

Catholic TRANSCRIPT

OCTOBER 2017

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THINGS TO DO



■ Soprano Rochelle Bard and her musical guests will present a **concert for all ages to benefit the local nonprofit Medical Aid to Haiti (MATH)**, 2:30-4 p.m. on **Oct. 1** in Rice Auditorium at Northwest Catholic High School, 29 Wampanoag Dr., West Hartford. Bard will perform musical highlights from all-time favorite movies such as “The Sound of Music,” “Pretty Woman,” “Shawshank Redemption” and “Shrek,” among others. Bard, a Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center soloist, will perform with soloists and local choral groups, including the Children’s Choir of the Church of St. Timothy. A reception with beverages will follow. Tickets are \$20, \$10 for seniors and students, \$5 for children under age 12 and free for children under 6. Tickets may be purchased in advance at www.medicalaidtohaiti.org. Proceeds will support MATH’s fixed and mobile medical clinics that serve those in need in and around Port-au-Prince, and surgical services at a community hospital in the remote village of Dame-Marie, Haiti. More information about the artist is at www.RochelleBard.com; more information about MATH is at www.medicalaidtohaiti.org.

GO TO
A CONCERT

■ Archbishop Leonard P. Blair will celebrate the annual archdiocesan **Respect Life Mass** at 11 a.m. on **Oct. 8** at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford.

Archbishop Blair will present the St. Gianna Beretta Molla Medal to four people who have demonstrated sustained commitment to the protection of life.

This year’s recipients will be Carey Dupont, principal of St. Paul Catholic High School in Bristol, who is dedicated to young people and who annually sponsors students’ participation in the March for Life; and Mike Ferrara, a volunteer at St. Gianna Pregnancy Center in New Haven. Also, Father Robert Landbeck, pastor of Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Yalesville, who long has been involved with the Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat Ministry and participated in the March for Life and who is chaplain of the archdiocese’s Courage ministry; and Mary Lou Peters, a 17-year worker in the archdiocese’s Pro-Life Ministry, founder of the local 40 Days for Life campaign and parish pro-life representative.

GO TO
RESPECT
LIFE MASS

GO TO
THE COUPLES’
ANNIVERSARY
MASS

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■ Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus Peter A. Rosazza will celebrate Mass at the **fourth annual Lourdes in a Day** event from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on **Oct. 14** at St. Peter Claver Church in West Hartford. The event is sponsored by the Order of Malta.

■ Archbishop Leonard P. Blair will be the principal celebrant of the **annual Mass for couples** who are celebrating significant anniversaries at 2 p.m. on **Oct. 15** at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford. Couples celebrating their 25th, 50th, 60th or other significant anniversaries may call their parish office to respond to the invitation. The Mass will include a renewal of wedding vows. Afterward, there will be a reception and an opportunity for couples to have their photos taken with Archbishop Blair.

■ Father Jeff Gubbiotti, vocation director for the Archdiocese of Hartford, will officiate at a **Holy Hour for Vocations** at 7 p.m. on **Oct. 16** at St. John XXIII Parish, 89 Bull Hill Lane, West Haven. After prayer for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, a “coffee-and” reception will be held.

(Things to Do continues on page 28)



FOR MORE THINGS TO DO
visit www.catholictranscript.org

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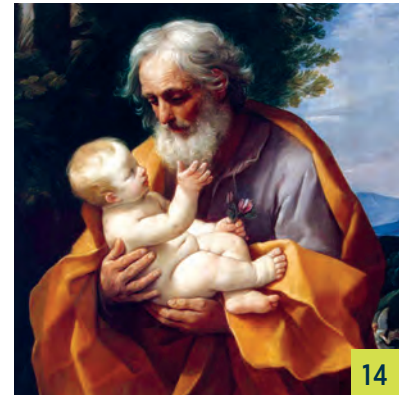
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AARON JOSEPH



CALLING ALL LIONS

During the summer, I indulged my interest in history by reading a new biography of a great bishop from the time of Nazi rule in Germany. Now declared “Blessed,” Clemens August von Galen was known by a nickname that is the title of the book: *The Lion of Münster*.

During the period 1934-45, as Germany was plunged into totalitarian darkness, von Galen was courageous and outspoken in denouncing attacks against religion and the freedom of the Church and against moral abominations like euthanasia that were being imposed by the Nazi regime. When the Gestapo ordered non-Aryans to leave the churches, von Galen preached that he could hear the infant Jesus saying to Mary, “Come on, Mommy, we’re not wanted here!”

His words were reproduced and circulated at great risk to those who did so. The Nazi leadership wished to kill him, but so great was the devotion of the Catholic people of Westphalia to their bishop that Hitler decided it would be best to wait until after the war when, in his words, von Galen would “pay to the last penny.” His courageous stance was renowned within Germany and among the Allies. Immediately after the war, von Galen was made a cardinal by Pope Pius XII, but he died of natural causes shortly afterward. In 2005, he was beatified by Pope Benedict XVI.

The courage of von Galen’s ministry and example demonstrate what the New Testament and many sainted bishops have said, that as a shepherd, a bishop has to be a courageous watchman over the flock. He cannot be put off by worry over human respect or the judgments of this world when it comes to “speaking the

truth with love,” as St. Paul says. Von Galen’s episcopal motto was *nec laudibus nec timore*; “neither human praise nor fear” would sway him.

At the same time, it must be remembered that while fortitude or courage is one of the four cardinal virtues, so is prudence, the virtue that guides us to choose the best way to accomplish the good. Von Galen struggled to balance courage and prudence, as did many of the German bishops.

Today, the Church, and today’s bishops, face many daunting challenges to what is right and good in a world filled with denial, and even hatred, of some of the most fundamental truths about God, the human person and the world. I must ask myself: How courageous a bishop am I? When should I speak out courageously? When should I hold my tongue, or my pen, not because of “human praise or fear,” but out of prudence, for the sake of the end goal?

Whatever the case, what is essential is that people, especially Catholic people, never get a false impression that what the Church believes and teaches about God and the human person are somehow only relative truths subject to interpretation and application in a way that obscures and empties them of their moral and spiritual binding power, and that one can live a full and happy life without them. Conforming to Christ and the truths of faith is the source of strength, joy, light and peace, not just in heaven, but in this world, too — for those who have the courage to do so in the face of the world’s opposition.

Courage and prudence are not just a challenge for bishops, then or now, but for every Catholic man or woman living under the tyranny of today’s “isms” — moral relativism, materialism, utilitarianism, hedonism, secularism and a growing militant atheism. Is it any wonder that Pope Francis laments the fact that so many people “are living without the strength, light and consolation born of friendship with Jesus Christ, without a community of faith to support them, without meaning and a goal in life”?

In the Germany of Blessed Clement August von Galen, Hitler was bent on destroying Christianity and replacing it with Nazi paganism, all the while giving soothing and lying reassurances that he intended no such thing. In many ways, Communism did the same, proclaiming freedom of religion while ruthlessly oppressing it. A person who was out of step with these regimes paid a terrible price by being ridiculed, ostracized, impoverished, imprisoned or even murdered.

Whatever the challenges to our faith, may we, like von Galen, be “lions” in speaking and living the truth with love, and “lambs” in bearing the attacks of the wolves that the New Testament says are part of this passing world. And please pray for your bishops! God bless you. †



ARCHBISHOP LEONARD P. BLAIR

is the 13th bishop of the Catholic Archdiocese of Hartford.



LLAMANDO A TODOS LOS LEONES

Durante el verano, me dedique a mi interés por la historia leyendo una nueva biografía de un gran obispo de la época del gobierno nazi en Alemania. Ahora declarado "Beato", Clemens August von Galen fue conocido por el apodo que ahora es el título del libro: El León de Münster.



**EL ARZOBISPO
LEONARD P.
BLAIR**

*es el décimo
tercer obispo de
la Arquidiócesis
Católica de
Hartford.*

Desde el 1934 al 1945, cuando Alemania se sumergió en la oscuridad totalitaria, von Galen fue valiente y abierto en denunciar los ataques contra la religión y la libertad de la Iglesia y contra las abominaciones morales como la eutanasia que estaban siendo impuestas por el régimen nazi. Cuando la Gestapo ordenó a los que no eran arios que abandonaran las iglesias, Von Galen predicó que podía escuchar al niño Jesús diciéndole a María: ¡Vamos, mamá, no nos quieren aquí!

Sus palabras fueron reproducidas y circuladas con gran riesgo para quienes lo hicieron. Los dirigentes nazis querían matarlo, pero la devoción del pueblo católico de Westfalia a su obispo fue tan grande que Hitler decidió que sería mejor esperar hasta después de la guerra, cuando, según sus palabras, von Galen

“pagaría hasta el último centavo”.

Su valiente postura fue reconocida en Alemania y entre los aliados. Inmediatamente después de la guerra, von Galen fue nombrado cardenal por el Papa Pío XII, pero murió de causas naturales poco después. En 2005 fue beatificado por el Papa Benedicto XVI.

El valor del ministerio y ejemplo de von Galen demuestra lo que el Nuevo Testamento y muchos

santos obispos han dicho, que como pastor, un obispo tiene que ser un valiente vigilante del rebaño. No puede quedarse cayada por miedo a ofender a otros o por los “juicios de este mundo” cuando se trata de “hablar la verdad con amor”, como dice San Pablo. El lema episcopal de von Galen era *nec laudibus nec timore*; “ni la alabanza humana ni el miedo” lo influirían.

Al mismo tiempo, hay que recordar que si bien la fortaleza o el valor es una de las cuatro virtudes cardinales, también lo es la prudencia, la virtud que nos guía para escoger la mejor manera de lograr el bien. Von Galen luchó por equilibrar el valor y la prudencia, al igual que muchos obispos alemanes.

Hoy la Iglesia y los obispos de hoy se enfrentan a muchos desafíos desalentadores sobre lo que es considerado correcto y bueno en un mundo lleno de negación e incluso odio a algunas de las verdades más fundamentales sobre Dios, la persona humana y el mundo. Debo preguntarme: ¿Qué tan valiente soy como obispo? ¿Cuándo debo hablar con valentía? ¿Cuándo debo retener mi lengua, o mi pluma, no por “alabanza humana o temor” sino por prudencia, por el bien de la meta final?

En cualquier caso, lo esencial es que la gente, especialmente la gente católica, nunca tenga una falsa impresión sobre lo que la Iglesia cree y enseña sobre Dios y la persona humana y que crean que son de alguna manera verdades relativas sujetas a interpretación y aplicación. Y que crean esto a tal punto que oscurezca y vacíe esas verdades de su poder vinculante, moral y espiritual, haciéndoles creer que uno puede vivir una vida plena y feliz sin ellas. Conformarse a Cristo y las verdades de la fe son la fuente de fuerza, alegría, luz y paz, no sólo en el Cielo sino también en este mundo, para aquellos que tienen el valor de hacerle frente a la oposición del mundo.

El valor y la prudencia no son sólo un desafío para los obispos, de aquel entonces y los de ahora, sino para todo hombre o mujer católica que vive bajo la tiranía de los “ismos” actuales: el relativismo moral, el materialismo, el utilitarismo, el hedonismo, el laicismo y el creciente ateísmo militante. ¿No es de extrañar que el Papa lamente el hecho de que tantas personas “vivan sin la fuerza, la luz y el consuelo que nace de la amistad con Jesucristo, sin una comunidad de fe para sostenerlas, sin sentido y objetivo en la vida”?

En la Alemania del Beato Clemente August von Galen, Hitler se empeñó en destruir el cristianismo y en sustituirlo por el paganismo nazi, al tiempo que daba tranquilizadoras y mentirosas garantías de que no pretendía tal cosa. En muchos sentidos, el comunismo hizo lo mismo, proclamando la libertad de religión mientras la oprimía sin piedad. Una persona que no estaba de acuerdo con estos regímenes pagaba un precio terrible al ser ridiculizada, excluida, empobrecida, encarcelada o incluso asesinada.

Cualesquiera que sean los desafíos a nuestra fe, podemos, como von Galen, ser “leones” al hablar y vivir la verdad con amor, y ser “corderos” al soportar los ataques de los lobos que el Nuevo Testamento dice son parte de este mundo pasajero. ¡Por favor oren por sus obispos! Dios les bendiga. †

**“EL VALOR Y LA PRUDENCIA NO
SON SÓLO UN DESAFÍO PARA LOS
OBISPOS, DE AQUEL ENTONCES Y
LOS DE AHORA, SINO PARA TODO
HOMBRE O MUJER CATÓLICA.”**



PRAYER
WARRIORS

was five states away when the phone call came, and I felt helpless.

My husband Peter and I were spending a few days in a sleepy village in Maine. This particular morning, I was lingering in a mom-and-pop coffee shop, sipping a delicious coffee drink that had a long name I can't remember. Tourists strolled by in their L.L. Bean windbreakers and color-coordinated backpacks.

As I lollygagged, I got a call from my daughter Tierney. She had just left her obstetrician's office and wanted to give me an update on her pregnancy. She was usually very excited at the end of these appointments.

This time she was scared.

Tierney was in her seventh month of pregnancy and had gained 3 pounds. I don't mean she'd gained 3 pounds since the previous appointment. She had gained a total of 3 pounds during the entire pregnancy. She was eating well, but her weight simply didn't go up. The doctor was worried.

When I got off the phone, I broke down. How could an infant be healthy when the mother gained virtually no weight? Tierney was trim before pregnancy, so there was little room for error.

I searched online for information about babies born to mothers with low pregnancy weight gain. Then I did what any woman of faith would do: I contacted people I know to be prayer warriors. These people don't just say the words, "I'll pray for you." They actually do so, and

they do not stop until the situation is resolved.

My prayer warriors range in age from 7 to 91. They are Catholic, Orthodox Christian, Protestant and Jewish; Democrat and Republican; accomplished in business and unemployed. But they all love God, and all have a passion for prayer.

God bless these friends, who began to pray with ferocity. They told me stories of women who'd had low pregnancy weight gain and yet gave birth to gorilla-size babies. They made me laugh, and they assured me of their love.

These friends prayed every day until Tierney gave birth to a healthy baby girl weighing 7 pounds, 2 ounces. Then they returned to prayer to thank God for the miracle of life.

These warriors have called upon

me, as well. I've prayed for teens with anorexia, and for elderly parents who can no longer live alone. I've prayed about pending divorce, breast cancer and, tragically, infant loss. With each concern, I intercede to God every day until the situation is resolved.

Not long ago, a friend asked me to pray for her husband, whose job was in jeopardy. I began to pray, inviting my grandchildren to join me. I'm pretty sure God loves those little voices.

Two days later, my friend's husband was laid off. So much for prayer.

But the incident got me thinking. Was I viewing God as a cosmic Santa Claus who hands out toys from my wish list? Isn't he more like a parent who loves his child enough to say no?

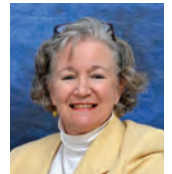
When a child demands candy for breakfast and the parent refuses, the child may accuse, "You never give me what I want! You just want me to be miserable!"

But that's not it at all. The parent wants what's best for the child, even if it means enduring the child's wrath. That's what love does. Over time, the child comes to understand this sacrificial love, and hopefully begins to practice it in his or her own life.

And so it is with God. Prayer doesn't always change God's mind, but it always changes us. †

PRAYER WARRIOR:

A person who is known for faithfully praying for others.



M. REGINA CRAM is a writer, speaker and author. She and her husband live in Glastonbury and have four children and seven grandchildren.

WORLD WAR I

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Ever wonder what love looks like?

Do you ever wonder what love looks like? I suspect it looks a lot like Brian Bergkamp.

Brian joined four people to go kayaking last year near Wichita, Kan. A total of two men and three women. And they were having a great time.

Until they encountered churning water in the Arkansas River. Three of the kayakers paddled through

the swirling current, but one woman struggled as the back end of her kayak got sucked under the water. When the kayak tipped, she fell out of it.

Brian was behind her, and stopped to help in the rushing water. He calmly threw her a life jacket, pushed her to safety and tried to get her to a metal ladder attached to a support beneath the bridge.

But then his kayak overturned. The woman was able to get out of the current; Brian was not. Another kayaker helped pull her to shore. No one saw Brian again.

Rescue crews searched the river for days, which turned into just over a week.

Homeless men joined in the

search, walking up and down both sides of the river. They knew Brian because he had served them meals, listened to their stories and prayed with them as part of his preparation for the priesthood as a seminarian in the Diocese of Wichita. They hoped to find his body as a small way of saying thank you.

Eventually, a fisherman saw large wooden rosary beads attached to part of a life vest in the river and called the authorities. Not long after, a team recovered Brian's lifeless body.

The woman Brian rescued said, "He did not even know me. We had just met that morning."

At the age of 24, Brian Bergkamp gave his life for a complete stranger.

The world has no real explanation for why you would be willing to die trying to rescue someone you do not even know. It offers no answers for how *agape* love could possibly exist. Why would you sacrificially give yourself to serve or love someone else with no expected benefit in return?

In fact, by the world's standards, Jesus' life was a complete failure. To a secular world, universal love makes no sense. The world may be inspired by sacrificial love, but it cannot explain it.

But we Christians know the answer. We love because God first loved us. He not only created us and gave us life, God sent his son Jesus to love us, to make us right with God and to show us the way home

By this we know love: that he laid down his life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?

Little children, let us not love in word or speech but in deed and in truth.

(1 Jn 3:16-18)

to him. And Jesus died to do just that.

That is what 75 priests, 50 seminarians and more than 1,000 guests remembered when they packed into the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Wichita to

celebrate the memorial Mass for Brian Bergkamp. Brian's sacrifice reminded us that we follow a man who died for us. That is what love looks like. It looks like a cross.

The woman rescued by Brian later said, "Now, I am feeling the weight of knowing someone died for me."

May we all feel that same weight. It's the weight of embracing true love. And it will lead us home to him. †



DR. ALLEN R. HUNT
is a senior advisor for
DynamicCatholic.com.



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The truth about the father of lies

Every year as summer ends, we go to the annual festival at the Greek Orthodox Church near our home. For us, it's the last hurrah of the season, a weekend to enjoy gyros, moussaka, baklava and stuffed grape leaves and watch the young Greek dancers perform. Opa!



While we were browsing in the religious bookstore, looking at Jesus prayer beads and icons of the Theotokos and the archangels, my son-in-law came upon a copy of a famous 12th-century icon titled ***The Ladder of Divine Ascent***, which is at St. Catherine's Monastery on Mount Sinai. It depicts monks climbing a ladder to heaven while demons are tormenting them.

"Look at this!" he exclaimed in disbelief. "Devils!" The image amused him because,

you see, he's an enlightened young man with a master's degree in philosophy from a respected Jesuit university and, while he believes in God, the ancient concept of Satan is too much for him to take seriously. When I mention the devil and point to his obvious influence in the modern world, he screws up his face as if to suggest, "You don't really believe that, do you?"

To him, all those hideous dark figures with horns and tails who are harassing the monks as they climb toward Christ are figments of an overactive medieval mentality. He's probably more likely to believe in the existence of aliens ... along with renowned physicist Stephen Hawking, who is an atheist.

Of course, he's not alone. Some great intellectuals dismiss the notion that Satan is real.

The superior general of the Jesuits sparked a controversy recently when he said: "We have formed symbolic figures such as the devil to express evil." It was the decadent French poet Baudelaire who said, "The greatest trick the devil ever pulled was convincing the world he didn't exist."

Church teaching, best summarized in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, affirms that the devil is real and not an abstraction. Satan is a fallen angel who "acts in the world out of hatred for God and his kingdom in Christ Jesus, and ... his action causes grave injuries."

Pope Francis, also a Jesuit, has some pretty firm, and vocal, views on the topic and regularly points to the ravages of evil by the father of lies. In his talks and sermons, he has referred to

Satan more than other recent popes. As one bishop in the Vatican told the *Washington Post*, "Pope Francis never stops talking about the devil. It's constant."

"This generation and many others have been led to believe that the devil is a myth, a figure, an idea, the idea of evil," Francis has said. "But the devil exists and we must fight against him."

We see evidence of his existence every day in the countless headlines about global atrocities, particularly in crimes so heinous they can only be described as diabolical. Equally troubling, many sins such as lust, greed, gluttony, adultery and abortion have become socially acceptable.

More often, evil has a public face, manifesting itself in attacks against Christ and the Blessed Mother, along with plans for black masses at universities and civic centers. What is particularly troubling is that the internet has made it easy for young people to dabble in the occult and join Satanic cults.

I decided to buy the Greek icon and hang it in a room where I pray because it offers some sobering spiritual reminders. Based on the teaching of St. John Climacus, who wrote the treatise *The Ladder of Divine Ascent* in 600 AD, it shows monks ascending a ladder to reach Christ. Relentless in their attacks, demons shoot arrows at the monks and try to pull them down while the devil is at the bottom in a gaping abyss, devouring a hapless monk.

One, who almost reached the top rung, is being pulled into the pit after succumbing to temptation, pride or worldly passion. Take your pick. St. John Climacus said he was always amazed at how some Christians could achieve spiritual heights and yet ultimately fail.

It reminded me of something my father, a recovering alcoholic with many years of sobriety, would often say: "The further I am from my last drink, the closer I am to my next." It's the same with our spiritual life. Pride and Satan's deceptions can easily bring us down. Constant vigilance, humility, prayer and the Eucharist are the best defenses in the unseen warfare. †



JOE PISANI
of Orange is a writer whose work has appeared in Catholic publications nationwide. He and his wife Sandy have four daughters.

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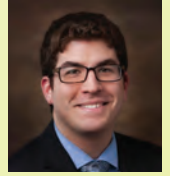
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CODY GUARNIERI

is a criminal defense lawyer with a Hartford law firm and is a member of St. Patrick-St. Anthony Parish in Hartford.

I NEVER ASK

As a rule, I never ask if they did it. As an attorney who handles criminal defense matters in courts throughout Connecticut, I often meet with people at my office who tell me about their life experiences and the circumstances leading to their being accused of a crime.

In my experience, the story of what happened leading up to their arrest is often just the beginning. Underlying their account is a complex tale of contentious and stressful family relationships, mental or emotional diseases and, all too often, substance abuse issues. Regardless of these underlying and contributing issues, I often find that the reality is that the accused simply had an uncharacteristic lapse in judgment or made a stupid mistake or was involved in a horrible accident. All of the people who meet me in my office have been arrested and are facing prosecution by the state of Connecticut and an uncertain future. What they also have in common is the reality that they are at one of the most serious, stressful and anxiety-inducing points in their lives.

Conversely, in the course of my criminal defense practice, what I do not often see are individuals whom I believe to be void of any moral compass, are intentionally cruel or are inherently evil.

Given that, it is always off-

putting for me when people I have just met, upon learning of the type of law I practice most, immediately question the morality of my profession in one way or another. “Does it bother you?” “Is it hard to defend criminals?” Sometimes it is not even an explicit question, but a tone and facial expression that says: How do you sleep at night defending those people?

All people sin and all people struggle to return to a right relationship with God. However, there is an immense difference between falling from the grace of a living God and breaking the rules of the civil authority of the state.

What these new acquaintances are really asking me, I believe, is if I feel ashamed or am somehow morally corrupted by defending people they perceive to be “criminals” or “bad” people. Of course, I assume that the sentiment only would apply to those people I represent who are, in fact, guilty of



something. I doubt anyone would find representing an innocent person who is wrongly accused to be morally repulsive in any sense.

Sometimes, I tell those inquiring minds that our system of justice was designed to have different cogs in the wheel, each with its own function. Fundamental fairness or justice requires that each cog (the prosecutor, the defense lawyer, the court, the office of adult probation, etc.) is doing its part in the machine. However, this answer really goes to why I do what I do, not how I can do it. I also explain on occasion that I wouldn't be very good at my job if it did bother me, only to realize that that sentiment seems to inherently accept that there is something morally suspect about being a criminal defense attorney.

The reality is that I am not just a criminal defense lawyer; I am a Catholic criminal defense lawyer. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops reminds me that "the most basic principle of the Christian moral life is the awareness that every person bears the dignity of being made in the image of God.

... Within us, then, is both the powerful surge toward the good because we are made in the image of God, and the darker impulses toward evil because of the effects of Original Sin."

All people sin and all people struggle to return to a right relationship with God. However, there is an immense difference between falling from the grace of a living God and breaking the rules of the civil authority of the state. I am admittedly and undoubtedly a cog in the wheel of the state's judicial system, playing my small part in the quest for justice and fundamental fairness. Nevertheless, my aspiration is to continue to develop a loving relationship with God and hope that he provides me the spiritual grace to do that right thing, which I believe involves providing legal assistance to generally good people who make poor decisions.

And so, when a prospective client comes into my office accused of committing a crime, I generally never ask if they did it because, for the most part, it really doesn't matter. †

On Board!

HBF



Carl A. Anderson

Welcoming Carl A. Anderson

Archbishop Leonard P. Blair is pleased to announce the appointment of Carl A. Anderson, Director, The Hartford Bishops' Foundation, Inc.

Mr. Anderson is the thirteenth and current Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Anderson is Vice President of the Washington session of the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family. In addition, Mr. Anderson serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of The Catholic University of America, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, and is a former board member of the National Catholic Educational Association.

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CCUSA PHOTO BY LAUREN CHELEC

Q DEAR FATHER JOE: Someone told me that, as Catholics, we are supposed to send our kids to Catholic schools. We are wondering if it's really worth the financial struggle; are we obligated to do this?

A Thank you for asking this: it's quite the important issue. I've been blessed to serve as a priest for a little more than 17 years, and every assignment I've been given in that time has had a school connected to it. Over the years, I've really come to see that Catholic schools are a great gift God offers us; a gift that we often overlook. Is Catholic education a sacrifice? Of course. If it's not, you're doing it wrong. Catholic education, for many people, is a great sacrifice.

It's a sacrifice for the teachers who, in my experience, are paid significantly less than their public school counterparts. It's a sacrifice for the parish that the school is tied to, as that parish commits

no small amount of its resources toward running, improving and supporting the school. It's a sacrifice for parents who choose to work to come up with the money needed to pay the tuition. It's a sacrifice for the students who often are in a building that is not as nice as the public school options.

Catholic education always has been and always will be a sacrifice. The question is: is it one you are called to? I'd like to offer you a three- (possibly four-) step process to help you determine whether or not you and your family are called to be a part of a Catholic school.

First (and this is a shocker), you should pray. You personally should pray, and you and your spouse should pray.

This prayer should, in my opinion, take the form of a simple question: "God, are you calling us to send our child (children) to a Catholic school?" I remember when I was in seminary, I spoke to a priest about some of my fears in regard to being a priest. I caught myself articulating what I thought was the core question, "Do I have what it takes to be a priest?" He said something in response to that which changed my life, "Of course you don't have what it takes to be a priest, but that is not the question. The question is: 'Are you called to be a priest?'" I've never forgotten the abject power of that simple question. The same principle applies here: Are you being called to send your child to a Catholic school? If so, put aside fears and worries and push forward.

A key part of the process of asking God that question is to listen for the answer. God may give it to you in the quiet of your heart (note: quiet time needed here!); he may give you the answer through the process of finding out if it's possible — who knows how? Their key is this: Ask the question and listen for the answer.

The next step is to evaluate. Look at your finances and see what you can do and what you can't. Please make sure and note that this is something for which you may be called to sacrifice "wants." My dad and mom always gave us kids the speech about making sure to separate "wants from needs." Look, too, at any special needs your child may have in order to present that information to the school later. Be ready to listen to the school and other parents and ascertain whether you are looking at a private school (not Christ-centered) or a Catholic school (Christ-centered). Once you have this information ready, head on over to the local Catholic school and set up a time to ask questions and get a tour.

Getting to the school is the next step. Get a tour of the place. Ask your questions. Find out their Mass schedule. Inquire about adoration and community service. If you know that you'll be needing financial assistance, ask direct

questions about that. If you know that your child will need special programs, ask about that. See if they have a program where you can volunteer at the school (or parish) in exchange for tuition assistance.

I promise I'm telling you the truth: At almost every school I served in, I was shocked at the amount of tuition assistance dollars that went unclaimed. I guarantee you that the school has donors who feel a positive debt toward their Catholic school and want to help others get the blessing of Catholic education that they experienced. Be sure and check this out.

If, after that, you don't feel you have the information you need, you can do a next step and ask to meet with the pastor. Walk him through your decision process thus far and see if he can't pray with you and show you resources/possibilities that the school didn't know about or share with you.

If, in the end, you do these things and come to the conclusion that you cannot "do" Catholic school, what are your choices?

Religious education. Every parish has a Catholic education program, a place where kids are formed in their faith, usually on Sunday or some other day. Be sure and check that out. The reason we have these programs is because some people are simply not called to Catholic school and this is a beautiful way to experience the joy of growing in our faith. Your parish more than likely has a youth group; check that out and see if it doesn't help you.

To be honest, it's hard for me not to use this article to tell you how much I loved and love the experience of being in a Catholic school as a priest. It regularly blows me away to be around employees at the school and parents who scrape and sacrifice so that the kids can grow in love and knowledge of Jesus and the world our Father made. I could write a whole article just about that. You know, as I think about it, I might just do that. Keep watching this space to find out. Enjoy another day in God's presence! ✚



FATHER JOE KRUPP
is a former comedy
writer who is now a
Catholic priest.
@Joeinblack



Peter J. Deckers, MD

Welcoming Peter J. Deckers, MD

Archbishop Leonard P. Blair is pleased to announce the appointment of Peter J. Deckers, MD, Director, The Hartford Bishops' Foundation, Inc.

Dr. Deckers is a Physician and Surgeon in Farmington and is affiliated with multiple hospitals in the area, including Hartford Hospital and University of Connecticut Health Center-John Dempsey Hospital. He received his medical degree from Boston University School of Medicine and has been in practice for more than 20 years. Dr. Deckers has received numerous awards and has been recognized for his many professional and community service contributions over the years. Throughout his career, he has published almost 200 papers in professional journals. Dr. Deckers is a parishioner of Saint Ann Church in Avon, CT.

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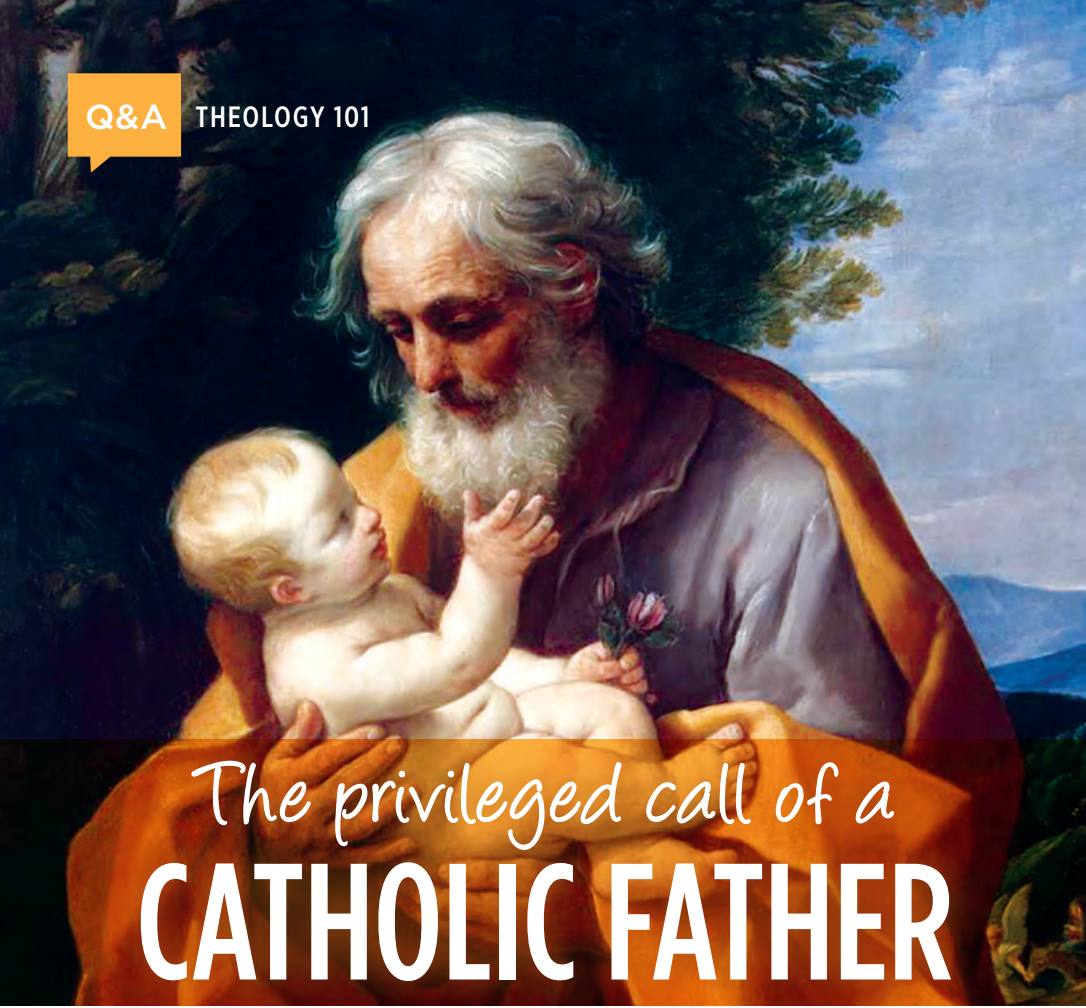
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The privileged call of a
CATHOLIC FATHER

Q What does it mean to be a Catholic father?

A The prayer that Jesus taught us, the “Our Father,” is one that most of us have known from our earliest years. Many pray it often, perhaps even several times daily. It is a prayer of adoration, thanksgiving and supplication. We recognize God as our Father, not as an overbearing, harsh Father, but rather a loving Father who cares for his children, who feeds us, forgives us, leads us and delivers us. When speaking of his relationship to the Father, Jesus used a beautiful Aramaic word, *Abba*, a term of endearment meaning “Daddy” or “Papa.” Our Heavenly Father is not far off, but forever approachable by his children.

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What does it mean to be a Catholic father? The simple answer is, whether we are a biological father (parent) or a spiritual father (priest), we strive by God's grace to emulate in our lives those virtues and qualities of our heavenly Father, who is loving, nurturing, faithful, forgiving, humble, generous, pure and holy.

We all have heard it said that there is in our world, in our society, a "crisis of fatherhood." What does this actually mean? It implies, first of all, that the vocation of a father is critical to the well-being of children and the family. In a homily in Perth, Australia, on Nov. 30, 1986, Pope St. John Paul II said, "As the family goes, so goes the nation, and so goes the whole world in which we live." Anyone who has experienced an absent father, for whatever reason, wishes things had been different. Children desire a father who is present to them.

At a general audience on Jan. 28, 2015, Pope Francis said, "A society without fathers is a society of orphans." The hunger for a father's blessing is one of the greatest hungers in the world. The great privilege and responsibility of a father is to lead his children to God, their ultimate destiny. His vocation is much more than biological; it is also deeply spiritual.

As men, we are generally good providers, workers and coaches. We are competitive, diligent and driven to succeed.

"Doing" is important to us, sadly, sometimes at the expense of "being." As proficient as we are at many things, we often lack what is ultimately the most important, the spiritual.

The reasons vary. However, certainly at top of the list is the reality that we have never truly encountered God. We

cannot fully love one whom we do not know, and to know God is to love him.

A man who loves God is sometimes seen by others as weak or needy because he desires something beyond himself. Our secular, individualistic, "do-it-my-way" society continually emphasizes self-sufficiency and leaves little room

for God. But, in reality, to demonstrate our love for God is manly. Not to do so is to live less, desire less and be less.

Statistics show that when a father consistently leads the spiritual life of the family, his children — really, the whole family — follow him most of the time. Even if children cease practicing their faith when they grow up, they will never forget the devotion and spiritual life of their father.

A crisis? Yes, but never without great hope! It is easy for a man to focus on past failures:

"I have wasted too much time."
 "Too much water is already under the bridge." "What difference can I make now?" This thinking is not of God.

Divine hope changes our focus entirely, from failure and weakness to the future and possibility. It is a great comfort knowing that it is never too late for God, because God is not of time. What we may have spent years ignoring or even destroying, God can reverse and make new. "But for God, all things are possible." (Mt 19:26)

As men, we can look to St. Joseph as our model. The Bible uses only one word to describe him: he

was a "righteous" man. (Mt 1:19) In his righteousness, he continually sought the will of God in his life.

When we, too, seek God, whether we do so as a parent or as a priest, our fatherhood brings peace, happiness and holiness to our families and, therefore, to the world. †



FATHER JAMES SULLIVAN

is pastor of the Church of the Assumption in Ansonia and chaplain of the Connecticut Catholic Men's Conference.

“
**It is a great
 comfort knowing
 that it is never too
 late for God ...**
 ”

On Board!

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Steven B. Kelmar

Welcoming Steven B. Kelmar

Archbishop Leonard P. Blair is pleased to announce the appointment of Steven B. Kelmar, Director, The Hartford Bishops' Foundation, Inc.

Mr. Kelmar serves as Executive Vice President, Corporate Affairs, of Aetna, Inc. Mr. Kelmar is head of Aetna's government, regulatory and policy teams; and head of Communications and the Aetna Foundation. Mr. Kelmar also serves on the company's executive committee. Mr. Kelmar is responsible for leading critical external initiatives related to health care reform and legislative affairs, communications and philanthropy. He is a parishioner of St. Patrick Church in Farmington, CT.

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Senior priests embrace lives as

'pastors of souls'

While many people hope and save for a retirement of carefree living, the reality is that the majority choose to continue working in some form for years.

STORY BY
ROBERTA
TUTTLE

It's no different for the Archdiocese of Hartford's senior priests, many of whom, once freed from their administrative duties, are more than happy to return to the role they took on decades before:

priestly ministry.

"There was a time when few people enjoyed much retirement because life expectancy was relatively short compared to today,"

Archbishop Leonard

P. Blair said. "Now that

people live longer, many enjoy long years of retirement, and so do priests, with this exception — a priest only retires from an assigned administrative responsibility; he never retires from

"The example which they offer us all — of a lifetime dedicated to God and Church — is beyond value"

◀ A few of the Archdiocese of Hartford's senior priests gather in the entryway to the Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield. The term "senior" is used because, according to canon law, a priest never retires. From left in each row, starting in front, are: Father Arthur Dupont and Father Anthony J. Bruno; second row, Father Timothy Meehan and Father James Pilon; third row, Father Nicholas Cesaro, Father Edmund Nadolny and Father George Laliberte; fourth row, Father Salvatore Rosa and Father Roland LaPlante; and back row, Father Leonard Kvedas and Father Joseph Pettit.

PHOTO BY AARON JOSEPH



PHOTO BY AARON JOSEPH

▲ From left, Father Timothy Meehan, Father Edmund Nadolny and Father Leonard Kvedas relax over beverages in the dining room at the Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield.

the priesthood.

"His spiritual ministry as a priest continues in his senior years to the extent that his health and circumstances permit," the archbishop explained. "We depend very heavily on our senior priests to assist in parishes when a parish priest is away on retreat or vacation or is ill. Even with the reduction in the number of parishes, there are still full Mass schedules to be celebrated and our senior priests are very much needed."

Still, once they are no longer responsible for parishes, senior priests say they embrace the opportunity to minister to a parish without boundaries, according to Archbishop Blair.

"Relieved of the burden of administering a parish, retirees often say that they feel like the priest they were ordained to be — pastors of souls."

Some senior priests live in parish rectories and share many of the responsibilities of parish life. Some live at the Archbishop Daniel A. Cronin Residence at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield and travel to wherever they are needed.

Depending on their abilities, senior priests also celebrate Mass and anoint the sick at adult day centers, assisted living facilities

and nursing homes. They celebrate Mass and hear confessions at Catholic schools, an abbey and monasteries. They serve as hospital chaplains, lead retreats and minister to Spanish-speaking Catholics. Some are also active with the Knights of Columbus and Knights of Malta, serving as chaplains for pilgrimages to Lourdes, among numerous other contributions.

"I don't know what the archdiocese would do without them, so important is the role they fulfill," Archbishop Blair stressed.

"And remember, bishops (and now even popes) retire, too."

Father Robert B. Vargo, vicar for clergy and a former pastor, also values the senior priests.

Father Vargo says he has known and witnessed "the wonderful presence, example and ministry that our senior priests offer to their brother priests and to the faithful whom they serve. The wisdom, and often humor, which they bring to their ministry is rewarding and refreshing," he said. "The example which they offer us all — of a lifetime dedicated to God and Church — is beyond value."

"May God continue to bless our senior priests," Father Vargo said, "with holiness, health and every happiness." †



▲ Father Edmund Nadolny holds up one of his prayer cards designed to prompt frenzied cell phone users to take a break and think about God.

No retiree, priest still shares the Good News with creativity and chutzpah

On a Friday night in July, Father Edmund S. Nadolny headed to a baseball game at Dunkin' Donuts Park in Hartford. He decided to take his chances, arriving at the ballpark without a ticket. But he was told there were no seats.

Undaunted, the priest told the cashier at the ticket window, "I'll pray for you for life, if you give me a seat." He gained entrance to the park and sat in a high section. "If it was any farther back," he later said, "I'd be in another town."

STORY BY
SHELLEY WOLF

When the time was right, he made his way to the refreshment area, carrying a plastic bag that holds 600 tiny crosses. "While everyone was lined up for beer," he said, "I gave out 200 crosses."

According to Father Nadolny, most of the baseball fans accepted the 1¼-inch crosses inscribed with the words "I love you Jesus," especially when he told them they were intended for loved ones who are indifferent to faith.

"Once you tell them it's for those who don't go to church," he later said, "they want more than one."

Father Nadolny had no plans to watch the game; he was only there to hand out crosses. So he made his getaway. "I left before I got caught," he confessed.

Despite his "senior priest" status, at age 84 Father Nadolny continues to serve God and the Catholic Church by evangelizing the faith to God's people with the zeal of multiple priests.

He shares the faith wherever he goes in the archdiocese, creatively reaching out to individuals one-on-one through the use of crosses, mobile billboards on his car, a billboard campaign on the state's highways and impromptu confessions.

"Retirement gives me a freedom to evangelize in a way I never did before," he said. "I see retirement as a joyful assignment."

Father Nadolny is still the creative communicator, entrepreneurial fundraiser and kind and giving priest. He brings an abundance of passion, energy and persistence to all that he does. With his trademark humor and brusque demeanor, he still tells it like he sees it.

"My basic philosophy is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable," he said, "whether in Ethiopia or Connecticut."

In addition to his evangelization projects, he continues to celebrate



John T. Livingstone

Welcoming John T. Livingstone

Archbishop Leonard P. Blair is pleased to announce the appointment of John T. Livingstone, Director, The Hartford Bishops' Foundation, Inc.

Mr. Livingstone is Principal at Pricewaterhouse Coopers, LLP. He has been with PwC, LLP since 1991, working from a member in International Tax Services to US Industrial Products Tax Leader. Mr. Livingstone is a graduate from University of Notre Dame with a Bachelor of Business Administration in finance, government and a JD from New York Law School. He serves as a Committee member for Catholic Charities. Mr. Livingstone is a parishioner of Our Lady of Fatima Church in Yalesville, CT.

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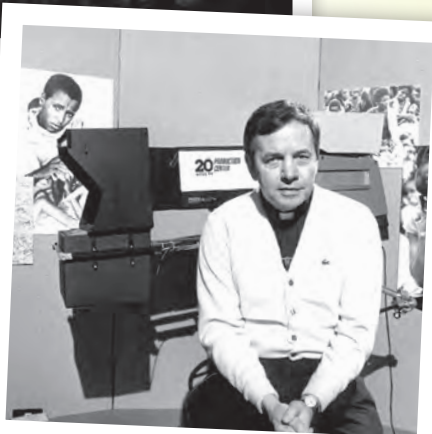


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◀ In the 1970s, Father Nadolny spins records and tells young radio listeners to seek the presence of God in pop music.



▲ In 1985, Father Nadolny poses at a TV studio in Hartford.

Mass and help out wherever he's needed, raises funds for charitable works at home and abroad and sponsors plays about the saints to inspire young people (see sidebar on pg. 20).

He resides at the Archbishop Daniel A. Cronin Residence for senior priests at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield.

Evangelizing through radio and television

Father Nadolny's priestly vocation has been as unique and colorful as the man himself.

He was born Feb. 18, 1933, into a Polish family in New Britain and was ordained to the priesthood in 1959. He said the priesthood has always been a perfect fit for him.

"It gives you the freedom to be yourself and to make mistakes," he said.

For many, Father Nadolny may be best known as the first full-time director of the Archdiocese of Hartford's Office of Radio and Television (ORTV). He served in that role for 15 years, 1968-1983, and was also the director of evangelization.

He stumbled upon his gift for communications while assisting part-time director Msgr. John Wodarski with a one-minute midnight radio spot. A listener

called in to disagree, and the monsignor asked Father Nadolny to do more spots.

Father Nadolny took communications courses at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven before being appointed director just three years after the Second Vatican Council, a time of great change for the Catholic Church and for society. He emerged as a pioneer in Catholic media by producing religious radio and TV programs that went beyond preaching to offer engaging music, topical shows and interactive talk shows.

"He pushed the boundaries," said Sister Patricia Gould of the Sisters of Mercy, who worked with him as TV programming coordinator, along with Sister Arlene Vannie, the

USING LIVE THEATER AND THE SAINTS TO INSPIRE YOUNG PEOPLE

The witness of two saints will be brought to the Connecticut stage in October and November. That's when the Father Nadolny Good News Fund will sponsor theater performances about the lives of two saints: Thérèse of Lisieux, known as "The Little Flower," and John Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests.

Catholic schools will host eight performances presented by Saint Luke Productions, a professional theater company from Washington state. It was founded by Shakespearean actor Leonardo Defilippis.

Bringing these theater productions to Catholic schools is part of Father Nadolny's effort to spark the imagination of young Catholics, and maybe even get them to consider vocations to the priesthood and to religious life.

"Kids don't have any role models," Father Nadolny explained. "Most of their role models die from overdoses of drugs. I'm looking to show them real role models."

Father Nadolny said he prays daily for 1,100 young people whose names have been forwarded to him so that he might "pray for them to be wonderful husbands and wives, single persons, brothers, sisters, deacons or priests."

"Thérèse: The Story of a Soul" will be performed in October for students at Sacred Heart Academy and St. Rita School in Hamden, and at Corpus Christi School in Wethersfield. A public performance will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 8, at Immaculate Conception Auditorium in Waterbury.

"Vianney: A Live Multimedia Drama Performed by Leonardo Defilippis" will be performed in November at Mercy High School in Middletown, Our Lady of Mount Carmel School in Waterbury and St. Bridget School in Cheshire. A public performance will take place on Friday, Nov. 3, at St. Bernard School in Uncasville.

Weekday performances are intended for students. Weekend and evening performances are free and open to parishioners and the public.

radio coordinator. "He was a man ahead of his time."

He also took advantage of the availability of free public access to commercial broadcasting, which came along in 1969. "At that time, everything was public access programming, so you were able to have seven [radio] shows a week," he said. Public access applied to TV, as well.

In 1970, Father Nadolny began to reach young radio listeners through music programs such as "Rock with the Reverend," in which he played a few seconds of music and had listeners call in to guess the tune, and "Message in the Music," in which he played popular hits and then interpreted the lyrics through a Catholic lens.

"I still remember the first song, 'Up Up and Away' by the Fifth Dimension," he said.

He also interviewed singers — such as José Feliciano, Peter Paul & Mary and Dionne Warwick — when they came to the Bushnell in Hartford. He told them they were prophets of their time and said, "Your message is God's message, whatever it is. If you look far enough, you'll see God in it.

"I really believed there was a message in contemporary music," he explained.

Additionally, he traveled to New York City to produce radio and TV shows for the National Catholic Office of Radio and Television. There, his "Message in the Music" radio show went national, airing weekly on 200 ABC radio affiliates around the country.

"I had a lot of kids listening," he said.

Back in Connecticut, in 1976 he launched the first archdiocesan radio station in the country, WJMJ, which he said was the vision of then-Archbishop John F. Whealon. Father Nadolny was responsible for starting the daily Mass that is now broadcast on

WCCT-TV Channel 20.

Sometime during the late '70s, he was visited by Mother Angelica, foundress of EWTN Global Catholic Network, who was gathering ideas for programs prior to the network's launch in 1981.

Over the years, Father Nadolny appeared in shows such as "Risk of Marriage" and "We Believe" on local commercial TV channels and in "Take a Stand," "Your Place" and "Talk With Father Ed" on commercial radio.

"The most meaningful shows were the talk shows," he said, whether on radio or TV. "It was always the same — what you always wanted to ask a priest, but were afraid to ask."

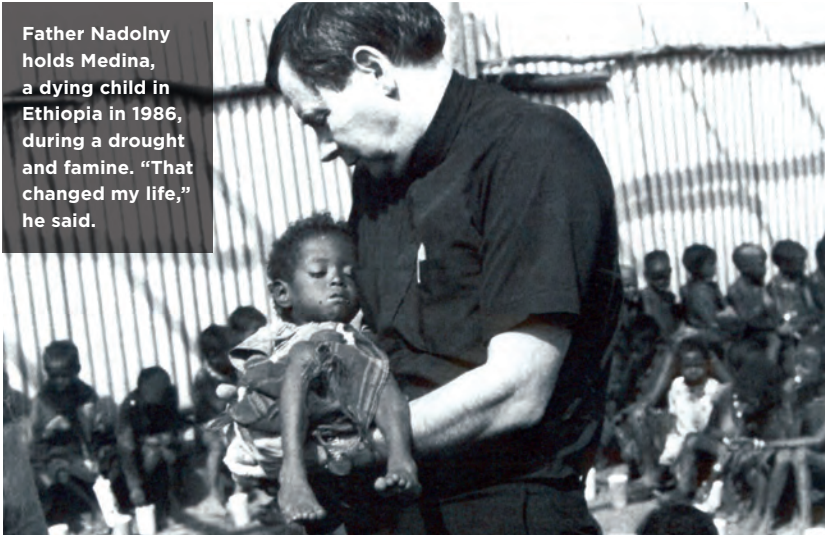
Kids and adults phoned in. One of those kids is now Father Michael Dolan, pastor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in Hamden. As a teen, he and his entire family gathered to listen to Father Nadolny on the radio.

"We always got a kick out of him as a family because he had quite a turn of the phrase," Father Dolan said. "He would talk about going to visit his parents on the way into the radio station and trying to spend time with his family. We just found him really normal and very engaging."

At age 13, the young Michael phoned in to a WTIC radio show to tell Father Nadolny that he might have a vocation to the priesthood. As Father Dolan recalls, Father Nadolny said, "You do? Good for you. Well, listen. Do me a favor, kid. Would you finish high school at least?" Father Nadolny then advised the teen to take advantage of the sacraments and to call back after he finished school.

On other radio shows intended for adults, Father Nadolny eventually became known for choosing controversial current affairs topics — ranging from in vitro fertilization to nuclear arms.

Father Nadolny holds Medina, a dying child in Ethiopia in 1986, during a drought and famine. "That changed my life," he said.



He angered some listeners, he admits, and a dozen would call the chancery on Monday mornings to complain.

"I never thought of myself as being controversial. I was just trying to be relevant," he said. "I never asked them to agree with me, but I was just asking them to think about it."

He realized not everyone agreed with him or liked him. "My brother [Walter], on my 25th anniversary, said, 'You know Father Ed. You either love him or you hate him. I've known him for 50 years and I still haven't made up my mind.'"

In 1983, Archbishop Whealon reassigned Father Nadolny back to parish life and referred to the transition as "the passing of an era." The archbishop also wrote, "I am unendingly grateful for your energetic and imaginative efforts to advance God's kingdom."

Parish life and other pursuits

During his long career, Father Nadolny served as assistant priest in a number of parishes, including at St. Michael Church in Hartford during the 1960s, which fueled his lifelong concern for the poor.

After his stint at ORTV, he became pastor at the churches of St. Vincent Ferrer in Naugatuck, St. Peter in New Haven, St. George in Guilford, St. Stanislaus in Meriden, Sacred Heart in East Berlin and

Sacred Heart in New Britain.

Wherever he saw a need, locally or internationally, he took action.

During the mid-1980s, Father Nadolny ran a telethon to raise funds for drought and famine relief in Ethiopia. "We raised \$350,000 in one day on Channel 30," he said, "after Paul Newman came up with his quarter of a million."

Father Nadolny turned it over to Catholic Relief Services to build 100 wells in Ethiopia, and then traveled there himself in 1985 and 1986 to see their work and to film a documentary. On one trip, he met a young emaciated girl named Medina and held her in his arms. She died that day.

"That changed my life," he said. He says he thinks of her every day when he's in proximity to water.

In 1989, while a pastor in Naugatuck, Father Nadolny began a gun buyback program after an accidental shooting, two

"MY BASIC PHILOSOPHY IS TO COMFORT THE AFFLICTED AND AFFLICT THE COMFORTABLE, WHETHER IN ETHIOPIA OR CONNECTICUT."

— FATHER NADOLNY

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Robert J. O'Hara

Welcoming Robert J. O'Hara

Archbishop Leonard P. Blair is pleased to announce the appointment of Robert J. O'Hara, Director, The Hartford Bishops' Foundation, Inc.

Mr. O'Hara is the Director of Employment Law & HR Compliance at UTC. Prior to joining UTC, he spent 13 years at the National Security Agency in a number of intelligence positions, including the White House Chief Intelligence Analyst on the National Security Council. Mr. O'Hara is Chair for the Archdiocese of Hartford School Board and serves on the Board of Trustees for the Malta House of Care in Hartford, CT. He is a parishioner of St. Catherine of Siena Church in West Simsbury, CT

LEADING THE WAY

General Chair, James C. Smith
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suicides and a call from a suicidal parishioner occurred in his parish. He offered his own money in exchange for firearms to rid local homes of guns.

From 1991 to 1993, Father Nadolny served as pastor of St. George Parish in Guilford. Three years later, Father Dolan became the new pastor and heard many stories from the parishioners who credited Father Nadolny with turning the parish around after a number of members left the congregation. “He kept the place Catholic. He brought people back,” Father Dolan said.

“People would say, ‘You either loved him or hated him, but you showed up to see what was going to happen next.’ He’s not ‘Masterpiece Theater,’ but it’s theater,” Father Dolan observed.

Father Nadolny also seemed to be “impervious to criticism,” he said, but at times that proved to be an asset. “I’ve been advised of the fact that everyone can be throwing stuff at him and he’ll stand and say, ‘OK, this is what we have to do.’ In that respect, there’s a gravity to what he does,” Father Dolan stressed, “because he does it.”

Father Nadolny’s longest parish assignment, at St. Stanislaus in Meriden, lasted 13 years. He served 1993-2006 and is well-remembered even now for his boundless energy.

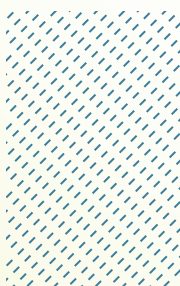
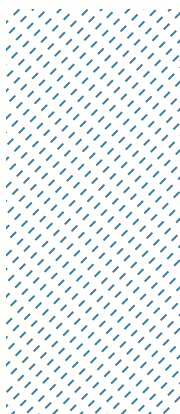
“HE’S NOT ‘MASTERPIECE THEATER,’ BUT IT’S THEATER.”

— FATHER MICHAEL DOLAN

“He’s tireless,” said St. Stanislaus parishioner Mark Kosnoff. “When he came to St. Stan’s, it was like there was six of him. He was everywhere.”

In his first year at St. Stanislaus, Father Nadolny asked for donations for school repairs. Parishioner Krystyna Kataneksza, owner of

▶ Holy pierogies! Father Nadolny displays a package of pierogies. His clever rebranding and new label boosted sales of the Polish stuffed dumplings, benefitting children in Rwanda and at St. Stanislaus School in Meriden.



Krystyna’s Specialties Inc., donated \$1,000 worth of pierogies. Her food business was flagging.

“So we sat down with a pastoral associate, came up with a new idea, put a new label on it and got it designed,” Father Nadolny said. He and Kataneksza joined forces to produce four varieties of Polish pierogies, then rebranded and marketed them under the name “Pierogi Priest.” In a supermarket test, the pierogies sold eight times more under the new name, he said.

They were sold in supermarkets around the state and in a kiosk at the Meriden Mall. Father Nadolny donated the money he earned for school repairs and to reduce tuition.

He ended his service as a pastor of parishes in 2014 at the age of 81.

Evanglizing through the Good News Fund

Today, Father Nadolny’s primary focus is the Father Nadolny Good News Fund Inc., a foundation he started in 1983 to minister to

“a parish without boundaries.” He raises funds and uses them to support countless evangelization and charitable projects in the archdiocese and overseas.

“We can’t do everything, but each of us can do something,” he said.

Since its inception, the Good News Fund has raised more than \$13 million, including \$8.3 million from the state for a middle-income housing project in Waterbury. In 2016 alone, the fund donated or spent a total of \$194,000, Father Nadolny said.

This year, the fund is supporting health, education and housing initiatives in Kenya, Rwanda, India and Haiti by partnering with a variety of missionaries and with the Haitian Health Foundation.

Father Nadolny also is continuing his evangelization efforts, using the fund to pay for 30 highway billboards in 30 cities statewide. In an increasingly secular world, the billboards boldly display messages such as “Jesus, I trust in you.”

Father Nadolny estimates the billboards reach more than 2 million people. They display his name and phone number, prompting daily calls from those in need and from others inspired to pray.

“The billboards are reaching out to people on a one-on-one basis. It does touch them because these billboards are prayers,” he said. “I don’t want to challenge people. I just want them to pray.”

Why does Father Nadolny put his name on them? “Friends say, ‘You’re narcissistic,’ but this way I get feedback. This way, I’m a contact and connection for people to the Church,” he explained.

He said he recently received calls asking him to officiate at a wedding, a baptism and a house blessing. He has also received calls from the homeless, from people addicted to pornography and from parents whose children are in jail.

In addition, he encounters



LEARN MORE

about Father Nadolny's activities at:
www.fathernadolnygoodnews.com
www.facebook.com/edmund.nadolny

Catholics who have not gone to confession in decades, hears their confession and then directs them to their local parishes. "I just encourage them to go," he said, "just to open the door to them."

The Good News Fund supports the tiny crosses, too. So far, Father Nadolny has distributed 55,000 crosses in person and through the

So far, Father Nadolny has distributed 55,000 crosses in person and through the mail, and plans to hand out another 5,000 this year.

mail, and plans to hand out another 5,000 this year.

Crazy like a fox, some would say.

"A lot of people don't have religious items in their homes anymore," he explained, "but I try to infiltrate it with a little cross."

He said people rarely refuse his offer. "I can count on one hand the number of people who've said 'no.'"

Like other senior priests in good health, Father Nadolny makes himself available to cover for parish priests who are sick or on vacation. He says Mass daily at those parishes and weekly at St. Stanislaus and St. Vincent Ferrer.

Wherever he goes, he offers confession immediately after Mass. "Sometimes as many as 30-40 stay for confessions," he said. "I hear

a lot more confessions after Mass than I ever did on a Saturday."

At the Catholic Youth Spectacular in 2014, Father Nadolny was one of 30-40 priests on hand to hear confessions. All the priests waited patiently for the youths to move toward the confessional area, but none arrived.

According to Father Jeffrey Gubbiotti, who was present at the event and is now vocation director for the archdiocese, Father Nadolny was the one to solve the problem. He went to where the nearly 1,000 young people were gathered and directed them over to the confessional area and into orderly lines, as the other priests looked on in amazement.

"He is the New Evangelization personified — going out to meet people where they are and bringing them to God," Father Gubbiotti said. "His energy and enthusiasm for the Lord is beautiful. Everything he does is directed toward Christ."

Jane Woodmansee said she attended a funeral and a baptism in the Hartford area in which Father Nadolny used both occasions as opportunities to preach about the benefits of confession — to the dismay of the families. "He was brusque," she said with a smile, "but I always liked his message."

While some may see his gifts as a mixed blessing, Sister Pat believes Father Nadolny's motivation is clear.

"He is so unique, but basically it's very simple: He loves his God," she stressed, "and that comes out as service to everybody. He's open to everybody. There's no one that he shuns. He lives what he speaks." †

◀ This Divine Mercy billboard, visible from I-91 South heading into Hartford, is one of 30 billboards in 30 cities statewide that reach 2 million commuters and travelers.



PHOTO BY SHELLEY WOLF

On Board!

HBF



Daniel P. Quigley

Welcoming Daniel P. Quigley

Archbishop Leonard P. Blair is pleased to announce the appointment of Daniel P. Quigley, Director, The Hartford Bishops' Foundation, Inc.

Mr. Quigley is President of Mohawk Ventures, LLC. Before starting Mohawk Ventures, Mr. Quigley was vice president of Marketing for AERCO International for almost three years. Mr. Quigley currently serves on the Board of Trustees for Catholic Charities. He also serves as chairperson of Catholic Charities' Fund Development Committee, as well as a member of the agency's Help and Hope and Nominating Committees. Mr. Quigley is a parishioner of Saint Timothy Church in West Hartford, CT.

LEADING THE WAY

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Mr. John LaFramboise, Executive Director
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Missionary discipleship

AT WORK

PHOTO BY MARIA ZONE

Unique convocation ramps up evangelization efforts of Catholic leaders

Kathleen Keating says she is newly inspired to throw open the doors of the universal Church to the young people she works with as a youth minister for St. Mary Parish in Simsbury, while she also continues to explore the possibility of entering religious life.

**STORY BY
MARIA ZONE**

Anthony Federico, a seminarian, says he feels stronger than ever that all Catholics need to be instruments of evangelization.

Monica Pang says she is engaging better with the young people of her parish, St. John XXIII in West Haven.



— DELEGATE MONICA PANG, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ST. JOHN XXIII PARISH, WEST HAVEN.

“Young people need to be around people their own age, and then they will realize that they share a common goal, to be a disciple of Christ.”

Laurie DeLuca says she now stays after Mass at St. Augustine Church in Hartford to welcome

new parishioners warmly. She also is looking into ways her parish can cooperate more with other Hartford parishes to minister more effectively.

Weeks after returning from a historic gathering of Catholic leaders in Orlando, Fla., the men and women who made up the delegation from the Archdiocese of Hartford are well into new efforts to spread the word of the Gospel to those who need spiritual nourishment.

Twenty-five men and women joined Archbishop Leonard P. Blair at the “Convocation of Catholic Leaders: The Joy of the Gospel in America” over the summer. The historic, invitation-only gathering brought together more than 3,500 Catholic leaders from

◀ Kathleen Keating brings the faith to her youth group with spirit at St. Mary Parish in Simsbury over ice cream one summer day.

across the nation.

It was designed to prepare the Church in the United States for renewed efforts at evangelization in the next century. Activities included prayer, panels, discussions, keynote speeches and plenary sessions.

Delegates from the archdiocese are keeping in touch and implementing the tools and resources they were exposed to at the convocation with their communities, parishes, ministries and programs. All say they were inspired to become better and more effective missionary disciples — people who spread the Gospel whenever and wherever possible.

Keating, a youth minister at St. Mary Parish in Simsbury, recalls going to the convocation with “my whole heart for my kids,” the young people in grades 7 through 12 in her youth group. She says the convocation inspired her to share the vitality of the universal Church with her kids.

“Coming together with people from all over the place made me feel that my faith is alive and well,” she says.

Keating says she encountered people at the convocation whom she has admired from afar, such as educators who appear in instructional videos that she uses to teach her students. One was Sister Miriam James Heidland, of the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity, who, during a plenary session, bared her soul while describing how life as a teenager led her down a path of destruction until a priest introduced the joy of the Gospel to her.

Keating, a recent graduate of the University of St. Joseph in West Hartford, says stories like Sister Miriam’s speak loudly to kids and let them know that God has a plan

for them, but that they have to open their hearts to God to hear it.

She practices what she preaches. She, too, is listening intently to her heart as she is going through a process of discernment, considering whether she is being called to religious life.

“Discernment is extremely personal, which is why it’s so special. There’s nothing generic about it. We are all made for some vocation. God has given us all gifts and talents that we can’t go to the store and buy,” she says.

Keating says her awareness of the power of prayer and need for engagement was strengthened at the convocation, and that she has reinforced both ideas in her young people. Since returning, she has taken them to the Steubenville Conference in Lowell, Mass. She calls such gatherings “convocations for kids,” which empower them to be better disciples and welcome them as part of the Church.

Federico, 33, a seminarian for the Archdiocese of Hartford, says that sessions at the convocation showed him that a missionary disciple is one who not only is attuned to and engaged with the Holy Spirit, but someone who tries to find opportunities to connect people with Jesus, as well.

After praying for insight into how he was being called to serve, he reached out to a relative whom he knew was having difficulties. They met for lunch, and the

relative brought along her daughter and the daughter’s boyfriend.

The young people were curious about his decision to enter the seminary, which led to a powerful conversation about having a relationship with Jesus, he says, a topic the two young people may never have experienced before.

“They had so many questions that no one had taken the time to answer for them, including me. I just told them the truth about God and the power of the Holy Spirit,” he says.

The seminarian, a former sportswriter and editor at ESPN, says the encounter demonstrated that God can use any willing heart to impact lives and bring the Gospel to people. He always knew the importance of missionary discipleship but feels the convocation made it clear to him that there is an urgency about it, he explains.

“If we want to change the world and reclaim it for Jesus, each of us needs to lead a more intensely Christian life. We need to allow ourselves to be used as an instrument of evangelization,” says Federico.

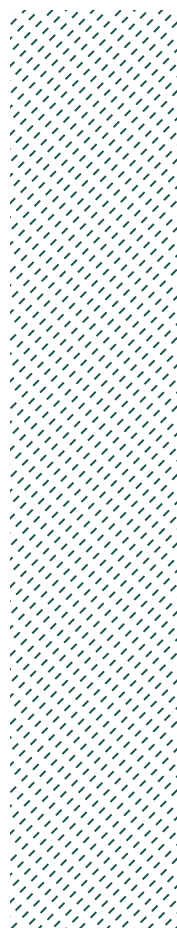
The topic of being welcoming Catholics took center stage during many of the breakout sessions at the convocation.

“Until you hear it from someone else, you can’t believe how something that sounds so simple can be so important,” says DeLuca,



it part of my active ministry.”

— DELEGATE SEMINARIAN JAIME MALDONADO-AVILES



who is the adult faith formation director at St. Augustine in Hartford, which has merged with St. Anne/Immaculate Conception.

Since the convocation, she makes a point to stay after Mass and introduce herself to the new faces she sees in the pews.

“I say to them, ‘If you need any help or have questions, let me know.’ It’s important that they feel like they are part of the family,” DeLuca asserts.

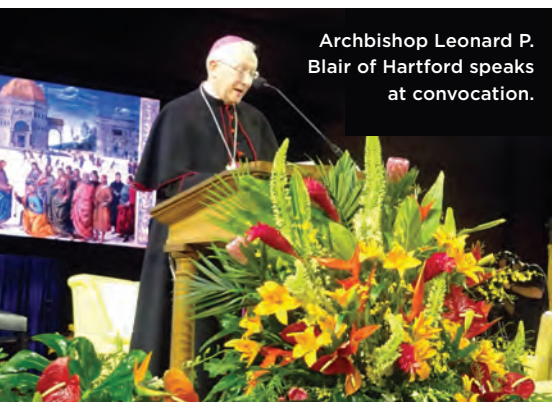
She also came back inspired to develop, with the help of fellow delegate Father Alex Avendano, pastor of St. Lawrence O’Toole Parish, a city-wide Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults ministry through which Hartford parishes could share resources, alternate meeting locations and create a stronger adult formation alliance.

She’d also like to help establish a support group for those who are incarcerated.

DeLuca says the convocation showed her that people who spread the faith most effectively are those who are as faith-filled as possible.

“I returned to meditating more on Scripture daily so that I keep myself spiritually healthy, so that I can be present in the Spirit to help others.”

The convocation was organized in response to Pope Francis’ 2013 apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* (*The Joy of the Gospel*). Key leaders from Catholic organizations and dioceses nationwide gathered with bishops to assess the challenges and opportunities of today’s culture. †



STORY BY
SHELLEY WOLF

INAUGURAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

to focus on *strength* and *courage*

The Archdiocese of Hartford is planning a one-day spiritual boost that is open to all Catholic women of faith in the archdiocese.

The first-ever Archdiocese of Hartford Women's Conference is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 4, at the Hartford Marriott Downtown, located at 200 Columbus Blvd. in Hartford.

The theme of the full-day event is "Be Strong and Courageous!"

"We're focusing on women as the strength of their communities and families," said Nicole Perone, coordinator of the women's conference and archdiocesan director of adult faith formation.

Conference organizers are planning for 250 attendees for a start, she said, and hope the conference will grow in future years. "We're long past time for it," Perone added.

She noted the important role that women play in the Catholic Church.

"Women frequently are the primary educators and formators of their children and grandchildren," she said. They also make up a larger percentage in the pews, she said, and are more active than men in lay ministry as directors of religious education, as catechists and as volunteers.

However, Perone stressed that the women's conference is for all women in the archdiocese, no matter their age, stage of life or volunteer status.

"If you're sitting in a pew, you're invited," she said.

The conference also is being planned by women for women. Perone is working with a committee of lay ministers and active parishioners from throughout the archdiocese who helped to pick the venue and plan many other details.

"They want a day that dazzles," she said. The committee members are striving to found a women's conference that will "nurture and empower and lift up women in the Church."

"That's our goal, just one day, a day to plug in and be with our sisters," she said.

Perone also noted that presentations will be offered in English and Spanish to accommodate members of an increasingly diverse Church.

The English keynote speaker will be Hallie Lord, host of "Hallie Weekly" on SiriusXM's The Catholic Channel. She is also the author of the book

On the Other Side of Fear: How I Found Peace.

The Spanish keynote speaker will be Dr. Gloria Rodriguez, founder of AVANCE, an inner-city nonprofit in San Antonio. The organization has been nationally recognized for its parent education and family support programs, designed to strengthen families in at-risk communities.

Breakout sessions will be presented by Sister Andrea Gil, Miriam Hidalgo, Joan Kennedy, Lisa LaMaire and Guadalupe Ospino.

Opportunities for eucharistic adoration and confession will be offered throughout the day. The event will culminate in a 4 p.m. Saturday vigil Mass with Archbishop Leonard P. Blair. †



HALLIE
LORD



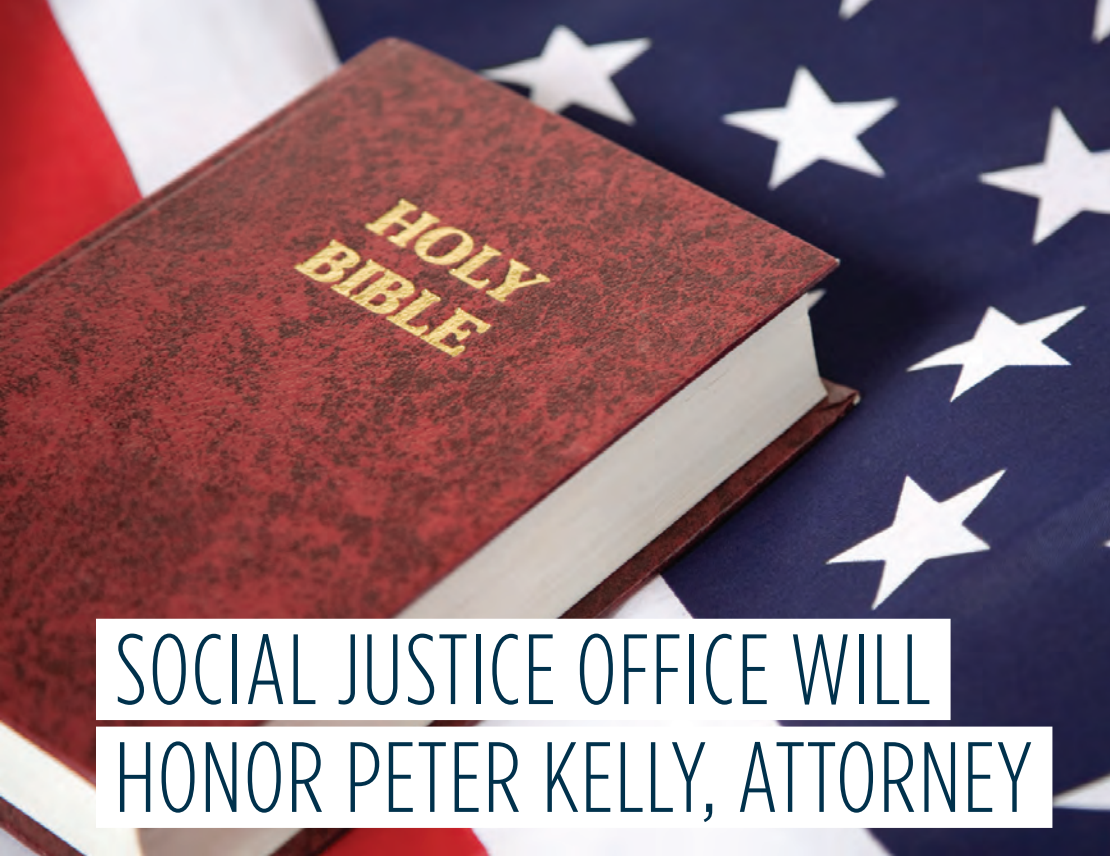
DR. GLORIA
RODRIGUEZ

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT
WWW.CATHOLICEDAOHCT.ORG OR AT
860.242.5573, EXT. 2677

THE FEE IS \$50 FOR RESIDENTS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE
WHO REGISTER BEFORE OCT. 15; \$60 FOR NON-
RESIDENTS AND THOSE WHO REGISTER AFTER OCT. 15

LUNCH AND PARKING
ARE INCLUDED IN THE
REGISTRATION FEE



SOCIAL JUSTICE OFFICE WILL HONOR PETER KELLY, ATTORNEY

The Archdiocese of Hartford’s Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry (OCSJM) will present awards for exceptional efforts in social justice ministry at its annual dinner on Oct. 24 at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville. It will begin with a reception at 5 p.m.

This year, OCSJM will honor attorney Peter G. Kelly with the Most Reverend Joseph P. Donnelly Individual Award for his local, national and international social justice work. Locally, he is among the founders of Malta House of Care and served as a director at Holy Apostles College and Seminary in Cromwell and at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford.

Nationally, he served two presidents and focused heavily on U.S. Senate and House campaign committees. His personal focus took him to issues such as immigration, community development and fair housing. Internationally, he has worked with people subjected to abuse and oppression in places like Nicaragua, Chile and Russia. In South Africa, he served as a leader of the peace process following the 1992

elections. He was an organizer of its electoral process after the removal of apartheid. Over the past dozen years, he has focused his attention on the interface of Islam with the West, and in the process was a creator of the International Conference of Middle East Studies.

Two other awards will be given. St. Vincent de Paul Mission of Waterbury will receive the Organization Award for its work toward eliminating the root causes of homelessness in Greater Waterbury. The mission goes beyond being the largest homeless shelter in Connecticut; it also manages a soup kitchen, food pantry, thrift store, group home, mental health facilities and supportive housing. Deacon Paul Iadorola, CEO for the past 40 years, will accept the award.

The Dr. Charlie Schlegel Award for Cooperative Parish Sharing



PETER KELLY



SISTER KATHLEEN ERICKSON



FOR TICKETS
CALL OCSJM AT 860.242.5573
OR VISIT THE WEBSITE AT
WWW.CATHOLICSOCIALJUSTICE.ORG.
TICKETS ARE \$70 PER PERSON, OR
\$650 FOR A TABLE OF 10.



will be presented to St. Augustine Parish in Hartford for its St. Monica Women’s Support Group, which helps low-income women gain the confidence and skills to rediscover their dignity and to become active members of their community. Through weekly meetings and outings, the women address economic and family issues.

Sister of Mercy Kathleen Erickson will be the guest speaker.

Sister Kathleen has a background in education and administration. She spent 18 years at the U.S./ Mexican border, where she co-founded a learning center for immigrant women and also coordinated immersion trips into Juarez, Mexico. For more than two years, she provided spiritual counseling to undocumented women in the federal detention center in El Paso, Texas. In Omaha, Neb., she initiated the immigrant Detainee Accompaniment Program for Douglas County Corrections. She was an international observer for the Honduran election of November 2013; spent five weeks in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, in the spring of 2014; and in April and May of 2015, she was an interim chaplain at the South Texas Family Residential Center in Dilley, Texas.

Sister Kathleen will share her reflections on immigration and detentions of women and children at the border in her keynote address: “What Immigration Has To Teach Us About Who We Are.” †

THINGS TO DO

(Continued from page 2)

■ The Connecticut **Catholic Men's Conference** will open at 8:30 a.m. on **Oct. 21** at St. Paul Catholic High School in Bristol. Information is available at 860.484.7950, ctcatholicmensconference@gmail.com or www.ctcatholicmen.org.



■ The Archbishop O'Brien Library in Bloomfield will present films in October and November at the Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary to commemorate the **100th anniversary of the appearance of Our Lady of Fatima** to three peasant children in the small village of Fatima, Portugal.

"The 13th Day" will be shown from 10 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, **Oct. 25**. It is the story of the three children, Jacinta, Francisco and Lucia, who witnessed a visitation by the Blessed Virgin Mary on the 13th day of each month from May through October 1917. The film is set against the backdrop of World War I in Fatima. The docudrama "Finding Fatima" will be presented from 10 a.m. to noon on **Nov. 1**. The film goes beyond the story to include re-enactments and original interviews with Fatima experts and relatives of eyewitnesses, along with archival footage. It covers all of the crucial details about the importance of the appearances and messages of Our Lady in Fatima — messages about prayers, penance and conversion that are desperately needed today.

Jacinta and Francisco were canonized by Pope Francis on May 13 of this year. Sister Lucia, who outlived her siblings, was beatified on Feb. 13, 2017.

The Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary is located at 467 Bloomfield Ave., Bloomfield. Registration, at 860.242.5573, ext. 2608 or 2623, is recommended. Refreshments will be served. Programs are free and open to the public.

■ The Archdiocese of Hartford's Office of Education, Evangelization and Catechesis is offering a **professional development conference for parish religious educators** titled "Embrace, Engage, Empower: Catechesis for Children With Special Needs" on Saturday, **Oct. 28**, at St. Mark the Evangelist Church, 467 Quaker Lane South, West Hartford.

The conference will run from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and will include a keynote address by Janice Benton, executive director of the National Catholic Partnership on Disability, as well as several workshops. For more information, visit www.catholicdaohct.org or call Kelly Henderschedt at 860.242.5573, ext. 266.

GO TO
THEOLOGY
OF THE BODY
EVENT

GO TO A
CRAFT FAIR

GO TO A
CONFERENCE



FOR MORE THINGS TO DO
visit www.catholictranscript.org

■ "**Theology of the Body: Love, Relationships and Marriage**" is the title of a retreat to be offered from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on **Nov. 4** and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. **Nov. 5** at the Franciscan Life Center, 275 Finch Ave., Meriden.

It is open to married and engaged couples, families, single adults, students, priests and religious.

It will be presented by Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist and members of the lay faithful.

The \$65 ticket covers both days and lunch. Information is available at www.flcenter.org; www.franciscanhc.org or 203.237.8084.

■ The sixth annual **St. Ann Craft Fair** will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on **Nov. 18** at St. Ann Church, 215 West St., Bristol. Admission and parking are free.

There will be more than 50 new and returning crafters offering a wide variety of items. Food will be available for purchase. The event also will include a bake sale and raffle.

Proceeds will benefit the parish.

The church is handicapped-accessible.



■ Well-known Jesuit scholar and journalist Father Thomas J. Reese will discuss **Pope Francis and the future of the Church** from 6-9 p.m. on **Nov. 10** at Holy Family Retreat Center in West Hartford. "Pope Francis: The First Five Years" is the title of his talk. Father Reese will present his own observations on this "Pope of the People" and discuss the possible outcomes of his papacy for the Church and the world in the future.

Father Reese is a senior analyst for the Religion News Service and former editor-in-chief of the weekly Catholic magazine *America*. As a journalist and commentator, he has covered politics, economics and the Catholic Church. Previously, he was senior analyst for the *National Catholic Reporter* and a senior fellow at the Woodstock Theological Center. He holds a doctorate in political science from the University of California at Berkeley. He is the author of *Inside the Vatican: The Politics and Organization of the Catholic Church*; *A Flock of Shepherds: The National Conference of Catholic Bishops*; and *Archbishop: Inside the Power Structure of the American Catholic Church*.

The \$40 admission fee includes dinner. For more information or to register for the program, call 860.760.9705 or visit www.holyfamilyretreat.org.

Appointments

■ **The Most Rev. Leonard P. Blair, S.T.D., has made the following appointments:**

PRIESTS

Rev. Piotr S. Buczek: appointed priest chaplain of Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, effective Aug. 1, 2017, in addition to duties as parochial vicar of Holy Cross Parish, New Britain.

Rev. Carlos Castrillon: appointed priest chaplain of East Catholic High School, Manchester, effective Aug. 1, 2017, in addition to duties as parochial vicar of St. Junipero Serra Parish, South Windsor.

Rev. M. David Dawson: appointed priest chaplain of Northwest Catholic High School, West Hartford, effective Aug. 1, 2017, in addition to duties as pastor of St. Patrick Parish, Collinsville.

Rev. Glen J. Dmytryszyn: appointed priest chaplain of Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven, effective Aug. 1, 2017, in addition to duties as parochial vicar of St. John Bosco Parish, Branford.

Rev. Michael J. Dolan: appointed priest chaplain of Quinnipiac University, Hamden, effective Aug. 1, 2017, and appointed dean of deanery six in the Southern Vicariate for a three-year term, effective Aug. 29, 2017, in addition to duties as pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Hamden.

Rev. Gerald H. Dziedzic: appointed pastor of Our Lady of the Lakes Parish and St. Francis Xavier Parish, New Milford, effective July 17, 2017.

Rev. Elkin Mauricio Galvis: appointed priest chaplain of Sacred Heart High School, Waterbury, effective Aug. 1, 2017, in addition to duties as parochial vicar of All Saints Parish, Waterbury.

Rev. Matthew G. Gworek: appointed priest chaplain of Quinnipiac University, Hamden, effective Aug. 1, 2017, in addition to duties as parochial vicar of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Hamden.

Rev. Iain R. Highet: appointed dean of deanery one in the Western Vicariate for a three-year term, effective Aug. 29, 2017, in addition to duties as pastor of St. Martin of Tours Parish, Canaan.

Rev. Patrick M. Kane: appointed priest chaplain of the University of Hartford, West Hartford, effective Aug. 1, 2017, and appointed parochial vicar of St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish, Manchester, effective Aug. 14, 2017.

Rev. Roman Kmiec, CM: appointed pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Ansonia, for a six-year term, effective Sept. 27, 2017.

Rev. Chacko Kumplam: appointed parochial vicar of Our Lady of the Lakes Parish and St. Francis Xavier Parish, New Milford, effective July 17, 2017.

Rev. Robert M. Kwiatkowski: appointed dean of deanery three in the Northern Vicariate for a three-year term, effective Aug. 29, 2017, in addition to duties as pastor of St. Peter Clever Parish, West Hartford.

Rev. Ryan M. Lerner: appointed priest chaplain of Trinity College, Hartford, effective Aug. 1, 2017, in addition to duties as chancellor of the Archdiocese of Hartford and secretary to the archbishop.

Rev. Andres Mendoza: appointed dean of deanery four in the Northern Vicariate for a three-year term, effective Aug. 29, 2017, in addition to duties as pastor of St. Katharine Drexel Parish, New Britain.

Rev. Timothy A. O'Brien: appointed parochial vicar of Mary, Gate of Heaven Parish, Windsor Locks, effective Aug. 14, 2017.

Rev. Marcin P. Pluciennik: appointed dean of deanery two in the Northern Vicariate for a three-year term, effective Aug. 29, 2017, in addition to duties as pastor of St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish, Manchester and director of Spiritual Healing and Deliverance.

Rev. Hector G. Rangel: appointed priest chaplain of St. Paul Catholic High School, Bristol, effective Aug. 1, 2017, in addition to duties as parochial vicar of St. Gregory the Great Parish, Bristol.

Rev. Marek Sobczak, CM: appointed pastor of St. Stanislaus Parish, New Haven, for a six-year term, effective Sept. 27, 2017.

Rev. A. Francis Soucy, OFM: appointed parochial vicar of St. Patrick-St. Anthony Parish, Hartford, effective Sept. 1, 2017.

Rev. James M. Sullivan: appointed dean of deanery five in the Western Vicariate for a three-year term, effective Aug. 29, 2017, in addition to duties as pastor of Assumption Parish, Ansonia.

Rev. Robert L. Turner: appointed dean of deanery seven in the Southern Vicariate for a three-year term, effective Aug. 29, 2017, in addition to duties as pastor of St. Ambrose Parish, North Branford.

Rev. Timothy S. Valentine: appointed chaplain of Canterbury School, New Milford, effective Aug. 28, 2017.

Rev. Robert B. Vargo: appointed director of the Mission Office for the Archdiocese of Hartford, for a five-year term, effective Aug. 1, 2017, in addition to duties as Vicar for Clergy for the Archdiocese of Hartford.

Rev. Eric Zuniga: appointed priest chaplain of Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven, in addition to duties as parochial vicar of St. John XXIII Parish, West Haven, effective Aug. 1, 2017.

DEACONS

Deacon Richard Boucher: senior status, effective Oct. 16, 2017.

Deacon Anthony Caraluzzi: assigned to Our Lady of the Apostles Parish, Derby, for a five-year term, effective Sept. 1, 2017.

Deacon Emil P. Croce: assigned to St. Basil the Great Parish, Wolcott, effective June 29, 2017.

Deacon Angelo J. Coppola: senior status, effective Sept. 3, 2017.

Deacon Dominic Corrado: assigned to Most Holy Trinity Parish, Wallingford, effective June 29, 2017.

Deacon Tullio V. Ossa: assigned to Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, New Haven, for a five-year term, effective Sept. 1, 2017.

Deacon William H. Parkinson: assigned to St. Bernadette Parish, New Haven, for a five-year term, effective Sept. 1, 2017.

Deacon William J. Sayles: senior status, effective Aug. 7, 2017.

Deacon Mark J. Stevens: assigned to St. Blaise Parish, Waterbury, for a five-year term, effective Sept. 1, 2017.

Deacon Robert P. Tartaris: assigned to St. George Parish, Guilford, for a five-year term, effective Sept. 1, 2017.

Deacon Clifford E. Thermer: assigned to St. Timothy Parish, West Hartford, for a five-year term, effective Sept. 1, 2017.



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Obituary

■ Deacon George Robert Stephens died on July 7, 2017, at Connecticut Hospice in Branford. He was born on Nov. 10, 1929, in Springfield, Mass. He graduated summa

cum laude in 1952 from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, earned a master of forestry degree in 1958 from the Yale School of Forestry and received a doctorate from Yale University in 1961. He was a first lieutenant in the United States Army. He was ordained to the permanent diaconate in 1981 and served at St. Frances Cabrini Parish in North Haven until 2015.

Deacon Stephens is survived by three sons, Timothy and Mark, both of North Haven, and Matthew, of Riverdale, Md.; and four daughters, Lynne Baxter of Bayboro, N.C.; Ellen Ganz of Billings, Mt.; Charlotte Robbins of Old Saybrook and Kristina Stephens of Clinton; 15 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; a sister, Karen Betz of Huntingtown, Md.; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. He was predeceased by his wife Irene.

 READ FULL OBITUARIES
at www.catholictranscript.org



From left, Mother Mary Jennifer Carroll, Sister Mary Cyril Sudol and Sister Mary Esther Nowel.

Jubilee celebrations

■ Three local members of the Daughters of Mary of the Immaculate Conception are celebrating significant years of fidelity and service. The congregation's motherhouse is in New Britain.

All three sisters served in ministries sponsored by the Daughters of Mary.

Sister Mary Cyril Sudol is marking 75 years of religious commitment to the congregation. She has served in the education ministry and recently published the book *A Christian's Food for Thought*.

Commemorating 50 years of religious commitment to the congregation are Mother Mary Jennifer Carroll and Sister Mary Esther Nowel.

Mother Mary Jennifer, the superior general of the congregation, served in the ministries of education and care of the elderly. Sister Mary Esther served in the child care and hospitality ministries.

St. Mary School upgrades its technology

■ St. Mary School in Simsbury is beefing up its already extensive use of technology in the core curriculum by implementing an upgraded technology and coding program for its students.

In September, students in kindergarten through grade 8 received a new generation of iPads to replace those that have been available to pupils over the past five years. Students also are seeing their curriculum expand to include an Apple coding curriculum, with a little help from robots.

"St. Mary's has always been a leader in evolving our curriculum and providing resources to best equip our students to be successful young adults and to engage them in lifelong learning," said Margaret Williamson, the school's principal. "These enhancements both upgrade and introduce new elements that will directly benefit our students in a meaningful way."

Williamson explained that coding is an ever-increasing skill in today's world. Coding drives innovation, allows children to be creative and builds confidence, she said.

"By utilizing the [Apple] Swift Playground coding curriculum, we will offer our students a range of resources that take students from no coding experience to building their first apps," she said.

Students in kindergarten through grade 5 are using robots Dash and Dot from Wonder Workshop, an education and robotics firm founded in 2012, which are intended to engage students and make learning fun.

St. Mary's is in its 60th year of educating children from throughout Farmington Valley. Information about St. Mary's or enrollment is available from Toni Chagnon at 860.658.9412 or at tchagnon@stmarysimsbury.eduk12.net.



▲ Cece Mutarelli, a second-grader at St. Mary School in Simsbury, and her brother Max, in fifth grade, get to know Dot and Dash in the fifth-grade classroom at the school.

Holy Apostles College appoints new vice rector of the seminary



■ Holy Apostles College and Seminary in Cromwell has announced the appointment of Father Anthony McLaughlin, a priest of the Diocese of Tyler, Texas, as the new vice rector of the seminary.

He holds a doctorate in canon law from The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. A native of Belfast, Northern Ireland, Father McLaughlin was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Tyler in 1997. He recently served as vicar general of the diocese and president of Bishop Gorman Catholic School. He previously had been rector of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Tyler, judicial vicar of the diocese, judge of the diocesan tribunal and defender of the bond.

Father McLaughlin also has served as pastor of Mary Queen of Heaven Parish in Malakoff, Texas, and St. Joseph Parish in Marshall, Texas. He was a parochial vicar at Sacred Heart Parish in Texarkana, Texas; St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Atlanta, Texas; and Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in Jacksonville, Texas.

During the 2014-2015 academic year, Father McLaughlin returned to The Catholic University of America as assistant professor of canon law and director of the Institute on Matrimonial Tribunal Practice.

Gallery is hosting 'The Minimum Bible' exhibit

■ HARTFORD — The Clare Gallery is hosting the New England premiere of "The Minimum Bible," an exhibition of graphic design artwork by a Michigan artist and Presbyterian pastor, Joseph Novak.

The gallery is exhibiting 30 of the 66 images that make up "The Minimum Bible" from Aug. 11 to Oct. 12. It is free and open to the public. The gallery is housed in the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry at 285 Church St. The center is part of St. Patrick–St. Anthony Parish.

As a pastor and a graphic designer, Reverend Novak considered whether the books of the Old and New Testament could be rendered by using essential symbols and themes. If successfully done, he said, the images would visually communicate the books' overall stories. The result is the series "The Minimum Bible."

Reverend Novak's work provides a new door for entering into conversation about the ancient texts, and some of his images encourage multiple interpretations.

Some works are plot driven, but some are more mysterious. For

example, the image for Genesis contains seven nested circles, each circle larger than the rest, balanced asymmetrically with a red emphasis point. Is this image about growth? Outward movement from a specific place? How we affect one another?

Or, is it a literal translation — the world was created in six days with the seventh being a day of rest?

After the exhibition, Reverend Novak's work will continue to be used to create questions in the parish's religious

education program.

For more information on "The Minimum Bible" project, visit www.minimumbible.com.

The Clare Gallery primarily features exhibitions that emphasize world religions or interfaith themes, as well as social justice themes, on either a global or local level.

The gallery's hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Fridays; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays; and 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Sundays. More information may be found at www.spsact.org/clare2.



St. Brigid-St. Augustine Partnership School welcomes new principal

■ John S. Mirabito was named principal of St. Brigid-St. Augustine Partnership School, 100 Mayflower St., West Hartford, in August.

Mirabito brings a diverse background to his new position, including successful experience in education, administration, management, finance and marketing. He attended Catholic elementary and secondary school, then earned his bachelor of science degree in finance from Fairfield University in 1986 and his master's in education from Sacred Heart University in 1994.

He said that his experience of Catholic school commitment to excellence always has made him proud. He said the "emphasis on the formation of the whole student with faith as its foundation ... differentiates the Catholic school philosophy from others."

"This unified approach to faith in Jesus, commitment to academics and the continuous growth throughout a person's life is what makes a Catholic school education so critical, especially in today's ever-changing world," Mirabito said.

Previously, Mirabito was a business consultant at JSM Management; a financial consultant/sales manager at Guardian Financial, Barnum Financial Group and Waddell & Reed; a sixth-grade teacher and administrator for the Orange Public Schools; and lead teacher at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School in Waterbury.

As principal of St. Brigid-St. Augustine Partnership School, Mirabito said he looks forward to continuing the longstanding tradition of integrating the Catholic faith with the best of educational experiences.

St. Brigid-St. Augustine Partnership School has combined the communities of several Catholic schools into a vibrant institution representing 316 years of academic excellence, social responsibility, personal growth and cultural diversity, firmly founded on the principles of the Catholic faith. St. Brigid School (at the site of the current partnership school), St. Augustine School in Hartford, St. Mary School in Newington and SS. Cyril and Methodius School in Hartford have merged to offer enrollment to children in pre-K through grade 8.



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