

Catholic **TRANSCRIPT**

OCTOBER 2019

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FAMILY LIFE DIRECTOR

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IN CONNECTICUT

● A DEEP DEVOTION
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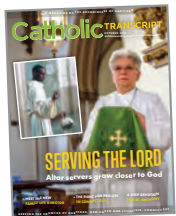
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ON THE COVER:

Altar servers Sue Ranno and Joseph Kingsley.

PHOTO BY AARON JOSEPH

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Archbishop Leonard P. Blair
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

Father James A. Shanley
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Karen A. Avitabile
EDITOR

Shelley Wolf
STAFF WRITER

Aaron Joseph
PHOTOGRAPHER

Jenny Pomicter
GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Archbishop Leonard P. Blair
Auxiliary Bishop Juan Miguel Betancourt
Father Michael Casey
David Elliott
Father Jeffrey V. Romans
Joe Pisani
Jack Sheedy
CONTRIBUTORS

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Patrick M. O'Brien
PRESIDENT/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg
VICE PRESIDENT/EDITORIAL DIRECTOR



What a New Season Can Teach Us



KAREN AVITABILE
is editor of the
Catholic Transcript.

It is hard to believe that summer is over and autumn is upon us! With the cooler temperatures, it time to think about delicious pies, hot soups and apple cider, a warm sweater or jacket, pumpkins and, of course, fall foliage. For some of us (especially me!), autumn is a jumpstart to plan for the upcoming holidays — Thanksgiving, the birth of Jesus and the new year. But it is also a time to reflect from the long days of summer and regroup for the long winter ahead.

Auxiliary Bishop Juan Miguel Betancourt tells us in his column that the darkness of the season often signals “feelings of nostalgia, melancholy and even deep sadness.” Despite the shorter days and more darkness, autumn is the

perfect time to begin following the path to God’s light. The Gospel of Jesus Christ can draw us back into summer even through the darkest moments. Be sure to review his Scriptures outlined on page 12 to guide us.

In this edition, we sit down with Dr. Lenard Kelley, the new family life director of the Archdiocese of Hartford. You will be inspired by his path of putting faith at the forefront.

You may see altar servers, usually teenagers, participating in Mass on weekdays and each weekend. But how often do you see adult altar servers? We interviewed some

adult altar servers, both men and women, who told us what it feels like being so close to the bread and wine transformed into the body and blood of Christ.

Meanwhile, the *Transcript* continues its series highlighting issues at the forefront of the Connecticut Catholic Conference. Read about CCC’s fight for pro-life causes in a pro-choice state.

If you’re looking for another day trip, take a ride to St. Anne Shrine in nearby Fiskdale (Sturbridge), Mass. The inspirational grounds feature a Hall of Saints, Russian icon exhibit, Generations Stone and an Angel of Hope. The angel is one of only a handful throughout the country where you can mourn for children who have lost their lives. A candlelight ceremony will be held at the base of the Angel of Hope on Dec. 6.

Want to try a new dinner roll? The St. Anthony Society at Our Lady of Mercy in Plainville made about 1,000 rolls from scratch and handed them out to parishioners to mark St. Anthony’s feast day. It is a tradition the ladies in the organization have been doing for more than 25 years. We are providing the recipe on page 18, so try them out for yourself.

We hope you enjoy these and other stories in this edition. Don’t forget to visit us online at archdioceseofhartford.org/catholictranscript to read more about people, places and activities around the archdiocese. Happy leaf peeping!

*“The grass withers,
the flower fades, but
the word of our God
will stand forever.”*

— Isaiah 40:8



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SOONER THE EARTH WITHOUT THE SUN



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ARCHBISHOP LEONARD P. BLAIR
is the 13th bishop of the
Archdiocese of Hartford.



n Sept. 23, we celebrated the memorial of St. Pio of Pietralcina, popularly known as Padre Pio, a great spiritual figure of the 20th century for whom one of our parishes is now named.

During his lifetime, St. Pio was known far beyond the borders of his native Italy as a mystic, a wonder worker and great dispenser of divine mercy in the confessional and in spiritual direction. He was also a stigmatic, that is to say, like St. Francis of Assisi before him, Padre Pio manifested the wounds of Christ in his own body. When he was canonized a saint in 2002, it was one of the largest-attended liturgies ever to take place in Rome.

St. Pio died in 1968 at the height of the Cold War and its threat of nuclear annihilation. He lived through two world wars that rocked his native Italy. He knew of the slaughter of millions by totalitarian regimes in what proved to be the bloodiest century thus far in human history. He was keenly aware of a growing forgetfulness of God in the world.

Amid all these tremendous threats, crises and problems, what did this extraordinary saint think was important?

“We need a cosmic recall to the things of the spirit – and above all the Mass, the pulsating heart of Christianity.”

In his characteristically direct way of expressing himself, Padre Pio said: “The earth could exist more easily without the sun than without the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass ... If we only know how God regards this sacrifice, we would risk our lives to be present at a single Mass.”

The Mass was the center of the spirituality of Padre Pio amid all the world’s chaos and the insistent pleas he received from people suffering throughout the world. He ministered to thousands. He was responsible for the construction of one of the largest hospitals in Italy. And yet it has rightly been pointed out that his day was a continuous preparation and a continuous thanksgiving for his celebration of the Mass.

Reflecting on how Padre Pio celebrated Mass, one writer states: “We need a cosmic recall to the things of the spirit – and above all the Mass, the pulsating heart of Christianity. May it not well be

that Christ ... marked [Padre Pio] with his Five Wounds in order that he might stand at the altar as the living image of the crucified, and that through him the Mass might become vital for us? For it is the Mass that matters, and until its power is again felt in the heart of our civilization, all will not be well.”

Needless to say, St. Pio is only one striking example of a saint whose life’s work and passion revolved around the Mass. He understood perfectly what the Second Vatican Council meant when it said that the Most Holy Eucharist was the “source and summit” of Christian life, containing within itself “the Church’s entire spiritual wealth.”

Everything connected with the Mass and its proper celebration is important and worth our time and very best efforts, whether as clergy, liturgical ministers or members of the congregation. Priests are entrusted with the Mass in a particular way and are solemnly bound by the promise of their ordination to “celebrate [it] faithfully and reverently, in accord with the Church’s tradition” in communion with their bishop, who has a special responsibility to be a “steward of the mysteries of God.”

Each of us, in his or her own way, like St. Pio and all the saints, is called to bear witness to the supreme importance of the Mass, all the more at a time of decreasing Mass attendance and fewer priests to celebrate it, for in a very real sense, “it is the Mass that matters, and until its power is again felt in the heart of our civilization, all will not be well.” **CT**

ANTES LA TIERRA SIN EL SOL

POR EL ARZOBISPO LEONARD P. BLAIR

El 23 de septiembre, celebramos el memorial de San Pío de Pietralcina, conocido popularmente como Padre Pio, una gran figura espiritual del siglo XX de quien una de nuestras parroquias ha tomado su nombre.

Durante su vida, San Pío fue conocido más allá de las fronteras de su Italia natal como un místico, un hacedor de maravillas y un gran dispensador de la misericordia divina en el confesionario y en la dirección espiritual. También era un estigmático, es decir, como San Francisco de Asís antes que él, el Padre Pío llevó las heridas de Cristo en su propio cuerpo. La liturgia de su canonización como santo en 2002, fue una de las que ha contado con mayor asistencia en Roma.

San Pío murió en 1968 en el apogeo de la Guerra Fría y su amenaza de aniquilación nuclear. Vivió dos guerras mundiales que sacudieron a su Italia natal. Sabía de la matanza de millones de personas por regímenes totalitarios en lo que resultó ser el siglo más sangriento hasta ahora en la historia humana. Era muy consciente de un creciente olvido de Dios en el mundo.

En medio de todas estas tremendas amenazas, crisis y problemas, ¿qué pensaba este santo extraordinario que era importante?

En su característica forma de expresarse tan directa, el Padre Pío dijo: “La tierra podría existir más fácilmente sin el sol que sin el Santo Sacrificio de la Misa ... Si solo supiéramos cómo Dios considera este sacrificio, arriesgaríamos nuestras vidas para estar presentes en una sola misa”.

La misa fue el centro de la espiritualidad del Padre Pío en medio del caos del mundo y las insistentes súplicas que recibió de las personas que sufren en todo el mundo. Él ministró a miles. Fue responsable de la construcción de uno de los hospitales más grandes de Italia. Y sin embargo, se ha señalado correctamente que su día fue una preparación continua y una acción



Archbishop Leonard P. Blair mingles with members of New Haven Frassati, a young adult Catholic group in the archdiocese.

PHOTO BY AARON JOSEPH

de gracias continua por su celebración de la misa.

Al reflexionar sobre cómo el Padre Pío celebró la misa, un escritor afirma: “Necesitamos un recuerdo cósmico de las cosas del espíritu, y sobre todo de la misa, el corazón palpitante del cristianismo. ¿No puede ser que Cristo ... marcó [al Padre Pío] con sus Cinco Heridas para poder estar en el altar como la imagen viva del crucificado, y que a través de él la misa se vuelva vital para nosotros? Porque es la misa lo que importa, y hasta que su poder vuelva a sentirse en el corazón de nuestra civilización, no todo estará bien”.

Huelga decir que San Pío es solo un ejemplo sorprendente de un santo cuya obra y pasión de la vida giraban en torno a la misa. Entendió perfectamente lo que el Concilio Vaticano II quiso decir cuando dijo que la Santísima Eucaristía era la “fuente y cumbre” de la vida cristiana, que contiene en sí misma “toda la riqueza espiritual de la Iglesia”.

Todo lo relacionado con la misa y su celebración adecuada es importante y vale la pena nuestro tiempo y nuestros mejores esfuerzos, ya sea como clérigos, ministros litúrgicos o miembros de la congregación. A los sacerdotes se les confía la misa de una manera particular y se comprometen solemnemente con la promesa de su ordenación de “celebrarla [fiel] y reverentemente, de acuerdo con la tradición de la Iglesia” en comunión con su obispo, quien tiene la responsabilidad especial de ser un “administrador de los misterios de Dios”.

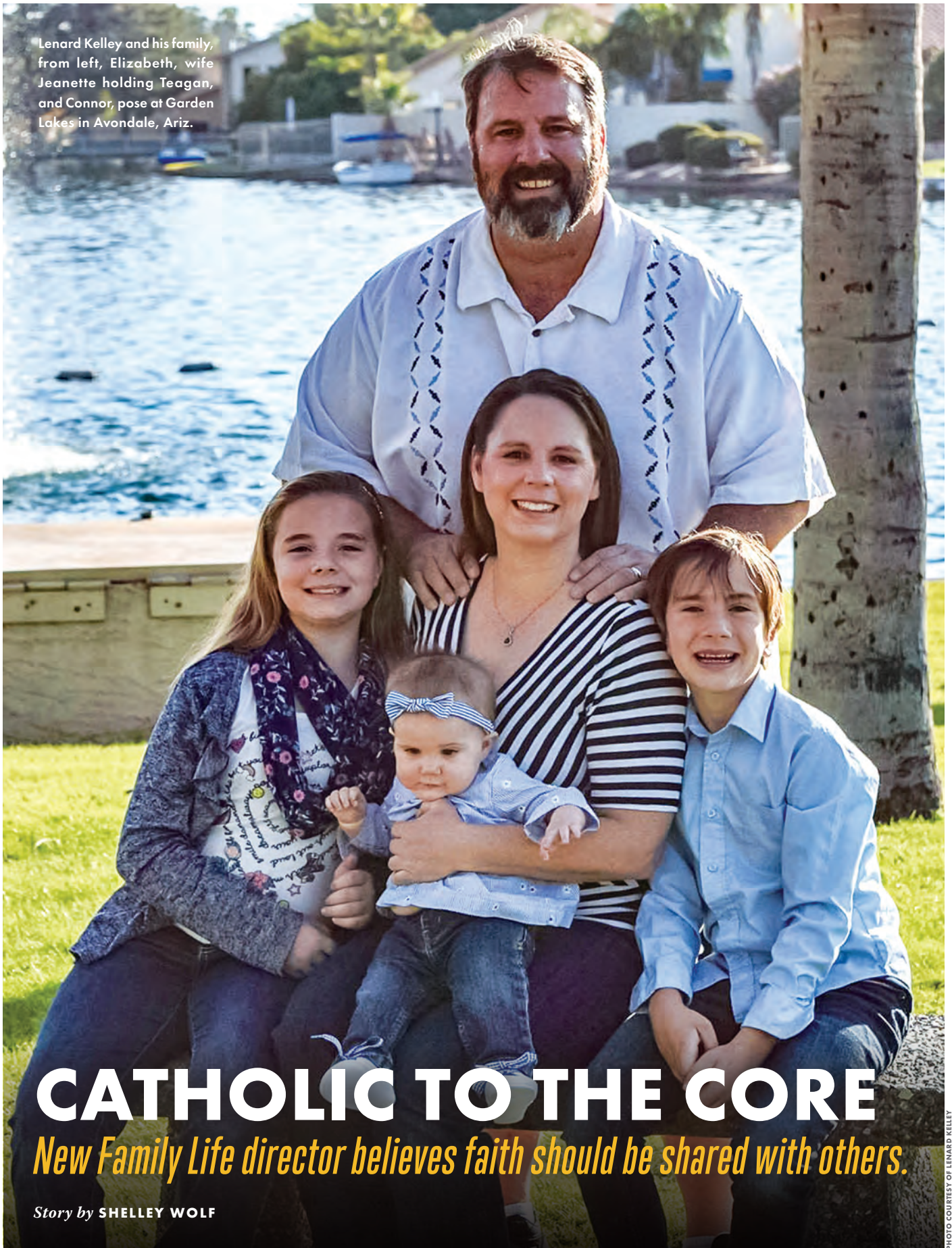
Cada uno de nosotros, a su manera, como San Pío y todos los santos, estamos llamados a dar testimonio de la importancia suprema de la misa, más aún en un momento de disminución de la asistencia a la misa y del número de sacerdotes para celebrarla, porque en un sentido muy real, “la misa es lo que importa, y hasta que su poder se sienta nuevamente en el corazón de nuestra civilización, no todo estará bien.” **CT**



PHOTO BY AARON JOSEPH

Frassati New Haven, one of several young adult Catholic groups in the archdiocese, invited Archbishop Leonard P. Blair to its August Frassati on Tap event at Stony Creek Brewery in Branford for an Ask A Bishop session on morality.

Lenard Kelley and his family, from left, Elizabeth, wife Jeanette holding Teagan, and Connor, pose at Garden Lakes in Avondale, Ariz.



CATHOLIC TO THE CORE

New Family Life director believes faith should be shared with others.

Story by **SHELLEY WOLF**

PHOTO COURTESY OF LENARD KELLEY

Lenard Kelley goes to work every day and talks about the mainstay in his life — his Roman Catholic faith.

“Faith is an integral part of my job,” says Kelley, the new director of the Archdiocese of Hartford Family Life Office. “It’s something I want to talk about.”

One of six children, Kelley was raised with a strong Catholic background that, he says, was encouraged by the traditional values he learned while growing up as a military child. Born at Fort Dix Army Base in New Jersey, he moved all around the country with his parents.

Kelley, a former seminarian, earned a bachelor’s degree in philosophy at St. Louis University in Missouri and attended St. John Vianney College Seminary in Miami, Fla. He spent four years with the Archdiocese of St. Louis discerning a potential call to the priesthood. “That’s where I got my formation, but I discerned out,” he says, concluding that marriage was his true vocation.

Still, Kelley wanted to practice his faith in his professional work. Since 2003, he’s served in Catholic parishes in Phoenix, as a coordinator of youth and young adult ministry, then as director of family ministries in a communications role and finally as a pastoral associate and a director of family life. To make ends meet, he also worked part time in property management and sold real

While Kelley knows he could earned a larger income if he chose real estate as a full-time gig, he turned it down, saying “It’s not fulfilling, it’s not sacred.”

Catholicism, he notes, has the answers to all of life’s questions. Kelley says, “We need to be culturally relevant, steadfast and true, so when people come back to the Church, they come back to something that is steadfast in what we believe.”

Along the way, Kelley earned a master’s degree in theology and a doctorate in education in organizational leadership, plus

certificates in marriage preparation and natural family planning. Once he completed his dissertation in 2018, Kelley knew he wanted to be the director of a diocesan office of family life, but that job was already filled in his own diocese.

Last year on Black Friday, his wife, Jeanette said, “Let’s get out of Arizona.” So Kelley began looking at jobs online and typed in “director of family life.” “She pointed over my shoulder to a job in Connecticut, saying, ‘Get that job in New England.’”

Jeanette, also a fellow military child, was thrilled with the prospect of relocating to the Northeast because her parents were born and raised in Boston. Kelley applied to the Archdiocese of Hartford and now he’s here.

After moving to Connecticut last April, Kelley spent his free time visiting all six New England states before his family relocated in June. “I love Connecticut, I love New England,” he says.

Currently, Kelley and his family reside in Bristol and attend St. Gregory the Great Church. Jeanette is a middle school English teacher at St. Joseph School in Bristol. The couple, married nearly 12 years, met at a church in Arizona when Kelley approached her about helping with a retreat. “I married my perfect partner,” he says.

“We need to be culturally relevant, steadfast and true, so when people come back to the Church, they come back to something that is steadfast in what we believe.”

— DR. LENARD KELLEY



Family Life Logo



Family Life Office's Martha Pezo-Marin, left, and Clarigsa Peña-Llorens.



PHOTO BY AARON JOSEPH

Their children, Elizabeth, 10, Connor, 8, and Teagan, 18 months, are settling in to Connecticut nicely. On weekends, the whole family enjoys taking day trips. In his spare time, Kelley is a champion chess player and has already competed in this year's Bradley Open chess tournament.

After six months serving in the Family Life Office, which is proud of its 71-year history in the archdiocese,

Kelley says he could not be more enthusiastic about his job, which supports priests and parishes in dealing with a host of family issues. Some of those topics include marriage preparation, bereavement, divorce and separation, natural family planning, family enrichment, parental support and education and individuals and family members who are experiencing same-sex attraction.

"I love the actual work and creating the foundation," Kelley says. "I can't imagine being in a world where I could not do this 40 hours a week."

"We're expected to treat faith as something contraband that we hide deep under our coats. Rather, we're meant to be a shining light on a hill."

— LENARD KELLEY

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY CELEBRATION



All couples celebrating their 25th, 50th, 60th or other special wedding anniversary this year are invited to a Mass that will be celebrated by Archbishop Leonard P. Blair on Oct. 13, 2 p.m., at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford.

This year's Mass will include the renewal of marriage vows, followed by a reception and an opportunity for a photo with the archbishop. Family members and friends are encouraged to attend. To register, contact your local parish.

The Wedding Anniversary Mass, initiated under Archbishop John F. Whealon, has been celebrated since the late 1970s. Last year, 110 couples participated.

Kelley joins two other full-time employees in the Office of Family Life: Martha Pezo-Marin, coordinator of Hispanic family ministry, who has been with the office for 16 years, and Clarigsa Peña-Llorens, office coordinator for the past five years.

In today's culture, Kelley explains, "We're expected to treat faith as something contraband that we hide deep under our coats."

Rather, he adds, Catholics should be highly visible, sharing their beliefs with others as well as the many benefits of their faith. "We're meant to be a shining light on a hill," Kelley says. **CT**



PHOTO BY AARON JOSEPH

Family Life Office director Lenard Kelley, in the Pastoral Center.



Baptized and Sent

World Mission Sunday

October 20, 2019



WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

joins all Catholics of the world into one community of faith. At Mass that Sunday, we recommit ourselves to our common vocation, through Baptism, to be missionaries, through prayer, participation in the Eucharist, and by giving generously to the collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

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Let God's Shining Light Be a Guide in Darkness



**AUXILIARY BISHOP
JUAN MIGUEL BETANCOURT**
*is the ninth auxiliary bishop for
the Archdiocese of Hartford.*

The long days of summer are gone now. As the days get shorter, daylight decreases. The weather is turning colder and a bit windy, a little more every day. Even though the colors are stunningly beautiful as we enjoy the season, we know deep down that winter is definitely coming.

The lack of light during the fall and winter months has its effects. Some people are more sensitive to this shortage of sunlight than others are. During this time, we could feel more susceptible to feelings of nostalgia, melancholy and even deep sadness. The most common term to describe the absence of light is darkness. In the Bible, we find darkness is defined in diverse ways that might help us look into ourselves and ponder how this year has been, if we have ever felt some "darkness" and how Scripture can help us find and keep our way to the light and remain hopeful.

Darkness is used in Scripture with several connotations. Sometimes, it represents sorrow, particularly the pain of being separated from God. (Jl 2:2; Am 5:18-20; Mt 8:12, 22:13 and

25:30) The prophets and the Gospels compare the absence of God in our lives as living in darkness. God is the source of life, goodness and well-being. However, sin severs that essential, vital connection that gives the soul a foundational sense of tranquility and peace. (Ps 23:1-2, 4b)

In Scripture, darkness signifies ignorance, too. Unwillingness to discern the will of God and abide by his commandments is also referred to as darkness or foolishness. (Ez 45:20; Prv 1:7; Rom 10:3; 1 Tm 1:13) However, Jesus' salvific role includes casting away the darkness of humanity's ignorance and shining his saving light upon our minds and hearts, making us wise in the eyes of God our Father. (Jn 3:19-21 and 8:12; 1 Cor 1:18-25, 30) Also, Jesus' ministry while on earth is referred to as the advent of the light to those in darkness. (Mt 4:16, cf. Is 9:2)

Frequently, in the Bible, the power of Satan and his nefarious spiritual influence are called darkness. (Lk 22:53; Rom 13:11-13; Col 1:12-13; 1 Thes 5:4-5; 1 Jn 2:8-11) Looking for God, turning to him, is how we walk away from darkness into the path of light, wisdom and salvation. (Acts 26:18; 2 Cor 6:14; Eph 5:8; 1 Pt 2:9) This fundamental opposition between God's people and the unbelieving (God and Satan) is primarily expressed in moral life.

As the Letter to the Ephesians tells us, Christians must reject the "works of darkness" and walk as "children of light." (5:9-11) The real children of God live by this contrast, always choosing the path and the works that come from and lead to God: the way of the light. (1 Jn 1:5-6 and 2:8-11) I invite all of us to pursue reflection and prayer, so our Father may always find us, even amid some "darkness," striving to walk in the path of his light. ☺

Deje que la luz brillante de Dios sea una guía en la oscuridad

Los largos días de verano se han ido, y la luz del día disminuye. El clima se está volviendo más frío y ventoso, un poco más cada día. A pesar de que los colores se ven increíblemente hermosos, sabemos en el fondo que definitivamente se acerca el invierno.

La falta de luz durante los meses de otoño e invierno tiene sus efectos, y algunas personas son más sensibles a la falta de luz solar que otras. Durante este tiempo, podemos sentirnos más susceptibles a sentimientos de nostalgia, melancolía e incluso gran tristeza. El término más común para describir la ausencia de luz es oscuridad. En la Biblia, encontramos distintas maneras en las que se define la oscuridad que pueden ayudarnos a reflexionar sobre cómo ha sido este año, si alguna vez hemos sentido alguna "oscuridad", y cómo las Escrituras pueden ayudarnos a encontrar y mantener nuestro camino hacia la luz y mantenernos con esperanza.

La "oscuridad" se usa en las Escrituras con varias connotaciones. A veces representa tristeza, particularmente el dolor de estar separado de Dios. (Joel 2: 2; Amós 5: 18-20; Mateo 8:12; 22:13; 25:30). Los Profetas y los Evangelios comparan la ausencia de Dios en nuestras vidas como vivir en la oscuridad. Dios es la fuente de la vida, la bondad y el bienestar. Sin embargo, el pecado corta esa conexión esencial y vital que le da al alma una sensación fundamental de tranquilidad y paz (Salmo 23: 1-2, 4b).

En la Biblia, oscuridad también significa ignorancia. La indolencia en conocer la voluntad de Dios y cumplir con sus mandamientos también se conoce como oscuridad o necedad

(Ezequiel 45:20; Proverbios 1: 7; Romanos 10: 3; 1 Timoteo 1:13). Sin embargo, el rol salvífico de Jesús incluye rechazar la oscuridad de la ignorancia de la humanidad y hacer brillar su luz salvadora sobre nuestras mentes y corazones, haciéndonos sabios a los ojos de Dios nuestro Padre (Juan 3: 19-21; 8:12; 1 Corintios 1: 18-25, 30). Además, el ministerio de Jesús mientras estuvo en la tierra se conoce como el advenimiento de la luz a los que están en la oscuridad (Mateo 4:16, cf. Isaías 9: 2).

Con frecuencia también, en la Biblia, al poder de Satanás y su nefasta influencia espiritual se le llama oscuridad (Lucas 22:53; Romanos 13: 11-13; Colosenses 1: 12-13; 1 Tesalonicenses 5: 4-5; 1 Juan 2: 8-11). Buscando a Dios, volviéndonos hacia él, es como nos alejamos de la oscuridad hacia el camino de la luz, la sabiduría y la salvación (Hechos 26:18; 2 Corintios 6:14; Efesios 5: 8; 1 Pedro 2: 9). Esta oposición fundamental entre el pueblo de Dios y los incrédulos (Dios y Satanás) se expresa principalmente en la vida moral. Como nos dice la Carta a los Efesios, los cristianos deben rechazar las "obras de las tinieblas" y caminar como "hijos de la luz" (5: 9-11). Los verdaderos hijos de Dios se definen por este contraste, siempre eligiendo el camino y las obras que vienen y conducen a Dios: el camino de la luz (1 Juan 1: 5-6; 2: 8-11). Los invito a todos a reflexionar y orar para que nuestro Padre siempre nos encuentre, incluso en medio de la "oscuridad", esforzándonos por caminar en el sendero de su Luz. **CT**


"Dios es la fuente de la vida, la bondad y el bienestar. Sin embargo, el pecado corta esa conexión esencial y vital que le da al alma una sensación fundamental de tranquilidad y paz" (Salmo 23: 1-2, 4b)



Auxiliary Bishop Juan Miguel Betancourt was the principal celebrant at a Mass offered at the Cathedral of St. Joseph to celebrate the Jubilee Holy Year decreed by Pope Francis to the International Movement.



Auxiliary Bishop Juan Miguel Betancourt incensing the statue of Our Lady of Mount Carmel at the beginning of the Jubilee Mass for the John XXIII Movement that was held on the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel at the Cathedral of St. Joseph.



Jim McHale and Jack Larkin serving
Mass with Father Norman Brockett at
Holy Infant Church in Orange.

SERVING THE LORD

Altar servers grow closer to God.

Story by **JOE PISANI**

WHEN NORMAN CHOINIÈRE WAS GROWING UP on a dairy farm in northern Vermont during the 1940s, he got a dispensation from the morning chores of milking the cows and feeding the animals because he had a more urgent responsibility — serving as altar boy at the 7:30 a.m. Mass for the Sisters of the Holy Ghost.

Back then, to qualify as an altar boy at St. Monica Parish in the town of Barre, you had go through training at the chapel, learn the Latin responses and be able to say the Confiteor. He is proud to say that, after his apprenticeship, he was promoted and admitted to the parish's celebrated Knights of the Altar.

"Before you could serve in church, you started at the chapel with the nuns, and when they gave you the nod, you got to serve in church at daily Mass," he recalls. "When you reached high school, you got to serve on Sundays. It was a real privilege."

Seventy years later, serving at Mass is still a matter of pride and privilege for him. A member of Holy Infant Church in Orange, Choiniere, 80, has advanced from altar boy to senior citizen altar server as a member of a trio of octogenarians who help Father Norman Brockett at 9 a.m. weekday Masses and funerals.

Throughout the Archdiocese of Hartford, adults often serve at Mass during the week. Many of them got their start before Vatican II, when the sacrifice of the Mass was said in Latin. Today, they are part of a ministry of men and women who assist in their parishes when their younger counterparts aren't available.

"It means so much to me to be there watching the bread and wine being transformed into the body and blood of Christ," Choiniere says. "I feel more part of the Mass."

On some mornings, he also assists Father Brockett as extraordinary minister of holy Communion while his wife, Joanne, serves as lector.

He was introduced to the ministry by his friend Jim McHale, who made a commitment to deepen his holiness by attending daily Mass when he retired 20 years ago.

"After I got involved in serving the Mass, I became a eucharistic minister and was available for anyone who wanted to receive Communion," McHale said. He and his wife, Jamieson, have been members of Holy Infant for 46 years.

He was in the fifth grade the first time

he served at Mass at St. Leo the Great Church in Pawtucket, R.I. "It was the best thing for me, and it led to all the other things I do," he says.

McHale, who taught CCD and helped train young altar servers, always told the parents, "This will last only if you make it last, otherwise it will fall off because of other obligations. So make sure this comes first."

For the past 13 years, McHale, 83, has been bringing the Eucharist to a retirement community in Orange, where he conducts a devotional service every Friday for 15 residents.

At 87, Jack Larkin is one of the oldest servers in the archdiocese. As an extraordinary minister of holy Communion, he accompanies McHale on his visits and plays the piano for the retirement community.

A month ago, he got a hearing aid and recently joined the church choir. Larkin told the pastor he intends to still be serving at Mass and bringing Communion to the homebound when he reaches 100.

In 1944, at the height of World War II, he became an altar boy at the Church of the Assumption in Ansonia. "All the guys in our class wanted to become altar boys; it was the thing to do," he recalls. "My mother had some influence on me, and I think all Irish mothers wanted their sons to become priests."

When he attended Assumption School, he was considering the priest-



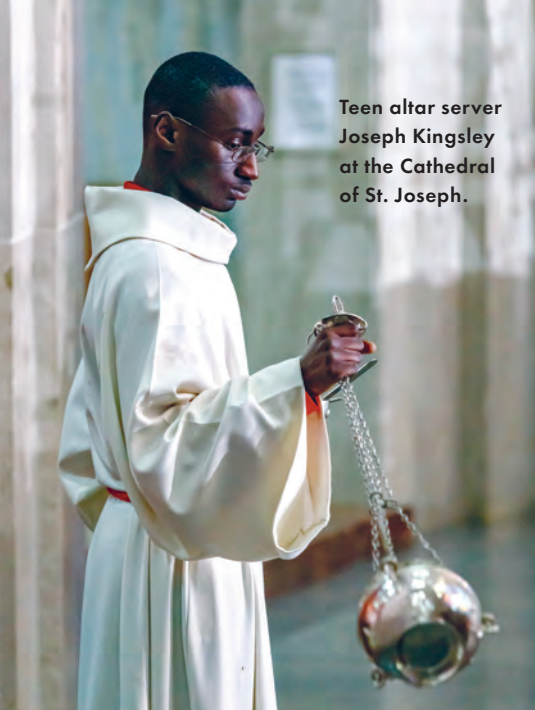
David Byrne, volunteer coordinator of 44 youth servers at St. Anthony Church in Prospect, followed by Deacon Domenic Stolfi and Father Grzegorz (Gregory) Jaworowski, pastor.

hood. However, he had a change of heart and married his high school sweetheart, Marge, and entered the family insurance and real estate business.

"Serving is important to me because it brings me close to God, and I'm very aware of his presence," Larkin says. "You don't have any worries and your mind can concentrate on the Mass. It's a gift from God."

GRATEFUL FOR ALTAR SERVERS

Father Brockett of Holy Infant says he is grateful for the assistance of the altar servers. "In almost all my parishes, we've had men and women who are adult altar servers," he says. "They love the Church, and they love to help the priest in whatever way they can, and



Teen altar server Joseph Kingsley at the Cathedral of St. Joseph.

PHOTO BY AARON JOSEPH

TO READ ABOUT YOUTH AND TEEN ALTAR SERVERS around the Archdiocese of Hartford, visit archdioceseofhartford.org/catholictranscript.

one of the best ways is serving at Mass as well as being a eucharistic minister.”

Being an altar boy was an important step in discerning his vocation, says Father Brockett, who grew up in North Haven and attended St. Theresa Church, adding, “Now, I encourage boys to think about the priesthood and religious life, and tell the girls to consider religious communities.”

Father Jeff Gubbiotti, pastor of the Church of the Assumption and Holy Ro-



PHOTO BY AARON JOSEPH

The adult altar server team at Holy Infant Church, Orange, from left to right, Jack Larkin, Jim McHale and Norman Choiniere, with Father Norman Brockett, pastor.

“It means so much to me to be there watching the bread and wine being transformed into the body and blood of Christ. I feel more part of the Mass.”

– NORMAN CHOINIÈRE

sary Parish in Ansonia, says adults who choose to serve at the altar are living the call to stewardship in a beautiful way.

“They understand that all our Christian service flows from and is offered back to Jesus in the Eucharist, who is the source and summit of our faith,” he says. “Their help, especially at funeral liturgies as we worship God and profess our faith in the Resurrection, not only aids the priest logistically, but offers an additional witness of Catholic faith and love for grieving families who are burying a loved one.”

Sue Ranno, who assists at funeral Masses at Assumption, has been an adult altar server since 2010 after retiring from her job as Waterbury’s delinquent tax collector.

“I walked to church every Sunday and took my brother and sister,” she says. “And I later taught CCD at Blessed Sacrament in Waterbury.”

Her ambition in life has always been to serve God in any way possible. Although she never entered a religious order, she responded when she saw an announcement in the parish bulletin looking for altar servers. Today, she and her husband Michael, 80, both serve at funerals, holy days of obligation and an occasional wedding.

“This is the closest I could ever get to serving God. When you are near the altar during the consecration, you can really feel Jesus there,” Ranno says. She is also an extraordinary minister of holy Communion and lector. “I also feel very honored to serve at funeral Masses for loved ones as they depart from us.”

Ranno’s son, Sean Carroll, has followed the family tradition and is an adult server at St. Michael’s Church in Waterbury.

SERVING IS A ‘SPIRITUAL PRIVILEGE’

Being an altar server is a profound spiritual privilege for Aaron Joseph, a convert to Catholicism, who brings faith and fastidiousness to his ministry. Almost 30 years ago on the feast of the Immaculate Conception, he was accepted into full communion with the Church.

Joseph, who grew up in foster care, says his only knowledge of religion came from watching movies like

The Ten Commandments and *The Bible*. His foster mother ran a thrift shop and had images of the Sacred Heart for sale. As a child, Joseph kept one in his bedroom and always prayed to Jesus.

Through a series of providential encounters, Jesus led Joseph to where he is today — “a consecrated disciple of Jesus, the Son of God and Son of Joseph and Mary.”

Becoming a Catholic was the culmination of years of spiritual searching for Joseph, who says he never really felt accepted anywhere. Today, he is always accepted around the table of the Lord and is frequently the altar server at the 12:10 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford, where he fills in as sacristan and functions as master of ceremonies on special occasions. Joseph is a parishioner at St. Martha Church in Enfield, where he was sacristan for 25 years and serves at Sunday Mass.

“It’s been said that during Mass, heaven comes down to earth, so when we participate in Mass, we’re participating in a heavenly liturgy,” he says. “I want to spend my heaven serving at the throne of God at the eternal liturgy.” **CT**



PHOTO BY DEACON JIM PAPILLO

Aaron Joseph.



PHOTO BY AARON JOSEPH

Sue Ranno.

Hartford Bishops' Foundation Grants \$65k for Pastor's Toolbox Workshop

Information provided by THE HARTFORD BISHOPS' FOUNDATION



PHOTO BY DAVID ELLIOTT

From left to right, Father Michael Casey, Father Matthew Gworek, Father Ryan Lerner and Father Hector Rangel were among the 30 priests who attended the seminar.

The Hartford Bishops' Foundation recently made a \$65,000 grant to support the "Pastor's Toolbox," an innovative program to provide new, young priests with the resources and skills needed to effectively lead and pastor a modern parish.

Designed by the National Leadership Roundtable on Church Management in Washington, D.C., the Toolbox workshop included a six-day seminar offering 15 interactive sessions led by bishops, priests and lay leaders who are recognized experts in the fields of church management, administration and parish life.

Thanks to the support of the Hartford Bishops' Foundation and its donors, 30 priests were given the opportunity to undergo the week-long training in Simsbury, Connecticut.

"They took a semester-long course and condensed it into one week," said Father Ryan Lerner, who was one of the 30 priests who participated in the program. "[The workshop] touched on all of the topics that pastors would need to know in order to lead and guide their parish successfully and collaborate with parish leadership."

Jim Fanelli, a member of the Foundation



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Jim Fanelli, a managing director at Bank of America Private Bank, joined the HBF Board in 2017.

Board, is a strong proponent of Catholic education and supporter of the program.

"Oftentimes, we see young priests, many of whom are in their 20s, being placed into challenging positions where they find themselves responsible for all the complexities of running a parish — from human resources, to budgeting, to administrative oversight," said Fanelli.

"We really need to provide this kind of support to our priests on an ongoing basis so they may grow into effective leaders on both a spiritual and business level."

The grant was approved by the Hartford Bishops' Foundation's advisory committee for "Educating to Reignite

the Faith" — one of the four core areas of investment of the Foundation-led **Forward with Faith** Campaign. With the funds raised, the committee will direct grants toward preparing stronger leaders in schools and parishes with new professional development and management training

programs that are above and beyond those supported by the Archbishop's Annual Appeal.

"This campaign's emphasis on Catholic education is about much more than Catholic schools," remarked Fanelli. "As Catholics, we share a responsibility to create an effective teaching and learning environment not only for our children, but for our teachers and priests who dedicate their lives to instilling core Catholic values in others. I joined the Foundation to support new programs like the Toolbox workshop that support our priests and ensure my kids and grandkids are afforded the same educational opportunities that my wife and I were given."

Over the next two years, the Hartford Bishops' Foundation will work hand-in-hand with the 129 parishes to raise a minimum of \$80 million that will be invested



PHOTO BY AARON JOSEPH

Priests gathered at the Simsbury Inn for the six-day workshop.

in extraordinary and future needs that are vital to the long-term sustainability of parishes, schools, and ministries serving the wider community.

"I am truly grateful to the Hartford Bishops' Foundation and to their supporters," replied Father Lerner when asked about his experience. "This was essential for new pastors and I hope we can have that opportunity again for our men ordained in the next several years."

Deep DEVOTION

St. Anthony Society promotes faith, sisterhood and devotion to their patron saint.

Story by **KAREN A. AVITABILE**

Photos by **AARON JOSEPH**



St. Anthony rolls baking in the oven.

For the past 80 years, members of St. Anthony Society at Our Lady of Mercy in Plainville have been following in the footsteps of St. Anthony's generosity by volunteering, raising money and baking breads to give all parishioners.

"St. Anthony was a rich man helping the poor people," Valena Palumbo, a member of St. Anthony Society, says. "People were starving to death and he would go house to house to bring food to them."

In May 1939, the St. Anthony Society was formed at the church as the "Sisters of St. Anthony" by Camilla Caliendo and seven of her Italian sisters. Caliendo was deeply devoted to St. Anthony because of the many favors bestowed upon her during times of need.

In the early days, membership in St. Anthony Society was restricted to members of Italian descent. With a decline in membership, though, that restriction was lifted about 25 years ago. Today, the society comprises about 50 members.

"I enjoy the family atmosphere everyone has," Elaine Osipowicz, president of St. Anthony Society, says. "Most of the women are willing to donate their time, their money and their energy."

ST. ANTHONY BREAD RECIPE

BY FELECIA RUFFANI

- 1 lemon skin, grated
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 cup milk
- 4 teaspoons baking powder
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- 3 cups flour
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- Pinch of salt

Mix all the ingredients together in a large bowl with a fork. When soft, make little balls. Press a hole in the center of each one. Make an egg wash with one egg yolk, one teaspoon of water and two tablespoons of sugar. Brush top of bread with the egg wash. Bake at 350 degrees for about 25 minutes. When cool, sprinkle with powdered sugar if desired. Makes about four dozen.

Members of St. Anthony Society say they join for different reasons — a devotion to St. Anthony, fellowship with fellow members or a genuine willingness to help their church and community.

"I love St. Anthony," member Rose Hyjek says, "and I wanted to be more involved with the Church."



Lucille Jurgilewicz, left, and Rose Hyjek combine ingredients for the rolls.

The St. Anthony Society holds monthly meetings September through June and sponsors several fundraisers throughout the year, including a cookie walk, a spring tea party with food and baskets to raffle and a Christmas in July boutique held this past July for the first time. At Christmastime, the

members adopt a family in the parish and purchase gifts for all family members. All meetings open with a prayer to St. Anthony. (See the Prayer to St. Anthony at right.) Money raised by the society is donated to the church.

Lucille Jurgilewicz has been a member for about five years. “I love the fellowship,” she says. “Our activities are a lot of fun and we get to know more people in the church.”

After babysitting her grandchildren, Maria Scricca had the time to join the society. “It’s a nice group, we are friendly and we help the church,” she says.



Elaine Osipowicz, president of St. Anthony Society, hands out rolls after Mass.

PRAYER TO ST. ANTHONY

(This is the prayer recited by members of the St. Anthony Society at Our Lady of Mercy Church, Plainville during monthly meetings.)

Oh Saint Anthony, admiral model of charity and goodness, sweetness and love of Jesus, you who are so worthy of these glorious privileges accorded to you by Our Lord Jesus, both in heaven and earth, help us in our needs, pray for us, that he may heed us in our prayer and have mercy on us.

*Oh Charitable Saint Anthony who so generously gave of Miracles of Love of God in our hearts, so that our lives may be spent in charity and good; in love and faith of God until the day we die.
Amen.*



ST. ANTHONY BREAD

The custom of baking and blessing loaves of bread on St. Anthony of Padua’s feast day, June 13, became a way for people to emulate the spirit of St. Anthony by feeding the hungry. This tradition — in the form of dinner rolls — has been underway at Our Lady of Mercy for at least 25 years.

On a cool June day, members of the St. Anthony Society took turns performing various jobs in the kitchen to make the mini breads: mixing ingredients, kneading the dough, rolling the dough into dinner-size rolls, placing the rolls on cookie sheets, monitoring the rolls during the baking process and then wrapping each one individually — about 1,000 total. After a blessing by Father Raymond Smialowski, pastor, the breads were handed out after weekend Masses to mark St. Anthony’s feast day. ☪



Father Raymond Smialowski blesses the rolls during Mass.

Members of Crossroads 4 Christ's Greater Hartford chapter attend adoration at St. Francis Church in New Britain.



Father Michael Casey incenses the Blessed Sacrament at St. Francis of Assisi, New Britain, at the beginning of an hour of adoration for the Crossroads 4 Christ.

Last year, in our own Archdiocese of Hartford, Archbishop Leonard P. Blair announced that every parish within the archdiocese should devote at least one

hour a week to public eucharistic adoration. This spiritual initiative was motivated by three intentions in particular: an increase in priestly vocations, the success of our upcoming archdiocesan synod and reparation for the sin of clerical sexual abuse. More than a year later, these three intentions are still in the forefront of the archbishop's mind and the minds of so many within this archdiocese.

God is Calling. Will You Answer?



FATHER MICHAEL CASEY is director of vocations for the Archdiocese of Hartford.

Photos by **AARON JOSEPH**

"The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest."

— LUKE 10:2

The call of the Lord Jesus to serve him in the holy priesthood arises directly from the love of his Sacred Heart. He is still calling many more men today to leave their worldly desires and ambitions behind and set out on the great adventure of the Catholic priesthood, to dedicate their lives to the glory of God and the salvation of souls.

In the face of a great need in the apostolate, our Lord instructs us, his disciples, above all else, to pray for more laborers to be sent out for the harvest. This command is an example of the divine logic: that more than advertising schemes, clever speeches or even monthly articles, the first and most important way to address the growing vocation crisis is through prayer.

It is in prayer that the people of God go humbly before the Lord, knowing that his love for the Church far surpasses their own. It is in prayer that we, as Christians, are most effective in any undertaking. It is after much prayer that we can act with total confidence knowing that God himself is leading and guiding us.

Prayer for Vocations

O God, who willed to provide shepherds for your people, pour out in your Church a spirit of piety and fortitude, to raise up worthy ministers for your altars and make them ardent yet gentle heralds of your Gospel. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

(Roman Missal [3rd edition] Mass for vocations to holy orders)

From the standpoint of vocations since the commencement of these Holy Hours, we have seen increased interest in vocations to the priesthood in our archdiocese. We accepted four men to the seminary program this year and we are already speaking with several others about admission for next year. Any true Christian undertaking must begin, proceed and conclude with prayer. Only in this way will we be sure that the work is of God and in such a way we will reap his manifold blessings.

To find when your parish is holding its weekly holy hour, visit archdioceseofhartford.org and click on 'Mass Times.' Please continue to pray for more faithful young men to answer the call of the harvest master. The harvest is indeed abundant and with the prayers of the faithful by you in the archdiocese, the laborers will not be long in arriving. 🙏

+ **INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE** about the priesthood, the diaconate or vocations? If you think God may be calling you, do not be afraid. Visit archdioceseofhartford.org/vocations or call the office of vocations, 860.761.7456.

CATHOLIC TRANSCRIPT ON THE WEB

Here is what you will find on archdioceseofhartford.org/catholictranscript



Can I Find True Happiness in My Career?



Emily Naylor God's Call During Adoration Ignites Young Adult Evangelizer

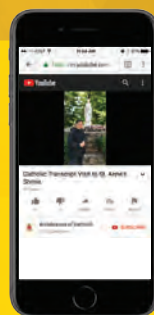


Robots are Back in Class at Catholic Elementary Schools



Youth, Teen Altar Servers Say Faith Grows Stronger

**Video Extra:
Visit to
St. Anne's
Shrine**



Columnist Joe Pisani on Living the 72-hour Day

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Archdiocese of Hartford
Office of Safe Environment
467 Bloomfield Ave.,
Bloomfield, CT 06002



HOW TO REPORT AN INCIDENT OF SEXUAL ABUSE TO THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD

If you have knowledge or suspect that a minor or vulnerable adult (an adult with an intellectual disability) has been sexually abused, in any manner, by personnel of the Archdiocese of Hartford, you are urged to report this information to:

Kathleen D. Nowosadko, Victim Assistance Coordinator
860-541-6475 • kathleen.nowosadko@aohct.org

Incidents involving sexual abuse of minors (persons under the age of 18) should be reported to: **State Department of Children and Families**
Care-line 1-800-842-2288

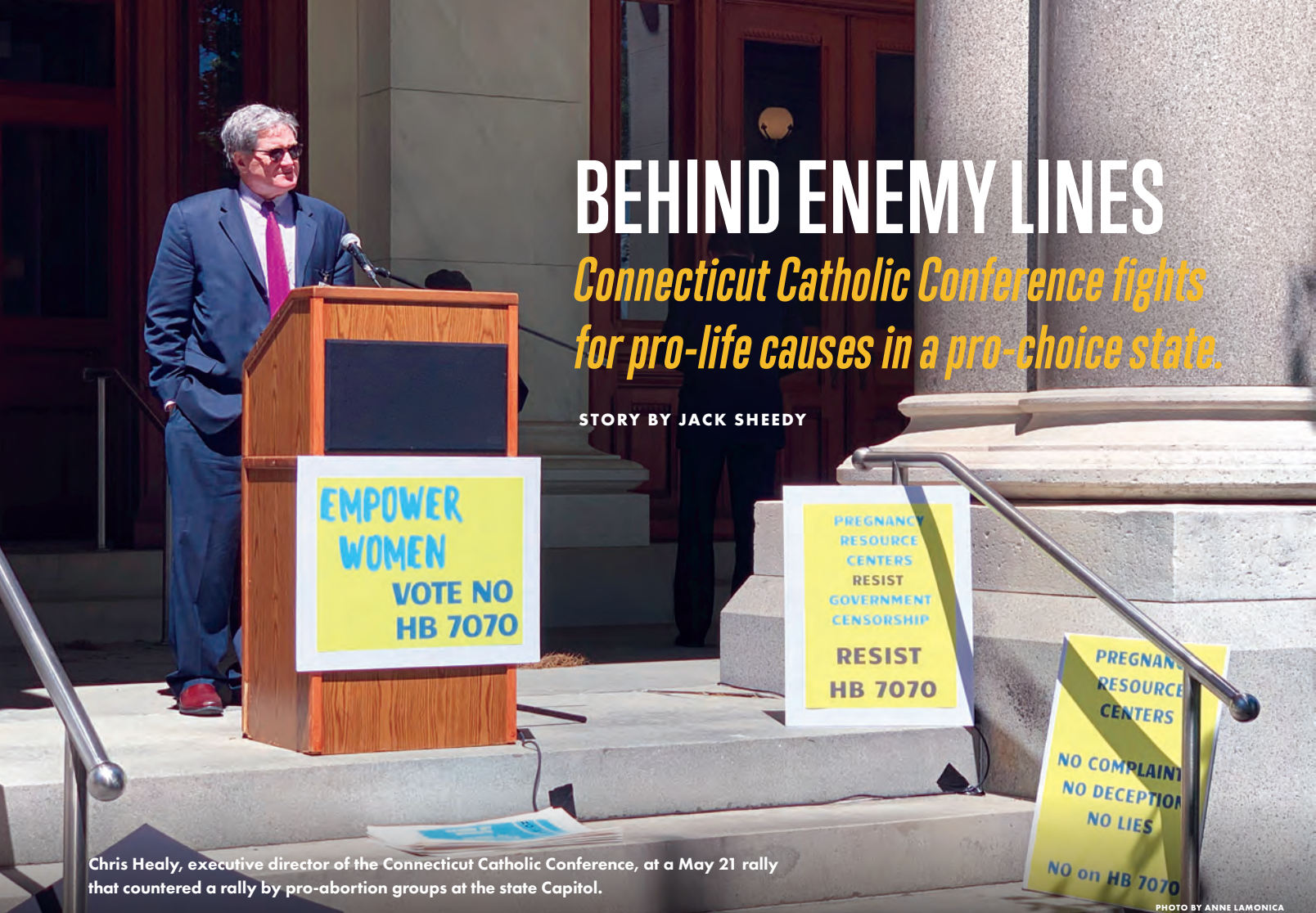
Incidents involving sexual abuse of vulnerable adults aged 18-59 should be reported to the: **Connecticut Department of Developmental Services - AID Division for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities**
1-844-878-8923

Incidents involving sexual abuse of vulnerable adults aged 60 and over should be reported to: **Department of Social Services for the Elderly**
1-888-385-4225

BEHIND ENEMY LINES

Connecticut Catholic Conference fights for pro-life causes in a pro-choice state.

STORY BY JACK SHEEDY



Chris Healy, executive director of the Connecticut Catholic Conference, at a May 21 rally that countered a rally by pro-abortion groups at the state Capitol.

PHOTO BY ANNE LAMONICA

EDITOR'S NOTE:

This is the third in a series highlighting issues at the forefront of the Connecticut Catholic Conference. Read about pro-life issues below.

How did a small Catholic group single-handedly defeat every anti-life initiative in this year's state legislative session? It had help.

Earlier this year, the Connecticut Catholic Conference and its allies succeeded in quashing two bills that would have handcuffed pro-life pregnancy care centers and another bill that would have

legalized physician-assisted suicide. A rally at the state Capitol in May showed that, by working together, pro-life forces can outnumber their foes.

For more than 50 years, the CCC has been fighting for pro-life issues on behalf of Catholics and all the bishops in the state. Its leaders have learned that, arrayed against powerful pro-abortion forces like National Abortion Rights Action League, Planned Parenthood and the so-called death with dignity advocates, the CCC cannot do it alone.

"We work most closely with Connecticut Right to Life, Family Institute of Connecticut and the Connecticut Pregnancy Care Center Coalition," Deacon David Reynolds, CCC's assistant director for public policy, says. "Our job [at CCC] is to respond to attacks on, or promote, the pro-life view on certain issues as they arise in the state, especially at the (state) Legislature."

Pro-life, though, encompasses more than just the abortion issue. Physician-assisted suicide and capital punishment are other examples, although Connecticut's death penalty for future crimes was eliminated in 2012, with the CCC playing a key role in that decision.

"All kinds of ethical issues relating to life, including fetal tissue, are pro-life issues," Chris Healy, executive director of the CCC, says. "Those are the principal ones, the end of life and beginning of life."

RALLYING THE TROOPS

Bill O'Brien, vice president of Connecticut Right to Life, says his group's actions often mirror those of the CCC. Connecticut Right to Life works to protect life from natural conception until natural death.

"We turn out people for the public hearings, like this year on the pregnancy bill," O'Brien says. "Whenever there's

one on assisted suicide, we turn people out for that.”

Meanwhile, Peter Wolfgang, executive director of the Family Institute of Connecticut, said he was on a retreat when he heard that the pro-abortion forces were planning to hold a rally on May 21 at the state Capitol.

“The very first thing I did was pick up the phone and call Chris Healy and pitch the idea to him that we hold a counter-rally at the same time,” Wolfgang says. “Chris immediately jumped on the idea. And I don’t think it would have been the success it was without Chris Healy and the Connecticut Catholic Conference. They were absolutely key to the success of that rally.”

Wolfgang says the May rally was a microcosm of the successes statewide pro-life forces have built in Connecticut.

“When you’re fighting the pro-life fight in Connecticut, you’re really behind enemy lines,” he says. “This is a very pro-choice state.”

The rapid and coordinated mobilization of pro-life supporters at the state Capitol illustrates the value of teamwork, Healy says.



Peter Wolfgang. 72 hours’ notice to counter a pro-abortion rally that was on a national day of rallies that they had at all state capitols.”

Healy says happily, “We had more people show up at our rally than theirs, which was actually noticed by the media.” Thus, the initiative against pro-life pregnancy resource centers was defeated, as was a perennial bill that would have legalized euthanizing terminally ill patients, with their consent and with the cooperation of their physicians.

DECEPTIVE TACTICS?

Another group, the Connecticut Pregnancy Care Center Coalition, is a trade association of 11 pro-life centers in the state. It came into existence at the urging of a CCC former executive director, Michael C. Culhane, in response to NARAL’s assault on pro-life pregnancy care centers.

Lisa Maloney, the coalition president, said her group was among the main speakers at the May 21 rally that coun-

“We worked in sync with each other,” he says. “We turned out a crowd at the Capitol on

PRO-LIFE EVENTS

The Connecticut Catholic Conference and Family Institute of Connecticut are jointly sponsoring a full-day conference on pro-life issues entitled “Advocating for Life – Connecticut Pro-Life Conference” on Nov. 2, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at St. Paul Catholic High School, Bristol. R.S.V.P. by visiting nationbuilder.ctcatholicpac.org/prolifeconference. There is a cost to attend. St. Paul Catholic High School Pro-Life Club is the recipient of the 2019 Connecticut Right to Life Agnes Giannini Youth Award for commitment to the sacredness of every person, born and unborn.

Through Nov. 3, the Archdiocese of Hartford is participating in the 40 Days for Life campaign. For more information, call 203.745.7300 or visit 40daysforlife.com. A closing ceremony at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford will follow the 11 a.m. Mass on Nov. 3.

tered a rally by pro-abortion groups.

The opposing rallies occurred simultaneously on opposite sides of the Capitol and focused on a bill targeting pro-life pregnancy resource centers. The legislation, according to Maloney, would have forbidden pro-life resource centers from disseminating “false, misleading or deceptive” information, despite no evidence they had ever done so.

The real intent of the law, she says, was to discredit the centers and open them up to legal harassment and the burdensome expenses associated with defending themselves against the false claims.

NARAL released a report in 2015, titled, “The Right to Lie,” which falsely claimed that pro-life pregnancy resource centers pretended to be medical centers, Maloney says.

“We believe that the NARAL report is what they have used as a basis for House Bill 7070,” she says, referring to



Deacon David Reynolds and Lisa Maloney, president of the Connecticut Pregnancy Care Center Coalition.



PHOTO BY ARON JOSEPH

“Our job [at CCC] is to respond to attacks on, or promote, the pro-life view on certain issues as they arise in the state, especially at the (state) Legislature.”

**— DEACON DAVID REYNOLDS,
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR PUBLIC
POLICY, AT CONNECTICUT CATHOLIC
CONFERENCE**

the bill that accused pro-life pregnancy resource centers of false advertising.

Pro-life centers have been picketed, she says, with demonstrators holding signs which read: “This is a fake clinic.”

According to Maloney, “They have done fake reviews on our websites and on Google and on our Facebook pages. They send in fake clients.” The only complaints against Connecticut pregnancy centers, she adds, “were reports from their fake clients.”

With the CCC’s help, the Connecticut Pregnancy Care Center Coalition has estimated that the value of services the

pro-life pregnancy resource centers in the coalition provide is between \$1.2 million and \$1.4 million.

“That is the value of services that we have provided to the state of Connecticut free of charge,” Maloney says. “We don’t take any money from the state. We don’t get state or federal dollars.”

PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED SUICIDE

The CCC and its allies have defeated other bills, including the legalization of physician-assisted suicide, every year they have been introduced in the Connecticut General Assembly. The issue

has been introduced in the state seven times in the past 10 years.

A few years ago, the Family Institute of Connecticut recruited the help of Second Thoughts Connecticut, a group of Connecticut residents with disabilities, seniors and advocates who oppose legislation that would legalize assisted suicide.

“That was one of the many contributions on the part of the Family Institute of Connecticut in working with the Catholic Church and other groups in defense of human life from conception to natural death,” Wolfgang says. **CT**

IS BIRTH CONTROL OK?

Only 8 percent of Catholics who attend church regularly said artificial birth control is morally wrong, according to a 2016 Pew Research Center report. This is at odds with Catholic teaching. Pope St. Paul VI’s 1968 encyclical *Humanae Vitae* (*Human Life*) distinguishes between contraception — the deliberate prevention of conception — and natural methods of birth control.

Unheeded warnings against contraception mentioned in that landmark encyclical are leading to abortion and euthanasia, according to Dr. Lenard Kelley, director of the Office of Family Life for the Archdiocese of Hartford.

“Pope Paul VI went against the moral theologians of the time,” he said, adding that the pope thought it was

important not to minimize life. “It was a very prophetic encyclical.”

Natural family planning is a better alternative to contraception, Kelley adds. “We recognize that three are involved: God, the husband and the wife,” he said. “We try to teach people that God did provide a way to regulate how many children we have, using a natural system. It is infinitely better for the woman and her body because she’s not putting chemicals in it. Secondly, it’s better for the marriage, reminding people what the act of conjugal love is for and that God should always be a part of that.”

For information on natural family planning, call the Office of Family Life, 860.242.5573.

Final Preparation Underway for Synod Documents



FATHER JEFFREY V. ROMANS
is serving as secretary of the synod in addition to his duties as pastor of St. Bridget of Sweden Parish in Cheshire.

After months of prayer, study and formation for delegates from throughout the archdiocese, we are now just days away from our historic archdiocesan synod.

The delegates gathered on Sept. 8 for a Holy Hour at St. Bridget of Sweden Parish in Cheshire, where we knelt before the Lord, present in the Blessed Sacrament, and prayed for his guidance as we enter into the final weeks of preparation for what will surely be a powerful experience.

As announced in this column last month, the four main themes are: encountering Christ; becoming missionary disciples; sent on mission; and collaborating in the local Church.

At a recent meeting of the Synod Preparatory Commission, it was decided to use three general propositions, which will shape each of the synod documents. They are:

- **What we must deepen.**
- **What we must stop.**
- **What we must start.**

It is our hope that these propositions will light the fire of the Holy Spirit within our delegates to come up with more specific ones to be submitted to Archbishop Leonard P. Blair for his consideration as the final documents are completed. These final documents will include the fruit of the synod meeting. It is incumbent upon the synod delegates to prayerfully read and study these working documents prior to arriving at the synod meeting where they will listen to inspiring speakers and ask the Holy Spirit for the



PHOTO BY AARON JOSEPH

Members of the Synod Preparatory Commission have decided upon three general propositions which will shape each of the synod documents.


wisdom and insight to develop more specific propositions and discern how we might move forward as individuals, as families, as parishes and as an archdiocesan family of faith. Join us in praying: Come, Holy Spirit.

Inspired by Peter Burak’s motivating comments on the power of fasting at the June Formation Day, members of the Synod Preparatory Commission developed a Synod 2020: Grow + Go fasting novena. In order to hold each other accountable and prayerfully support each other through the lead up to the synod, the delegates were asked to make sacrifices and fast together on Fridays from Aug. 23 through the opening of

“We hope this Grow + Go fasting novena will help us all to ask God for His divine assistance in inspiring our archdiocese toward a successful and meaningful synod.”

the synod later this month. As we fast from things like food, speeding, social media and gossip, to name a few, we are encouraged to offer prayers for special intentions such as for a renewal of heart, marriages and family life, and the gift of discernment for Archbishop Blair and all delegates.

Above all, we hope this Grow + Go fasting novena will help us all to ask God for his divine assistance in inspiring our archdiocese toward a successful and meaningful synod. If you would like to join us in these final weeks of the novena, please visit growandgo.com for more information.

It is our hope that this synod meeting of delegates will develop very real ways in which we can all “Grow as a disciple and Go make disciples.” Please pray for the success of this historic synod. 



TO SEE VIDEOS

on the novenas, visit growandgo.com/updates/html.

A Sanctuary for Peace and Tranquility

Discover the love of Christ at St. Anne Shrine.

Story by **KAREN A. AVITABILE**

Photos by **AARON JOSEPH**

For more than 100 years, thousands of people have made a pilgrimage to the holy place of St. Anne Shrine in Fiskdale (Sturbridge), Mass., to seek peace, solace and healing from God through the intercession of St. Anne.

“People come here because of their strong devotion and strong sense of faith to St. Anne and for healing,” says Father Alex Castro, pastor and a member of the Augustinians of the Assumption who staff the shrine. “People come here with their special devotions.”

You can spend a day in prayer and solitude walking the 35 acres of rolling woodlands on the St. Anne Shrine campus and participate in Mass at St. Anne-St. Patrick Parish or St. Joachim Chapel, named for St. Joachim who was the husband of St. Anne.

A SHRINE IS BORN

The story of St. Anne Shrine dates back to 1879, when Msgr. Elzear Brochu, a Southbridge, Mass., pastor in failing health, pledged to St. Anne that he would build a shrine in her honor if he recovered. He did. He purchased land and had St. Anne Church — which still stands today — constructed in 1883. At the same time, another mission in the area was established under the patronage of St. Patrick. Both missions united in 1887 to form St. Anne-St. Patrick Parish.



Climb the Holy Stairs.



Angel of Hope.

TO REACH ST. ANNE SHRINE, call 508.347.7338. For the St. Anne Shrine Gift Shop, which is open seven days a week, call 508.347.7461. Visit stannestpatrickparish.com for up-to-date information and a schedule of events.

Later, a parishioner was healed when she received Communion at St. Anne Church. To thank God for the favor obtained through the intercession of St. Anne, parishioners formed the first procession in thanksgiving on the grounds in 1887. Six years later, an authentic relic of St. Anne was donated to the Fiskdale shrine by the Shrine to St. Anne de Beupre in Quebec.

While visiting St. Anne Shrine, there are many areas to experience the unfailing love of Christ. Walk the Stations of the Cross, unwind on the labyrinth constructed in a geometric pattern, visit the votive chapels, pray at one of the many statues of saints dotted around the property, tour the Assumptionist exhibit of Russian icons and pray for deceased children in the Angel of Hope Garden. A site to behold on the property is Jesus Christ nailed to a cross at the top of the Holy Stairs.

Sixteen statues of saints are on display within the Hall of Saints. Light a votive candle or sit on a bench in silent prayer among the saints. Another votive chapel is attached to St. Anne Church. Visitors can also write personal intentions in a special book in the chapel.

Most of the icons in the Russian Icon Exhibit were obtained by Assumptionist priests who served as chaplains in Moscow from 1934 to 1999. Also in this



St. Anne Church votive chapel.

BEFORE YOU VISIT


St. Anne Shrine is located at 16 Church St., in the Fiskdale section of Sturbridge. Shrine grounds, the Russian Icon Exhibit, the Angel of Hope Garden, the Holy Stairs, the Hall of Saints, the Stations of the Cross and the gift shop are open year-round, unless inclement weather forces a closure. Grounds are open seasonally, April through November, and weather permitting the remainder of the time.

Weekday Masses in St. Anne Church take place Mondays through Thursdays at 7:15 a.m. and 10 a.m., Fridays at 7:15 a.m. and Saturdays at 7:30 a.m. Weekend Masses in St. Joachim Chapel (also on the campus) take place on Saturdays, 4 p.m., and Sundays at 8 and 10 a.m. and noon and 6 p.m. Eucharistic adoration takes place on Fridays, 3 to 4 p.m., at St. Anne Church. Memorial Day through Labor Day, all weekend Masses are held in the outside pavilion, except the 8 a.m. Mass, which is held in St. Anne Church. Special events take place each July 26 to mark St. Anne's feast day and the week prior.



Votive chapel in the Hall of Saints.

exhibit are liturgical objects from the collection of Bishop Pie Neveu, a French Assumptionist missionary, who at one time served as pastor of St. Louis-of-the-French.

One of only a handful in the United States, the Angel of Hope and Garden of Peace is a memorial garden to mourn the loss of children. A family may purchase a brick in the garden to honor the life of a child. Annually, on Dec. 6, a candlelight ceremony is held at the base of the statue in the garden. 

 **TO SEE A VIDEO** of the meaning of the St. Anne Shrine, visit archdioceseofhartford.org/catholictranscript.



St. Faustina on display in St. Faustina Parish, Meriden.

PHOTO BY AARON JOSEPH

St. Faustina, An Apostle of the Divine Mercy

FEAST DAY: OCT. 5

Born Helena Kowalska in the small Polish town of Lodz, St. Faustina was one of 10 children in a family struggling to survive during World War I. Because her parents needed her to help support the family, she received only three years of education.

At age 20, she answered Christ's call and entered the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. While at the convent, the Lord spoke to her and told her that she was to be an apostle of his mercy.

Despite her lack of schooling, she wrote several notebooks under the guidance of Christ that contained profound theological insights. Many of these writings spoke of God's limitless mercy. Though she had many sufferings during her life, St. Faustina maintained and spread the joy of God's mercy. Despite contracting what was likely tuberculosis, St. Faustina persisted in prayer and the sacraments. She died in 1938, and was canonized by St. John Paul II in 2000, making her the first saint of the new millennium.

St. John Paul II also helped to spread St. Faustina's message of Divine Mercy, instituting Divine Mercy Sunday on the second Sunday of Easter and promoting the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Today, millions of Catholics are inspired by St. Faustina's writings, which are compiled into a single diary entitled *Divine Mercy in My Soul*.

St. Faustina Parish Honors Patron Saint on Divine Mercy Sunday

By **SHELLEY WOLF**

Though her feast day is on Oct. 6, the parishioners of St. Faustina Parish in Meriden honor their patron saint on Divine Mercy Sunday, the weekend after Easter.

"We have a Holy Hour devotion at 3 p.m. for the whole city of Meriden with the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and a processional around the church with the Blessed Sacrament," says Father Edward Ziemnicki, pastor of

St. Faustina Parish.

The parish, which was created in 2017 through the merger of St. Stanislaus Church in Meriden and Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Wallingford, retained both worship sites. The parish has 900 registered families.

A native of Poland himself, Father Ziemnicki takes much inspiration from the Polish saint.

Each year, he visits his mother and

his entire family in Poland and makes a pilgrimage to honor the saint. "Every year, I go to pray on her tomb," he says, "and venerate the relics in Krakow."

"She is a very beautiful saint of the 20th century from Poland. She had a special mission for the Church to bring us Divine Mercy," he explains. "We are very privileged to have St. Faustina chosen by Jesus to have Divine Mercy brought to the world."



Oct. 11

PHOTO BY AARON JOSEPH



Oct. 12

PHOTO BY FLUXFACTORY/GETTY IMAGES



Nov. 23

PHOTO BY STUDIOCASPER/GETTY IMAGES

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

TOLTON: FROM SLAVE TO PRIEST RETURNS TO CONNECTICUT

St. Luke Productions' 90-minute live production of Father Augustine Tolton, "Tolton, From Slave to Priest," sponsored by Father Nadolny Good News Fund, will be held on these October dates below. For each specific time, email fngoodnews@aol.com or call 860.335.2342.



All productions are free. The dates are: **Oct. 3**, Notre Dame High School, New Haven; **Oct. 7**, Holy Cross High School, Waterbury; **Oct. 8**, Immaculate Conception High School, Danbury; **Oct. 9**, St. Paul High School, Bristol, morning and evening shows; **Oct. 10**, Mercy High School, Middletown; **Oct. 11**, Colby High School, Bridgeport; **Oct. 20**, St. Pius the 10th Church, Middletown; **Oct. 21**, East Catholic High School, Manchester; **Oct. 22**, Northwest Catholic High School, West Hartford; **Oct. 23**, St. George Church, Guilford; **Oct. 24**, Xavier High School, Middletown; and **Oct. 25**, St. Mary Church, Simsbury.

ARCHBISHOP'S COLUMBUS DAY BREAKFAST FOR FACS



The Foundation for the Advancement of Catholic Schools will host its annual Archbishop's Columbus Day Breakfast on **Oct. 11**, 7:30 a.m., at Anthony's Ocean View in New Haven. The net proceeds will fund scholarships for Catholic elementary school students in the greater New Haven area. Archbishop Leonard P. Blair will be joined by guest speaker Johnny Jones, retired combat-wounded U.S. Marine sergeant. Dr. John Aversa, past FACS trustee, will be honored posthumously. Guests will see a special surprise video from Nick Fradiani, a Catholic school alumnus and Season 14 American Idol winner. Tickets are \$85 per person. To R.S.V.P., call 860.761.7499 or visit facshartford.org for more information.

TOUCHED BY MERCY

Touched By Mercy, a day of reflection for those affected by suicide sponsored by the Franciscan Life Center, will be held on **Oct. 12**, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Chiara Center, 275 Finch Ave., Meriden. Sister Colleen Ann Nagle, FSE, will be the presenter. Lunch is included. To R.S.V.P., call 203.237.8084. For more information, visit flcenter.org.

SOCIAL JUSTICE DINNER AND AWARDS

The Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry of the Archdiocese of Hartford will hold a Social Justice Dinner and Awards celebration on **Oct. 22**, beginning at 5 p.m., at the Aqua Turf Club, Plantsville. Keynote speaker Kerry Robinson will present "Justice, Recovery and Reform in the Catholic Church." Robinson is the global ambassador of leadership roundtable and a member of the Raskob Foundation for Catholic Activities and FADICA and serves as a director for the Hartford Bishops' Foundation.

Deacon Art Miller will receive the Most Rev. Donnelly Award to an individual. Sister Ruth Rosenbaum, executive director and co-founder of the Center for Reflection, Education and Action, will accept the organization award. The North American Martyrs Parish will receive the Dr. Charlie Schlegel Award for cooperative parish sharing for its social justice and Hispanic ministry. For tickets, call Agnes Dann, 860.243.5573, or visit catholicocialjustice.org. Tickets are \$75 per person, or \$650 for a table of 10.

ST. JOHN SCHOOL ANNUAL RAFFLE

St. John School in Old Saybrook will be holding its annual luxury raffle featuring a 2019 Corvette Stingray convertible, a \$10,000 travel gift certificate, a Weber Summit gas grill and other prizes. The drawing will be held on **Nov. 23**, 7 p.m., at St. John School, 42 Maynard Road, Old Saybrook. Only 2,100 tickets will be sold. Tickets are \$100 each. Winner need not be present. For tickets or information, call 860.575.7553, visit <http://saintjohnschool.org/page/luxury-affle> or email sjsaffle2010@gmail.com.



NEW PRINCIPAL LEADS ST. BRIDGET SCHOOL — Catherine Szerszen is the new principal of St. Bridget School, Cheshire. She is a graduate of Sacred Heart Academy in Hamden. She holds a bachelor's degree in social work from Southern Connecticut State University, a master's in social work from Fordham University and obtained her sixth year in educational leadership, teacher supervision and evaluation. "Mrs. Szerszen brings a caring demeanor, a deep Catholic faith, a commitment to education and an understanding through experience of what it means to lead the school community," Father Jeffrey V. Romans, pastor/priest director of St. Bridget School, said.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ST. BRIDGET SCHOOL



SPIRITUAL PREPARATION MASS

— Father Glen Dmytryszyn, parochial vicar, right, and Father Daniel Keefe, pastor of St. John Bosco Parish of Branford, celebrate a Mass on Outer Island in Branford in June with 18 parish teens and their families. The Mass was spiritual preparation for the mission trip the teens took to Wilmington, N.C., to help with hurricane cleanup.

PHOTO BY ALYSSA MAE AMBULO/COURTESY JOHN BOSCO PARISH



DAUGHTERS OF MARY ELECT LEADERSHIP

— The Daughters of Mary of the Immaculate Conception have re-elected Mother Mary Jennifer, seated, as superior general. Other members of the newly elected leadership team, are, standing from left to right: Sister Mary Janice Zdunczyk, vicar general; Sister Mary Catherine Sirotak, second councilor; and Sister Mary Theresa Tinana, third councilor. The Congregation of the Daughters of Mary of the Immaculate Conception founded in New Britain in 1904. Today, the congregation has communities in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New York.

PHOTO COURTESY DAUGHTERS OF MARY

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

MADONNA DELLA STRADA STREET PROCESSION

— A street procession with the statue of Madonna Della Strada, the patroness of the Society of Jesus, took place in downtown Southington as part of the annual Italian-American Festival. Before the procession, a traditional outdoor Italian Mass officiated in Italian was celebrated by Father Frederick M. Aniello, pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Waterbury, with the assistance of Deacon Angelo Coppola of St. Thomas Church in Southington. The three-day Italian Festival is organized by the Southington UNICO chapter, the Sons of Italy and Sorelle d'Italia (sisters of Italy).

PHOTO BY KAREN A. AVITABLE



NEW LEADERSHIP APPOINTED FOR THE APOSTLES OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

— The Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus recently welcomed Sister Barbara Thomas, ASCJ, as the newly appointed provincial superior for their United States province, which is located in Hamden. While Sister Barbara spent the past 12 years as President of Cor Jesu Academy in St. Louis, she calls the greater New Haven area home. She grew up in the Hamden area, attended St. Rita School and graduated from Sacred Heart Academy in 1971. Upon graduation, she entered the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and made her perpetual vows as a sister in 1979. In the photo with a statue of Blessed Clelia Merloni, foundress of the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, are, left to right: Sister Sharon Kalert, secretary; Sister Angela Gertsema, provincial councilor; Sister Mary Lee, vice provincial/treasurer; Sister Barbara Thomas, new provincial superior; Sister Mary Grace Walsh, provincial councilor; and Sister Diane Mastroianni, provincial councilor.

PHOTO COURTESY OF APOSTLES OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS



DOMINICAN SISTERS OF PEACE CELEBRATE 10 YEARS OF MEMORIES AND MISSION

— The Dominican Sisters of Peace and Associates celebrated their 10th anniversary in July in St. Louis. Thirteen sisters from the New Haven and the New Britain areas were in attendance including Sister Anne Kilbride, assistant to the president for Dominican mission, Albertus Magnus College, Sister June Fitzgerald of New Haven, a vocations minister for the congregation, and Ellen Coates of New Haven, who was received into the congregation's novitiate at the event. The congregation's 2019 jubilarians include: Sister Fitzgerald and Sister Kathy Broussard of New Haven, 25 years. In the photo, Sister Pat Twohill, right, and vocations minister Sister Pat Dual, left, welcome candidate Coates, center.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DOMINICAN SISTERS OF PEACE



Sister Eleanor Rathburn, 91, a Sister of Mercy, died on June 22, 2019, at St. Mary Home after a brief illness. Born on March 25, 1928, she entered the Sisters of Mercy on June 27, 1948, and professed her vows on Jan. 22, 1951. In 1963, she received a

bachelor of art degree in education from the University of St. Joseph (then St. Joseph College) and also earned an advanced certificate in special education. She taught primary schoolchildren in first-through-fourth grades in numerous parish schools throughout the Catholic dioceses in Connecticut for 34 years. She concluded her Mercy ministry in Torrington at St. Francis Parish as a pastoral associate and volunteer until her retirement in 2009 to St. Mary Home.



Rev. Mark Bonsignore, known to all as Father Mark, died on July 20, 2019, at Connecticut Hospice surrounded by family and friends after a long battle with cancer. After 15 years of doing mission promotion and spending time as a missionary

in Tanzania, Father Mark served as a weekend associate of the Church of the Resurrection, chaplain at St. Mary's Hospital in Waterbury for 19 years and at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford for 22 years. While studying in the School of Sacred Theology at the Catholic University of America in Washington, Father Mark pursued graduate studies in sacred music specializing in choral conducting. He was ordained to the priesthood in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in 1967 and did further study of music in the Juilliard School, New York City.

Sister Mary Gerald Creeden of the Sisters of Mercy died on Aug. 9, 2019, at St. Mary Home, West Hartford. Sister Mary was born in Worcester, Mass., and was a graduate of St. Joseph College, received a master's degree from Southern Connecticut State University and studied for a sixth-year certificate at Boston College. She taught in several schools in Connecticut and served for many years as principal of St. Bernard's School, Rockville.



Sister Janice McFarland, 91, a Sister of Mercy for 74 years, died on Aug. 13, 2019, at St. Mary Home, West Hartford. Born in New Haven, she was raised in Hamden, graduated from Lauralton Hall and entered the Sisters of Mercy on June 27, 1945.

She pronounced her vows on Jan. 2, 1948. She earned a bachelor's degree from University of St. Joseph. Sister did additional advanced studies at Sacred Heart University and Fordham University. She received a master's degree in elementary administration from Catholic University, Washington D.C. She was school principal after 20 years teaching upper grades in several parishes throughout the Dioceses of Hartford and Bridgeport. Most notable was her extended tenure as principal of St. Stephen School in Hamden, and then principal of St. Stephen School in 1980.



Sister Mary Clarice Cunningham, 92, a Sister of Mercy, died on Aug. 13, 2019, at St. Mary Home, West Hartford. Born in New York City, she was raised in Hartford. She graduated from Mount St. Joseph Academy and entered the Sisters of Mercy on

June 27, 1945. She pronounced her vows on Jan. 2, 1948. She earned a bachelor's degree from University of St. Joseph. Sister started her teaching career as a first-grade teacher and then then became a dedicated and proficient middle and upper grade teacher. Her assignments over 53 years brought her to multiple parishes in towns across the three dioceses in Connecticut.



Sister Mary Rita Clare Hoffner, 91, a Sister of Mercy, died on Aug. 17, 2019, after a brief illness at St. Mary Home, West Hartford. Born in Manchester, she became a Sister of Mercy on Dec. 28, 1946, and pronounced her vows on June 28, 1949. She

earned a bachelor's degree and taught primary grades in numerous parish schools within the Archdiocese of Hartford and upper grades through 1975. She later became a cosmetologist working at J.C. Penney for four years. In 1977, after earning a master's degree in pastoral ministry, she left hairdressing and returned to parish work in administration as school principal at St. Joseph School, Enfield. She held that position until she was invited to direct a religious education program at Sacred Heart parish in the Norwich diocese.



Sister Fay F. O'Brien (Sister Mary Patrice), 88, a Sister of Mercy, died unexpectedly on Aug. 17, 2019, in St. Mary Home, West Hartford. Raised in Hartford, Sister Fay entered the convent on Sept. 8, 1950, and made her vows on June 29, 1953. She

earned her bachelor's degree in education from Diocesan Sisters College and a master's degree in experimental psychology from Fordham University. While teaching, she continued advanced studies at Boston College and Teachers College Columbia University. She earned a doctorate in supervision and curriculum development from UConn in 1974. She returned to the faculty of St. Joseph College. She became director of the School for Young Children.



Deacon Louis P. Fusco, 76, of Northford, died suddenly on Aug. 19, 2019, at Yale New Haven Hospital/St. Raphael Campus surrounded by his family. He was the husband of 53 years to Lucille Christoforo Fusco. He was born in New Haven on Feb. 23,

1943. He was very active in the church community serving as deacon at St. Monica Church for 34 years. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus and Legion of Mary. He taught art in West Haven for more than 37 years until his retirement and continued to work at Wallingford Industries for over 50 years.



Sister Dorothy Choyce, a Sister of Mercy, died on Aug. 18, 2019, at St. Mary Home, West Hartford. Born on June 27, 1929, in Danbury, she graduated from Sacred Heart Academy and after a few years of work experience, she entered the Sisters of Mercy

on Sept. 8, 1950, professing her vows on June 29, 1953. She earned a bachelor's and master's in elementary education from the University of St. Joseph. After teaching in the Bridgeport diocese parochial schools for more than 20 years, Sister requested a leave of absence to become a member of a cloistered community, Sisters of St. Claire in Cambridge, N.Y. She returned to Connecticut and to the Sisters of Mercy in 1990.

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

Rev. David C. Carey, from senior parochial vicar, St. John the Evangelist Parish, Watertown, to senior status, effective July 1, 2019.

Rev. Dairo Diaz, from parochial vicar, St. Damien of Molokai Parish, Windsor, to parochial vicar, St. Augustine Parish, Hartford, effective July 1, 2019.

Msgr. Frank J. Matera, reappointed administrator, St. Mary Parish, Simsbury, for an additional year, effective Aug. 22, 2019.

Rev. Joseph Karikunnel, CST, from parochial vicar, Basilica of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Waterbury, to completion of priestly service, effective Aug. 10, 2019.

Rev. Robert J. Rousseau, completion of assignment as director, Pro-Life Ministry, effective July 15, 2019.

Rev. Glen J. Dmytryszyn, appointed director of the Pro-Life Ministry of the Archdiocese of Hartford, effective July 15, 2019, for a term of three years, in addition to his assignment as parochial vicar at St. John Bosco Parish, Branford.

Rev. Deny Varghese, from parochial vicar, Precious Blood Parish, Milford, to completion of priestly service, effective June 17, 2019.

Rev. Jorge E. Castro, from temporary administrator, Our Lady of Hope Parish, New Hartford/Harwinton, to parochial vicar, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Hamden, effective July 23, 2019.

Rev. Philip T. O'Neill, from parochial vicar of St. Bridget of Sweden Parish, Cheshire, effective July 31, 2019, to a temporary assignment at the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Hartford, effective Aug. 1, 2019.

Rev. James J. Aherne, M.S., from pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Hartford, to parochial vicar of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Hartford, effective Aug. 15, 2019.

Rev. Joseph M. O'Neil, M.S., appointed pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Hartford, effective Aug. 15, 2019, for a term of six years.

Rev. William Metzler, senior status, appointed temporary administrator of St. Therese Parish Granby, effective Sept. 2, 2019.

Msgr. Thomas Ginty, from rector, Cathedral of St. Joseph, Hartford, to pastor, Saint Basil the Great, Wolcott, effective Sept. 3, 2019.

Rev. Kevin Donovan, from pastor, St. Basil the Great, Wolcott, to rector, Cathedral of St. Joseph, Hartford, effective Sept. 3, 2019, in addition to duties as director of the Permanent Diaconate Program.

— **REV. RYAN M. LERNER, CHANCELLOR**, AUG. 23, 2019

(Clergy who are not incardinated in the Archdiocese of Hartford must request permission from the archbishop to minister here; that is, they request faculties. Because deacons and priests have received the sacrament of holy orders and therefore never retire in the canonical sense, the term "senior" priest or deacon describes their status.)



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OCTOBER 2019

Advanced, comprehensive cancer care. Smilow Cancer Hospital at Saint Francis delivers.

Smilow Cancer Hospital is a national leader in personalized state-of-the-art cancer care, and we are at Saint Francis in Hartford and Glastonbury, bringing you today's most comprehensive cancer treatment. From advanced diagnosis to expert, compassionate treatment, including a wide range of clinical trials, you'll be cared for with a level of skill and groundbreaking technology few cancer centers can offer. Care you deserve, from Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center, the only National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center in Southern New England. World-class care ... and it's all close to home.

Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center – Hartford

Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center
114 Woodland Street
Hartford, CT

Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center – Glastonbury

Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center
31 Sycamore Street
Glastonbury, CT



Yale
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Health
Smilow Cancer
Hospital



Adam
Boruchov, MD