

# Ribbon Cutting Opens First School Year at Kolbe Academy

By TAMI QUIGLEY  
Staff Writer

A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to open the first school year of the nation’s first Catholic high school for students battling addiction and participating in recovery from substance and alcohol abuse took place Aug. 26 at Kolbe Academy, Bethlehem.

The Diocese’s Department of Catholic Education worked with the School Sisters of St. Francis to open the high school in Mullen Hall, site of the former St. Francis Academy. Students are already enrolled at Kolbe, which welcomes students in need from all faiths from all five counties of the Diocese: Berks, Carbon, Lehigh, Northampton, Schuylkill and beyond.

Speakers included School Sister of St. Francis Sister Bonnie Kleinschuster; Bishop Alfred Schlert; Kendall Ehrlich, deputy director of U.S. Office of National Drug Control Policy; Ellen DiDomenico, deputy secretary for Pennsylvania State Department for Drug and Alcohol Program; Lamont McClure, Northampton County executive; Dr. Brooke Tesche, Diocesan chancellor for Catholic education; John Petruzzelli, principal of Kolbe Academy; Michael Metzger, board chair; and Dominick Coppola, board vice chair.

Ashley Russo, president of ASR Media Productions, was master of ceremonies.

Sister Bonnie welcomed the more than 100 people who attended the grand opening, telling them she is a 1974 graduate of St. Francis Academy in the school building that now houses Kolbe Academy.

She said that on her graduation day she never imagined



Bishop Alfred Schlert, left, and Dr. Brooke Tesche lead the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Kolbe Academy, Bethlehem Aug. 26 with, from left: Wendy Krisak, Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator; John Petruzzelli; and board members Linda Johnson and Michael Balsama. (Photos by John Simitz)

she’d be standing in front of the building 45 years later at the opening of the first Catholic recovery school in the nation.

Kolbe Academy – which carries the tagline “Recover,

Succeed, Transform” – is the brainchild of Tesche.

“We are called to be that place – that light of Christ,”

Please see KOLBE page 3 ►►

## IN THIS ISSUE

Because We Are Catholic .....	2
Women’s Conference .....	7
Men’s Conference .....	8
Hurricane Collection .....	8
Young Adult Profiles .....	9
Biking for Vocations .....	12
Parish Pet Blessings .....	12
New Bioethics Column .....	13
Shepton Anniversary.....	14
New Holy Infancy School .....	17
Cathedral Anniversary .....	18

## First Friday Prayer for Vocations Begins

By TARA CONNNOLLY  
Staff writer

A devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Eucharistic adoration and a holy hour drew faithful to Holy Ghost, Bethlehem Sept. 6 to begin a nine-month First Friday Devotion at Holy Ghost to deepen their relationship with the Lord and pray for one another.

Father Mark Searles, director of the Diocesan Office

Please see VOCATIONS page 4 ►►

Father Mark Searles, director of the Diocesan Office for Vocations Promotion, places the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance to prepare for Eucharistic adoration at the First Friday Devotion at Holy Ghost, Bethlehem. (Photos by John Simitz)



## New Catholic Women’s Society of Giving Will Show Power of Women Working Together in Diocese of Allentown

A Catholic Women’s Society of Giving, led by a volunteer executive committee of lay women, is being formed in the Diocese of Allentown.

The new organization will enable women and girls of the Diocese to band together to make an impact on communities served by the Diocese while raising funds for Catholic ministries in Berks, Carbon, Lehigh, Northampton and Schuylkill counties.

“I’m very pleased that the Catholic lay women of our Diocese are joining together to launch this new society,” said Bishop Alfred Schlert. “It’s yet another example of how lay people are making a real difference in our Diocese in so many ways.”

“St. Catharine of Siena wrote, ‘Be who you were created to be, and you will set the world on fire,’” said

Please see WOMEN page 7 ►►





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#### Episcopal Appointments

Bishop of Allentown Alfred Schlert has made the following appointments.  
**Deacon Frederick Lanciano** also to assistant to the director of permanent diaconate formation.  
**Deacon Joseph Cannon** also to assistant to the director of permanent diaconate formation.

## Because We Are Catholic

### A Deacon Assigned to Minister to the Mentally Ill

By PAUL WIRTH  
Diocesan Communications Staff

Every Sunday, when Deacon Christopher May finishes with his duties at one of his two assigned parishes, either Holy Rosary in Reading or Sacred Heart in West Reading, he heads to Wernersville State Hospital to deliver Communion to the patients on the wards.

As one of the psychiatric hospital's chaplains, Deacon May's ministry complements the work of the psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers and others who care for people with serious mental illnesses.

"Much of it is just a ministry of presence," he says, "being with people, being supportive and affirming, and being available to them."

"I let them know that they are valued, that they are made in the image and likeness of God, that their lives have meaning and are worth living, and that they are loved by God."

Service to the poor and disadvantaged is an integral part of a deacon's ministry, says Deacon May.

"I think helping others is somehow ingrained deeply in those who have been formed by the Church," he says. "Little acts of charity like this are possible for all of us in our everyday lives."



*"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](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/bishop-blog).*

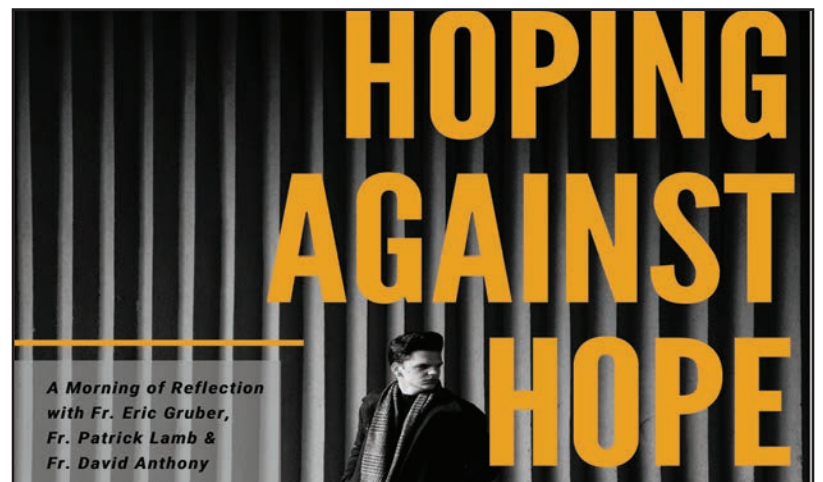
### Men's Morning of Reflection on 'Living the Gospel'

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](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/cfm-spirituality).



#### 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](http://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](http://www.allentowndiocese.org) y haga clic en "Protección de la Juventud" en la parte superior derecha.





# Kolbe

►►Continued from page 1

Bishop Schlert said. He said the school was appropriately named after St. Maximilian Kolbe, the patron saint of people struggling with addiction. "He gave his life for others at Auschwitz. His personal story is one of persistence and embracing the love of Jesus Christ."

"As students walk these halls on their journey forward, may they experience the love of the Lord, inspired by Maximilian Kolbe."

The Bishop thanked all who brought the school to fruition, including School Sisters of St. Francis, the board, faculty, staff, administration, volunteers, Tesche, Petruzzelli and community partners. He also read a message from Pope Francis, and prayed a blessing for the school before presiding at the ribbon cutting.

"What a glorious morning on many levels for all of you," said Ehrlich. She spoke representing James Carroll, director of the U.S. Office of National Drug Control Policy.

"This administration views the disease of addiction as a total priority – we are losing way too many lives," Ehrlich said. "Faith is so important in the recovery process. What I love about this academy is it begins to break away the stigma of this disease."

As DiDomenico addressed those gathered under sun and clouds, she said, "There is hope despite how horrific addiction can be." She noted Kolbe is the first such Catholic affiliated school in Pennsylvania, and the second such school in the Commonwealth.

"With support of high schools such as this we see an individual wrapped in care and love that leads to success."

DiDomenico also referred to a quote by Robert F. Kennedy from an address in Cape Town, South Africa in 1966: "Few will have the greatness to bend history itself, but each of us can work to change a small portion of events."

McClure said a fundamental tenet of his office is "no citizen is left behind."

"Science tells us faith helps us get into recovery and stay in recovery," said McClure, who presented Tesche with a certificate of achievement.

"We are honored to be part of the recovery effort in this county," said Tesche.

"It takes a community of faith to come together to do something like this, something that's never been done before," said Tesche, who expressed deep gratitude to all involved, including the Bishop, and for the support of her husband.

"We stand to build solutions," Tesche said. "Together we've created a dynamic opportunity for students and their families struggling with substance abuse."



Clockwise from left, those gathered listen to Kendall Ehrlich speak during the morning ceremony.

"Science tells us faith helps us get into recovery and stay in recovery," Lamont McClure tells the crowd.

"Faith is so important in the recovery process. What I love about this academy is it begins to break away the stigma of this disease," Kendall Ehrlich tells those gathered.



Sharing that she asked for the Holy Spirit's guidance, Tesche said data shows recovery high schools work. "We're here because we need a recovery high school – that is a scary reality," said Tesche, who lost her godson two years ago to an overdose.

Petruzzelli also thanked the Bishop and everyone involved, and said he was "overwhelmed by the support of all those who are here and those who are not here."

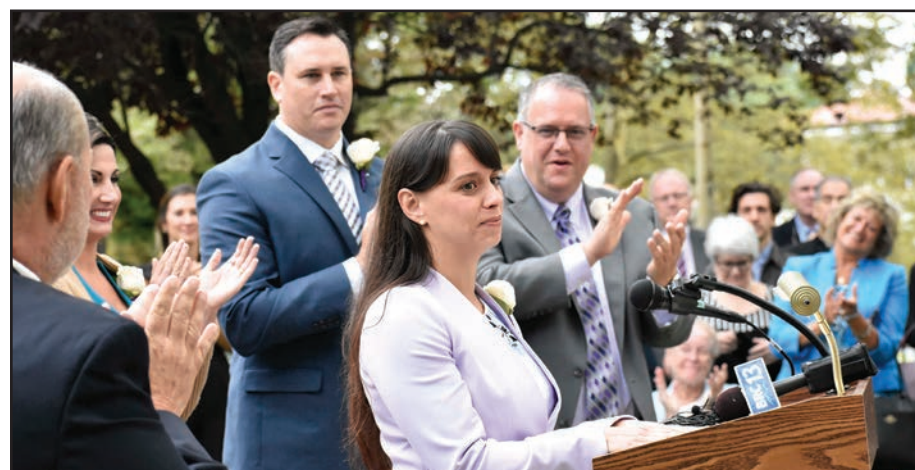
Petruzzelli said he "hit the jackpot" with the people who comprise Kolbe's board and staff, and, as he thanked Tesche for "asking me to be involved with her vision," calling her "a true trailblazer."

Metzger said he was really proud he accepted his position, and has learned a lot this past year from Tesche, Petruzzelli and board members. "Through this process what I admire most is their belief in hope."

"We are blessed with this opportunity," said Coppola, who lost his son to addiction. He said he felt it was one of those "God moments" that led him to be a part of Kolbe.

"I'm proud to celebrate the spirit and reality of Kolbe Academy," said Coppola, who personally dedicated the school to his son. "I imagine he is smiling at the work of so many."

Russo said she was there because she loves education, the Lehigh Valley and is



From left, Dominick Coppola, Ashley Russo, Michael Metzger and John Petruzzelli join the crowd in applauding Brooke Tesche.

Catholic. "I'm also the child of an alcoholic in successful recovery for 37 years."

The ceremony concluded with a performance by Matt Butler, a folk artist, rock 'n' roller and storyteller who was honored as a 2017 Leader in Mental Health Awareness by the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

Butler's newly formed Just One Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that brings music with the message

of recovery to communities most in need. Performances have been brought to treatment facilities, community centers, schools, public demonstrations, as well as jails and prisons.

The event wrapped up with refreshments and tours.

For more information, visit <http://kolbe-academy.com/>, <https://www.facebook.com/KolbeAcademyLV/> or [https://twitter.com/Kolbe\\_Academy](https://twitter.com/Kolbe_Academy).



"We're here because we need a recovery high school – that is a scary reality," Brooke Tesche tells those gathered with the school entrance behind her.



Members of the Knights of Columbus attend the ceremony. Some knights helped paint the school at various times.

More photos on the diocesan website [www.allentowndiocese.org](http://www.allentowndiocese.org) under "Latest News" on the homepage.



## Vocations

►Continued from page 1

for Vocations Promotion, presided at the opening devotion. Assisting was Father David Kozak, pastor of Holy Ghost.

Father Searles welcomed the faithful and said the devotion would continue for nine months – similar to the nine days associated with a novena, which originated from the nine days the apostles spent in prayer before Pentecost.

“I believe that the young people and families in our Diocese are hungry for more time with the Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament. And several commentators and leaders in our Church have spoken that where the Lord’s presence is honored, revered and adored in Eucharistic adoration, the whole Church is lifted up and strengthened,” he said.

“We also will pray for more laborers in the vineyard – especially to the priesthood – and for our own vocation in life.”

The devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, which venerates and honors the heart of Jesus, became widespread through St. Margaret Mary Alacoque in 1675 within the octave of the Feast of Corpus Christi.

“When Jesus spoke to St. Margaret Mary and revealed the beauty and mercy of his heart to her, he spoke of several promises for those who reverence his heart, including an abundance of graces, blessings and even the conversion of the most hardened hearts,” said Father Searles.

“We are in a great time of need for that mercy and grace, and so I believe it is a perfect time to pray this novena, to offer confessions during the holy hour for more people to receive God’s mercy, and to encourage more young people to encounter Christ in silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.”

Father Searles read the 12 Promises of the Sacred Heart of Jesus made to St. Margaret Mary:

“I will give them all the graces necessary for their state in life.

I will establish peace in their families.  
I will comfort them in their trials.



Those attending, including students from DeSales University, Center Valley, kneel in silence during Eucharistic adoration.

I will be their secure refuge during life, and, above all, in death.

I will shed abundant blessings on all their undertakings.

Sinners will find in my heart an infinite ocean of mercy.

Lukewarm souls will become fervent.



Father David Kozak, pastor, offers the homily during the devotions.

Fervent souls will rapidly grow in holiness and perfection.

I will bless every place where an image of my heart shall be exposed and honored.

I will give to priests the gift of touching the most hardened hearts.



Faithful participate in Benediction during the service.

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

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## Position Opening - Maintenance Technician St. Peter the Apostle Church, Reading, PA

St. Peter the Apostle Church, located in Reading, seeks a full-time Parish Maintenance Technician responsible for providing specific routine, preventive and corrective maintenance of the Parish community facilities.

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Position is also responsible for maintaining the grounds including mowing/trimming and trash collection. Candidates must have demonstrated knowledge in the aforementioned facility areas listed with the ability to complete work in a prompt and timely manner. Essential to be self-motivated, the ability to listen, understand, problem solve, and have the capability to work independently and demonstrate initiative.

A minimum of three years facility maintenance experience is preferred. The position reports to the Pastor, no reports and requires a person with excellent interpersonal and communication skills along with maintaining a level of confidentiality. The successful candidate will have the ability to interact professionally with all levels of clergy, religious orders, parishioners, parish and school employees, volunteers, vendors, diocesan contacts etc.

This is a nonexempt full-time position, 40 hours per week, Monday through Friday. Must be available for weekend and weather related on-call emergencies. Benefits include medical, dental, paid time off and pension. Great opportunity to work in a friendly environment and become part of a parish community.

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# Hearing God's Message in Scripture

Catholics and other Christians believe that the Bible is not just a record of the past. God is speaking to each and every one of us today through the words of Sacred Scripture. The Bible is "live communication." This is why Sacred Scripture is a key part of the Church's worship. This is why we are encouraged to prayerfully read and reflect on the Sacred Scriptures on our own.

The challenge, of course, is understanding what we're hearing or reading, and then figuring out what God is saying. This opens the question of how to *interpret* the Bible. It is, in fact, a question that much of the Christian population is *not* asking. We live in a very relativistic culture in which many people essentially believe that the individual can decide what is "true" for him or herself. So it is popular to believe that one can interpret the Bible any way he or she wants.

The problem with this belief is that it empties the Bible of all meaning and leads to all sorts of contradictions. What if two people claim two contradictory meanings for the same biblical text? How can I be sure my interpretation is truly from God, rather than simply *my own personal opinion that I am reading into the text*? When I try to interpret the Bible on my own terms, "God" starts to sound an awful lot like me.

As we mentioned above, the Bible is a form of "live communication" from God. He speaks to each of us personally. This means that a church full of people can all hear the same biblical passage and each person can get something different out of it. The message is not necessarily one-size-fits-all. However, we must return to the question above: how can we be reasonably certain that the message is truly from God and not just one's opinion?

The Catechism of the Catholic Church gives us three simple guidelines to help us interpret Scripture so we can be sure we are truly hearing God's voice (CCC #112-114).

1. Never take anything out of context. We've all heard people try to argue a position by quoting Scripture verses to support it. Sometimes people argue by "dueling Scripture verses" — one person quotes a verse to support his point, the other person counters with a different verse to support his opposing view.

There can be no end to this, because when we take things out of context we can make Scripture say whatever we want. This is a misuse of Scripture. We should be listening to what God actually says in the words of the Bible, not using his words as a mere weapon to defend positions we've already decided on.

Never take anything out of context. When we take things out of context, it becomes easy to misinterpret the text, or we simply fail to hear the entire message. If this guideline applies to everyday conversation and other types of human communication, all the more so for God's Word.

One verse of Scripture does not give the final word on a given topic. One passage, even one entire book of the Bible, does not say everything there is to say about a given topic. Various parts of Scripture shed light on each other. The Bible is a unified whole, and this is how we must approach it to hear God's message.

2. Read the Bible in harmony with the Church's Tradition. One of the ways Catholicism differs from much of Protestant Christianity is that we believe the Bible cannot stand alone as a source of revelation. God not only speaks to us through the Bible; the Holy Spirit also dwells in the Church and speaks to us through the Church's Tradition. The Spirit guides the leaders of the Church as they face the challenge of applying our faith to new questions and problems in every age.

The Bible alone cannot possibly contain all the answers. The Bible says nothing explicit about how a Christian should use social media or about the morality of the newest forms of medical technology. But

By Father Kevin Bobbin,  
chaplain at Lafayette College,  
Easton and Bethlehem Catholic High School.



this does not mean God is silent on these matters. He guides us through the Church's Tradition. Like the Bible, this is also a form of "live communication" from God.

If one were to propose an interpretation of a biblical text that contradicts something in the Church's Tradition, it is not an authentic interpretation. God speaks to us through both Scripture and Tradition. They harmonize and shed light on each other. God does not contradict himself.

3. Read the Bible in harmony with the "analogy of faith." The catechism uses this phrase "analogy of faith" simply to refer to the inner coherence among the truths of our faith. In other words, the more we learn about our faith, based on what God has revealed to us, the more it makes sense. The individual truths of our faith help to explain each other. They fit together like a puzzle.

Therefore, similar to guidelines #1 and 2, the way we interpret Scripture must harmonize with the overall picture, so to speak. If one were to suggest an interpretation of a biblical text that does not seem to agree with other elements of our faith and morality, it is not authentically from God. If a puzzle piece does not fit, it doesn't belong.

There is no secret to interpreting Sacred Scripture. These three guidelines are really a matter of common sense (or, at least they should be). As we read, listen to and reflect on the words of the Bible, we can be confident that the message is no mere personal opinion, no mere human idea, but truly God's Word.

## Beef 'n Beer 'n Water

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Open house at St. John's 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM  
Free and open to the public  
Featuring exhibits; church tour; baked goods, e.g. strudels and kiffles

"The STEEPLES AND STEEL TOUR is a fantastic time filled with great food, fun facts, and the fascinating history of the great city of Bethlehem. 'Two thumbs up' as we say in Hollywood! Don't miss it."

Daniel Roebuck  
Actor/Director/Lehigh Valley Native

Steeple and Steel June 29, 2019

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# Diocesan Women's Conference – Hurry, Register Now

Last chance to register.  
The Diocese of Allentown is hosting its third annual women's conference Saturday, Oct. 5 from 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. at DeSales University, Center Valley, beginning with a Holy Mass celebrated by Bishop Alfred Schlert.  
The cost is adults \$40, high school students \$10, and college students and vowed/consecrated religious \$15.  
The theme "Women: Chosen for a Purpose" will feature presentations by nationally known speakers Dr. Edward

Sri, Sarah Christmyer, Sister Sophia Marie Peralta, S.C.C. (Spanish track), and Martha Fernández-Sardina (Spanish track).  
The day will include a continental breakfast, lunch, confession, adoration and exhibitors.  
For more information and to register, no later than Sept. 25, visit [www.allentowndiocese.org/womens-conference](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/womens-conference).  
For questions, call 610-289-8900 ext. 2021 or email [adultformation@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:adultformation@allentowndiocese.org).

## Conferencia Diocesana de Mujeres – Apresúrate Regístrate Ahora

Última oportunidad para inscribirse  
La Diócesis de Allentown está organizando su tercera conferencia anual de mujeres el sábado 5 de octubre de 2019 en la Universidad DeSales de 9 a.m. a 4:15 p.m., comenzando con la Santa Misa celebrada por el obispo Alfred A. Schlert.  
El costo es de \$40 adulto, \$10 estudiantes antes de secundaria, \$15 estudiantes universitarios y religiosas.  
El tema es "Mujeres: elegidas para un propósito" contara con la presencia de la

Hna. Sophia Marie Peralta, S.C.C. y Martha Fernández-Sardina.  
El día incluirá un desayuno continental, almuerzo, confesión, adoración y expositores.  
Para obtener más información y para registrarse antes del 25 de septiembre, visite [www.allentowndiocese.org/womens-conference](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/womens-conference).  
Para preguntas, llame al 610-289-8900 ext. 2025 o envíe un correo electrónico a [adultformation@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:adultformation@allentowndiocese.org).

## Women

►►Continued from page 1

Patricia Huck, a member of the executive committee.  
"She demonstrated the power of women working together in her own community. We can do the same thing in the Diocese of Allentown."  
"Our goal is to enroll at least one hundred members who can stay in touch during the year to learn more about Catholic ministries and community needs," said Millie Scarbinsky, a member of the executive committee. "We'll share ideas, serve with one another and decide which projects to fund."  
"In addition to helping our community, the project is really designed to empower, connect, and inspire women and girls to become more involved in philan-

thropic initiatives within the Church."  
The annual membership contribution to the Catholic Women's Society of Giving is \$350. Individuals may purchase memberships for themselves or for others. The funds raised will be distributed as grants to qualified service organizations in the Diocese elected by society members.  
"We hope to secure sponsorships so that younger women, including college, high school and middle school girls, can be part of the effort," said Ginny Downey, from the Diocesan Office of Stewardship and Development.  
The society will be launched in October with an inaugural Mass. More details will be contained in the next issue of The A.D. Times.  
To learn more about the Catholic Women's Society of Giving in the Diocese of Allentown, contact Ginny Downey by email, [gdowney@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:gdowney@allentowndiocese.org) or call 610-871-5200 ext. 2244.

### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Dr. Edward Sri



The Most Reverend  
Alfred A. Schlert  
*Bishop of Allentown (Mass Celebrant)*



Sarah Christmyer



Sr. Sophia Marie Peralta, S.C.C.  
*(Spanish Track)*



Martha Fernández-Sardina  
*(Spanish Session)*



# STANDING FIRM

1 Corinthians 16:13

## — IN OUR FAITH —



### Men's Conference

#### SATURDAY NOVEMBER 23, 2019

DeSales University • 2755 Station Avenue • Center Valley, PA

Keynote Speakers: Father James Greenfield, O.S.F.S., Deacon Isidro Gonzalez (Spanish Track), Sam Guzman, Gus Lloyd, Dr. Ricardo Luzondo, M.D. (Spanish Track), and Dr. Ralph Martin with Rev. Adam Sedar (Mass Celebrant)





For Information and to Register Visit: [www.AllentownDiocese.org/Mens-Conference](http://www.AllentownDiocese.org/Mens-Conference) or Call: 610-289-8900 Ext. 2021

In partnership with DeSales University, Relevant Radio and Stewardship: A Mission of Faith - Sponsored by Schuler Service, Inc.

# MANTENERSE FIRME

1 Corintios 16:13

## — EN NUESTRA FE —



### Conferencia de Hombres

#### Sábado 23 de noviembre de 2019

Universidad DeSales • 2755 Station Avenue • Center Valley, PA

Presentadores principales: Diácono Isidro Gonzalez y Dr. Ricardo Luzondo, M.D. con Rev. Adam Sedar (Celebrante de la Misa).





Para inscribirse y pagar con tarjeta de crédito visite [www.allentowndiocese.org/mens-conference](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/mens-conference) o llame a la Oficina de Asuntos Hispanos al 610-289-8900, Ext. 2025

En colaboración con la Oficina de Asuntos Hispanos y Stewardship: Misión de la Fe - Patrocinado por: Schuler Service, Inc.

## ‘Standing Firm in Our Faith’

Register today to see Dr. Ralph Martin, Father Jim Greenfield, Gus Lloyd and Sam Guzman at “Standing Firm in Our Faith,” the eighth annual Allentown Diocese Men’s Conference, Saturday, Nov. 23 at DeSales University, Center Valley.

In addition to a Vigil Mass, there will be opportunities for adoration and confession.

Presentations in Spanish will be given by Dr. Ricardo Luzondo and Deacon Isidro Gonzalez.

Register by Nov. 13 at [www.allentowndiocese.org/mens-conference](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/mens-conference).

Questions can be directed to [mensconference@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:mensconference@allentowndiocese.org) or 610-289-8900 ext. 2021.

## ‘Firme en Nuestra Fé’

Regístrese hoy y sea parte de la Octava Conferencia Anual para Hombres de la Diócesis de Allentown el sábado 23 de noviembre de este año en la Universidad De Sales.

Estarán con nosotros el Dr. Ricardo Luzondo, conferenciante internacional y el diácono Isidro González.

Además de una misa de vigilia, hab-

rá oportunidades para la adoración del Santísimo y confesión.

Regístrese antes del 13 de noviembre en [www.allentowndiocese.org/mens-conference](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/mens-conference).

Para más información pueden dirigirse a [mensconference@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:mensconference@allentowndiocese.org) o llamando al 610-289-8900 ext. 2025.

## Collection Set for Needs After Hurricane Dorian

Hurricane Dorian’s intensity and slow progress wreaked havoc on parts of Puerto Rico, the Bahamas, and the coastal areas of Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina.

In response to the needs of the victims of Dorian, Bishop Schlert has authorized that a special collection be taken up across the Diocese of Allentown.

Each parish is asked to take up the collection by the end of October at the discretion of the pastor/administrator.

The weekends of Sept. 14-15 and Oct. 20-21 should be avoided because these are the dates for the National Collection for Archdiocese of Military Services and the annual Mission Sunday Collection, respectively.

Proceeds of the Dorian collection should be sent to Jeffrey Buck at the Office for Temporal Services no later than Thursday, Oct. 31.

These funds will be distributed to the victims of Dorian through Catholic Charities USA and Catholic Relief Services.

## 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; online courses \$35. Register at [www.allentowndiocese.org/icf](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/icf).

### 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.

### ICF 103 – The New Testament

This course picks up the story of God’s plan of salvation with an introduction to the Gospels, Apostolic preaching and the origins of the Church, concluding with the conversion, preaching and travels of St. Paul.

Presented online by Father Daniel Kravatz, Monday, Oct. 7 to Sunday, Nov. 3.





## *Spotlight on Members of the Commission for Young Adults*

### **James Maria, Parishioner of St. Ignatius Loyola, Sinking Spring**

By TARA CONNOLLY  
Staff writer

#### **Biographical background**

James Maria, parishioner of St. Ignatius Loyola, Sinking Spring. I was born and have spent the last 30 years in Reading, where I work as a painter and tattoo artist. My wife Abby Maria, our son and I are active members of St. Ignatius.

#### **How were you raised in the faith?**

I was raised by two loving, involved and impressively cooperative co-parents. My mother, an evangelical who attends an Assemblies of God church in the Reading area, raised me in her faith with a deep appreciation for the written word of God, for community and a courageous spirit of evangelization.

My father, now a priest in the Diocese of Allentown, Father John Maria, raised me in his Catholic faith, instilling in me a love for the Church that Christ established, for the rich philosophical tradition, the depth of doctrine and, of course, the sacraments, which were ultimately why I chose to remain Catholic full time rather than just every other weekend.

#### **Why did you accept the opportunity to serve on the commission?**

I accepted the opportunity to serve on the commission for young adults because, like many, I observed a need for the continued formation, the involvement and the active, loving pursuit of an entire generation that is quickly being lost to modernism and moral relativism, a generation scourged more than ever by nihilism, hopelessness, anxiety and depression.

This is a whole segment of the population that I am confident God is actively calling out of darkness and into his light so that he can employ them, not to “reinvent” his Church as previous generations have foolishly endeavored, but to rebuild his Church with the blueprints that Christ and his apostles drew for us.

#### **What are some of the issues you would like to see addressed and why?**

I'd like to see the young adults of our Diocese make return to Christ's Church, primarily because, even in the midst of the muck and mire, it remains the venue for the most profound encounters with transcendent truth, with timeless beauty and with the creator of the universe himself, in and through the live-giving sacraments and the enriching traditions of our Catholic faith.

#### **Why are young adults so important to the future of the Church?**

In a very practical way, the encounter, conversion and reconversion of young adults should be our Church's priority, as they are and will be the next generation entering the years during which they'll have families. Many of my peers' parents were content to heap all of the responsibility in catechizing their children on CCD or religious education programs and (while, frankly, that's not enough and we should work to improve those programs), I fear that even this opportunity will be lost if the next generation of parents lacks a real relationship with Christ, his bride the Church and her teachings.

#### **What do you believe has caused some young adults to drift from the Church and how can the Church reach out to them?**

I think that a lot of the mass exodus of young adults in the Church is a result of poor formation. Many don't know or fully understand why we should stay. A recent Pew poll suggested that less than 30 percent of attending Catholics actually believe in the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Even if we teach our children intellectually that the bread and wine are transubstantiated into the body, blood, soul and divinity of our Lord, are we living lives, conducting liturgies, singing songs and maintaining dispositions that are affirmative of that truth?

If we, as individuals or as a church are not, then we are why they are leaving and God have mercy on us.

While we must accompany our young adults, and all of God's children, we are called to accompany them back to truth, to beauty and to the deposit of faith, protected by Christ's Church.

#### **In light of the clergy abuse crisis, how and why did you remain steadfast in the faith?**

To paraphrase St. Peter, “Lord, to whom else should we go? You alone have the words of everlasting life.” For all of its sinful members, even in the hierarchy), in all of its failures and faults, the Catholic Church has been protected providentially from teaching formal heresy as doctrine.

It is the responsibility of this generation to respond with gratitude to that protection and to make a humble, heartfelt return to God and his Church – to rebuild in the same way that St. Francis of Assisi, St. Teresa of Avila, St. Frances de Sales, St. Ignatius and others reformed from within. God will raise up holy men and women to restore his Church, his bride.



James and Abby Maria

### **Abby Maria, Parishioner of St. Ignatius Loyola, Sinking Spring**

By TARA CONNOLLY  
Staff writer

#### **Biographical background**

Abby (Ross) Maria, 28, parishioner of St. Ignatius Loyola, Sinking Spring. Homeschooled for elementary school and high school. Earned a bachelor of science degree in education from the Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio.

#### **How were you raised in the faith?**

I was raised in a solid Catholic home. My parents were dedicated to my formation and education in faith. They provided a Catholic homeschool education and many opportunities for retreats, youth conferences, and other types of Catholic fellowship. I count myself among a blessed minority who has two passionately Catholic parents, witnessing the beauty and permanency of the sacrament of marriage.

As I approached high school graduation, it became very important to me to attend a Catholic university where I would further grow in my relationship with Christ and his Church through the sacraments, spiritual leadership, community and theology classes. Through my education at Franciscan University, I grew into my adult faith and it has helped me become the person I am today.

#### **Why did you accept the opportunity to serve on the commission?**

When Bishop Schlert invited me to serve on the commission, I was quite honored and excited. I had already met the Bishop on several occasions and was impressed by his orthodoxy, humility and friendliness. I knew that as young adults, we would be heard and respected as we sought to address the needs in the Diocese of Allentown.

#### **What are some of the issues you would like to see addressed and why?**

I would like to see a greater focus and emphasis on the beauty of the Mass in our parishes.

The Mass is literally heaven on earth, and our music, reading of the Scriptures, homilies, and reverence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist should reflect this. Young adults need to encounter this beauty in order to have the conviction to be part of the Catholic Church.

#### **Why are young adults so important to the future of the Church?**

Young adults are so important to the future of the Church because we live in a world that rejects the faith of the Catholic Church more than it did in any previous generation. We are completely counter-cultural, and young adults need formation and conviction so that they have not only desire to raise their children in the faith, but also the adamant dedication it will take to do so.

#### **What do you believe has caused some young adults to drift from the Church and how can the Church reach out to them?**

There are just so many reasons I have heard for why people of my generation leave the Church. I think the vast majority leave because, as I said, the Catholic faith is more counter-cultural than ever before. It is more convenient to live your life outside of the Church and be “free” to make your own decisions without any consequences.

And yet, we see the consequences of such a life in the staggering depression and suicide rates of young people. Without a sufficient education in the truths of the Catholic faith, it is easy to succumb to atheistic philosophies.

I think that many fallen away Catholics never grew into an adult faith, and therefore were unable to use apologetics, philosophy and history to defend their faith when it was put to the test.


The way the Church can reach out to these young adults is through catechesis. This should be in a variety of formats, from theological homilies to guided studies of the Scriptures and early Church fathers, to guest speakers and personal conversations.

#### **In light of the clergy abuse crisis, how and why did you remain steadfast in the faith?**

I will always come back to a solid Catholic education and knowledge of history and philosophy. Before the clergy abuse crisis was exposed, I knew about many other clerical abuses throughout the centuries of Church history. I knew that the Catholic Church had always remained faithful to Christ's teachings despite these abuses and punished the abusers in a much more serious way than we do today.

But mostly, what helped me to remain steadfast in the faith was the conviction that despite the sinful people we have within the Church, it doesn't change the truth that this *is* Christ's Church – that he himself was abandoned by his closest followers during the most difficult moments of his life, and that to abandon him now would simply show my lack of love for him and his truth.





**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, opportunities for Confession, talks by Fr. Mark Searles, and other activities. Lunch will be included and there is no charge to attend.

Please register at [www.allentowndiocese.org/anchored](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/anchored).

For questions, contact Alexa Smith at [asmith@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:asmith@allentowndiocese.org).



## 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](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/anchored).

## Juventutem Lehigh Valley Plans Picnic, Women's Study

Juventutem Lehigh Valley is a local chapter of the Juventutem International Federation, a coalition of young adults whose mission is the sanctification of youth through the traditional means of the Church.

The chapter is hosting its sixth annual Anniversary Picnic Saturday, Sept. 21 from noon to 5 p.m. at Louise Moore Park, Pavilion #3 at 151 Country Club Road, Easton. Everyone is invited to come out and celebrate.

Women in the group are invited to an eight-week women's study this fall to learn about St. Catharine of Siena, organized by one of the officers, Erin Trautmann.

Meetings will be Mondays from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Trautmann's house in Allentown near Muhlenberg College, starting Monday, Sept. 23 and finishing Monday, Nov. 11.

For more details and info on the book, check out the following link: <https://catholicgroups.org/groups/erin-trautmann-s-group>.

The group has committed to spending an hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament every first Thursday from 7:30 to 8:30



p.m. at Sacred Heart, Bath.

The Sacrament of Penance is available beginning at 7 p.m.

For more information, visit Facebook "Juventutem Lehigh Valley" or website [www.juventutemlehighvalley.org](http://www.juventutemlehighvalley.org).

## Young Adult Book Club Plans for Fall

"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.

We'd love to see you at an Inklings book club meeting this fall. Save these dates.

**Thursday, Sept. 26** at 7 p.m. at Hamilton Crossings Whole Foods Cafe, Allentown – If the weather is nice, we'll meet out on the patio, discussing the novel "1984" by George Orwell.

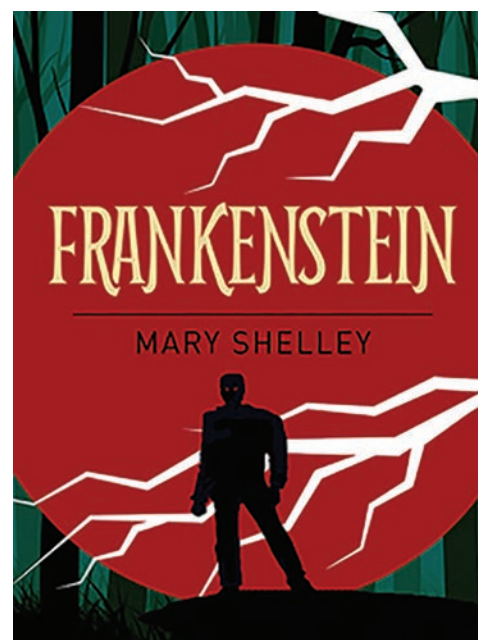
**Thursday, Oct. 31** at 7 p.m. at Hamilton Crossings Whole Foods Cafe, Allentown – A Halloween book club discussion of the classic gothic novel "Frankenstein" by Mary Shelley.

**Friday, Nov. 22** at 7 p.m. at the Promenade Shops Barnes and Noble – How harmless are little white lies? This month we're discussing the short story "Was It Heaven? Or Hell?" by Mark Twain.

Follow the group on Facebook and Instagram @lehighvalleyinklins.

Get text message reminders about upcoming meetings. Sign up by texting @lvinklins to the number 81010 or use this link: [remind.com/join/lvinklins](https://remind.com/join/lvinklins).

Contact: [lehighvalleyinklins@gmail.com](mailto:lehighvalleyinklins@gmail.com).



## 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. 14 – Marian High School, Tamqua.

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](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/cff).



**Join us!**

**Diocese of Allentown**

**GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**September 30, 2019**

**Steel Club • 700 Linden Ave • Hellertown, PA**

*Proceeds to benefit Seminarian and Catholic School Education*

For more information contact Michele Mullikin at [mmullikin@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:mmullikin@allentowndiocese.org) or at 610-871-5200 x2282.





*The Vatican International Exhibition*  
*presents*  
**EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES  
OF THE WORLD**



A photographic exhibit showcasing the Eucharistic Miracles that transpired through the years, first observed in 750AD in Lanciano, Italy!

Learn about the various scientific and medical tests and studies performed in numerous countries that all point to the same divine conclusion: they are visible proof of Jesus Christ's Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist.

*There is no cost to visit this exhibit and it is open to the public.*

**Saturday, September 28, 2019 - 3:30pm to 7:30pm**  
**Sunday, September 29, 2019 - 8am to 2pm**  
**Sacred Heart School Gymnasium**  
**701 Franklin Street, West Reading, PA**

**Saturday, October 5, 2019 - 3:30pm to 7:30pm**  
**Sunday, October 6, 2019 - 8am to 2pm**  
**Holy Rosary Church**  
**237 Franklin Street, Reading, PA**  
**Lower Level**

*Sponsored by*  
*The Real Presence Eucharistic Education and Adoration Association,*  
*www.therealpresence.org*  
*and hosted by*  
*The Knights of Columbus, Monsignor Bornemann Council #16066*  
*Sacred Heart Church and Holy Rosary Church*



## 4 Reasons to Buy Life Insurance

► You don't want to gamble with your family's financial future. As great as you might feel today, everything can change in an instant. Ask yourself this question, "Would my loved ones suffer financially if I died tomorrow?" If the answer is "yes," you need life insurance. It's that simple.

► The longer you wait, the more expensive it will be. Premiums rise as you get older. The longer you wait, the greater the chance you may encounter an illness or

accident that could severely limit or even eliminate the possibility of buying life insurance.

► If you put it off, you may never get to it. Face it, we all procrastinate. Especially when it comes to dealing with uncomfortable subjects like your death or declining health. It's best to confront these topics now, while you still can. Life is uncertain. Tomorrow may be too late.

► It's never been more affordable. We offer a number of products, and one is sure to fit your needs and budget.

### Don't let these 5 excuses stop you from getting the life insurance you need

#### Excuses. Think about this...

##### *It's too expensive.*

Not having adequate coverage could be more costly to your family.

##### *I haven't gotten around to it.*

There are no guarantees in life, so don't procrastinate.

##### *I prefer to put my money elsewhere.*

Might work if you're sure you're going to live a nice long life.

##### *I worry about making the wrong decision.*

A qualified insurance professional can answer all your questions and guide you through the buying process.

##### *The coverage I have through my employer is sufficient.*

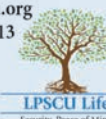
Typically, employers provide a modest amount of coverage, and you can't take it with you if you leave your job.

- Rates "lock-in" at the age you enroll - never go up again!
- Proceeds paid directly to your beneficiary.
- Builds cash value.
- Policy cannot be canceled because of changes in health
- Choose from Whole Life, Single, 3-Pay, 5-Pay, 10-Pay, 15-Pay, 20-Pay or 20 Year Endowment
- Payment options include monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual
- Payments can be automatically deducted from your checking/savings account

#### Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union

Check out our website [www.lpscua.org](http://www.lpscua.org)  
Contact us by calling 570-823-3513  
or toll-free 888-834-6614  
or e-mail us at [lpscua@lpscua.org](mailto:lpscua@lpscua.org)

*Serving our members since 1898!*



**Diocese  
of  
Allentown**

## Pre-Need selections are available at Diocesan Cemeteries



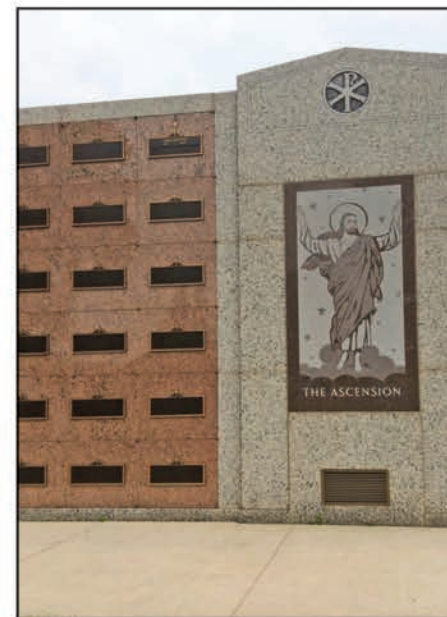
**Holy Savior Cemetery**  
**2575 Linden Street**  
**Bethlehem, PA 18017**

**Resurrection Cemetery**  
**547 N. Krocks Road**  
**Allentown, PA 18106**

Please contact the cemetery to speak with one of our knowledgeable Family Services Representatives. Pre-Need selections can alleviate the stress of making interment arrangements at the time of need.

**The Mausoleum at Holy Saviour and Resurrection Cemeteries.**  
*Inspirational beauty in an affordable, peaceful Catholic setting....*  
*right here in your home diocese.*

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**610-866-2372 ext 1**  
**[www.allentowndiocesecemeteries.org](http://www.allentowndiocesecemeteries.org)**





# Diocesan Seminarian Rides for 'Biking for Vocations' in Philly

By TAMI QUIGLEY  
Staff Writer

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia put a new spin on raising awareness of vocations this summer, and one seminarian from the Diocese of Allentown was along for the ride.

Anh Do Mai, second year college student at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Philadelphia, participated in the Archdiocese's "Biking for Vocations," a 150-mile biking pilgrimage Aug. 8-12 throughout the Archdiocese to bring awareness of vocations.

Seminarians hit the road during those five days to share the message about religious vocations.

Starting from the seminary, they stopped at St. Maximilian Kolbe, West Chester; St. Joseph, Downingtown; St. Teresa of Avila, Norristown; St. Eleanor, Collegeville; St. Rose of Lima, North Wales; St. Agnes, Sellersville, where they celebrated Sunday liturgies; Our Lady of Guadalupe, Doylestown; St. Andrew, Newtown; and St. Catharine of Siena, Horsham.

Parish visits included Mass, holy hours, prayer services and vocation/witness stories offered by seminarians, some of whom updated their progress on Facebook Live.

Mai joined seven seminarians from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia on the trek.

Mai is the son of Dieu Mai (father) and Nhung Pham (mother), and said he was very thankful for his parent's support over the summer in various ways. "They even encouraged me to take off work so that I can properly train and pray in preparation for the pilgrimage."

A parish son of St. Paul, Reading, Mai said he wanted to participate in the event because "I did not want to miss out on such an opportunity for evangelizing and speaking to people about vocation."

"Although I am not from the Philadelphia Archdiocese, I have worked with Father DeLacy before – he played a big role in my discernment – and so naturally I wanted to work with him again," said Mai referring to

Father Stephen DeLacy, the Archdiocese's director of the Vocation Office for the Diocesan Priesthood.

"I was astounded by the hospitality of everyone involved – the parishioners, pastors, priests, seminarians and all those from the Vocation Office. You can tell that a lot of effort and sacrifice were made for the success of the event. Nonetheless, every parish was exuding joy, excitement and compassion.

"I feel like I have received more than given. More love from everyone. More love from God. It was challenging physically and mentally every day. I truly felt that God was sustaining all of us. And his divine providence was even more evident with the liveliness of every parish we visited."

"Throughout this five-day Biking for Vocations pilgrimage, the seminarians shared their love of Christ and his Church, and their strong belief and personal witness that God continues to call men to the priesthood," said Susan Matour, associate director of the Archdiocesan Vocation Office and former director of the Allentown Diocesan Office of Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry.

"By sharing themselves so generously with all they encountered – through their vocation stories, conversations and parish gatherings, as well as serving Masses and Holy Hours – they helped create and foster a culture of vocations.

"By their witness, our hope is that the youth and young adults that they encountered will continue to listen for the voice of God in their lives and come to learn what plan God has for their lives."

Seminarian Martin "Tucker" Brown, who enjoys bike riding, had the idea for the biking pilgrimage. The event also familiarized Brown, who hails from Pittsburgh, with the region.

Information on Biking for Vocations can be found at <https://heedthecall.org/bikingforvocations/>; <https://www.facebook.com/PhillyPriest/>; <https://www.instagram.com/phillypriest/>; and [https://twitter.com/Philly\\_Priest](https://twitter.com/Philly_Priest).



Above, diocesan seminarian Anh Do Mai, center, gets rolling at the kickoff of "Biking for Vocations" Aug. 8 at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Philadelphia. (Photo by Sarah Webb)



Left, Mai shares his vocation story before one of the Holy Hours. (Photo by Susan Matour)



## Pet Blessings Scheduled at Parishes for Your Furry, Flying and Scaly Friends

The following parishes have announced pet blessings in early October, in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi (1181-1226).

Born Giovanni di Pietro di Bernardone, informally named Francesco, he was an Italian Catholic friar, deacon and preacher. He founded the men's Order of Friars Minor, the women's Order of St. Clare, the Third Order of St. Francis and the Custody of the Holy Land.

He is the patron saint of the environment and animals because he loved all creatures and allegedly preached to even the birds. His feast day is Oct. 4.

Please use leashes and cages as needed.

### Tuesday, Oct. 1

St. Charles Borromeo, Ashland, 9 a.m.

### Wednesday, Oct. 2

St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Whitehall,

church parking lot, 7:45 a.m.

### Thursday, Oct. 3

St. Francis of Assisi, Allentown, parking lot, 6:30 p.m.

### Friday, Oct. 4

Holy Family, Nazareth, gym parking lot, leashed animals, 10:45 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

Holy Guardian Angels, Reading, 8:15 a.m.

St. Anne, Bethlehem, 2 p.m.

### Saturday, Oct. 5

Assumption BVM, Bethlehem, St. Francis courtyard, 11 a.m.

Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown, back parking lot, 10 a.m.

Notre Dame of Bethlehem, at Blessed Mother Grotto, 1 p.m.

St. Catharine of Siena, Reading, at the Pavilion, 4:30 p.m.

St. John Baptist de la Salle, Shillington, upper parking lot, 11 a.m.

St. Joseph, Summit Hill, 10:15 a.m.

St. Nicholas, Walnutport, church parking lot, 10 a.m.

St. Patrick, Pottsville, in Calvary Cemetery, 10 a.m.

St. Peter the Fisherman, Lake Harmony, 10 a.m.

St. Teresa of Calcutta, Mahanoy City, rectory courtyard, 10 a.m. weather permitting.

St. Theresa of the Child Jesus, Hellertown, near Fatima and St. Theresa shrines, 10 a.m.

### Sunday, Oct. 6

All Saints, McAdoo, noon.

Assumption BVM, Northampton, rectory yard, noon (no snakes).

Divine Mercy Parish, Shenandoah, at St. Casimir Church playground, 11:30

a.m.

Our Lady Help of Christians, Allentown, 1:30 p.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes worship site, Weatherly, noon.

Queenship of Mary, Northampton, noon.

St. Ambrose, Schuylkill Haven, 12:30 p.m.

St. Ann, Emmaus, noon.

St. Columbkil, Boyertown, 12:30 p.m.

St. John Fisher, Catasauqua, between church and rectory, 1 p.m. weather permitting.

St. Peter, Coplay, church grounds, 1 p.m.

St. Ursula, Fountain Hill, rear parking lot, noon.

### Sunday, Oct. 13

Assumption BVM, Slatington, church parking lot, noon.

## Eucharistic Miracles to be Exhibited in Reading

The Vatican International Eucharistic Miracle Exhibition on "Eucharistic Mir-

acles of the World" will be presented at two locations in Reading:

Sacred Heart School, 701 Franklin St., West Reading, gymnasium – Saturday, Sept. 28, 3:30 to 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, Sept. 29, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Holy Rosary Church, 237 Franklin St., Reading, lower level – Saturday, Oct. 5, 3:30 to 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, Oct. 6, 8

a.m. to 2 p.m.

The exhibit features photographs showcasing the Eucharistic miracles that transpired through the years, first observed in 50 A.D. in Lanciano, Italy.

Visitors can learn about the scientific and medical tests and studies performed that all point to the same divine conclusion: they are visible proof of Jesus

Christ's Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist.

The exhibits are being hosted by Knights of Columbus Monsignor Bornemann Council 16066; Sacred Heart Church, West Reading; and Holy Rosary Church, Reading.

There is no cost to visit and it is open to the public.



# Milagros Eucarísticos

Por DIÁCONO JOSÉ SANTOS

Cada vez más, se multiplican los milagros eucarísticos. Dios Trinitario, hace posible cada día que por medio de los sacerdotes se realice el milagro de la transubstanciación.

El Padre celestial, que envió el maná al pueblo de Israel en el desierto, durante cuarenta años; hoy por medio de la invocación del Espíritu Santo en la celebración, hace presente a Jesús Eucaristía. Yo soy el Pan Vivo bajado del cielo, Jesús se muestra visible en el Pan Eucarístico.

Los milagros eucarísticos prueban, lo que anunciamos por la fe en cada celebración de la Eucaristía. El pan se convierte en la Carne, y el vino se convierte en la Sangre. De la Carne brota Sangre, porque el corazón de Jesús está Vivo y late como el tuyo y el mío.

Jesús acompaña sus palabras con numerosos “milagros, prodigios y signos” que manifiestan que el Reino está presente en El. Ellos atestiguan que Jesús es el Mesías anunciado. Los signos que lleva a cabo Jesús testimonian que el Padre le ha enviado. Invitan a creer en Jesús. Con-

cede lo que le piden a los que acuden a él con fe. Por tanto, los milagros fortalecen la fe en Aquel que hace las obras de su Padre: éstas testimonian que él es Hijo de Dios. Pero también pueden ser “ocasión de escándalo.”

No pretenden satisfacer la curiosidad ni los deseos mágicos. A pesar de tan evidentes milagros, Jesús es rechazado por algunos; incluso se le acusa de obrar movido por los demonios (CIC 547-548).

Yo creo en la presencia real de Jesús en la Eucaristía. En numerosas ocasiones a lo largo de mi vida, he tenido experiencias personales por la gracia de Dios que reafirman mi fe y me llevan a testimoniar que al recibir cada hostia consagrada, Jesús realmente está vivo en la Eucaristía.

Los milagros de la multiplicación de los panes, cuando el Señor dijo la bendición, partió y distribuyó los panes por medio de sus discípulos para alimentar la multitud, prefiguran la sobreabundancia de este único pan de su Eucaristía. El signo del agua convertida en vino en Caná anuncia ya la Hora de la glorificación de Jesús. Manifiesta el cumplimiento del banquete de las bodas en el Reino del



Padre, donde los fieles beberán el vino nuevo convertido en Sangre de Cristo (CIC 1335).

Muchos son los milagros eucarísticos, que han sucedido a lo largo de la historia de la Iglesia. Por medio de ellos, Dios tiene un propósito común, edificar la fe de las personas que dudan de la presencia viva y real de Jesús Eucaristía. Uno de ellos, el Milagro Eucarístico de Lanciano en Italia, sucedió en el siglo octavo: El sacerdote en cuya mano sucedió, confesó haber dudado de la presencia real de Jesús en el sacramento. Las hostias se convirtieron en carne y el vino en la sangre. Las mismas se conservan hasta el día de hoy después de muchos siglos.

El Doctor Ricardo Castañón, ex ateo y científico, autorizado por la Iglesia, ha llevado a diferentes laboratorios muestras de los milagros y han determi-

nado lo siguiente: la Carne es músculo del corazón, músculo del miocardio del ventrículo izquierdo.

La Sangre es tipo AB coinciden con la sangre encontrada en la Sábana de Turín en Jerusalén, es la misma sangre del milagro que ocurrió en Lanciano siglo 8vo, también es la misma y tipo del milagro Eucarístico de Argentina en el año 1996. La Hostia analizada en laboratorio especial, muestra que las células están vivas, es corazón vivo que late.

El corazón de Jesús, en la imagen, muestra llamas vivas de amor por ti y por mí, ¡Está vivo su corazón! Su Amor es Eterno y quiere salvar a los pecadores, todos necesitamos a Jesús hoy, mañana y siempre; búscalo, recíbelo en la Eucaristía cada domingo, cada día si puedes. Él te ama y quiere lo mejor para ti. ¡Gloria a Dios, te amo Jesús!

# Contradictory Suicide Messaging

*“Making Sense Out of Bioethics” is a column by Father Dr. Tadeusz Pacholczyk that will be running monthly in The A.D. Times. He earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, Massachusetts, and serves as director of education at the National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia, [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org).*

In July 2014, police found the body of 18-year-old Conrad Roy inside his truck in Fairhaven, Massachusetts, having died from carbon monoxide poisoning.

As the case unfolded, it became apparent that a friend of his, 17-year-old Michelle Carter, had encouraged him toward suicide. In a series of texts, she repeatedly pressured him to go through with it by sending messages like, “You keep pushing it off and say you’ll do it but u never do. It’s always gonna be that way if u don’t take action.”

As he sat in a remote spot in the Kmart parking lot, the truck’s cab filling up with fumes, he got cold feet and stepped out of his makeshift death chamber, seemingly conflicted about what he was doing. He then spoke with Michelle by phone, who coaxed him to continue the suicide.

The call was not recorded, but months after his death, she texted another friend and recounted how Conrad had grown scared at the last moment, climbing out of the truck, and that she had told him to get back in. She then listened over the phone as he succumbed to the fumes 47 minutes later.

Following a high profile trial that received extensive media coverage, Michelle was convicted of involuntary manslaughter and sentenced to 2½ years behind bars, of which she has to serve a minimum of 15 months. Prosecutors claimed that her motive may have been to gain attention and sympathy as the “grieving girlfriend.”

The case drew intense national and international attention, partly because it involved a relationship that had played out mostly through texts and Facebook messages. Even though Michelle and Conrad lived less than an hour apart, they rarely met in person.

As Michelle was led away from the trial in handcuffs, the court of public opinion was virtually unanimous in condemning her actions as reprehensible. Her actions and the trial proceedings, however, also opened up broader questions about provocation toward suicide in a society like ours that increasingly devalues human life. In fact, the public reaction to Michelle’s behavior reveals a striking irony at the heart of Conrad’s suicide.

The irony involves the moral outrage that surfaced regarding Michelle’s text messages. Similar indignation about encouraging someone to commit suicide is, paradoxically, almost entirely absent when it comes to “physician-assisted” suicide.

Michelle’s text messages embraced the same key ideas that lawmakers in nine states have now enacted through legislation, namely, that it’s sometimes

## Making Sense Out of Bioethics

Fr. Tad Pacholczyk



allowable to encourage and participate in suicide. Most legislation, however, only permits those in the medical field, those dressed in white lab coats, as it were, to be involved.

This requirement seems quite arbitrary, of course, if the real goal is to alleviate suffering by eliminating the sufferer. After all, Michelle was convinced she was acting compassionately by assisting Conrad to escape from what she claimed was his misery, depression and intense emotional and psychological suffering.

Who is to say that Michelle was wrong if the white lab coats are right? If it were deplorable for Michelle Carter to facilitate Conrad Roy’s suicide, how can it be good for physicians and other health care workers to facilitate the suicides of their ailing patients who are at least as fragile and vulnerable as Conrad was?

This remarkable moral schizophrenia may soon be enshrined in a new piece of legislation that claims to outlaw participation in a person’s suicide. Massachusetts state lawmakers and Conrad’s family gathered in July 2019 at the Statehouse to introduce Conrad’s Law, a bill making

it a crime to encourage or assist a person in taking his or her life.

On the face of it, the law obviously seems like a sensible piece of legislation, but even as lawmakers were trying to stop people from assisting at suicides like Conrad Roy’s, they were simultaneously seeking to protect medical personnel who might assist at the suicides of their patients.

The double standard was impossible to miss, with Conrad’s Law including an explicit subsection exempting those involved in physician-assisted suicide from prosecution. Even though physician-assisted suicide is not yet legal in the Massachusetts Commonwealth, another bill promoting it is under active consideration by the legislature.

Society really can’t have it both ways, glamorizing the act of suicide in some cases and demonizing it in others. By yielding to the proposition that suicide is not an evil to be repudiated, but a form of “relief” to be conferred on those who suffer, we effectively abandon our neighbors, the Conrads and countless others, in their moment of greatest need.

# Diocese Ministries Aided in Their Mission with Trexler Trust Grants

General Harry C. Trexler was a visionary entrepreneur and philanthropist whose generous bequest has been providing benefits to the citizens of Lehigh County for more than 80 years.

The Harry C. Trexler Trust recently provided \$175,000 in grants to several ministries of the Diocese of Allentown to help these diocesan entities with their mission of caring for the needy in our community.

One grant will help Catholic Charities care for the homeless and the struggling,

and will assist the agency in providing immigration services.

Another grant will assist Holy Family Manor, Bethlehem in providing compassionate care for elderly residents in financial need.

Also, a grant will fund scholarships for needy students attending Allentown Central Catholic High School.

We thank the trustees and are proud to be among those in our community entrusted with grants to help make Lehigh County a better place to live.

## Upcoming Issues of The A.D. Times

Publication Date	Advertising Deadline	News Deadline
<b>2019</b>		
Oct. 3	Sept. 23	Sept. 26
Oct. 17	Oct. 7	Oct. 10
Oct. 31	Oct. 21	Oct. 24
Nov. 14	Nov. 4	Nov. 7
Nov. 28	Nov. 18	Nov. 21
Dec. 19	Dec. 9	Dec. 12
<b>2020</b>		
Jan. 9	Dec. 30	Jan. 2
Jan. 23	Jan. 13	Jan. 16
Feb. 6	Jan. 27	Jan. 30



# St. Joseph, Sheppton to Commemorate 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

By TARA CONNOLLY  
Staff writer

St. Joseph, Sheppton, now in its third century of cultivating the faith with a rich history beginning with a group of men inspired to construct the church and later overcoming a devastating fire, will observe its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary Sunday, Sept. 22.

Bishop of Allentown Alfred Schlert will be principal celebrant of the Mass of Thanksgiving at 3 p.m. Concelebrants will be Pastor Father Dominic Pham, previous pastors and diocesan priests.

The parish came to fruition in 1894 when a group of men recognized the need for a place of worship where the faithful could practice and enrich their faith.

The men mainly accountable for the organization were Joseph Repko, Andrew Macus, Rafael Recla, Andrew Volansky, Andrew Titelage, Michael Novatnak, Samuel Kalkley, Andrew Klein and Mr. Fidlic. Until the church was built, Mass was celebrated in Recla's Hall, Sheppton.

Together, the men constructed the original church structure on the corner of East Oak and Shepp streets. Father John Pribyl, a priest assigned to St. Joseph,

Hazleton – part of the Scranton Diocese – administered the sacraments and celebrated Mass for the early parishioners who were part of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Father Joseph Kasperek, then-pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption, McAdoo and a priest for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, began visiting the parish every

Sunday and holy days to administer to the spiritual needs of the people.

The church was consecrated Aug. 15, 1895. The first Mass was celebrated by Father Kasperek in April 1896 before he was appointed the parish's first pastor in May 1896.

Faithful were anxious to establish their parish. Statues of the Blessed Virgin and St. Anthony, pews, and an organ were donated by local faithful.

The parish flourished until March 19, 1940, when the faithful gathered to commemorate the feast of St. Joseph – their parish patron. An hour after the celebration, the church was destroyed by fire.

Almost immediately, the people and the pastor began to build a new stone church. The cornerstone was laid Nov. 28, 1940 with nearly 200 people witnessing.

The new edifice measured 54 feet wide and 94 feet long outside, with seating for an estimated 250 people. It was built of quartzite, which parishioners personally hauled by truck from local riverbeds.

On Christmas morning, Mass was celebrated at 5 a.m. for the first time in the new edifice, even though the building was not yet completed. A Solemn High Mass on March 19, 1941 marked the completion of the new church built by the congregation. Blessings of the new church took place Nov. 27, 1941 during a Solemn High Mass.

Over the years, the church underwent extensive repair and refurbishment with

installation of cushion kneelers, terrazzo floor and an altar platform. The structure also received roof repairs, aluminum siding, carpeting in the sanctuary, electric heating system, loudspeaker system and wrought-iron altar railing.

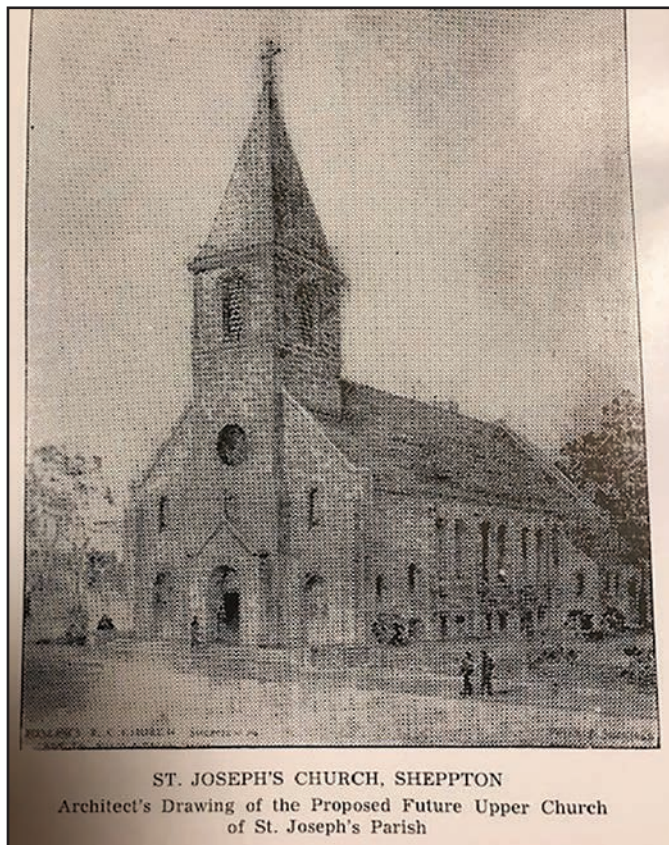
In 1971 the church added Schulmerich Carillon bells commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the church. The beautiful hymns played on the Carillon are a source of edification to many residents in both Sheppton and Oneida. The Carillon rings for the Angelus three times daily, and before Mass on Sundays and for holy days.

The parish underwent another series of remodeling and refurbishing projects to the church, chapel and rectory in the 1980s and '90s.

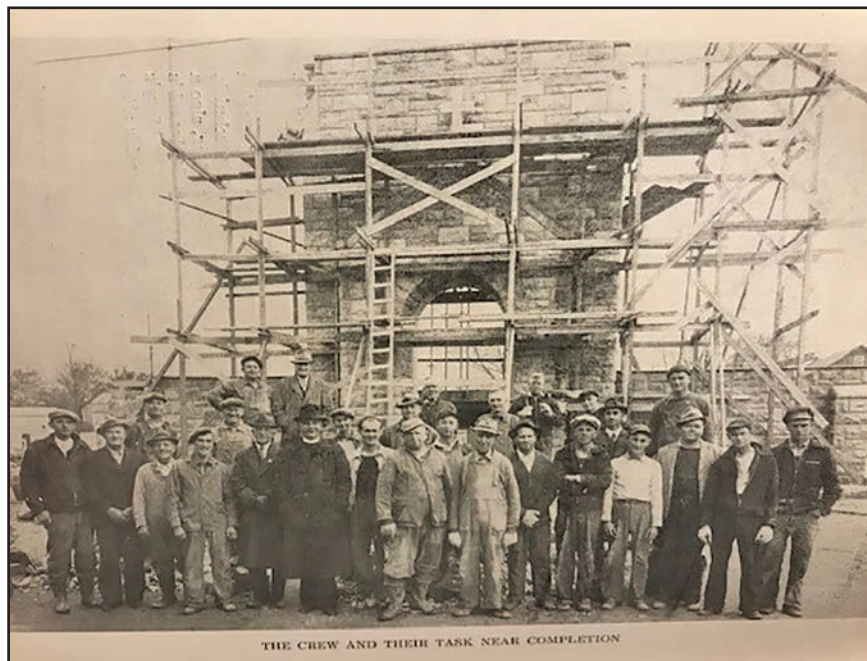
Using religious elements from St. John the Baptist Chapel, Oneida – which formerly served the faithful in that region a chapel was created in the parish rectory.

The first daily Mass was celebrated Feb. 5, 2013 in the rectory chapel. Daily Mass continues to be held in the rectory chapel, which provides for a sense of closeness among those attending Mass, as well as cost efficiency for heating and cooling.

After the Mass of Thanksgiving, a reception will be held at Capriotti's, 1 Banks Ave., McAdoo. Cocktails begin at 4:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$40 and can be purchased by calling the rectory, 570-384-7804.



ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, SHEPPTON  
Architect's Drawing of the Proposed Future Upper Church  
of St. Joseph's Parish



Left, a drawing of St. Joseph, Sheppton gives a visual of the parish structure that was consecrated in 1895.

Above, parishioners gather around the second St. Joseph structure that was constructed after a fire destroyed the building.



The current St. Joseph structure seats an estimated 250 faithful.

## Healing Mass Set for Oct. 28

On Monday, Oct. 28 at 6:30 p.m. there will be a Mass Celebrating the Lord's Comfort and Healing Love.

All are invited to join in prayer at this Mass with Bishop of Allentown Alfred Schlert as celebrant and homilist at St. Mary Church, 94 Walnut Road, Ham-

burg.

After Mass there will be a Holy Hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and the opportunity for confession. The evening will conclude with Benediction at 8:30 p.m.

## Misa de Sanación

El lunes 28 de octubre a las 6:30 p.m. habrá una misa que celebrará el consuelo del Señor y el amor curativo.

Todos están invitados a participar en la oración en esta misa con el muy Reverendo Alfred A. Schlert como celebrante y

homilista en la Parroquia Santa Maria, 94 Walnut Rd, Hamburg, PA 19526.

Después de la Misa habrá una hora Santa de oración ante el Santísimo y la oportunidad de confesiones. La noche concluirá con la Bendición a las 8:30 p.m.

## St. Anne School Bethlehem Awarded \$25,000 Stabler Grant for Aquinas Learning Support Scholarships

St. Anne School, Bethlehem was recently awarded a \$25,000 grant by the Donald B. and Dorothy L. Stabler Foundation for scholarship support for students enrolled in the Aquinas Learning Support Program for students diagnosed with learning disabilities.

"We are so grateful for this financial support for our students in need," said Principal Karen Bentz.

"Everyone deserves the chance to learn and grow in their education. All students learn differently and these funds will directly support Aquinas students whose families are not financially blessed."

A previous Stabler Foundation Grant enabled St. Anne School to open a second

Aquinas Learning Support classroom to meet growing need for student support.

The Aquinas Learning Support Program, the only elementary program offered in Northampton County, is provided in partnership with the Diocese of Allentown.

The program offers one-on-one and small groups instruction at a student's grade level in reading and math, while they continue to take part in daily grade level classroom for all other subjects.

Students receive classroom support as needed from the Aquinas teaching staff.

For more information, contact Eileen Brida at 610-868-4182 or ebrid@stannebethlehem.org.



# 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](mailto: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](mailto:adtimes@allentowndiocese.org) or call 610-871-5200, ext. 2264.*

**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.  
National Collection for Archdiocese of Military Services, also Sunday, Sept. 15.

**Sunday, Sept. 15**  
Breakfast, Knights of Columbus, St. Ignatius Loyola, Sinking Spring, school hall, 8 a.m.-noon, adults \$8, children 6-12 \$4, under 6 free.  
Breakfast, Knights of Columbus Council 16656, St. Nicholas, Walnutport, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., adults \$11, children 5-10 \$5, under 5 free.  
Community Breakfast, Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart, Bath, 7-11 a.m., monthly special breakfast pizza, adults \$9, children \$4, under 6 free.

**Wednesday, Sept. 18**  
Serra Club of Allentown, St. Thomas More, Allentown, rosary in chapel 6:45 p.m., Mass 7 p.m., followed by light refreshments in Disciples Room, speaker Deacon Chris Kinsella on St. Peregrine relic.

**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](http://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](mailto:stfranciscenter@gmail.com), [www.stfrancisctr.org](http://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 by 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**  
“Ryan Leadership Alumni Brunch,” DeSales University, Center Valley, Salesian Center, 10 a.m.-noon, registration [www.desales.edu/homecoming](http://www.desales.edu/homecoming), free.  
Sandwich Sale, Divine Mercy Parish, Shenandoah, order by Sunday, Sept. 22, \$5 each, pick-up 3:30-6 p.m., St. Stephen Hall, 570-462-1968.  
“Beef ’n’ Beer ’n’ Water: Mission to Haiti,” St. Columbkil, Boyertown, 6 p.m., \$25 tickets available at [www.stcolumbkil.org](http://www.stcolumbkil.org).  
Beef and Brew, St. Benedict, Mohnton, Family Life Center, 6-10 p.m., advance tickets \$20 by Sunday, Sept. 22, \$25 at door, 610-223-8846.

**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.

**Saturdays, Sept. 28, Oct. 5, 12, 26, Nov. 2, 9**  
“Young Women of Grace: Embrace Your Femininity,” study program for young women ages 13-18, St. Thomas More, Allentown, parish center, 10:30 a.m.-noon, registration required, \$10 material fee, 610-392-9406, [christine.adelizzi@gmail.com](mailto:christine.adelizzi@gmail.com) or 484-951-3939, [michespinosaya@yahoo.com](mailto:michespinosaya@yahoo.com).

**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](mailto:mmullikin@allentowndiocese.org).

**Friday, Oct. 4**  
Pet Blessings, see article page 12.  
“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](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/Liturgy).

**Saturday, Oct. 5**  
“Women: Chosen for a Purpose,” Diocese of Allentown women’s conference, DeSales University, Center Valley, 9 a.m.-4:15 p.m. beginning with Mass, \$40 adults, \$10 high school students, \$15 college students, includes breakfast, lunch, confession, adoration and exhibits. Registration by Wednesday, Sept. 25, [www.allentowndiocese.org/womens-conference](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/womens-conference), or 610-289-8900, ext. 2021.  
Flea Market, St. Peter the Apostle, Reading at SS. Cyril and Methodius church worship site, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., 610-375-3515.

**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 Dinner and Auction, Mercy School for Special Learning, Al-

lentown, at Homewood Suites, Center Valley, RSVP by Friday, Sept. 20, 610-797-8242, [www.mercyschool.org](http://www.mercyschool.org).

**Friday, Oct. 11**  
Golf Tournament, Holy Family Manor, Bethlehem, Bethlehem Golf Club, 400 Illicks Mill Road, Bethlehem, 610-865-5595 ext. 409, [kevina@cshcs.org](mailto:kevina@cshcs.org).  
“The Resurrection of a Nation,” documentary on Carpatho-Rusyns, Kings College, Wilkes Barre, Burke Auditorium. 6:30 p.m., free, 610-759-2628.

**Saturday, Oct. 12**  
“Seventh Annual Rusyn Genealogy and Heritage Conference,” Eastern Pennsylvania Carpatho-Rusyn Society, Kings College, Wilkes Barre, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Sheehy-Farmer Campus Center, \$45, RSVP by Monday, Oct. 7, register <https://c-rs.org/event-3527514> or 610-759-2628.

**Sunday, Oct. 13**  
Turkey or Ham dinner, Divine Mercy Parish, Shenandoah, take-out only, order by Sunday, Oct. 6, \$7.75, pick-up 11 a.m.-1 p.m., St. Stephen Hall, 570-462-1968.

**Sunday, Oct. 20**  
Father Walter Ciszek Day; Father Walter Ciszek Prayer League Center, 208 W. Cherry St., Shenandoah, open 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., 4-5 p.m.; Divine Liturgy, St. Casimir, Shenandoah, 2 p.m., principal celebrant Monsignor Ronald Bocian, homilist Father Eugene Ritz; followed by social with light refreshments, church hall; 570-462-9892.  
University of Scranton, open house for prospective students and families, 9 a.m., 1-888-SCRANTON, [www.scranton.edu/admissions](http://www.scranton.edu/admissions).

**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](mailto:stfranciscenter@gmail.com), [www.stfrancisctr.org](http://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](mailto:stfranciscenter@gmail.com), [www.stfrancisctr.org](http://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](http://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](mailto:stfranciscenter@gmail.com), [www.stfrancisctr.org](http://www.stfrancisctr.org).

**Friday, Oct. 4-Sunday, Oct. 6**  
“Weekend Directed Retreat,” Jesuit Center for Spiritual Growth, Wernersville, [mleonowitz@jesuitcenter.org](mailto:mleonowitz@jesuitcenter.org), [www.jesuitcenter.org/directedretreats\\_bylength](http://www.jesuitcenter.org/directedretreats_bylength).

**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](mailto:stfranciscenter@gmail.com), [www.stfrancisctr.org](http://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](mailto:stfranciscenter@gmail.com), [www.stfrancisctr.org](http://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](mailto:stfranciscenter@gmail.com), [www.stfrancisctr.org](http://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](mailto:stfranciscenter@gmail.com), [www.stfrancisctr.org](http://www.stfrancisctr.org).

**Saturday, Oct. 19**  
“Salesian Retreat, the Spirituality of Art,” DeSales University, Gambet Center auditorium, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., supplies and lunch included, free, registration required [www.desales.edu/salesian](http://www.desales.edu/salesian), 610-282-1100, ext. 1244.

**Monday, Oct. 21-Sunday, Oct. 27**  
“Five-Day Directed Retreat,” Jesuit Center for Spiritual Growth, Wernersville, [mleonowitz@jesuitcenter.org](mailto:mleonowitz@jesuitcenter.org), [www.jesuitcenter.org/directedretreats\\_bylength](http://www.jesuitcenter.org/directedretreats_bylength).

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

**Friday, Nov. 8 – Sunday, Nov. 10**  
“Spiritual Push,” St. Francis Retreat House, Easton, 610-258-3053, ext. 10, [www.stfrancisretreathouse.org](http://www.stfrancisretreathouse.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](mailto:stfranciscenter@gmail.com), [www.stfrancisctr.org](http://www.stfrancisctr.org).

## Festivals/Bazaars

**Saturday, Sept. 21**  
Sixth Annual Anniversary Picnic, Juventutem Lehigh Valley, Louise Moore Park (pavilion 3), 151 Country Club Road, Easton, noon-5 p.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.

**Friday, Oct. 4 - Saturday, Oct. 5**  
“Harvest Fest,” St. Mary, Hamburg, Friday 4-9 p.m., Saturday noon-9 p.m., Saturday polka Mass 4:30 p.m., free, no coolers, 610-562-7657, [www.stmaryhamburg.org](http://www.stmaryhamburg.org).

**Saturday, Oct. 5**  
Fall Bazaar, Incarnation of Our Lord, Bethlehem, church basement, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

**Saturday, Oct. 26 - Sunday, Oct. 27**  
Fall Fair/Tricky Tray, Holy Ghost, Bethlehem, social hall and garage, Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday 9 a.m.-noon.

**Sunday, Oct. 27**  
“Fall Fest Choose and Win,” St. Clare of Assisi, St. Clair; Saturday Oct. 19, 2-6 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 20, 9 a.m.-noon; Saturday, Oct. 26, 2-6 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 27, 9 a.m.-auction at 2 p.m.

**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](mailto:stfranciscenter@gmail.com), [www.stfrancisctr.org](http://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.

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

**Sundays, Sept. 22; Oct. 6, 20; Nov. 3, 24; 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.

**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.  
Basket Auction, St. Patrick, Pottsville, parish center, Saturday noon-6 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m.-1 p.m., auction Sunday 2 p.m., 570-622-1802.

**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.

**Friday, Oct. 11 – Sunday, Oct. 13**  
Basket Social, St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Whitehall, parish hall, Friday 5-7 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m.-2 p.m., 610-266-0695.

**Saturday, Oct. 12**  
Chicken and Waffle Supper, St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Whitehall, parish hall, 3-7 p.m., adults \$9, children 4-12 \$5, under 3 free, 610-266-0695.

**Sunday, Oct. 13**  
Breakfast, St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Whitehall, parish hall, 8:30-11:30 a.m., adults \$8, children 4-12 \$5, under 3 free, 610-266-0695.

**Saturday, Oct. 19 – Sunday Oct. 20**  
Fall Fest – Basket Raffle, St. Paul, Allentown, parish center, Saturday 10 a.m. -7 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m.-3 p.m., 610-797-9733.

## 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](mailto: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*



Calendar

times, dining location, itineraries and what is included in the cost.

Newly announced

**Tuesday, Sept. 17**  
St. Francis of Assisi, Allentown, Outreach Committee, to Mohegan Sun Casino, Wilkes-Barre, \$25, 610-515-5975 or 610-433-6102.

**Wednesday, Dec. 4**  
St. Joseph the Worker, Orefield to Christmas Show, Bird-in-Hand Dinner Theater, Lancaster, \$90, 610-392-2957, suemueller45@gmail.com.

**Wednesday, May 20, 2020**  
St. Ann, Emmaus to “Queen Esther,” Sight and Sound Theater, Lancaster, \$115, 610-530-8186.

Previously announced

**Wednesday, Sept. 18**  
St. Thomas More, Allentown, Prime Time to “Barefoot in the Park,” Hunterdon Hills, \$90, 610-791-1758.  
St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Whitehall, Golden Agers to Hollywood Casino, Grantville, \$30, 610-264-3721.

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

**Saturdays, Sept. 21, Nov. 2**  
Steelworkers’ Archives, Bethlehem, minibus tour, “Steeple and

Steel,” 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., \$25, 610-861-0600.

**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.

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

**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 Medal 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, Grantsville, \$25, 610-791-1758.

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

**Thursday, Nov. 7 – Saturday, Nov. 16**  
Assumption Travel Club, Assumption BVM, Slatinton to Rome and Amalfi Coast, Italy, \$3,899, 610-767-3036.

**Saturday, Nov. 9**  
St. Thomas More, Allentown to Broadway, “Hadestown” \$184, “Moulin Rogue” \$210, “Tina Turner Show” \$154, “Jagged Little Pill” \$155, “Lion King” \$178, 484-951-0440.

**Thursday, Nov. 14**  
Holy Guardian Angels, Reading, Seniors to “Irving Berlin’s Holiday Inn,” Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre, Lancaster, \$84, 610-921-1515 or 610-929-0384.

**Thursday, Nov. 21**  
Our Lady Perpetual Help, Bethlehem to “Holiday Show,” Silver Birches, Poconos, \$86, 484-456-6818 or 484-767-8669.

Sunday Scripture

**Sunday, Sept. 15**  
*24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
First Reading  
**Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14**  
Responsorial Psalm  
**Psalms 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19**  
Second Reading  
**1 Timothy 1:12-17**  
Gospel  
**Luke 15:1-32**

**Sunday, Sept. 22**  
*25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
First Reading  
**Amos 8:4-7**  
Responsorial Psalm  
**Psalms 113:1-2, 4-8**  
Second Reading  
**1 Timothy 2:1-8**  
Gospel  
**Luke 16:1-13**

**Sunday, Sept. 29**  
*26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
First Reading  
**Amos 6:1a, 4-7**  
Responsorial Psalm  
**Psalms 146:7-10**  
Second Reading  
**1 Timothy 6:11-16**  
Gospel  
**Luke 16:19-31**

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.

Recommended to Your Prayers by Pope Francis

Apostleship of Prayer Intention for October

Evangelization: That the breath of the Holy Spirit engender a new missionary “spring” in the Church. The monthly intentions are also available on video, with a reflection, or download the app at [www.apostleshipofprayer.org](http://www.apostleshipofprayer.org).



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# Bishop Blesses New Holy Infancy School, Bethlehem

By TAMI QUIGLEY  
Staff Writer

The morning of Sept. 6 marked a red-letter day in the history of Holy Infancy School, Bethlehem as the date marked the blessing of the new school in Southside Bethlehem.

The school moved across the street from Holy Infancy Church to the former SS. Cyril and Methodius School building next to Incarnation of Our Lord Church.

"It is a passing on of the tradition of the newer and beautiful building from SS. Cyril and Methodius to Holy Infancy," said Father Andrew Gehringer, pastor of Holy Infancy.

"Holy Infancy is celebrating 125 years of continuous Catholic education, now at its third building."

Father Gehringer explained the first two Holy Infancy Schools were located across the street from the parish, one of which was the original Bethlehem Catholic High School.

Jeanne Negron-Garcia, an alumna of Holy Infancy School and parishioner of Holy Infancy, is the new principal of Holy Infancy.

The morning began with a Mass at Incarnation of Our Lord celebrated by Bishop Alfred Schlert, who then presided at the blessing of the new school.

Concelebrating were Father Gehringer; Father David Kozak, pastor of Incarnation of Our Lord and Holy Ghost, Bethlehem; and Monsignor Robert Kozel, pastor emeritus of St. John the Baptist, Allentown.

Monsignor Kozel was assistant pastor of Incarnation of Our Lord (then SS. Cyril and Methodius) when the current school building – now home to Holy Infancy School – was built in the 1960s during the pastorate of the late Monsignor Felix LaBuda.

***"It is a passing on of the tradition of the newer and beautiful building from SS. Cyril and Methodius to Holy Infancy."***



Cutting the ribbon on the new Holy Infancy School, Bethlehem Sept. 6 are, from left, Bishop Alfred Schlert, Principal Jeanne Negron-Garcia and Father Andrew Gehringer. The school moved from the parish site of Holy Infancy to the former SS. Cyril and Methodius School building next to the parish of Incarnation of Our Lord. (Photos by John Simitz)

"Bishop Schlert talked about how God loves us," Father Gehringer said, noting the day was a First Friday with devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. "He said Jesus loves us in all ways – teaching, healing and the sacraments."

"This place is really a gift from the tradition of Incarnation Parish and all the people who went before us."

"The hope I have for Holy Infancy moving forward and Catholic education on the Southside is due to the fact of the tremendous support we have been receiving from the Bishop, the Office of Education, Father Kozak and all the wonderful friends of Holy Infancy School."

"Our theme of loving and serving one another was really reflected in Bishop Schlert's message in the homily – Christ is here to love us, give us peace and show us his mercy," Negron-Garcia said.

Negron-Garcia said students were so excited the Bishop was coming they worked all week on the songs the Holy

Infancy School Choir was to sing at the Mass. Members of the Holy Infancy Parish Choir volunteered to practice with them.

As Bishop Schlert blessed the school, Monsignor Kozel and Franciscan Sister Virginelle Makos, a School Sister of the Third Order Regular of St. Francis (OSF), spoke to the sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders in the cafeteria.

Sister Virginelle previously taught at SS. Cyril and Methodius and Holy Infancy schools, and is director of St. Francis Center for Renewal, Bethlehem.

"We ask the Lord to bless you with open hearts so you learn the things you need to," Monsignor Kozel told the middle schoolers.

"At SS. Cyril and Methodius we had such a wonderful family spirit, a warm and loving atmosphere," Sister Virginelle told students. "We also had a wonderful atmosphere at Holy Infancy."

She noted 27 priests and 26 religious sisters have been parish sons and daughters of Holy Infancy, and said maybe some current students would consider a vocation to the priesthood or religious life.

"We are so blessed by the Bishop's visit," said Deacon Dr. Robert Fisher, eighth-grade teacher. Deacon Fisher serves SS. Philip and James, Phillipsburg, N.J., Diocese of Metuchen. He is a bilingual speech pathologist with Fisher Speech-Language-Literacy Consulting LCC, Phillipsburg.



Altar servers process into the Mass at Incarnation of Our Lord, from left, Diana Fuentes, Jayvion Delpino and Joelis DeJesus.



Students participate in the morning liturgy that preceded the blessing of the school.



Students welcome Franciscan Sister Virginelle and Monsignor Robert Kozel to the school cafeteria, where they spoke to the sixth through eighth graders after the Mass.

More photos on the diocesan website [www.allentowndiocese.org](http://www.allentowndiocese.org) under "Latest News" on the homepage.

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# Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena Celebrates Centennial as Parish

By TAMI QUIGLEY  
Staff Writer

"From a Carriage House to a Cathedral" is the tagline for the centennial year of the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, which this year is celebrating a century of faith in the West End of Allentown.

Much was happening in 1919. The Treaty of Versailles formally ended World War I. The U.S. Congress formed Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona. Jack Dempsey was crowned heavyweight boxing champion.

And in a northern corner of what was then the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, St. Catharine of Siena Parish was officially established by Cardinal Dennis Dougherty on Oct. 8, 1919, later to be designated the Cathedral of the new Diocese of Allentown in 1961.

"From a carriage house to a Cathedral. Remember, Rejoice, Believe. This is our theme for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the parish of St. Catharine of Siena," said Monsignor Francis Schoenauer, pastor since 2015.

"Remember. This is the past. Remember the challenges, the efforts, the programs, the failures, the disappointments, the blessings. Above all, remember the people, the priests and the parishioners who built this parish. Remember their faith.

"This is where they built their church; this is where they came together as a faith community to worship. We stand today on the foundation of their faith. The Lord was with them.

"Rejoice. This is the now, the present. This is the time for all the people of our parish to rejoice in the blessings and accomplishments of the past. This is a time for rejoicing. We recognize the accomplishments of the past generations and are very grateful for all they have done. We know that we are the beneficiaries of what was. And we know that the Lord is still with us.

"Believe. This is the future; what is not yet but, with the Lord's help, will be. We now go forward with the confident assurance that our Lord Jesus will be with us.

"There will continue to be challenges, problems, difficulties and even disappointments. But there will also be dreams. There will also be faith. We know that the Lord Jesus is always faithful. He will be with us in all we do. This is our faith. 'Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain' (Ps 127). Our parish is the Lord's house."

A Mass and Gala Anniversary Dinner are slated for Sunday, Oct. 6. The celebration will begin with a 3 p.m. Mass celebrated by Bishop Alfred Schlert, followed by the gala at DeSales University Center, Center Valley.

"Catharine of Siena: A Woman for our Time," a one-woman performance by Adrian Dominican (OP) Sister Nancy Murray, will be presented free of charge Sunday, Oct. 20 at 6 p.m. in the Walson Center.

Anniversary rosaries and prayer cards are available at the Cathedral office, and there are anniversary banners in the church. A book chronicling the history of the parish will be distributed at the dinner, and a new photo directory of parishioners was published this year.

Father John Phelan was the first pastor of the parish.

Under his leadership, property was acquired from Mrs. Leonard Seifring and converted into a rectory and chapel. By spring 1920 parishioners began converting a stable into a chapel.

The lovely chapel, which was carved from a stable and carriage house, served St. Catharine's parishioners until 1927. Construction of a combination church, school and convent began in June 1926. St. Catharine of Siena School (now St. John Vianney Regional School) opened Sept. 4, 1928, with 65 pupils and a faculty of four Sisters of St. Joseph (SSJ), who served until 1997.

A brick, colonial-style church building was completed in 1953.

Due to expanding enrollment, the Annex of the school was built in 1958 at the corner of 18<sup>th</sup> and Emmet streets. In 1964 the Annex was renovated.

1961 was a banner year. Bishop Joseph McShea was installed as the new Diocese's first Bishop and named St. Catharine of Siena as the Diocesan Cathedral. The Cathedral Choir was established under the direction of Father Angelo della Picca.

Following Father della Picca, Donald Winzer served more than 30 years as director of music for the Cathedral. Beverly McDevitt assumed the position after Winzer's retirement.



A view of the old Church of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown in 1944. This area is now the first floor of St. John Vianney Regional School. (Photos courtesy of the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena)



The Cathedral Church circa 1970. (File photo)

The parish was now moving into the years of Vatican II and many changes were evident. The first "Mass in English" was celebrated March 7, 1965.

On Feb. 7, 1965 a closed circuit and educational TV was installed at the Cathedral School, which permitted the children to televise their own programs and witness historic events such as inaugurations and space flights.

Channel 39, the public television channel of the Lehigh Valley, sponsored both public and diocesan funds, and supplemented classroom lessons in English, science, history and other subjects. St. Catharine's school was the first of any grammar school in Allentown, and any Catholic school in the state, to launch this educational technology.

The Cathedral celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a parish in 1969. Three years later Bishop McShea initiated major renovations.

Bishop McShea rededicated the Cathedral April 29, 1981, the feast of St. Catharine of Siena, in the presence of Archbishop Pio Laghi, the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States.

A five-point parish revitalization project was initiated in 1999: the Walson Multi-Purpose Center, upgrading the Parish Activity Center, more off-street parking, main school renovations and school annex renovations.

Renovations to the Cathedral occurred under Bishop Edward Cullen in 2005.

The Cathedral School merged with St. Francis of Assisi School and St. Paul School, Allentown, to form St. John Vianney Regional School at the Cathedral site in 2010.

The Women's Alliance, Cathedral Golden Agers, Knights of Columbus and

St. Catharine of Siena Defenders of Life are among the groups contributing to a vibrant parish life.

The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee is comprised of Honorary Chairman William Scharle, Deb Dougher, Julie Weir, Jeanne Treadwell, Tracey Carbonetto, Charles Carbonetto, Charles Gergits, Marge Brogan, Kathy Sagl, Cheryl Dano, Kathy Fridirici, Carol Yeager, Cindy Kelly, Rita Kreibel and Monsignor Schoenauer.

## What is a Cathedral?

A Cathedral is the chief Church of a Diocese, in which the Bishop has his throne (cathedra); it is, properly speaking, the Bishop's Church, wherein he presides, teaches and conducts workshop for the whole Christian community.

The word is derived from the Greek "kathedra" through the Latin "cathedra," throne, elevated seat. In early ecclesiastical literature it always conveyed the idea of authority.

Christ himself spoke of the scribes and Pharisees as seated on the chair of Moses (Matthew 23:2), and it suffices to recall the two feasts of the Chair of St. Peter (at Antioch and Rome) to show that, in the language of the Fathers, as well as among the monuments of antiquity, the cathedra was the principal symbol of authority.

St. Catharine of Siena was designated the Diocesan Cathedral when the new Diocese was formed from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia by the order of Pope St. John XXIII Jan. 28, 1961.



A view from the choir loft of a school Mass being celebrated recently at the Cathedral. (File photo)



## Pa. Speaker Praises Court Decision for Prayer in House

Pennsylvania Speaker of the House Mike Turzai (R-Allegheny) is praising a decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals that will uphold the traditional practice of having a session-opening prayer.

"We are pleased that the Third Circuit has found that our prayer complies with the United States Constitution and has issued a precedent-setting decision entirely in the House's favor," said Turzai.

"As a result, we expect the House to

be able to resume its tradition of welcoming guest chaplains as it has in the past."

In 2016 a group of atheists and other nonbelievers sued the House, claiming their exclusion as guest chaplains violated the constitution. The plaintiffs also challenged the presiding officer's traditional request to rise for the prayer and the pledge to the flag.

Last year a federal judge in Harrisburg ruled in favor of the plaintiffs and lim-

*By Al Gnoza, director of communications of the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference, the public affairs agency of Pennsylvania's Catholic bishops and the Catholic dioceses of Pennsylvania. Stay up-to-date with Catholic news and issues at [www.pacatholic.org](http://www.pacatholic.org), [www.facebook.com/pacatholic](https://www.facebook.com/pacatholic) and [www.twitter.com/pacatholic](https://www.twitter.com/pacatholic).*



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ited the practice to member-led prayers. But the House appealed. Late last month a three-judge panel of the Third Circuit ruled in the House's favor on all counts.

"By a 2-1 vote the panel held the House's prayer practices were constitutional because they fit within the long history of legislative prayer in this coun-

try," said Turzai said.

"The majority explained that 'only theistic prayer can satisfy the historical purpose of appealing for divine guidance in lawmaking.'"

The court also ruled as constitutional that all in attendance be asked to rise for the prayer and the pledge.

## Death

### Vincentian Father Richard Kehoe of Mary Immaculate Seminary

Vincentian Father Richard Kehoe, C.M., 90, the final rector of the former Mary Immaculate Seminary, Northampton, died Aug. 24 at the Vincentian Fathers (Congregation of the Missions) infirmary in Philadelphia after an extended illness.

He studied theology at Louvain University in Belgium, and rhetoric and com-

munication at Temple University, Philadelphia.

Father was ordained in 1957 and went immediately to study. He returned to his alma mater in 1961 and remained until 1992.

Father Kehoe gave his life to priestly formation. At Mary Immaculate Seminary he taught Church history, liturgy and

homiletics.

He was very engaged in the life of the Diocese of Allentown. He helped the Diocese implement Vatican II as secretary of the Liturgical Committee for the Diocesan Synod, member of the Diocesan Ecumenical Committee and later Chair of the Diocesan Liturgical Commission.

After his many years in the Diocese

of Allentown, he served in Tanzania in Africa and St. John's University in New York.

His funeral Mass was celebrated Aug. 29 at St. Vincent's Seminary, Philadelphia by his former student and confrere Bishop of Trenton David O'Connell. Homilist was Father Francis Sacks.

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Father Guency Isaac, right, is helping John and Michele White with their ministry to provide water filters to people in Haiti. (Photo courtesy of Michele White)

## Ministry at St. Columbkille Raising Funds for Water in Haiti

St. Columbkille Parish, Boyertown parishioners John and Michelle White have formed a "Missions Ministry to Haiti" to help Haitians gain access to potable water.

Haiti is the poorest nation in the western hemisphere with 80% unemployment and drastic living conditions.

"We are going to Haiti to build a water filter factory," said Michelle White,

founder of Heart for the Nations. "Our first project in Haiti was in 2010 following the devastating earthquake. At that time we were able to purchase 50 water filters from a factory in the Dominican Republic and distribute them in the Port-Au-Prince area."

The Whites formed the ministry at St. Columbkille to help with this large project. Members include Deacon Joe Petraskus, Jean Schlegel, Joann Rivera, Paul Molchanow, Mary Patti, Tom and Phylis Babcock, and Tim Steffe.

Also working with Heart for the Nations is Father Guency Isaac, assistant pastor of St. Ignatius Loyola Church, Reading, who is helping them as translator and guide on their trips to Haiti.

Father Isaac was born and raised in Haiti, and has family in Hinche, Haiti, where the factory will be built in partnership with his cousin, Dr. Sylvain.

To raise funds, the ministry is hosting a "Beef 'n' Beer 'n' Water" dinner Saturday, Sept. 28 at 6 p.m. in Quinn Hall at St. Columbkille. Tickets are \$25. For more information, visit [www.stcolumbkille.org](http://www.stcolumbkille.org).

In addition, the ministry will be asking people to collect "Change for Haiti."

For more information, call Michelle and John White, 610-468-7111, or visit [www.heartforthenations.info](http://www.heartforthenations.info).

## YOUNG WOMEN OF GRACE

"**Young Women of Grace: Embrace Your Femininity**" is a study program, created by Women of Grace, for girls aged 13 – 18. In it your young lady will be able to discover what it means to be a daughter of God, to discern her purpose and mission in the world and to find true fulfillment – without losing her soul!

It is a catholic study that contains Catholic teachings, bible study, Catechism references, vocabulary definitions and practical examples of how to live her faith.

Classes will take place at St. Thomas More Parish Center, 1040 Flexer Avenue, Allentown, on six Saturday mornings September 28, October 5, 12, 26, (no meeting on October 19) November 2 and 9, from 10:30 AM until 12:00 PM (noon).

Registration is required. A fee of \$10.00 is required to offset the cost of materials. Please contact:

Christine Adelizzi at 610-392-9406 - [christine.adelizzi@gmail.com](mailto:christine.adelizzi@gmail.com)

Michelle Espinosa at 484-951-3939 - [michespino@yahoo.com](mailto:michespino@yahoo.com) with questions or to register.

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# Pope Francis: Repent, Convert, Pray, Give Up Fossil Fuels

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- "Now is the time to abandon our dependence on fossil fuels and move, quickly and decisively, toward forms of clean energy," Pope Francis said as he marked the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation.

"We have caused a climate emergency that gravely threatens nature and life itself, including our own," the pope said in his message for the Sept. 1 ecumenical day of prayer.

Pope Francis urged Catholics to find a naturally beautiful place and think about how God created the universe and declared it good; then he created human beings and gave them creation "as a precious gift" to safeguard.

"Tragically, the human response to this gift has marked by sin," he said. Selfishness and self-interest have turned creation, which was meant to be a place of encounter and sharing, into "an area of competition and conflict."

People have forgotten that they, too, are God's creation and not lords of the universe free to exploit anything they want, the pope said.

Pollution, the incessant use of fossil fuels, deforestation and intensive farming are causing global temperatures to rise and already threaten the lives of the world's poorest people, he said. Melting glaciers, a lack of clean drinking water, the development of more frequent super storms and "the considerable presence of plastics and microplastics in the oceans" are signs of how human greed is making the planet increasingly hostile to life.

"We have forgotten who we are: creatures made in the image of God, called to dwell as brothers and sisters in a common home," Pope Francis said.

"Now is the time to rediscover our vocation as children of God, brothers and sisters, and stewards of creation," he said. "Now is the time to repent, to be

converted."

Pope Francis suggested Catholics join the ecumenical "Season of Creation" initiative, which runs from the Sept. 1 day of prayer through the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, Oct. 4. The initiative, explained at [www.seasonofcreation.org](http://www.seasonofcreation.org), includes prayer and practical action to clean up the environment, promote recycling and lobby governments for action to mitigate climate change.

In silence and prayer, he said, people should recognize the beauty that God has created and given to all people, but they also should pause to consider how the choices they make about what to eat, what to buy, how to travel and how they use energy and water impact God's creation, including other people.

Pope Francis asked Catholics to listen especially to young people who are calling on everyone to make "courageous decisions" and undertake "prophetic ac-

tions" to fulfill longstanding promises to stop polluting the environment and to protect all life.

Politicians and government leaders also should be included in people's prayers, he said, pointing particularly to world leaders, who must make real commitments "for directing the planet toward life, not death."

The United Nations' Climate Action Summit Sept. 23 will be especially important for reconfirming the Paris Climate Accord and taking "drastic measures" to end greenhouse gas emissions and slow global warming.

"Let us choose life," the pope said. "Let us say 'no' to consumerist greed and to the illusion of omnipotence, for these are the ways of death."

"May God, the lover of life, grant us the courage to do good without waiting for someone else to begin or until it is too late," he prayed.

## In Brief

### Memories of 9/11 Attacks

BROOKLYN, N.Y. (CNS) -- Monsignor John Delendick, a longtime New York Fire Department chaplain who is currently pastor of St. Jude Church in Brooklyn, remembers Sept. 11, 2001, vividly.

At the time of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, Monsignor Delendick had just finished celebrating Mass at St. Michael's Church in Brooklyn where he was pastor. He jumped in his car and drove as close as he could get and then walked to the scene. When he got to the twin towers, he ran into other fire department colleagues, including first deputy commissioner William Feehan, who was later killed in the collapse.

He also gave absolution to a police officer who ran to him amid a dark cloud of debris and smoke, asking the priest to hear his confession. He also recalls learning that his colleague and fellow fire chaplain, Franciscan Father Mychal Judge, was among the first known victims of the South Tower's collapse.

### 'Crisis of Compassion'

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- The archbishop of Boston and his counterpart in Santa Fe, New Mexico, have called for a spirit of welcome toward others, saying the current feeling of strife and enmity in the country signals a "crisis of compassion" that must be overcome.

In an op-ed published in The Boston Globe Sept. 9, Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley, Boston's archbishop, addressed some of the attitudes toward immigrants.

He also criticized U.S. policy, the treatment of migrants at the southern border with Mexico and the lack of action to find a solution to help "11 million unauthorized immigrants in our midst with no policy to stabilize their existence and provide a path to citizenship -- a policy objective advocated by the Catholic Church for decades."

### Visa Requirements for Some Bahamians

MIAMI (CNS) -- In the wake of Hurricane Dorian, two Florida Republican senators have asked President Donald Trump to waive or suspend certain visa requirements for Bahamian citizens with relatives residing in the U.S.

Hurricane Dorian stalled over the northern Bahamas Sept. 1-3 as one of the strongest storms in Atlantic history. As of Sept. 10, the death toll was at least 50 and was expected to increase as search and rescue operations continued.

"It's important Customs and Border Protection and the Bahamian government work together to clarify the current rules regarding visas in the Bahamas," Sen. Rick Scott said in his statement.

### Pope Appoints Three Cardinals

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis appointed three delegate presidents for the Synod of Bishops for the Amazon. The pope named as delegate presidents for the Oct. 6-27 assembly Cardinals Baltazar Porras Cardozo, 74, of Merida, Venezuela; Pedro Barreto Jimeno, 75, of Huancayo, Peru; and Joao Braz de Aviz, 72, prefect of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life.

The Vatican announced the appointments Sept. 7. Though Pope Francis, as pontiff, is president of the syn-



### Father Mychal Judge 9/11 Memorial Museum

A photo of a firefighter and Franciscan Father Mychal Judge, a chaplain with the New York Fire Department, top, are seen July 7, 2015, on a beam from the World Trade Center at the 9/11 Memorial and Museum in New York City. Father Judge died while giving last rites to a firefighter in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks that brought down the twin towers of the World Trade Center. (CNS photo/Bob Roller)

od, the three cardinals will take turns presiding over the synod's daily sessions

The delegate presidents are also responsible for guiding the work of the synod and assigning special tasks to certain members, when necessary. The special assembly on the Pan-Amazonian region will discuss the theme, "New Paths for the Church and for an Integral Ecology."

### Pope: Change the World

ANTANANARIVO, Madagascar (CNS) -- Following Jesus means growing in friendship with him and with one's brothers and sisters, never being content with the way things are, but not just griping about them either, Pope Francis told young people.

Jesus calls his disciples "to be on the move, acting, committed, certain that the Lord is supporting and accompanying them," he told the teens and young adults from across Madagascar.

Tens of thousands of people of all ages were gathered

for the vigil on the wide-open diocesan field at Soaman-drakizay Sept. 7; the older folks came because the pope was scheduled to celebrate Mass there the next morning.

### Pope To Create New Cardinals

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis announced he will create 13 new cardinals Oct. 5, choosing prelates from 13 different nations as a sign of "the missionary vocation of the church that continues to proclaim the merciful love of God to all men and women of the earth."

Announcing the names of the new cardinals Sept. 1, the pope included 10 men who are under age 80 and therefore eligible to vote in a conclave to elect a new pope. Three of the future cardinals are already over the age of 80, and the pope said he chose them because of their service to the church.

"Let us pray for the new cardinals so that, confirming their adhesion to Christ, they will help me in my ministry as bishop of Rome for the good of the entire faithful, holy people of God," the pope told pilgrims who had gathered to pray the midday Angelus with him. The only Canadian named was 73-year-old Jesuit Father Michael Czerny, undersecretary of the Section for Migrants and Refugees at the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. None of the new cardinals is from the United States.

### Newark Cardinal Joins in Protest

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Cardinal Joseph Tobin of Newark, New Jersey, blessed and then prayed near a group of Catholics who blocked a crosswalk, arranging themselves in the shape of a cross in front of Immigration and Customs Enforcement in Newark Sept. 4, to protest the detention of children and families in immigration facilities.

About 400 participated in the event, which included a procession toward the ICE building as the Newark archbishop led the crowd in a chant of "stop the inhumanity. I am Joseph, your brother, who has been heartbroken by the inhumanity," Cardinal Tobin had said earlier as he called for a stop to immigration detention of children and their families. "I ask Catholics and others of goodwill to contact their elected officials and urge them not to manipulate immigrant families as political pawns."

As the group protested in front of the facility, the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General was releasing a report warning that migrant children separated from their parents "exhibited more fear, feelings of abandonment and post-traumatic stress" than migrant children who had not been separated from their loved ones.

### Cardinal Etchegaray Dies at 96

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Cardinal Roger Etchegaray, 96, a longtime Vatican official and papal envoy who was sent to some of the world's most wounded and challenging places, died in France Sept. 4.

A tireless bridge builder, the French cardinal also played key roles in ecumenical relations, including with the late Orthodox Patriarch Alexy II of Moscow, and in interreligious dialogue; he was one of the key organizers of the first Day of Prayer for Peace in Assisi in 1986, which brought 160 religious leaders together at a time of increasing world tensions and fears of nuclear war.