

Fatima message focus of annual rosary march

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

With rosaries in hand, marchers paraded through the streets of downtown Erie Oct. 9, bringing attention to Our Lady of Fatima and her message.

A line of about 150 people snaked through downtown as marchers prayed the rosary while another 50 people prayed the rosary inside St. Peter Cathedral for the 11th annual rosary march sponsored by the Erie Diocese's Blue Army, a chapter of the World Apostolate of Fatima.

"The purpose is all for Our Lady of Fatima and drawing attention to her message of praying the rosary," says John Walsh, vice president of the Blue Army. "It's no coincidence we have it in October."

The month of October is dedicated to the rosary, with Oct. 7 the feast day of Our Lady of the Rosary.

"We also try to have the march as near to the 13th as we can," Walsh says.

The 13th marks the anniversary

of a miracle attributed to Our Lady. On Oct. 13, 1917, more than 70,000 people witnessed the Miracle of the Sun in Fatima, Portugal.

Beginning at the cathedral, marchers processed through downtown with banners, a large wooden rosary and a statue of Our Lady of Fatima.

"She is very well-traveled," Bob Scherer, a Blue Army member, says of the statue. "She even goes to Clearfield for their rosary march."

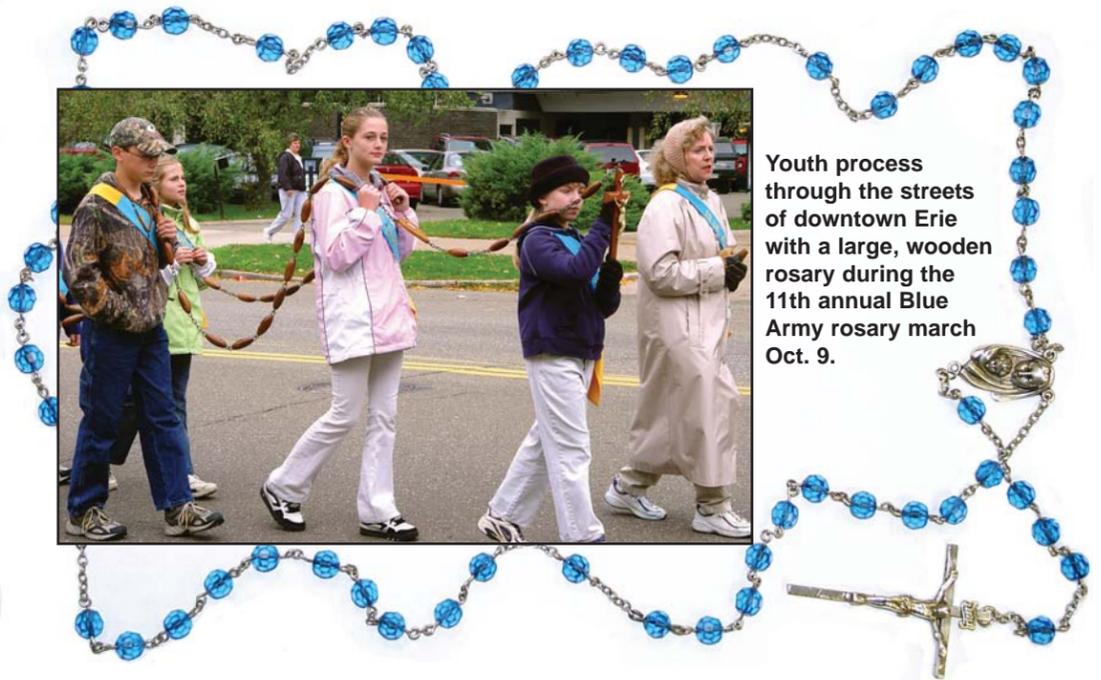
After praying the joyful, sorrowful and glorious mysteries, marchers processed into the cathedral for exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, investiture of the brown scapular and benediction.

The featured speaker was Fr. Jack Custer, dean of Ss. Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Pittsburgh.

"At the Annunciation, Mary could not have possibly known the depth of the mystery she was saying 'yes' to," Fr. Custer says. "It was because of her faith and trust in God that she said 'yes.' What is the mystery of the

FaithLife

Bi-weekly news bulletin of the Catholic Diocese of Erie October 23, 2005 www.ErieRCD.org



Youth process through the streets of downtown Erie with a large, wooden rosary during the 11th annual Blue Army rosary march Oct. 9.

Eucharist that we celebrate? It's about the humility of the Incarnation, about a God who became vulnerable, all because of Mary's 'yes.'"

World Apostolate of Fatima, USA
Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima
www.bluearmy.com

Erie Diocesan Blue Army Division
P.O. Box 311
Fairview, PA 16415-0311
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World Synod of Bishops on the Eucharist covers many topics

Catholic News Service

The first week of the Oct. 2-23 world Synod of Bishops on the Eucharist at the Vatican followed a long-standing tradition: Bishops from all over the world gave speeches all over the map. The press tended to view the assembly as a showdown debate on married priests, eucharistic sharing, Catholic politicians and Communion for divorced Catholics. The actual content of the first 30 hours of synod discussion included those topics, but was less dramatic than the headlines. The bishops, in fact, ranged far and wide in choosing subjects for their six-minute speeches on "The Eucharist: Source and Summit of the Life and Mission of the Church."

The topics included the quality of televised Masses, the shortage of priests, Communion in the hand versus Communion on the tongue, ministry to the sick, the Eucharist's connection to social justice and environmental issues, liturgical translations, Mass prayers with a missionary theme, the dehumanization of secular culture, priestly celibacy, the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist and the proper place of eucharistic adoration. And all that came in the synod's first two days.

While no one has a right to claim God's gifts, Catholics do have a right to receive the Eucharist from the Catholic Church, said Cardinal Julian Herranz, president of the Pontifical Council for the Interpretation of Legislative Texts and the Vatican's top expert on church law. Whether the faithful have a right to receive the Eucharist and, if they do, what



CNS photo from Reuters

Pope Benedict XVI delivers a speech during the first general session of the Synod of Bishops in the Paul VI audience hall at the Vatican Oct. 3.

The synod was to take up a number of issues pertaining to the Eucharist.

the church must do to ensure there are enough priests to celebrate Mass was a recurring topic of discussion. Italian Cardinal Angelo Scola of Venice, the synod's recording secretary, had opened the synod saying the Eucharist was a gift, not a right, implying that a lack of priests was a motive for prayer, not for changing the church's discipline on priestly celibacy to ensure greater access to the Eucharist.

A lack of priests coupled with people's great need for spiritual nourishment must prompt the church to be open to considering a role for married priests in the life of the church, said some members of the Synod of Bishops on the Eucharist. Coadjutor Bishop Arnold Orowae of Wabag, Papua New Guinea, told synod participants

that Catholics who live in remote villages did not have "the opportunity for frequent celebration and reception of the Eucharist." In his speech Oct. 6, he asked how these communities would then be able to make the Eucharist the source and summit of their lives as the church asks.

Cardinal George Pell of Sydney, Australia, said it would be a mistake for the Latin-rite Catholic Church to relax "the ancient tradition and life-giving discipline of mandatory celibacy" for its priests. Retired Ukrainian Bishop Sofron Mudry of Ivano-Frankovsk said that although married priests "kept the church alive" during 45 years of communist persecution in Ukraine, his church has found "endless" practical problems with supporting married priests

and their families.

Bishops from around the world will have to grapple with "a couple of contradictions" in order to allow the faithful to have more access to the Eucharist, said Archbishop Roland Minnerath of Dijon, France, the special secretary of the synod. He said talks during the first 10 days of the synod had shown that "on the one hand we are a church of the Eucharist, but on the other hand we seem to have fewer and fewer priests to celebrate it." The archbishop said another contradiction the faithful may be experiencing concerns the sacrament of reconciliation. He said the church says participation in Sunday Mass "is obligatory and confession is important, but we can't offer that to all of our faithful," because

there were not enough priests to offer confession or because priests were juggling too many duties and did not have time to offer the sacrament often enough.

When people sin, they break the bonds of friendship with God and with their brothers and sisters, which is why penance and reconciliation are needed for an honest participation in the Eucharist, said U.S. Cardinal J. Francis Stafford, head of the Apostolic Penitentiary, a Vatican court dealing with the sacrament of penance and matters of conscience.

Catholics need to give the same importance to the sacrament of penance as they do to the sacrament of the Eucharist if they are to deepen their relationship with Christ and the church, said Lithuanian Bishop Rimantas Norvila of Vilkauskis.

In a 14-page summary of the synod discussions Oct. 3-12, Cardinal Angelo Scola of Venice, recording secretary of the synod, offered members 17 questions to discuss in their small groups as they prepare proposals to be given to Pope Benedict XVI before the Oct. 23 close of the gathering. The questions arose from the content of 230 formal speeches, many of which showed the bishops disagreed on some very "delicate" points, as well as from the contributions of Catholic observers and representatives of Orthodox, Anglican and Protestant churches. Synod members "from every continent" spoke about "the worrying lack of priests," Cardinal Scola said.

Look for continued coverage of the world Synod of Bishops in the next issue of FaithLife.

News Briefs

U.S.

U.S. has resources to help at home and abroad, religious leaders say

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The United States not only has the resources but the responsibility to deal with both domestic disasters like hurricanes and “critical needs of the world’s poor and most vulnerable.” How Congress responds “should reflect our moral obligation to reach out to the poor and vulnerable,” said a Sept. 29 letter written by Catholic Relief Services president and CEO Ken Hackett and Bishop John H. Ricard of Pensacola-Tallahassee, Fla., chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on International Policy. “At the same time Congress responds generously and quickly to those who have lost so much, we ask that you continue to work to improve the lives and dignity of those who have so little around the world,” Bishop Ricard and Hackett said in the letter, sent to Senate conferees on a bill appropriating funds for foreign operations. The letter outlined the bishops’ position on several international funding issues before the Senate conferees.

Cardinal laments ‘decidedly mixed’ progress on respect for life

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The nation’s progress toward a culture in which every human life is respected and defended is “decidedly mixed,” Cardinal William H. Keeler of Baltimore said in a statement marking Respect Life Sunday, Oct. 2. “The ‘healing arts’ are moving beyond the field of healing and into an ethical minefield, where technical knowledge can be used as much to demean life as to serve it,” said the cardinal, chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities. As examples, he cited moves toward assisted suicide, “immoral and speculative research” on embryos to produce stem cells, the production and eventual destruction of embryos for in vitro fertilization and the invention by drug companies of “ever new ways to block human reproductive capacity.” Cardinal Keeler said, “As Catholics we know that the truth of human life is infinitely greater than any narrow view that dismisses some lives as disposable.”

Bishops to deal with liturgy, lay ministry, death penalty in Nov.

WASHINGTON (CNS) — When the U.S. bishops meet in November, major items on their agenda will include decisions on a statement about lay ecclesial ministry, a new text of Scripture readings for Masses with children and a new statement calling for an end to the use of the death penalty in the United States. The annual fall meeting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops will be held in Washington Nov. 14-17. Also on the agenda are the election of a new USCCB general secretary, the election of chairmen-elect for seven USCCB committees and approval of 2006 priorities, plans and budget for the USCCB. The proposed statement on lay ecclesial ministry, “Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord,” is intended as a “foundational document” on one of the most significant phenomena to emerge in the church since the Second Vatican Council — the rapid growth of lay ministerial leaders collaborating with the priests and deacons as an integral part of parish and diocesan life.

WORLD

Vatican releases Pope Benedict’s first book, ‘God’s Revolution’

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican joined with other publishers in an 18-nation release of Pope Benedict XVI’s first book as pope — a collection of his speeches from August events in Cologne, Germany. In his newest book, titled “God’s Revolution,” the pope “outlines the project for his pontificate,” according to a press release by the Italian publishers, San Paolo. The Italian edition hit bookstores in Italy Oct. 11, while the English edition published by Ignatius Press was expected to be ready

for release in the United States and Canada by the end of October. The 129-page volume “deals with the questions of Christian faith and the destiny of humanity, of the state of Israel, Islam, the legacy and the future of the church and society,” said the press release. But instead of any new pronouncements, the book is a collection of talks the pope gave during the Aug. 18-21 events in Cologne, including World Youth Day and meetings with representatives of Germany’s Jewish and Muslim communities. The texts include the pope’s complete remarks, not just his original written addresses.

Doctrinal head says church teaching authority is at service of Gospel

ROME (CNS) — The church’s teaching office is not an autonomous authority but operates at the service of the word of God and the Gospel, said U.S. Archbishop William J. Levada, head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. Archbishop Levada made the comments Oct. 10 in a talk at Rome’s University of Sant’Anselmo. It was his first major public address since assuming duties at the helm of the congregation, which is charged with promoting and protecting Catholic doctrine and morals around the world. Noting that this fall marks the 40th anniversary of the end of the Second Vatican Council, the archbishop said the council’s Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation (“Dei Verbum”) rightly emphasized the interconnectedness of several theological notions: revelation, the word of God, Scripture, tradition and magisterium. “Dei Verbum,” Archbishop Levada said, affirmed that the church’s teaching office “is not above the word of God, but serves it” by listening to it devoutly, guarding it scrupulously and explaining it with the help of the Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE

Beatified German cardinal ‘feared God more than man,’ pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — German Cardinal Clemens von Galen of Munster, an outspoken critic of Adolf Hitler’s regime, “feared God more than man,” Pope Benedict XVI said moments after the cardinal was beatified. “All of us, but especially we Germans, are grateful that God gave us this great witness of faith who shined the light of the truth in dark times and demonstrated the courage to resist tyranny,” the pope told German pilgrims Oct. 9. Cardinal von Galen, who served as bishop of Munster from 1933 until his death in 1946, was beatified in St. Peter’s Basilica during a Mass celebrated by Cardinal Jose Saraiva Martins, prefect of the Congregation for Saints’ Causes. At the end of the Mass, Pope Benedict entered the basilica, praying before the cardinal’s relics and greeting the thousands of pilgrims who participated in the beatification of the cardinal, known as the “Lion of Munster” for his defense of the church under Nazism and his denunciations of Hitler’s racial policies and of the regime’s program of medical experimentation on the sick and handicapped.

Senate confirms businessman as U.S. ambassador to Vatican

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Francis Rooney, a businessman with ties in Oklahoma and Florida, was confirmed by the Senate Oct. 7 to be U.S. ambassador to the Holy See. In a voice vote, the Senate agreed to confirm Rooney’s appointment along with the nominations of dozens of other people to posts ranging from assistant secretaries of various federal agencies to judges for the District of Columbia. Rooney is chief executive officer of Rooney Holdings, which includes insurance and construction companies. He also has been active in Oklahoma and Florida in charitable and community organizations including the Knights of Malta, an Oklahoma Catholic hospital’s strategic planning committee, the American Red Cross and the United Way. The post of Vatican ambassador has been vacant since Jim Nicholson became secretary of Veterans Affairs in January.

By the Way...



Jason Koshinskie

The response to the diocese’s collection for **Hurricane Katrina relief** has been overwhelming, to say the least. As of Oct. 17, more than **\$629,000** in donations has been forwarded to Catholic Charities USA. The funds will go toward Catholic Charities agencies’ emergency and long-term recovery efforts in the wake of both Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita.

The total so far shows a portion of the generosity of people throughout the diocese. Many Catholic schools, Knights of Columbus councils and other groups have done their own fundraising projects for service organizations such as the Salvation Army and American Red Cross.

Bishop Trautman recently received a letter from **Cardinal Crescenzo Sepe**, prefect for the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, thanking the people of the Erie Diocese for donations in 2004 to the **Pontifical Mission Societies** in support of new and young churches of the mission world.

“We are grateful for the support of \$110,423 to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, which offers assistance to 1,150 mission dioceses,” Cardinal Sepe writes. “The offering of \$1,297 for the Holy Childhood Association demonstrates the willingness of the young children in your diocese to be missionaries even in their youth.”

World Mission Sunday, celebrated this year on Oct. 23, universally encourages Catholics to offer prayer and support for the missionary task.

Pastoral Care Week will be observed Oct. 23-29. Please use this week to say thank you to the many chaplains and volunteer care givers throughout the diocese who provide pastoral care in hospitals, prisons, nursing homes and other settings. For more information on acknowledging our pastoral caregivers, visit www.pastoralcareweek.org.

On Oct. 24, Bishop Trautman will bless the new community center at **Christ the King Manor** in DuBois. The manor is a not-for-profit health-care facility affiliated with Catholic Charities of the Erie Diocese.

The Erie Diocesan Cemeteries’ annual **All Souls Day Mass** will be held Nov. 2 at Gate of Heaven Cemetery Chapel, 5711 West Lake Road, Erie, Mass will begin at 4 p.m. and will be celebrated by Bishop Trautman. The public is invited to attend. Contact the cemetery office at 814.838.7724 for more information or visit www.eriecdc.org.

Bishop Trautman will also celebrate Mass on Nov. 3 for deceased religious at 7:30 p.m. at the Mercy Motherhouse in Erie.

The **U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops** has unveiled its newly redesigned Web site at www.usccb.org. The conference’s Web pages provide a wealth of information on national and international church news, documents, ministries and evangelization, as well as family, laity, social justice and life issues.

Jason Koshinskie is editor of FaithLife. Contact him at JKoshinskie@erieRCD.org or 814.824.1171.

St. Stephen Parish Spaghetti Dinner
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Briefly

Gannon to host open house Nov. 6

Gannon University will host its annual Open House Sunday, Nov. 6.

Scholarship contests for prospective students will be offered at 9 a.m. in English, education, engineering, chemistry, biology and foreign language.

Also new to the open house is on-site admissions, which will allow up to 45 students to know, during the open house, if they have been accepted to Gannon. Advance registration is required for on-site admissions appointments.

From 1-4 p.m., Office of Admissions staff will meet with students individually to review their applications and transcripts. In order to be eligible to participate in the interviews, students must have scored at least 1,000 on the SAT (math and critical reading) or 21 on the ACT and have a 3.0 grade point average.

Other activities include an 11 a.m. Mass in the university’s Mary, Seat of Wisdom Chapel, 512 Peach St.

Registration will begin at 11:30 a.m. in the lobby of the Waldron Campus Center, 124 W. 7th St. A student and community services fair will be held in Hammermill Center from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Gannon University President Antoine M. Garibaldi will give welcoming remarks at 12:30 p.m.

For more information call 814.871.7240 or toll free 1.800.GANNON-U or log onto www.gannon.edu.

Youth rally, gatherings to be held Nov. 19

Join the youth and young adults from the around the diocese on Nov. 19 at “For the Life of the World: A Celebration of Christ’s Presence Among Us.”

The program is open to high school and college students, as well as young adult participants ages 18-40 and campus ministers.

Gannon University will host the events from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Don’t miss this day’s games, music, challenging presentations and hundreds of faith-filled members of today’s young Catholic church.

Those making presentations include: Bishop Donald Trautman; theatre troupe Dzieci; recording artist Sarah Hart; youth speaker Fr. Mike Woods; young adult speaker Paul Kelley; and campus ministry speakers Dr. Mary Anne Rivera, Sr. Charlotte Zalot, OSB, and Sr. Marilyn Schauble, OSB.

A \$20 registration fee covers lunch, T-shirt and presenters. Learn more from your campus minister or parish youth leader or visit the youth Web site at www.ErieRCD.org. Register by Nov. 1.

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Nov./Dec. Faith features Farrell

“We have the ability to help people make changes in their lives,” says Natalie Higbee, program coordinator of Project R.U.T.H., an outreach of Catholic Charities’ Prince of Peace Center in Farrell. “But they have to have what it takes to do it themselves. Lisa was ready to dream again.”



“Lisa” is Lisa Williams, a vibrant, caring, independent single mom busy working, attending college and raising her son, Michael. Thanks to the mentoring and housing provided through Project R.U.T.H. she is enjoying a second chance in life, a life in which she says she was once “as low as a person can go.”

The Nov/Dec edition of *Faith* also includes a look at the new *Why Catholic?* program being introduced throughout the Erie Diocese and a compelling personal story of one person’s return to the Catholic church. The magazine is expected to arrive at homes during the first week of November.

All households registered in the Erie Diocese should be receiving *Faith* magazine on a bi-monthly basis. If you are not receiving your free subscription, please contact the Office of Evangelization for Communications at 814.824.1160, toll free at 1.800.374.3723, or send an e-mail to circulation@FaithErie.com.

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- Rev. John E. Kozar, National Director
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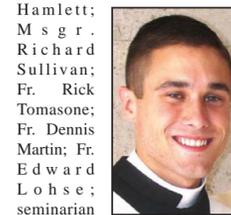
Joseph Campbell ordained transitional deacon

Joseph Campbell, a seminarian from the Erie Diocese and a student at the North American College in Rome, was ordained into the order of the diaconate on Oct. 6 at the Altar of the Chair in St. Peter’s Basilica.

Campbell was ordained a transitional deacon along with 20 of his classmates from around the United States. The ordination was conferred by Bishop Donald W. Wuerl of Pittsburgh, who is attending the World Synod of Bishops at the Vatican Oct. 2-23.

Campbell entered seminary from St. Andrew Parish, Erie. He is assigned to St. John the Baptist Parish, Erie.

A group of family and friends from the Erie Diocese attended the ordination. Those attending included Joseph’s parents, John and Dolores Campbell; his twin brother, Deacon Joseph Campbell; many of his brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews; Fr. Chris



Joseph Campbell

Hamlett; Msgr. Richard Sullivan; Fr. Rick Tomason; Fr. Dennis Martin; Fr. Edward Lohse; seminarian Barron; and others.

In a brief appearance, Pope Benedict XVI greeted and blessed the ordinands along with their guests.

“He has such a warm smile,” says Dolores Campbell. Deacon Joseph Campbell, along with his brother Deacon James Campbell and Deacon Marc Solomon are scheduled to be ordained diocesan priests on June 23, 2006 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie.

Development Director: Immediate opening for a Development Director with a Clarion Area Scholarship Fund. The development director is responsible for programs and activities necessary to advance Catholic education within the Clarion County Catholic School System consistent with its educational vision. Responsibilities include community outreach, marketing, interfacing with parents, teachers and school administrators, and recruiting of applicants. Applicants must be proficient with Microsoft Word and Excel. Applicant should have good communication skills. Marketing and teaching experience preferred. Salary commensurate with experience. All inquiries kept confidential. Inquiries and resumes can be sent to:

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A Cenacle of Prayer for America

will be held on Sunday, November 6, 2005 at 7:00pm at St. Agatha’s Roman Catholic Church 353 Pine St., Meadville, PA

by Father Frances Geremia of the Scalabrin Religious Order from Montreal, Canada.

In the Spirit of the Marian Movement of Priests, the cenacle will consist of a Holy Hour with rosary followed by Holy Mass.

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Contact for questions: Sue Rusillo 814-337-8165 or St. Agatha’s Church office 814-336-1112.

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Abortions in Pa. down for 2004

HARRISBURG — The number of abortions performed in Pennsylvania decreased by 2.4 percent in 2004. According to data recently made available by the state Department of Health, there were 36,030 abortions in the commonwealth in 2004, compared to 36,908 in 2003.

“Our conference welcomes any decrease in the number of abortions,” said Pennsylvania Catholic Conference (PCC) Executive Director Dr. Robert J. O’Hara Jr. “We are confident that the number will continue to decline if women are presented with accurate information about the life growing within them and the resources available to help them continue their pregnancy and raise their babies.” As in previous years, the most abortions were done on women ages 20-24, unmarried and early in pregnancy. Nearly 92 percent of abortions were done in just seven counties: Allegheny, Bucks,

Chester, Dauphin, Delaware, Lehigh and Philadelphia.

“There is clearly a need for a program like Pennsylvania’s Real Alternatives,” according to PCC’s Social Concerns Director Francis J. Viglietta. “This program offers women practical help in bringing their babies to term by providing counseling support as well as material assistance,” said Viglietta.

Real Alternatives is administered by the Department of Public Welfare and offers confidential assistance via its toll-free number (1.888.LIFE.AID) to all women, regardless of income, both before and after childbirth. In 2004, it served 17,570 women.

In 2004, slightly more than 46 percent of the abortions were performed on women who have had one or more previous abortions.

— Pa. Catholic Conference
www.pacatholic.org

Sr. Kathleen Marie Leap, RSM, dies at 65

Sr. Kathleen Marie Leap, RSM, died Oct. 11, 2005 at the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse. She was born on June 9, 1940, in Pittsburgh, daughter of the late Joseph F. and Della E. Wittmann Leap.



Sr. Kathleen Marie Leap

She was in her 45th year of religious life. On Feb. 2, 1960, she entered the Sisters of Mercy in Titusville from St. Margaret Parish, Greentree. She professed perpetual vows on Aug. 13, 1967, and in 1987 celebrated her silver jubilee.

She earned a B.S. in education from Mercyhurst College and two M. A. degrees, one in education from Edinboro University and

another in pastoral ministry/liturgy and worship from Boston College. She also received certification in administration and principalship from Duquesne University.

Sr. Kathleen began her ministry as an elementary teacher in the Erie diocesan schools of St. Luke and St. George, Erie; St. Catherine, DuBois; and St. Walburga, Titusville. She also served for 10 years as principal of St. Catherine School. She went into parish ministry, serving as director of religious education at St. Peter Cathedral, Erie, and Ss. Simon and Jude, Pittsburgh. She was pastoral associate at Holy Cross Parish, Fairview. Since 2000, she has served as the director of the Mercy Institute at Mercyhurst College.

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FaithLife

October 23, 2005

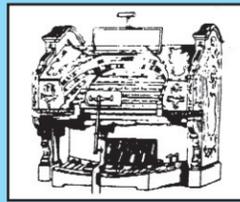
World Synod of Bishops covers many topics

Local seminarian in Rome ordained deacon

Fatima message focus of annual ROSARY MARCH



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