



# FaithLife

Bi-weekly news bulletin of the Catholic Diocese of Erie October 9, 2005 www.ErieRCD.org

## Cathedral Prep student shows heart in fundraiser

By Jason Koshinski  
FaithLife editor

John Hill didn't know Phil Sonntag all that well – they were high school peers and had mutual friends. John is a student at Cathedral Prep while Phil was at McDowell.

"We only met once or twice," John says. "I'm close with his cousins." But their few encounters never affected how saddened John was to hear of Phil's death.

Phil Sonntag, a 17-year-old senior, died Jan. 10, a day after he collapsed during a CYO basketball game at St. George's in Erie. Doctors later discovered he had a rare genetic disorder associated with cardiac arrest.

But the fact that the school did not have a defibrillator on the premises bothered John Hill.

"It could have saved his life," he says.

Now, thanks to John, St. George has an automated external defibrillator (AED). So do eight other Catholic schools in Erie.

The Cathedral Prep sophomore has raised more than \$16,000 to put AEDs in schools that previously did not have them. John was recognized for his efforts at a Prep assembly Sept. 28.

"I knew I wanted to do something," John says. "But I didn't know what I wanted to do or how I wanted to do it."

So he started writing letters. Lots of them. To family, friends, businesses, foundations, anyone he could think of. He wrote a little about himself, what happened to Phil and that he wanted to place AEDs in Erie's diocesan schools.



Photo by Jason Koshinski

John Hill, left, poses with David and Diane Sonntag whose son, Phil, died in January of sudden cardiac arrest. John has raised more than \$16,000 to place defibrillators in Erie's parochial schools.

"I told them I was working two jobs this summer and I would be willing to donate \$150 from what I earned toward this cause," John says. "I asked them to match my donation."

After sending out about 200 letters, the donations started to pour in. "We got an amazing response rate," he says. "Most of them matched. Others went over, and some donated what they could."

Ten percent of what John earned this summer as a lifeguard and from bussing tables soon turned into thousands.

"We were unaware of what John was doing until he and his mother showed up one day with a check. It was for \$5,000," says Christine Schuyler of St. Vincent Center's Project Heart

Start. Project Heart Start, one of the center's foundations, helps purchase at-cost AEDs. "Later that month he brought another check for \$3,000. Then another for \$2,300. It just keeps coming."

As of Sept. 28, John has helped raise \$16,305 for the Project Heart Start.

At the assembly, St. Vincent recognized John by presenting him with its first-ever Young Philanthropist of the Year Award. St. Vincent also unveiled plaques that will be placed next to the AEDs throughout the schools. The plaques show Phil Sonntag's picture and note John's work.

St. Vincent is nominating John for the Children's Miracle Network Miracle Maker of the Year Award for Pennsylvania. While the AED project is not

### Project Heart Start/John Hill Project

Schools that received AEDs from donations to the original Sonntag Memorial Fund include:

- ♥ St. George
- ♥ Cathedral Prep
- ♥ Villa Maria Academy
- ♥ Our Lady's Christian
- ♥ Erie Day School

Schools designated for AEDs with funds donated to the John Hill Project/Sonntag Memorial include:

- ♥ Our Lady of Peace
- ♥ St. Luke
- ♥ St. Gregory
- ♥ Sacred Heart
- ♥ St. John/Holy Rosary
- ♥ St. James
- ♥ Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
- ♥ St. Andrew
- ♥ Cathedral Center

Fundraising is ongoing to place AEDs in St. Boniface and Holy Family schools. The Knights of Columbus of Blessed Sacrament Parish are pursuing the purchase of an AED for the school.

Donations can be sent to:

**John Hill Project**  
c/o Cathedral Prep  
225 W. 9th St.  
Erie, PA 16501-1367

**St. Vincent Foundation**  
Project Heart Start/  
John Hill Project  
232 W. 25th St.  
Erie, PA 16544

Checks sent to either place should be made out to Saint Vincent Foundation with Project Heart Start/John Hill Project on the subject line. Specific school requests can also be noted.

directly involved with the Children's Miracle Network, Patton says John has certainly done a lot to improve the lives of children in the area.

John received a standing ovation from the assembly, which included classmates, teachers, his family, media and Phil's parents, David and Diane Sonntag.

"The award is wonderful and all, but that's not the reason I did this," John said, speaking from the auditorium stage. "We should all focus on Phil as a person, a really wonderful person, mourn his loss and look forward to the future so we don't have to lose anyone else."

Cathedral Prep Headmaster Fr. Scott Jabo says John took a tragedy and turned it into some-

thing good by seeing a need and addressing a problem. He also says he didn't expect such generosity from a student.

"I never expected him to do something like this," Fr. Jabo says. "I wouldn't expect an adult to do this. It says a lot about his moral character. And he's very humble."

As a lifeguard, John says he thankfully has not had to administer CPR or use a defibrillator but is happy they will now be available at area schools. He's hopeful that creating awareness about sudden cardiac arrest and placing AEDs in schools will help avert future tragedies.

"You want to be able to give people peace of mind and also be able to save lives," he says.

## Allegheny Forest Ministries offers youth retreat amid nature

By Jason Koshinski  
FaithLife editor

As a youngster, Darrell Meyers was introduced to camping at the Allegheny National Forest. He loved it.

Now he wants to pass along that love of the forest with the love of his faith.

A youth minister at Our Lady of Peace Parish, Erie, Meyers has been involved with the senior high religious education and confirmation programs at the parish for seven years.

"I think that there's something about getting away and out in the forest," he says. "It's only natural to bring God into a setting like that."

Meyers is president of Allegheny Forest Ministries, a newly formed non-profit organization looking to provide a spiri-

tual retreat center for youth amid the setting of the lush Allegheny. Allegheny Forest Ministries operates the newly purchased Kinzua Youth Center, a rustic lodge situated on seven acres of forest land adjacent to the Allegheny and surrounded by seasonal camps.

The youth center is located in rural McKean County, between Warren and Bradford, just off Route 59 near the intersection of Route 770. The center is close to the Kinzua Dam and the Allegheny Reservoir. Camping, hiking, skiing and snowmobiling are available nearby.

"It's less than 100 yards to the Allegheny National Forest," Meyers says. "There are no camps allowed on forest property, so this is a very valuable piece of land."

The youth center has more

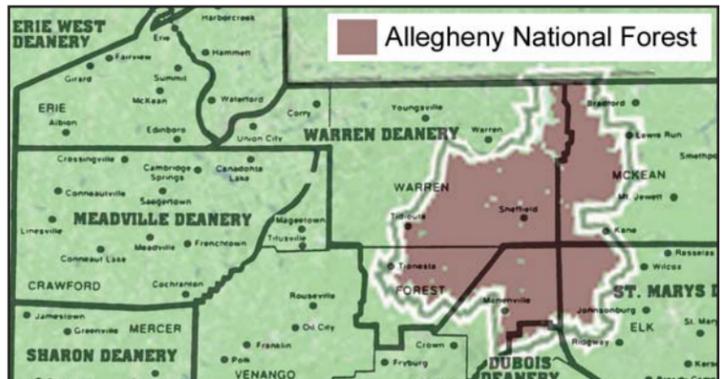
than 4,500 square feet of space, including residential dorms. The facility, which can accommodate 30 to 50 kids at one time, is ideal for youth retreats and small group gatherings, Meyers says. The center is offering use of the facility on a limited basis beginning this fall.

Because of its location, Meyers says the center is ideal for youth groups throughout the Erie Diocese and western New York.

"Some groups come from as far as three and four states away just to visit the Allegheny," Meyers says.

The hope is to offer service opportunities, as well as a place for a retreat, he says.

"The forest is an area that is in constant conflict," Meyers says. "There's no better place for kids to work on their spiritual conflict than in an area that is in constant natural conflict."



For more information on Allegheny Forest Ministries and Kinzua Youth Center including a brochure, contact:

**Darrell Meyers**

**Phone: 814.835.9013**

**Fax: 814.838.8570**

**E-mail: [nmeyers@adelphia.net](mailto:nmeyers@adelphia.net)**

Allegheny Forest Ministries is also looking for donations of furniture, bedding, household items, yard equipment and other items. For a complete list, contact Darrell Meyers.

## News Briefs

### U.S.

#### Artist says shroud's image left on cloth at moment of Resurrection

LOS ANGELES (CNS) — World-renowned Los Angeles liturgical artist Isabel Piczek earned accolades for her breakthrough theory "opening new doors of research" at the International Shroud of Turin Conference in Dallas Sept. 8-11. The conference drew 160 scientists, artists and physicians from around the world to share the latest research on the shroud, believed by many to portray a full-length image of the crucified Christ. A Catholic and also a theoretical physicist, Piczek believes the image was left on the shroud at the moment of Christ's resurrection. Using a statue she created as a visual aid that measures one-third the actual size of the man depicted on the shroud, Piczek presented her explanation of the image's "concealed bas-relief effect." She theorizes the image of the shroud was transported onto a straight and taut linen above and below the man's hovering body. "One of the puzzling mysteries of the shroud is that the image transported to an absolutely straight, taut surface is not flat. It is semi-three-dimensional, very much the same as a bas-relief is in art," explained Piczek.

#### Bishops' anti-poverty program distributes nearly \$9 million

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Catholic Campaign for Human Development, the U.S. bishops' domestic anti-poverty program, has awarded nearly \$9 million to support local projects that work to eliminate the root causes of poverty in the United States. This year an additional \$150,000 in special grants will go to groups helping with the immediate hurricane relief effort and to assist those groups in aiding Katrina victims to make plans for their long-term recovery. Grants of \$50,000 each will go to the Pacific Institute of Community Organizations, the Industrial Areas Foundation, and the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now. Over the years, CCHD has provided grants totaling more than \$280 million to more than 7,000 projects designed to attack the root causes of poverty. CCHD grants are awarded to projects and organizations that seek long-term and permanent solutions to address and eliminate the concerns of the poor. This year grants were received by 315 local projects in 49 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

### WORLD

#### Before his death, pope prayed to 'go to the house of the Father'

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope John Paul II's last words before his death were "Let me go to the house of the Father," according to the Vatican's official account of his final hours. The pope murmured the phrase in Polish "with a very weak voice and mumbled words" to those gathered at his bedside six hours before he died April 2, the Vatican said. The detailed chronology was contained in a special 223-page supplement to the *Acta Apostolicae Sedis*, the official record of Vatican documents and acts, released Sept. 19. Most of the account deals with previously published information about the pope's deteriorating medical condition, the actions taken at his death, the arrangements for his funeral and his final testament. The volume also contained more than 150 pages of condolence messages and testimonials that arrived from political and religious leaders around the world.

#### Article based on diary says German cardinal became pope with 84 votes

ROME (CNS) — On the fourth ballot of the April 18-19 conclave to elect a successor to Pope John Paul II, then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger went from

being five votes shy of election to having seven more than the 77 needed. The count, along with a few details of the brief conclave leading to the election of Pope Benedict XVI, was published Sept. 23 in *Limes*, a respected Italian journal usually focused on geopolitics. On each of the four ballots, the magazine said, the prelate receiving the second-highest number of votes was Argentine Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio of Buenos Aires. *Limes* said its information came from the diary of an anonymous cardinal who, while acknowledging he was violating his oath of secrecy, felt the results of the conclave votes should be part of the historic record. The journal said it confirmed the diary's count with other cardinals.

#### Ranks of lay people making commitment to Benedictines swell

ROME (CNS) — While religious orders worldwide continue to deal with declining numbers, the ranks of lay people making a commitment as Benedictine oblates are swelling. Although speakers said lay people have had a spiritual association with Benedictine monasteries for centuries, the Sept. 19-25 World Congress of Benedictine Oblates in Rome was the first international gathering sponsored by the order. Some 300 people representing more than 25,000 oblates associated with close to 1,200 Benedictine monasteries around the world attended the meeting. Oblates live with or are associated with the Benedictines but do not make vows. The largest group of delegates came from the United States, which has at least 10,000 oblates, said Lavern Hayworth, an oblate from Oregon's Mount Angel Abbey and the lay leader of the North American oblate association. Despite the declining number of Benedictines, she told Catholic News Service, "oblates are spreading Benedictine spirituality, and it is touching thousands of people around the world."

#### Synod of Bishops to review liturgical issues, emphasize Sunday Mass

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI presides in October over the Synod of Bishops on the Eucharist, an assembly that will review liturgical issues, emphasize the importance of Sunday Mass and mark the close of the "Year of the Eucharist." More than 250 bishops from every continent will attend the Oct. 2-23 synod to discuss the theme "The Eucharist: Source and Summit of the Life and Mission of the Church." Earlier this year, Pope Benedict shortened the assembly and changed the format to include more group discussion and less speech-giving in response to long-standing criticism of the synod process. The synod will take an in-depth look at many pastoral aspects of the Eucharist, then formulate conclusions that are passed on to the pope for possible use in a later document. The synod's function has always been advisory, and many observers will be watching the October session to see if the new pope expands that role or gives the synod additional responsibilities.

### PEOPLE

#### Vatican announces formally that pope won't preside at beatifications

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — While the Vatican continues studying theological and pastoral issues surrounding the rites of beatification and canonization, Pope Benedict XVI will preside only over the canonization ceremonies, the Vatican said. A formal announcement of the change, which Pope Benedict instituted at the beginning of his pontificate, was published Sept. 29 in *L'Osservatore Romano*, the Vatican newspaper. The communique from the Congregation for Saints' Causes said that while the study of the rites continues, Pope Benedict will preside over canonizations. But beatifications, "which are still a pontifical act, will be celebrated by a representative of the Holy Father, who normally will be the prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes," Cardinal Jose Saraiva Martins. "The rite of beatification will take place in the diocese which promoted the cause of the new blessed or in another suitable location," including the Vatican, with the approval of the Secretariat of State, it said. Normally, it said, the beatification should take place in the context of the Mass or Eastern Catholics' Divine Liturgy.

## By the Way...



Jason Koshinskie

The proposed building project at **St. Leo Parish** in Ridgway got a huge shot in the arm recently with a \$500,000 pledge from the **Denny and Rose Heindl Family Foundation**. The Heindls' gift is in honor of their two granddaughters, **Kelly and Katie Zamoski**.

The project calls for providing handicapped access to the entire church facility, a new kitchen, a basketball court, a new parking lot, restrooms and a rotunda. Total cost for the project is \$2.5 million. This is the first expansion to St. Leo's since the 1940s when the church was rebuilt after a fire.

A Ridgway native, Denny Heindl is also part owner of the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Local communities from Worldwide Marriage Encounter and the Serra Club sponsored the third annual **World Priest Day** reception Sept. 27. **Matt and Sherry Sweny** hosted the evening at their summer home near Waterford. Retired Bishop Michael Murphy joined the many priests and deacon couples in attendance and enjoyed an evening of good food, fellowship and musical entertainment.

The **11th annual diocesan rosary march** is this weekend, Oct. 9, at St. Peter Cathedral. Those joining in the march are asked to gather outside the cathedral at 2 p.m. For those unable to participate, the rosary will be prayed inside the cathedral while the march is taking place.

Want to hear a good vocation story from one of the diocese's newly ordained priests? **Fr. Joseph Dougherty** of St. Luke Parish will reflect on his vocation to the priesthood from 7-9 p.m. on Oct. 13 at the monthly Catholic Young Adults gathering at Blessed Sacrament's basement meeting room.

Bishop Trautman will celebrate a 100th anniversary Mass for the **Catholic Daughters of America** on Oct. 16 at **St. Thomas the Apostle Parish** in Corry. Mass time is 10 a.m.

**Fr. Tom Hoderny** of St. Francis Xavier Parish in McKean was featured in the Sept. 28 Food section of *Erie Times-News*. The article talks about the pastor's culinary experiences, family recipes and his kitchen philosophy.

"I've always been a big Shaker fan — do it simply and well, to the praise and honor of God," Fr. Hoderny tells the newspaper. Also published in the article is his mother's recipe for butter 'n' bean soup. To read the full story, visit [www.GoErie.com](http://www.GoErie.com).

Our neighboring **Diocese of Buffalo** is celebrating the 150th anniversary of its St. Joseph Cathedral. Sesquicentennial highlights include a concluding Mass celebrated by Cardinal Edward M. Egan of the Archdiocese of New York. For more information about the cathedral and the sesquicentennial celebration, visit [www.buffalocathedral.org](http://www.buffalocathedral.org).

Jason Koshinskie is editor of *FaithLife*. Contact him at [JKoshinskie@erieRCD.org](mailto:JKoshinskie@erieRCD.org) or 814.824.1171.



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## Briefly

### Chancery memo

The Diocese of Buffalo has advised of its concerns regarding an advertisement sent to a number of clergy and lay people in the Buffalo area and elsewhere, selling subscriptions to a publication called *Catholic Family News*. The advertisement purports to be from a Monsignor J. Esposito and bears a Buffalo return address. The Diocese of Buffalo has indicated that there is no active or retired priest of the diocese by that name. Further, the advertisement contains a claim of support purporting to be from a Bishop John Cotter of Barrie, Ontario, but the Diocese of Buffalo has determined there is no Roman Catholic bishop by that name, active or retired, in Barrie, Ontario. The diocese cautions that the mailings and the publication are not associated with the Diocese of Buffalo and do not have approval. If further information is required, contact should be made with the Office of the Bishop of the Diocese of Buffalo at (716) 847-5500. — *The chancery*

Kevin Gochachak was diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, a progressive, permanent disease that weakens all of the body's muscles. Despite the grim prognosis, Kevin's faith in God pushed him to not only lead a normal life but excel in all areas.

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### Diocese announces stewardship days

Please join us for Diocesan Stewardship Days Oct. 25 at Sacred Heart Parish in St. Marys and Oct. 26 at St. Mark Catholic Center in Erie.

Fr. Daniel Mahan from St. Louis Parish in Batesville, Ind., will be the keynote speaker. He is the author of *More Than Silver or Gold: Homilies of a Stewardship Priest*.

Who should attend? We encourage all priests, deacons, administrators, school principals, directors of religious education, parish and finance council members, stewardship committee members, youth ministers, members of small Christian communities and all others interested in embracing stewardship as a way of life to come.

For more information or to register, contact Joseph Hoag, director of stewardship and development at 1.800.374.3723 ext. 192 or 814.824.1191 or e-mail [JHoag@ErieRCD.org](mailto:JHoag@ErieRCD.org).

*The Erie Renaissance Singers*  
in concert  
Saint Peter Cathedral  
10th and Sassafras Streets  
Sunday October 16, 7:00 pm  
Carolyn Brock, Conductor  
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## SSJ announce *Courage to Come Back* honorees

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania have announced the ninth annual *Courage to Come Back* honorees. They are: Michael Cass and Kevin Gochachak, Burger King youth awards; Rob Kocur, physical rehabilitation; and Julie Van Volkenburg and Raychel Vendetti Adiuori, general medicine. This year's winners will be recognized at the Ninth Annual *Courage to Come Back* dinner Oct. 12 at the Erie Maennerchor. Tickets are available for \$30 each by contacting Kristina Huber at 814-836-4202.

An academic and athletic stand-out, **Michael Cass** had a stroke just days before his 15th birthday while doing spring conditioning for varsity football. Despite his physical limitations and setbacks, he has not only come back but has worked to help others do the same.

**Kevin Gochachak** was diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, a progressive, permanent disease that weakens all of the body's muscles. Despite the grim prognosis, Kevin's faith in God pushed him to not only lead a normal life but excel in all areas.



Michael Cass



Kevin Gochachak



Rob Kocur



Julie Van Volkenburg



Raychel Vendetti Adiuori

**Rob Kocur** suffered a spinal cord injury and became a quadriplegic as a result of a sandlot football game. Instead of feeling sorry for himself, he finished a bachelor's and master's degree, excelled in wheelchair athletics and was nominated twice for a Rhodes Scholarship.

**Julie Van Volkenburg** was always active in the community from high school through adulthood. She developed breast cancer six years ago and had a recurrence a year ago. She drew strength from these challenges and through it all continued to support her McDowell Intermediate students, worked on the Ophelia Project, the Trojan Watch Program, helped with after school tutoring for at-risk students and coordinated a mentoring program for teen girls with students from nearby colleges.

Literally by accident, **Raychel Vendetti Adiuori** learned that she had cancer and then had to have a full, above the knee amputation. She endured a lot of embarrassment but was determined to beat the disease and help other kids. She graduated from Penn State-Behrend and is a weekend anchor and reporter for WSEE-TV.

The *Courage to Come Back* has a two-fold purpose: to honor individuals who have shown remarkable courage in overcoming adversity and to raise funds to support various ministries and community service projects of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

Nominations are being accept-

ed for the 2006 *Courage to Come Back* Awards. Nominees must reside within the thirteen counties of Northwestern Pennsylvania and have demonstrated extraordinary courage in overcoming illness, injury, chemical dependency or economic adversity.

"We're looking for those individuals in our own community who have beaten the odds, who have overcome incredible obstacles and persevered," said Sr. Margaret Ann Hardner, SSJ. "It's those people — the ordinary people who refused to give up in the face of illness, injury or other adversity who represent *courage* in its truest form. They are the heart of *The Courage to Come Back*."

Come join us for our monthly speakers' series and bring a friend!

Captivating presentations, good food, fellowship and thought-provoking discussions about matters of faith in the modern world

Coming January 2006:  
**Dr. Ray Guarendi**  
*Laughter: The Sanity of Family*  
Wed., Jan. 11, 7:30 p.m.  
Dr. Ray Guarendi is a father, clinical psychologist, author, public speaker and a radio host. He has been a regular guest on national radio and television, including *Oprah*, *Scott Ross Prime Time*, *700 Club*, *Gordon Elliot*, and *CBS This Morning*.  
Call 452-2982 or visit [www.sjtoesbol.org](http://www.sjtoesbol.org) for more information

Join us for a wine & cheese reception following each presentation.

MATTERS OF TRUTH SPEAKERS' SERIES: Explaining the Faith in the Modern World

Fr. Larry Richards, Pastor of St. Joseph Church Bread of Life Community and popular international speaker, will discuss the power and mystery of the Eucharist, the source and summit of our Catholic faith — Wed., Oct. 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Brenda Newport, Executive Director of the Women's Care Center, will explain the center's pro-life approach to healing hearts and saving lives in our community every day — Wed., Nov. 9 at 7:30 p.m.

All presentations will be held at the

St. Joseph Community Center  
147 West 24th St., Erie

\*Guests are encouraged to bring a baby item or an item of women's clothing for clients of The Women's Care Center on Nov. 9.

**St. Brigid Church Annual Parish Dinner**  
October 23 • 12:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.  
McCrory Social Hall  
967 Chancery Lane, Meadville

**Dinner menu:** Roast beef or turkey, homemade mashed potatoes, vegetable, cole slaw or apple sauce, rolls and butter, beverage, homemade pies

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# Msgr. Raymond O. Meier dies at 94

Msgr. Raymond O. Meier, 94, John XXII Home, 2250 Shenango Valley Freeway, Hermitage, died Sept. 23, 2005 at his residence. He was born Dec. 1, 1910 in Sharon, son of the late John Francis and Dora Ellen Kahl Meier.



Msgr. Meier

Msgr. Meier attended St. Joseph Parochial Grade School, Sharon High School and was a 1928 alumnus of Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie. He earned a bachelor's degree from St. Bonaventure University in 1932 and completed seminary studies in 1936 at Christ the King Seminary, Olean, N.Y. He was ordained a priest on May 21, 1936 at St. Peter Cathedral, Erie, by Bishop John Mark Gannon.

Msgr. Meier celebrated his first Mass on May 24, 1936, in his home parish of St. Joseph, Sharon. In 1984, Pope John Paul II named him a Prelate of Honor to His Holiness with the title monsignor.

Msgr. Meier began his priesthood as a parochial vicar at St.

Agatha Parish, Meadville, from 1936 to 1942. Shortly after the start of WWII, he petitioned the bishop to enlist in the U.S. Army Chaplain Corp. He served as a captain and chaplain for the Army from 1942 to 1946. He was stationed in the South Pacific from 1943 to 1945 and was the recipient of the Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster. He became the parochial vicar at Sacred Heart Parish, Erie, following his discharge in 1946 and became pastor of Holy Cross Parish, Brandy Camp, and its mission parish of Guardian Angel, Coal Hollow, in 1948. He was appointed pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish, McKean, in 1955 and served until 1964 when he was appointed pastor of St. Ann Parish, Erie. In 1974, he was appointed pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Oil City, where he served until his retirement in 1986.

He remained active during his retirement, residing at St. Joseph Parish, Sharon, serving on the bishop's delegate for senior clergy from 1986 to 1992. He also served briefly as temporary parochial administrator of St. Eusebius Parish, East Brady, in 1992 and as chaplain of John XXII Home from 1997 to 2002.

# Sr. Agnes Therese Schroeck, RSM, dies at 91

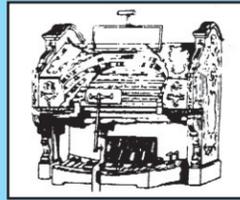
Sr. Agnes Therese Schroeck, RSM, 91, died Oct. 1, 2005, at the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse. She was in the 68th year of religious life. Born March 30, 1914, in Erie, she was the daughter of the late Frank and Juliana Heberle Schroeck. On July 2, 1937, she entered the Sisters of Mercy at Mercyhurst, Erie, from St. Joseph Parish, Erie. She professed perpetual vows on Aug. 16,

1943. In 1965, she celebrated her silver jubilee; in 1988, her golden jubilee; and in 1998, her diamond jubilee. She graduated from Mercyhurst Seminary and attended Mercyhurst College. During her life, Sr. Agnes Therese served as a cook and food service director at Mercyhurst College, St. Justin Convent and the Vincentian Home, Pittsburgh; the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse, Titusville; and DuBois Hospital. She also served as a receptionist at the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse in Erie.



Sr. Schroeck

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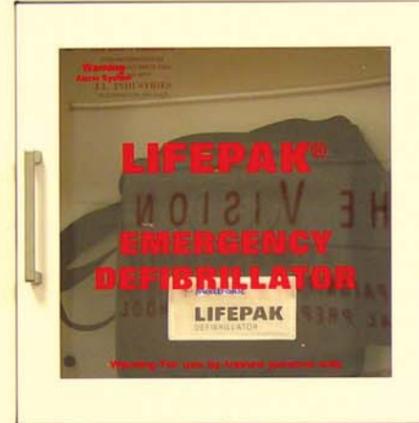
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Bi-weekly news bulletin of the Catholic Diocese of Erie

# FaithLife

October 9, 2005



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**Allegheny Forest Ministries offers youth retreat amid nature**



**Sisters of St. Joseph announce *Courage to Come Back* honorees**