meals. All are welcome to attend.

For more information or to register, call 610-285-2002.

Death

Religious Sister

Sister Catherine Cellini (formerly Sister M. Floretta), 77, a Missionary Sister of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, died July 23 at Sacred Heart Villa, Reading.

In the Diocese of Allentown she taught at Allentown Central Catholic High School; Holy Name High School, Reading; and Nativity BVM High School, Pottsville.

She also served in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, in foreign missions in Papua New Guinea, in Mexico, in California and on the MSC sisters' Provincial Leadership Team.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July 29 in the villa chapel, with burial in the convent cemetery.

'Understanding What We Say and Do in the Liturgy'

Do you ever wish you could get more out of Mass?

Discover how all the prayers, symbols and rituals in the liturgy can come alive for us today once we understand their biblical roots.

Dr. Edward Sri will present "A Biblical Walk Through the Mass: Understanding What We Say and Do in the Liturgy" Friday, Oct. 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown.

The evening will begin with Holy Mass celebrated by Bishop of Allentown Alfred Schlert.

From the sign of the cross and the Gloria to the Eucharistic prayers and Holy Communion, join us for a biblical tour of the Mass, and learn the profound meaning of what we are really saying and doing each week as we participate in these sacred mysteries.

Register today at www.allentowndiocese.org/Liturgy.



A Biblical Walk Through the Mass: Understanding What We Say and Do in the Liturgy

6:30 PM - Holy Mass Celebrated by Bishop Schlert

7:15 PM - Light Refreshments

7:30 PM - Presentation by Dr. Sri



Dr. Edward Sri



Friday, October 4, 2019

The event is free. RSVP requested.

For more questions or to register visit www.allentowndiocese.org/Liturgy



Pre-Need selections are available at Diocesan Cemeteries



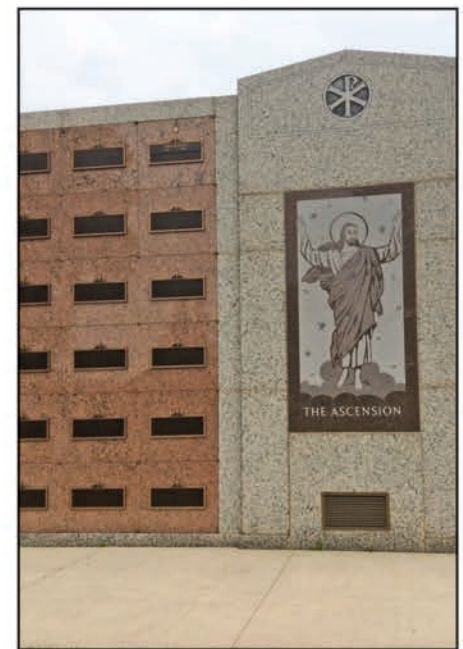
Holy Savior Cemetery
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Bethlehem, PA 18017

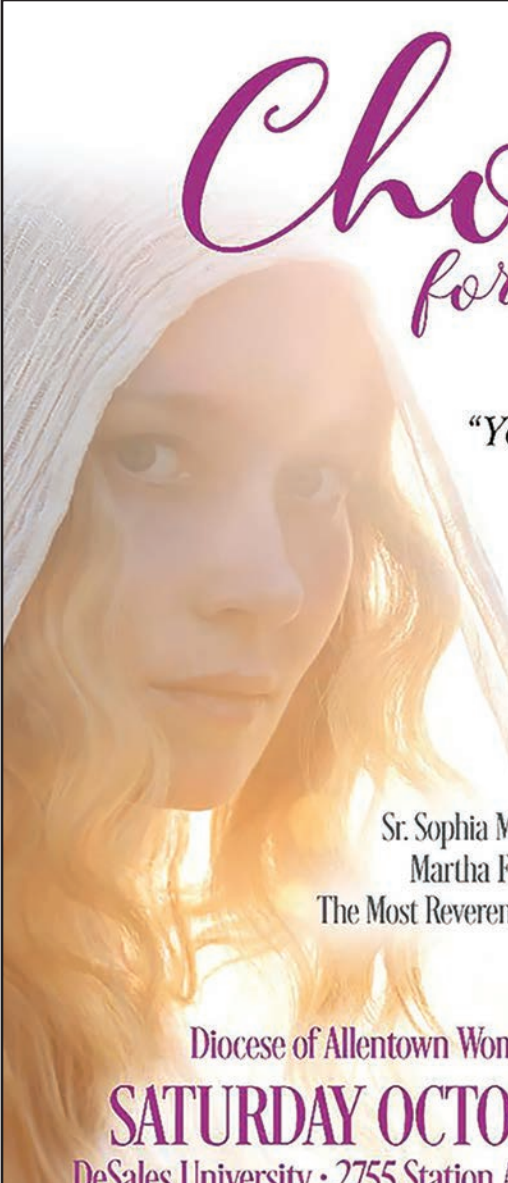
Resurrection Cemetery
547 N. Krocks Road
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Women
Chosen
for a purpose

*"YOU DID NOT CHOOSE ME,
BUT I CHOSE YOU"*
John 15:16

Keynote Speakers:
Dr. Edward Sri
Sarah Christmyer
Sr. Sophia Marie Peralta, S.C.C. (Spanish Session)
Martha Fernández-Sardina (Spanish Session)
The Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert (Mass Celebrant)

Diocese of Allentown Women's Conference
SATURDAY OCTOBER 5, 2019
DeSales University • 2755 Station Avenue • Center Valley, PA



Mujeres
Elegidas
para un Propósito

*"USTEDES NO ME ELIGIERON A MÍ,
HE SIDO YO QUIEN LES ELIGÍ A USTEDES"*
Juan 15:16

Presentadoras Principales:
Hna. Sophia Marie Peralta, S.C.C.
Martha Fernández-Sardina
con el Reverendísimo Alfred A. Schlert (Celebrante de la Misa)

Conferencia de Mujeres de la Diócesis de Allentown
Sábado, 5 de octubre de 2019
Universidad DeSales • 2755 Station Avenue • Center Valley, PA

Women to Hear Call to Discipleship at 2019 Women's Conference

Women of all ages are invited to venture deeper into their call to discipleship at "Women: Chosen for a Purpose," the third diocesan women's conference, Saturday, Oct. 5 from 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. at DeSales University, Center Valley.

The day will include keynote speakers, opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, and Holy Mass celebrated by Bishop of Allentown Alfred Schlert. A separate Spanish track will be offered, and a light breakfast and full lunch will be provided.

Keynote presentations for the English track will be given by Dr. Edward Sri and Sarah Christmyer. The Spanish track will feature Martha Fernández-Sardina and Sister of Christian Charity Sophia Marie Peralta.

Keynote topics will include "Mary as the Model Disciple: What it Looks Like to Really Follow Jesus," "Into His Likeness: Encounter and Transformation in Christ" and "Not Perfect, But Chosen," as the speakers unpack God's plan for womanhood.

"I am so happy that the Diocese will provide another opportunity for women of faith to gather to pray and be inspired by one another," said Denise Wettstein, a parishioner of St. Peter the Fisherman, Lake Harmony, who attended the conference in 2018.

"Last year's conference brought to us wonderful Catholic women whose life experience, humor and belief in the Church was uplifting. The entire day was

well planned, and Mass with our Bishop left me with a strong sense of joy, gratitude and understanding of the power we hold as women in bringing the faith to others."

"I attended the women's conference not knowing what to expect," said Camille Stockdale of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Allentown. "Would it be interesting? Would I experience growth in faith? Would my love for the Lord deepen, and would the presenters speak to me and my faith?"

"All of the above. I felt welcome, and in the presence of our Lord. Each of the presenters moved me spiritually, and my heart and soul were once again set on fire with a renewed excitement to be a disciple of Jesus Christ."

"To have female speakers from a variety of walks of life sharing their journey was so powerful. It was a reminder of how im-

portant women are in helping each other continue their faith journey, in all times and all circumstances," said Paula Davis of the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown.

Speakers

Dr. Edward Sri is a theologian, author and Catholic speaker who appears on EWTN. He is known for his bestselling books "A Biblical Walk through the Mass," "Walking with Mary" and "Who Am I to Judge? – Responding to Relativism with Logic and Love," among more than 20 works centered on Catholic theology.

His latest release, "Into His Likeness: Be Transformed as a Disciple," informed much of the inspiration behind this year's conference theme.

Sri is a founding member of FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students), along with Curtis Martin, and serves as vice president of formation. Sri also hosts the acclaimed film series "Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained" and is presenter of several faith formation video series.

Sarah Christmyer is a Catholic author, speaker and Bible teacher. Partnering with Jeff Cavins, Christmyer aided development of the "Great Adventure" Catholic Bible study program, published by Ascension Press. She has authored numerous Bible studies and was a contributor to "Walk in Her Sandals: Experiencing Christ's Passion Through the Eyes of Women."

Martha Fernandez-Sardina is a speaker, author and bilingual ministry consultant and trainer in the new evangelization, on a mission to "prepare the way of the Lord." She is the founder and director of Remember You Are Loved, an initiative of Prepare the Way Enterprises, and twice served as a director of evangelization at the archdiocesan level.

Sister Sophia Marie Peralta is a member of the Sisters of Christian Charity, Daughters of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Immaculate Conception. Transformed by a Eucharistic lifestyle, the Sisters of Christian Charity glorify God by allowing themselves to be united and filled with the love of Christ, so that it overflows in love with others, in service to the Church.

Sister Sophia Marie is deputy director of the Pastoral Department (Campus Ministry) of Allentown Central Catholic High School.

Women gathered

"It is so gratifying to me to see women looking to nurture their Catholic spiritual life," said Susan Teaford, chair of the Commission for Women and parishioner of St. John Baptist de la Salle Parish, Shillington.

"We've seen grandmothers coming with daughters and grandchildren, demonstrating how the faith is being passed to the next generations."

The women's conference draws many young adults either searching for their vocations or settling into them, listening attentively to God's plan for their lives.

"It was refreshing to see women of all ages and backgrounds gathered together to explore how our unique feminine genius contributes to our families, the Church and the world," said Serayah Satin, a young adult from the Cathedral.

"The speakers were captivating, and I left the conference invigorated with a renewal of faith and a peaceful heart."

"I attended the women's conference last year with my mom," said Marci Zambito of St. Catharine of Siena Parish, Reading. "It was such a special day to spend with her, becoming closer to Jesus at the same time. This year I am happy to say that my daughter will be joining us as well."

"I attended the conference to gain different perspectives on how women work their Catholic faith into their lives," said Cindy Kelly of the Cathedral. "I very much enjoyed the humor and dose of reality as the speakers shared about prayer and their journeys."

For more information and to register, visit www.allentowndiocese.org/womens-conference.

The theme will focus on John 15:16, "You did not choose me, but I chose you," exploring what it means to be chosen and how the call to discipleship in Christ is demonstrated through the lives of women.

Theology on Tap Hears Personal Story 'From Islam to Christ'

By TARA CONNOLLY
Staff writer

When Derya Little was 11 years old she rejected her family's Islamic faith after her parents' divorce and set out to live an atheistic life – until she encountered the Catholic faith.

Little, born and raised in Muslim Turkey, shared her story about denouncing the strict Islamic faith and bouncing from atheism to the Protestant faith and then to Catholicism Aug. 12 with an estimated 20 young adults at Theology on Tap.

The informal discussion, "From Islam to Christ," which also reflects the title of her book, was sponsored by the Office of Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry at Hops at the Paddock, Allentown.

As a child, Little said she prayed five times a day and attended regular school in ordinary clothes. But come summer time, she donned an abaya and went to the local mosque to read the Qu-ran in Arabic.

"You could only get good points if you recited the Qu-ran in Arabic – which my brother and I did not speak. But Islam is passed on not by reading text but from what you learn from your father," she said.

What she learned from her father was that he was engaged in extra-marital affairs – something not accepted by the faith but overlooked – and that he would abandon her mother for another woman.

"As a child, I wanted to play, eat candy and be happy. We played and rode our bikes. After my parents' divorce, it shook the ground underneath me. I asked myself if their love was a lie, what other lies was I taught? It was the first time I started to question Islam," she said.

She then began to read the Qu-ran in Turkish and quickly realized that Muhammad, the prophet of Islam, wasn't the man she was taught.

"He created a religion to be a political system. There was so much violence. The violence Muhammad and his follow-

ers perpetrated was an appalling aspect of Islam that I was never taught. The elders and religious teachers always whitewashed the bloody details of Muhammad's military ventures. All men strived to emulate him. As a woman, I was unable to be like him. I saw Islam for what it really is," said Little.

"After I rejected Islam, I had nowhere to go. I thought Christianity was stupid and couldn't believe people thought God was three persons. So I became atheist and I drank a lot and was very troubled."

As a self-described "hard-core atheist," Little took a job in college teaching an American woman to speak Turkish.

After learning the woman, named Therese, and her husband were in the country as Christian missionaries, she thought about turning down the job but eventually agreed for the money.

"This God she talked about was consistent, good, pure and her father. This God was bigger than science. In Islam, science doesn't go there. Science is a way to box Allah in. But we talked a lot and argued a lot," said Little.

She still didn't want to accept the God Therese spoke about because if he was so good – why is there so much suffering in the world?

At the end of her second year in college, her Buddhist professor assigned a chapter titled "Grand Inquisitor" from Dostoyevsky's "The Brothers Karamazov."

"For the first time in my life, I came face to face with my own sinfulness. The sinfulness of my parents changed my life. My selfish and inconsiderate ways impacted many others," said Little.

Months later, she started teaching another American family and became immersed in their Christian life.

"I saw something new. They demonstrated selfless love and served each other and their children. The children respected their parents and feared them, but that fear came from love. They did not want to



Derya Little, born and raised in Muslim Turkey, leads Theology on Tap at Hops at the Paddock, Allentown. (Photos by John Simitz)

disappoint their parents. Problems were solved together. It was beautiful to watch their daily life," recalled Little.

Wanting to emulate their Christian life, she toiled over giving up a future government job, feared becoming a Christian would label her as a traitor in Turkey, and wondered what her fiancé and atheist friends would think.

Then one morning on her way to class, a scene of a little girl in a white dress playing with toys flashed in her mind.

"While she played, two hands reached down to offer her a gift. The wrapped gift glowed from within. It was obvious that

its contents were precious beyond imagination. Then I realized that I was the little girl, and the precious gift was Christ's sacrifice, offered that I might have eternal life. The light bulb finally came on," said Little.

The next day, she told the Christian family that she wanted to become a Christian and together they prayed for her to accept Jesus.

"My life changed forever. I read the Bible, joined studies and started to meet other Turkish Christians. The more I learned, the more sense Christ's sacrifice made," said Little.



Above, Little, center, is welcomed by Annie Sarlo, left, interim secretary of the Secretariat for Catholic Life and Evangelization, and Abby Lutz.

Left, Father Mark Searles, left, director of the Diocesan Office for Vocations Promotion, chats with young adults during the break.



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THE MOST REVEREND ALFRED A. SCHLERT**

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6:30 PM—SOCIAL TO FOLLOW AT 7:15 PM
SHRINE OF ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX
15 E. GARABALDI AVE., NESQUEHONING**

Vespers with Bishop Schlert Sept. 8

Young adults ages 18 to 35 are invited to a Solemn Vespers with Bishop of Allentown Alfred Schlert, sponsored by the Office of Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry.

The event will take place Sunday, Sept. 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Shrine of St. Therese of Lisieux, 15 E. Garibaldi Ave., Nesquehoning.

A social will follow at 7:15 p.m. for an

opportunity to meet Bishop Schlert. Hors d'oeuvres will be provided. Event is free of charge.

Participants are asked to RSVP for catering at www.allentowndiocese.org/vespers. However, walk-ins are welcome.

For questions, call 610-289-8900 ext. 2021 or email Alexa Smith at asmith@allentowndiocese.org.



ANCHORED IN PEACE

OCTOBER 6, 2019

Stone Lake Inn
407 Greenview Dr., Saylorsburg
2:00 to 6:00 PM

This retreat is designed for teens in grades 6 through 12. Join us for a relaxing day of faith and fellowship, including Eucharistic Adoration,

Third Annual 'Anchored' Youth Retreat

The third annual 'Anchored in Peace' retreat will be Sunday, Oct. 6 from 2 to 6 p.m. at Stone Lake Inn, 407 Greenview Drive, Saylorsburg.

This retreat is designed for teens in grades 6 through 12.

Join us for a relaxing day of faith and

fellowship, including Eucharistic adoration, opportunities for confession, talks by Father Mark Searles and other activities.

Lunch will be included and there is no cost to attend.

To register, visit www.allentowndiocese.org/anchored.

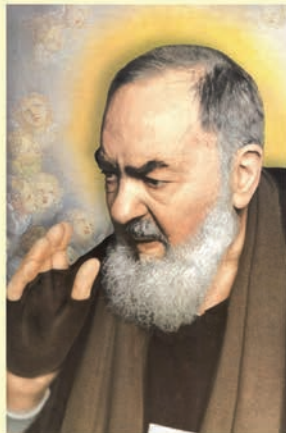
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PRESENTS



Fr. Pio Mandato FMHJ

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Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
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Confessions 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM

Talk and Healing Service at 2:30 PM

Everyone is welcome to participate in this extraordinary event

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Three Parishioners of St. Ignatius Loyola Honored as Eagle Scouts

By TAMI QUIGLEY
Staff Writer

Three Eagle Scouts who are parishioners of St. Ignatius Loyola, Sinking Spring celebrated their Eagle Scout Award Ceremony May 11 in the parish hall.

Daniel Fulop, James Hornickle and Gregory Schwenk were honored together in the afternoon ceremony. Fulop did not attend the event as he was participating in a volleyball playoff game and arrived later.

All three boys have been friends since their Cub Scout days in elementary school.

A Court of Honor was held for the scouts receiving the highest award given by the Boy Scouts of America: the Eagle Scout.

To receive the Eagle Scout award, a scout must organize and perform a project to benefit his community.

Fulop is the son of Richard and Brenda Fulop, Hornickle is the son of Dr. David and Maria Hornickle, and Schwenk is the son of Michael and Abby Schwenk.

Troop 430 celebrated the occasion as Father Thomas Bortz, pastor of St. Ignatius Loyola, opened the ceremony by praying the invocation. Christopher Neidert, charter representative, was master of ceremonies. Dr. David Beougher, scoutmaster



Eagle Scouts, from left, Gregory Schwenk, Daniel Fulop and James Hornickle gather in the St. Ignatius Loyola parish hall. Fulop is not in uniform as he was participating in a volleyball playoff game.

of the troop, presented the Eagle Award. Michael Schwenk and Jeremy Schwenk placed the Eagle neckerchiefs on the new Eagle Scouts.

Barry Kauffman, local representative for the Sons of the American Revolution, also presented awards to the scouts. Recipients of this award are given the opportunity to apply for a college scholarship, with a national winner receiving up to \$8,000.

Father Stephan Isaac, assistant pastor of St. Ignatius Loyola and chaplain of Berks Catholic High School (BCHS), Reading led, the closing prayer.

Hornickle and Schwenk just graduated from BCHS, with Hornickle as salutatorian. Fulop is a recent graduate of Wilson High School and the Berks Career and Technology Center East Campus, with a focus in the building construction occupations program.

To receive the Eagle Scout award, a scout must organize and perform a project to benefit his community.

Fulop's Eagle project involved renovations to the storage shed at the Wyomissing Hills Pool. He removed the walls and roof; built trusses and walls; replaced trusses, wall sections and roof ridges; in-

stalled roofing materials, windows and doors; and replaced and painted siding. Fulop earned 41 merit badges as a Boy Scout.

Hornickle worked with the rangers at Blue Marsh National Recreational Area and the Master Gardeners from Penn State Extension office to redesign, remove and replace existing plants from five gardens surrounding the concession stand at Blue Marsh. The previous flowers were replaced with more pollinator-friendly plants to ensure the welfare of pollinators such as bees and butterflies. Hornickle earned a total of 38 merit badges during his years in Boy Scouts.

Schwenk's service project was to make repairs to the BCHS football shed. He removed the current roof, fixed the hole in the roof, placed new tar paper and shingles on it, then sanded and repainted the exterior. Finally, he added new trim and fixed a hole in the floor.

Schwenk earned a total of 32 merit badges. He has kicked for the BCHS football team for four years, and continues a long history of Eagle Scouts in his family. He has three uncles that received their Eagle Scout awards, in addition to his father, Michael, and two older brothers, Jeremy and Bradley Schwenk.

Fulop is using the skills he gained at the Berks Career and Technology Center while working at Jud Firestone Plumbing. In fall he plans to train in the center's plumbing apprenticeship program.

Hornickle plans to attend the University of Scranton and major in biochemistry, cellular and molecular biology.

Schwenk plans to major in business at Penn State University - Berks Campus.

Confirming Faithful Families Rallies

"Confirming Faithful Families Rallies," hosted by the Office of Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry in conjunction with a team of dynamic speakers and musicians, are held at various locations throughout the Diocese and are intended for seventh- and eighth-grade students preparing for Confirmation.

Students will experience powerful talks, the opportunity to spend time with the Lord in Eucharistic adoration, music and activities. The event is from 1 to 5 p.m., with registration beginning at 12:30 p.m.

Upcoming dates are:

Sept. 7 - Berks Catholic High School, Reading.

Sept. 14 - Marian High School, Tamaqua.

Nov. 16 - Allentown Central Catholic High School (registration full).

Feb. 22, 2020 - Notre Dame High School, Easton.

Registration and other details are available at www.allentowndiocese.org/cff.

Young Adult Book Club to Discuss 'Confessions,' '1984' and 'Frankenstein'

"Lehigh Valley Inklings," a book club for young adult Catholics ages 21 to 35, meets once a month to explore a classic through the lens of Catholicism.

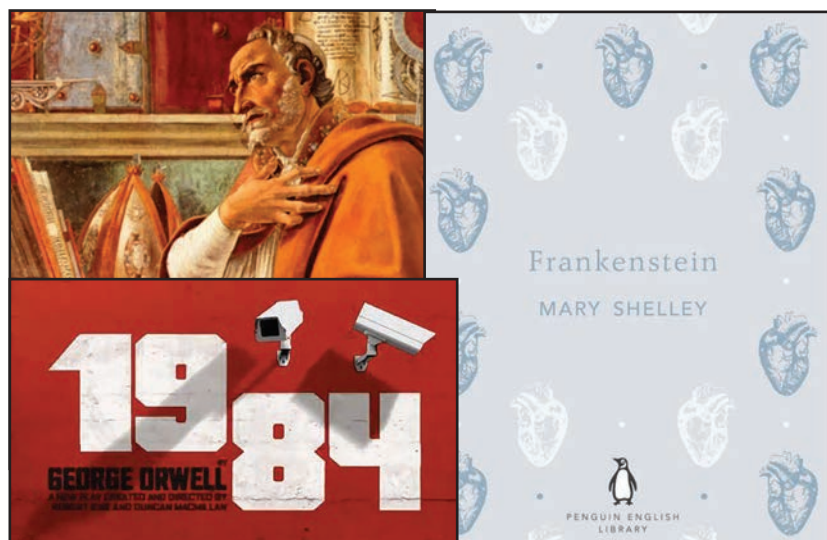
The August meeting will be Friday, Aug. 30 at 7 p.m. at Moravian Book Shop, Bethlehem. Participants will discuss the classic "Confessions" by St. Augustine, a Doctor of the Church.

Other upcoming dates are:

Thursday, Sept. 26, 7 p.m., Whole Foods Market, Allentown, discussing "1984" by George Orwell.

Thursday, Oct. 31, 7 p.m., Whole Foods Market, Allentown, discussing "Frankenstein" by Mary Shelley.

For more information, visit the group's Facebook page, "Lehigh Valley Inklings: Young Catholic Book Club."



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HOPING AGAINST HOPE

*A Morning of Reflection
with Fr. Eric Gruber,
Fr. Patrick Lamb &
Fr. David Anthony*



*Living the Gospel
where it is unwelcome
Romans 4:18*

Men's Morning of Reflection on 'Living the Gospel'

The Diocesan Commission for Men is offering a men's morning of reflection on Saturday, Oct. 19 at Queenship of Mary in Northampton.

Presentations by Father Eric Gruber, Father Patrick Lamb and Father David Anthony will begin at 9:15 a.m. on the

theme "Hoping Against Hope: Living the Gospel Where it is Unwelcome."

An optional Holy Mass will be offered at 8 a.m., followed by refreshments.

To register for this free offering, visit www.allentowndiocese.org/cfm-spirituality.



REGISTER BEFORE SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 AT:
www.allentowndiocese.org/anniversarymass

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE INTERNET ACCESS, COMPLETE THIS FORM

PRINT YOUR NAMES CLEARLY (AS YOU WOULD LIKE FOR THEM TO APPEAR IN THE PROGRAM)

Address, City, State, Zip Code

Email address

Telephone

Number of Years Married (those celebrating 25, 50 and 60+ years will receive a certificate):

How many family members will attend the social following the Mass?

What parish do you belong to? (Church Name & City)

Please indicate if you use a wheelchair, walker or are hearing impaired:

**MAIL FORM TO: Office of Marriage & Natural Family Planning
Attn: Anniversary Mass
2121 Madison Avenue, Bethlehem, PA 18017-4642**

Married Couples Invited to Diocesan Anniversary Mass

The Annual Diocesan Anniversary Mass Celebration will be Sunday, Sept. 15 at 3 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, 1875 W. Turner St., Allentown.

We cordially invite couples celebrating 1-5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 or 60-plus years of marriage to this special event.

Please register online at www.allentowndiocese.org/anniversarymass, on the form on this page, or request a form by email at mflf@allentowndiocese.org.

The form must be completed and returned to the Office of Marriage and Natural Family Planning, 2121 Madison Ave., Bethlehem, PA 18017. The registration deadline is Monday, Sept. 9. For questions, call 610-289-8900 ext. 2021.

2nd Annual Weekend Retreat for Men in Recovery with Fr. Bob Pecoraro, SJ September 27-29, 2019



Jesuit Center
for Spiritual Growth

at WERNERSVILLE



An experienced retreat leader, Fr. Bob Pecoraro is President of Cheverus High School, the Jesuit high school in Maine. He holds Master's degrees in Applied Philosophy, Divinity, Spirituality, and Educational Leadership.

This retreat explores the connection between the 12 Steps and the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. It will help develop a self-reflective spiritual path rooted in the 12 Steps and shaped by the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuits.

**For more information and to register: www.jesuitcenter.org
Melinda Leonowitz at mleonowitz@jesuitcenter.org or 610-670-3642.**

Diocesan Priest Commissioned a Naval Officer

Father James Harper was commissioned to serve in the U.S. Navy Chaplain Corps on Aug. 9 during a ceremony in the chapel at St. Thomas More, Allentown.

After leading Father Harper through his oath of office, Lt. Charles Banks Jr. introduced Lt. Junior Grade James Harper to the 35 people, including his parents, Bishop Alfred Schlert and Monsignor John Murphy, who attended.

"This is probably the most fulfilling way I can serve in the military while continuing my call to be a Catholic priest," said Father Harper.

"I look forward to many blessed opportunities to offer ministry in our military services..." he said, before thanking God in prayer.

After the ceremony Bishop Schlert Tweeted: "I was honored to attend the swearing-in ceremony for Father James Harper as he enters the U.S. Navy as a chaplain. The Diocese of Allentown is

proud of him for answering this call to serve our men and women in the military. God bless, and Godspeed."

Father Harper will remain a priest of the Diocese of Allentown while also serving in the Archdiocese for the Military Services, U.S.A. He is scheduled to report to officer development school in Newport, R.I. on Sunday, Sept. 15, after which he will begin his first assignment.

Watch a video of the ceremony at www.allentowndiocese.org, on Facebook [@DioceseofAllentown](https://www.facebook.com/DioceseofAllentown), on [Diocese of Allentown YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) channel or at the top of our [@AllentownDioces](https://twitter.com/AllentownDioces) Twitter profile.

Father James Harper, center, at his commissioning with, from left, Father Mark Searles, Bishop Alfred Schlert, Lt. Charles Banks Jr. and Monsignor John Murphy.



Catholic Daughters Regional and State Essay Winners

Holy Family School, Nazareth had three winners of the regional essay contest held by Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA) Court Easton 358. Winners are, from left, eighth-graders Nick Dang, third place; Cara Magliocchetti, second place; and Graceann Mattair, first place. Mattair went on to win second place at the state competition. The theme of the essay was "Here I Am Lord, I Come to do Your Will." Also pictured are, from left: Christine Bruce, Holy Family School principal; Sheila Gualano, chairman of CDA in Easton; Mary Strucko and Eileen Yanno, CDA members.



REUNIÓN DIOCESANA ANUAL
DEL
Ministerio Hispano

JUEVES 24 DE OCTUBRE, 2019

HORA: 7:00 PM A 8:30 PM

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Tel. 610-289-8900 ext. 2025
OHA@allentowndiocese.org



IHM Junior Companions at Trinity Academy

The IHM Junior Companions of Trinity Academy, Shenandoah held their final meeting for the 2018-19 school year May 24. The young women in grades 5-8 have regular lunch meetings directed by Sister Mary Glackin, with the goal of fostering "vocations to the religious life by learning the IHM charism of love, creative hope, and fidelity through devout prayer, religious instruction, and joyful service." For more information about the IHM Junior Companions or Trinity Academy, call 570-462-3927.

Centre for Padre Pio to host Novena and Festival

The National Centre for Padre Pio in Barto will host a Novena of Masses in honor of St. Pio of Pietrelcina in the nine days leading up to his Feast Day.

Beginning Sunday, Sept. 15 through Monday, Sept. 23, Mass will be celebrated each day of the novena at the centre, after which they will also pray the novena prayers to St. Pio. Confessions will also be available to anyone who wishes to avail themselves of the sacrament.

Also, in honor of Padre Pio, the centre is hosting a "Padre Pio Festival" on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 21-22 on their 106-acre campus. They will offer Italian food, a beer and wine garden, live music, and films about St. Pio. The festival is intended as a way for more people to come to know about Padre Pio.

Mass times for the novena will be: Sunday, Sept. 15 at noon; Monday through Friday, Sept. 16-20 at 11:30 a.m.; Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 21-22 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.; and the novena will

conclude on the Feast of St. Pio, Monday, Sept. 23, with Mass at 11:30 a.m.

Rosary will begin approximately a half hour before each Mass. It should be noted that the centre will have extended hours on Sunday, Sept. 22, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The centre will be live-streaming videos of the rosary, Masses and novena prayers each day via their Facebook page www.facebook.com/PadrePioInc.

Group pilgrimages to the centre during the novena or anytime may be booked by calling the centre's offices at 610-845-3000 during normal business hours, weekdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The National Centre for Padre Pio is located at 111 Barto Road in Barto. The complete novena and festival schedule may be found on the centre's website at www.PadrePio.org, as well as on their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/PadrePioInc.

Bethlehem Catholic Seniors Winners in Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation Essay Contest

By TAMI QUIGLEY
Staff writer

Three members of the Bethlehem Catholic High School (Becahi) class of 2019 took top honors in the senior high category of the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation Essay Contest.

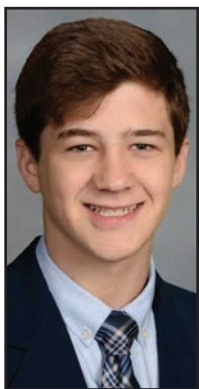
Senior Dillon Murphy won first place with his essay, "Tragic Lessons from the Animal Kingdom – and An Ancient Kingdom on Losing Respect for Life."

Murphy, son of Kenneth Murphy and Carie Norcross-Murphy, is slated to attend Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. this fall.

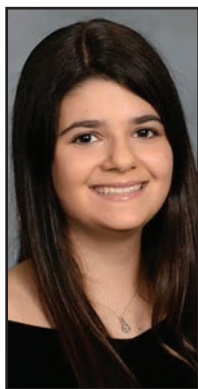
Murphy's essay pointed out the similarities between humans and primates, noting "primates are known to kill their own offspring in the early months of life."

"One might assume that such an act as infanticide, the killing of babies within one year of life, is hardly humane at all, and would never occur in a civilized society," Murphy wrote.

"After all, humans, despite our simi-



Dillon Murphy



Jordan Toohey



Elizabeth Leib

(Photos courtesy of Bethlehem Catholic High School)

of Scranton this fall. Her essay focused on euthanasia.

Elizabeth Leib, third place, is the daughter of Jeffrey and Victoria Leib and plans to attend Dickinson College, Carlisle, this fall. Her essay focused on infanticide.

Robert Gowell, chair of the theology department at Becahi, advised students on the essays. Students write the essays as one of the assignments in their senior year theology classes.

Gowell said Becahi students have placed in the contest several times in the past: 2018, first and third place; 2017, first, second and third place; 2016, first and third place; and 2015, first place.

"Millions of innocent babies worldwide have fallen victim to infanticide for a multitude of reasons, including gender selection and a parent's inability to care for the child."

larities to primates, are far more intelligent and sophisticated than our mammal relatives right? Unfortunately, one's insight and assumptions could not be further from the truth; millions of innocent babies worldwide have fallen victim to infanticide for a multitude of reasons,

including gender selection and a parent's inability to care for the child"

Murphy continued the essay discussing China's legacy of infanticide.

Jordan Toohey, who took second place, is the daughter of Michael and Debra Toohey and plans to attend the University

EWTN to Broadcast Liturgy from Pilgrimage in Centralia

Five bishops will lead pilgrims in prayer at Assumption BVM Ukrainian Catholic Church in Centralia during the Fourth Annual Call to Prayer Marian Pilgrimage Sunday, Aug. 25.

The Divine Liturgy recorded during the Centralia Call to Prayer Marian Pilgrimage will be broadcast Friday, Aug. 30 at 3:30 p.m. on EWTN.

The liturgy will be celebrated by Metropolitan-Archbishop Borys Gudziak, Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of

Philadelphia; Bishop Paul Chomnycky, O.S.B.M., Stamford Eparchy; Bishop of Harrisburg Ronald Gainer; Bishop of Allentown Alfred Schlert; and Auxiliary Bishop John Bura, Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia.

Watch on your EWTN TV channel or at website http://www.ewtn.com/multi-media/live_player.asp?sat=dome.





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 FROM 12:00 p.m. TO 7:00 p.m.

11:00 a.m. Outdoor Mass
DJ – 12:00 noon – 3:00 p.m.
Large Flowerheads - 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Children's Games, Basket Raffle and Games of Chance



Halupki, Goulash, Homemade Pierogies,
Kielbasi with Sauerkraut, Sausage Sandwiches,
Steak Sandwiches, Cheese Steak Sandwiches,
Turkey BBQ, Hamburger BBQ, Chicken Fingers,
Hot Dogs, Hot Dogs with Sauerkraut, Chili Dogs,
Hamburgers, Cheeseburgers, Summer Pasta Salad,
Walking Tacos, French Fries, Cheese Fries

Ice Cream and Waffles, Ice Cream Cones,
Ice Cream Sandwiches, Popcorn, Cotton Candy,
Home Baked Goods

Birch Beer on Tap, Beer, Wine, Soda,
Bottled Water, Iced Tea, Lemonade, Coffee

Rev. Msgr. Thomas Koons, Pastor SMALL GAMES OF CHANCE LICENSE # 18-00224

Calendar

Editor’s note: E-mail, fax or mail Church-affiliated items for the Calendar page (Calendar, Retreats, Socials, Festivals, Bazaars, Trips) to: email, adtimes@allentowndiocese.org; fax, 610-439-7694; The A.D. Times, P.O. Box F, Allentown, PA 18105-1538.
Items must be received by Thursday of the week before publication. Please type or print. Please notify The A.D. Times if bingos and other regularly listed events are cancelled for the summer or other holiday periods, and again when they resume. Please do not send items again after they are published.
For more information, e-mail adtimes@allentowndiocese.org or call 610-871-5200, ext. 2264.

Sunday, Aug. 25
“A Call to Prayer” Marian Pilgrimage, with five bishops including Bishop of Allentown Alfred Schlert, Assumption BVM Ukrainian, Centralia, rosary and Marian hymns 11 a.m., Mass at noon, living rosary 2:30 p.m., candlelight procession 5 p.m., confession 11 a.m.-3 p.m., food available, 570-339-0650.

Friday, Aug. 30
Class of 1979 40th Reunion, Marian High School, Tamaqua, football game 7 p.m., reunion tent 6 p.m.; also Saturday, open house 3:30 p.m., Mass 4:30 p.m., reunion dinner 7:30 p.m. at Basile’s Restaurant, 401 Claremont Ave., Hometown; lmarzen@bridgewateradv.com or lfurey@partnersinmission.com.

Saturday, Aug. 31
“Steeple and Steel,” minibus tour of South Bethlehem, featuring former St. Joseph Catholic Church on 9:30 a.m. tour and Incarnation of Our Lord Church on 1 p.m. tour, \$25, reservations 610-861-0600, www.steelworkersarchives.com.

Sunday, Sept. 8
Solemn Vespers, for young adults ages 18 to 35, with Bishop of Allentown Alfred Schlert, sponsored by Office of Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry, at Shrine of St. Therese of Lisieux, 15 E. Garibaldi Ave., Nesquehoning, 6:30 p.m., social 7:15 p.m., free, RSVP for catering at www.allentowndiocese.org/vespers, but walk-ins welcome, 610-289-8900 ext. 2021, asmith@allentowndiocese.org.
Zook’s Pot Pie Sale, order deadline, Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart, Bethlehem, pot pies \$5, apple dumplings \$3, pickup Thursday, Sept. 26, 3-6:30 p.m. in Father King Hall (side parking lot), 610-377-6909, 484-767-2760, 484-560-8264.

Tuesday, Sept. 10
Hoagie Sale, Knights of Columbus Council 618, 201 W. Cherry St., Shenandoah, noon-4 p.m., \$5, 570-462-1430 or 570-590-1188.

Wednesday, Sept. 11
Bereavement Support Group, for those grieving death of a loved one, St. Benedict, Mohnton, Family Life Center, 2020 Chestnut Road, 6:30-8 p.m., free, nondenominational, first of five Wednesdays, register 610-775-7782 (leave message), parish office 610-856-1006.

Saturday, Sept. 14
Halupki Dinner, St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Whitehall, parish hall, 4-7 p.m.; advance adults \$10, children 5-10 \$5; at door \$12/\$7; 610-349-7791.
“Welcome Fall Dance,” St. John the Baptist, Allentown, social hall, 7-10 p.m., doors open 6:30 p.m., \$5 per person, BYOB, kitchen open, 610-432-3505.

Sunday, Sept. 15
Diocesan Anniversary Mass, Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown, 3 p.m., married couples celebrating 1-5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 60+ years, www.allentowndiocese.org/anniversarymass, mfff@allentowndiocese.org, registration deadline Monday, Sept. 9.
Breakfast, Knights of Columbus, St. Ignatius Loyola, Sinking Spring, school hall, 8 a.m.-noon, adults \$8, children 6-12 \$4, under 6 free.
Community Breakfast, Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart, Bath, 7-11 a.m., monthly special breakfast pizza, adults \$9, children \$4, under 6 free.

Friday, Sept. 20
Padre Pio Healing Mass, Our Lady Help of Christians, Allentown, 7 p.m., Father Clifton Bishop, celebrant, 610-432-9384.

Saturday, Sept. 21
Nun Run 5K and Walk, Sacred Heart Villa, Reading, register www.mscreading.org, CWhitmoyer@mscreading.org, 610-929-2802.
United Nations International Day of Peace Interfaith Service, St. Francis Center for Renewal, Bethlehem, convent chapel, 7 p.m., 610-867-8890, stfranciscenter@gmail.com, www.stfrancisctr.org.

Sunday, Sept. 22
Padre Pio Healing Mass, with opportunity to venerate and be blessed by St. Padre Pio’s glove, St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Easton, Father Pio Mandato celebrating noon Mass, followed be Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, confessions 1:30-2:30 p.m., talk and healing service 2:30 p.m., 610-253-3553.

Saturday, Sept. 28 – Sunday, Sept. 29
“Vatican International Exhibition Eucharistic Miracles of the World,” visual display, Sacred Heart Church, West Reading, school gym, Saturday 3:30-7:30 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m.-2 p.m., free.

Monday, Sept. 30
Diocese of Allentown Golf Tournament, to benefit seminarian and Catholic school education, Steel Club, 700 Linden Ave., Hellertown, 610-871-5200 ext. 2282, mmullikin@allentowndiocese.org.

Friday, Oct. 4
“A Biblical Walk Through the Mass: Understanding What We Say and Do in the Liturgy,” presenter Dr. Edward Sri, Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown, beginning with Mass 6:30 p.m. celebrated by Bishop of Allentown Alfred Schlert, light refreshments 7:15+ p.m., presentation 7:30 p.m., register www.allentowndiocese.org/Liturgy.

Saturday, Oct. 5 – Sunday, Oct. 6
Vatican International Exhibition Eucharistic Miracles of the World, visual display, Holy Rosary Church, Reading, basement meeting room, Saturday 3:30-7:30 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m.-2 p.m., free.

Saturday, Oct. 5
Gala and Auction, Mercy School for Special Learning, Allentown, at Homewood Suites, Center Valley, 610-797-8242, www.mercyschool.org.

Saturday, Oct. 26
Collection for Mission Sunday, also Sunday, Oct. 27.

Retreats

First Tuesdays
“Simply Prayer,” mornings of prayer, reflection and sharing, St. Francis Center for Renewal, Bethlehem, 9:30 a.m.-noon, free will offering, 610-867-8890, stfranciscenter@gmail.com, www.stfrancisctr.org.

Thursday, Sept. 26
“Be a Voice, Not an Echo,” St. Francis Center for Renewal, Bethlehem, 6:45-9 p.m., \$25, 610-867-8890, stfranciscenter@gmail.com, www.stfrancisctr.org.

Friday, Sept. 27 – Sunday, Sept. 29
“Second Annual Weekend Retreat for Men in Recovery,” Jesuit Center for Spiritual Growth, Wernersville, www.jesuitcenter.org/2019-12step.

Thursday, Oct. 3
“Celebration of the Transitus of St. Francis,” St. Francis Center for Renewal, Bethlehem, 7 p.m., 610-867-8890, stfranciscenter@gmail.com, www.stfrancisctr.org.

Saturday, Oct. 5
“How Can 12-Step Spirituality Help People Who Are Not Addicts,” Father Patrick Lamb, St. Francis Center for Renewal, Bethlehem, 8:45 a.m.-3 p.m., \$45, 610-867-8890, stfranciscenter@gmail.com, www.stfrancisctr.org.

Wednesday, Oct. 9
“Living Life Heartfilly: The Resilience Advantage Workshop from Heartmath,” St. Francis Center for Renewal, Bethlehem, 6:45-9 p.m., \$25, 610-867-8890, stfranciscenter@gmail.com, www.stfrancisctr.org.
“A Day for Myself with God,” St. Francis Center for Renewal, Bethlehem, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., free will offering, 610-867-8890, stfranciscenter@gmail.com, www.stfrancisctr.org.

Tuesday, Oct. 15
“The Gift of Music: Lifting the Heart and Feeding the Soul,” Father Anthony Mongiello, St. Francis Center for Renewal, Bethlehem, 6:45-9 p.m., \$25, 610-867-8890, stfranciscenter@gmail.com, www.stfrancisctr.org.

Wednesday, Oct. 23
“Thriving Despite Loss,” St. Francis Center for Renewal, Bethlehem, 6:45-9 p.m., \$25, 610-867-8890, stfranciscenter@gmail.com, www.stfrancisctr.org.

Saturday, Nov. 2
Serra Clubs of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Region, conference and pilgrimage at Shrine of St. John Neumann, Philadelphia, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; with speakers and panel discussion about saints and blessed of the region; Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, museum and gift shop; registration \$99, all welcome to attend, 610-285-2002.

Thursdays, Nov. 7, 14
“Young and Alive – Enhancing Health and Well Being Skills in Youth,” St. Francis Center for Renewal, Bethlehem, 6:45-9 p.m., \$25, 610-867-8890, stfranciscenter@gmail.com, www.stfrancisctr.org.

Friday, Nov. 8 – Sunday, Nov. 10
“Spiritual Push,” St. Francis Retreat House, Easton, 610-258-3053, ext. 10, www.stfranciscetreathouse.org.

Wednesday, Nov. 13
“Praying with Icons,” Monsignor Robert Kozel, St. Francis Center for Renewal, Bethlehem, 6:45-9 p.m., \$25, 610-867-8890, stfranciscenter@gmail.com, www.stfrancisctr.org.

Festivals/Bazaars

Sunday, Sept. 1
Parish Picnic, St. John the Baptist, Whitehall, noon-9 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 8
Picnic, Assumption BVM, Northampton, at Egypt Memorial Park, noon-7 p.m., outdoor Mass 11 a.m.

Sunday, Sept. 29
“Monocacy Farm Food Festival,” hosted by School Sisters of St. Francis, Bethlehem, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., suggested donation \$5, family \$10, rain or shine, 610-657-6000.

Saturday, Nov. 2
Holiday Craft Fair and Bake Sale, St. Francis Center for Renewal, Bethlehem, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., 610-867-8890, stfranciscenter@gmail.com, www.stfrancisctr.org.

Saturday, Nov. 9
Home and Craft Show, St. Charles Borromeo, 1115 Walnut St., Ashland, parish hall, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., 570-875-1521.

Socials

Sundays
Bingo, St. Joseph, Summit Hill, 6:30 p.m.
Bingo, Immaculate Conception School, Pen Argyl, 1 p.m., doors open 11 a.m., 610-863-4816.

Third Sundays
Bingo, Most Blessed Sacrament, Bally, 12:30 p.m., doors open 11 a.m., 610-987-8851.

Thursdays
Bingo, St. Joseph, Summit Hill, 6:30 p.m.

Sundays, Sept. 8, 22; Oct. 6, 20; Nov. 3, 17; Dec. 8
Bingo, Knights of Columbus Council 618, St. Stephen Hall, Shenandoah, 2 p.m., doors open noon, 570-590-3270 or 570-590-1188.

Sunday, Sept. 22
Meat Bingo, St. John the Baptist, Allentown, 1 p.m., doors and kitchen open noon, 610-432-3505.

Saturday, Sept. 28 – Sunday, Sept. 29
Basket Auction, St. Charles Borromeo, 1115 Walnut St., Ashland; shop and drop Saturday noon-6 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; auction Sunday 3 p.m.; 570-875-1521.

Friday, Oct. 11
“Designer Bags” Bingo, Women’s Alliance, St. Ann, Emmaus, Monsignor Hoban Gym, Sixth and Fairview streets, 7 p.m., doors open at 6:15 p.m., 20 games for \$25, tickets 610-216-1578.

Trips

Editor’s note: The A.D. Times publishes newly announced, Church-affiliated trips in every issue. The entire previously announced list is repeated as space permits.
Send Church-affiliated trips to adtimes@allentowndiocese.org by Thursday of the week before publication. Please notify The A.D. Times when seats are filled for a trip so it can be removed from the repeating list.
Trip listings include sponsoring group, destination, cost and contact information. Contact the sponsor for other details, such as times, dining location, itineraries and what is included in the cost.

Newly announced
Wednesday, Sept. 18 St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Whitehall, Golden Agers to Hollywood Casino, Grantville, \$30, 610-264-3721.
Previously announced

Saturdays Aug. 31; Sept. 21; Nov. 2
Steelworkers’ Archives, Bethlehem, minibus tour, “Steeple and Steel,” 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., \$25, 610-861-0600.

Sunday, Sept. 8 – Thursday Sept. 12
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Bethlehem to El Coronado Hotel, Wildwood Crest, New Jersey, \$470, 484-456-6818.

Wednesdays, Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 13
St. Joseph the Worker, Orefield to Mohegan Sun Casino, Poconos, \$30, suemueller45@gmail.com, 610-392-2957.

Monday, Sept. 16 – Thursday, Sept. 19
St. Joseph the Worker, Orefield to Niagara Falls and the Erie Canal, \$579, suemueller45@gmail.com, 610-392-2957.

Wednesday, Sept. 18
St. Thomas More, Allentown, Prime Time to “Barefoot in the Park,” Hunterdon Hills, \$90, 610-791-1758.

Wednesday Sept. 18 – Friday, Sept. 20
St. Ignatius Loyola, Sinking Spring, Seniors to Hudson River Valley, New York, \$200, 610-670-2328.

Saturday, Sept. 28
St. Thomas More, Allentown to Broadway, “Frozen” \$115, 484-951-0440.

Wednesday, Oct. 2
Holy Guardian Angels, Reading, Seniors to fall foliage train ride and show at Ehrhart’s Silver Birches, Hawley, \$95, 610-921-1515 or 610-929-0384.

Thursday, Oct. 10
Holy Family, Nazareth, Golden Agers to Germanfest at White Birches, Hawley, \$86, 610-759-0576.
Notre Dame of Bethlehem, 55+ to “Streisand/Sinatra,” Penn’s Peak, Jim Thorpe, 610-866-0360.

Thursday, Oct. 10 – Saturday, Oct. 19
St. Teresa of Calcutta, Mahanoy City to Royal Caribbean North-bound Cruise, \$1,387.51 or \$1,085.51, 570-280-7002.

Sunday, Oct. 13 – Monday, Oct. 21
St. Benedict, Mohnton, “Pilgrimage to Poland,” round trip from Philadelphia, 610-856-1006.

Monday, Oct. 14
St. Thomas More, Allentown, Women’s Guild to Miraculous Med-al Shrine and Marian Art Museum, Philadelphia, \$34, 484-707-7531.

Tuesday, Oct. 15
St. Thomas More, Allentown, Prime Time to Supremes Show, Mount Airy Casino, Mount Pocono, \$62, 610-791-1758.

Tuesday, Oct. 22
St. Ignatius Loyola, Sinking Spring, Seniors to “Gems of Cumberland Valley,” \$95, 610-670-2328.

Thursday, Oct. 24 – Monday, Oct. 28
Sacred Heart, Bethlehem, Travelers to “October Mystery Tour,” \$995, 610-691-6054.

Thursday, Oct. 31
St. Thomas More, Allentown, Prime Time to Hollywood Casino, \$25, 610-791-1758.

Wednesday, Nov. 6 – Thursday, Nov. 7
St. Thomas More, Allentown, Prime Time to Atlantic City, New Jersey, 610-791-1758.

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 South Bethlehem Historical Society
 Northampton County DCED

AUGUST 31, 2019
 9:30 AM and 1:00 PM

\$25 per person per tour
 includes goulash luncheon
 Reservations required / Call 610.861.0600

Free open house at St. John's / Open to public
 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM
 exhibits, artists and authors, church tour,
 strudels, kiffles, nut and poppy seed rolls

Join us on our Steeples and Steel tours this Labor Day weekend. Help us pay tribute to the thousands of Bethlehem steelworkers who toiled to create the steel that built America and defended the world.

"Steeple and Steel" reflects the lives of immigrants who settled in South Bethlehem to become steelworkers in the late 1800's through early 1900's. They left their homelands in search of a better life in America, and their cultures and faiths enriched the town where they worked. These highly-acclaimed guided minibus tours take visitors through the neighborhoods, churches, and cemeteries influenced by steelworkers and their families. A church or cemetery is entered on each tour. Other tours Sep 21, Nov 2.



St. Joseph's
 Featured 9:30 am tour

Featured on August 31 are **St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church** and **Incarnation of Our Lord Roman Catholic Church**, the merged parish from the consolidation of St. Joseph's (Slovenian), Sts. Cyril and Methodius (Slovak), St. John Capistrano (Hungarian), St. Stanislaus (Polish), and Our Lady of Pompeii of the Most Holy Rosary (Italian). Pastor is Rev. David J. Kozak.



Incarnation of Our Lord
 Featured 1:00 pm tour

Information and reservations:
 Steelworkers' Archives
 610.861.0600
 www.steelworkersarchives.com



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Bishop Schlert Celebrates Mass with Allentown Knights of Malta

By TAMI QUIGLEY
Staff Writer

Bishop Alfred Schlert celebrated Mass with the Allentown Area of the Order of Malta June 24 at Assumption BVM, Bethlehem for the feast of St. John the Baptist, the patron saint of the order.

Concelebrating were Monsignor Nevin Klinger, pastor of Assumption BVM and chaplain to the Allentown Area of Malta, and Oblates of St. Francis de Sales (OSFS) Father Jim Greenfield, president of DeSales University, Center Valley. As-

sisting was Deacon Jeffrey Trexler, assigned to diaconal service at SS. Simon and Jude, Bethlehem.

The Order of Malta is the oldest lay religious order of the Catholic Church and seeks to glorify God by promoting the sanctification of each member through his or her work with the sick and poor, and his or her defense of the Catholic faith.

In the United States, there are three associations supporting the local knights and dames. The American Association began in New York in 1927. It has grown from a handful of knights to more than 2,000 knights and dames.

The other two associations are based in Washington, D.C. and San Francisco, California. In service to the sick and poor, there are over 3,300 members of the order nationwide. The international headquarters for the order is in Rome.

Deacon Trexler is the executive director of the American Association in New York City.

There are four Knights of Malta in the Allentown Diocese, with a fifth knight, Dr. Minh Nguyen, to be invested in November. Additionally, there are two applicants for membership in 2020.

In addition to the knights and dames, there is an auxiliary that assists in the corporal and spiritual works of the order within the Diocese. There is no cost to be a member of the auxiliary. Dr. Arnold Traupman serves as the first



Bishop Alfred Schlert, right, and Deacon Jeffrey Trexler distribute Communion while celebrating Mass with the Allentown Knights of Malta June 24 at Assumption BVM, Bethlehem. (Photos by John Simitz)

For more information visit <https://orderofmaltaamerican.org/>.

area chair of the Allentown Area.

Members of the Order of Malta must be practicing Roman Catholics in good standing who faithfully provide service to the Church and lead an exemplary Catholic life; wish to join a community of like-minded Catholics who desire a deeper spiritual understanding of their Catholic faith; and are willing to make a lifelong commitment to formally dedicate themselves to the motto of the order, "Obsequium pauperum et tuition fidei"

("Service to the poor and witness to and defense of the faith").

Members must also be willing to engage in hands-on work to support the mission of the order by volunteering time and providing financial support; and be willing to publicly declare their support for the protection of human life from conception to natural death.

For more information, visit <https://orderofmaltaamerican.org/>.



Malta member John Turnbach serves as lector during the first reading.



Gathering are, from left: Tram Le Stawicki; John Turnbach, KM; Dr. Minh Nguyen; Dr. Stanislaw Stawicki, KM; Joseph Nicoletto; Bishop Alfred Schlert; Monsignor Nevin Klinger; Dr. Dominic Rachiele, KM; Oblate Father Jim Greenfield; Nicola Rachiele; Dr. Arnold Traupman, KM; Constance Trexler; and Deacon Jeffrey Trexler.

Celebrate Life at 40th Anniversary Banquet

Everyone is invited to offer support for the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation by joining members from our Diocese at the Celebrate Life 40th Anniversary Banquet featuring Diamond and Silk.

The banquet will be Tuesday, Oct. 15 at the Radisson Hotel Harrisburg. Check-in will begin at 5 p.m. and the banquet at 6 p.m.

We reserved a table for 10 for representatives of our Diocese. Our seats are \$50 each (normally \$75). Please register by emailing Maria Loch at mloch@allentowndiocese.org or calling 610-289-8900 ext. 2021.

Lynnette Hardaway and Rochelle Richardson, popularly known as Diamond and Silk, are American live-stream video bloggers, social media personalities, political activists and Fox Nation hosts.

For more information, visit www.paprolife.org.



United Way Day of Caring Participants Spruce Up Ecumenical Kitchen and Chew Street Community Center



Deacon Rick Scrak, back right, Ecumenical Kitchen coordinator, welcomes a group of United Way Day of Caring participants who are ready and eager to clean up and help out June 20 at the Ecumenical Kitchen and Chew Street Community Center of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Allentown. Deacon Scrak also serves St. Anne, Bethlehem. (Photos by John Simitz)



The Day of Caring volunteer shirt of United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley. "The group arrived early in the morning and asked specifically what the kitchen's needs are and how they can help with the ministry. Upon stating our needs, they all devised a plan of action where each one of the volunteers took an assignment and saw it to completion. They all worked well together and it was a true joy spending time with each one of them," said Deacon Scrak.



Above, Jessica Down, left, and Alanna Dent clean and stack supplies at the kitchen and center, located at 179 Chew St. at the former Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Left, Laurel Ross mops the main lunch room. The kitchen operates Friday through Sunday 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.



Above, Dalia Shehata cleans up the kitchen. Clients were not at the Ecumenical Kitchen that day during the cleanup.

Left, Eric Staub, left, and Magen Verholy build new shelves as volunteers work to spruce up the site. The center is dedicated to serving and uniting the community. For more information about the kitchen and center, visit www.allentowndiocese.org/catholic-charities, Facebook @CatholicCharitiesDofA, Twitter @CCofAllentown or call 610-704-3585.



Companions of Pauline Celebrate Covenant Day

Approximately 100 Companions of Pauline and moderators gathered at Mallinckrodt Convent, with the Sisters of Christian Charity, to celebrate the annual Covenant Day, April 28.

The Companions of Pauline are committed to living the charism of Blessed Pauline von Mallinckrodt, while remaining in the lay state, through prayer and works of charity, living as Pope Francis asked, the "Joy of the Gospel."

The majority of companions renewed their covenant and 23 made their covenant for the first time.

Liturgy was celebrated by Father Hilary O'Leary, O.S.B. of St. Mary Abbey, Morristown, assisted by Deacon James Jones, a Companion of Pauline who was ordained for the Paterson Diocese, New Jersey.

A presentation after dinner reflected on the "companions" of Blessed Pauline in her lifetime, and what they said about her, especially her "amiability."

The speaker, Sister Bernadette McCauley, was vocation director and formater for the postulants. As vocation director, she has traveled widely and uses experiences from her travels in South American and the Western United States to exemplify unusual instances of the charism of Blessed Pauline in the lives of the people.



Companions attending Covenant Day include three from the Diocese of Allentown: far right, blue shirt, Lorraine Lockawich from Our Lady Help of Christians, Allentown; fourth from left, black shirt, Lori Barse, and fifth from right, yellow shirt, Carole Anstett, both from St. Benedict, Mohnton.



'Yellow Day' Spreads Kindness and Brightens Lives

Students at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, Bethlehem celebrate Yellow Day May 9, which was started in 2017 as a day to spread kindness and brighten the lives of those around us. The school held a \$1 dress-down day, with donations going to Alex's Lemonade stand for children with cancer. Yellow Day was started in memory of a beloved kindergarten teacher, Honor Trotter, who made others feel better about themselves just by being who she was. "She turned people's gray skies into yellow skies" – a line taken from the book "Yellow," written in memory of Honor. For more information, visit website www.makesomeonesdayyellow.com.

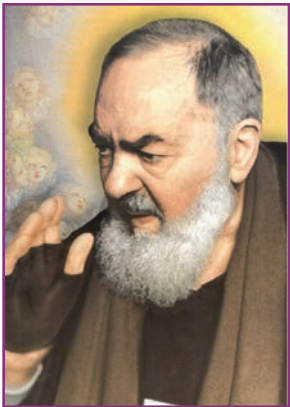
St. Jane to Offer Padre Pio Healing Mass

A Padre Pio Healing Mass – with an opportunity to venerate and be blessed by St. Padre Pio's glove – will be celebrated Sunday, Sept. 22 at St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Easton.

Franciscan Father Pio Mandata will celebrate the noon Mass, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, confessions 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., and talk and healing service 2:30 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to participate.

For more information, call the parish at 610-253-3553.



Recommended to Your Prayers by Pope Francis

Apostleship of Prayer Intention for September

Universal: That politicians, scientists and economists work together to protect the world's seas and oceans.

The monthly intentions are also available on video, with a reflection, or download the app at www.apostleshipofprayer.org.

Prayers for Priests, Deacons, Vocations

Please kindly remember in your prayers all of the living and deceased priests and deacons of our Diocese. Please also pray for our seminarians and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Prayer for the Perseverance of Vocations

O God, you have constituted your only-begotten Son supreme and eternal priest for the glory of your majesty and the salvation of mankind: grant that those whom he has chosen ministers and dispensers of his mysteries may be found faithful in fulfilling the ministry they have received. We ask this through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Serran Prayer for Vocations

O God, who wills not the death of a sinner but rather that he be converted and live, grant we beseech you, through the intercession of the Blessed Mary ever Virgin, St. Joseph her spouse, St. Junipero Serra and all the saints, an increase of laborers for your Church, fellow laborers with Christ, to spend and consume themselves for souls through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

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Contact Lori Anderson
at landerson@allentowndiocese.org
or 610-871-5200 extension 2273



FIRST FRIDAY

Adoration, Holy Hour & Sacred Heart Devotion



Please join us on the First Friday of every month for prayer and reflection.

Sept. 6, Oct. 4, Nov. 1, Dec. 6.,
Jan. 3, Feb. 7, Mar. 6, Apr. 3, and May 1

7:00-8:00pm | Holy Ghost Church

417 Carlton Ave., Bethlehem, PA 18015

Young adults, families, and faithful of all ages are welcome!

DIocese of ALLENTOWN Sponsored by the Office for Vocations Promotion



First Fridays for Vocations to Begin Sept. 6

Everyone is invited to join the Diocese of Allentown Office for Vocations Promotion for First Friday Adoration, Holy Hour and Sacred Heart Devotion, September through May.

The First Friday events will be Sept. 6 and continue Oct. 4, Nov. 1, Dec. 6, Jan. 3, Feb. 7, March 6, April 3 and May 1, 7 to 8 p.m. at Holy Ghost Church, 417

Carlton Ave., Bethlehem.

Young adults, families and faithful of all ages are welcome to these monthly events for prayer and reflection.

For more information, contact Father Mark Searles, director, Office for Vocations Promotion, msearles@allentowndiocese.org, 610-437-0755, or visit <https://www.allentowndiocese.org/vocations>.

Sunday Scripture

Sunday, Aug. 25

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading
Responsorial Psalm
Second Reading
Gospel

Isaiah 66:18-21
Psalms 117:1-2
Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13
Luke 13:22-30

Sunday, Sept. 1

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading
Responsorial Psalm
Second Reading
Gospel

Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29
Psalms 68:4-7, 10-11
Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a
Luke 14:1, 7-14

Sunday, Sept. 8

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading
Responsorial Psalm
Second Reading
Gospel

Wisdom 9:13-18b,
Psalms 90:3-6, 12-17
Philemon 9-10, 12-17
Luke 14:25-33

'So Many Funerals,' Says El Paso Priest Who Comforted Grieving Kin

WASHINGTON (CNS) – Father Fabian Marquez was the right priest at a very wrong time.

He was among several priests in El Paso, Texas, summoned to help out where they could in the hours after the brazen Aug. 3 assault at a Walmart store in the Texas border town that left 22 dead and dozens of others wounded.

Father Marquez's role was to go to an elementary school in the city that had been set up as a "reunification center" for the loved ones of those who might have been in harm's way during the massacre.

And as for how many "hours following" the rampage? Father Marquez, by his own count, was there for 48 hours.

It fell upon him to console family after family when police told them that a spouse, child or parent was among the dead.

As a result, Father Marquez has celebrated many funeral Masses, even of Catholics who were not members of his church, El Buen Pastor (Good Shepherd) just outside El Paso in Sparks, Texas, where he has served as pastor the past four years.

When reached by Catholic News Service Aug. 16, he was hours away from presiding at the funeral Mass of Andre Anchondo. He and his wife, Jordan, were killed – allegedly by Patrick Crucius, according to police – as they were shielding their infant son, Paul, just 2 months of age, from the hail of gunfire.

Asked what was going to make Andre Anchondo's funeral different, Father Marquez replied: "The difference with this one is, after having so many already – I've been to so many funerals – we get to experience and share with the family the loss of a young man, a young man who showed us the greatest sacrifice, the greatest love."

"The message I sent yesterday (is) there is no greater love than to give your life for one's friend – and that's basically

what he did. He protected his wife and his young child."

Yet there was one thing that links Anchondo's funeral to those of the other victims. "The tragedy," Father Marquez said. "It's very tragic because anybody who died in this massacre in El Paso had to go this way."

Anchondo's family is "a family that's grieving, that's hurting. A loving family, a caring family," the priest said. "When we're with them and we

see not only their pain and suffering for their son, but the family is so focusing on forgiveness, focusing on being better people, that the death of their son helps us to come together as a community, as a faith community, as a city and a nation, instead of promoting hate, but promoting more love."

Father Marquez said he has been bearing up fairly well since the mass shooting.

"It's been hard for all of us – hard for all of us to see this tragedy come to our society. It really shook us. The shooter came to our city to divide. But we're stronger than ever. We've united in prayer, united in faith. We are stronger. El Paso strong," he said.

"With Christ, everything has been stronger. It's been long days. Ministering to people, journeying with people, praying with people, but very rewarding to



Father Fabian Marquez encourages a woman during a vigil service for Andre Pablo Anchondo at Perches Funeral Home in El Paso, Texas, Aug. 15. Anchondo died along with his wife Aug. 3 as they protected their 2-month-old baby from the mass gunman at Walmart. (CNS photo/Ivan Pierre Aguirre)

see that in the midst of our tragedy, God is with us. It is truly a blessing to see that God is with us as we journey together in this tragedy."

At Father Marquez's parish, where he says it is "standing-room only" in the 325-capacity church for all four weekend Masses, "we were very vulnerable. We were not ready for something like this. We never felt it would happen in a community that is so welcoming, so loving, so caring, so willing to give their best to anyone who comes to our city, who lives in our city. We are always a community that welcomes the stranger," he said.

Parishioners at the overwhelmingly Hispanic parish had grown more wary of stricter immigration policy and enforcement over the past two years.

"My community, we're all concerned. Everybody's concerned about what's been happening. It couldn't have hap-

pened at a worse time – Mexican people being targeted by a shooter in our community to take the lives of our loved ones," Father Marquez said. "It creates more fear, it creates more anxiety, and (those are) the feelings my parish community is experiencing."

Regardless of the fears and anxieties affecting its members, he loves his parish.

"My parish is a beautiful, vibrant community that is willing to sacrifice its own needs for others. We do live the Gospel to serve God, to serve others, to give the best that we can for our community, not just for us but the entire city of El Paso," Father Marquez said.

"We go out in search of that wounded sheep and they care for them, they nurture it and they celebrate. They also believe that when we help the poor and help the sick, we help Jesus," he added. "We try to be a good example of that to others."

Father Marquez said he received many supportive messages from parishioners for his role in counseling grieving kin, but said he thought to himself, "I'm only doing my job. I'm only doing what a priest needs to do."

That job has not ended. Before the day would turn to night, Father Marquez was headed to the wake service of another massacre victim, 63-year-old Marge Reckard, before a funeral the next day.

"That one is also very special, because this is a couple. The husband, Tony, has no family. They both have no family in El Paso. Our family is going to be with him. The funeral has been opened to the community to join them, to share with them," Father Marquez said.

"We're going to go as a church, we're going to be there with him and pray with him, and for his wife. The venue has changed. It was going to be at a very small funeral home, it's been moved to a much bigger funeral home so the people of El Paso can be with him."

Appeals Court Says Lehigh County Seal Can Keep Its Cross

WASHINGTON (CNS) – A federal appeals court said Lehigh County in Pennsylvania can keep the image of a cross on its official seal because it was not an endorsement of religion.

The unanimous Aug. 8 ruling by the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia followed a precedent set by the U.S. Supreme Court earlier this year when it allowed a historic cross-shaped memorial in Maryland to remain standing, saying it did not endorse religion. The ruling also overturns a 2017 lower court decision about the seal's cross.

"Courts are not to focus solely on the religious component in challenged government displays; they should consider the overall message conveyed and the broader context in which the display ap-

pears," the ruling said.

The 75-year-old seal features a yellow cross in its center behind a courthouse. Around the edge are images of a farm, a bison, a factory, bunting, cement silos, a heart and the Liberty Bell.

The court's decision said the seal "fits comfortably within a long tradition of state and municipal seals and flags throughout our republic that include religious symbols or mottos, which further confirms its constitutionality."

It also said the seal with all of its symbols has historical significance.

In court documents, the county said the symbols are linked to local and national ties. The cross was meant to "honor the Christians who settled in Lehigh County."

The seal, on the county flag, is displayed in several government buildings across the county and used on the county's letterhead and website. The first complaint about it was raised by local members of the Wisconsin-based Freedom From Religion Foundation, who said the seal was an official endorsement of a religion.

The appeals court ruling said that even though the cross is a "focal point" of the seal, it doesn't stand alone. "Whether historical, patriotic, cultural or economic, they are all secular symbols," the ruling said, adding: "The seal as a whole therefore 'suggests little or nothing of the sacred,' even though the Latin cross alone has undeniably religious a significance."



Knights Give Over \$185 Million to Charity, 76 Million Service Hours in 2018

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (CNS) – In 2018, the Knights of Columbus gave \$185.7 million to charity and donated 76.7 million hours of hands-on service.

The New Haven-based Catholic fraternal organization announced its charitable activity over the past year in a July 31 news release, issued ahead of its annual Supreme Convention in Minneapolis Aug. 6-8.

The Knights of Columbus, which has a membership of more 1.9 million, said its charitable activity is threefold: fundraising by the national organization and local Knights councils; community service; and revenues from its insurance and

annuities portfolio.

Using Independent Sector's valuation of a volunteer hour for 2018 – \$25.43 – the Knights' service hours came to \$1.9 billion, the release said. The value of this work combined with the year's monetary donations brings the total value of the Knights' charity to nearly \$2.1 billion.

"Regardless of how or who the Knights serve, it's the chance to help those who are unable to help themselves and to be of assistance to the sick or disabled that is at the heart of what being a Knight is all about," Knights of Columbus Supreme Knight Carl Anderson said in a statement.

The release noted that the Knights'

charitable activity is carried out by more than 16,000 councils in nine countries, which raise funds for a variety of causes, including efforts to protect and provide relief to persecuted Christians, pro-life initiatives and disaster aid and recovery.

Volunteer time donated by the councils' members goes to helping their own parishes and communities, and to organizations such as Special Olympics and Habitat for Humanity. They give time to Knights-sponsored efforts, including "Coats for Kids," "Food for Families" and scholarship programs.

Councils raise money activities such as pancake breakfasts, raffles, auctions,

tank pulls, rodeos and the Knights' signature Tootsie Roll drives.

Beneficiaries of money raised by Knights include local pregnancy support centers, seminarians, and veterans and service members who make the Knights' annual pilgrimage to Lourdes, organized in conjunction with the U.S. Archdiocese of the Military Services.

Other charitable funds come from the Knights of Columbus Insurance arm: Once the company's revenue is used to cover operational costs and refunds (dividends) to its members, "the remaining profits are directed to charity," the news release said.