



Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

Feast days



St. Peter Damian St. Polycarp

- Feb. 12 World Marriage Day
- Feb. 14 Ss. Cyril and Methodius
- Feb. 17 Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order
- Feb. 21 St. Peter Damian
- Feb. 22 Ash Wednesday
- Feb. 23 St. Polycarp

Ash Wednesday – Feb. 22

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection and fasting which prepares us for Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Ashes are a symbol of penance made sacramental by the blessing of the church, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice.

The ashes we receive on our foreheads are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year.

While the ashes symbolize penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on him with repentant hearts. The church calls on us to seek God's divine mercy during the entire Lenten season with reflection, prayer and penance.



Rite of Election – Feb. 26

Candidates and catechumens participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program at their respective parishes in the Diocese of Erie will celebrate the Rite of Election on Sunday, Feb. 26, the first Sunday of Lent. The Rite of Election will be celebrated at 3 p.m. at two locations: St. Peter Cathedral in Erie and St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Clearfield.

New members of the Catholic Church will be received at their own parishes at the Easter Vigil on April 7.

The Rite of Election formally acknowledges the readiness of those preparing to receive the sacraments of initiation—baptism, confirmation and the Eucharist.



INSPIRING THE FUTURE



Author and illustrator Marc Brown poses with his creation Arthur Read, an aardvark, at Blessed Sacrament School in Erie. The Arthur series has sold more than 60 million books in the U.S. and the TV series has won six Emmy awards.

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

ERIE – Marc Brown had a plan for his visit to Blessed Sacrament School. "I have a secret agenda,"

said Brown, the creator of the popular Arthur book and TV series. "I want to get kids excited about reading and I want to get them excited about writing their own stories and illustrating them. There are

'Arthur' creator Marc Brown visits Blessed Sacrament School



Kindergarteners at Blessed Sacrament School in Erie held up their "Arthur" books prior to author Marc Brown's visit. Brown, an Erie native, visited the school Jan. 30 during Catholic Schools Week.

probably kids who are going grow up to be authors that I will speak to today. Hopefully I can pass along information that will be helpful."

Brown, an Erie native, returned Jan. 30 during Catholic Schools Week to visit the students at Blessed Sacrament.

Students marched into Blessed Sacrament's Greiger Hall wearing Arthur ears they had colored themselves. To prepare for Brown's visit, the

students made the decorations for the event, which included large cut-outs of characters from the Arthur series, held a coloring contest, read Arthur books and played an online Arthur game by PBS.

Brown began his presentation by talking about where his ideas and characters come from.

"Everything comes from real life," Brown said. "I think that's where the best stuff happens."

The students and Brown also created an animal that no one has seen before. The creature had the ears of a rabbit, the mane of a lion, the body of a monkey, the wings of an eagle and a dragon and the tail of a rattlesnake. Its four legs were comprised of those of an elephant, a giraffe, a pig and a horse. Brown drew the animal as he took suggestions

See MARC BROWN, page 3

Lenten practices

Lenten observances:

■ **ASH WEDNESDAY, ALL FRIDAYS IN LENT** and **GOOD FRIDAY** are days of **abstinence** from meat for those 14 years of age and older.

■ **ASH WEDNESDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY** are also days of **fasting** for those ages 18 to 58 inclusive. (On these days, those bound by the law of fasting may take one full meal. Two smaller meals, sufficient to maintain strength according to one's needs, are also permitted. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids including milk and fruit juices are allowed. When health or work is seriously affected, the law does not oblige.)



The observance of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22, a day of fasting and abstinence for all Catholics. At Mass on Ash Wednesday, the imposition of ashes replicates an ancient penitential practice and symbolizes our dependence upon God's mercy and forgiveness.



During Lent, the baptized are called to renew their baptismal commitment as others prepare to be baptized through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), a period of learning and discernment for individuals who have declared their desire to become Catholics.



Traditional Lenten practices of **PRAYER, FASTING** and **ALMSGIVING** and other forms of self-denial are recommended most warmly by the church. Daily Mass is particularly encouraged.

PRAYER: The church asks us to surrender ourselves to prayer and to the reading of Scripture. More time given to prayer during Lent should draw us closer to the Lord. We might pray especially for the grace to live out our baptismal promises more fully.

FASTING: The fasting observed during Lent is a sign of discipline—fasting for certain periods of time, fasting from certain foods, but also fasting from other things and activities. Fasting is more than a means of developing self-control. It is often an aid to prayer, as the pangs of hunger remind us of our hunger for God.

ALMSGIVING: Works of charity and the promotion of prayer and to the elements of the Christian way of life we began when we were baptized. Almsgiving is a sign of our care for those in need and an expression of our gratitude for all that God has given to us.

The key to fruitful observance of these practices is to recognize their link to baptismal renewal. We are called not just to abstain from sin during Lent, but to true conversion of our hearts and minds as followers of Christ. We recall those waters in which we were baptized into Christ's death, died to sin and evil and began new life in Christ.

(From the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic.org)

Catholic Services Appeal 2012

Help support diocesan ministries

The annual Catholic Services Appeal helps fund the Diocese of Erie's ministries and provides support for health and social services, education, diocesan administration and pastoral services that serve 13 counties in northwest Pennsylvania.

The needs throughout the diocese are ongoing. Costs go up and the needs of the church continue to grow. Help support our ongoing diocesan ministries.

Parishes throughout the diocese will conduct Commitment Sunday the weekend of Feb. 18-19.

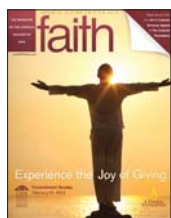
By supporting the CSA, here are just a few diocesan ministries you assist: Catholic Charities, Catholic school tuition assistance, parish Care and Concern groups, religious education, marriage tribunal, Faith magazine and FaithLife news bulletin, lay ministry training, youth and young adult ministry, refugee ministry, family life and support programs, campus ministry and adult education among many others.



Please visit www.ErieRCD.org/CSA.htm to watch a 10-minute video message from Bishop Donald Trautman as well as the compelling stories of many who have benefited from Catholic Services Appeal dollars.

Parishes also benefit from the appeal. Each parish is assessed a financial goal. Once a parish reaches its assessment, every dollar pledged over that amount stays within the parish for local projects.

Last year, parishioners throughout the diocese pledged more than \$5.9 million. Of that, more than \$2.2 million was kept by parishes for local projects.



A special "giving" edition of Faith magazine was mailed to all registered Catholic households in the Diocese of Erie recently. The magazine highlights the needs that are met through both the Catholic Services Appeal and The Catholic Foundation. Several parishioners who have experienced the joy of giving time, talent and treasure are featured.

March for Life



Busloads of pilgrims from the Diocese of Erie traveled to Washington, D.C., for the 39th annual March for Life Jan. 23.

Pictured below left to right are Mike Donahue, Michael Donahue, Sara Marino, Lisa Marino, Sandi Mineweaser and Aubrey May from St. Luke Parish in Youngsville. About 30 parishioners from St. Luke helped make up two busloads from Warren County.

Morgan Hoover, 6, pictured left, marched with her grandmother Nancy Hoover from St. Peter Parish in Conneautville. The Hoovers were part of a contingent of parishes from the Meadville and Sharon deaneries.



IN THE U.S.

Catholic voters urged to press U.S. government to rescind HHS mandate

It will be up to Catholic voters to convince the federal government to rescind a recent decision by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to go forward with a mandate that all health insurance plans cover contraceptives and sterilization free of charge, said Archbishop Charles J. Chaput. "Bishops can't tell politicians what to do, but Catholic voters can," the Philadelphia archbishop said during a visit to Nashville. Political leaders respond to pressure from citizens, he added, and Catholics ought to demand respect for religious values. Archbishop Chaput joined fellow bishops in urging Catholics in the pew to be more politically active. "The very principle of religious freedom, the first freedom in the Bill of Rights, is at stake here," he said. "That's a lot to be at stake. Once it's lost, you don't get it back."

AROUND THE WORLD

Bishops, religious to attend major conference on preventing abuse

Representatives of most of the world's bishops' conferences and 30 religious orders will meet in Rome in early February to launch a global initiative aimed at improving efforts to stop clerical sexual abuse and better protect children and vulnerable adults. The conference, "Toward Healing and Renewal," will be held Feb. 6-9 at Rome's Pontifical Gregorian University and is being supported by the Vatican Secretariat of State and several other Vatican offices. U.S. Cardinal William Levada, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, which deals with priests accused of abuse, will give the opening address.

Other speakers include a victim of abuse, mental health professionals who have worked in the areas of prevention and treatment, and bishops from different parts of the world, who will talk about responses to the abuse crisis in their countries. The conference is designed in part to help bishops' conferences and superiors of religious orders respond to a 2011 circular letter from the doctrinal congregation requiring all dioceses in the world to develop guidelines on handling allegations of abuse.

PEOPLE

Paterno eulogized by Bishop Barchak as 'good Catholic, friend'

Although Joe Paterno will be remembered as "a legend throughout our region and throughout our country," Bishop Mark Barchak said the iconic football coach will be best remembered in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown as "a good Catholic, a family man and a friend to many." Bishop Barchak made his comments Jan. 22 at a news confer-

ence at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona, prior to a prayer service celebrating Respect for Life. Paterno, 85, died that morning at Mount Nittany Medical Center in State College, just 10 weeks after the Nov. 18 announcement that he was suffering from lung cancer.

"Faith and family were so important to Joe Paterno," said Bishop Barchak. "Joe's commitment to prayer, family and faith was a great example to the students at Penn State," and will leave a lasting impact, he said. Bishop Barchak expressed his appreciation for the efforts Paterno and his wife, Sue, made to support the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, particularly their leadership in raising funds for the new Catholic campus ministry center now under construction at Penn State. The Paternos served as chair couple for the capital campaign to build the center "and were major contributors themselves," the bishop noted.



Joe Paterno

Bishop Skurla named to head Byzantine Archeparchy of Pittsburgh

Pope Benedict XVI has named Bishop William Skurla of the Byzantine Eparchy of Passaic, N.J., as archbishop of the Byzantine Archeparchy of Pittsburgh. Archbishop Skurla, 55, will succeed Archbishop Basil Schott, who died in June 2010. The appointment was announced Jan. 19 in Washington by Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, apostolic nuncio to the United States. His enthronement — as the Eastern Catholic installation ceremony is known — will take place April 18 in Pittsburgh. The Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh is the only self-governing Eastern Catholic Church in the United States, meaning it is directly under the authority of the pope rather than a Catholic patriarch in Eastern Europe or the Middle East. It stretches from Erie to Texas and has 58,000 parishioners and 65 priests in 78 parishes.



Bishop William Skurla

Cardinal Bevilacqua, retired Philadelphia archbishop, dies at age 88

Cardinal Anthony Bevilacqua, retired archbishop of Philadelphia, died Jan. 31 at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, where he resided. He was 88. The archdiocese said he had been battling dementia and an undisclosed form of cancer. Cardinal Bevilacqua headed the archdiocese from February 1988 to October 2003. Pope Benedict XVI mourned the death of the cardinal, praising his "long-standing commitment to social justice and the pastoral care of immigrants, and his expert contribution to the revision of the church's law in the years following the Second Vatican Council."



Cardinal Anthony Bevilacqua

By the Way...

Ash Wednesday will mark the fourth anniversary of the Roman Catholic Chapel at the Millcreek Mall in Erie. The Diocese of Erie opened the chapel Feb. 6, 2008—Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent—primarily for hearing confessions. The outreach has proven to be successful.



Jason Koshinski

This year on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22, ashes will be distributed from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the hour at the chapel, located just outside the concourse entrance to Bon Ton, one of the mall's anchor stores. Bishop Donald Trautman and Father Chris Singer will also be hearing confessions at that time.

Attention middle schoolers and youth leaders: Save the date for the middle school youth rally on Sunday, April 29 at St. Mark Catholic Center in Erie. The rally, celebrating Catholic youth in grades 6, 7 and 8, will feature an extreme scavenger hunt, tug-of-war, confession, music by Pat Brown & Co., Mass and adoration, a Velcro sticky wall and extreme obstacle course. The theme for the rally is "I have seen the Lord!" from John 20:18.

For more information on the rally including registration forms, visit www.onthevine.us.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has refused to amend its August 1, 2011 ruling to require virtually all private health insurance plans to include coverage for all FDA-approved prescription contraceptives (some of which are designed to cause early abortions within the womb), female sterilization procedures, and related "patient education and counseling for all women with reproductive capacity."

Bishop Trautman and the Diocese of Erie's Respect Life Office are working closely with the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops to participate in coordinated efforts to oppose this ruling.

In the meantime, resources are available on the diocesan website at www.ErieCD.org/justice.asp. Individuals are encouraged to become involved immediately through the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference by visiting www.PaCatholic.org.

Something old, something new, something borrowed and something red will be part of the mix Feb. 18 when Pope Benedict XVI creates new cardinals.

The general format of the consistory has been maintained, but the ceremony has been modified and will include the use of prayers borrowed from ancient Roman liturgies, according to Cindy Wooden of *Catholic News Service*. Cardinal-designate Timothy Dolan will address the College of Cardinals on the subject of new evangelization.

And, of course, red will be the color of the day as the new cardinals are reminded that they are called to give their lives to God and the church, even to the point of shedding their blood.

Jason Koshinski is editor of *FaithLife*. Contact him at JKoshinski@ErieCD.org or 814.824.1171.

Beyond Valentine's Day Ideas for married couples and families

Valentine's Day usually triggers some traditionally popular ideas. Once you've finished with the romantic dinner and exchanged flowers and candy, the Diocese of Erie's Family Life Office has a few suggestions to help strengthen your marriage and family on an ongoing basis.

♥ Sit down with your spouse and brainstorm together some resolutions for your marriage, starting with the positives—what do you like and appreciate about your relationship? How can you enhance these positives? List them and share with each other.

♥ Commit to weekly family time. Often joining for a daily meal is difficult with children and parents running in opposite directions. Being intentional about spending time together can enhance your life and smooth the rough spots that business creates.

♥ Commit to a monthly date night with your spouse. Yes, once a month is not too much to ask! Complacency leads to boredom and neglect.

FOR YOUR MARRIAGE

♥ As a young married couple, you likely had new, fun and interesting experiences together. Commit to trying one or two new activities this year—hobbies, outings or shared activities as a couple, as a family or both.

♥ Remove the barriers that stand in the way of real intimacy. Every family experiences conflict. How do you handle conflict? Avoidance or sarcasm are not healthy. Find other ways to deal with your inevitable differences. Not sure how? Commit to finding a book or video series or attend a marriage enrichment seminar together.

Any of these choices show that you are truly committed to each other and your relationship.

Don't wait until a storm of anger is in full swing; there are many good resources to help you. Visit www.foryourmarriage.org for some excellent suggestions.

Don't forget to check in weekly or monthly with each other to see how you are doing with your relationship goals. What kind of marriage or family do you want to have? Are you being the people you want to be and having the relationship that you really want?

The best gift you can give yourself and your children this Valentine's Day is the reality of a healthy, loving marriage.

ForYourMarriage.org is a resource created by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

NAME CHANGE

Mercyhurst College now Mercyhurst University

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

ERIE — Mercyhurst College has a new name and a new status.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education approved Mercyhurst's application for university status officially making Mercyhurst College now Mercyhurst University.

With university status, Mercyhurst will be able to offer degrees from a number of colleges rather than a collection of degrees from one specific area.

"Over the last couple of years we have been talking about a birth at Mercyhurst College; the birth of a diverse and vibrant Catholic university in the Mercy spirit," Mercyhurst



In announcing its name change, Mercyhurst University also introduced a new logo. Done in the traditional school colors of blue and green, the logo incorporates the college shield, the Mercy cross, which symbolizes the founding Sisters of Mercy, and the Carpe Diem motto and date of founding.

President Dr. Thomas Gamble said Jan. 26 in addressing the university community. "Yesterday, the signature of the Pennsylvania Secretary of Education made it official. We are Mercyhurst University."

Dr. Gamble's remarks were met with a round of applause.

"At such times it is proper to begin by looking back to acknowledge the Sisters of Mercy, the founders of Mercyhurst, whose courage and foresight have reached a certain fulfillment in the achievement we are announcing today," Dr. Gamble said.

FaithLife
The official news bulletin of the Catholic Diocese of Erie

Volume 8, Issue 3

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Member of the Catholic Press Association. Published bi-weekly. Owned and operated by the Bishop of Erie. Subscription \$10/year. For more information, call (814) 824-1161.

The Office of Communications has been serving Catholics in the Diocese of Erie since 1874. Offices are located at St. Mark Catholic Center 429 East Granville Blvd., Erie, Pa. Periodical postage paid at Erie, Pa.

Postmaster: Send address changes to FaithLife at St. Mark Catholic Center.

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Briefly

Mercyhurst Prep juried art exhibit looking for young artists

ERIE — Mercyhurst Preparatory School is hosting an art contest for all seventh and eighth graders within a 100-mile radius of Erie. There are no entry fees and each student may submit up to three works of art in any media. Awards will be presented for 1st place (\$200), 2nd place (\$100), 3rd place (\$50) and honorable mentions (\$25).

Works may be delivered to Mercyhurst Prep until Feb. 17 from Monday through Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. The school is located at 538 E. Grandview Blvd. in Erie.

Accepted works and prize winners may be viewed on the school's website after Feb. 23 at www.mpslakers.com.

An opening art reception will be held on March 18 from 2-4 p.m. at the Mercyhurst Prep Hilltop Gallery. The free exhibit will remain open until March 25 during regular school hours.

Gannon Lady Knights to host Pink Zone basketball game

ERIE — The Gannon University women's basketball team is asking its fans and the community to "black out" cancer on Saturday, Feb. 18.

That afternoon, the Lady Knights will host their fifth annual Pink Zone game, to be played at 1 p.m. at Hammermill Center against Lock Haven. Admission to the game, and to the Gannon men's basketball team's game against Lock Haven to follow, is free.

The Lady Knights have set a goal of raising \$15,000 for the Erie Unit of the American Cancer Society. The team's four previous Pink Zones have raised a total of \$52,500, with an average attendance of 2,500.

The Gannon women will don pink uniforms for the game, although the theme of this year's event is "black out cancer." The Lady Knights are raising money in part by selling black, long-sleeve T-shirts with pink lettering.

The shirts are \$16 each and can be purchased at the Gannon Bookstore, located in the university's Palumbo Academic Center, 824 Peach St., and at the Lady Knights' home games at Hammermill Center.

The women's basketball team also will raise money through gift baskets and other items that will be raffled off the day of the game. During the game, cancer survivors will be recognized.

For more information on purchasing a shirt or making a general contribution to Pink Zone, contact assistant coach Tiffany Crocker at 814.871.5811.

Catholic Young Adult Ministry Mass & Mingle

HARBORCREEK — Each month Catholic Young Adult Ministry will visit a different CYAM member's parish for Sunday Mass, then join for fellowship, coffee and donuts.

All Catholics age 21 to 39 are encouraged to attend, especially those from the hosting parish. The next Mass & Mingle will be held at 11 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 26 at Our Lady of Mercy Parish, 837 Bartlett Road, Harborcreek.

Visit <http://cyameric.wordpress.com> for more information or contact Kathleen Peterson at 814.824.1218 or KPeterson@ERIC.ORG.

'Moses' musical at Notre Dame, Hermitage

HERMITAGE — Musicians from Notre Dame Parish in Hermitage will again perform the musical "Moses and the Burning Within" during Lent after three capacity crowd performances in 2011.

The musical, with lyrics and music by William Gokelman and David Kauffman, is based on the Old Testament Book of Exodus and follows the life of Moses from his placement in the basket in the River Nile until he leads the Israelites through the Red Sea.

With a cast of nearly 50 — most of whom are returning from last year's cast — and a pit orchestra to support it, the show promises to be a great Lenten meditation on our salvation history.

Shows will be at 7:30 p.m. on March 2, 3, 9 and 10 and 4 p.m. March 11 at the church, 2325 Highland Road, Hermitage.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for seniors over age 60 and students. They are available at the parish office. For more information, call 724.981.5566 Ext. 109.



Moses, Miriam, Aaron — Three siblings of the Old Testament are principal characters of the musical "Moses" that will be performed over two weekends in Lent at Notre Dame Parish in Hermitage. From left are Anthony T. Paglia (Moses), Mary Beth LoScalzo (Miriam) and Anthony G. Paglia (Aaron).

Eastside parishes present Sermon on the Mount with Frank Runyeon

ERIE — Erie's Eastside parishes will present TV and movie star Frank Runyeon who will bring the Sermon on the Mount from the Gospel of Matthew.

This one-night family event for Lent is scheduled for Saturday, March 24 at 7 p.m. at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish in Erie.

The most famous speech ever given is set in Matthew's church in Antioch and filled with characters whose stories echo our own, telling us the part we are called to play in the story of faith.

This event is sponsored by the parishes of the Eastside Catholic Faith Formation Ministry (Holy Rosary, Holy Trinity, Our Mother of Sorrows, St. John the Baptist, St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, St. Patrick, St. Hedwig and St. Stanislaus).

There is no charge, but a free will offering will be accepted.



'Arthur' creator Marc Brown visits Blessed Sacrament School

MARC BROWN, from page 1

from the audience.

He told the story of how Arthur was created. One night his son asked Brown to tell him a story about a weird animal. Thinking alphabetically, Brown came up with Arthur Read, an aardvark. His son asked what Arthur looked like, so Brown drew him a picture.

Brown said the appeal of Arthur is that he's just like us.

"I think Arthur is easy for kids to relate to because he doesn't have any superhuman powers," Brown said. "He makes mistakes. He's dealing with issues that kids deal with. And he does his best to solve them—sometimes well, sometimes not so well."

The ensemble cast surrounding Arthur is also locally inspired.

"I tried to look for personality traits in all of them that would play well off of Arthur and be representative of types of people that we all know," Brown said. "They're from my childhood mostly here in Erie. All the characters are based on kids I knew when I was in third grade."

More than 60 million books in the Arthur series have been sold in the U.S. alone. The TV series has received 17 Emmy nominations and won six awards.

Brown also showed the artwork and read from two new books that he illustrated. "If All the Animals Came Inside" by Eric Pinder includes collage art by Brown. "Wild About You" by Judy Sierra is a story about adoption and raising kids which uses animals to tell the story.

"We'll see what the kids think," Brown said. "They're my boss. They are who I work for."

The laughs and attentiveness from the young audience was his sign of approval.

The newest Arthur book, "Arthur turns Green," discusses what



'Arthur' creator and illustrator Marc Brown signs a copy of one of his books for second grader Mitchell Hamm at Blessed Sacrament School in Erie.

kids can do to take part in being better citizens with the environment.

Brown enjoyed interacting with the students.

"It's the best," he said of the reaction he gets from kids. "It's really the best."

Last year during the 35th anniversary of Arthur, he set aside 35 days to visit schools all around the country.

"It was the best year I've had in ages," Brown said.

He said he's hoping to visit more schools this year and perhaps make a return trip to the Erie area.

And Blessed Sacrament's students enjoyed interacting with Brown, too.

"I really liked drawing the new animal," said second grader Mitchell Hamm.

"I loved the stories," said Hannah Powierza, also in second grade. "He was really cool. I'm excited to get my book signed."

Brown signed books for every student. The books were purchased through the Erie Book Store where Brown did his first book signing years ago.

The students also donated some books.

"Monday of Catholic Schools Week is community day," said Marjorie Corritore, director of advancement for Blessed Sacrament School. "We wanted to give back to our community so

the school collected gently used books to distribute locally to refugee students."

In collecting the books, the faculty discussed bringing in an author, and Brown was suggested.

"To have Marc Brown come is really special for the kids, parents and community," Corritore said. "His message was outstanding. Teachers inspired him to write and draw, and now he's inspiring the kids."

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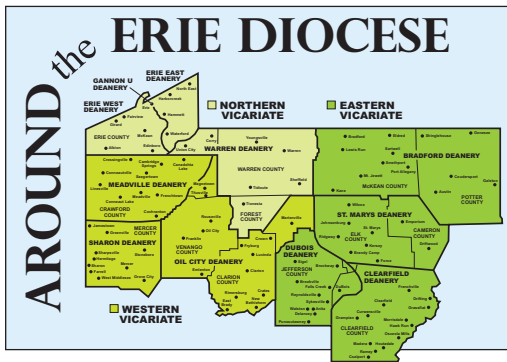
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2012 Lenten Dinners

<p>ALL SAINTS PARISH 11264 Route 97 North, Waterford, PA February 24 / March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 4:30-7:00 pm Adult \$9.00, Child 12 and under \$4.00 Toddlers free</p> <p>BAKED OR FRIED WHITE FISH Includes choice of baked potato or french fries, coleslaw, applesauce, homemade desserts and drink *Takeout available beginning at 4:30 pm, call (814) 796-3023</p>	<p>BREADED FRIED FISH AND/OR CHEESE PIEROGI; includes french fries, potato salad or macaroni and cheese, coleslaw or green beans and ice cream dessert; (814) 454-0061</p> <p>OUR LADY OF THE LAKE Knights of Columbus #6191 Social Hall 128 Sunset Drive, Edinboro, PA February 24 / March 2, 9, 23, 30 April 6; 5:00-7:00 pm Adult \$8.00, Child \$4.00 *Tickets available at the door *Proceeds benefit various projects and groups sponsored by KOC</p> <p>BAKED OR FRIED FISH Includes choice of baked potato or mac and cheese, vegetable, coleslaw, bread and butter, dessert and beverage *Takeout available *Info: (814) 763-2986</p>	<p>ST. JOSEPH PARISH School Cafeteria 72 Rectory Lane, Lucinda, PA February 24 / March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 April 6; 4:00-7:00 pm</p> <p>BAKED OR FRIED FISH, SHRIMP OR CRAB LEGS Includes one side (french fries, baked potato or mac and cheese), coleslaw, dessert and drink; Adult \$8.25, Child \$4.25, Crab leg dinner \$12.50; Preschool and under free; *LUNCH 11:00 am-1:00 pm (Takeout only) FISH SANDWICH \$6.00, FISH HOAGIE \$8.25; Includes french fries and coleslaw; (814) 226-8310</p>
<p>BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH School Cafeteria 1626 West 26th Street, Erie, PA February 24 / March 9, 23 4:30-7:00 pm</p> <p>BAKED SCROD, MACARONI AND CHEESE OR CHEESE RAVIOLI Includes green beans, coleslaw, roll and butter, sherbet and beverage Adult \$8.00, Child 12 and under \$5.00 *Takeout, (814) 454-0171</p>	<p>ST. BRIGID PARISH St. Brigid Parish Center 383 Arch Street, Meadville, PA February 24 / March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 4:30-6:30 pm Adult \$8.00, Child \$4.00</p> <p>BAKED OR FRIED ICELANDIC HADDOCK Includes scalloped potatoes, coleslaw, green beans, applesauce and ice cream bar \$1.00 MACARONI AND CHEESE OR GRILLED CHEESE \$5.00 *Takeout available</p>	<p>ST. LUKE PARISH Knights of Columbus #11229 School Cafeteria 421 East 38th Street, Erie, PA February 24 / March 9, 16, 23 5:00-7:00 pm Adult \$8.50, Child 6-12 \$5.00 5 and under free</p> <p>YUENGLING BEER BATTERED ICELANDIC HADDOCK Includes choice of pierogies or mac and cheese, french fries, coffee, tea, milk and soft drinks *Info: Jamie Bickersstaff, Grand Knight (814) 403-2797 or (814) 860-3073</p>
<p>DUBOIS CENTRAL CATHOLIC 3rd Annual Ash Wednesday Fish Dinner School Cafeteria 200 Central Christian Road, DuBois, PA February 22 4:30-7:00 pm or until sold out Baked Stuffed Fish \$10.00 Fried Fish \$9.00, Fried Shrimp \$9.00</p> <p>FISH OR SHRIMP Includes baked potato, coleslaw, roll and butter, dessert and beverage Mac and cheese (child dinner) \$5.00 (excludes baked potato) *Takeout available *Lenten prayer service and ashes in chapel at 5:15 pm</p>	<p>ST. JOHN PARISH School Cafeteria 27th and Wallace streets, Erie, PA Ash Wednesday, February 22 4:30-7:00 pm</p> <p>LAKE ERIE PERCH Includes pierogies, coleslaw, potato, vegetable, dessert and beverage Adult \$10.00, Senior \$9.00 Child 12 and under \$6.00 MACARONI AND CHEESE (child dinner) \$4.00 *Takeout available *Tickets will be sold in advance and only 250 dinners will be sold *Info/Reservations: Jeanne, (814) 459-9403</p>	<p>ST. MICHAEL PARISH Lateran Hall Orchard Street, Greenville, PA February 24 / March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 4:30-7:00 pm Adult \$8.00, Child 10 and under \$4.00 *Proceeds will benefit St. Michael/St. Margaret Youth Mission Trip to KY</p> <p>FRIED OR BAKED COD Includes mac and cheese, french fries or cabbage and noodles, coleslaw or applesauce, bread and butter, dessert and beverage; *Takeout, (724) 588-7082</p>
<p>ST. BONIFACE PARISH School Cafeteria 355 Main Street, Kersey, PA Ash Wednesday, February 22 and every Friday during Lent 4:00-7:00 pm or until sold out Good Friday dinner: 3:00 pm Large \$9.50, Small \$8.50</p> <p>HADDOCK FILLET (large or small) Includes choice of potato and side salad, homemade dessert and beverage CHICKEN FINGERS Adult \$6.50, Child \$4.00 *Takeout, (814) 885-8611</p>	<p>ST. JOSEPH PARISH 17735 Bennetts Valley Highway, Force, PA Ash Wednesday, February 22 and every Friday during Lent 4:00-7:00 pm *LUNCH Starting at Noon (Soup and drink are not included)</p> <p>BAKED OR FRIED HADDOCK Includes choice of french fries or baked potato, cup of soup, dinner roll, coleslaw, dessert and drink Adult \$9.00, Child 12 and under \$5.00 *Takeout, (814) 787-4819 *We deliver in Bennetts Valley!</p>	<p>ST. STANISLAUS PARISH 516 East 13th Street, Erie, PA February 24 / March 9, 23 4:00-7:00 pm</p> <p>FISH OR PIEROGI Adult \$10.00, Child 6-12 \$5.00 5 and under free *Takeout: \$10.50, (814) 452-6606</p> <p>ST. TERESA PARISH Parish Center 9 Third Avenue, Union City, PA February 24 / March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 4:30-7:00 pm</p> <p>BAKED OR FRIED FISH Includes choice of baked potato or french fries, coleslaw, roll, homemade desserts and beverage; Adult \$9.00, Child \$4.00; *Info: (814) 438-2000</p>

If a parish is not listed, please contact them directly for their Lenten Dinner information.



All parishes, missions, schools and groups are encouraged to choose a **correspondent** who can regularly e-mail news items to "Around the Erie Diocese" at <mailto:FaithLife@ErieRCD.org>

Photo Tips

Quick, important tips for taking good digital pictures. <http://www.ErieRCD.org/faithlife.asp>



Seminarian installed as acolyte at Saint Vincent Seminary

LATROBE – Thomas Trocchio, a seminarian of the Diocese of Erie from St. Patrick Parish in Franklin, was installed to the ministry of acolyte by Bishop Paul Bootkoski of Metuchen, N.J., on Nov. 21 at Saint Vincent Seminary in Latrobe.

Pictured left to right are: Father Nicholas Rouch, vice rector of St. Mark Seminary; Father Michael Kesicki, rector of St. Mark Seminary; Thomas Trocchio; Bishop Paul Bootkoski; Msgr. John Herbein, pastor of St. Patrick Parish in Franklin; and Father Justin Matro, OSB, rector of Saint Vincent Seminary.



Christmas 'posada' in St. Marys

ST. MARYS – Elementary students in St. Marys Inter-Parish Faith Formation classes recently held a Christmas 'posada,' a traditional Mexican re-enactment of Mary and Joseph's search for shelter in Bethlehem, to celebrate the birth of Christ.

During this Mexican tradition, sixth graders reenacted the Holy Family's search for lodging, going from classroom to classroom, led by a candle-bearer and angels. The pilgrim students then followed the procession into the church at Queen of the World Parish where they were finally allowed to enter.

The procession followed with pilgrims offering gifts to the Christ child which were donations for the St. Marys Maternity Closet. The service also included Christmas Gospel readings, songs of praise and petitions offered around the Nativity.



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St. Leo School supports St. Jude through Math-a-thon

RIDGWAY – St. Leo School in Ridgway has supported St. Jude Children's Research Hospital for many years. Through the school's Math-a-thon program, students raise money for the organization by receiving pledges for math problems they complete. In October, students raised \$1,585.

Pictured left to right are the student winners who brought in the most pledge money: (first row) Jack Williams, Nicklas Calla, (second row) Austin Geitner, Isabeau Stager and Michael Stager.



DuBois students create life-size Nativity scene

DUBOIS – The fifth graders at DuBois Area Catholic School from Lisa Huot's class created a life-size nativity scene including a poster scroll of Luke's Gospel of the Nativity. In grammar class, under direction of teacher Kristy Snyder, students created stories retelling that Gospel scene in their own words which were hung with the scene.

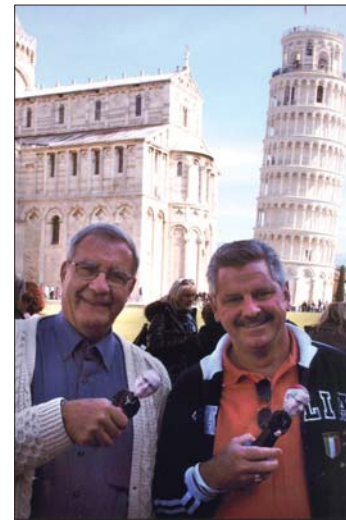
Pictured left to right: Emma Cooper, Paige Dushac, Lexie Szyplski, Aliya Singleton, Sherry Anderson, Amber Brocius, Paige Stroka, Ethan Stoddard, Hunter Benton, Justin Mikinis, Jacob Snyder, Antonio Willar, Caleb Elias, Ashley Wnuble, Zach Vandervort, Alyssa Bittner, Carley Semancik and Ashley Mayes.



Bishop bobbleheads travel to Italy for pilgrimage

ROME – Msgr. Robert Malene (left), pastor of Good Shepherd Parish in West Middlesex, and Father John Detisch, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Erie, are each pictured holding a "leaning" bobblehead figure of Bishop Donald Trautman with the leaning Tower of Pisa in the background. Pictured to the left of this freestanding bell tower is the Cathedral of Pisa, a masterpiece of Romanesque architecture begun in 1093.

Msgr. Malene led a group of 26 people on a 14-day tour of Northern Italy this fall. They visited many holy sites in Rome, Assisi, Florence, Como, Turin, Pisa, Verona, Padua, Venice and Milan.



Nativity story in Spanish at DuBois Central Catholic



DUBOIS – Students in Spanish III at DuBois Central Catholic High School recently re-enacted the Nativity story in Spanish for their peers.

Audrea Snyder as Mary and Billy Edwards as Joseph are

in the skit as one of the Nativity characters, memorizing their parts in Spanish. Using an iPad, teacher Rita Himes recorded the activity and created this still shot of one of the scenes.

greeted by one of the three kings, Dorothy Schadt, bearing her gift of incense. Looking on are story narrators (L-R) Ashley Krajewski and Brittany Rossi who announced each scene. Each student participated

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