

Journey to Kenya

Continued from page 1

to foster charity and justice throughout the world.”

Part of the journey and spiritual mission was seeing first-hand the improvements CRS has made in Kenyan communities as well as acknowledging the work that could be done.

“The trip was inspiring and I saw signs of hope, but there were also many challenges,” Furlani explained during a recent interview at the Archdiocesan Center in Newark.

When first arriving in Kenya, a country in east Africa which has a population of about 32 million, the group met with Kenyan CRS officials who gave an

overview of the program’s activities, including carrying out AIDS programs and agriculture and education reforms.

The country receives funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) (Web site: www.usaid.gov), but there is a potential for funding to be cut in forming development programs due to a 5 percent growth in Kenyan economy in the last few years.

“It is like the poverty line in the United States. They could get their development assistance cut because Kenya is on that line,” Furlani lamented.

Meeting with Kenyan officials, the CRS group began to understand the problems that needed to be addressed. “One in three people are seriously poor in Kenya, which puts a strain on resources, funds, skills and training that people have. There are 780 parishes and 30,000 ‘prayer houses’ (mission outposts), that could become parishes, but there is a need for more priests. Consistent with its mission, CRS is working to advocate good governance and oversight in the country,” Furlani recalled.

When Furlani visited a slum in Nairobi—the fast-growing capital city of Kenya with a population of around 4 million (www.kenya.com/nairobi.html)—she witnessed the devastating effects of abject poverty and those who are trying to make difference. “There was open sewage and garbage in the streets. Youths worked with the younger people in the parish to help clean up. The garbage is only picked up once per month and sometimes once every two months. That is a big health

risk and the kids only need simple equipment like gloves and wheelbarrows to help in the cleanup.”

There was also a visit to an orphanage where the children’s parents died of AIDS and some of the children have AIDS themselves. “The poor are left to the fringes of resources and that happens in the U.S.”

I made a connection with the grandmother (in Kenya) because I am also a grandmother and a widow, but our lives are so different. I have resources that she couldn’t even imagine.

—Catherine Furlani

Visits to different parishes were also arranged, including a flight to Mombasa at Bamba Parish. “The people in the community gathered at the parish and were waiting for us to arrive. There was singing and cheers and the women greeted us with ululations. The reception was wonderful and the people seemed happy to see us,” Furlani remembered. She then went to see a family in the area that was in dire need of resources.

“I was taken by a young man to walk half of a mile to visit a family. There was a dusty path that led to their homes. I met with four children whose parents died of AIDS and the 18-year-old boy was now the head of the household. The children received elementary education and the parish paid for his 16-year-old sister to go to high school. They lived with their grandmother and deaf uncle who could not walk in a small hut and grew corn for themselves. They lived on one meal a day and there was usually no meat. The young man said that he was always hungry.”

The family has been receiving food from the parish and had some government assistance. Furlani felt a connection with the small family and reflected on what else she could do to help. “We met

outside under a tree. There were two small huts that were like 9-by-12-foot rooms. The children were in one hut and the grandmother was in the other. I made a connection with the grandmother because I am also a grandmother and a widow, but our lives are so different. I have resources that she couldn’t even imagine. I just felt so helpless,” she said as her eyes welled up with tears.

After seeing a few chickens

running around their home, Furlani decided she could play a small part in helping the family. “I had \$100 that I put into shillings and gave them \$60 so they could buy chickens to eat and sell. The house was made out of a muddy concrete; a type of mortar with a thatched roof the 18-year-old built himself. He said when it rained, the roof leaked and he could use some of the money I gave them to buy tin to place on the roof.”

Another important meeting for Furlani was with the Coastal Interfaith Clergy Coalition that consists of Catholic, Christian and

Muslim leaders in Mombasa. The coalition came together to address community concerns including drugs, crime and lack of jobs for young people.

“These problems are the same in Newark or any other city in the U.S.,” she said. “The politicians make promises before the election and after the election, the work to get more resources stops. The clergy is trying to work together for a common good.”

(Editor’s note: Part two of this feature will appear in the Nov. 22 edition of The Catholic Advocate.)



From left to right, Bill Rastetter, CRS regional director for east Africa, Candice Harris and Catherine Furlani of the archdiocesan Human Concerns Office took a break between presentations about CRS programs in Kenya



The microfinance group met at a development office outside of Embu town to tell the delegation about how the program enables them to borrow money to start a small business. Through this program, they learn to develop business management skills, set up savings accounts, and sometimes become small-business employers for others in the community.

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FREQUENCY FOR 2007

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Experts share vision of stewardship during conference at Union Catholic

SCOTCH PLAINS — The annual Archdiocesan Stewardship Day conference, held at Union Catholic High School on Oct. 28, focused on "Living Your Discipleship Calling," a theme that was brought alive with a joint presentation given by Rev. Albert Winseman and Father William Hanson.

Rev. Winseman is the global practice leader for faith-based organizations at the Gallup Organization and the author of "Living Your Strengths." His book presents a technique of learning one's personality strengths as well as how to recognize other people's strengths.

Father Hanson, the pastor of St. Gerald Majella Parish in Port Jefferson, NY, said he has used Rev. Winseman's book to rejuvenate and build his parish and was successful "beyond my wildest dreams."

"I was looking for a way to jump start the parish that I was just assigned to and came upon Living Your Strengths," Father Hanson explained. "We tried it and in a period of three years, we went from a parish with little activity and a deficit of \$500,000 to very active parish with many groups and involved parishioners and a surplus of over \$2 million."

Father Daniel Mahan, a priest from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and the executive director of the Marian College Center for Catholic Stewardship, served as the keynote speaker for the event and led the Morning Prayer. Father Mahan presented his thoughts on "Stewardship as Spirituality." Father Mahan's extensive stewardship experience and expertise gave his spiritual presentation a practical dimension, which also is included in his recently published book, "More than Silver or Gold: Homilies of a Stewardship Priest." The keynote address included his views on how and why parishioners give to support a parish.

Father Jack Cryan, the pastor of Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Jersey City and a long-time believer in the stewardship way of life, discussed the collaborative services between



Nearly 100 hearty souls braved stormy weather last month to attend the annual Archdiocesan Stewardship Day event held at Union Catholic High School. Father Larry Evans (right), parochial vicar at Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Jersey City, was one of the featured speakers at the forum. Ken DiPaola (left), of the archdiocesan Office of Planned Giving, and Carla Gonzalez, executive director of the archdiocesan Office of Development, are pictured at the event with Father Evans.

Photo courtesy of Ken DiPaola

Our Lady of Mercy and Our Lady of Sorrows, the two Jersey City parishes he administers.

Father Larry Evans, parochial vicar at Our Lady of Mercy, talked about year-round stewardship programs. Father Evans discussed the commitments a parish needs to make to promote and grow healthy stewards. "This includes using the Church's liturgical cycle and the secular calendar to remind parishioners of their stewardship obligations," Father Evans said. "The necessity of parish stewardship committee prayer, play and planning time throughout the year, can't be underestimated, if a parish wants to maintain and grow its stewardship way of life."

The day featured eight separate breakout sessions that allowed the attendees to pick a session that was most relevant to their stewardship needs. The sessions included Rev. Winseman's discussion of the best methods to thank helpful parishioners. Leisa Anslinger, a pastoral associate at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Cincinnati, explained how to properly invite parishioners into ministry. Joseph Cavanaugh, the associate partner at

the Gallup Faith Division, a unit of Princeton-based Gallup Organization (www.gallup-faith.com), discussed how parishioners can best serve their parish. Kevin Lynch, the president and founder of Lynch Development Associates, Huntington, NY, talked about successful parish stewardship programs.

Father John Galeano, a parochial vicar at Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Jersey City, and Consuelo Moya, a consultant with the Gallup Organization, presented a series of talks in Spanish. Father Galeano discussed: "How to be a Real Steward in the Vineyard of the Lord" and "Using Our Hispanic Heritage to be Authentic American Stewards." Moya presented "Living Your Strengths" a Spanish workshop.

Ken DiPaola, associate director of the archdiocesan Office of Planned Giving, offered the welcoming remarks at the event. His presentation included a cordial invitation to members of parish committees to contact his office—phone: (973) 497-4104 or (973) 497-4332—to obtain information about stewardship programs.

Judge issues stern Patriot Act warning

BY WARD MIELE

Managing Editor

SOUTH ORANGE—Judge Andrew Napolitano, keynote speaker at the annual Stillman School of Business "Integrity and Professional Convocation" at Seton Hall University, charged the Patriot Act is "the greatest attack on personal liberties in the past 200 years."

Citing its guarantee of personal liberties, Judge Napolitano—who addressed the convocation last month at SHU—called the U.S. Constitution "the greatest accomplishment in the Western world."

Signed into law by President George W. Bush on Oct. 26, 2001, the Patriot Act was created in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks to dramatically expand the

authority of U.S. law enforcement agencies in order to fight terrorism.

President Bush signed the renewal of the bill into law on March 9, but it continues to generate significant debate and controversy throughout the nation due to its alleged intrusion into civil liberties. Those who side with the president say it is a necessary tool to fight global terrorism, while those opposed say it undermines fundamental liberties established by The Constitution.

Referencing the controversial Patriot Act, it was the judge's contention that 9-11 "cost us our Constitution."

He also mentioned the act's impact on the right to privacy. "The government thinks that, with the stroke of a pen, it can take liberties away from us," Judge Napolitano declared. That is the "greatest challenge," he told an

audience made up predominately of college students—to "retain freedom (and your) thirst for freedom." When freedom is in one's heart, he continued, it can never be taken away.

Explaining that in Colonial times British soldiers could simply sign their own search warrant and enter someone's home, Judge Napolitano cited the "probable-cause" clause of the U.S. Constitution, which requires a judge approve a search warrant before law enforcement officials can go into someone's home.

During a brief question-and-answer session, Judge Napolitano was asked about the lack of public discourse relating to the Patriot Act. He pointed out that lawmakers in Washington did not even have a copy of the legislation to read before voting on it.

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End-of-life explored

Continued from page 1

In introductory remarks before a full Jubilee Hall Auditorium, Father Anthony Ziccardi, executive director of Missions and Ministry, cited the illnesses of Pope John Paul II, especially Parkinson's Disease, which affected him in the years before his death last year.

Noting the pope's many hospitalizations in the final months of his life, Father Ziccardi stressed that the Holy Father "fought for life but accepted death." John Paul II's passing, he stressed was a "happy death" because it was not sudden.

Given the rapid pace and scope of modern medical advances, Father Ziccardi stressed the ethics involved on conjunction with the "moral guidance" of the Church. In such situations, he went on, treatment considered "ordinary" cannot be withheld.

Kathleen M. Boozang, associate dean and professor of law at Seton Hall Law School, focused on medical events in which a previously competent adult was no longer competent. Only a small number of such cases make their way into the courtroom, Boozang stressed.

Emphasizing the balancing act between ordinary versus extraordinary treatment, Boozang said a key element is determining whether any treatment is ultimately "disproportionate" to its benefits.

There is no distinction between withholding and withdrawing treatment, she noted. Another perspective, said the professor, is whether treatment is beneficial "for the body or the person."

Pointing out that Catholic teaching can be more permissive than civil law, Boozang said there are many "myths" about Catholic hospitals. The law, she stressed, protects the sanctity of life. End-of-life scenarios should include "appropriate" palliative care, she added.

A major element of such situations, Boozang went on, is providing nutrition and hydration. Doing so, according to the associate dean, is not morally obligatory when

there is no comfort to an imminently dying patient or the food and water cannot be assimilated.

No such issues existed a half-century ago, declared Cardiologist Dr. Thomas G. Higgins. Before that time, he said, "when you were dead, you were dead." Considering the many technological advances now at the disposal of the physicians, Dr. Higgins pointed out it is now possible "to treat death."

Despite having a living will, stressed the attending physician at St. Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston, it is often difficult for medical personnel to determine "who has the say so."

Every person's illness is unique, as are his or her needs, according to Dr. Higgins. Physicians, he explained, are "generally grumpy" about living wills. Most people, he added, pass away in institutions. He described administration of nutrition and hydration as a medical "flashpoint."

A vital element, the local physician stressed, is to keep open the opportunity for discussion and communication. It was the doctor's opinion that what is a "burden" in end of life situations is "not well defined." Conscience, Dr. Higgins feels, is the "mediator" of making difficult decisions.

Bobby Schindler, the brother of Terri Schiavo—the tragic comatose woman who drew worldwide attention to end-of-life questions when her feeding tube was removed under Florida court order last year—offered his perspective at the forum, saying his sister was disabled but not brain dead.

The Schindler family is Catholic and Bobby Schindler, who was with his sister after her feeding tube was removed, recalled the "horrifying" consequences of that action.

"My sister was killed," he alleged.



Bobby Schindler

The family's "only intention" was to "take care" of Terri. There was an abundance of "confusion" on the matter among Catholics, he pointed out.

During a Q&A session, age was mentioned as a factor in end-of-life issues. Professor Boozang confirmed age is a factor under the law. Dr. Higgins made the distinction between physiological versus chronological age.

In response to another question, Schindler said his sister was not dying and nutrition and hydration kept her alive. There was a moral obligation to do so, he stressed.

According to information on the Wikipedia Web site, Theresa Marie "Terri" Schiavo died on March 31, 2005 at the age of 41. She collapsed in her home in 1990 and experienced respiratory and cardiac arrest. She fell into a coma and within three years was diagnosed as being in a "persistent vegetative state."

The dispute over her fate began to receive national attention three years ago and included a legal history of numerous appeals, motions, petitions and hearings in the Florida courts and Federal District Court. Her feeding tube was removed on March 18, 2005 and she died at a Pinellas Park hospice in Florida.



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Bishop to begin parish's 150th

UNION CITY—Holy Family Parish will begin the celebration of its 150th anniversary with a special Mass celebrated by Most Rev. Thomas A. Donato, Auxiliary Bishop of Newark, on Sunday, Nov. 19 at 1:15 p.m.

The church, located at 530 35th St., is adjacent to Centro Guadalupe, the Hispanic Pastoral Center at 545 35th St.

The pastor, Father Francisco Legarra, O.A.R., extends an invitation the entire parish family, including former parishioners, to attend.

Plans for additional celebration events will be announced at a later date.

For additional information contact the parish at (201) 867-6535.

Patriot Act warning

Continued from page 3
There is, he lamented, a “herd mentality in Congress.”

A Newark native, Judge Napolitano is the youngest life-tenured New Jersey Superior Court Judge and senior judicial analyst for the FOX News Channel. The judge is the author

‘The government thinks that, with the stroke of a pen, it can take liberties away from us. The greatest challenge is to retain your thirst for freedom.’

—Judge Andrew Napolitano

of two books on the U.S. Constitution and has written numerous commentary pieces for major newspapers such as *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Star-Ledger*. He is a 1972 graduate of Princeton University and a 1975 graduate of the University of Notre Dame Law School. He maintains a Web site: www.judgenap.com. Judge Napolitano was an adjunct professor of law at Seton Hall Law School in Newark for 11 years where he taught constitutional law and jurisprudence.

Archbishop John J. Myers attended the event and made brief remarks at the forum. Noting it was almost five years to the day

that he arrived at the Church in Newark (shortly after the 9/11 attacks), the archbishop said one of the “wonderful things” during that time has been the “new friends” he has made. Among them, he said, was the “good friendship” of Judge Napolitano.

Expressing his admiration for Judge Napolitano’s work on the FOX network, Archbishop Myers said the judge had the “courage” to “tell the truth as he sees it,” whether it be on television or in print.


In welcoming remarks, Dean Karen E. Boroff, Ph.D., extolled the virtues of obtaining a business degree at a Catholic university. “The holiness of our work, integrity and honesty, brings us closer to our Creator and gives us the peace He has promised.”



Photo courtesy of Steve Lane/Linz Photography

Archbishop John J. Myers, center, Judge Andrew Napolitano and Karen Boroff, dean of the SHU Stillman School of Business at the recent “Integrity and Professional Convocation.” Judge Napolitano, the keynote speaker at the convocation, criticized the controversial Patriot Act. Earlier this year President Bush signed the renewal of the bill into law.

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November 8

The Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark, Mass for funeral directors, ceme-terians and bereavement coun-selors, 10 a.m., (973) 484-4600.

November 9

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Ridgewood, "Christ in Word and Song," 7-9 p.m., (973) 313-6329.

St. Thomas the Apostle

Parish, Bloomfield, discussion on what it means to "be saved," 7:30 -9 p.m., call Bob Miller at (973) 338-9190 ext 29.

November 10

The Koinonia Academy, Plainfield, fall fundraiser, 7-10 p.m., cost: \$5, Call CeCe Wagner at (908) 580-0181.

Henderson Theatre, Lincroft, "The Odd Couple," 8 p.m., through Nov. 18, cost: \$13 for adults, \$9 for seniors, \$6 for stu-dents, (732) 758-1118.

St. Patrick High School, Eliz-abeth, "Fiddler on the Roof," 7:30 p.m., Nov. 12 at 2 p.m., cost: \$4 in advance, \$5 at the door, (908) 353-5220.

Immaculate Conception High School, Lodi, tricky tray, 6:30 p.m., cost: \$7, (973) 773-2400.

St. Phil's Singles, Livingston, dinner at Fuddruckers, Parsip-pany, 7 p.m., RSVP by Nov. 9, (973) 248-9245.

November 11

St. Phil's Singles, Livingston, games night, 7:30 p.m., (973) 340-4001.

Assumption Parish, Wood-Ridge, overnight Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 6:30 p.m.- 7:30 a.m., (201) 438-5555.

Church of the Presentation, Upper Saddle River, faith and jus-tice workshop, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m., cost: \$30, (201) 891-6708.

November 12

Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Verona, blood drive, 8 a.m.- 2 p.m., call Rita Moss at (973) 239-5696.

Holy Name Society of Bloomfield, "Proud to be Catholic," after 9 a.m. Mass, (973) 748-0081.

St. Anthony's School, Hawthorne, vendor sale, 9:30 a.m.- 4 p.m., (973) 423-1818.

Caldwell College, "An Angel in the Park" by the Garden State Opera, 4 p.m., cost: \$15, \$12 for seniors and students, (973) 618-3520.

November 13

Queen of Peace High School, "The Art of Paying for College," 7 p.m., contact the EFCA at (866) 597-EFCA.

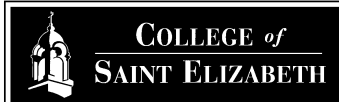
St. Paul Parish, Ramsey, "Time for Reflection," 10:30 a.m., (201) 327-0976.

November 14

South Orange Performing Arts Center, Musicians from Marlboro, 8 p.m., cost: \$20, \$15 for seniors and alumni, \$8 students, (973) 275-2450.

St. Michael Parish, Cran-ford, "Grief and the Holidays," 7 p.m., (908) 654-3711.

College of Saint Elizabeth, Morristown, poet and essayist Jane Hirshfield, 7 p.m., (973) 290-4450.

**November 15**

College of Saint Elizabeth, Morristown, Japanese mime artists Yaas Hakoshima, 7 p.m., (973) 290-4219.

Seton Hall University, South Orange, author Thomas Lynch, 7 p.m., (973) 761-5105.

November 16

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Ridgewood, "Christ in the Eucharist," 7-9 p.m., (973) 313-6329.

Boystown, Kearny, Catholic Charities International Adoption information meeting, 7 p.m., call Andrea at (201) 246-7379.

November 17

Mother Seton Regional High School, Clark, "High School Musical," 7:30 p.m., through Nov. 19, cost: \$10, \$5 for seniors and children, (732) 382-1952.

November 18

St. Phil's Singles, Livingston, vol-leyball, 7:30 p.m., (973) 340-4001.

College of Saint Elizabeth, Morristown, women's college open house, 9:30- 3 p.m., 1-800-210-7900.

Catholic War Veterans, Bay-onne, blood drive, 8:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m., call Mary Garruto at (201) 882-3737.

Lumen Center, Caldwell, "The Spontaneity of Jesus," 10 a.m.- noon, cost: \$20, (973) 403-3331 ext. 25.

St. Joseph Regional High School, Montvale, Night of Broadway Stars, 8 p.m., cost: \$50, (201) 391-3300.

St. Mary Parish, Rahway, Ado-ration Congress (Spanish), 8:30 a.m.- 5 p.m., cost: \$10 for adults, \$5 for children, call Reina Basu-aldo at (973) 497-4326.

November 19

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Newark, Christmas bou-tique and breakfast, 9 a.m.- 2 p.m., cost: \$5, (973) 759-8293.

Other

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Oakland, ministry to the separated and divorced, every second and fourth Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. (201) 337-7596.

Knights of Columbus Mother Seton Council #5427 in the Township of Washington is offer-ing outdoor lawn signs to com-memorate the season for \$7. The double-sided sign reads "Keep the Christ in Christmas" and "John 3:16." Call (201) 664-0422. Proceeds go to charity.

Official Appointments

Archbishop John J. Myers has announced the following appointments:

PASTOR

Reverend Monsignor James S. Choma, pastor of St. Agnes Parish, Clark, has been appointed to a second six-year term ending Aug. 31, 2012.

Reverend Monsignor William C. Harms, pastor of St. Helen Parish, Westfield, has been appointed to a second six-year term ending Sept. 16, 2012.

ADMINISTRATOR

Reverend Ilario Crepaz, administrator of St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Union City, has had his term extended through Sept. 25, 2007.

Reverend Jungsoo Kim, parochial vicar of St. Joseph Korean Catholic Parish, Demarest, has been appointed administrator effective Nov. 26.

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Reverend Wilson Bello has been appointed parochial vicar of Immaculate Conception Parish, Elizabeth, effective Oct. 23.

Reverend Franco Coronel has been appointed parochial vicar of St. Paul of the Cross Parish, Jersey City, through Nov. 26.

Reverend Gerard Oberle, C.Ss.R. has been appointed parochial vicar of St. James Parish, Newark, effective immediately.

Reverend Claude M. Perera, O.M.I. has been appointed parochial vicar of Holy Trinity Parish, Fort Lee, through May 10, 2007.

Frere Sean-Mary Lacrosse Britto has been appointed parochial vicar of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Orange, as well as part-time campus minister at Seton Hall University effective immediately.

Frere Victor Shoemaker has been appointed parochial vicar of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Orange, effective immediately.

CHAPLAIN

Reverend Stephen J. Cinque, pastor of St. Joseph the Carpenter Parish, Roselle, has also been appointed chaplain of the Knights of Columbus St. Joseph the Carpenter Council No. 3946, Roselle, effective immediately.

Reverend Angel San Eufrazio, O.A.R., director of Centro Guadalupe, Union City, has also been appointed chaplain of the Knights of Columbus Santa Rosa de Lima Council No. 6209, Union City, effective immediately.

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Archbishop's statement

Continued from page 1

alike can understand and affirm the nature of the marital good and its centrality in a well-ordered society. It is why religious groups, despite their theological disagreements, recognize the validity of the conjugal marriages of people of other faiths.

Even if marriage was a type of institution that could be redefined, it would not be up to a court to decide whether to redefine it. It is up to the people, working through the constitutionally established institutions of democratic deliberation, to settle such matters. For the people now to acquiesce in a usurpation of their rightful authority by a court would, in the words of President Lincoln, be for them to "resign their government into the hands of that eminent tribunal." For the sake of constitutional democracy as well as for the sake of marriage itself, this ruling must not be permitted to stand.

As many supporters of the idea of same sex "marriage" (or its equivalent, using other words such as "civil union" or "domestic partnership") admit, the logic of their position points to the abolition of marriage as a socially normative institution. Anyone who teaches or preaches that marriage is an exclusive union of one man and one woman will be labeled a bigot. Anyone who teaches or preaches that sexual relations outside of marriage are sinful will be accused of intolerance. Anyone who teaches or preaches that sexual relations between a man and a man or a woman and a woman are morally wrong will be charged with prejudice. Anyone who teaches or preaches that children need a mom and a dad—and that two moms or two dads are not the same—will be marginalized as an enemy of equality.

And everyone knows what will soon follow: Christian, Jewish, Muslim, and other religious communities will come under intense political pressure and legal attack. By standing by their principled beliefs regarding marriage and sexual morality, they will be rendered vulnerable to laws prohibiting what advocates of sexual liberation and same-sex "marriage" will insist is "discrimination." We have already seen this wherever same-sex relations have been given legal standing—in Canada, in Sweden, and right here in the United States in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, where four judges imposed same-sex marriage in an opinion now cited with approval by the New Jersey court. In Canada and Sweden pastors were prosecuted for preaching from the Bible about homosexuality. In Massachusetts, Catholic Charities was forced to abandon its 100-year-old program of helping to place children with adoptive parents.

And this is just the beginning. As one legal scholar who advocates same-sex "marriage" bluntly put it, religious liberty and sexual freedom will clash, and religious liberty will usually have to lose. Among the places it will lose, of course, is in schools, where children will be indoctrinated into the ideology of same-sex "marriage" in open defiance of their parents' beliefs.

Lastly, and most importantly, the decision by the State Supreme Court is a blow to the interests of children, especially those already the least well off. The social scientific evidence on marriage, family structure, and a child's well being is clear. And the universal consensus is that marriage and family structure matter crucially for children, and that the family structure that benefits children most is a marriage of two biologi-

cal parents—i.e. a married mom and dad. These findings have most recently been presented in a powerful document titled "Marriage and the Public Good" and affirmed by many distinguished scholars in fields ranging from sociology and psychology to philosophy, law, and medicine.

A Child Trends research brief put the matter in plain English: "Research clearly demonstrates that family structure matters for children, and the family structure that helps the most is a family headed by two-biological parents in a low-conflict marriage. Children in single-parent families, children born to unmarried mothers, and children in stepfamilies or cohabiting relationships face higher risks of poor outcomes. . . . There is thus value for children in promoting strong, stable marriages between biological parents" (see attribution footnote at the end of this article).

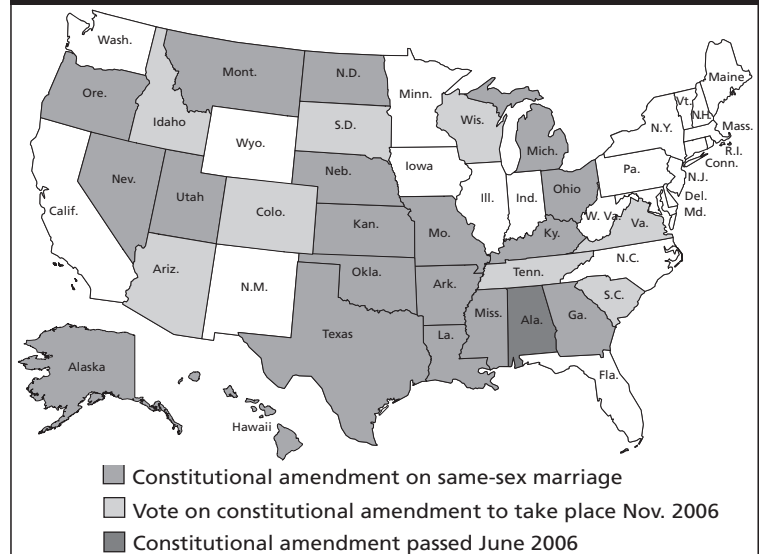
The New Jersey Supreme Court ruling flies in the face of these findings, and ignores the important social function that the institution of marriage plays in uniting moms and dads and their kids.

Recognizing the national threat to marriage from courts such as ours in New Jersey, religious leaders from across the United States and encompassing a breadth of religious diversity recently joined together in calling for a federal marriage amendment. I was proud to stand with these leaders. I joined their call precisely out of concern about what courts like the New Jersey Supreme Court would impose upon us; now that fear has proved all-too-well-grounded.

So it is with still-greater resolve that I pledge myself to work with my fellow Catholics, with leaders of other religious communities, and with people of every faith to rectify the harms done by this ill-advised ruling. For the common good of our state, I ask Catholics to join hands with Protestant and Eastern Orthodox Christians, members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Jews, Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, and people of other traditions of faith to work together to amend our state constitution to reverse this damaging decision.

(Footnote on statement attribution: Kristin Anderson Moore, et al., 2002. "Marriage from a Child's Perspective: How Does Family Structure Affect Children and What Can We Do About It?" *Child Trends Research Brief (Washington, D.C.: Child Trends) (June)*: (available at www.childtrends.org/Files/MarrriageRB602.pdf).

Many States Prohibit Same-Sex Marriage



Prior to this year, 19 states had passed a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage. Nine more states were to vote on such a ban in 2006. New Jersey's highest court ruled Oct. 25 that same-sex couples are due the same rights and benefits as married couples under the state Constitution.

CNS Graphic

November a time to celebrate Black Catholic history, future

The significant, pivotal and cherished role of Black Catholics in the history and life of the Church is being celebrated this month in the Archdiocese of Newark and across the nation.

November is Black Catholic History Month. Such an appropriate and deserved focus on the struggles, contributions and bountiful future of Black Catholics in the Church was established 16 years ago by the National Black Caucus of the United States. The Catholic Church would not be what it is today without the faith, presence and contributions of people of color.

Black Catholic History Month, as it should be, is a time of celebration. But it is also an opportunity to reflect on the Black experience, some of it painful, some of it joyous. Neither should ever be overlooked.

A perfect forum for such reflection takes place on Saturday, Nov. 11 at an all-day symposium beginning at 9 a.m. at St. Peter's College in Jersey City. Co-sponsored by the Office of Black Catholic Affairs of the Archdiocese of Newark and the Society of African Missions (SFA), the 150th anniversary of SFA will be a focal point of the program.

God Bless Black Catholics and all they do for the Body of Christ and His Church.

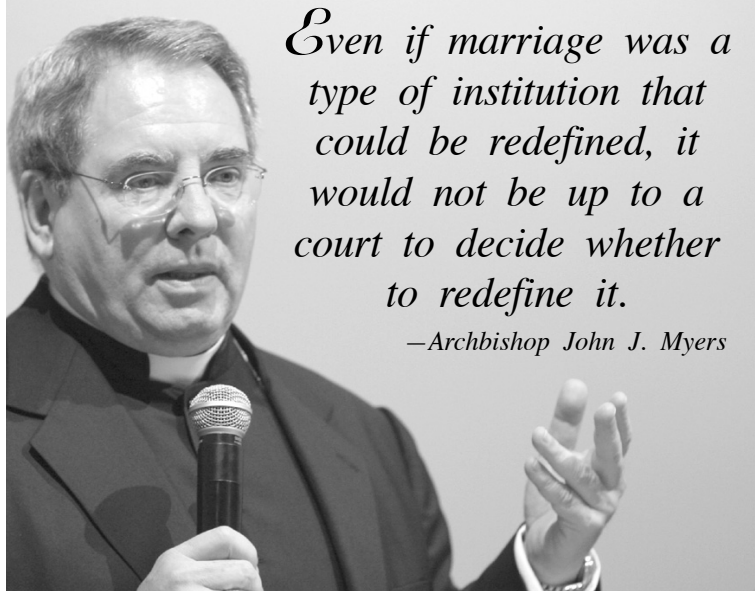
Blue Mass at Cathedral to honor women, men of law enforcement

The bravery, dedication and sacrifice of the men and women in law enforcement will be saluted Nov. 9 by the Archdiocese of Newark.

Archbishop John J. Myers will be the celebrant and homilist at the 14th annual Blue Mass for law enforcement officials and officers at 10 a.m. in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark.

As moving as it is impressive, the Blue Mass is a well-deserved "thank you" to police officers who protect life and property, keep the peace and maintain order. It is a dangerous and challenging career but one that is equally rewarding. Those who proudly wear the uniform can't imagine doing anything else. In every sense of the word law enforcement is truly a tight knit family.

The Blue Mass is open to all law enforcement agencies, their families, friends and supporters. It is an important time for renewal and reflection.



Even if marriage was a type of institution that could be redefined, it would not be up to a court to decide whether to redefine it.

—Archbishop John J. Myers

Funeral rites commend dead to God's merciful love

Back in the 1990's, when I was pastor of St. Patrick's Church in Elizabeth and administrator of its Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Newark, I was blessed to be able to attend the annual gathering of the National Catholic Cemetery Conference.

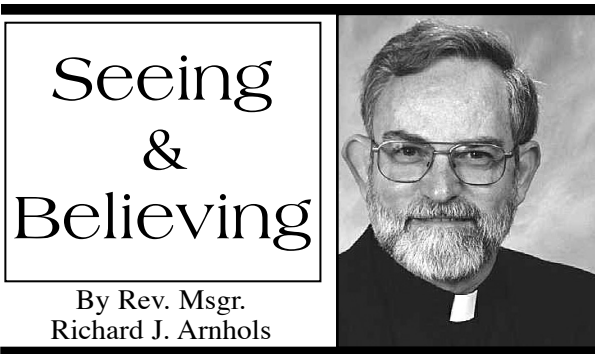
Catholic cemeterians from the United States and Canada were able to learn of the latest rules and regulations, products and services, to help them in fulfilling the corporal work of mercy to bury the dead. These reunions also enabled a wonderful exchange of ideas, practices and trends in this ministry across the country.

At that time, Catholic Cemeteries on the West Coast were experiencing a 15- to 25-percent rate of cremations. It was predicted that this trend would grow across the country, and so it has. Fully 18 percent of our funerals here at St. John's in the last 12 months have involved cremation, mostly after (but sometimes prior to) the funeral liturgy.

Liturgical guidelines favor the former, but permit the latter for valid reasons.

In either case, the "ashes" (human cremated remains) are always to be buried in a cemetery or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium, never to be scattered, stored on a shelf at home, or made into jewelry as one company now offers.

Funeral directors frequently tell of countless



Seeing & Believing

By Rev. Msgr.
Richard J. Arnhols

boxes of unclaimed human cremated remains stored in their establishments. It is troubling to realize how little attention some surviving family members give to their responsibility to see to a proper Christian burial for the human cremated remains of their deceased kin.

Of equal concern, in the last few years especially, is the growing tendency (more than 25 percent) for family members to opt for a simple ceremony at the funeral home or graveside instead of the funeral Mass to which the deceased is entitled. It often happens that the deceased had been an active churchgoer for many years, but those making the arrangements are not practitioners and therefore see no need for it.

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There is a certain wisdom in the contemporary practice of planning your own funeral well ahead of time, leaving specific instructions for a funeral Mass, so you will not be deprived of this spiritual help when the hour of death arrives.

As the introduction to the Order of Christian Funerals states: "At the death of a Christian, whose life of faith was begun in the waters of baptism and strengthened at the eucharistic table, the Church intercedes on behalf of the deceased because of its confident belief that death is not the end nor does it break the bonds forged in life. The Church also ministers to the sorrowing and consoles them in the funeral rites with the comforting word of God and the sacrament of the Eucharist."

"Christians celebrate the funeral rites to offer worship, praise and thanksgiving to God for the gift of life which has now been returned to God, the author of life and the hope of the just. The Mass, the memorial of Christ's death and resurrection, is the principal celebration of the Christian funeral. The Church, through its funeral rites, commends the dead to God's merciful love and pleads for the forgiveness of their sins."

"At the funeral rites, especially at the celebration of the eucharistic sacrifice, the Christian community affirms and expresses the union of the Church on earth with the Church in heaven in the one great communion of saints."

(Rev. Msgr. Richard J. Arnhols is pastor of St. John the Evangelist parish in Bergenfield, and archdiocesan vicar for Pastoral Life.)

*Death is not the end nor
does it break the bonds
forged in life.*

Caring for widows and orphans in a just society

Readings: 1 Kgs 17:10-16; Ps 146; Heb 9:24-28; Mk 12:38-44.

In most societies people are accepted and function best if they "fit in" its structures. The average person does not know how to react to those who are different, even because of some handicap or loss.

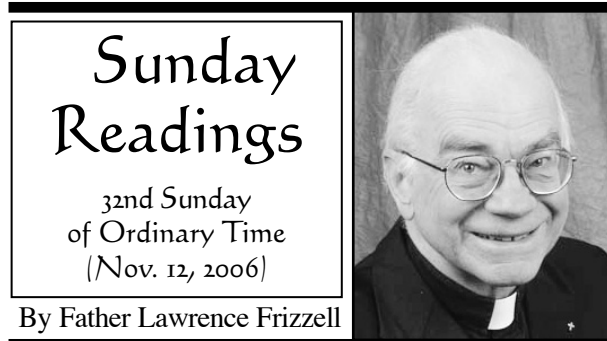
How many of us reach out to those who are new to the parish? When we plan a social event, do we include the neighbor who has lost a spouse recently? Do we show respect for the inherent dignity of the person who is disabled?

In the ancient Middle East the widow and orphan were often at a grave disadvantage socially and legally. The culture did not think of women as independent nor did their education make them self-sufficient. From childhood and throughout adult life, the woman was in constant need of a male protector. For this reason, the laws of Moses concerning the poor often mentioned the rights of widows and orphans explicitly.

But was this sufficient? Oppressors paid no attention to divine law. "They crush your people, O Lord, and afflict your heritage. They slay the widow and the stranger and murder the orphan" (Ps 94:5-6).

When economic conditions were bad the poor usually suffered the most. Such was the situation of the widow whom Elijah the prophet met near Sidon (in present-day Lebanon). The stranger not only asked for water, a precious commodity, but he requested bread.

She explained her penury and he challenged her to a test of faith. If she gave to him from her meager stock of flour and oil, she would find an inexhaustible supply for herself and her child. She might



Sunday Readings

32nd Sunday
of Ordinary Time
(Nov. 12, 2006)

By Father Lawrence Frizzell

have thought: "Charity begins at home. Why should I share with this foreigner?" Somehow her sense of hospitality and an incipient faith led her to be generous, and the three survived the drought and famine.

How open to the needs of others are we who claim to be children of Abraham and Sarah? "Do not neglect to show hospitality, for by that means some have entertained angels without knowing it" (Heb 13:2; see Gn 18:1-15).

Throughout his public ministry, Jesus defended the dignity and rights of those who were thrust aside as the result of other's low perception of their worth. Mark and Luke placed the narrative about the widow who gave all she had to the Temple treasury after Jesus' critique of certain scribes.

"These men devour the savings of widows and recite long prayers for the sake of appearance; it is they who will receive the severest sentence" (Mk

12:40). This passage makes us realize that the Gospel about "the widow's mite" has two aspects. Indeed, the woman is commended for her extraordinary generosity. God knows whether people give out of their surplus or whether their offering also has a personal sacrificial dimension.

But what should we say when the structures of society (political or religious) drain the minimal resources of the poor? Probably these offerings were made for maintenance of the Temple or were used for aiding the poor. In any case, the leaders and teachers in Jerusalem should have protected the widows in their midst. Probably many interpreters of the commandments were sensitive to plight of widows, orphans and those on a "fixed income."

However, Jesus knew that some of them exploited the most vulnerable and he condemned this fleecing of the devout in their simplicity. The ideal would be for every person to exercise his or her talents to

*How open to the needs of others
are we who claim to be children
of Abraham and Sarah?*

gain a living wage, and then they could express their dignity by giving for worship and the care of the less fortunate. But did Jesus not say: "The poor you will always have with you" (Jn 12:8)?

Lest some interpret this statement fatalistically, we must read Mark's text. "You always have the poor with you, and whenever you will, you can do good to them..." (14:7; see Dt 15:11). Jesus made reference to a familiar commandment, one that demands a response from the faithful in every generation.

(Father Lawrence Frizzell is director of the Institute of Judaean-Christian Studies at Seton Hall University.)

Seton Hall University to unveil Loneragan Institute on Nov. 16

SOUTH ORANGE—Seton Hall University (SHU) will honor Catholic philosopher and theologian Bernard J. Loneragan on Nov. 16 with the opening of a new institute devoted exclusively to the study and development of his work.

The Center for Catholic Studies will open the Bernard J. Loneragan Institute during an inaugural celebration from 4 to 6 p.m. in Jubilee Hall Auditorium. Admission is free and the event is open to the public. Call the Center for Catholic Studies at (973) 275-2525 for more information.

The event will begin with an introduction by Rev. Msgr. Richard M. Liddy, Ph.D., director of the institute. Robert M. Doran, S.J., the Emmett Doerr

Chair of Theology at Marquette University, will serve as the keynote speaker. Doran specializes in Loneragan's philosophy and theology of Loneragan. He is general editor of "The Collected Works of Bernard Loneragan" and co-founder of the Loneragan Research Institute, Toronto.

SHU officials said the new institute will foster scholarship and generate an interest in Loneragan and his teachings through a variety of lectures, programs and conferences centered on theology, interdisciplinary philosophy and economics—Loneragan's three main areas of study. The institute will contain all of Loneragan's published writings, copies of his most significant unpublished works, doctoral dissertations about his teachings, significant secondary literature and memorabilia such as letters and photos.

Bernard Joseph Francis Loneragan was born on Dec. 17, 1904 in Buckingham, Quebec. After completing his dissertation, Loneragan taught theology at Jesuit seminaries, first in Montreal and then in Toronto.

From 1953 he taught at the Gregorian in Rome until diagnosed with cancer of the lung in 1965. After surgery and recovery he went to Regis College in Toronto, and his teaching duties were reduced to allow him to concentrate on writing and research. He taught there until 1975, with a brief stint at Harvard in 1971-2. His final teaching post was at Boston College from 1975 to 1978. He died in 1984.

Theater production at SHU to celebrate the priesthood

SOUTH ORANGE—Seton Hall University's yearlong celebration of the priesthood begins the weekends of Nov. 10-12 and Nov. 17-19 with the Celtic Theatre's play "Is the Priest at Home?"

Show times are 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday in the Theatre-in-the-Round. Call (973) 761-9790 for reservations. A special admission price of \$8 will be made available to those who mention their parish.

A discussion about the life of a contemporary pastor will be led by Father Charles Pinyan, pastor of Guardian Angel Parish, Allendale; Father Raymond Kupke, pastor of Holy Family Parish, Florham Park and Father Andrew Prachar, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in the Vailsburg section of Newark following the play on Sunday, Nov. 12 and Friday, Nov. 17.

Camp Fatima Christmas celebration set Dec. 10

UNION—A Christmas celebration and fund-raiser for families, members and counselors of Camp Fatima of New Jersey will be held Sunday, Dec. 10 at the Knights of Columbus, 1034 Jeanette Ave., 1 to 4 p.m.

Camp Fatima, headquartered in Harrison, is a volunteer organization dedicated to helping people with disabilities and special needs.

Sister Ann Dominic, O.P., the pastoral associate for Social Concerns at St. Michael's Parish, based here, is sponsoring and organizing the event.

The celebration will feature a visit from Santa Claus, presents, and lunch. Contact Sister Ann at (908) 686-5271 for more information.



Photo courtesy of Gloria DeStefano

MARCHING FOR LIFE IN MAHWAH—Immaculate Conception Parish, Mahwah, held its first "March for Life" on Respect Life Sunday, Oct. 1. Over 100 people turned out for the event as members of area parishes joined forces with the faithful of Immaculate Conception to make a statement on the respect for life in all its stages. Five local Knights of Columbus councils and two Respect Life committees led the procession. The march began with prayers at the statue of Mary at the Mahwah church. Father John P. Ryan, the pastor of Immaculate Conception, led the recitation of the rosary during the half-mile procession to Maryrest Cemetery.

Faith Quest 2007 plans under way

NORTH CALDWELL—As a part of the New Energies Parish Transition Project, initiated by the Archdiocese of Newark, four West Essex parishes—St. Aloysius in Caldwell; Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Roseland; St. Thomas More, Fairfield, and Notre Dame Church, North Caldwell—are planning an adult religious education program for Lent 2007.

Faith Quest 2007, a religious education and formation initiative, has a fourfold mission: deepen an understanding of God's personal love for all; nurture an ever-growing awareness of God's Word and how it can impact the lives of people; joyfully embrace one's faith through education, inquiry and encouragement, and enjoy an experience that warms the hearts of those searching for wisdom, as they continue on the journey of faith.

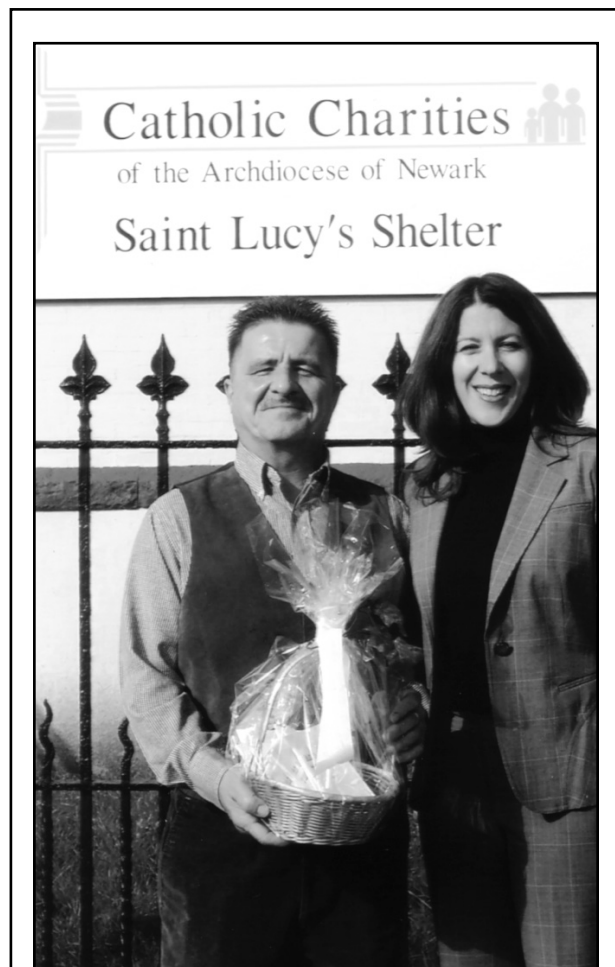
Different educational and formational experiences will be offered on religious, theological and spiritual topics. The primary aim will focus on how a believer grows in faith. The organizing cluster committee is in the process of determining topics deemed most useful and interesting to people in the West Essex area.

The cluster committee will also be selecting a group of teachers/presenters, as well as choosing dates, times and places that will best serve the needs of participants. Additional information on this project will be announced at a later date.

Bishops offer agenda items for meeting

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The following information is a quick glance at the main items the U.S. Catholic bishops will have on their agenda when they meet in Baltimore Nov. 13-16:

- There will be a concelebrated Mass Nov. 12 at the nation's first Catholic cathedral, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, marking the 200th anniversary of its dedication.



FOR THE HOMELESS—Cathie Salamone, Evergreen Commercial Real Estate in Montville presents Joseph Ulickie, director of St. Lucy's Homeless Shelter in Jersey City with a gift of \$1,700 for the shelter's homeless. The shelter houses men, women, children and HIV residents. It offers residents meals, counseling, and a clean environment. Tuesdays and Fridays, the shelter opens its doors for a free shower to all homeless in the area. St. Lucy's is always in need of toiletries, undergarments and linens. Call (201) 656-7201 for information.

- A statement will be issued on "Married Love and the Gift of Life," reaffirming church teaching against contraception.

- Statements will be issued on receiving the Eucharist worthily and on pastoral ministry to those with a homosexual inclination. Information also will be provided on the "Directory for Music and the Liturgy."

- There will be a reorganization of committees of U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

After 150 years, faith cornerstone remains solid

BY MELISSA MCNALLY
Staff Writer

As an overflow crowd of the faithful gathered to celebrate the 150th anniversary of St. Joseph Parish on Oct. 29, Archbishop John J. Myers reflected on the impact the parish has had on the community.

"This is a beautiful parish and a beautiful location," Archbishop Myers stated. "In a very real way, the community of St. Joseph Parish represents the Archdiocese of Newark.

"This parish has been here for 150 years," Archbishop Myers continued. "Five generations of faithful people; each generation having gone through the cycle of life, through good times and bad times. These people believed that God would not abandon them. Here today is proof that the faith of the previous generations is well founded. They were good people and you are good people."



Archbishop John J. Myers blessed the church and congregation at the St. Joseph Parish 150th anniversary Mass.



Father James Pagnotta, the pastor of St. Joseph since 1979, addressed his parishioners at the anniversary celebration.

Archbishop Myers discussed the story of Bartimaeus, a blind man healed by Jesus who became one of His faithful followers. "The Lord healed Bartimaeus and told him to go on his way and he chose to follow along Jesus' way. Some refuse to acknowledge God and refuse to see and put themselves beyond healing that Jesus would give. We could be blind ourselves," he said.

Like Bartimaeus, one of the earliest people of faith, the forefathers of St. Joseph Parish chose to accept God and through many trials, built the Church to help others see as well.

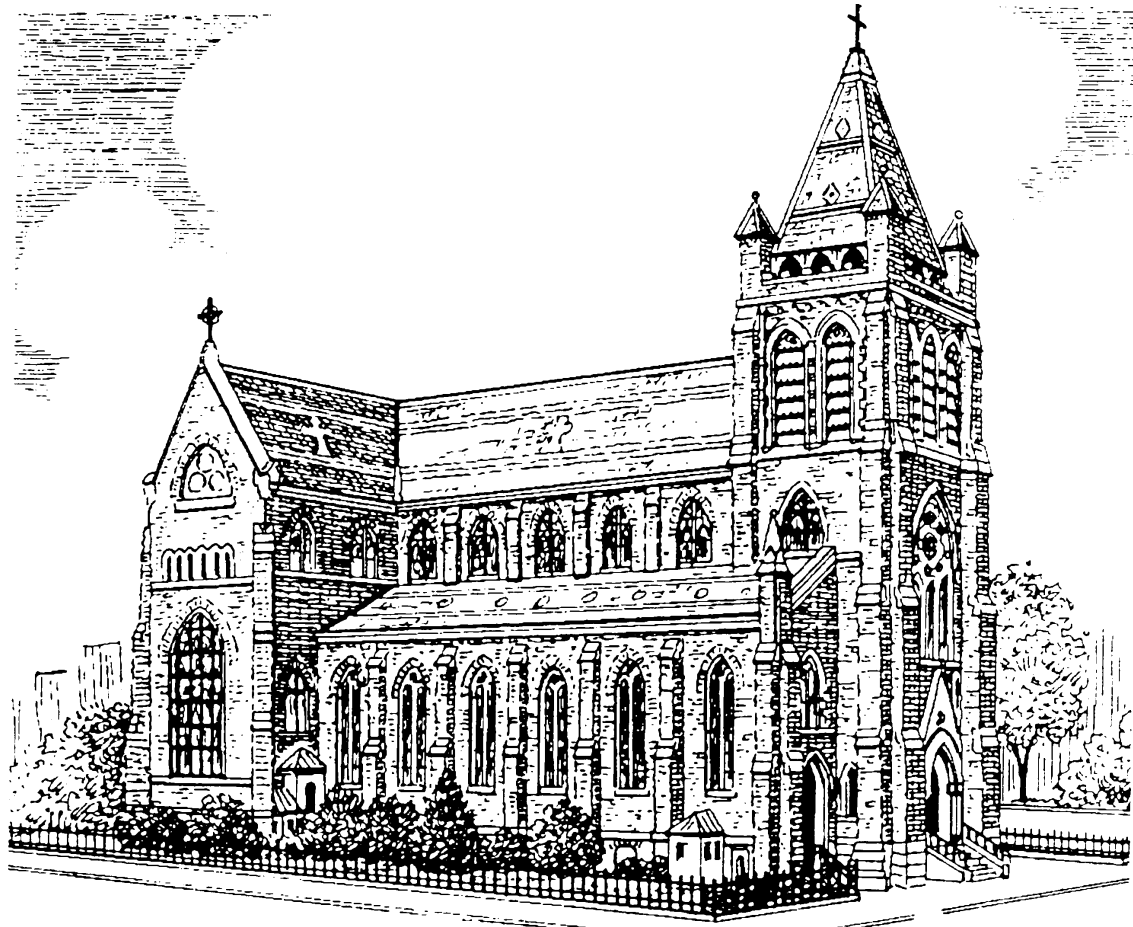
Most Reverend Arthur J. Serratelli, the bishop of Paterson, was also in attendance at the anniversary celebration. At the beginning of the Mass, an introduction was read in three languages: English, Spanish and Tagalog—representing the diverse faith community at the parish. Today, there are European, Filipino, African, South and Central American, Asian and Caribbean members that make up the parish family.

The Irish roots of the parish that started 150 years ago is the foundation on which the spirit of togetherness originated. The parish was founded on what was called Bergen Hill, where around 300 Irish laborers began work on the Erie Railroad tunnel in 1856.

The poor workmen lived in shacks set up around the site and Father James Coyle, the first pastor at St. Joseph Parish, lived among them. Father John Kelly of St. Peter Parish on Grand Street, sent him to form a mission for the predominately Catholic workers. The mission area included the farmlands in Hoboken, Bergen Point in the south and the Hackensack meadows to the east. About 500 Catholics lived throughout this district that would eventually contain 20 parishes.

On Oct. 26, 1856, the Sunday after he was officially appointed pastor, Father Coyle celebrated his first Mass in one of the boarding houses in Bergen Hill. Two hundred people attended that Mass and the number continued to grow. Father Coyle wanted to name the parish St. Bridget's Chapel after his favorite Irish saint.

On Nov. 11 of that year, 12 lots on Clinton Avenue (now Hopkins Avenue) were purchased for \$1,800 where both a church and a school could be built. In only five weeks, the chapel was far enough along for Father Coyle



The parish was founded in 1856 for the Irish workmen employed on "Bergen Hill." Three hundred Irish laborers began work on the Erie Railroad tunnel that year. Father James Coyle, the first pastor at St. Joseph Parish, lived among the workmen, who slept in shacks near the site. This rendering appeared on the cover of the booklet for the anniversary Mass.

to celebrate Mass on Dec. 21. On Jan. 26, 1857, Bergen Hill's first parochial school opened on the second floor of the chapel and 20 parish children attended. Father Aloysius Venuta, a Sicilian-born priest, became the second pastor one month later.

A depression caused construction on the Erie tunnel to shut down, which brought violent riots between the Irish Catholic workers and so-called nativists. Father Venuta lived among the people and would mediate arguments between the workers and soldiers who were called to keep peace in the area.

In the year of turmoil and depression, land was bought on Baldwin Avenue, the current site of the parish. Father Venuta chose to rename the church St. Joseph—the patron of workingmen. The new church was built around the old one so that taking a Tinkles continued to be celebrated. In 1868, Bishop James Bayley blessed the cornerstone of the present St. Joseph Parish, which was, according to tradition, built from the same blue-gray stone of the Erie cut that the workers used to form the railroad tunnel.

In 1876, Msgr. Robert Seton, grandson of Saint Elizabeth

Seton, the foundress of the Sisters of Charity, was appointed pastor. During his time, there was an expanding economy in Jersey City that brought many new immigrants including Italians, Poles and Germans. Msgr. Seton completed work on the building, raised the stone tower and finished the interior. A convent for the Sisters of Charity was also built and the original parish school improved. In line with the tradition of great pastors, Father James Pagnotta was installed as

plays and operettas. I couldn't sing or dance so I wasn't in those but I was always involved," she laughed. "Those were beautiful times with great missions. The Church was just part of your life. I remember our crowning of the Blessed Mother and we wore our sodality blue capes. When some of us get together, we still talk about old times."

Through the years, Biondo has observed numerous changes in the parish community. "Life is changing and those that think life stays the same are in another world.

We built a foundation for Catholics who have gone out to suburbia and now live outside the city. The faith of the people is most important."

Biondo said St. Joseph Parish and school have taught her valuable life lessons. "St. Joseph's taught me about the importance of community and to be involved in the spiritual structure of the Church. It gave me a foundation and reached out and made life worthwhile. We had simple things but we had respect for each other."

(St. Joseph Parish is located at 511 Pavonia Ave., Jersey City, N.J. 07306. Information from "The Story of St. Joseph Church" by Dr. Barbara Petrick was used

St. Joseph, Jersey City

pastor in 1979, and continues to foster the communal spirit of St. Joseph Parish.

Kathleen O'Carroll Biondo, a parishioner at St. Joseph "since birth," has seen many trials and high points of the parish for 80 years. "I went to the grammar school and graduated in 1941," she said. "There was such a sense of community and everything revolved around the parish. Even though the students (of St. Joseph) went to all different high schools, we all bonded and had a link to the parish."

Biondo remembers the activities of her youth as ways she strengthened her faith. "We put on



Advocate photo - Ward Miele

THE HALF-CENTURY MARK—Most Rev. Edgar da Cunha, auxiliary bishop of Newark, left, was a special guest at a 50th anniversary dinner of the Serra Club of the Oranges held at Seton Hall University. Bishop da Cunha offered his congratulations to Rose Marie Deehan, club president, and Paul Tully, program chairman.

Nov. forum eyes 'Monks and the City'

SOUTH ORANGE — Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology at Seton Hall University (SHU) will present a lecture by Father Augustine James Curley, O.S.B. of St. Benedict's Prep in Newark Nov. 15 at 7:30 p.m., as part of its Archbishop Gerety Lecture Series.

Father Augustine's lecture, "Monks and the City—A Unique New Experience," will take place in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd, Immaculate Conception Seminary, in Lewis Hall on the main campus of SHU.

Open to the public, admission is free, but call-in registration is encouraged. Contact Kathleen Childers by phone at (973) 761-9016 or via e-mail at: theology@shu.edu for more information.

An alumnus of Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology, Father Curley became a Benedictine monk of Newark Abbey in 1984 and was ordained a priest in 1988. He is the director of libraries and archivist for Newark Abbey/Saint Benedict's Prep, where he also teaches religion.

Contact:
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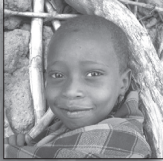

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Father Hanlon, chief presenter at the Immaculate Conception conference, center, is welcomed by, left to right, Msgr. Robert F. Coleman, seminary rector and Msgr. Robert J. Fuhrman, archdiocesan director of the Pontifical Mission Societies.

Seminary conference looks at the missions

BY WARD MIELE
Managing Editor

SOUTH ORANGE—At a formational conference last month at Immaculate Conception Seminary, men preparing for the priesthood learned first-hand about the vital worldwide missionary work of the Church.

The first-ever, two-day Church in Mission forum was held here at the seminary on the campus of Seton Hall University under the auspices of the World Mission Committee of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Pontifical Mission Societies of the Archdiocese of Newark. Attending the conference were Msgr. Robert Coleman, seminary rector; Msgr. Thomas Nydegger, vice rector and business manager of the seminary and the entire student body.

Msgr. Robert Fuhrman, archdiocesan director of the Pontifical Mission Societies, who also serves as pastor of Saint Gabriel the Archangel Parish in Saddle River, said the conference was designed to “expose the seminarians to this fundamental work of the Church and to familiarize them with the work of the Pontifical Mission Societies.” That was done, he added, “through the theological perspective.”

Msgr. Fuhrman was the first day’s speaker. The thrust of his comments was “the structure, purpose and history” of the Pontifical Mission Societies.

Its purpose, the monsignor explained, is to “develop in all people of God a ‘missionary conscience’ and understanding of our duty to support the universal needs of the Church.”

Citing the recent World Mission Sunday, Msgr. Fuhrman told the seminarians of how “the Church in the developing world deals with the realities of war, poverty, natural disasters, suppression of the Faith and outright persecution of the Church.”

Father Kevin Hanlon, M.M., Maryknoll Missionary, was the keynote speaker at the conference. He focused on the theology and mission as taught by the Church in light of Vatican II and more recent papal degrees. Father Hanlon spoke of the post-Vatican II era and how the pilgrim Church is missionary by its very nature.

Msgr. Fuhrman and Father Hanlon serve as consultants to the Bishops’ committee on World Mission.

An often-missing element in a seminarian’s education, according to Father Hanlon, is the Gospel’s missionary message of Jesus to “go out to all nations and teach and baptize them.”

Msgr. Nydegger said the conference was “well received” by the seminarians by giving them more “in depth” information on “the essence of the Church, what it should be and do.” The speaker, he added, “challenged” the men studying for the priesthood.

According to Msgr. Coleman, “because the whole Church is of its nature missionary and because the work of evangelization is so fundamental, there must be fostered in seminarians a special solicitude for the missions, in order that they in the future foster and sustain missionary initiatives among the people to whom they are sent to serve.” Such conferences, he added, “help the men with the mandate of the Gospel to go and preach to all the nations and become zealous about the work of their sisters and brothers in mission lands.”

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Maryknoll sponsors essay contest

MARYKNOLL, N.Y.—In an effort to encourage today's youth to explore their baptismal call to mission, Maryknoll is sponsoring its annual Student Essay Contest for grades 6 through 12.

Winners will receive nearly \$3,000 in scholarship money, as well as coverage in Maryknoll Magazine and Web site.

The essay should be written in English and between 500 and 750 words. Dec. 1 is the entry deadline. Winners will be announced in February. Instructions and a cover sheet are available at Maryknoll's essay contest Web page: www.maryknoll.org/essay.

"Continuing the Mission" is the theme for this year's contest. Entrants are to write from the perspective of a missionary explaining where they would go and do to share God's love with other people.



Sister Arline presents Michael Nunez, a student at St. Michael School, with his art certificate for the juried HCA fund-raiser. Also offering congratulations is Principal Linda Cerino. Pictured above is his illustration, which garnered an "honorable mention" award.

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Student's artwork to adorn Christmas cards nationwide

NEWARK—The artwork of St. Michael School's Michael Nunez will represent the Archdiocese of Newark nationwide on Christmas cards to be used as a fund-raiser by the Holy Childhood Association (HCA), Los Angeles.

Proceeds from the sale of Christmas cards will be used by HCA to support the Church's outreach to children in the missions.

Nunez, a seventh grader at St. Michael, received an "honorable mention" award for his artwork in the national fund-raiser. This year's winning designs were selected from among some 10,000 entries from elementary school children in Catholic schools, religious education and home school programs throughout the United States.

The original artwork, featuring representations of the Nativity story, will be displayed at the National Shrine of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Washington, D.C. during Advent and Christmas. Mass will be celebrated for the winners and their families on Dec. 14.

St. Michael School prides itself in following its mission to help the less fortunate. The K-8 student body often gives \$100 a week to HCA. Members of the school staff, including Maribel Cruz, mission moderator, stress the importance of sharing with others.

Sister Arline Zurich, HCA coordinator for the Archdiocese of Newark, noted that St. Michael School "ranks among the top-10 schools in the archdiocese in sacrifices and donations to HCA."

Sister Arline also noted all elementary schools in the Church in Newark are urged to enroll their students in the HCA's "Its Our World" program. Membership has been extended to Nov. 17.



Photo courtesy of Neal Mc Garrity

LIFE CHAIN—Members of the Respect Life group at Immaculate Conception Parish and Knights of Columbus Council Mary Immaculate 12769, both of Secaucus, recently formed a Life Chain outside of the church after a Sunday noon Mass. The Life Chain requested that participants hold pro-life messages and pray the rosary together. More than 20 Respect Life, Knights and family members took part.

Alert issued on 'priest' ads for weddings

AREA—The Archdiocese of Newark has issued an alert concerning “priests” advertising on the Internet to perform weddings.

According to Rev. Msgr. Robert E. Emery, J.C.L., vicar general, moderator of the Curia and Chancellor, such “priests” and a “bishop” recently offering to perform weddings “have

either left active ministry, have married or belong to a ‘Catholic Apostolic Church’ that is not part of the Roman Catholic Church. The marriage that these individuals officiate at are considered valid in the state where they occur, but the marriage is not valid in the Roman Catholic Church.”

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Making living with medications easier to swallow

ELIZABETH—Three new programs at Trinitas Hospital offer helpful information to the community about medications and record-keeping documents for their medications and immunizations.

Through "Ask the Pharmacist," Trinitas Hospital offers regularly scheduled appointments with staff pharmacists once a month. "The multilingual program gives

members of the community the chance to speak one-on-one with our pharmacists," explained Cheryl Krempe, RPh, director of the hospital's pharmacy. "The program fills a real need since people often look for an extra bit of security to understand all of the medications they take. We think that this program offers them that security."

Ask the Pharmacist is offered on the fourth Tuesday of every month, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Williamson Street campus. Meetings with Trinitas Hospital pharmacists are free of charge, by appointment only, by calling (908) 994-5984. Bring the current list of medications so that the pharmacists can review the list and offer advice on drug

interactions and possible duplication of drug therapies.

"We can also offer counseling on herbal and non-prescription medications, explain possible side effects of medications, and recommend adjustments in dosages and other treatment options," noted Leonardo Zoppa, pharmacy clinical manager.

Two other programs also help

community members keep medication and immunization information handy and organized.

The free Medication Organizer, in English and Spanish versions, provides a compact form to list medications, dosage and frequency, and name of healthcare provider and pharmacy.

"In our medication counseling sessions, we have seen that patients often take more than one prescription medication," explains Dr. Zoppa, adding, "this Medication Organizer provides them and their healthcare professionals with a handy reference tool that can be updated as prescription medications change."

Another useful organizer is the Adult Immunization Record, funded by a grant from the Trinitas Health Foundation. It is also provided free of charge in both English and Spanish.

"Very often, adults know exactly what immunizations their children have received and the dates those shots were given," explained Maribeth Robbiani, RN, MSN, director the hospital's Department of Outcomes Management. "But, when it comes to their own immunizations, such as tetanus shots or flu vaccinations, they often don't keep accurate records," she noted, adding, "the Adult Immunization Record Card makes it easier for adults to record the dates of vaccinations, immunizations and yearly flu shots as well. This record-keeping tool is also helpful for vital health information for those who travel outside of the United States."

Patients who visit Trinitas Hospital's inpatient units or its clinics may request an Adult Immunization Record Card from hospital or clinic staff members who can then assist in filling out the card.

Donor Network given donation

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP — The Mother Seton Council 5427 of the Knights of Columbus, in conjunction with the George Ruh family, hosted a Memorial Picnic to honor Ruh on the first anniversary of his death and to raise money for the New York Organ Donor Network. Ruh received a liver transplant through the network.

A check was presented by Mrs. Kathie Ruh, her son, Bryan, and daughter, Jennifer, to Juliet Michaud, manager of marketing and development for the Donor Network at a council meeting.

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MS patient a true inspiration

ALLENDALE—There was something very moving about the sixth race at Saratoga Race Track recently. It was named The Kevin Lawler Inspirational, because, say Kevin's friends, "that's what Kevin is, a true inspiration to us all."

Lawler's fellow alumni from Holy Cross College in Worcester, MA, Class of '63, had the race named after the former commercial real estate broker diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) in 1976, at the age of 35 and now a resident of the Allendale Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center.

"When any member of the staff here at Allendale is having a challenging day, Kevin knows just what to say to make them feel better," said Julie Cochrane, activities director at the Allendale Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center. "It is remarkable how easily he makes friends and how active and involved he is."

"Whenever classmates call or visit Kevin, they are amazed at how upbeat he is," said fellow alumnus Michael Toner.

Although Lawler could not be in Saratoga, alumni and their spouses totaling more than 80

were on hand, including Kevin's wife Anne who presented the winning trophy to the jockey in the Winner's Circle. The event was taped for Lawler.

Lawler keeps his mind as sharp as ever. "He attends quite a few of our programs," said Mary Stampleman, director of therapeutic recreation at the Allendale Community for Mature Living. "He goes to computer classes twice a week. He loves Scrabble and is an incredible player. He plays with friends, family, volunteers and staff. He even invented a card game called Arithmecards™ based on arithmetic formulas involving the first six digits of a telephone number. He plays that with some of the students who come to Allendale for intergenerational activities."

"We play the card game every Friday, using different classmates' phone numbers," said Toner. "When they call him, they are always awed by the way Kevin

manages to lift their spirits with his enthusiasm for life."

For Kevin's wife the Kevin Lawler Inspirational was an amazing experience. "The horse that won was called 'Heavenly Anna' and everyone bet on her because her name is like mine. Kevin's fellow alumni and their many years of friendship, kindness and generosity have kept our ship afloat, and words cannot express our thanks."

"When choosing a nursing home, we wanted something close to home," said Anne. "We looked at a lot of places before choosing the Allendale Community, where Kevin has been since January 2000. It is physically beautiful, and the people are all wonderful and professional. He's really been very happy there."

For more information about The Allendale Community for Mature Living, call (201) 825-0660 or visit the Web site at www.allendalecommunity.com.



Kevin and Anne Lawler at the Allendale Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center.

AIDS Museum exhibit opens

Nov. 11 at SHU

SOUTH ORANGE—The AIDS Museum exhibit will have its premiere opening Nov. 11 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Seton Hall University.

Held at the University Center Art Gallery, the exhibit focuses on artwork as a memorial and tool to educate people about AIDS.

"This is the 25th year of the AIDS pandemic, making it an opportune time to reflect upon the disease, educate people to help prevent the spread of HIV, reduce the stigma associated with people living with AIDS and support those working to find a cure," said Ashley Grosso, executive director for the AIDS Museum. The AIDS Museum hopes to be an important part of that process," he added.

The exhibit will run through Dec. 1. Admission is free but donations are being accepted.

For more information, directions to the exhibit and more on the featured artists visit www.AIDSmuseum.org or call Ashley Grosso, executive director for the AIDS Museum at (315) 416-7257.



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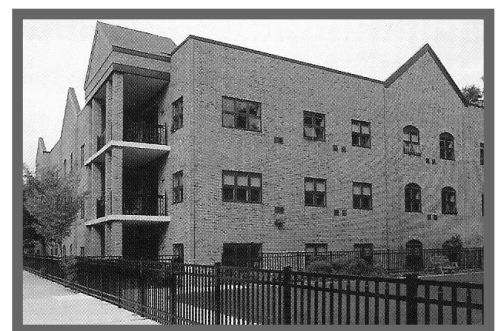
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Saint Peter's installs Fr. Robert Reiser

BY TRISH FITZPATRICK
Special to The Catholic Advocate



Father Robert E. Reiser

JERSEY CITY — Father Robert E. Reiser, S.J., was installed as the 26th president of Saint Peter's Prep, last month at the school's Mass of the Holy Spirit.

Over 900 people, including members of the student body, the faculty and staff, representatives of the board of trustees and the Jesuit Community, attended the Mass.

Father Reiser succeeds Father James F. Keenan, S.J., who served as president of Saint Peter's Prep for 12 years. Father Keenan is currently on a one-year sabbatical, awaiting his next assignment from the Provincial of the New York Province of the Society of Jesus. Father Reiser most recently served as the Assistant to the President of McQuaid Jesuit High School in Rochester, N.Y.

A native of Buffalo, N.Y., Father Reiser, 41, is a graduate of Canisius High School and Canisius College. He earned a B.S. in Accounting followed by advanced degrees from Fordham University (M.J., Philosophy), Weston Jesuit School of Theology cum laude (M. Div., Divinity), and Harvard Divinity School (Master of Theology). He also was awarded an M.S. in Education Administration from the University of Rochester.

Broadway stars perform Dec. 9



'PHANTOM' VOICES—Our Lady Mother of the Church, Woodcliff Lake, will stage "A Christmas Celebration; A Musical Experience of Joy, Peace and Love" on Saturday, Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m., in observance of the parish's 40th anniversary. Broadway performers will provide an Irish-American flavor for the concert. Ciaran Sheehan (left), who starred in over 1,000 performances in the lead role of the celebrated Broadway production "The Phantom of the Opera" tops the bill. Gay Willis, who performed the role of Christine in "Phantom," also will be featured. Tickets are priced at \$35 and are available at the parish, located at 209 Woodcliff Ave. Tickets also are available through www.TicketWeb.com (886-468-7619). Call the parish at (201) 391-2826 for more information.

'LIVING' SAINTS—Students at St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Cedar Grove were "living" saints at the All Saints Day Mass celebrated by Parochial Vicar Father Robert Gelinas. Father Gelinas presented each of the portrayed saints to the congregation, during his homily.



Grammy winners to visit Don Bosco

RAMSEY—Chanticleer, Grammy Award winning men's a cappella ensemble, will perform a benefit concert for Don Bosco Preparatory School on Saturday, Dec. 2, 8 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Parish in Hillsdale.

Chanticleer performs over 80 concerts in 22 states including appearances at Walt Disney Concert Hall, the Library of Congress in Washington, DC, the Cathedrals of Saint Louis and Philadelphia, and New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art.

San Francisco-based Chanticleer performs a varied and extensive range of vocal literature, spanning from Renaissance to jazz to gospel to bold, new music.

Sponsored by Don Bosco Preparatory High School, the concert is one in a series of Chapel Concerts that benefits performing arts programs and student scholarships. The holiday program will include arrangements of Gregorian chant, medieval and Renaissance music, traditional carols, and moving spirituals.

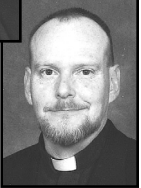
"We are so excited to bring such world-class talent to northern New Jersey," says Mrs. Toni Bilotti Cecere, Don Bosco's choral and concert director.

In addition to Chanticleer, Don Bosco Prep's Chapel Concerts will feature other world-class music and musicians, including Organist Gordon Turk, the New Jersey Youth Chorus, some of Broadway's finest performers, and many more. Tickets are \$45, \$30, \$20, \$12, and are available through Don Bosco's homepage www.donboscoprep.com/home.aspx by clicking the "Chapel Concert Series" on the left-hand side of the site; calling (201) 327.8003 (ext. 188); or visiting www.ticketleap.com.



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 (Never known to fail).
 Oh most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine splendor of heaven. Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the Sea, help me show me herein, you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3X). Holy Spirit you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine. The person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days. After 3 days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted. **A.D.**


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PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
 (Never known to fail).
 Oh most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine splendor of heaven. Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the Sea, help me show me herein, you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3X). Holy Spirit you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine. The person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days. After 3 days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted. **C.M.V.**

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Annual SFIC basketball festival to bounce at SHU gym

NEWARK — The fourth-annual Scholarship Fund for Inner-City Children (SFIC) Basketball Festival presented by Aeropostale Inc. will be held Saturday, Jan. 6, 2007, at Walsh Gymnasium on the campus of Seton Hall University in South Orange.

The first game of the festival

matches St. Benedict's Prep against Paterson Catholic at noon, while the second contest will feature St. Patrick (Elizabeth) battling Living Faith Christian Academy (Cherry Hill) at 1:45 p.m. The final game of the SFIC Festival has St. Anthony (Jersey City) battling Bergen Catholic (Oradell) at 3:30 p.m.

"We are extremely pleased to once again have a great group of schools, players and coaches supporting the Scholarship Fund," explained Bill Fitzpatrick, director of the festival and a trustee of SFIC. "This is always a great day for high school basketball and the proceeds go to providing scholarship for deserving young people."

The triple-header will showcase six top boys high school basketball teams in the state; three squads are returning to the festival, while the other three will be making their first appearance. The trio of St. Patrick, St. Anthony and St. Benedict have appeared in all three festival tournaments and those schools typically field strong teams.

St. Patrick, under coach Kevin Boyle, won its third Tournament

of Champions trophy in 2006, while Coach Danny Hurley's St. Benedict squad finished first in the prep division. Coach Hurley's St. Anthony team finished with a record of 26-3 last year.

The new teams, taking part in the festival, also figure to have strong squads for the competition. Bergen Catholic brings an exceptional team that was a quarterfinalist in the NJSISAA non-public North A group. Paterson Catholic has a number of experienced players and could be one of the surprise teams in New Jersey. Living Faith Christian Academy has been building its basketball program in South Jersey and comes in as a favorite to be ranked among the Top-20 programs in the state.

Proceeds from the festival go

to the SFIC, which was founded in 1983 and has raised over \$19 million to provide need-based scholarships to inner-city youngsters so that they may attend private or parochial schools.

"We have been a part of SFIC Basketball Festival for four consecutive years now," Hurley said. In addition to being the coach of the St. Anthony's basketball team, he also serves as Jersey City's director of recreation. "Our players look forward to the event. It is a way to help youngsters through a game that we really love. I always tell everyone that all the teams are winners that play in this festival."

SFIC Executive Director Lorraine Cunningham said she appreciates the strong support from the festival.

"These schools, coaches, players plus the fans have always been very supportive of SFIC and this festival," Cunningham said. "We are very thankful that with the funds raised from this event, we can provide much needed scholarships to inner-city families who desperately want their children to receive a high-quality education in a safe environment."

Visit the Web site at www.BasketballFestival.com or call the SFIC office at (973) 497-4279 for information on the basketball festival.

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Knights collecting food for the needy

GARWOOD—The Knights of Columbus are collecting canned and dry food goods, turkeys and hams for needy families.

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Felician College launches webcast radio station

RUTHERFORD—“Hello world, welcome to WRFC!”

With these words, Felician College last month launched its new student-run radio station. The computer-based station will webcast 24 hours with original programming and music.

On the drawing board for about 18 months, WRFC was designed to enhance the “Students First” philosophy of Felician College. While many “college” radio stations are located on college campuses, they are often not staffed by students at the college. “There was never a discussion about whether students would staff the station, both on-air and in support roles. The administration of the college always knew that having students on the air would make WRFC a unique experience for both the students themselves and their listening audience,” explained Professor Terry McAteer, chairman of the Department of Communications and WRFC faculty advisor.

Programming details are managed by communications majors Gyana Garcia and Keith Logan. Under the guidance of McAteer, they are in charge of scheduling and training the on-air staff in addition to reviewing public service announcements and planning their own radio shows.

Students are developing real, workable radio

skills with the help of two New York City radio professionals—John Montone, 1010 WINS morning street reporter, and Lee Harris, 1010 WINS morning anchor. Montone works with the students on their broadcasting skills, including program content, voice and production.

“This is a state-of-the-art facility that approximates a 21st century, digital radio station,” noted Montone, who is also a lecturer at Felician College and WRFC supervisor. “When the students decide to go into a career in broadcasting, it will not be foreign to them.”

Harris serves as design consultant for WRFC, advising the Department of Communications on equipment selection and student training. “College radio is a unique opportunity, with diverse program choices and no tight play lists,” Harris stressed.

Senior English major Vin Ardizzone developed one of the first radio shows for the inaugural webcast—“Monkey in a Leisure Suit.” He is earning college credits for developing content, selecting music, and recording voice tracks for his weekly program. The on-air staff will be webcasting in two-hour program slots, using music from their own collections and tracks legally downloaded from Internet sources.

WRFC is available anywhere in the world by clicking on the radio link at www.felician.edu.



Sister Theresa Mary Martin, Felician College president, prepares to launch WRFC with assistance from John Montone of 1010 WINS.

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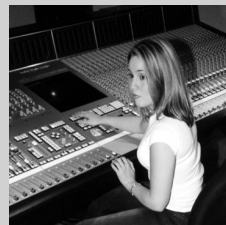
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