



WHAT'S HE LOOKING AT?

Mercyhurst Prep gets \$3 million makeover.

SEE STORY BELOW

New marriage rite takes effect this month.



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FaithLife

3rd week of Advent

Father Jamie Power will preside at Advent Vespers Dec. 11 at 4 p.m. at St. Peter Cathedral in downtown Erie. The Cathedral Children's Choir will lead the singing.



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BI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

December 11, 2016

VOCATION NEWS

Clergy members visit preschool class



Benedictine Brother Canice McMullen, left, and Deacon David Whiteford recently visited Bridget Roberts' four-year-old preschool class at St. Marys Catholic Elementary School in St. Marys. They talked about their vocations and the kids showed off a caterpillar that counts the number of days they've been in school.

Benedictine oblates welcomed



The Benedictine Sisters of Erie welcomed six new initiates into the Oblate Way of Life during vigil prayer this fall in the chapel at Mount St. Benedict Monastery in Erie.

Pictured in the front, seated from left, are: initiates Andreina Alvarado of Erie, and Bonnie Johnson of Cherryfield, Maine; and Benedictine Sister Ann Hoffman, oblate co-director. Standing in the back, from left, are: initiate Karen Wishner of Rocky River, Ohio; Benedictine Sister Dianne Sabol, oblate co-director; and Benedictine Sister Anne Wambach, prioress. Initiates not pictured are: Monica Charles of Greenville, N.C., Christine Nord of Glenside, Pa., and Ginny Slichter of Pottstown, Pa.

Pittsburgh native enters postulancy



Kathy McCarthy, a native of Pittsburgh and a former L'Arche worker in Erie and in Calgary, Canada, entered postulancy at Mount St. Benedict Monastery in Erie this fall. Postulancy is the first phase of monastic formation.

McCarthy, second from left, is pictured with Benedictine Sister Marilyn Schauble, vocation director; Benedictine Sister Anne Wambach, prioress; and Benedictine Sister Stephanie Schmidt, postulant director.

CLERGY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bishop Lawrence Persico makes the following clergy appointment:

- The Very Rev. Richard J. Toohey, V.F., parochial administrator, St. Luke Parish, Youngville, and St. Anthony Parish, Sheffield, effective immediately. This appointment is in addition to his pastorate at St. Joseph, Warren.

Retirement: Msgr. Joseph V. Wardanski retires as chaplain at Saint Mary's Home East, effective Dec. 31, 2016.

Church pushes for end to physician-assisted suicide

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities has called for increased efforts and "renewed vigor" to stop legalized physician-assisted suicide after the practice was approved by voters in Colorado and the District of Columbia City Council.

Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York urged Catholics to join medical professionals, disability rights groups and others "in fighting for the authentic care" of people facing terminal illness.

"The act of prescribing a fatal, poisonous dose, moreover, undermines the very heart of medicine," Cardinal Dolan said in a statement released in November. "Doctors vow to do no harm, and yet assisted suicide is the ultimate abandonment of their patients."

His concern comes after voters in Colorado passed a physician-assisted suicide measure that was on the ballot Nov. 8. The law also allows insurance companies to refuse treatment of pa-

tients they consider terminal. Colorado became the sixth state with a so-called "right-to-die law," joining Washington, Oregon, California, Vermont and Montana.

In Washington, D.C., City Council members in a second vote Nov. 15 approved the "Death with Dignity Act" that permits physicians to legally prescribe the drugs to patients who have been deemed mentally competent and who have received a terminal diagnosis of six months or less. Under the measure, third parties are allowed to administer drugs used in the procedure. The bill goes to Mayor Muriel Bowser to veto it, sign it or let it become law without any action on her part. If it becomes law, it would be subject to congressional review before it takes effect.

"Every suicide is tragic, whether someone is young or old, healthy or sick," the cardinal added. "Our inherent human dignity does not wane with the onset of illness or incapacity, and so all are worthy of protection."



Sarah Steele speaks during a news conference this fall in the New Jersey State House Annex in Trenton about her battle with terminal brain cancer and the fact that she is alive 10 years after she was only given months to live.

INTO the FUTURE

Mercyhurst completes \$3 million project

BY MARY SOLBERG | FAITHLIFE

When Mary Poppins hits the Mercyhurst Preparatory stage next April, she'll be flying in her inimitable fashion while simultaneously heralding cutting edge educational opportunities in the Diocese of Erie.

Thanks to new rigging and a plethora of other upgrades to the Erie school's Performing Arts Center, the famous nanny won't just walk across the stage; theater students will be able to whisk her through the air.

Three million dollars in renovations were completed throughout the school last month, providing the latest innovative design and technology. Mercyhurst Prep President Ed Curtin calls the changes "an investment" in students preparing to live and work in a fast-paced, high-tech world.

"For the next 90 years, here's who we are," Curtin says. "What we have done is to help each student be as successful as they can be. We want them to be the best version of themselves."

The renovation project—titled "Next 90"—involved seven separate areas, including the Performing Arts Center, the library/research center, a DREAM Lab, the dining hall/community room, the chapel and campus ministry, a faculty suite and the lobby.

All but two of the areas have been named after donors who contributed to the project. Other naming opportunities remain available to help offset the overall cost. The school is conducting fundraisers and is offering engraved sponsor name plates on the back of seats in the Performing Arts Center.

"The projects are, for the most part, funded by donations," says Lisa Nietupski, director of advancement. "Donations of all sizes are appreciated."

The Performing Arts Center, at a cost of \$1 million, got new stage rigging with a fly system, acoustical treatment, climate control, aisle lighting, advanced audio/visual projection, and an LED lighting system with more than a million color combinations.

"It's absolutely the latest technology," says Art Martone, chair of the Creative Arts Department. "I'm thrilled because now it's hands-on for stu-



Photos by Mary Solberg

Above: Mercyhurst students Jon Reddinger and Tatum Yusz join Art Martone, chair of the Creative Arts Department, at the newly renovated Performing Arts Center.

Right: Sean Baer, director of Mercyhurst's technology programs, takes a peek at a new MakerBot 3D printer.



dents. Before, there were lights and curtains, but safety-wise, they were not accessible to students. Now we have an automated system."

The Betsy and Bill Vorsheck Library and Research Center offers print and digital collections, private meeting rooms, LED TV screens, a lounge and technologically enhanced work space.

The Bill and Audrey Hirt DREAM Lab is a step into the future, with nine touch screens, four interactive screens, two video walls, 40 laptops and five MakerBot 3D printers. Other features include a laser engraver, 2D and 3D scanners, and a conference room with 16 ceiling mics.

According to Sean Baer, chair of

technology, "This is a fun room to be in. This allows students to hone the skills they need, no matter what career path they may choose."

The hum of printers and scanners can be heard throughout the DREAM Lab, with students finding space for private work and collaboration.

Back at the Performing Arts Center—with a glow emanating from the new light board—students gather to talk about current and future stage productions, for which Mercyhurst has become well known.

"It's all amazing," says Tatum Yusz, a senior in the school's dance company. "It's incredible that we now have a space to match how great the performing arts are here at Mercyhurst. It'll give the students a big opportunity."

Newsmakers



Snippets of Catholic headlines and stories from around the world
from Catholic News Service

■ Pope recognizes the martyrdom of Oklahoma priest

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Francis has recognized the martyrdom of Father Stanley Rother of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, making him the first martyr born in the United States.

The Vatican made the announcement Dec. 2. The recognition of his martyrdom clears the way for his beatification.

Father Rother, born March 27, 1935, on his family's farm near Okarche, Okla., was brutally murdered July 28, 1981, in a Guatemalan village where he ministered to the poor.

He went to Santiago Atitlan in 1968 on assignment from the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. He helped the people there build a small hospital, school and its first Catholic radio station. He was beloved by the locals, who called him "Padre Francisco." Many priests and religious in Guatemala became targets during the country's 1960-96 civil war as government forces cracked down on leftist rebels supported by the rural poor.



Father Stanley Rother is pictured in an undated file photo.

■ Catholic Home Missions awards more than \$9 million in grants

WASHINGTON (USCCB)—The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Subcommittee on Catholic Home Missions approved \$9.2 million in grants to assist 84 dioceses and parishes across the country. The subcommittee's grants are funded by donations to an annual collection, the Catholic Home Missions Appeal, known as the National Needs Collection in the Diocese of Erie.

"Grants from Catholic Home Missions are vital for many dioceses in the United States to provide spiritually for their flocks," said Archbishop Paul D. Etienne, Archbishop of Anchorage, Alaska, chairman of the subcommittee. "The support of this collection means that our

neighbors can experience the love and mercy of God through the church." These grants assist dioceses and parishes that would otherwise struggle due to difficult geography, impoverished populations and limited resources.

■ Emergency crews still assisting fire victims in Gatlinburg

GATLINBURG, Tenn. (CNS)—The wildfires that left a swath of destruction in and around the city of Gatlinburg last month caused at least 13 deaths, more than 50 injuries, and tens of millions of dollars in property damage. Dozens of residents and visitors to the tourist destination still are missing. Three people who suffered serious burns were transported to Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville.

As of midday Dec. 2, the city of 5,000 residents still was closed down, with only emergency personnel allowed to enter as well as residents and property owners on a limited basis. "I know of seven families in our parish that lost everything," said Carmelite Father Antony Punnakkal, pastor of St. Mary Catholic Church, located only yards from spreading flames. The church was spared. Knoxville Bishop Richard F. Stika has been working with volunteers from around the diocese to get assistance to the Gatlinburg and Pigeon Forge communities. On Dec. 1, the bishop announced a \$25,000 grant for fire victims through the Diocese of Knoxville's St. Mary's Legacy Foundation. The \$25,000 grant is in addition to \$735,000 that the St. Mary's Legacy Foundation will be distributing to charities and nonprofit groups throughout eastern Tennessee in 2017.



Father Arthur Torres, associate pastor at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Knoxville, Tenn., assists volunteers Nov. 29 in unloading items donated for victims of the wildfires that ravaged the Great Smoky Mountains region.



Editor's Notes

Mary SOLBERG

Besides lighting a Christmas tree and unveiling the Nativity crèche at the Vatican, Pope Francis holds an annual raffle to benefit those in need.

The pope raffles off gifts that have been given to him from various dignitaries and visitors. This year, one person will win the first prize: a red Opel Karl, a German-made, five-door hatchback car. Other prizes include a professional racing bike, a wristwatch, a hammock, and a coffee machine.



Opel Karl being raffled off.

Tickets are only 10 euros—about \$11 in American currency. For the first time, tickets are available online at www.vaticanstate.va. Winning tickets will be drawn Feb. 2, 2017, and published on the website.

The only catch: prizes must be claimed in Rome. If anyone wins from our diocese, and would like to donate their prize, *FaithLife* would be happy to connect them to deserving sisters or seminarians living in the Eternal City.

December was all about celebration when I was growing up. Not only were my six brothers and sisters and I excited about Christmas, but there were three birthdays to remember.

This year is a particularly special one, though, because my father would have celebrated his 100th birthday on Dec. 9.

Sympathies to Joyce Kulyk on the passing of her husband, Mark Kulyk, on Nov. 25. For 25 years, Mark and Joyce were involved with

Worldwide Marriage Encounter and presented numerous weekends in western Pennsylvania. They held several Marriage Encounter leadership roles in the Diocese of Erie and elsewhere.

Mark was an energetic volunteer, having served on the boards of many groups, including Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Erie and Villa Maria Academy. With Joyce, he was a charter board member of The Catholic Foundation. He will be missed.

It's been a busy fall for volunteers at the Thrifty Threads ministry at Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Edinboro.

Not only do hundreds of people shop there every week for discounted clothes and other items, but the former church in which it is housed just got a significant face-lift.

Cynthia Kuhn, store manager, recently gave me a tour.

Surrounded by some of the 30 volunteers who assist with the ministry every week, I got a chance to see the new carpeting and freshly painted walls. There are now rooms set aside for dishes and small electronics.

Thrifty Threads, located at 128 Sunset Drive in Edinboro, is open Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Funds that are raised benefit the parish Social Concerns Ministries.

Elisa Konieczko, Ph.D., a professor of biology at Gannon University, was among three members of the American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB) to produce three different videos that premiered at the organization's annual meeting this month in San Francisco.

Konieczko's film peers inside the cells of live mice and rats, using a recent technology called sub-cellular intravital microscopy.

Her amazing video will be posted soon at www.ascb.org/past-cell-dance-winners.

Mary Solberg is the editor of *FaithLife*. Email: msolberg@ErieRCD.org Call 814-824-1171 Twitter: @ERIERCDsolberg

BONDING with GOD

Teens challenged by concept of freedom



Guest Commentary
Mary Claire Stark

It can be difficult to have a strong relationship with God, especially during the teen years. There are so many distractions and temptations causing us to steer from

God's plan of salvation. My relationship with God right now is fairly moderate. I pray every day and go to church every Sunday, but sometimes I tend to get angry at him when things do not go the way I want them to go. I know that this is something that I need to work on. Most of the time, though, I can talk to God like I would a close friend.

If I really get into it, I can have a really long, meaningful conversation with him. Although I can speak with God, I find it hard to love him completely and above everything else because I haven't really "met" him. For example, it's hard to love God more than my parents or my siblings because I haven't really seen him or felt him physically touch me.

By the time I graduate from high school, I want to get along very well with God. I trust God completely, so I know he has great things planned for me.

I want to be able to give my whole self to God and give him his rightful praise. Whatever vocation I pursue, I want to give something up for God without any hesitation. Maybe by then my relationship with him will become an unbreakable bond. I also want to be a great example as a Catholic and help others discover God.

As a high school student, I know I am capable of following these steps: to get to know God better on a daily basis:

- Read both the Old Testament and the New Testament.
- Read motivational books, such as *Minute Meditations for Each Day*, which my mother gave me, or the lives of the saints.
- Listen to religious podcasts, such as those featured on the iPhone app Laudate.
- Meditate, in complete silence, for 10 to 15 minutes.

The greatest challenge facing my peers

and me is the concept of freedom. Most of my generation believes that freedom is doing what you want, when you want. This has given the appearance that anything goes. Many think that if God wants us to be happy, then we can do whatever we want to make ourselves happy.

I believe that this excessive freedom and lack of discipline has caused major sins, including premarital sex, alcoholism, abortion, greed and envy, and total lack of charity.

St. John Paul II gives the best definition of freedom: "Freedom consists not in what we like doing, but in having the right to do what we ought." In other words, we can choose to do bad, but that means we would be choosing against happiness.

We must always remember that our internal moral compass only points toward the good.

Mary Claire Stark, 14, is a freshman at Mercyhurst Preparatory School in Erie. The youngest of eight children, she is a swimmer and enjoys running. She is a member of St. Luke Parish, Erie.

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Christmas Eve Mass at St. Peter Cathedral
 Christmas Eve Mass will be broadcast live Dec. 24 beginning at 11:30 p.m. on WJET-TV, Erie. Also, the Midnight Mass will be simulcast on Gannon University's WERG radio and Latrobe's WAOB radio.



EVENTS

DuBois Central Catholic celebrates Advent

DuBOIS—The annual Family Advent Celebration at DuBois Central Catholic will be held Dec. 11 at 1 p.m. in the school auditorium, located at 200 Central Christian Road, DuBois. Middle and high school students will perform both choral and instrumental selections.

The middle school's drama club also will present the play, "The Good News." Those attending are asked to bring a family sized tray of treats to share for the social in the cafeteria following the performance.

Also at DuBois Central Catholic, students in kindergarten through fifth grade will offer a musical presentation Dec. 18 at 2 p.m. in the school gym. A social will follow in the cafeteria. On Dec. 21 at 9 a.m., pre-school students will present "The Many Shapes of Christmas" in the auditorium.

Hurst North East to host Christmas concert

NORTH EAST—Ring in the holidays with the Mercyhurst University Concert Choir and Carpe Diem Women for the "Magnificat and Holiday Carols" concert Dec. 14 at 7 p.m. in St. Mary's Chapel at Mercyhurst's North East campus.

A traditional cookie and punch reception will immediately follow the concert. This event is free and open to the public; reservations are not required. For more information, call 814-725-6277.

Shalom Christmas Concert planned in DuBois

DuBOIS—The public is welcome to celebrate the Christmas season at the Shalom Christmas Concert Dec. 18 at 1 p.m. at the Paul G. Reitz Theater, 36 E. Scribner Ave., DuBois. Admission is free. Catholic parishioners in Clearfield County are organizing the evening. For more information, contact Judy Smart at 814-637-5930 or Rich Kenawell at 814-771-7932.

Diocesan Study Week scheduled Jan. 9-12

ERIE—Anyone involved in religious ministry is invited to Diocesan Study Week Jan. 9-12 at St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie. The theme for the week is "Embracing Transitions in Parish Ministry Today."

Father Anthony Ciorra, vice president for Mission and Catholic Identity at Sacred Heart University, Fairfield, Conn., is the guest presenter.

For more details, go to www.erieceled.org.

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New marriage rite takes effect this month

FAITHLIFE staff report

Brides- and grooms-to-be may worry about matching formal wear and coordinating the details of their wedding reception, but the Catholic Church this month is introducing a new marriage rite that puts the focus squarely on the sacramentality of marriage.

Beginning Dec. 30, the revised Order of Celebrating Matrimony replaces the former marriage rite in the Catholic Church. In addition to a revised English translation, the rite encourages greater participation of the entire assembly.

"Marriage is a sacramental celebration, one which signifies a commitment to live more fully for the other," says Matt Clark, administrator of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Erie.

This fall, priests, deacons, music directors, wedding cantors and parish wedding coordinators in the Diocese of Erie have been learning more about the new rite and its objectives. On Feb. 22, another workshop will be held at Immaculate Conception Church in Clarion.

"It has been received pretty well," Clark says. "We have found that even Catholics often lean toward a secular way of celebrating marriage. The church is asking people to think

about the sacrament of marriage, as with all sacraments, as a reflection of our relationship with God."

Among the more significant changes are the inclusion of a more thorough explanation of the theology of marriage, as well as the addition of a "Gloria," which signifies a festive celebration.

Other changes include: a formal greeting of the couple and the assembly that acknowledges Christ's presence; additional Scripture options and the requirement that one specifically speak about marriage; a sung acclamation following the consent (vows) of the couple; and the inclusion of the names of the couple in the Eucharistic prayer.

"This rite encourages inclusiveness, equality and engagement," Clark explains, "as does the liturgy in general."

As a result, the rite anticipates a single liturgical procession that may include friends and family, parents and the bride and groom, followed by a gathering song to unify the assembly and direct them to prayerful celebration. The tradition of fathers

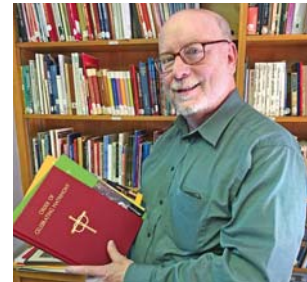


Photo by Mary Solberg

Matt Clark, administrator of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Erie, holds the new edition of the Order of Celebrating Matrimony.

escorting daughters to the altar is still permitted, but the rite shines a light on the relationship of the couple to God, to each other and to those in attendance rather than solely on the relationship of father and daughter.

Several options from centuries-old Hispanic Catholic rites—including an exchange of coins and a blessing and placing of a veil or cord over the couple during the nuptial blessing—also are included in the new rite.

Last summer, the Vatican's Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments approved the revision of rite. The Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions (FDLC), for which Clark serves as vice chair, has conducted national presentations and published aids on the rite for couples and clergy.

OBITUARY

Sister Bernadette Lorei, OSB

'Sister B' devoted her life to teaching children

Benedictine Sister Bernadette Lorei, 89, died Nov. 22 at Mount Saint Benedict Monastery in Erie. She was in her 71st year of religious life.

A native of St. Boniface Parish, Hammett, Sister Bernadette graduated in 1944 from St. Benedict Academy; she entered the Benedictine Sisters of Erie that same year. She made her first vows in 1946, followed three years later by her perpetual monastic profession.

Sister Bernadette held a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Villa Maria College, and was an elementary teacher for 48 years, most of them at St. Mary's School, Erie. She served as principal there for a time, and then was secretary in the years directly preceding the school's closing.

She was lovingly known as "Sister B." She also taught in several other Erie diocesan schools: Sacred Heart and St. Joseph, both in Sha-

ron; St. Stephen, Oil City; St. Michael, Fryburg; and Mount Calvary, Erie. With the closing of St. Mary's School in 1994, Sister Bernadette undertook internal ministry in the community's infirmary, cooking and serving meals for infirm residents, and assisting them as needed. She maintained her commitment to the infirm by visiting residents and offering comfort and peace to the aged and the ill. At the time of her death, Sister Bernadette was engaged in the ministry of prayer and presence.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Albert and Eilanora Trott Lorei; three brothers, Msgr. Louis



Sister Bernadette Lorei, OSB

H. Lorei, and Charles and Alfred Lorei; and three sisters: Loretta Meyers, Sister Anita Lorei, SSI, and Florence Krump.

Besides members of her Benedictine community, she is survived by three sisters: Cecilia Schneyer and her husband, Jack, of Long Island, N.Y., Marie Mifsud of Grove City, and Suzanne Kania of Erie; two brothers, John Lorei and his wife, Evelyn, of Marion, Iowa, and Joseph Lorei and his wife, Marge, of Erie; one brother-in-law, Earl Meyers of Tidouette; and many nieces and nephews.


Services and visitation were held at Mount Saint Benedict Monastery. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Nov. 30, with interment the following day at Trinity Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Benedictine Sisters of Erie, 6101 East Lake Road, Erie, Pa 16511.

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PHOTOS from AROUND the DIOCESE

Email news items to: FaithLife@ErieRCD.org

Check out more photos at www.ErieRCD.org/atd.asp



Prep students, faculty and staff experience mercy



ERIE—More than 600 faculty members, staff and students at Cathedral Preparatory School celebrated All Saints Day Nov. 1 with a Mass at St. Peter Cathedral. Following Mass, these students and Father Jason Feigh, campus minister, proceeded through the holy door in silence, reflecting on the gifts of mercy, faith and redemption. Both senior Kevin Bello and sophomore Alex Kolodyzhak say that the holy door has been a light for the community during the Holy Year of Mercy.

Knights of Columbus congratulate soccer champions

BROOKVILLE—Knights of Columbus Council #3966 of Brookville recognized 29 young men and women from the Brookville Area Soccer League who competed in this year's annual Youth Soccer Challenge Competition. Ten young people advanced to the district championship.

Pictured, seated from left, are: Alayna Haight, Lauren Knapp and Grace Park. Standing, from left, are: Mike Tattersal, Knights chairman; Zackkary Wolfe, Zack McKendree, Gannon McMaster, and Richard Bowser, Knights field agent. Other winners not pictured were: Kaitlin Bowser, Lani Songer, Kellan Haines and Noah Peterson.



Students thank donors at blood drive



CLARION—Avery Faller, far right, gathers with her fourth-grade classmates from Immaculate Conception School in Clarion after creating a banner to thank donors who attended a combined blood drive and bone marrow/stem cell registration this fall. The event was in memory of Avery's mother, Colleen Faller, who was diagnosed with leukemia in February and died this summer.

OLC teacher wins Golden Apple



ERIE—Preschool teacher Jill Hall of Our Lady's Christian School in Erie received Edinboro University's Golden Apple Award as Teacher of the Year. She was nominated by the Costa family and was presented the honor from Edinboro University's Mary Jo Melvin, Ph.D.

Santa visits St. Timothy Parish



CURWENSVILLE—The Altar and Rosary Society and students from St. Timothy Parish hosted a breakfast with Santa event Nov. 5 as part of the annual Curwensville Home for the Holidays celebration. Proceeds benefited the Father James McKe Memorial Scholarship Fund. Pictured with Santa are the children of Richard and Dawna Wheeler: Ada, Tess and Chet.

Freshmen support 'Socks of Love'



ST. MARYS—As part of their freshman retreat, the Elk County Catholic High School Class of 2020 collected items to benefit the "Socks of Love" program. The items that were collected will be packaged in pairs of socks to be handed out as care packages for the homeless. This service program was part of the Diocese of Erie's Family Fest '16. Pictured with some of the donated items are freshmen Holly Kucenski, Caryn Smith, Sophie Neubert and Marley Sorg.

Deceased religious remembered



ERIE—Bishop Lawrence Persico celebrated the annual Mass for deceased women religious and clergy Nov. 2 at the Sisters of Mercy chapel in Erie. Pictured, from left, are: Sister Mary Hermann, SSJ, president, Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania; Bishop Persico; Sister Susan Doubet, OSB, leadership team member, Benedictine Sisters of Erie; and Sister Mary Ann Bader, RSM, local Mercy leader.

Operation Rice Bowl funds help needy



EMPORIUM—The Cameron County Community Food Bank recently accepted a donation of \$727 from Operation Rice Bowl proceeds collected in the Diocese of Erie.

The food bank, located at St. Mark Parish in Emporium, was one of 58 recipients of Rice Bowl funds. Pictured are: Dan Martuccio, St. Mark pastoral president; Jay Edel, finance council president; Father Paul Siebert, pastor and director of the Cameron County Community Food Bank; Dave Malize, Food Bank food and nutrition program coordinator; and children of St. Mark Parish.

JOIN US FOR BINGO

Every Monday at 6 p.m.
Open to the Public

BINGO

- ▶ 3 Cards for \$2.00
- ▶ 10 Regular Bar Bingo Games
- ▶ 2 Coverall Games

Erie Maennerchor Club
1807 State Street | Erie, PA 16501
Phone: 814-452-4731
www.eriemannerchorclub.com

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

**PA Catholic Conference
Social Concerns Director**

Experienced government relations professional needed to help advocate the Catholic perspective on social concerns issues at the State Capitol in Harrisburg and beyond. Candidate must have strong knowledge of the workings of state government and issues surrounding human services, respect for life, and Church teaching on social justice.
Send cover letter and resume by December 21, 2016, to:
PA Catholic Conference, P.O. Box 2835, Harrisburg, PA 17105
or info@pacatholic.org.

BEST VALUE

NORTH REGION

U.S. News & World Report
2016-2017

Retirement Fund for Religious

December 10-11, 2016

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.



Ways to Donate

- Use your Parish Envelope
- Send a Check
Diocese of Erie, c/o Office of Religious
P.O. Box 10397, Erie, PA 16514
(Please make payable to Retirement Fund for Religious)
- Visit Online www.SupportTheSisters.org
- Ask your Employer about matching gifts
- Questions? 814/824.1125

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Christmas Market

We've made a list. Checked it twice! Stock up for the holidays.

- ✓ Italian Wedding Soup
- ✓ Cheese Stuffed Shells
- ✓ Czarnina (duck soup)
- ✓ Potato Pierogi
- ✓ Golumpki (pigs in a blanket)
- ✓ Kapusta (cabbage and noodles)

Orders due by Sunday, December 4

Pick-up at Scheffner Hall, 1553 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie
Saturday, December 10 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. and
Sunday, December 11 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
(Items will be frozen at pick-up.)
Ordering form and prices: www.OLMC-Erie.org
Questions? Call 814-825-7313 or 825-2822, #9