



Special Pages
Respect Life
page 11 – 23

- 2 ACUE reception**
Supporters thanked
- 2 Video premiere**
Daily lives of seminarians
- 3 Obituary**
Father Robert Reinke
- 3 Seminary visitations**
- 4 Eucharistic Revival**
Washing of hands
- 26 Statement of ownership**

Bishop's Schedule	3
Commentary	6
People and Events	9
Shopper's Guide	23
VIRTUS	23
Classifieds	24
News Briefs	27

Missed an edition? Current and back issues of the *Messenger* are available online at covdio.org/messenger.



OSV News photo/
Gregory A. Shemitz
**An infant is seen
sleeping during the
St. Patrick's Day Mass
at St. Patrick's
Cathedral in New York
City March 17, 2023.**

Annual Pro-life Mass brings families and communities together in celebration of life

Maura Baker
Staff Writer

October 17 will be the date of this year's diocesan annual Pro-life Mass, held every year in October, which is Respect Life Month. This year, the Mass, which is held in the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington, will be held Oct. 17, 7 p.m., and the rosary will be prayed beforehand at 6:30 p.m.

The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop John Iffert, with Father Baiju Kidaagen, pastor, St. Pius X, Edgewood, as the homilist. To choose the Mass's homilist, Bishop Iffert chooses from a list of names provided by the diocesan Pro-Life Office.

"We've heard from parishioners in the past what great homilies he's given on respect life issues," said Faye Roch, director, Office of

Diocesan Pro-life Mass

Oct. 17, 7 p.m.

Rosary at 6:30 p.m.

Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington

All are invited to gather in prayer and celebration of life

Pro-Life, "...and, so, we're honored to have Father Baiju this year."

"We invite our diocesan community, we reach out to our high schools and to different ministries that we work with, inviting them to come together to celebrate Mass. We always get a really nice showing at this Mass, and it's really beautiful to see families come together and communities come together."

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, attendance numbers at the special Mass celebrating life have gone down, but Mrs. Roch

is "hoping to have a good showing" at this year's Mass.

"We really just want to invite people and encourage them to come, because it really is a beautiful Mass," she said.

40 Hour Devotion

This year, the three-year Eucharistic Revival is in its parish phase. To help unite parishes around the Eucharist, Bishop John Iffert, at the request of the diocesan Worship Committee, has asked pastors to host 40 Hours of continual Eucharistic adoration.

These 40 Hours will be scheduled sometime during the year, from now until July 2024, when the revival culminates with a Eucharistic Congress, July 17–21, 2024, at Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis. Discounted tickets for the Congress are available through the diocesan Office of Worship and Liturgy; an application is online at covdio.org.

Upcoming 40 Hour Devotions

- Oct. 13, 2023, St. Edward Parish, Cynthiana
 - Oct. 20, 2023, St. Augustine Parish, Augusta
 - Oct. 27, 2023, St. John Parish, Carrollton
 - Nov. 3, 2023, Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Burlington
 - Nov. 17, 2023, St. Joseph Parish, Cold Spring
 - May 3, 2024, St. Joseph Parish, Camp Springs
- (The schedule will be updated as needed.)

Supporters of urban Catholic schools thanked at ACUE reception



(from left) Tim Rawe, Tony Helton, Bishop Iffert, Bishop Foys, Andy Vandiver, Rosalie and Dick Hentz.



(from left) Jennifer Kenkel, Connie Kenkel Morgan, Diane Kenkel Steffen, Bishop Iffert, Scot Kenkel, Kathy Kenkel Caldon and Robin Kenkel Welch, Parish. Not pictured Angie Kenkel Duderer.

Staff report

ACUE's 2023 Major Donor Recognition Reception took place at Drees Pavilion on Tuesday, Sept. 26. The recipient of the 2023 Faith Hope and Inspiration Award, ACUE's highest award, was presented to Bishop Emeritus Roger Foys for his longstanding and unwavering devotion and support of the ACUE mission of Catholic urban education in the diocese. The tribute was presented by Bishop John Iffert.

"We just feel like we're so indebted to Bishop Foys for ACUE because he's just been such a wonderful supporter and has done so much for us, for our schools and for our fundraising effort," said Beth Ruehlmann, director of development for Catholic Schools.

Also receiving special recognition that evening were ACUE Christ the Teacher Society members, Dick and Rosalie Hentz, St. Timothy Parish, who have graciously and generously remembered the ACUE Annual Fund over the years.

In addition, Outstanding Advocacy Awards were presented to Tony Helton, St. Barbara Parish, and Tim Rawe, St. Therese Parish, for their chairmanship of previous annual funds as well as service to the ACUE Development Advisory Board; and Andrew Vandiver, St. Timothy Parish, for advocacy on behalf of children and families as past-president of the EdChoice KY Board, as well as serving previously as associate director of the Catholic Conference of Kentucky, where he has spearheaded the effort to achieve school choice in the Commonwealth. All recognitions were well deserved!

Remembered with great fondness at the 2023 reception was donor and past Faith, Hope and Inspiration Award recipient, Al Kenkel. Mr. Kenkel died in June 2023.

"Throughout each school year, Mr. Kenkel selflessly remembered the children of the ACUE schools, always helping to provide our values-based curriculum with the very best in 21st century technology. He was faith-filled

and thoughtful beyond words and is dearly missed by his ACUE Family," said Mrs. Ruehlmann.

Mrs. Ruehlmann said that, in addition to aiding ACUE's fundraising efforts each year, Mr. Kenkel provided a Chromebook for every student and a SmartBoard for every classroom at the ACUE elementary schools.

"That was certainly timely when we had to go remote for COVID," said Mrs. Ruehlmann. "It was really important that we had somebody like Al with education moving into that very blended format."

Continuing his legacy are his children. Present at the recognition and pictured with Bishop Iffert (center) were (from left) Jennifer Kenkel, St. Pius Parish; Connie Kenkel Morgan, St. Thomas Parish; Diane Kenkel Steffen, St. Timothy Parish; Scot Kenkel; Kathy Kenkel Caldon, St. Pius Parish; and Robin Kenkel Welch, St. Timothy Parish. With us in spirit that night, was daughter, Angie Kenkel Duderer, Holy Cross Parish. "ACUE is deeply grateful to the Kenkel Family," Mrs. Ruehlmann said.




New Seminary Ball video gives insight to seminarians' daily lives

A new video promoting vocations will be premiered at this year's Seminary Ball, Oct. 27. Moving away from the past format of seminarian interviews, the new video, which was created by Patrick McNamara of Drawn to the Image Studios, follows the Diocese of Covington's seminarians through a day in their lives at St. Vincent Seminary in Latrobe, Penn. "I wanted to give people a peek into the life of a seminarian and to show that these are real people just trying to seek God's will for their life," said Jim Hess, director of the Office of Stewardship and Mission Services, who host the Seminary Ball.

The video will have two versions, one for those considering vocations to the priesthood, and another for those who may know someone considering vocations. After the videos premiere at the Ball, they will also be made available online on the diocesan website.





You're invited

Join the Diocese for the 2023 Seminary Ball!

An evening of drinks, dinner and dancing in support of our seminarians.

Oct. 27, 6-11 p.m.

Northern Kentucky Convention Center, Covington

RSVP's available until Oct. 13 at <https://covdio.org/seminaryball/>.

Father Reinke remembered as a listener, quiet, humble, leader

Rev. Robert J. Reinke, 91, died Sept. 21. He was a priest for the Diocese of Covington for nearly 66 years.

Robert Reinke was born May 1, 1932 in Bellevue, Ky., to Leo Anthony and Marguerite (Hils) Reinke. He attended St. Anthony School, Bellevue, and St. Xavier High School, Cincinnati. When Bishop William Mulloy heard that he was interested in the priesthood, the bishop encouraged him to transfer to Covington Latin School. He made the transfer and graduated from Covington Latin School in 1950.

Father Reinke attended two years of college at Nazareth Hall (1950–1952) in St. Paul, Minn., continuing his seminary formation for another two years (1952–1954) at St. Paul Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., where he earned his B.A. degree in philosophy. For four years (1954–1958) he studied theology at the North American College, Rome, Italy.

He was ordained, Dec. 15, 1957, by the Most Rev. Martin J. O’Connor, North American College, Rome, Italy. He and his class are considered part of the class of 1958, but were ordained early so they could experience celebrating Mass at historical locations such as the Tomb of Peter, the Catacombs and the Ancient Church of Rome. In an interview with the *Messenger* in 1997, Father Reinke said that those Masses helped individuals “realize the connection with the early history of the Church.”

Father Reinke returned to the Diocese of Covington in 1958 and was appointed assistant pastor, Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington (1958-1959) and faculty at Covington Latin School (1958-1965). Teaching was a vocation that Father Reinke never thought about for himself, but he said goodheartedly in a 2008 *Messenger* interview, apparently that’s what God wanted. He was assigned director, Diocesan Religious Education Office (1965–1969) and chaplain at Thomas More College (1969–1972).

Other assignments included assistant director, Marydale Camp and Retreat Center (1959–1962); chaplain, Catholic Committee on Scouting Northern Kentucky and, according to Deacon Mike Lyman, was spiritual advisor for many years for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul NKY until Deacon Lyman was assigned spiritual advisor in 2018.

“What stands out about him the most for me is he always had a smile and he was always so upbeat and so willing to help people,” said Deacon Lyman.

In addition to working with Father Reinke at the Society of St. Vincent De Paul NKY, earlier Father Reinke concelebrated the wedding of Deacon Lyman and his wife, Joyce. Mrs. Lyman was a parishioner at St. Vincent De Paul Parish where Father Reinke was pastor. She said that Father Reinke’s “overall kindness and spirituality really



Father Robert Reinke

shone through for the people. He was very pastoral and really a good example of what it meant to be pastoral to your people.”

Deacon Lyman said that Father Reinke had a quick wit, recalling a time when he drove Father Reinke along the narrow and winding road to the mission church, St. John, Dividing Ridge, to celebrate Mass. He was helping out while the pastor was away.

“When he began his homily he said, ‘I’m really happy to be able to bring Jesus to you. Unfortunately, we lost him on the last turn the deacon took.’”

Father Reinke has served as assistant or associate pastor at: St. Paul Church, Florence (1962–1965); Mother of God Church, Covington (1965–1972); St. Joseph Parish, Crescent Springs (1972–1977); and Holy Cross Church, Latonia (1983–1986).

His first pastorate came in 1977 at St. James Church, Ludlow, where he continued as co-pastor of the newly merged Sts. Boniface and James Church (1979–1980) and then pastor, Sts. Boniface and James Church (1980–1983).

“What he stressed the most that really sticks with me is the idea of the parish being one big family and that everybody in the parish had a role to play and everybody in the parish had a role in decision making,” said David Schroeder, parishioner at Sts. Boniface and James Parish, Ludlow.

Mr. Schroeder said that he was 19 years old when Father Reinke invited him to be a member of the Parish Council, an example of Father’s assurance that everyone is welcome, has a voice and a role to play. “He was very interested in listening to people, he was an extremely good listener; a very kind and generous person. When you gave him your opinions, he really took them to heart.”

This style of leadership, Mr. Schroeder said, was the essential quality Father Reinke provided to successfully merge the two Ludlow parishes.

“He made sure that everybody from both parishes felt like they were part of something new,” said Mr. Schroeder. “He really worked hard to bring those communities together and that’s hard to do when you have 100 years of tradition behind you. But he pulled it off and he did it, I think again, it’s the kindness and the generosity that he displayed ... He was such a humble quiet man, but he had a way about him that really drew people together and really led them forward. He was a very quiet leader, but he was definitely a leader. He was somebody that could rally the troops whenever they needed to be rallied. And nobody asked questions. If Father said so, then we did it because we trusted him, he had built that trust.”

Father Reinke was pastor St. Vincent de Paul Church, Newport, from 1986 until his retirement in 1997. After his

retirement, Father Reinke returned to Sts. Boniface and James Church as sacramental minister.

“We were just ecstatic that he was willing to come back and be with us again, and we welcomed him with open arms,” said Mr. Schroeder.

“Every time I saw him Father Reinke radiated joy and good humor. I am amazed at how many people he affected in the Diocese of Covington,” said Bishop John Iffert. “I heard about his generosity in charity, his good humor, his care of brother priests, his love for his family. I heard that he was an incredible confessor who helped you know that you were really forgiven and a dedicated man of prayer. It seems like everyone who knew Father Reinke had a reason to love him and be grateful for him.

“At a priest’s funeral, the body is placed in the center aisle with his head near the altar and a stole draped on the casket, as if the man were celebrating Mass in this world for the last time. This good priest, who served as the spiritual advisor to the Society of St. Vincent De Paul for 60 years, his funeral Mass was on the Memorial of St. Vincent De Paul, the patron and inspiration of the Society. The Vincentians who joined in the funeral Mass had the special comfort of trusting Father Reinke to God’s mercy with the intercession of St. Vincent on their patron’s day. I am always amazed at the way God arranges and grants these little favors to his sons and daughters. God is good!”

Father Reinke is survived by his nieces and nephews: Antoinette “Toni” Reinke, Deacon Rick (Jean) Dames, Judy (Neal) Kreinest, late Janeen (Dan) Donoghue, Joyce (Larry) Kreinest, Rob (Beth) Dames, Mike (Jenny) Dames, and Joelle (Joe) Michels. Also 21 great nieces and nephews and 25 great great nieces and nephews.

A Vigil service was held Sept. 26, with Mass of Christian Burial held the following day at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington. Father Reinke is interred at St. Mary Cemetery, St. Bernard, Ohio.



**Bishop’s
Schedule**

Oct. 6 Mass followed by tour and lunch, Carmel Manor, Ft. Thomas, 10 a.m.	Oct. 8 Mass/Building Blessing, St. Timothy Parish, Union, 11:30 a.m.
Mass, Summit ’23, Notre Dame Academy, Park Hills, 7:30 p.m.	Oct. 9-13 Priest retreat, St. Meinrad Archabbey, St. Meinrad, Indiana
Oct. 7 Mass, DCCH 175th anniversary celebration, followed by lunch, Blessed Sacrament Parish, 10 a.m.	Oct. 10 Advisory Council meeting, 9:30 a.m.
Vigil Mass, Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, 4:30 p.m.	

Cemetary Visitations

Families and friends of our beloved dead are invited to join **Bishop John Iffert for a prayer service, Saturday, Oct. 21**, at the following diocesan cemeteries:

10 a.m., St. John Cemetery, Ft. Mitchell

11 a.m., St. Mary Cemetery, Ft. Mitchell

12:30 p.m., St. Stephen Cemetery, Ft. Thomas

At each cemetery, the names of those interred from October 2022 through September 2023 will be proclaimed.

“Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.”

‘To Heal, Proclaim and Teach’

A presentation by Jared Dees, **Oct. 14, 8:30–11:30 a.m.**, at the Curia’s Bishop Howard Memorial Auditorium, Covington.

Mr. Dees is an author, speaker, teacher and creator of the popular website The Religion Teacher, which provides practical resources and effective teaching strategies.

Sponsored by the diocesan Office of Catechesis and Evangelization. The presentation is open to everyone. No cost to attend. RSVP at covidio.org/register or call David Cooley at (859) 392-1592.



The significance of the washing of hands in Eucharistic liturgy

Father Luke Spannagel
USCCB

After the gifts are brought forward (and after the incense, when it is used), you may notice that the priest washes his hands over a dish called a *lavabo* (meaning, “I shall wash”) and dries them with a towel. The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* says that this washing is a rite “in which the desire for interior purification finds expression” (GIRM, 76).

To explain this handwashing in more depth, Charles Belmonte teaches, “In every Mass, a liturgical act is performed which originally was a response to a practical necessity. The celebrant washes his hands, which have touched the sundry offerings as well as the censer, before taking up the bread about to become the body of Christ. The Church has kept this ceremony of the Lavabo to express the desire of interior purification. This mystical meaning was emphasized by St. Cyril of Jerusalem in the fourth century, when he wrote: ‘This action shows that we

must be free from all sin. We perform actions with our hands; to wash our hands is the nearest thing to purifying our deeds”’ (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 114).

Even if the spiritual meaning makes sense, you may note the practical reality that the priest’s hands don’t look dirty. It is true that our offerings today are clean, but if you remember a few installments back, in the early days of the Church people would bring all kinds of things for the offertory, not just neat little containers of bread and wine. For example, someone might bring produce or chickens as gifts for the poor. Naturally, if the priest was handling these kinds of offerings, we would want him to wash his hands before continuing the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

While we no longer need the practical cleaning today, the understanding of spiritual cleansing is very valuable. As the Diocese of Peoria notes, “the Church maintains this washing ritual as it expresses an inward desire to be cleansed within” (*A Study of the Mass*, p. 12). This desire is very clear when we see the

private prayer the priest prays at this washing: “Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.” Although the priest prays this prayer privately, this is another place where all the faithful could unite in prayer, asking God to purify our minds and hearts in anticipation of being in the True Presence of Christ himself on the altar.

After washing his hands, the priest goes back to the center of the altar, extends his hands and then rejoins them, and asks the faithful: “Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.” According to our most recent directives, the faithful stand to make the response: “May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.” Charles Belmonte writes that “the priest begs us to unite ourselves with him in the sacrificial act as it draws nearer... the priest stresses that the sacrifice is mine (i.e., Christ offers himself—the aspect of ministerial priesthood) and yours (the entire Church offers the sacrifice—the aspect of common priesthood)” (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 115). The Diocese of Peoria explains, “The invitation makes a distinction between the way in which the priest makes his offering and the way in which the faithful make theirs. The Sacrifice of the Mass is not offered by the priest alone. All of us by virtue of our baptism are called upon to offer ourselves to the Father through Christ” (*A Study of the Mass*, p. 12).

As we have seen throughout the Offertory, there are several opportunities to unite ourselves and our sacrifices to Jesus. This is no accident! Each of these invitations helps us to be aware of what we can offer and to be attentive to what is about to happen in the Mass. Next time, we’ll see the Prayer over the Offerings draw our prayers and sacrifices together as the time of Christ’s True Presence draws ever closer.



MR. SPOTLESS
CARWASH

WIN A BRAND NEW
2024 TAHOE





*Unlimited members are automatically entered
mrspotlesscarwash.com/tahoesweepstakes



SERVICE IS OUR
PASSION.



www.ArlinghausAir.com
(859) 429-0980

VOTED
BEST
NKY
NKY MAGAZINE



FINANCING!

HM-05428 MPL-7768 OH-47296 PL-48803



319 FAIRFIELD AVE.
BELLEVUE, KY 41073
859-261-3636

Cleves & Lonnemann
JEWELERS

CREATING SATISFACTION SINCE 1932

SPECIALIZING IN REFURBISHED HIGH END WATCHES, NEW AND ESTATE
JEWELRY, AND A LARGE SELECTION OF GIA CERTIFIED DIAMONDS.



MECHANICAL, INC.
"A Wischer Family Company"

(859) 261-1100
KWMechanical.com

- Electric
- Plumbing
- Heating &
- Air Conditioning

Residential Service Experts Since 1987



Catholic Schools in Action



Catholic Schools in Action



(above) Students at St. Joseph Academy, Walton, participate in volunteering with Father Matt Cushing, pastor, All Saints, Walton, (left) and learn how to sing using American Sign Language.

(below) Blessed Sacrament School, Ft. Mitchell, has committed to the devotion of going to Mass and receiving Communion on the First Friday of each month, in honor of and in reparation to Jesus' Most Sacred Heart. Students, as well as faculty and staff, are excited to start this devotion officially as a school community, as well as to witness the powerful ways in which the Holy Spirit is sure to work within us as we commit to this devotion together.

(above) In a cross curricular collaboration, students at Newport Central Catholic's, Newport, St. Joseph's Institute students are building a replica of the cross Jesus was crucified on. In the coming days, the Historical Reenactments class will reenact a scene from the Stations of the Cross, which the Broadcast class will film and share with the student body in the school's weekly news.



(top and above) Students at Holy Cross Elementary, Latonia, are making Warm Fuzzies — notes of encouragement and prayers — to be included in the St. Vincent dePaul bags of groceries that are sent out to those in need in our community. It's one small way to live out our school theme this year, "Let us love one another."

For more information about the Department of Catholic Schools, call (859) 392-1500 or e-mail asmorey@covdio.org.

Meet the New Goddess, Same as the Old Goddess

A few weeks ago, I spoke at the annual convention of the G.K. Chesterton Society. The theme of the conference was St. Francis, since this year marks the 100th anniversary of the publication of Chesterton’s classic book on the medieval saint.

WORD ON FIRE



Bishop Robert Barron

In the course of his presentation, Dale Ahlquist, the president of the society, drew our attention to Chesterton’s remark that, for St. Francis, nature should never be construed as our mother, but rather as our sister, since we have the same Father. Understandably enough, we feel very protective toward our lovely sister, and this is the basis of a healthy biblical and Catholic sense of ecology.

In his most famous piece of writing, St. Francis gave voice to his deep affection for “Brother Sun and Sister Moon,” and for “Sister Water,” and perhaps most interestingly for “our Sister, Mother Earth.” Though she might be our mother in an analogical sense, the earth remains, for Francis, first and foremost, sister. When we construe nature as our mother, we revert, Chesterton thought, into a paganism that amounts to the worship of a creature — which always results in mischief.

All of this came vividly to my mind when I saw the astonishing short film from the Apple corporation that has been making the rounds on social media. It features a team of Apple tech executives in a pristine, postmodern boardroom, led by Tim Cook himself, the head of the company. Everyone is nervously preparing for the arrival of a special visitor whom they want desperately to impress. And no one seems more fidgety than Cook, which only heightens the puzzlement of the viewer: Who

could this person be who is managing to intimidate the top leadership of Apple? The president of the United States? Oprah? The Dalai Lama?

No one as lowly as that, it turns out, for into the conference room comes Mother Nature herself, in the guise of a middle-aged and rather grumpy woman.

What strikes one immediately is the combination of awe and fear in the faces of those around the table, a reaction that can only be characterized as “religious.” They want with all their hearts to impress her, but they are also deathly afraid that she might not be sufficiently appeased by their efforts.

They then commence to present sacrifices to the goddess, promising her that Apple is prepared to go to extraordinary lengths to protect the environment, reduce its carbon footprint, use less energy, etc. After hearing each concession, Mother Nature asks a series of skeptical follow-up questions; after finally receiving the promise of “zero-carbon” from the Apple team, she manages a tepid, “Okay,” and then leaves the room, promising, with not a little menace, to return next year to check on their progress.

If I might return to Chesterton, the great English writer famously commented, “When men stop believing in God, they don’t believe in nothing; they believe in anything.”

The religious instinct in us is so great that, in the absence of the true God, we will always endeavor to worship something: our country, our culture, a political leader, our own will, etc. In the minds of many of the religiously disaffiliated today, the default deity is Nature itself — which brings them, as I said, back to the classically pagan worldview.

For the ancient Greeks and Romans, the gods were basically personifications of the natural necessities: earth, sky, fire, the sea, the death and re-birth of vegetation. If we consult the symbolic stories the ancients told about these capricious deities, we see how perceptive they were.

The earth is beautiful, and lethal; the sky is lovely, and death can rain down from it; the sea is sometimes placid and alluring, and at other times, it will drown you without pity. The point is that Nature is wonderful, powerful, but finally indifferent to us. Therefore, when we move beyond appreciating and protecting Nature and begin to worship it, we place ourselves in the hands of a terrible and impersonal master.

It is of supreme interest that the opening verses of the Bible effectively knock the gods of nature off their pedestals. Everything mentioned in those lyrical lines of the creation narrative — earth, sky, the sun, the moon, animals, plants — were worshiped at some point in the ancient world.

The author of Genesis is saying, again and again, “No, they are not divine; they are creatures.” To be sure, they come forth from God in a stately and beautiful liturgical procession, and the last of the creatures — namely, men and women — are intended, by their powers of mind and imagination, to lead all creatures in a chorus of praise to their common Father. But nature is our sister, not our mother — thank God.

Precisely because nature is impersonal and indifferent to us, our sacrifices to her will never be enough and they will diminish us. The good news of the Bible is that the true God is a person who loves us and that any sacrifice made to him redounds finally to our benefit, for “the glory of God is a human being fully alive.”

If you want to see what your religious life looks like when you abandon the true God and turn to the worship of nature, take a good, hard look at this Apple film and ask yourself whether this grumpy, intimidating, endlessly demanding, and finally impersonal goddess is for you.

Bishop Robert Barron is bishop of the Diocese of Winona-Rochester, Minnesota. Article originally published at WordOnFire.org.

Startling Dorothy Day taught my mom a treasured lesson

In 1977, my then 20-year-old mother visited the Catholic Worker in New York City, together with a religious sister. The two were in the process of helping found

VIEWPOINT

Adele Chapline Smith

a Catholic Worker house in Rochester, New York, and how better to learn than through the example of Maryhouse, the

women’s shelter founded by Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin?

Now a Servant of God, Day was a powerful force during her lifetime, and her example of fervent Catholicism inspired my mother. With the force of youth, my mother was determined to meet her heroine.

She and her friend arrived on Friday and spent Saturday observing how Maryhouse functioned. By Sunday, my mother hadn’t yet fulfilled her ambition to meet Day. Having gone to a vigil Mass the previous evening, she decided to park herself on the stair landing inside Maryhouse and simply wait for the woman to show up.

Three hours later, quite discouraged, she was ready to leave her post.

Then it happened! Just as Mom was about to abandon her watch, Dorothy Day — looking frail and thin, but carrying an undeniable aura of holiness about her — stepped through the door. Day clearly seemed “someplace else.” Not thinking that the holy woman might be deep in prayer, my excited mother jumped up and introduced herself.

Who knows what Day might have thought about this young woman’s boldness, but very kindly and quietly she explained to my mother, “I would talk to you right now, but I’m coming from holy Communion, and I’m in a spirit of thanksgiving.”

It was the first time someone had ever said such a thing to Mom or provided an example of what Eucharistic thanksgiving looked like. While she was raised in a devout household and spent much of her time surrounded by priests and nuns, she’d never seen such a display of Eucharistic gratitude.

The encounter was permanently imprinted on her memory. Dorothy Day was herself a bold woman, one who knew her own mind and that mind was completely conformed to Christ, absent of all ego.

“Maybe I should have that,” my mother thought to herself.

While they never had the conversation my mother hoped for, she’d still encountered Day in a profound moment of personal witness and example, one that never left her.

In subsequent years, my mother realized Day must have walked from the church back to Maryhouse — through the bustle and noise of one of the busiest cities in the world — in complete interior focus and adoration of Jesus Christ. How much discipline it took to be able to shut out the city entirely and give thanks, carrying Christ with her on that journey home.

Dorothy Day passed away three years later, while living in Maryhouse, having left her mark on society and on

my mother, who went on to help run the first Catholic Worker house in Rochester. The emergency shelter for women and children was the first of five houses that she helped found. She dedicated her time to the Catholic Worker before getting married and raising five children, with the example of Dorothy Day being ever-present for her, even now.

“I tried to emulate her example, however imperfectly, in the circumstances I found myself — in the opportunities presented to me,” Mom once told me.

Thus, an earnest outreach during an unintentional interruption of holy prayer was the powerful catalyst for her own lifelong, quiet journey with Catholic social action and within Eucharistic intimacy.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us clearly that, “the Eucharist is a sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Father; a blessing by which the Church expresses her gratitude to God for all his benefits” (No. 1360). Yet too often, perhaps in our well-intended haste to be a more social church, Mass has become something to rush out of so we might grab a coffee in the parish hall, or have a catch-up chat in the aisle. While fellowship is crucial to a thriving church, Eucharistic thanksgiving fades away amid all that activity.

There is a famous story of the 16th-century saint Philip Neri. While celebrating Mass he noticed a man receiving Communion and leaving early. He sent two acolytes to follow the man, bearing lighted candles. Confused, the man returned and asked Neri why he’d

(Continued on page 25)

VOL. 93

MESSENGER

NO. 34

Official newspaper of the Diocese of Covington

Cathedral Square • 1125 Madison Ave. • Covington, Ky. 41011-3115
Telephone: (859) 392-1500 E-mail: messenger@covdio.org
www.covdio.org

(UPS-403-650) Published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Covington, Ky.; 44 issues a year (weekly except from June 1 to mid-August, when published every other week; not published the week after Easter and two weeks at Christmas/New Year's). Subscription rate: \$19 per year; \$40 foreign. Periodical Postage paid at Covington, KY 41012 and additional mailing office Cincinnati, Ohio 45203. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to MESSENGER, 1125 Madison Ave., Covington, KY 41011-3115.
Advertising deadline: Wednesday noon, 9 days prior to publication date.
Editorial deadline: Friday noon, 7 days prior to date.
Subscriptions, address changes: Contact Circulation Dept. at above address.

Bishop John C. Iffert Publisher
Laura Keener Editor, General Manager
Chuck BrinkmanAdvertising Manager
Laura Gillespie.....Production Coordinator/Designer
Maura Baker.....Staff Writer

COMMENTARY

The black hood(ie)

Fall quickly approaches. With it comes firepits, chili, football and cooler weather. It is time to dig out the sweat-shirts — my favorite hoodie awaits!

GUEST



Sister Eileen O'Connell, O.S.B.

It is well-worn — some might even say worn out. But, to me, it is familiar and almost comforting. It fits just right, has pockets (a must!), and is super soft. And, of course, a hood for those days when a little extra warmth is needed.

While the name for the hooded sweatshirt has morphed into “hoodie” over the years, its practical purpose has not changed. It is there for protection from wind, cold and the elements. But

Benedictines (the men) have been wearing hoods for centuries as part of the habit.

I was curious today about the meaning behind it — there is always a deeper meaning. Here is what I found: “The hood is used most effectively in prayer as a way of focusing on Christ and repelling distractions.

Symbolically, it makes you look straight ahead on the path to the kingdom of God, not looking to the left or the right for paths that lead him away from the goal.”

A hood as a spiritual tool. Who woulda thunk it? We are currently developing a program at school (Villa Madonna Academy) in which students can earn their black hoodie as a sign of belonging and community and to promote the deeper meaning of centering on God and faith.

Entrenched in Benedictine values, being focused on the kingdom of God is primary, and the symbolism will, hopefully, not be lost on the students after an explanation. We go to God and we go together “with the Gospel for our guide, that we may deserve to see him who has called us to his kingdom” (Rule of Benedict, Prologue, v. 21).

The ordinary becomes the extraordinary. Something like a hooded sweatshirt, that the majority of people own, can remind us of who we are and who we are called to be. We are children of God trying to stay on the path to the kingdom. What keeps you on the path?

Benedictine Sister Eileen O'Connell is a member of St. Walburg Monastery, Villa Hills and a teacher at Villa Madonna Academy. Her reflection first appeared on the community's blog Reflections from the School for the Lord's Service online at www.stwalburg.org, and is reprinted with permission.

Stay the course, push ahead

The readings for the twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time — Cycle A — are: **Isiah 5:1-7; Philippians 4:6-9 and Matthew 21:33-43.**

I recently read a story about a young man, Tom, from Australia who, at the age of 18, opened his own coffee shop.

Much had to be done before the shop could open. You can imagine how hectic it must have been graduating from high school and trying to start a business at the same time.

With the help of his dad the shop opened for business. The young man, Tom, had no customers on the first day the shop opened for business. Of course, he was upset at all the work he had put into the shop, and no one came. Tom shared his experience on TikTok from the first day his head

GO AND GLORIFY



Father Gregory Bach

was in his hands until the day the coffee shop had many customers. Tom realized that he had to stay the course, push ahead and follow his dream.

We all go through experiences like Tom did when we plan an event and execute our plan, and no one shows up or there's little interest. We get discouraged and want to abandon our plan and just quit.

Of course, we have all had moments when our plans, our events were successful, and we know that we have done our best and followed through.

This weekend we hear from the letter to the Philippians which says, “Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and see in me.”

Keep on doing what you have learned. From our baptism we are called to be children of God and that is what we are. As children we are called to live our life according to what we learn, as we grow in faith. It is not only about a child, but as adults we are children of God, and we are called to remember what we have learned and received and heard.

Through the Word of God, we hear what God has done throughout the history of salvation. We hear the words of Jesus as he teaches and heals, as he laid down his life for us and rose victorious from the grave.

The life of Jesus wasn't like opening a shop that no one came to on the first day. Jesus was about taking the message to the people. We can't sit around idle all day. We need to be more like Jesus and take the Gospel message out to others.

There is a world much in need of that great love of God. That world awaits the message of God, and we are the ones who are called to proclaim it on the rooftops when we walk out the door every day.

Let us go forth this day with the knowledge that we take not only the Word of God with us, but we also carry with us love, compassion and the peace of Christ. Stay the course. Push ahead. Follow the path God has prepared for you.

Father Gregory Bach is assistant to the Bishop and vice-chancellor, Diocese of Covington, Ky

Why the rosary, why now?

It's easy for Catholics to take the rosary for granted. We tend to purchase them as souvenirs, or carry them around with us, or even wear them — but we forget the immense power that they have when we actually pray them. And that's really too bad, because a devotion to the rosary can be the answer to so many struggles in our 21st-century world.

Our society today faces growing secularism and the disappearance of faith from the public square. We find ourselves confronting a world awash in the spread of evil and terrorism, war and violence. We are plagued by broken families, abounding distractions and a general

lack of drive for holiness. But the rosary can help. And we know this because Mary herself told us this 100 years ago in Fátima, Portugal, when she appeared six times to three shepherd children from May to October 1917. She told them repeatedly: “Recite the rosary every day to obtain peace for the world and the end of the war.” Sister Lucia dos Santos, the eldest Fatima seer whom the church just declared “venerable,” emphasized the message of Mary, who introduced herself to the children as “Our Lady of the Rosary,” throughout her long life.

We also know the great value of the rosary because it has manifested its power time and time again in the lives of men and women of faith throughout history. This, of course, isn't because the rosary is magical; it's because it brings us to Jesus. As the late Cardinal Francis E. George, archbishop of Chicago, said at the conclusion of the Year of the Rosary in 2003: The rosary “brings us to the heart of the Gospel.”

In today's typical lifestyle, it is easy to become distracted and overwhelmed by all of the “noise.” Technology is constantly demanding our attention. We sit in front of screens and, at the same time, look at smaller screens. We are drawn in by the lure of social media alerts and use texting as a primary form of communication. We have developed an “always on” or “always available” mentality, and noise no longer knows any boundaries. A recent Nielson report issued said that Americans, on average, spend 11 hours a day looking at some type of screen. It's easy for us to tell ourselves we're being productive and that this abundance of “screen time” is necessary, but the

reality is that all that noise is damaging to our relationship with God.

This is not just a 21st-century problem, although it has become more pronounced in recent decades. In 1973, Cardinal Albino Luciani — then-archbishop of Venice who would go on to become Pope John Paul I — gave a homily that identified a “crisis of prayer” in the world — adding that part of the reason was due to the fact that “noise has invaded our existence.”

If he thought that life was noisy in 1973, what would Papa Luciani think of 2017?

We also face an abundance of internal noise. We are distracted by interior barriers to prayer that often manifest themselves in the form of pride and self-centeredness. In all of these moments of difficulty, we can turn to the rosary. The meditative quality of the devotion can help focus us and break through the external noise. At the same time, by praying this simple prayer frequently, faithfully and with humility, we can break down our internal barriers.

One of the intellectual, spiritual and even media giants of the 20th century was Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen. Archbishop Sheen also had a deep devotion to the Blessed Mother, and he dedicated a book to her called “The World's First Love, Mary, Mother of God.”

He also spoke much about her in public. In a talk titled “The Woman I Love,” Archbishop Sheen indicated how Mary and the church were intertwined because “as we discontinue our devotion to the Blessed Mother, there is always a decline in the love of the church.” Fascinating, isn't it? The less we pray to and venerate Mary, the less we are connected to the church. It would follow, then, that the opposite also is true. The more we honor and pray to Mary, especially in her signature prayer of the rosary, the more our love for and devotion to the church will increase.

And this is a devotion that we desperately need today. Catholics in the 21st century are experiencing a massive decline of love of the church. The country is experiencing a massive decline of love of the church. The country is experiencing a rise in the religiously unaffiliated, or “nones.” It also is facing a large — and growing — gap between the moral teachings of the church and the evolution of our secular society. Recent years have seen an increase in cultural mores and public policies at odds with church teaching, which means that church teaching is increasingly at odds with the laws of the land. Part of the problem is widespread lack of faith formation, particularly for many adult, cradle Catholics.

The universal call to holiness is expressed in the Second Vatican Council's “Lumen Gentium” (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church) — which reminds us that we

are called to “be perfect as your heavenly father is perfect.” When wanting to achieve holiness, where else is it better to look than to those men and women who have already done so — that is, the saints themselves. “The saints and blessed of paradise remind us, as pilgrims on Earth, that prayer, above all, is our sustenance for each day so that we never lose sight of our eternal destiny,” St. John Paul said. “For many of them the rosary ... was the privileged instrument for their daily discourse with the Lord. The rosary led them to an ever more profound intimacy with Christ and with the Blessed Virgin.”

Gretchen R. Crowe is the editor-in-chief of OSV News and the author of “Why the Rosary, Why Now?” (OSV, 2017).

Synod begins work with focus on Holy Spirit and listening

Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

Pope Francis opened the work of the assembly of the Synod of Bishops asking members to meditate on ancient theological texts about the Holy Spirit, have the courage to be honest about their disagreements and focus much more on listening than on sharing their opinions.

The synodal process “is not easy, but it’s beautiful, very beautiful,” Pope Francis told some 364 other synod members and 85 non-voting experts, ecumenical delegates and facilitators the afternoon of Oct. 4 as the synod work began in the Vatican audience hall.

“A certain asceticism” is needed for the synod, the pope said. He asked forgiveness from journalists trying to cover the monthlong meeting but insisted “a certain fasting from public words” would be needed to ensure the proper spiritual atmosphere for the synod members.

And, in fact, the synod rules distributed that evening said, “In order to guarantee the freedom of expression of each and all regarding their thoughts and to ensure the serenity of the discernment in common, which is the main task entrusted to the assembly, each of the participants is bound to confidentiality and discretion regarding both their own interventions and the interventions of other participants.”

Pope Francis also repeated what he has said many times: “the synod is not a parliament” where the ideas of opposing parties will be debated and voted up or down along party lines. Neither, he said, is it “a meeting of friends” getting together to exchange opinions and try to solve problems they see around them.

“The synod is a journey that the Holy Spirit makes,” he said, so constant prayer and listening are necessary to follow the path the Spirit indicates.

“The Holy Spirit triggers a deep and varied dynamism in the Christian community, the confusion of Pentecost,” when people from every nation heard the disciples speaking in their own languages, the pope said. From the experience, the Spirit creates not uniformity, but harmony.

Differences of opinion will surface, he said. “If you don’t agree with what that bishop or that nun or that lay person says, say it to their face. That’s what the synod is for. To tell the truth, not the chatter under the table.”

Pope Francis also acknowledged how people outside the synod members are offering “hypotheses about this synod — ‘But what will they do there?’ ‘The priesthood for women?’ — these are the things that are being said out-

side.”

But what is happening, he said, is that the universal Church has gathered in Rome to pause and to listen.

“The Church has stopped, as the apostles stopped after Good Friday, on that Holy Saturday,” closed in the Upper Room, he said. “But they were afraid; we are not. ... It is a pause for the whole Church to listen.”

Cardinal Mario Grech, secretary-general of the synod, told the members, “Today the Church is at a crossroads, and the urgent challenge, strictly speaking, is not of a theological or ecclesiological nature, but how at this moment in history the Church can become a sign and instrument of God’s love for every man and woman.”

“God’s love is the medicine that can heal today’s wounded humanity, and as the Church our mission is to be a sign of this love,” he said.

In discerning the best ways to do that, Cardinal Grech said, participants should remember the assembly is not “an isolated act,” but part of a process that began two years ago with local, diocesan, national and continental listening sessions.

The presence of members who are not bishops — some 70 priests, religious, lay men and women — is not meant to represent “the totality of the People of God,” he said, but to “remind us with their presence” of the whole synod process and its invitation for all Catholics to participate, sharing their experiences of things that help or hinder their sense of communion, participation and mission.

Cardinal Jean-Claude Hollerich, relator general of the synod, noted how the members were gathered at round tables in the Vatican audience hall rather than in the rows of the synod hall to promote conversation but also to remind them of similar experiences they had at listening sessions in their parishes and dioceses.

“Bishops who were not very active in the process but have been elected by their (bishops’) conferences,” he said, “may face challenges at the beginning.

On the other hand, there are the members who are not bishops. Many among them were particularly involved in the continental stage of this synod and are called to testify their experience.”

In the synod discussions, he urged members to remember that each person, with his or her differences, is a Christian trying to follow the Lord.

“The Church is the people of God, walking through history, with Christ in her midst,” Cardinal Hollerich said. “It is only normal that there is a group walking at his right, another at his left, while some run ahead and others lag behind.”

From any of those positions, he said, when a person looks at the Lord, “they cannot help but see the group that is doing the opposite: those walking on the right will see those walking on the left, those running ahead will see those lagging behind.”

“In other words, the so-called progressives cannot look at Christ without seeing the so-called conservatives with him and vice-versa,” he said. “Nevertheless, the important thing is not the group to which we seem to belong, but walking with Christ within his Church.”

Participants in the assembly of the Synod of Bishops gather in the Paul VI Audience Hall at the Vatican before the first working session of the assembly of the Synod of Bishops October 4, 2023.



CNS photo/Lola Gomez



A little help can make a big difference.



**3705 Winston Ave, Latonia KY
(859) 261-0746
seniorresource@stcharlescommunity.org**

**Listening.
Caring.
Helping.
Providing the
tools for seniors
and families to
navigate aging
services.**

**BRANCHES AND LEAVES
OUR FAMILY TREES**



**Let Us Trace Your Family Ancestry
References Available Upon Request**

**(859) 620-0177
kaxquin9239@gmail.com**

PEOPLE AND EVENTS

The prayer intention for October as recommended by Pope Francis is for the Synod. We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

The weekly TV Mass from the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption is broadcast locally on The CW, Sundays, noon to 1 p.m. Viewers can tune-in on the following channels: antenna 12.2; Spectrum 117 or 25; Cincinnati Bell 17 or 517; and DirectTV 25.

St. Mary’s Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington, offers Veneration of a relic of the True Cross, on the first Friday of every month, from noon–1 p.m. Confessions are offered concurrently. The monthly veneration is held in silence and concludes with a blessing and the opportunity for the faithful to come forward to personally venerate the True Cross relic. The monthly veneration is sponsored by the Knights and Dames of the Covington-Lexington section of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

Bishop Brossart High School, Alexandria, Art Gallery presents “St. Francis of Assisi,” a display of St. Francis statues on loan from St. Mary/Bishop Brossart alumni. Statues range in size from 3 inches to 4 feet tall and represent both indoor and outdoor statues. Show dates are Sundays only, Oct. 1-29, noon-4 or by appointment (859) 630-2874.

St. Joseph Church, Camp Springs, will be hosting their Oktoberfish Fish Fries, October 13, 4–7:30 p.m. Dine-in and carry-out available, more information at www.stjosephcampsprings.org.

The 6th Annual, international Rosary Coast to Coast event will be October 7 at 1 p.m., at the Grotto of the Two Hearts at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Burlington. Please join us as we pray to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary all four sets of mysteries, on the actual feast of the Holy Rosary, in reparation for the sins of our fallen world. Fr. Joe Rielage will be our main leader. This event will happen rain or shine. Please bring a chair. (And any priests who are able to join us please contact Fr. Joe). Questions: Jeanette at jmlandenwitch@yahoo.com, Joann at jodugan66@gmail.com

Thomas More University’s theater program welcomes new director Phillip Webster. Originally from the Northern Kentucky area, Webster brings a fascinating and diverse background to the role. He served in the U.S. Air Force and in 2021, founded SouthBank Shakespeare in Bellevue. The first show of the season at Thomas More is Shakespeare’s “Twelfth Night,” Oct. 13-15 and 20-21; Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. For information, visit www.thomasmore.edu/program/theater/.

St. Augustine Church, Augusta, Bingo/social, Oct. 15, 1-5 p.m., in church basement. Need to be over 18 to play bingo. Entry fee \$10, additional cards optional. Bingo, pull tabs, split-the-pot, refreshments and meal; proceeds benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Chapter of Bracken County.

The Institute for Religious Liberty welcomes Stephanie Barclay, director, Notre Dame Law School Religious Liberty initiative, as the keynote speaker for its fall event, Oct. 19, 7 p.m., Steigerwald Hall in the Saints Center of Thomas More University’s campus. Guest commentators include Holly Hinckley Lesan, International Center for Law & Religion Studies at Brigham Young University (BYU) Law School and Gary Greenberg, retired principal in the Cincinnati law office of Jackson Lewis P.C. and president of the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati. For information visit thomasmore.edu/religiousliberty.

Save the date for Thomas More University’s fall interfaith event hosted by the Wm. T. (Bill) Robinson III ‘67 Institute for Religious Liberty on Oct. 19, 2023. The event begins at 7 p.m. with Stephanie Barclay as keynote speaker. Barclay directs Notre Dame University’s Law School’s Religious Liberty Initiative, which promotes freedom of religion or belief for all people through advocacy, student formation, and scholarship. More details to come. Visit thomasmore.edu/religiousliberty for more information.

The ninth annual Catholic Men’s Eucharistic Procession, Oct. 21, beginning with Mass celebrated by Archbishop Dennis Schnur, 8 a.m., Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains, following Mass, a two-mile procession through downtown Cincinnati; 11 a.m. benediction, Old St. Mary’s Church. For information call (513) 305-6719 or visit facebook.com/holy-namecincinnati.

St. Joseph Parish, Cold Spring, PTO Craft Show accepting vendor applications for its craft show Nov. 4, 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Table prices include 8-foot tables and two chairs. One table: \$30; two tables: \$50, electric available for an additional \$2.50 per table. Set up the evening before the craft show available. Contact Rebecca Stidham at fawn.stidham486@gmail.com.

A faith-based support group, New Beginnings provides separated and divorced individuals the opportunity for healing and growth. In this group, participants find new understanding of themselves and their relationships and gain courage to discover new life. Registration is required. Visit <https://covidio.org/new-beginnings-2/> or call (859) 392-1500, ext.1592. The next session will be held on consecutive Thursdays, Oct.12 – Dec. 7, 7 – 8:30 p.m., Holy Trinity Elementary School, Bellevue.

DCCH Children’s Home Flea Market, Ft. Mitchell, year-round, 8:30 a.m.– noon, Monday, Thursday, and Saturday; (Dec.– April, Monday, Thursday and every 3rd Saturday). Donation drop-off during Flea Market hours or at drop-off box anytime.

Citizens Federal

Certificate Special

5.10%^{APY}

12 Months

433 Madison Avenue-Covington, Kentucky 859-431-0087

Hours: Mon. thru Thurs. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

\$1,000.00 minimum deposit required for 12 month certificates. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. "APY" refers to the annual percentage yield earned on account. Rates are subject to change without notice. Member FDIC.

FDIC

OSV

kids

October

Saint of the Month — St. Faustina Kowalska (d. 1938)
Feast day: Oct. 5

St. Faustina Kowalska was born in Poland in 1905. She entered the convent of the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy at age 20. She seemed to those around her to be a very ordinary nun as she worked in the kitchens and gardens. However, in 1931, she was blessed by a vision of Jesus. She wrote in her diary:

In the evening, when I was in my cell, I became aware of the Lord Jesus clothed in a white garment. One hand was raised in blessing, the other was touching the garment at the breast. From the opening of the garment at the breast there came forth two large rays, one red and the other pale. In silence I gazed intently at the Lord;

my soul was overwhelmed with fear, but also with great joy. After a while Jesus said to me, “Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the inscription: Jesus, I trust in You.”

Prepare for Mass

Oct. 8 — Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Matt 21:33-43)

Using the image of a vineyard, Jesus tells a story (a parable) reminding us that we all have to care for God’s kingdom. We are needed by God in this vineyard, as good workers, as good gardeners.

—Who has helped you live for God’s kingdom?

Before her death at age 33, she had other visions of Jesus, all of which centered on the message of God’s great mercy for humanity. Pope St. John Paul II had a particular devotion to St. Faustina and established Divine Mercy Sunday, which is celebrated each year on the Sunday one week after Easter Sunday.

In her memory:
— Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy

OSV Kids is a monthly children’s magazine helping kids live and love and their Catholic faith. For more information go to osvkids.com.

Polish Sister St. Faustina Kowalska is depicted with an image of Jesus Christ the Divine Mercy. St. Faustina, a nun with the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in Warsaw, is known as the apostle of divine mercy.



CNS photo/Nancy Wiechec

OCTOBER IS
RESPECT LIFE MONTH

SPECIAL SECTION OF THE MESSENGER

RESPECT LIFE MONTH



Models used for illustrative purposes only. iStock.com/SDI Productions.

radical solidarity

Inspired by Christ's own example of love, may we "enter fully into the fabric of society, sharing the lives of all, listening to their concerns, helping them materially and spiritually in their needs, rejoicing with those who rejoice, weeping with those who weep." May we work together to bring about a culture of life through radical, sacrificial, Christ-like love.

To learn more about the call to radical solidarity — including ways that you can help support pregnant and parenting women in your community — visit respectlife.org/radical-solidarity.

RESPECT LIFE

Is actively loving as Jesus loves really radical?

Most Rev. John Iffert
Bishop of Covington

Lately, the daily news program that I watch has taken to labeling those of us who believe that every human life has innate dignity and incomparable value as “radical” or “extremist.” They confuse my belief that every human being is a unique child of God, made in God’s image and likeness, with “a radical anti-reproductive healthcare agenda.” What would have once been considered a principled stance for human life is now treated as antisocial behavior.

It catches me by surprise every time I hear it, because I associate those words with people who are willing to choose the path of violence. Terrorists and assassins are radicals and extremists. Their way of being in the world is the embrace of the bomb or the bullet. This is the opposite worldview from those of us who call for life to be respected and esteemed from conception to natural death. We only want holy and good things for our neighbors.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has named October “Respect Life Month.” I cringe just a little at the theme organizers chose for 2023 — Radical Solidarity. It is uncomfortable for me to reappropriate the term “radical” that way or to think of myself as radicalized. It is too soon. I am still offended and surprised by my news network’s editorial policies.

Of course, what respect life organizers are hoping to emphasize is the degree to which Catholic Christians value every human life. Jesus teaches us to love God with all our strength and to love our neighbor as ourselves. He teaches us to live sacrificially, laying down our life for a friend.

Solidarity is the way we put this love into action. It is the way we dedicate ourselves to promoting the good of others. Solidarity, St. John Paul II once wrote, “is not a feel-



Bishop John Iffert

helped to obtain abortions.

We rejoice in the giftedness of those who are differently abled and give thanks to God for giving them to us as brothers and sisters in Christ.

We protect our common home — the earth — and willingly live with less so that others can live.

We visit the imprisoned and uphold the lives of the guilty and the innocent alike.

We walk with victims of crime and abuse. We protect refugees. We work for peace and against violence in families, communities, and between nations.

ing of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people... On the contrary, it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good ... to the good of all and of each individual, because we are all really responsible for all.”


So, we journey with others, embracing the life and dignity of every neighbor. We walk with moms in need (and dads) and care for their children — born and unborn. We pray constantly for conversion and change of heart for those doctors who have performed abortions and for husbands and boyfriends who have

encouraged or

“The first and most fundamental of all human rights is the right to life, and when this right is denied all other rights are threatened ...”

Pope St. John Paul II


From the Address to the New Ambassador of New Zealand to the Holy See, (May, 2000).



Right to Life
of Greater Cincinnati
Protecting Life at Every Age and Every Stage


CincinnatiRighttoLife.org





Radiating
God’s
Goodness

“Courageous souls are needed for the service of the good God.”
St. Julie Billiart



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

Educating Women to Make a Difference in the World

Respect Life.

Radical Solidarity — a call to put love into action

Faye Roch
Contributor

This summer when I received the theme for the 2023 Respect Life Program from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, I was a bit skeptical. Radical Solidarity sounded, well radical. Knowing that this theme was not chosen haphazardly, I decided to do some research, or googling.

What I found intrigued me. The first item I read was radical solidarity as coined by St. Pope John Paul II. St. Pope John Paul II met with Gertrude Mongella, secretary general of the Fourth Conference of Women. After that meeting was inspired to write a letter to women on behalf of the Catholic Church prior to the Fourth World Conference on Women of the United Nations in 1995.

radical solidarity

to be courageously pro-woman, promoting a choice that truly protects, accompanies, and supports women and their children

This beautiful letter from St. Pope John Paul expresses the Church's deep love and respect for women. He acknowledges that the dignity of every human being is the foundation and concept of universal human rights, grounded in the truth of the human person being created in the image and likeness of God.

He wrote about the Holy See's appreciation of and the hopes and fears and concerns and demands of women all over the world, and the importance of the presence and participation of women in all aspects of social life.

St. John Paul II recognized the burden our culture puts on women when a "so called" solution to an unwanted pregnancy is an abortion.
(Continued on page 16)

He'll never forgive me for this

Never let your past become an obstacle between you and God




project rachel
Peace starts here



Come Back to God,
WHO is love and Mercy
Confidential Help

(859) 392-1547
or Email
projectrachel@covdio.org

Help after abortion — Confidential

DBL Law

Make the move to protect the ones you love.

ESTATE PLANS | WILLS | TRUSTS | POWERS OF ATTORNEY

Learn more at dbllaw.com/estate-planning






Emily Hanna
859-341-1881


Bob Hoffer
859-426-2105

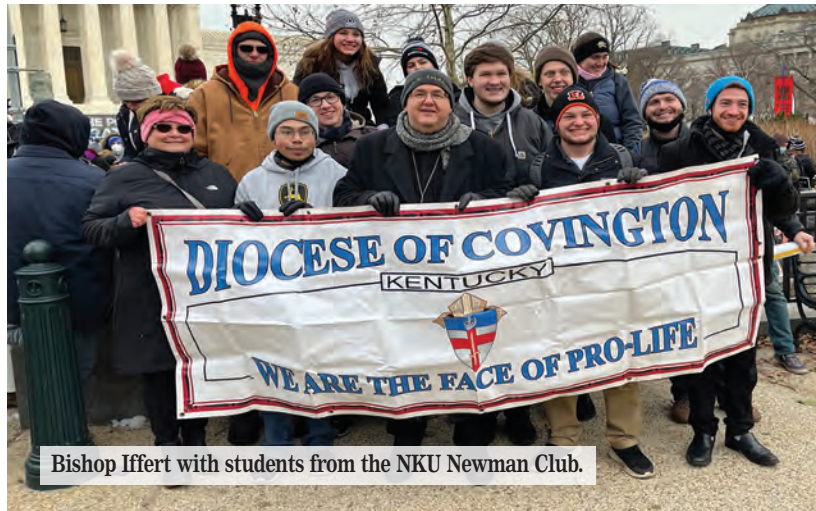

Kelly Holden
513-357-5284


Jim Dressman
859-426-2150


Ryan Whitaker
859-426-2158


Colleen Fausz
859-426-2169

THIS IS AN ADVERTISEMENT - Other DBL Law attorneys may provide estate planning services.



Bishop Iffert with students from the NKU Newman Club.



(left) Alan Pickett, executive director, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Covington, at the March for Life in Washington.



(left) A young participant at the Cross the Bridge for Life.



(above) Families participate and (right) Bishop Iffert with a statue of Our Lady of Fatima at the Cross the Bridge for Life.



The Franciscan Daughters of Mary attend Mass at the March for Life in Washington, D.C.



Scouts lead the Cross the Bridge for Life.



Pro-Life Office
of the Diocese of Covington

RESPECT LIFE

Programs and Activities of the Pro-Life Office

The Pro-Life Office actively implements the Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), which calls upon the Church, its people and its institutions in a four-prong program in defense of human life. The Pro-Life Office employs the four components of prayer, pastoral care, education and public policy called for in this Pastoral Plan throughout the diocese through the following programs and activities:

Parish Coordinator Gathering for Prayer and Education* —

Parish and pro-life leadership members are invited to gather for prayer, information and education. This evening allows parish pro-life leaders to learn about resources available to them and they have the opportunity to share information, resources and ideas.

Respect Life Program Materials —

These materials are published by the USCCB Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities and are distributed by the Pro-Life Office to be used as a resource in preparation for October, Respect Life Month, these resources are also for use throughout the year. This years' theme is "Radical Solidarity."

Diocesan Pro-Life Mass* —

Held during October, Respect Life Month, all in the diocese are invited to come together to show our solidarity for the cause of life by celebrating the Eucharist with our Bishop and the

priests of our diocese at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption.

Grade School Essay Contest and Banquet*—

This contest is offered to all eighth graders in our diocese during the month of October to provide students with an opportunity to reflect on the Church's teaching concerning the sacredness of life from conception to natural death. A banquet is held in March honoring the top twenty contestants of the Essay Contest. The Knights of Columbus along with the Pro-Life Office provide scholarship awards to the top three essays. March for Life —The annual March for Life takes place in our nation's capital every January, commemorating the Supreme Court Decision that legalized abortion on January 22, 1973. For over 40 years, thousands of people from the Diocese of Covington community have participated in this event.

Catholics at the Capitol —

Led by the Catholic Conference of Kentucky, Catholic's at the Capitol hosts a day giving the diocesan community the opportunity for education and advocacy around issues like the death penalty, abortion, gun violence, school choice and criminal justice reform. In 2023, Catholic's at the Capitol event will be held in the Diocese of Covington at the Curia, Bishop Howard Memorial Auditorium, date TBA.

Spiritual Adoption —

The Pro-Life Office encourages all schools and parishes to offer the opportunity to pray for the health and life of an unborn baby. This program, designed for first grade on up educates children at an early age about the dignity and sacredness of all human life. The Pro-life Office provides all of the necessary resource materials needed.

Memorial Mass for the Loss of a Child —

The intention of this memorial Mass is to offer support and God's healing embrace through prayer and community outreach to help lift the burden of grief experienced by parents and families who have lost a child.

Cross the Bridge for Life* —

The Annual Cross the Bridge for Life takes place on the first Sunday of June. Walk across the Purple People Bridge with people from the Greater Cincinnati community to witness on behalf of the sanctity of all human life.

We Choose Life -

A monthly page in the Messenger, featuring timely articles and information concerning life issues.

Project Rachel* —

God's Greatest Desire is to forgive, and the Catholic Church wants to reach out showing its Mercy and offer healing and



Bishop Iffert helps lead the Cross the Bridge for Life.



Mother Seraphina and the Franciscan Daughters of Mary are honorees at Life's a Ball.



Lyndi Zembrodt, executive director, Care Net Pregnancy Services of Northern Kentucky, was an honoree at Life's a Ball.

Resources of the Pro-Life Office

Faye Roch, Director
(859) 392-1500
froch@covdio.org

Peggy Piccola,
Assistant Director
(859) 392-1500
ppiccola@covdio.org

Website
www.covdio.org

Project Rachel
Confidential
post-abortion healing
(859) 392-1547
projectrachel@covdio.org

reconciliation to women and men who have had an abortion experience. Project Rachel is a confidential ministry; healing sessions are held throughout the year. For more information, please call our confidential phone number (859) 392-1547, or confidential email projectrachel@covdio.org.

Monarch Society* —

This is a support group that comes together to promote and provide an environment of ongoing prayer and support for those who have completed Project Rachel.

Catholic Medical Association —

The Catholic Medical Association is a growing professional organization that is committed in supporting physicians and healthcare professionals in offering health care in conformity to Christ the Divine Physician. The Diocese of Covington has established a guild of the Catholic Medical Association, the Sts. Teresa of Calcutta and Faustina Guild.

RESPECT LIFE

Radical Solidarity

(Continued from page 13)

He recognized that a woman bears the heaviest burden in bearing a child and raising a child.

He promoted “radical solidarity” where we are challenged to be one with each other: “Radical Solidarity with women requires that the underlying causes which make a child unwanted be addressed. There will never by justice, including equality, development, and peace, for women or for men, unless there is an unfailing determination to respect, protect, love and serve life — every human life, at every stage and in every situation (Cf. Evangelium Vitae, 5 and 87).”

St. John Paul II’s beautiful letter on behalf of the Catholic Church acknowledges the needs of women and is a beautiful statement that every woman needs to read.

With this theme of Radical Solidarity, we are called to put our love into action. We are called to support and encourage others in their journey without judgement.

Faye Roch is director of the Pro-Life Office, Diocese of Covington, Ky

Respect Life Month: Ready, set, go!

We Choose Life Committee

Contributor

Each October the Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month. It is a time to remember that we are all made in the “imago Dei,” the image of God. (Gen 1:27), a time when all American Catholics are called to ponder the sanctity of human life and how we can be active in defending life from conception to natural death.

This special period challenges each of us to ask: Am I meeting my obligation to love my neighbor as myself? How am I cherishing and protecting the most vulnerable of God’s children? Whose life — other than my own — have I been nurturing?

Pro-life opportunities abound, for our Diocese and community to support human dignity in many ways year-round. For example, women in unplanned pregnancies



find spiritual, emotional, financial and material support from parishes and at regional pregnancy care centers. Similar aid is provided to the elderly, the infirm, immigrants, the unborn and entire families. Everywhere Catholics are serving, praying and donating so people will not just survive but flourish, whatever their circumstance.

As engaged pro-life Catholics, we strive to counter common threats to the weakest among us through public witness and personal service. We educate the public. We dedicate time and

Walking with Moms in Need (WWMN)

Every parish has been urged to adopt and adapt this urgently needed initiative of the USCCB, so that moms in difficult circumstances can find tangible and spiritual support and guidance nearby. WWMIN tells every mom in your area that your parish stands ready with help. You might connect her with pregnancy, adoption and similar organizations; provide meals or items directly; support local resource groups in various ways; and so on.

Choose life by joining your parish’s Walking with Moms in Need group — or start one — and pledge your prayerful support for all those you serve. WWMIN perfectly complements every parish Pro-Life Committee. Contact the Pro-Life Office or visit walkingwithmoms.com.

Pregnancy care centers

Northern Kentucky is blessed with a strong network of independent maternal and family resource centers. Services include confidential helplines, pregnancy testing and healthcare, pro-life counseling, adoption referrals, parenting classes, personal mentoring and practical and spiritual support.

Every center needs volunteers, material items and donations, as well as referrals of women you know who need their help. Care Net, New Hope Center, Madonna House and the Rose Garden Home Mission are just a few you can contact.

talents in countless ways, large and small, to directly assist our neighbors in need.

This October, during Respect Life Month, all Catholics are reminded to consider deeply such life issues and, more importantly, to act. Specifically:

- Prayerfully and thoughtfully re-orient your interior disposition from self toward others.
- Resolve to see Christ in others.
- Discern how you can and do show your love in visible care and concern.
- Finally, choose a deliberate action to embody that love.

Over the coming weeks, please pray about how you can join in safeguarding and supporting our brothers and sisters in need.

Can you do it all? Of course not. But whatever you choose, may you someday hear the Master’s praise: “Well done, good and faithful servant.” (Matt 25:21)



Small cards, a big help for those in need

The Pro-Life Office distributes business cards as a convenient way for everyone to participate in their ministry to women in need.

Project Rachel, a post-abortion ministry, cards are a discreet way to reach out to mothers dealing with the grief of abortion.

Unexpected pregnancy cards offer immediate information to pregnancy help resources. Scan the QR code for more resources.

These cards contain information and contact details to provide women with the support they need.

Quality & Service



Tradition of Service
with care & compassion
since the 1860's

"We can help you at a time of need."

Best Service Guaranteed



New one-level, no-steps building
Ample parking
Great Staff

Not affiliated with Middendorf-Bullock

859-341-7800
3312 Madison Pike, Fort Wright, KY
www.middendorf-funeralhome.com
Additional Parking at the Walt's Hitching Post back parking lot.

Support and Vote Pro-Life!

RESPECT LIFE

Parishes support mothers by ‘Walking With Moms in Need’

Maura Baker
Staff Writer

After the Supreme Court decision last summer to overturn Roe v. Wade, many parishes across the Diocese of Covington started up the “Walking With Moms in Need” (WWMIN) initiative, with the aim to provide assistance to mothers who need support for themselves and their child, be it monetarily, emotionally, spiritually or otherwise.

Deacon Mike Lyman, a parishioner of St. Henry, Elsmere, helps to coordinate a group of parishes with their initiatives in serving this ministry.

“We had a relatively small group of people at St. Henry

(Continued on page 18)



In July, the Walking With Moms in Need team at St. Henry, Elsmere, hosted a baby shower for Adamaris, a young, single mom who was introduced to the team by CareNet Pregnancy Services. The shower was organized by WWMIN and Welcome member, Diane Thoman with the purpose of making sure Adamaris had what she needed to care for a newborn, such as a crib mattress, pack-n-play, swing, stroller, diapers, etc.



LINNEMANN

FAMILY FUNERAL HOMES
AND CREMATION CENTER



KENTON COUNTY LOCATION - 30 COMMONWEALTH AVE., ERLANGER
BOONE COUNTY LOCATION - 1940 BURLINGTON PIKE, BURLINGTON

Locally owned and operated.
Proudly serving the families of Northern Kentucky since 1882.

Did you know that Linnemann is the only funeral home in Northern Kentucky with an on-site crematory?

Choosing Linnemann for your cremation needs means that you are not only given the utmost professional and compassionate care, but you have the peace of mind knowing you or your loved one never leave our care to go to a third party location.

OUR SERVICES

- Funeral Pre-planning
- Traditional Service
- Celebration of Life Ceremonies
- Full Service Cremation
- On-site Crematory
- Body Donation
- Pet Cremation



LINNEMANN
FAMILY FUNERAL HOMES
AND CREMATION CENTER

Doing more to make it easier for you!



St. Vincent de Paul Northern Kentucky
respects life by providing HOPE and
SUPPORT to our Northern Kentucky
neighbors in need.

2655 Crescent Springs Road
Covington, Kentucky 41017

Helpline: (859)-341-3219
Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.to 2p.m.



KNIGHTS OF ST JOHN
ST. IGNATIUS
COMMANDERY No. 94

Respect Life
And are
Pro Family

We proudly sponsor
The Diocesan Live Nativity
at St Pius X Church, Edgewood, Ky

We also sponsor Scholarships at
Holy Cross High School,
Newport Central Catholic High School
and St Henry District High School

We invite any Catholic Men, 16 years or older
to join our organization

Call Vic Canfield at 859-261-8140
or Tim Ryan at 859-866-6304 for more information

Parishes support mothers

(Continued from page 17)

who had been involved in pro-life and kind of transitioned into this,” Deacon Lyman said, “and we realized pretty early on that there were a lot of parishes that were trying to wrap their arms around this initiative ... So we’ve created basically what we call a collaborative of parishes,” meeting every month to coordinate their efforts, encourage one another, and share ideas.

Parishes in the collaborative include St. Henry, Elsmere, St. Agnes, Ft. Wright, Blessed Sacrament, Ft. Mitchell, Mary, Queen of Heaven, Erlanger, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Burlington, St. Barbara, Erlanger; St. Pius X, Edgewood, St. Paul, Florence, St. Timothy, Union, Mother of God, Covington, and St. Joseph, Crescent Spring.

The collaborative has tied in their efforts with the Pregnancy Care Network, working with organizations like CareNet Pregnancy Centers and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to help provide support for mothers in need within their community.

“We also have talked with Catholic Charities,” Deacon Lyman continued, “and we’re in the process of putting a small group together to work on creating a central call number that we can put out there in the communities and hopefully reach women who are in need, are struggling or who need some guidance.” From there, representatives on the line can connect callers to resources within the diocese, such as those in the Pregnancy Care Network.

Coordinating “community baby showers” for mothers within the community is another of the WWMIN collaborative’s major initiative. After the success of the first one held in Covington in the spring, the next one is set to occur Oct. 19 at St. Paul Church, Florence.

“All parishes in the collaborative are working to support that, to get things for that, to really help make it a success,” said Deacon Lyman. “Our hope is that we get well beyond 200 families coming there.”

“We continue each month to try and get new ideas out there to make sure that those parishes who only have one or two people have others in the collaborative that they can jump to,” Deacon Lyman said.

Deacon Lyman also emphasizes prayer within the collaborative. “I write the intercessions for our parish (St. Henry), so I make sure that nearly every week we have an intercession in there in support of WWMIN, and we encourage other parishes to do likewise.”

Entering October as Respect Life month, the collaborative has talked about the USCCB’s theme of “radical solidarity,” and the materials have been sent out to parishes to “make sure that we’re supporting people in the best way we possibly can.”



DCCH CENTER

For Children & Families

Celebrating Lasting Legacies





Life is a Gift from God

Catholic Charities, a Christ Centered Ministry
Proudly Supporting Life at all stages through:



- Mental Health Counseling
- School Based Counseling
- Parenting Classes
- Financial Literacy
- Home Ownership Programs
- Hot Meals at Parish Kitchen
- Mobile Food Pantry
- Supportive Housing
- Jail Ministry

and Referrals for other Services by partner agencies.

For information contact Client Care
(859)581-8974 or info@covingtoncharities.org

Respect Life Month



CARE♥NET

Pregnancy Services of Northern Kentucky

Saving unborn babies and mentoring their parents since 1999.





Congregation of the
Sisters of *Notre Dame*

One Heart. One Hope. One Mission.

"All life has inestimable value, even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn, and the poor are masterpieces of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect."

-Pope Francis



Enjoy, Respect and Love God's Gift of Life



CONNLEY BROTHERS FUNERAL HOME



Serving your family's needs since 1939

11 E. Southern Avenue, Latonia KY 41015

859-431-2241

www.connleybrothersfuneralhome.com

Locally owned and operated.



DOBBLING, MUEHLENKAMP & ERSHELL FUNERAL HOMES

OUR FAMILIES SERVING YOUR FAMILIES FOR GENERATIONS

859-491-4500

DMEFUNERAL.COM

Floral Hills Funeral Home



RESPECT LIFE *Life is a Gift from God!*

Robert A. Garner and Jennifer Myers together have over 30 years of experience in the funeral industry, and are involved in several organizations throughout Northern Kentucky. Robert and Jennifer are honored to be working as leaders in the death care industry, and set the highest standard for excellence in funeral service.

If Robert & Jennifer can be of service to you and your family, call 859-356-2151, or visit our website at www.floralhillsmemorialgardens.com

Or e-mail: rgarner@plcorp.com or jmyers@plcorp.com

In visits to Detroit cathedral, woman left there as baby in ‘50s reconnects with her roots

Daniel Meloy
OSV News

Every time Mary Fuller steps into the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Detroit, she reconnects with her roots.

It was 70 years ago when Fuller was found as a baby in the back pew of the cathedral by two nursing students, possibly left there by a mysterious man who asked where the rectory was and was never seen again, according to a Detroit News story from Jan. 27, 1953.

The two nurses took the baby to Detroit Receiving Hospital, giving her the name Mary Church as opposed to Jane Doe.

Through Catholic Social Services, Fuller was eventually adopted by Elizabeth and Leo Kraus, grew up alongside her three siblings in Our Lady of All Saints Parish in Fraser, a northern suburb of Detroit, and lived a prosperous life centered on family and the Catholic faith.

“I don’t even remember my parents sitting down and telling me I was adopted, we just always knew,” Fuller said during her most recent trip to the cathedral.

Fuller now lives in Florida but is sure to stop by the cathedral every time she comes back to Michigan to visit family.


“Along with my siblings, we always knew I was adopted,” she told the Detroit Catholic, the archdiocesan news



OSV News photo/Daniel Meloy, Detroit Catholic

Mary Fuller visits the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Detroit Aug. 18, 2023. Seventy years ago Fuller was found as a baby in the back pew of the cathedral by two nursing students, and through Catholic Social Services, she was adopted by a Catholic couple.

outlet. “Now my three younger siblings look identical, just like my mom, red hair, freckles, green eyes. Then there was me with the blonde hair. I just didn’t have the same fea-




Newport Central Catholic

Breds for LIFE!


We believe we are created in God’s image...
...called to give life and defend life.

Learn more about our
Breds for Life Club
And our school
at our
Open House
Wednesday, November 8
6:00-8:00 PM
www.ncchs.com
or call us at (859) 292-0001



Knights of Columbus


Fourth Degree



Bishop Flagel Assembly
of Northern Kentucky

**Supports and Is
Actively Engaged In the
Pro-Life Movement**

For information about the
Knights of Columbus, contact:
Dustin Reed, Faithful Navigator
(859) 866-2122




It's a beautiful GIFT!!

Sisters of St. Joseph the Worker

www.ssjiw.org

“Human life is always sacred.”
—Pope Francis



Sisters of Divine Providence

“The life and dignity of every person must be respected and protected at every stage and in every condition.”
—USCCB

www.cdpkentucky.org

tures. My dad would say I take after his side of the family.”

After high school, Fuller initially studied music at Wayne State University in Detroit, but switched to special education and started working with the Macomb Intermediate School District for 10 years. She earned a master’s in educational behavioral psychology, moved to Florida and began working as a behavioral specialist, earning another master’s in clinical counseling and finishing her doctoral studies at the University of South Florida.

Fuller frequently returned to Michigan with her younger brother Timothy, who is mildly disabled, to visit with family, particularly her sister, Lisa. Fuller and Lisa were very close, and Lisa was the backup caregiver for Tim.



And every trip back, she would make a journey to where it all started, the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament, where the bundled-up newborn was discovered by two nursing students.

The visits took on a greater meaning in 2019 when Lisa unexpectedly died.

“It was December 2019 when my sister Lisa died unexpectedly of an aneurysm, and that was Dec. 20,” Fuller said. “So it was Christmas Mass, we came down here that morn-

(Continued on page 22)

ALL LIFE MATTERS




The Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg

CATHOLIC NEWMAN CENTER
Northern Kentucky University

We will stand up!

“...we will stand up every time that human life is threatened. When the sacredness of life before birth is attacked, we will stand up and proclaim that no one ever has the authority to destroy unborn life.”


— Saint John Paul II —




*Our Choice
Is
For Life*

Passionist Nuns Monastery
1151 Donaldson Highway
Erlanger, KY 41018
Phone: (859) 371-8568

Covington Catholic
stands for
Life.




Educating young men
spiritually, academically,
physically, and socially.



COVINGTON
CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL
Catholic Diocese of Covington

The CATHEDRAL BASILICA
of the ASSUMPTION,
the Mother Church of the
DIOCESE OF COVINGTON
promotes the value of
all human life

Life is a gift from God —
From Conception to Natural Death




Yes.

You can truly be both
a medical professional
and a faithful Catholic.

CMA members are inspired to
grow in faith, maintain ethical
integrity, and provide excellent
health care in accordance with
the teachings of the Church.

Look into the benefits
of membership today!

Visit us online at
www.cathmed.org



The Catholic Medical Association helps physicians and
health care professionals uphold the principles of the
Catholic faith in the science and practice of medicine.

For Information on the Diocese of Covington
Saints Teresa of Calcutta & Faustina Guild
Contact:
William Wehrman, III, M.D. (859) 206-0746
Faye Roch (859) 392-1500

(Continued from page 21)

ing with my niece and were pretty broken. After Mass, we prayed, and then the deacon and Father J.J. (Mech, the cathedral rector) came up to us and talked to us.”

Fuller told Father J.J. her story of how she was found as a baby in the cathedral and was very intrigued by it. Lisa’s death caused Fuller to think about tracking down her roots. As Tim’s primary caregiver, she wanted to know if there were any genetic diseases or patterns she should be aware of.

It was less about finding family, more about figuring out where she came from. Fuller submitted a “23 and Me” DNA test and waited.

What she got was way more — and much better — than a family medical history.

“It was March 6, my grandson’s birthday, that I got an email saying I had a sister, and her name is Kelly Bell,” Fuller said. “So, 73 days after losing my sister, Lisa, I found another sister, Kelly. Kelly and I started writing back and

forth — this is all during the pandemic — and months later, we agreed to meet each other.”

Fuller learned that not only did she have a sister, but two brothers, David and Jack. Fuller’s biological mother, Barbara Braidwood, was a young girl who lived about six or seven blocks from the cathedral when she gave birth to Fuller.

“When I come into this church, I’m just thinking of my mom and what she went through,” Fuller said.

Fuller’s biological mom married and gave birth to Kelly, and the family moved to Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Fuller’s two half-brothers are musicians, a call back to Fuller first majoring in music at Wayne State. Curiously enough, when Fuller moved down to Florida in 1985, she was only an hour away from her siblings.

“Kelly and my brothers never knew I existed. For

them, it was overwhelmingly shocking,” Fuller said. “My brothers at first thought it wasn’t true. Until they saw the picture of me and my biological mother, saying, ‘Oh my God, you look more like her than any of us.’”

Fuller learned that Braidwood was an entertainer who once sang with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra and, by day, was a court reporter. Who Fuller’s father is remains a mystery.

“Kelly feels there was a time when she was 18 when Mom was trying to tell her something, but didn’t know how,” Fuller said. “She told me she remembers one night Mom was just sitting there, crying and crying, and it felt like she was carrying a burden. All three of my siblings



Let it be said
of us:
“We Stand
For Life”





ST. HENRY
DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

Every life is a gift from God.



COME AS **MANY**, LEAVE AS **ONE**

859.525.0255 | www.SHDHS.org

Franciscan Daughters of Mary

Rose Garden Home Mission




Upholding the Dignity
of Every Human Person
from the Moment of Conception
until Natural Death




Affirming Choices for LIFE!
Providing Moms & Families with Basic Needs
Pregnancy Tests | New Baby Welcome Baskets | Baby Supplies
Food Pantry | Free Medical & Dental Clinics

rosegardenmission@gmail.com
www.f dofmary.org



We Respect
the Dignity
of all
Human Life



THOMAS
MORE
UNIVERSITY

THOMASMORE.EDU | 859.341.5800
333 Thomas More Parkway, Crestview Hills, Ky. 41017

(Continued from page 22)

tell me what a wonderful, kind and loving person she was.” Braidwood died soon after this interaction with Kelly.

Fuller thinks all adopted children have a sense of longing for a connection to their birth parents, but she wouldn’t trade the life, the family, the faith in which she was raised.

“I know it was in the back of my head, wondering about my birth family, absolutely,” Fuller said. “I know every adoptive child has a different journey about that. In the back of my head, I can clearly tell you every birthday I would talk to her, saying things in my head like, ‘I hope you’re proud of me.’”

Fuller’s biological mother wasn’t Catholic, so she’s not so sure why she was left in the back pew of the cathedral, but it has created a lifelong connection between her and the church.

“I feel this deep sense of energy when I come to the cathedral; I feel my mom here, my biological mother here,” Fuller said. “I always said it feels like home here. This is my roots. Because I don’t have any other beginning, my beginning was right here in this church. So when I step in here, I walk and feel that energy of where I come from. It’s here. My connection to the Catholic Church is very deep, very profound because I was left here. I can’t imagine what my mom was going through, but I know in my heart I was meant to be here.”

Fuller’s visits to the cathedral have always been emotional affairs, knowing this is where her journey began, but they have taken on a deeper meaning ever since she got to know her birth family. She’s now connected to both families, the life she was meant to have all this time.

“I was able yesterday to sit in that pew over there with

Kelly, and we talked about our mom, and she said, ‘You know Mary, I think Mom is looking down on us now,’” Fuller said. “She sees her two daughters together, and I think she is really happy. We sat there together and had that moment, and I really hope my biological mother and adoptive mother are holding hands.”

“My adoptive mom was a great mom. She lived to be 95, and she said her greatest fear would be that I would find my biological mom and she would lose me; that was never going to happen,” Fuller added. “I want the two of them to bond and know they played a role in my life. I hope my mom knows that as a devout Catholic, my life has been about service.”

Daniel Meloy is a reporter at the Detroit Catholic, the news outlet of the Archdiocese of Detroit.

Protecting God’s Children for Adults Safe Environment Trainings

or all employees and volunteers of the Diocese of Covington who in any way provide a safe environment for children.

Step 1: Contact parish/school institution leader to review the Policies and Procedures and fill out the Application and Acceptance Forms.

Step 2: Go to www.virtus.org and click on Registration. Follow

the prompts to create an account and to request a background check. Selection.com is a secure site; the background check is posted on your account and you receive a copy if you request it during the registration process. You will sign up for a VIRTUS training class during the registration.

Step 3: Your account becomes active when your background

check, VIRTUS session and Acceptance Form are posted on your account. You will receive 12 bulletins per year. You will receive e-mail notices at system@pub.virtus.org unless your computer program blocks them.

Bulletins:

■ October bulletin: posted Sunday, Oct. 1; due Tuesday, Nov. 7.

www.virtusonline.org, enter you user id and password. If your account is suspended contact your primary location where you volunteer or are employed. Your primary location contact information is found under your Contact Tab.

VIRTUS Training:

■ Tuesday, Oct. 10, 6-8:30 p.m., St. Patrick School, Computer Lab, Maysville

■ Tuesday, Oct. 17, 9-11:30 a.m., Diocesan Curia, Bishop Howard Memorial Auditorium, Covington

■ Tuesday, Oct. 17, 6-8:30 p.m., Diocesan Curia, Bishop Howard Memorial Auditorium, Covington

Note: If your **Training Tab** is missing or you cannot access your account, contact your parish, school or institution.

For other difficulties, contact Marylu Steffen at (859) 392-1500 or msteffen@covdio.org

SHOPPER’S GUIDE



Hancock Drain Service Inc.
#1 in the #2 Business

Residential and Commercial

- All Types of Drains
- Problem Lines
- Preventive Maintenance
- Sump Pump Lines
- Jetting, Filming and Locating

(859) 356-6811
info@hancockdrainserviceinc.com

Austin Kunz Construction

DRAINAGE SYSTEMS		CONCRETE WORK
♦ French Drains	♦ Swales	♦ Driveways
♦ Culverts	♦ Catch Basins	♦ Patios
♦ Downspout Extensions	♦ Channel Drains	♦ Stamped
		♦ Cleaning & Sealing

EXCAVATING - GRADING - TRENCHING
RETAINING WALLS - BOBCAT WORK - GRAVEL DRIVES
STUMP GRINDING - WATER LINE REPLACEMENT

Residential **(859) 815-0779** Free Estimates
Commercial **St. Barbara Parishioner** Fully Insured

PLUMBING • HEATING • AIR CONDITIONING • INDOOR AIR QUALITY

Over 95 Years of Family Owned Service!

Schneller Knochelmann
Plumbing • Heating • Air
The Family Owned Company

Owners Lisa & Kris Knochelmann

Call 859.757.4779 • www.skpha.com

America’s Choice in Homecare.

Visiting Angels
LIVING ASSISTANCE SERVICES

Caregivers with character!

Reliable caregivers provide up to 24 hour non-medical care in your home. Hygiene assistance, meals, light housework, companionship. Affordable rates. Top Background Checks.

Cindy Seshier-Director
1099 Burlington Pike, Florence KY • (859) 647-6770

ARC ELECTRIC
AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING, INC.

24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE
Since 1953

ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS • HEATING SYSTEMS • AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEMS

- New installations • Repair all makes and models
- Clean & Service • Humidifiers
- Oil or Propane • Radiant or Gas Heat
- Electronic Air Cleaner • Hot Water Heat Systems

441-7161    
www.arcelevac.com INSTALL CONFIDENCE
Licensed Master HVAC Contractor M02125

Elite
Tree & Construction Group

TREE SPECIALIST
Tree Removal • Pruning • Stump Grinding
Fully Insured
Call or Text (859) 308-9843

BLAU MECHANICAL, INC.
Heating & Piping
Hot Water Steam Vapor
1532 Russell St., Cov. 291-3159

Call Chuck at the *Messenger* to place your ad in the SHOPPER’S GUIDE.
(859) 392-1572

 **KELLY BROS.**
LUMBER • DESIGN CO. | EST. 1947

Complete Line of Lumber and Building Materials
Latonia Ave. at 35th St. • Covington KY • 581-0400

**Josh Carter, CIC**
Agency Owner
859-341-2662
joshcarter@allstate.com
St. Barbara Parishioner

**Allstate**
You’re in good hands.
Auto Home Life Retirement

1838 Florence Pike
Burlington, KY

Insurance and coverages subject to terms, qualifications and availability.
© 2020 Allstate Insurance Company. All Rights Reserved.

'Laudate Deum': Planet mirrors a deeply flawed view of human life and activity

(Continued from page 10)

due to global climate change, humans bear responsibility for specific changes that have led to "extreme phenomena" — such as storms, heat waves and flooding — that are "increasingly frequent and intense," said the pope.

He pointed to rapid, human-driven upticks in greenhouse gas emissions, which trap radiation from the sun in earth's atmosphere and warm the planet. The global average temperature — a metric that tracks changes in the earth's surface temperature against long-term averages for a given location and date — has risen over the past 50 years in particular, at a rate that could approach the recommended ceiling of 1.5 degrees Celsius in just 10 years, said the pope.

That acceleration has a profound impact, causing dangerous shifts in climate and weather with effects ultimately felt "in the areas of healthcare, sources of employment, access to resources, housing (and) forced migrations," Pope Francis said.

He challenged "resistance and confusion" regarding climate change, "even within the Catholic Church," stressing that "the overwhelming majority of scientists specializing in the climate" support the correlation between global climate phenomena and spikes in greenhouse gas emissions.

Pope Francis said the planet itself has become a mirror of a deeply flawed view of human life and activity. Such a "technocratic paradigm" (as the pope described it in "Laudato Si'") exalts technological and economic power as

sources of reality, goodness and truth, promising unlimited potential if methodically developed.

In recent years, that paradigm has advanced still further, with a goal of "(increasing) human power beyond anything imaginable, before which nonhuman reality is a mere resource at its disposal," he said.

Yet "not every increase in power represents progress for humanity," said the pope, especially since (as he wrote in "Laudato Si'") "we cannot claim to have a sound ethics, a culture and spirituality genuinely capable of setting limits and teaching clear-minded self-restraint."

The poor pay the highest price while inflicting the least damage on the planet, said Pope Francis, citing the United Nations Environment Programme's 2022 Emissions Gap

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

HOUSE CLEANING

Isn't it time you come clean? We don't cut corners, we clean them. Insured and bonded. Discount for senior citizens and first-time clients. Call (859) 760-6408.

GERDES CONCRETE & MASONRY

CONCRETE — Driveways, sidewalks, steps, patios, stamped concrete. MASONRY — Cultured stone, retaining walls, brick pavers, foundation, fireplace, brick & chimney repairs. MISC. — Mini-excavator, Bob Cat & drainage work. Quality work & ref. Call Bill, (859) 331-4733. Messenger advertiser since 1993.

**CAFETERIA MANAGERS-
DIOCESE OF COVINGTON SCHOOL
LUNCH PROGRAM**

The Diocese of Covington School Lunch Program is currently seeking dedicated Cafeteria Managers to join our team at Bishop Brossart High School, Alexandria, and St. Agnes, Ft. Wright. The important role of Cafeteria Manager contributes to the successful operation of our school lunch program, ensuring the provision of nutritious meals to our students.

We offer competitive compensation and benefits packages for eligible employees. Exact details will be discussed during the interview process.

To apply please go to www.covdio.org/employment, School Related Openings, Employment Application Non-Teacher, send completed application to: Diocese of Covington Attn: Laura Hatfield SLP Director, 1125 Madison Ave. Covington Ky. 41011.

**CONDO ON LONGBOAT KEY,FL
FOR LEASE**

Newly renovated 2 BED /2 BATH OCEAN FRONT, for lease. (1 month minimum lease). \$7,000.00/plus tax/MO. Available Nov., Dec. 2023, and March, April 2024.

Heated pool,Washer/Dryer, and Catholic Church directly across street. Call/Text 513-532-4037 for serious inquires. Will supply Pics.

CARE**NET**

Join Care Net's life-affirming team!

Pregnancy Services of Northern Kentucky

Part-Time RDMS Nurse Manager

Perform limited obstetric ultrasounds and STI testing. RN & RDMS licenses required. 12-18 hrs/wk, 1st shift, Mon-Thurs.

Part-Time RDMS Advocate

Perform limited obstetric ultrasounds. Active registry status & sonography certification required. 12-18 hrs/wk, 1st shift, Mon-Thurs.

Part-Time Business/Community Liaison

Help build financial support for Care Net. 15 hrs/wk, Mon-Thurs.

Visit carenetnky.org/employment, scan the code or call (859) 431-9178.



**ST. STEPHEN CEMETERY GRAVE SPACE
FOR SALE**

Section 23. Block C. Lot 303. Grave #1. Asking \$1,400.00.

Contact Janet Green (937) 725-6413

E Mail greenjanet6413@yahoo.com

**NEED A KIDNEY
2ND REQUEST**

Kristen Bender
Registered at Christ Hospital
Nothing out of Your Pocket
859-322-4998

**Good Job Remodeling LLC
and Handyman**

Now accepting small to large jobs. Free Estimates. Licensed and insured. Call Steven at (859) 801-9925

Moore's Painting

The Company you feel safe with

Interior & exterior painting.
In business since 1988. Members of St. Augustine Parish.
Moore's Painting — Union, Ky. — (859) 512-7398

GOESSLING LANDSCAPING

New installations, maintenance and tree removal. Find us at GoesslingLandscaping.com
Call Norb at (859) 912-0340

**FACILITIES MAINTENANCE
DIRECTOR**

St. Cecilia Parish and School seeks candidates for a full-time position as our Facilities Maintenance Director. The successful candidate for this position will be responsible for assisting in planning, developing, organizing, implementing, evaluating and maintaining routine maintenance and special maintenance projects. Work would include carpentry, electric, plumbing, repair, and custodial assistance. Must be honest, punctual, dependable and with good communication skills. Must be able to lift and carry up to 75 pounds. Competitive wage with full benefits. Interested candidates are asked to send a cover letter and resume to David Bene at manager@stcindependence.org.

Call Chuck at the Messenger for information on placing your ad in the Classified Advertisements.
(859) 392-1572

Report, which found that per capita greenhouse gas emissions of richer countries far exceed those of poorer ones.

The question of human power itself must be reexamined, and "human beings must be recognized as a part of nature," the pope said, stressing that "everything is connected" and "no one is saved alone."

Lamenting the "weakness of international politics" in addressing climate change, Pope Francis drew on his 2020 encyclical "Fratelli Tutti" to call for a "reconfigured multilateralism" — one "not dependent on changing political conditions or the interests of a few," but possessing a "stable efficacy" that can resolve "the real problems of humanity" by placing "the dignity of persons" before all.

International climate conferences held over the past several decades have had mixed results, said Pope Francis, labeling some as "failures" and others, such as the U.N.'s 1997 COP3 (Conference of the Parties 3) in Kyoto — which sought to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 5% by 2012 — as noteworthy. While the Kyoto goal was not met, the 2015 COP21 in Paris marked "a new beginning," said the pope, as it aimed to hold the increase of average global temperatures to under 2 and, eventually, 1.5 degrees Celsius.

The COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's war in Ukraine both hindered progress in tackling global warming, said Pope Francis.

He said COP28, set to take place Nov. 30-Dec. 12 in Dubai, will either prove to be a turning point for decisive action or "a great disappointment" that imperils any progress made

Dorothy Day taught my mom

(Continued from page 6)

sent the acolytes. Neri responded, "We have to pay proper respect to Our Lord, whom you are carrying away with you. Since you neglect to adore Him, I sent two acolytes to take your place."

Whether it's the 16th century or the 21st, we have models of what Eucharistic thanksgiving looks like. Particularly as we move more deeply into this time of Eucharistic revival, perhaps some of us ought to take up the practice and see what happens. Perhaps we can lead by example — by modeling gratitude in this way so others can think to themselves, as my mother did, "Maybe I should have that."

Adele Chapline Smith writes for OSV News from New York.

so far.

"Binding forms of energy transition" that are "efficient, obligatory and readily monitored" are essential, said Pope Francis, as "the necessary transition towards clean energy sources such as wind and solar energy, and the abandonment of fossil fuels, is not progressing at the necessary speed."

The pope invited Catholics and those of other faiths to recall their "spiritual motivations" for addressing the climate crisis, asking "everyone to accompany this pilgrimage of reconciliation with the world that is our home and to help make it more beautiful, because that commitment has to do with our personal dignity and highest values."

Humility is essential in this journey, he said, "for when human beings claim to take God's place they become their own worst enemies."

The Perfect Fit For Your Future.



Senior Living
Lodge Apartments
available now!



CALL US TODAY!
(859) 331-3224

www.stcharlescommunity.org



- ✓ Engaging Community
- ✓ Chef Prepared Meals
- ✓ Housekeeping
- ✓ Private Duty Nursing
- ✓ Recreational Activities


Emergency Shelter
of Northern Kentucky

OPEN house

436 W. 13th Street 4:30pm - 6:30pm
Covington, KY 41011 Thursday, Oct. 26



Join friends of the shelter to meet and greet with guests, volunteers, and staff of ESNKY. We'll celebrate the 15th Anniversary of our community's only low-barrier, immediate-entry cold shelter for all adults which opens on November 1, a crucial part of our year round, 24/7 services. We encourage you to bring a pair of gloves to donate. Thank you!



WM. T. (BILL) ROBINSON III '67
INSTITUTE FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY
at THOMAS MORE UNIVERSITY

Religious freedom: an unalienable right


FALL INTERFAITH EVENT
OCT. 19, 2023
7-9:30 P.M.

**STEIGERWALD HALL,
SAINTS CENTER**

**FREE AND OPEN
TO THE PUBLIC**


presents **"IN DEFENSE OF STRICTLY SCRUTINIZING RELIGIOUS RIGHTS"**

Moderated by Robert Stern, Assistant Professor History & Legal Studies, Thomas More University




**KEYNOTE
SPEAKER**
STEPHANIE BARCLAY
FACULTY MEMBER
AND DIRECTOR
NOTRE DAME LAW
SCHOOL RELIGIOUS
LIBERTY INITIATIVE

GUEST COMMENTATORS



HOLLY HINCKLEY LESAN
BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY
LAW SCHOOL



GARY L. GREENBERG
RETIRED PRINCIPAL
JACKSON LEWIS P.C.

333 Thomas More Pkwy., Crestview Hills, Ky. 41017 | 859-341-5800 | thomasmore.edu/religiousliberty

Creating cardinals from 16 nations, pope asks them to join church 'symphony'

Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — Coming from different parts of the world and having different experiences and talents, members of the College of Cardinals are called to create a “symphony,” listening to one another and to the Holy Spirit, Pope Francis said.

Creating 21 new cardinals from 16 nations Sept. 30, the pope used the biblical story of Pentecost to remind the prelates of the roots of their faith, and he invoked the image of a symphony to emphasize their call to be both faithful and creative.

Cardinal Robert F. Prevost, the 68-year-old Chicago-born prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops, was the only U.S. prelate to receive his red hat at the consistory. He was joined by French Cardinal Christophe Pierre, the 77-year-old nuncio to the United States.

Cardinal Luis Pascual Dri, a 96-year-old Capuchin friar from Argentina, was made a cardinal when the pope proclaimed his name at the consistory, but he did not travel to Rome to receive his red hat because of his health.

With the consistory, the College of Cardinals has 242 members from 91 nations, according to Vatican statistics; 137 of the cardinals are under the age of 80 and eligible to vote in a conclave to elect a new pope. The so-called “cardinal electors” come from 71 countries.

Italy — with 49 cardinals, of whom 14 are electors — continues to dominate the cardinal counts. The United States is second; according to the Vatican, there are 17 U.S. cardinals, including 11 electors. The total would be 18 when counting Italian-born Cardinal Silvano Tomasi, a former Vatican official, who is a U.S. citizen.

Before receiving their red hats, their cardinal's rings and the names of their titular churches in Rome — an assignment that makes them formally members of the

clergy of the Diocese of Rome — the new cardinals made a profession of faith, reciting the Creed in Latin, and made an oath of fidelity to Pope Francis and his successors.

In his homily at the consistory, a prayer service that lasted just over an hour, Pope Francis drew the prelates' attention to the Pentecost story in the second chapter of the Acts of the Apostles and particularly to its listing of those who heard the apostles, each in their own language although they were “Parthians, Medes, and Elamites, inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia.”

“Normally we pastors, when we read the account of Pentecost, identify ourselves with the apostles,” the pope said. But if the cardinals recognize themselves as members of the crowd, he added, they would “rediscover with amazement the gift of having received the Gospel” in their own languages and would give thanks for having been evangelized among their own people, often by their mothers or grandmothers.

“Indeed, we are evangelizers to the extent we cherish in our hearts the wonder and gratitude of having been evangelized, even of (still) being evangelized, because this is really a gift always present, that must be continually renewed in our memories and in faith,” the pope told them.

In humility, and with that diversity, he said, “the College of Cardinals is called to resemble a symphony orchestra, representing the harmony and synodality of the church.”

“Mutual listening is essential,” he said. “Each musician must listen to the others. If one listens only to himself, however sublime his sound may be, it will not benefit the symphony; and the same would be the case if one section of the orchestra did not listen to the others, but played as if it were alone, as if it were the whole.”

IGNATIAN
SILENT
RETREATS

“Come and See”
- John 1:46

The Jesuit Spiritual
Center offers
Catholic retreat
experiences
modeled on
the *Spiritual
Exercises* and
rooted in
scripture.

September 22 - 24 | Men's Retreat with Fr. Nathan Wendt, SJ

October 6 - 13 | Personally Directed Retreat for Men and Women

October 13 - 15 | Men & Women's Retreat with Fr. Harry Geib, SJ

October 20 - 22 | Men's Retreat with Fr. John Predmore, SJ

October 27 - 29 | Men's Retreat with Fr. Michael Graham, SJ

November 3 - 5 | Women's Retreat with Fr. Tom Krettek, SJ

November 24 - 26 | 12-Step Men's Retreat with Fr. Del Staigers

December 1 - 8 | Personally Directed Retreat for Men and Women

JESUIT
Spiritual Center
at MILFORD

5361 S. Milford Rd
Milford, OH 45150

Visit our website at
jesuitspiritualcenter.com
or call Mary Ellen at
513.248.3500, ext. 10

United States Postal Service
Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation
(All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

1. Publication Title
Messenger

2. Publication Number
0025-2023

3. Filing Date
09/29/2023

4. Issue Frequency
Weekly, bi-weekly summer, skip 1 Year, Christmas and Easter

5. Annual Subscription Price
\$13.00

6. Number of Issues Published Annually
44

7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4)
Address 1: Laura Kenny
Address 2: 1125 Madison Ave.
City, State, ZIP: Covington KY 41011-3115

8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer)
Address 1: Laura Kenny
Address 2: 1125 Madison Ave.
City, State, ZIP: Covington KY 41011-3115

9. Full Name and Complete Mailing Address of Publisher, Editor and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address):
Name: Matt Ryan, John C. Hirt
Address 1: 1125 Madison Ave.
Address 2:
City, State, ZIP: Covington KY 41011-3115
Editor (Name and complete mailing address):
Name: Laura Kenny
Address 1: 1125 Madison Ave.
Address 2:
City, State, ZIP: Covington KY 41011-3115
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address):
Name:
Address 1:
Address 2:
City, State, ZIP:

10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a government agency, give its name and address.)
Full Name: Complete Mailing Address:
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or more of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box.
Full Name: Complete Mailing Address:
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one)
The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:
☐ Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months
☐ Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publication must submit explanation of change with this statement.)
PS Form 3526, July 2014

13. Publication Title Messenger	14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below 09/29/2023
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)	29,30429,445
b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation	
(1) Paid Outside-County Paid Subscriptions (United States Postal Service Form 3841 (Include paid distribution above national rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies))	17,65717,756
(2) Paid Inside-County Paid Subscriptions (United States Postal Service Form 3841 (Include paid distribution above national rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies))	11,84611,589
(3) Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside the Mail (Including the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail))	
(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)	
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b(1), 15b(2), 15b(3), and 15b(4))	29,30329,345
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (United States Postal Service Form 3841 (Include on PS Form 3841))	
(1) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (United States Postal Service Form 3841 (Include on PS Form 3841))	
(2) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (United States Postal Service Form 3841 (Include on PS Form 3841))	
(3) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (United States Postal Service Form 3841 (Include on PS Form 3841))	
(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (United States Postal Service Form 3841 (Include on PS Form 3841))	
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d(1), 15d(2), 15d(3), and 15d(4))	00
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)	29,30329,345
g. Copies not Distributed (Other Instructions to Publishers (4 page 1))	29,20329,345
h. Total (Sum of 15f and 15g)	29,20329,345
i. Percent Paid (15c Divided by 15f Times 100)	100.00%100.00%
* If you are claiming electronic copies, go to line 15 on page 2. If you are not claiming electronic copies, skip to line 17 on page 2.	
16. Electronic copy circulation	
a. Paid Electronic Copies	
b. Total Paid Electronic Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)	29,20329,345
c. Total Paid Distribution (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)	29,20329,345
d. Percentage Paid (b Divided by 15f Times 100)	100.00%100.00%
I certify that 75% of all my distribution copies (electronic and print) are paid (check a national print)	
17. Publication of Statement of Ownership	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publication required. Will be printed in the Oct. 6, 2023 issue of this publication.	<input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required.
18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner	
Signature: [Signature] Title: Editor Date: 09/29/2023	
I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).	
PS Form 3526, July 2014	

Walk-in
Wednesday!

Join us at Madonna Manor
for tours of our Independent
Living Brownstone apartments
and patio homes.

Wednesdays • 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
2344 Amsterdam Road
Villa Hills, Kentucky

Bring a friend and experience our
beautiful, friendly campus.

Call 859.426.6400 or visit
CHILivingCommunities.org/MM.

Madonna Manor

NEWS BRIEFS

National/World

Catholic educators barely escape death in school attack

YAOUNDÉ, Cameroon — A Catholic priest and three Catholic teachers in Cameroon’s troubled southwest region are recovering from bullet wounds after they were shot in what church authorities say was a targeted attack on the Catholic primary school in St. Martin of Tour’s Kembong Parish Sept. 26. The attack comes amid the country’s struggle with seven years of separatist violence, and the Catholic Church still seems to be the only possible peace-negotiating partner: According to Father Christopher Eboka, the Mamfe Diocese’s director of communications, the attackers entered the school in search of Father Elvis Mbangsi, whom they shot four times – on the left wrist, right thigh, left knee and right foot. The other teachers were each shot twice in the legs. The priest and the four teachers are recovering from their wounds at the Bamenda Regional Hospital. Despite attacks on the church and its people, there is increasing consensus that a workable solution will only come from the Catholic Church, whose members account for 40% of Cameroon’s 27 million people. The Brussels-based International Crisis Group said in a 2018 report that other than the Catholic clergy, “there are few prospective peacemakers.” Cameroon’s majority French-speaking citizens have long been accused of marginalizing and attempting to assimilate English-speaking citizens. The English-speaking separatists are seeking their own state called Ambazonia.

Costa Rica declares state of emergency over flow of migrants

MEXICO CITY — Costa Rica has declared a state of emergency due to the unprecedented flow of migrants transiting the Central American country — a plan Catholic relief officials described as coming after a slow response to the growing “humanitarian crisis.” The declaration — made official Sept. 29 — allows the government to more easily direct resources toward migration and public security matters, according to local media. In outlining his plans to declare a state of emergency on Sept. 27, President Rodrigo Chaves accused migrants of “behaving badly” in Costa Rica and “lacking respect for the authorities, causing disturbances,” accord-

ing to the BBC. “The message is that they’re going to return to their country of origin because here we will not tolerate it,” Chaves said. “I’ve instructed the public security ministry to have a firm hand with those few people who think that the kindness of Costa Ricans can be confused for weakness.” Catholics working with migrants said the Costa Rican government has offered little humanitarian assistance and preferred to scapegoat migrants instead of supporting them. “The policy has been that people advance (through the country) but when there are so many people ... with so many needs for attention and assistance, no response has been given,” Roy Arias Cruz, border coordinator with Jesuit Migrant Service for Costa Rica, told OSV News.

Church in Brazil launches outreach

SÃO PAULO — In Brazil, 12 million families — up to 60 million people — live in slums, known as “favelas” in Portuguese, and 55 million people do not have access to a sewage system. Until now,

the Catholic Church did not have a special national pastoral ministry outreach to this large population. In September, members of favela ministries that exist in different cities met in Brasilia and officially created a nationwide Housing and Slums Pastoral Ministry, connected to the bishops’ conference and guided by a bishop especially designated for that task. The initiative was a direct result of the Sixth Brazilian Social Week, a forum of social pastoral ministries that gather to promote actions to address Brazil’s most urgent problems. Launched in 2020, the theme of the sixth such week was Pope Francis’ three “T”s — “tierra,” “trabajo” and “techo” for “land,” “work” and “housing.” “We realized that the church is largely absent from the slums and poor peripheries,” said Alessandra Miranda, executive secretary of the Sixth Brazilian Social Week and one of the coordinators of the new pastoral ministry. That is not a secondary issue for the Brazilian church. In 2010, there were 6,329 favelas in 323 cities. Now, there are more than 13,000. The new ministry will help to organize groups in every Brazilian state.

CARMEL MANOR
A MISSION TO CARE





SCAN ME

Visit our website at
www.CarmelManor.com/Hope
for more information and schedule a tour today.

100 Carmel Manor Road | Ft. Thomas, KY 41075 | 859.781.5111



COVINGTON LATIN SCHOOL

Achieve here. Excel here. Belong here.



2025
NICHE
BEST
SCHOOLS

OPEN HOUSE

October 29

1 & 3 PM

covingtonlatin.org/admissions

#1 CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL
IN KENTUCKY
2020, 2022, & 2023

30+ Sports, Activities
& Clubs

9:1 Student to
Teacher Ratio

We invite all 4th - 8th
graders to Open House!





CDI Electric Inc.

Quality Service Since 1997

859-291-9189



CHEF BARONE'S
CATERING

•Parties •Weddings
•Company Picnics •Lunches, Dinners
•25 To 1000 People

"Our Foods Taste Good"

Serving Greater Cincinnati

Call Jill

491-6391

1640 Dixie Highway Park Hills, Ky.

IT'S STILL A GREAT TIME
TO SELL YOUR HOME

I have clients looking for homes.
Some are even cash buyers!

If you're thinking of selling, give me a call,
I may have someone for your home.



With every home I sell, a contribution is made to the Children's Miracle Network "helping local kids".
FOR RESULTS, CALL MARIE WIEDER
OF RE/MAX Victory + Affiliates
(859) 801-9762

MARIE WIEDER, ABR, SFR, e-PRO
Parishioner Holy Cross Church



McHale's
EVENTS AND CATERING

every detail, every event, every time

859.442.7776 www.mchalescatering.com

We offer many unique Wedding Venues in NKY
and downtown Cincinnati

The Grand and Pinnacle ballrooms Covington
The Gardens of Park Hills
Preferred Caterer at The Drees Pavilion and Devou Clubhouse
The Cincinnati Club Downtown Cincinnati
The Center Ballroom at Fountain Square
Partner Venues
Cincinnati Music Hall, Rhinegeist Brewery,
The Prickel Barn Verona Ky.

LANDSCAPING DESIGN,
INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE

Tree Trimming and Removal
Stump Removal — Drainage & Grading
Seeding & Sodding — Retaining Walls
Walks & Patios — Decks

Stegman
Landscape
&
Tree



(859) 781-1562 Excellence Since 1979

Please join us
for our Open House



Bishop Brossart High School

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29TH | 1:00-3:30PM | OPEN TO 7TH & 8TH GRADERS

Bishop Brossart invites you to join our Open House to receive a guided tour of our facilities and to answer questions you may have about Bishop Brossart.

To sign up for a guided tour, please visit:

[BISHOPBROSSART.ORG/PAGE/EVENTS](https://www.bishopbrossart.org/page/events)

7th and 8th grade students attending will be entered in a drawing for prizes.
For more information call Bishop Brossart High School at **(859) 635-2108**.



FATHER JIM SICHKO
"60 MINUTES FOR JESUS"

St. Joseph Church
4011 Alexandria Pike
Cold Spring, KY 41076

bit.ly/SJSichkoEvent23



**ALL ARE
WELCOME!**

**OCTOBER
22
23
24**

7PM

**IN
CHURCH**