

Blessed John Paul II
Rome Diocese launches site dedicated to John Paul II's beatification, page 2.



FaithLife

Rulers of the court

DCC's mock trial team named district champions, page 4.



www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

February 27, 2011

Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

Feast days



St. Katharine Drexel St. Casimir

- March 3 St. Katharine Drexel
- March 4 St. Casimir, World Day of Prayer
- March 7 St. Perpetua and St. Felicity
- March 8 St. John of God
- March 9 Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday – March 9

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.

Ashe is 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 – March 13



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, March 13, 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. Callistus Parish in Kane.

All new members of the Catholic Church will be received into their own parishes at the Easter Vigil on April 23.

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



Fast facts about U.S. Catholics

- According to the CARA Catholic Poll (CCP), only 33% of U.S. Catholics attend weekly Mass. That means 42.7 million U.S. Catholics are not going to Mass.
- The number of Americans identifying themselves as non-religious/secular increased 110% from 1990 to 2000. It is now 13.2% of the total population.
- Up to 100,000 baptized Catholics in the U.S. drift away from church annually.
- The average American spends 38 hours per week consuming media, with TV and internet being the top two.

Source: Catholics Come Home

Diocese welcomes Catholics back to church

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

In between your favorite shows during Lent, you'll be seeing the Catholic Church alongside the GEICO gecko and the E*Trade baby. Between segments of the local news, "The Price is Right," "Dr. Phil" and the "Tonight Show," the Catholic Church will be inviting people back home.

Beginning March 7, two days before Ash Wednesday, the Diocese of Erie will launch Catholics Come Home, a comprehensive

evangelization effort that uses promotional TV spots and parish-based programs to invite lapsed Catholics back to the church. Catholics Come Home commercials will blanket the air on TV stations and cable outlets across the 13 counties of the diocese and will run throughout the 40 days of Lent through Easter Sunday. The total cost of the Catholics Come Home campaign, which includes the TV spots and air time, is \$123,000. Parishes in the diocese took up a special collection to support the project in November.

"In the Erie Diocese, we want to make sure we have the opportunity to reach as many people as possible," said Yvonne Marchese, executive director of media relations for Catholics Come Home, a national evangelization company based in Roswell, Ga. Marchese and members of the Catholics Come Home leadership team were charged with the task of buying air time throughout the diocese, which was not an easy task. Covering all 13 counties in northwestern Pennsylvania required media buys in five different designated market areas

(DMAs)—Erie; Youngstown, Ohio; Pittsburgh; Johnstown-Altoona; and Buffalo, N.Y. Markets are identified by the largest city, which is typically located at the center. However, geography coupled with the fact that some metropolitan areas have two or more larger cities separated by some distance can result in markets having unusual shapes or multiple names to identify a region. For example, the Pittsburgh market area in the diocese is further broken up into markets for Oil City, Franklin and Clarion.

"It was definitely a challenge for us to make media buys in the diocese," Marchese said. "But it came out to be a really nice mix across the board. Different people are watching at different times—prime time, morning shows, the evening news." A total of 10 different commercials will be seen in the Diocese of Erie. The "Epic" ad emphasizes the history, beauty, spirituality and accomplishments of the Catholic Church over her 2,000 year history. It illustrates

See COME HOME, page 3

Lenten regulations

The season of Lent begins this year on Ash Wednesday, March 9, and concludes when the Paschal Triduum of the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord begins at the start of the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening, April 21.

The following regulations are promulgated and binding for all Latin Rite Catholics in the Diocese of Erie for Lent and the Paschal Triduum, 2011. Eastern Rite Catholics who may be attending Latin Rite parishes have their own proper regulations and should consult their own eparchy or parish.

1. 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.
2. **ASH WEDNESDAY, ALL FRIDAYS IN LENT and GOOD FRIDAY** are days of **abstinence** from meat for those 14 years of age and older.
3. **ASH WEDNESDAY and GOOD FRIDAY** are also days of **fasting** for those ages 18 to 59 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.*
4. On **HOLY THURSDAY**, no celebration of the Mass is to begin anywhere in the diocese earlier than 4:30 p.m. without the express approval of the bishop.
5. All celebrations of the **EASTER VIGIL** are to begin this year at 8:30 p.m. everywhere in the diocese. The bishop's express approval is required for any deviation from this schedule.
6. **ALL FRIDAYS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR** (except solemnities) outside of Lent remain days of penance. The United States bishops highly recommend the traditional abstinence from meat, together with fasting, for the cause of peace in the world. However, some other practice of voluntary self-denial or personal penance may be substituted.

By order of the Most Reverend Donald W. Trautman, STD, SSL
Bishop of Erie

Donald W. Trautman



mend the traditional abstinence from meat, together with fasting, for the cause of peace in the world. However, some other practice of voluntary self-denial or personal penance may be substituted.

CNS graphics

The new Roman Missal

Q: Why was there a need for a new translation?

A: The *Missale Romanum* (Roman Missal), the ritual text for the celebration of the Mass, was promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1970 as the definitive text of the reformed liturgy of the Second Vatican Council. That Latin text, the *editio typica* (typical edition), was translated into various languages for use around the world; the English edition was published in the United States in 1973. The Holy See issued a revised text, the *editio typica altera*, in 1975. Pope John Paul II promulgated the third edition (*editio typica tertia*) of the *Missale Romanum* during the Jubilee Year in 2000.

Among other things, the third edition contains prayers for the celebration of recently canonized saints, additional prefaces for the Eucharistic Prayers, additional Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Intentions and some updated and revised rubrics (instructions) for the celebration of the Mass.

To aid the process of translation of the *Missale Romanum, editio typica tertia*, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments issued *Liturgiam Authenticam* in 2001, an instruction on the vernacular translation of the Roman Liturgy which outlines the principles and rules for translation. In 2007, the Congregation for Divine Worship issued the *Ratio Translationis for the English Language*, which outlined the specific rules for translation in English.

—United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

COUNTDOWN: There are 273 days to the implementation of the new Roman Missal (as of Feb. 27)

Anti-bullying focus at schools tries to keep up with growing problem

By Carol Zimmerman
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — Although bullying is nothing new, efforts to curb it are still in uncharted territory, especially in today's digital age when the scope of bullying expands far beyond school hallways or playgrounds.

Bullying is often a topic of discussion at school meetings and educational seminars and has also come under the federal government's umbrella with guidelines it released last fall calling certain acts of bullying potential civil rights violations. But despite all the talk, destructive and harassing behavior is still rampant and able to cause almost instant damage with a simple text message, Facebook update or e-mail.

A new study published in the February edition of the *American Sociological Review* says today's bullies aren't necessarily the most popular students but tend to be those who want to be popular.

"By and large, status increases aggression, until you get to the very top," said the study's lead author, Robert Faris, an assistant sociology professor at the University of California Davis. "When kids become more popular, later on they become more aggressive."

The study questioned nearly 4,000 North Carolina high school and middle school students asking them to list their best friends, people they had picked on and people who had picked on them.

The study's main findings reinforces what bullying-prevention groups are currently advocating, mainly that the old stereotypes of bullies no longer hold true. Today, especially with online tools, anyone can be a bully and more people can be victimized.

With the rise in this kind of harassment and its often dire consequences, anti-bullying programs are becoming more prevalent. One major effort, the Olweus



See BULLYING, page 2



IN THE U.S.

■ Permanent end to taxpayer abortion funding called long overdue

The effort to make permanent a ban on federal funding of abortion is both long overdue and widely supported by Americans, an official of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops told a House subcommittee Feb. 8. Richard Doerflinger, associate director of the USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, was one of three witnesses testifying on the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act, H.R. 3, before the House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on the Constitution. "H.R. 3 is a well-crafted and reasonable measure to maintain long-standing and widely supported policies against active government promotion of abortion," he said. "It consistently applies to all branches of the federal government the principle that government can encourage childbirth over abortion through its funding power, and that it should not coerce anyone's involvement in abortion."

■ Don't cut budget on the backs of the poor, advocates tell Congress

The federal budget crunch should not be eased by cutting programs that help the poor, refugees and the unemployed in the United States or those struggling to survive in developing nations, warned church leaders in letters to Congress and responses to President Barack Obama's budget proposal. "In a time of economic crisis, the poor and vulnerable are in greater need of assistance, not less," said Bishop Stephen Blaire of Stockton, Calif., chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, in a Feb. 14 letter to Congress. A second letter the same day from Ken Hackert, president of Catholic Relief Services, and Bishop Howard Hubbard of Albany, N.Y., chairman of the Committee on International Justice and Peace, dealt with international budget concerns. The two noted that the proposed continuing resolution for the current federal budget year includes cuts adding up to 26 percent of funding in programs for international assistance, but only 2.6 percent in cuts for the overall budget.

■ Cardinal Wuerl's book seeks to deepen Catholics' love for the Mass

Washington Cardinal Donald Wuerl and author Mike Aquilina have teamed together to write a new book on the Mass, and they hope that their labor of love will kindle a deeper love and devotion for the Mass among Catholics, and inspire them to share that love with others. Titled "The Mass: The Glory, the Mystery, the Tradition," the book was launched at a Feb. 1 book signing that Cardinal Wuerl held at the bookstore of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. Cardinal Wuerl said he senses a hunger among people to understand what is taking place in the Mass, and to experience the beauty of the Mass in a more profound way. Helping Catholics have a deeper appreciation for the Mass is the "starting point of the book," he said, noting that the introduction begins, "The Mass is what Catholics do. It's the heart of Catholic life, for individuals and for the community." In the interview, the cardinal said, "The primary purpose for the book is to re-propose, to reintroduce people to the beauty and mystery of the Mass."

AROUND THE WORLD

■ iPhone confession app 'no substitute' for the sacrament

A Vatican official said a new iPhone application can help Catholics prepare for confession, but cannot substitute for the sacramental encounter between a penitent and a priest. "Confession: A Roman Catholic App" for Apple's iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch was recently released as a way for Catholics to prepare for and participate in the sacrament of penance. Some recent press reports, however, have suggested that the application could replace in-person confession. "It's essential to understand that the sacrament of penance requires a personal dialogue between the



PEOPLE OF FAITH

■ Rome Diocese launches site dedicated to John Paul II's beatification

The Diocese of Rome launched a new website dedicated to the beatification and canonization of Pope John Paul II. Published in seven languages, the site — www.karol-wojtyla.org — offers news updates and background information on the late pope and his sainthood cause, as well as a live webcam of his tomb in the grotto of St. Peter's Basilica. The website also announced that the beatification ceremony in St. Peter's Square May 1, Divine Mercy Sunday, will be open to the public and no tickets will be required to attend. The website offers the diocesan-approved prayer asking for graces through the intercession of Pope John Paul in 31 languages. A miracle after Pope John Paul's beatification would be needed for his canonization, which is a church declaration that the person is a saint and worthy of universal veneration.

By the Way...

Do you have a memory of Harborcreek Youth Services? As the agency prepares to celebrate its 100th anniversary this year, it is collecting memories from the community of experiences with the agency. You might remember HYS by a different name such as Catholic Boys Protectory, Harborcreek Home for Boys or Harborcreek Training School for Boys. Visit www.hys-eric.org to share your memories. Harborcreek Youth Services is an affiliate agency of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Erie.



Jason Koshinski

St. Patrick Haven, a 23-bed homeless shelter for men in Erie, recently received a much-needed financial boost from an estate bequest. The Haven, in its 26th year of operation, has always operated on unsolicited donations. With the present economic situation, it has been surviving day-to-day and will have to look to fundraising for the first time in its history. St. Patrick Haven is administered by the Sisters of St. Joseph Associate Program.

Bishop Donald Trautman will distribute ashes and hear confessions at the Roman Catholic Chapel at the Millcreek Mall on Ash Wednesday, March 9 from noon to 6 p.m. The service marks the beginning of the fourth year for the outreach ministry. "We have to get to where the people are," Bishop Trautman said.

The bishop's Ash Wednesday tradition has become quite popular with mall shoppers. He'll be assisted by Father Chris Singer, chancellor of the diocese.

We offer our condolences to Father Tom Tyler, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Force, and Sister Trish Tyler, RSM, of the Rural House of Mercy in Jefferson County, on the passing of their mother, LaVerne Tyler, who died Feb. 11. Please keep Father Tom, Sister Trish and their family in your prayers.

This year's Chrism Mass will be hosted by Father Jeff Noble and Notre Dame Parish in Hermitage on Monday, April 18 at 4 p.m. At the Chrism Mass, which is celebrated during Holy Week, Bishop Trautman will bless the sacred oils used for celebrating the sacraments.

Priests of the diocese are encouraged to attend to renew their commitment of service and to receive the support and prayers of the people. Members of the faithful are also invited to attend.

Many priests of the diocese will depart from the Chrism Mass and head directly to Altoona. Bishop-elect Mark Barchak will be consecrated and installed as the eighth bishop of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown during a Mass and ceremony at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesday, April 19. Mass begins at 2 p.m.

We understand that a bus trip is being organized for parishioners from St. Stanislaus in Erie where Bishop-elect Barchak has served for nearly 20 years. Tickets for the installation are a sought after commodity.

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

Anti-bullying focus at schools tries to keep up with growing problem

BULLYING, from page 1

Bullying Prevention Program, is now used in more than 7,000 schools nationwide. The program, based at Clemson University in South Carolina, is named after a Norwegian researcher who began studying bullying more than 40 years ago. The program began in just a handful of schools nationwide in 2001. Olweus and other programs built on Olweus principles are in use in Catholic schools in the Diocese of Erie.

Marlene Snyder, the program's director of development, said that a number of Catholic schools across the country have "reilly embraced the program" and that religious-affiliated schools "seem to get to the heart of matter a lot quicker," examining roles people play in a bullying situation as part of their religion classes.

"For decades we've known about bullying, but we have not always responded well," she said. Snyder said the Olweus program is not a one-shot deal where schools learn about bullying and then continue on their way. Instead, the comprehensive program is meant to develop long-term changes.

Bullying has been a hot topic at recent National Catholic Educational Association conventions, and this year during the April 26-28 convention in New

Catholic schools vigilant about bullying

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

The Diocese of Erie has endorsed a bullying prevention program in its Catholic schools in grades K-12 going on seven years ago. That doesn't mean, however, that it doesn't have to change with the times. "Today, bullying can come up in situations where it didn't before," said Roberta Buccì, director of government programs for the diocese's Catholic schools.

Buccì is referring to cyberbullying through e-mail, texting and social media.

"The reason it's easier is because it loses the human aspect when you don't have that person right in front of you. It separates you from the situation so it's eas-

Orleans several speakers plan to address it.

During Catholic Schools Week Jan. 30-Feb. 5, Catholic schools across the country included anti-bullying workshops as part of events held for the observance that included Masses, open houses and activities for students and teachers.

Many public and Catholic schools have specific anti-bullying policies in place and dioceses are also beginning to develop these

ier to say something you might not say if the person was in front of you."

Patricia McLaughlin, director of Catholic Schools Office, said keeping up with the most current information is constant.

"You have to be vigilant," McLaughlin said. "You have to continually stay up to date with it, be informed and share information."

Every Catholic school in the diocese has had a bullying prevention program in place since the end of the 2003-04 school year. Some of them include the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program, No-Bullying Curriculum and the CASS program (Creating a Safe School). Schools also work with the Ophelia Project, which helps create safe social

climates for youth and adults. The maintenance of the anti-bullying programs has been constant.

"We keep bringing them information," Buccì said. "There are a variety of things that are being offered, and we share that information with the schools and let them know what's available."

Elaine Surma, a special agent with the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office, spoke to all Catholic school principals in the diocese in November on "cyberbullying" and has visited a number of schools.

Also this year, the diocese hosted a webinar on "Texting Dos and Don'ts" for educators.

Rhonda Clark, assistant superintendent of schools, told the Gulf Pine Catholic, newspaper of the Biloxi Diocese, that the

guidelines did come as the result of an increase in bullying but were "merely a matter of following the law."

She noted that a spate of bullying incidents in the national spotlight prompted many states to pass legislation on this issue.

In Mississippi, the new state law specifically defines bullying or harassing behavior as actions that place students in fear of harm or create a hostile environment.

Clark said the new guidelines establish a "uniform policy for all of the diocesan schools so that every school will be on the same

page."

Bobby Trosclair, principal at St. Patrick Catholic High School in Biloxi, said bullying is simply a reality in today's schools. "It exists on all levels from elementary to high school. It's not something new. It's been around for ages. There's just been more public attention to it."

He said the anti-bullying guidelines were a good way to prevent confusion.

"The biggest thing is that a parent's definition of bullying may be different from what the law determines bullying to be," he said.

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Briefly

Operation Rice Bowl raises awareness of global hunger, poverty

Every year, millions of Catholics in the United States participate in Operation Rice Bowl, Catholic Relief Services' annual Lenten program that starts on Ash Wednesday, March 9.

Each Lent, Catholic parishes and schools from more than 12,000 communities including those in the Diocese of Erie use symbolic rice bowls as the focal point for their prayer, fasting and learning. Getting involved in the program is a tangible way to help people living in poverty around the world.

Participants in Operation Rice Bowl make the small sacrifice of preparing simple, meatless recipes each week and putting the money they otherwise would have spent on a big meal into symbolic rice bowls. That money goes to support CRS' mission to fight global hunger and poverty.

Last year, Catholics raised more than \$6 million through Operation Rice Bowl, 75 percent of which is used to fund hunger and poverty projects in 40 countries. The remaining 25 percent stays in U.S. dioceses to support food pantries and soup kitchens.

For more information on Operation Rice Bowl, visit www.orb.crs.org.



Cursillo weekends for men, women

The Erie Diocesan Cursillo Movement has openings for its "short course in Christianity" weekend for men on March 10-13 and women on April 7-10. Both Cursillos will be held at Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Harborcreek.

For more information, visit www.ErieCursillo.org or call 814.824.1118.

Mother-daughter teas



Audrey Kruszewski, Alexandra Wagner and Jennifer Phillips enjoy a cup of tea at one of last year's Mother-Daughter Teas.

The Diocese of Erie's Chastity Education Office & Natural Family Planning is sponsoring a series of mother-daughter teas.

This special event is for girls age 10 and older and their mothers. The purpose of the program is to provide an atmosphere of love and learning to discuss: growing up and changes due to puberty, preparing for the onset of menstruation, accepting new responsibilities, growing in virtue, establishing a foundation for continued communication between parent and child and the sacredness of human life.

The program is presented by women involved in the diocesan Natural Family Planning program and emphasizes respect, understanding and appreciation for God's gifts. Mother-daughter tea locations include:

- Saturday, March 26 at Beloved Disciple Parish, Grove City, from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Sunday, April 3 at St. Peter Cathedral School, Erie, from 1 to 3:30 p.m.
- Saturday, April 30 at St. Eulalia Parish, Coudersport, from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Registration is required. Forms are available from your Catholic school or religious education leader.

Cost is \$15 per family (Early bird is \$12). For more information, contact the Chastity Education Office at 1.800.374.3723 Ext. 259.

Pro-life high school oratory contest

People for Life, an Erie-based pro-life organization, is conducting an oratory contest for high school students from Erie, Crawford, Mercer and Venango counties. Contestants will present an original, 5- to 7-minute pro-life speech on abortion, infanticide, euthanasia or embryonic stem cell research.

The competition will take place April 2 at the Blasco Memorial Library in Erie. Grades 9-10 and 11-12 will compete separately. The first-place winner from each division will receive \$100; the second-place winners will receive \$50. The grade 11-12 first- and second-place winners will be eligible to compete in round two at the state level.

Contact People for Life at 814.882.1333 or e-mail office@peopleforlife.org to register and receive complete information.

Middle school youth rally April 10 in Warren

WARREN - The Diocese of Erie's Youth and Young Adult Ministry is sponsoring the annual middle school youth rally, which will be held on Sunday, April 10 from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at St. Joseph Parish in Warren.

The theme for the rally is "Your Kingdom is Glorious."

The event includes Mass with Bishop Donald Trautman and a day of events hosted by Jackie Francois, a singer, songwriter and speaker from Placencia, Calif.

To register, contact your parish's religious education leader. For more information and online registration, visit www.onthevine.us.



Jackie Francois

Harborcreek Youth Services marks 100 years

Harborcreek Youth Services, an affiliate agency of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Erie, will celebrate a Hundred Years of Serving (HYS) on Wednesday, May 11 with an anniversary Mass and luncheon.

Bishop Donald Trautman will celebrate Mass at 10:30 a.m. at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie. The luncheon will follow at the Bayfront Convention Center.

Tickets for the luncheon are \$30 each. Visit www.hys-erie.org for more information or to make reservations.

COME HOME, from page 1

trates how the church opens its doors to all races, ages, cultures and socioeconomic levels. Video for this ad includes scenes of the sacraments being received around the world.

The reflective "Movie of Your Life" ad brings about sorrowful reflection of the bad times in our lives, as well as the joyful reliving of the good. This commercial reminds viewers that Jesus came not to condemn the world but to save it, and teaches that it is never too late to ask for God's forgiveness and to accept His mercy.

The "Testimonials" are mini-documentaries and consist of real Catholics, not actors, who share their stories of leaving the church and the joy and peace they found upon their return.

Another cornerstone of the campaign is the Catholics Come Home website — www.catholicscomehome.org. The site, which is mentioned or shown in each commercial, addresses often misunderstood aspects of the faith — church teachings, information on

Catholics Come Home facilitator training

One way to welcome back inactive church members is to invite them to be a part of the small communities in your parish. Small community facilitator training sessions will be sponsored by the diocese at the following locations. All sessions start at 7 p.m. No pre-registration is necessary.

Thursday, March 3 — St. Mark, Emporium

Monday, March 7 — Our Lady of Mercy, Harborcreek

For more information or questions, contact Sister Nancy Fischer, SSJ, director of Community Formation and Lay Ministry Training, at 814.824.1217 or e-mail NFischer@ErieRCD.org.

marriage and divorce, confession and pro-life issues.

The initial Catholics Come Home campaign was conducted in the Diocese of Phoenix during Lent 2008. Within a year, the results included a 12-percent increase in Mass attendance. An estimated 92,000 inactive Catholics in the Phoenix Diocese came back to the church.

"For those who had fallen away from the practice of their faith, it let them know that we want them

to come home," Phoenix Bishop Thomas Olmsted said.

Bishop Donald Trautman said the program will get off to a solid start in the Erie Diocese.

"We're very excited about the program," Bishop Trautman said. "The parishes have taken it very seriously. For whatever reason people have been away, we want them to know that we want them to come home. And if we're inviting people to come home to the church, how are we going to wel-

come them back?"

Part of the answer lies within each parish, he said, with many already forming welcoming committees and small community faith-sharing groups.

On the heels of the Diocese of Phoenix's success, the campaign has been conducted in the archdioceses of Seattle, Atlanta and Chicago and the dioceses of Sacramento, Colorado Springs, Corpus Christi, Bismarck, Fargo, Omaha, Savannah, Charlotte, Providence and Green Bay. Through those campaigns, Catholics Come Home welcomed 200,000 people back to the church with an average increase of 10 percent in Mass attendance.

Joining the Diocese of Erie in conducting Catholics Come Home campaigns in Lent are the archdioceses of New Orleans and Boston and the diocese of Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Houma-Thibodaux, Venice, Portland and Winona.

For more information on Catholics Come Home, visit www.ErieRCD.org and www.catholicscomehome.org.

DEATH NOTICE

Sister Marie Claire Kearney, SSJ

Sister Marie Claire Kearney, 87, of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania, died February 11, 2011. She was in her 69th year of religious life.

Born in Bradford on January 15, 1924, she was a daughter of the late Genevieve and William Kearney. She entered the Sisters of St. Joseph from St. Bernard Parish, Bradford, on February 2, 1943 and professed her final vows on August 15, 1948.

Sister Marie Claire earned a

diploma in nursing from Saint Vincent School of Nursing and a bachelor's degree in nursing from Villa Maria College, Erie.

She studied at the Medical Ethics Institute at St. John's University, New York, N.Y. She also studied and received certification in purchasing

and materials management at St. Louis University; hospital logistic management and central service management from the American Hospital Association; cardiovascular management and inhalation therapy management and techniques at The Cleveland Clinic; operating room management and techniques at St. Mary's Hospital, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, N.Y., and studied at the Psychiatric Nursing Institute at Seton Institute, Baltimore, Md.

Sister Marie Claire served at Saint Vincent Health Center in Erie for 52 years in various ca-

pacities; senior vice president, assistant administrator and director of the operating room and central supply/inhalation therapy.

She served the congregation as councilor for personnel; a past member of the formation team; a councilor for community life and was active in several Chapters of Affairs. In addition, she spent ten years teaching at Villa Maria College.

Sister Marie Claire retired from active ministry in 1996 and most recently resided at the Villa Maria Community Living Center in Erie.



Sister Marie Claire Kearney, SSJ

menu
* takeout available at certain locations

Lenten Dining

..... fish entrées

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| <p>BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH School Cafeteria 1626 West 26th Street, Erie, PA March 11, 25 / April 8 4:30-7:00 pm</p> <p>BAKED SCROD, MACARONI AND CHEESE AND CHEESE RAVIOLI Includes green beans, coleslaw, roll and butter, sherbet and beverage Adult \$8.00, Child 12 and under \$5.00</p> <p>* Takeout available (814) 454-0171</p> <p>OUR LADY OF THE LAKE Social Hall 126 Sunset Drive, Edinboro, PA March 18, 25 / April 1, 8, 15, 22 5:00-7:00 pm Adult \$8.00, Child \$4.00 Tickets available at the door</p> <p>FRIED OR BAKED FISH Includes macaroni and cheese or baked potato, coleslaw, green beans, bread, refreshments and dessert</p> <p>* Takeout available Info: (814) 763-2986</p> <p>ST. LUKE PARISH Knights of Columbus School Cafeteria 421 East 38th Street, Erie, PA March 11, 18, 25 / April 1 5:00-7:00 pm Adult \$8.50, Child 6-12 \$5.00 5 and under free</p> <p>ICELANDIC COD Includes macaroni and cheese or pierogi, french fries, green beans, coleslaw, fresh bread, ice cream, coffee, tea, milk and soft drinks</p> <p>Info: Dave Kacprowicz, Grand Knight (814) 864-5311</p> | <p>ST. TERESA PARISH Parish Center 9 Third Avenue, Union City, PA March 11, 18, 25 / April 1, 8, 15 4:30-7:00 pm</p> <p>BAKED OR FRIED FISH Includes french fries or baked potato, coleslaw, roll, dessert and beverage Adult \$8.00, Child 5-12 \$4.00 4 and under free, Info: (814) 438-2000</p> <p>ST. BRIGID PARISH St. Brigid Parish Center 383 Arch Street, Meadville, PA March 11, 18, 25 / April 1, 8, 15 4:30-6:30 pm Adult \$7.50, 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>ALL SAINTS PARISH 11264 Route 97 North, Waterford, PA March 11, 18, 25 / April 1, 8, 15 4:30-7:00 pm Adult \$9.00, Child 12 and under \$4.00 Toddlers free</p> <p>* Takeout available (814) 796-3023 or at the door</p> <p>ST. BONIFACE PARISH School Cafeteria 355 Main Street, Kersey, PA Ash Wednesday, March 9, and every Friday through Good Friday 4:00-7:00 pm Large \$9.00, Small \$8.00</p> <p>HADDOCK Includes choice of potato and side, beverage and homemade dessert CHICKEN FINGERS (child entrée)</p> |
| <p>ST. JOSEPH PARISH 17735 Bennetts Valley Highway, Forca, PA Ash Wednesday, March 9 and every Friday during Lent 4:00-7:00 pm</p> <p>BAKED OR FRIED HADDOCK Includes french fries or baked potato, roll, coleslaw, dessert and beverage Adult \$9.00, Child 12 and under \$5.00</p> <p>* Takeout available, (814) 787-4819 We deliver in Bennetts Valley</p> <p>GROVE CITY Knights of Columbus Knights of Columbus Hall 1342 S. Center St., Ext., Grove City, PA (next to Beloved Disciple Church) March 11, 18, 25 / April 1, 8, 15 4:00-7:00 pm Dine in \$8.00, Takeout \$9.00</p> <p>FRIED OR BAKED FISH Includes choice of macaroni and cheese or scalloped potatoes, coleslaw, roll, beverage and dessert Info: (724) 748-6700, Ext. 1</p> <p>ST. JOHN PARISH School Cafeteria 27th and Wallace Streets, Erie, PA Ash Wednesday, March 9 4:30-7:30 pm</p> <p>LAKE ERIE PERCH Includes coleslaw, salad, potato, vegetable, dessert and beverage Adult \$8.00, Senior \$7.50 Child 12 and under \$5.00 MACARONI AND CHEESE (child entrée) \$3.00</p> <p>* Takeout available Tickets will be sold in advance and only 250 dinners will be sold Info/Reservation: Jeanne Buehner at 459-9403</p> <p>FISH AND PIEROGI ST. STANISLAUS PARISH 516 East 13th Street, Erie, PA March 11, 25 / April 8 4:00-7:00 pm</p> <p>Adult \$10.00, Child 6-12 \$5.00 5 and under free * Takeout available \$10.50</p> | <p>FISH, SHRIMP AND CRAB LEGS ST. JOSEPH PARISH, School Cafeteria Route 66, Lucinda, PA March 11, 18, 25 / April 1, 8, 15, 22 4:00-7:00 pm</p> <p>BAKED OR FRIED FISH, SHRIMP OR CRAB Includes choice of potato, coleslaw, roll, hushpuppies, dessert and beverage Adult \$7.95, Child \$5.95 Preschool and under free Crab leg dinner \$11.95</p> <p>LUNCHEON 11:00 am-1:00 pm (Takeout only) FISH SANDWICH \$6.00 Includes french fries and coleslaw (814) 226-8310</p> |

..... fish and more

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| <p>FISH AND PIEROGI OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL Scheffner Hall 1553 East Grandview Boulevard, Erie, PA March 18 / April 1, 15 4:00-7:00 pm</p> <p>Adult \$8.50, Child 7-12 \$4.00 6 and under free</p> <p>BREADED FRIED FISH OR CHEESE PIEROGI Includes french fries, potato salad or macaroni and cheese, coleslaw or green beans and ice cream dessert</p> | <p>FISH AND SHRIMP SACRED HEART PARISH Sacred Heart Activity Center 325 Center Street, St. Marys, PA March 11, 18, 25 / April 8, 22 4:00-7:30 pm</p> <p>Large \$9.00, Small \$8.00 Child under 10 \$5.00</p> <p>BAKED OR FRIED FISH OR SHRIMP Includes french fries or baked potato, coleslaw, meatless soup, roll, dessert and beverage * Takeout available (814) 834-4017</p> |
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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 FaithLife@ErieRCD.org

Visit ErieRCD.org/faithlife.asp to download quick and easy photo tips on a wallet-size card.



Venango County schools celebrate Catholic Schools Week

OIL CITY – The three Catholic schools in Venango County gathered at Venango Catholic High School in Oil City during Catholic Schools Week Jan. 30-Feb. 5 for a fun-filled day of games, a play from the VCHS Thespian Club, a magic show and Mass.

The Mass was for the Venango Catholic preparatory schools, which include St. Patrick School in Franklin and St. Stephen School and Venango Catholic High School in Oil City.

Father Nicholas Rouch, the Diocese of Erie's Vicar for Education, joined area priests to concelebrate Mass including Father Justin Pino, Msgr. John Herbein, Father Skip Davis, Father Matthew Ruyechan and Father John Malhaner and assisted by Deacon Tim Wren.



Father Nicholas Rouch delivers the homily for the Catholic Schools Week Mass at Venango Catholic High School.

DCC's mock trial team named district champions



Pictured, left to right, are members of DuBois Central Catholic High School's mock trial team: (standing) Elliott LaParne, Morgan Gray, Zach Bauer, David Gangewere, Kevin Blakely, Joseph

Aravich, Patrick Sayers; (seated front) Carol Korthaus, coach; (seated back) Sarah Aravich and Kallie Crawford.

DUBOIS – The DuBois Central Catholic Mock Trial team will advance to regional competition after recording decisions against teams from Punxsutawney Area High School and DuBois Area High School.

The team scored decisions as defendants on Feb. 8 and as plaintiffs on Feb. 10.

The case, which is prepared by the Pennsylvania Bar Association

Young Lawyers Division, is argued statewide in high school competition. This year the civil case pitting Dr. Letti Harrison as defendant against the estate of Simone Langston which is charging the doctor with an unauthorized aspiration (medical battery) of cancer cells without getting consent from a medically incompetent Langston.

The cases were tried in Jefferson

County Courthouse before Judge John Foradora with a jury made up of legal professionals from Jefferson and Clearfield counties. Team members served as attorneys and witnesses. Regional competition will feature DuBois Central Catholic's team against the winner of the Region 3 Southern Division.

The team is advised by Attorney Ed Ferraro.

Knights of Columbus contribute to Catholics Come Home

ERIE – Officials from the Central West Region of the Knights of Columbus met with Bishop Donald Trautman on Feb. 15 and presented him with a check for \$2,000 for the Diocese of Erie's Catholics Come Home campaign.

Catholics Come Home, a comprehensive evangelization effort that uses promotional TV spots as well as parish-based programs, aims to welcome Catholics back to the church.

The commercials will air on TV stations and cable outlets throughout the diocese beginning the Monday before Ash Wednesday, March 7. The cost of the Catholics Come Home TV spots is \$123,000. Parishes in the diocese took up a special collection to support the project in November.

The donation came from members of the Knights of Columbus in the Central West Region, which includes the Diocese of Erie.



Pictured left to right are: (seated) Charles Mahood, regional associate chairman; Bishop Donald Trautman; Steve Cash, former master; (standing) Mark Urban, regional treasurer; George Beckes, regional secretary; and Ray Barber, former state secretary.

HYS Academy holds open house

ERIE – HYS Academy, a start-up program from Harborcreek Youth Services, began accepting its first students this month.

The academy is housed at the former Wesleyville Elementary School, located at 2138 Willow St. in Erie.

Sydney Amicucci, director of alternative education for Harborcreek Youth Services, said the mission of the academy is to prepare students to be successful and productive in and out of the classroom.

"Education is where you can make a real difference," Amicucci said. "It's where you can turn a person's life around."

HYS Academy is designed to meet the needs of children in grades 7 through 12 who are experiencing behavioral, academic and/or social difficulties that interfere with their success in school, she said.

The academy will be an extension of local school districts, with students coming from Harbor Creek, Iroquois, Union City, Wattsburg and North East.

"Our goal, as a short-term program, is to teach them the skills to transition back to their school



HYS Academy, located at the former Wesleyville Elementary School in Erie, features renovated classrooms (pictured) and a refurbished gymnasium and cafeteria.

districts," Amicucci said.

HYS Academy held open houses Feb. 1 and 3 to unveil the renovated school which includes smaller sized classrooms and a refurbished gym and cafeteria. The academy's first students arrived shortly after.

"The key is to keep the class size small with individualized attention," Amicucci said.

Harborcreek Youth Services is an affiliate of Catholic Charities.



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France/Spain/Portugal: May 14-26 / June 30-July 12...
Italy Regular: May 14-22 **Italy South:** Sept. 10-22...
Italy / Holy Land: March 20-April 1 / April 9-22...
Italy / Switzerland: April 2-14 / April 30-May 2...
Ireland / Scotland: May 14-26 / July 9-21 / Sept. 3-15...
Loures / Fatima / Medjugorje: May 4-15 / Sept. 3-14...
Tuscany: June 30-July 10 / Sept. 8-18...

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"One more day, God's Way" **FHP**

Sacred Heart Altar Society's 58th Spaghetti Dinner
 Auditorium, W. 25th and Liberty Streets, Erie
Sunday, March 13
Serving noon-6pm
 Dinner includes savory spaghetti and meatballs with sauce, tossed salad, bread and butter, dessert and beverage.
Adults: \$6.00, Children (6-12): \$3.00
Under 6: FREE
 Carryout orders from 11:30am (Please bring your own containers.)
 Theme basket raffle, 50/50 drawing, bake sale
 Directed by: Lorraine Szelegnia
 with Lisa Lopez Zamierowski and Lim Lopez Rater