



SCOTTSDALE, Ariz.—Maureen Antwan poses with her sons, Anthony, left, and Kris, at Mar Abraham Chaldean Catholic Church in Scottsdale, on March 26. The family fled Iraq in 2004 out of fear of war and persecution.



FREDERICKSBURG, Va.—Kathleen Wilson, left, helps a mother with her newborn twins this spring at one of the homes run by Mary's Shelter, a Catholic organization that provides housing and financial support to pregnant women in crisis.

FaithLife

www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

May 14, 2017

Pope Francis to meet Trump at Vatican May 24



WASHINGTON (CNS)—President Donald Trump will visit the Vatican and meet with Pope Francis May 24 as part of his first foreign trip as president.

White House officials said the visit will be part of a trip that will include stops in Israel and Saudi Arabia before Trump attends a NATO meeting in Brussels May 25.

Trump also will attend the G7 summit in Taormina on the island of Sicily May 26-27.

The trip is an attempt to unite three of the world's leading religious faiths in the common cause of fighting terrorism, White House officials said May 4.

Officials said it also is intended to rein in Iran and unify "the world against intolerance."

The information was confirmed by Paloma Garcia Ovejero, vice director of the Vatican press office.

The president's meeting with Pope Francis is to take place in the Apostolic Palace and will include Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, and Archbishop Paul Gallagher, secretary for relations with states.

Trump said at an April 20 news conference with Italian Prime Minister Paolo Gentiloni that he was interested in meeting with the pope.

DIOCESAN NEWS

Four men to be ordained permanent deacons

Four men will be ordained to the permanent diaconate May 26 during a ceremony at St. Peter Cathedral in downtown Erie.

The deacon candidates are:

- **Kevin Harmon** of St. Titus Parish, Titusville
- **Gerald Peterson** of Our Lady of Peace Parish, Erie
- **Daniel Satterlee** of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Sykesville
- **Joseph Yochim** of Our Lady of Peace Parish, Erie.

Bishop Lawrence Persico will officiate at the ordination ceremony, which begins at 7 p.m.

In the Catholic Church, the diaconate is the first of three ranks in ordained ministry. Deacons preparing for the priesthood are transitional deacons.

Those not planning to be ordained priests are called permanent deacons. Married men may be ordained permanent deacons, and single men may be ordained to the permanent diaconate with a commitment to celibacy.

Religious leaders react to Trump order

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE AND FAITHLIFE

WASHINGTON—Many religious leaders viewed President Donald Trump's May 4 executive order on religious freedom as a step in the right direction.

In a ceremony for the National Day of Prayer prior to signing the executive order, Trump told the assembled religious leaders: "We're taking big steps to protect religious liberty" and he assured them the government "won't stand for religious discrimination."

Three religious leaders, including Washington Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl, offered

prayers during a Rose Garden ceremony. Just prior to the event, Cardinal Wuerl and Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, met with Trump about the order.

Erie Bishop Lawrence Persico reiterated a comment made by Cardinal DiNardo that U.S. bishops will "have to review the details of any regulatory proposals" as a result of the executive order. In an interview with Catholic News Service at Reagan National Airport just after the White House ceremony, Cardinal DiNardo said the meeting with the president was brief

but productive.

The cardinal said the executive order "begins the process of alleviating the serious burden of the HHS mandate," referring to the mandate issued by the federal Department of Health and Human Services requiring most religious employers to provide

coverage of artificial birth control for their employees even if they morally oppose it. The Diocese of Erie is among many religious entities that have opposed the mandate, litigating it all the way to the U.S. Su-

>> See RELIGIOUS LEADERS, page 3

BY MARY SOLBERG / FAITHLIFE

"We are many parts, we are all one body, and the gifts we have we are given to share."

If you've been singing in church since the 1980s, you'll most likely be able to finish this refrain from the popular liturgical song, "We Are Many Parts," written by Marty Haugen.

It ends: "May the spirit of love make us one indeed, one, the love that we share, one, our hope in despair, one, the cross that we bear."

Love, hope and the cross represent the Christian journey lived out by the late Mark Kulyk, a longtime musical leader and parishioner at Holy Cross Church in Fairview. His love of Hau-

gen's music, and that of two other renowned liturgical musicians—David Haas and Stephen Petrunak—will be shared at a concert featuring the three men May 19 at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Cross.

Before his death to brain cancer last November, Kulyk, 60, had challenged Kathy Felong, the parish music director, to organize a concert featuring Haugen, Haas and Petrunak. He had long wanted to see the three men perform together, given their important contributions to liturgical music in Catholic churches over the past three decades.

Felong knows Haugen, Haas and Petrunak through her involvement in the National Association for Pastoral Musicians (NPM) since the early 1990s. She has sung in concerts by Haas and

Haugen and co-authored with Petrunak a series of method books for church guitarists. Petrunak is the newly named president of NPM.

Surprisingly, all three were able to accommodate their schedules and commit to the upcoming concert. More than 300 tickets have been sold so far; tickets also are sale for a pre-concert reception with the musicians.

"I think Mark would be thrilled to see the response of the people, knowing what a gift of faith the concert will be," Felong says.

Haas, Haugen and Petrunak did not know Mark Kulyk personally, but their

>> See MUSICIANS, page 3



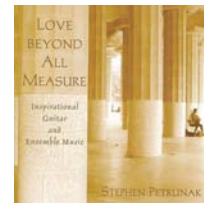
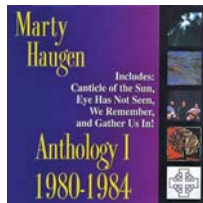
David Haas



Marty Haugen



Stephen Petrunak



'Pedaling priests' complete bicycle trek

PEORIA, Ill. (CNS)—Father Michael Pica, Father Tom Otto and Father Adam Cesarek dip their rear tires in the Mississippi River April 24 as they begin "Priests Pedaling for Prayers."

The effort to raise awareness of vocations took them more than 340 miles from the border between Iowa and Illinois to the Indiana state line four days later. "It does seem a little surreal," Father Tom Otto said at the journey's end. "Things like this seem insurmountable when you begin, but maybe like life, you focus on the short-term goals. ... That makes it doable. Take one little bit at a time and before you know it, you've done something pretty incredible."



CNS photo

Newsmakers



Snippets of Catholic headlines and stories from around the world

from Catholic News Service

■ Pope plans celebrations with charismatics and Pentecostals



CNS photo

Pope Francis and Coptic Orthodox Pope Tawadros II, right, attend an ecumenical prayer service at the Church of St. Peter in Cairo April 28.

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Francis has invited thousands of Catholic charismatics and members of Pentecostal and Evangelical churches to Rome to celebrate Pentecost and mark the 50th anniversary of what became the Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

The pope will lead a prayer vigil June 3, the eve of Pentecost, at Rome's Circus Maximus, an open field that was the site of an ancient Roman stadium used for chariot races. Participants will join the pope the next morning for Pentecost Mass in St. Peter's Square.

In 2014, Pope Francis had invited charismatics and Pentecostals to Rome in 2017 to mark the 50th anniversary of the Catholic charismatic movement, which traces its origins to a retreat held in 1967 at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. The anniversary event is being organized by the Vatican-based International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services.

The jubilee celebrations will begin in Rome May 31 with prayer meetings, a youth festival, meetings for theologians and workshops.

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal is present in more than 200 countries and has reached an estimated 120 million Catholics.

■ Papal trip termed 'big blessing' for Christian, Muslim Egyptians

AMMAN, Jordan (CNS)—Pope Francis' historic, 72-hour visit to Cairo last month has left a profound mark on Egyptians, Catholic leaders said, as they anticipate increased ties with fellow Orthodox Christians and Muslims.

"The pope's visit was a big blessing to the Egyptians, both Muslims and Christians. It

boosted the morale of the Egyptian people, especially after the Palm Sunday blasts," Father Rafic Greiche, spokesman for the Egyptian bishops, told Catholic News Service by phone. "He gave a message of love, peace and hope."

Father Greiche referred to a pair of terrorist attacks April 9 at two Egyptian churches. The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the attacks, which killed at least 45 people, injured more than 100 others and shook the Middle East's largest Christian community to the core. "The pope's visit for Catholics in Egypt was a great happening, very positive," said Jesuit Father Samir Khalil Samir, a noted Egyptian Catholic theologian and Islamic studies scholar. The professor teaches at the Pontifical Oriental Institute in Rome and St. Joseph's University in Beirut.

Even more important, he said, was the historic improvement in ecumenical ties between the Catholic and the Coptic Orthodox churches. Pope Francis and Coptic Orthodox Pope Tawadros II signed a declaration on common baptism.

■ Catholic leaders urge Israel to meet strikers' demands



CNS photo

Israeli border policemen in Bethlehem, West Bank, detain a Palestinian protester in support of Palestinians in Israeli jails April 27.

JERUSALEM (CNS)—Catholic leaders in the Holy Land urged Israel to concede to demands of Palestinian political prisoners on a hunger strike since April 17.

The prisoners are seeking an improvement in their prison conditions and an end to administrative detention, which allows Israel to hold prisoners almost indefinitely without having to charge them with a crime.

The Assembly of Catholic Ordinaries of the Holy Land said the prisoners are asking that their human rights and dignity be respected according to international law and the Geneva Convention.

Bishop announces clergy appointments



The Most Rev. Lawrence Persico, JCL, bishop of Erie, makes the following clergy assignments:

• **Deacon Michael Dittman**, chaplaincy ministry at SCI Forest, Marienville, effective March 24, 2017, for a term of five years in addition to current duties at St. Mary Parish in Crown, and St. Ann Church in Marienville.

• **Deacon Edward Horneman**, chaplaincy ministry at SCI Mercer, effective March 15, 2017, for a term of five years in addition to current duties at St. Mary of Grace Parish and campus ministry at Allegheny College, both in Meadville.

• **Father Robert Manning**, pastor, St. Columbkille Parish, Stoneboro, effective March 31, 2017, for a term of six years concurrent with chaplaincy ministry to the community of Polk State Hospital.

• **Father Philip Oriole**, parochial administrator, St. Brigid, St. Agatha and St. Mary of Grace parishes, all in Meadville, effective April 22, 2017, through June 9, 2017.

• **Father Matias Quimno**, chaplaincy ministry at Christ the King Manor, DuBois, effective April 7, 2017, for a term of five years.

• **Father Johnathan Schmoltz**, medical leave of absence, effective April 17, 2017.

REAPPOINTMENTS:

• **Father Scott Detisch**, faculty of St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore, effective April 5, 2017, for a term of three years.

• **Father Michael Kesicki**, rector of St. Mark Seminary, Erie, effective March 14, 2017, for a term of five years.



Editor's Notes

Mary SOLBERG

Psalm 20:4 offers all graduates this inspirational message: "May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed."

Two of my sons are among the thousands of regional high school and college students graduating in 2017. My son Jon is graduating from General McLane High School; David is graduating from Kent State University.

With their Catholic faith fully integrated into their lives, I can only hope that they move forward knowing that Jesus is always at their side.

Bishop Robert Lynch, who retired last November as bishop of the Catholic Diocese of St. Petersburg, Fla., was the keynote speaker at Gannon University's May 6 commencement exercises at the Erie Insurance Arena.

Bishop Lynch was awarded a doctor of humane letters degree at the ceremony.

He was instrumental in the creation of Gannon's Ruskin, Fla., campus and joined **Eric Bishop Lawrence Persico** at a blessing and dedication in August 2015.

Gannon's Hammermill Center, perhaps more than any other building on the downtown Erie campus, is full of memories—from graduation and convocation ceremonies to concerts and buzzer-beating shots. **Gary Miller**, a 1972 graduate of Gannon, recently made a gift of \$750,000 to support the modernization of the Hammermill Center.

The site will undergo many changes, including new locker rooms and training facilities, as well as an expansion plan that will feature a permanent home for the university's Athletics Hall of Fame.

The hardwood within the center will now be known as Gary Miller Court.

Miller graduated from Gannon with a bachelor's degree in business and his Miller Management Group operates auto dealerships in Erie and Florida.

Spring brings a lot of vacation news.

Two seminarians of the Diocese of Erie—**Andrew Michael Boyd** and **Ian Ryan McElrath**—were ordained to the transitional diaconate on April 22. Bishop Persico presided at the Mass at St. Mark Seminary Chapel in Erie.

As noted on page 1, four men will be ordained here to the permanent diaconate. This raises the number of permanent deacons to 81.

On June 9, Deacons **Sean Kerins**, **Kyle Seyler** and **David Whiteford** will be ordained priests for the diocese at St. Peter Cathedral.

Students from two Erie parochial high schools won top honors at the 10th anniversary of the Art Show, sponsored by the Barber National Institute in Erie.

Camryn Catalde, a junior at Villa Maria Academy, won the best of show award in photography for her photo, "Reflections in a Drop."

Emily Matczak, a senior at Mercyhurst Prep, won the best of show award for her watercolor, "October."

In addition, visitors to the show selected "Obi," a painting by **Victoria Quirk**, a junior at Villa Maria Academy, as the People's Choice award winner in the youth category.

A fifth grade student at Villa Elementary, **Timmy Taylor**, won an honorable mention award for his charcoal and pastel drawing, "Buddy."

They all were among 230 youth artists from throughout the region whose work was exhibited in the show.

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

PNC Bank continues significant support for Catholic education



Photo by Mary Solberg

Bishop Lawrence Persico, center, accepts the latest contribution from PNC Bank regional President Jim Stevenson, far right, for scholarships to children attending schools in the Diocese of Erie. Also pictured is Father Nicholas Rouch, vicar for education.

Over the past 14 years, PNC Bank has been a major contributor for scholarship assistance to students attending Catholic schools in the Diocese of Erie.

In April, Jim Stevenson, PNC's regional president, presented Bishop Lawrence Persico and Father Nicholas Rouch, vicar for education with PNC's latest donation of \$41,500.

That contribution will provide scholarship assistance to 70 children attending diocesan elementary schools.

"PNC is pleased to be able to support the educational mis-

sion of the diocese," Stevenson said. "It's closely aligned with PNC's mission relative to early childhood education."

PNC contributes to the diocesan STAR Foundation through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program.

In 2016, the bank's total contributions to the diocese and related secondary schools amounted to approximately \$100,000.

According to Father Rouch, "This is a strong message to the community of PNC's support of Catholic education."

FaithLife The bi-weekly newspaper of the Catholic Diocese of Erie. St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 East Grandview Blvd. Erie, Pa. 16524 Publisher: The Most Rev. Lawrence T. Persico

Executive Editor: Anne-Marie Welsh Website: www.ErieRCD.org
 Editor: Mary Solberg Volume 13, Issue 9
 Graphic Design: Rich Papalis
 Advertising Manager: Brenda Williams Member of the Catholic Press Association
 Advertising Director: Elizabeth Butterfield
 Email: FaithLife@ErieRCD.org Subscription: \$10/year
 Editorial: 814-824-1171 Periodical postage paid at Erie, Pa.
 Advertising: 814-824-1161 Postmaster: Send address changes to:
 FaithLife at St. Mark Catholic Center
 General Information: 814-824-1161 The Office of Communications has been serving Catholics of the Diocese of Erie since 1974.

CLOCK REPAIR
 LET US GIVE YOU A HAND... ALL TYPES!
 814-449-5952
 PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE

YOUR HOMETOWN PHARMACY
 FREE Delivery
 B.J. Moon, R.Ph.
 John Pontoriero, R.Ph.
 Chad Jantzi, Pharm. D.
 3106 Buffalo Road Erie, PA 16510
 814 / 898-2085
 Fax 814 / 898-2086
 Hours: 9:00-6:00 Monday-Friday, 9:00-2:00 Saturday

EVENTS

Notre Dame Concert Band to perform a Mother's Day concert at Holy Cross Church

FAIRVIEW—The Notre Dame Concert Band will perform a Mother's Day concert at Holy Cross Church, 7100 West Ridge Road, Fairview, on May 14 at 2:30 p.m. The concert is a tribute to the late Mark Kulyk, a Notre Dame graduate and marching band member who was a longtime musical leader at the parish. Tickets are \$5 per person. Proceeds benefit Emmaus Soup Kitchen in Erie.

SSJs to hold associate information night

ERIE—The Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania will offer an informal information session for anyone interested in becoming an associate of the religious congregation. The session will be held May 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the Sisters of St. Joseph Community Living Center, 5031 West Ridge Road in Mill-creek.

SSJ associates are Christian women and men who come together to share the nature and spirit of the Sisters of St. Joseph. Associate candidates are required to complete a year of preparation and instruction about the charism, history, spirit and spirituality of the sisters before they are welcomed into the program and asked to make a non-vowed commitment, which is renewed annually. For more information, contact Linda Kuhn or Nancy Donnelly at 814-836-4134 or email associates@ssjerie.org.



Evening of prayer, music scheduled in DuBois

DuBOIS—An evening of prayer and music will be held May 21 beginning at 6 p.m. at St. Michael the Archangel Church, 15 Robinson St., DuBois. The evening will include a homily, Scripture reading, Benediction and prayers for healing, with Father Marc Solomon, pastor of Christ the King Parish in Houtzdale, presiding. For more information, contact Judy Smart at 814-637-5930 or Rich Kenawell at 814-771-7932.

Enrichment Series continues at monastery

ERIE—The Benedictine Sisters of Erie continue their regular Enrichment Series with "Welcoming the Stranger" on May 31 at 7 p.m. at Mount Saint Benedict Monastery, 6101 East Lake Road, Erie. The Rev. Katie Eichenlaub White of Crossroads Community Baptist Church of Erie will lead the program. The event is free and open to the public.

St. Casimir Rosary Society plans card party

ERIE—The St. Casimir Rosary Society in Erie will hold its Blossom Time Card Party on May 31 at 6 p.m. at the St. Casimir Social Hall, Hess Avenue and Atkins streets, Erie. There will be food, raffles, door prizes and a gift auction. The donation is \$7 per person.

Two programs offered to married couples

ERIE—Married couples are welcome to attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) weekend June 23-25 at Quality Inn & Suites Conference Center, 8040-A Perry Highway, Erie. Worldwide Marriage Encounter is designed to help revitalize Christian marriage. Couples commit to an entire weekend together during which they are invited to devote concentrated time and energy to their relationship. The Diocese of Erie, along with the dioceses of Altoona-Johnstown, Greensburg and Pittsburgh, is part of the WWME of Western Pennsylvania. Erie's Family Life Office also offers a webpage for married couples interested in tuning up their relationship (www.eriecd.org/fo_diy marriage tuneup.htm). To get more detailed information about WWME, go to www.eriecd.org/fo_me.htm. For more information about either WWME or the DYI Marriage Tune-up, call the Family Life Office at 814-824-1261 or email familylife@eriecd.org.

Registration open for Camp Totus Tuus

LINESVILLE—Registration is now available for middle school Camp Totus Tuus in Linesville July 16-19. This is a four-day, three-night summer camp for seventh- and eighth-graders who want to strengthen their relationship with Jesus Christ while making new friends and having a fun camp experience. The cost is \$175 per person. For more information and/or to register, visit www.onthevine.us or contact Jen Durney at jdurney@ErieRCD.org.

Musicians honor parishioner's life

Continued from page 1

music deeply touched him, says his wife, Joyce Kulyk. The couple worked for 25 years with Worldwide Marriage Encounter.

"When their music came out, it was the new post-Vatican II sound," Joyce Kulyk says. "The psalms they chose for their music were very singable and their words were more relatable to the liturgy and the Gospels. Mark had a positive feeling that it drew together the congregation. It was a unifying kind of feeling."

In a recent telephone conference call, Haugen, Haas and Petrunak told *FaithLife* that music ministry is about sharing gifts, believing that through their songs people in the pews are moved to action in their own faith. For Haas, it's "humbling." "We are servants. We

trust that the Spirit will do its work," says Haas, who has produced more than 50 collections of original music, including such songs as "We Have Been Told" and "Blest Are They."

For Haugen, music is a shared language that Mark Kulyk obviously



Joyce Kulyk posed for this selfie with her late husband, Mark.

"We're coming to honor a person's life who sounds like an amazing man to his family and to his faith community."

—Stephen Petrunak

spoke as well. "People still feel connected to our music," Haugen says. "Music comes at a time in our deepest moments." Petrunak's recordings are available through

GIA Publications, including his most recent release, "With Hope and Healing." He says music can enliven parishes, much like at Holy Cross. "We're coming to honor a person's life who sounds like an amazing man to his family and to his faith community," Petrunak says. Before his death, Mark Kulyk told the concert was going to happen. As Joyce Kulyk says, "He'll be there."

CONCERT INFO	
Holy Cross Church 7100 West Ridge Road Fairview	
May 19 at 7:30 p.m.	
Tickets: \$15 Children 12 and under free	
To reserve tickets, call 814-474-2605 or email HCmusicministry@gmail.com	
Proceeds benefit Holy Cross Music Ministry.	

Religious leaders react to order

Continued from page 1

preme Court. The outcome of that case still has not been determined. The text of the executive order, "Promoting Free Speech and Religious Liberty," states that cabinet offices "shall consider issuing amended regulations, consistent with applicable law, to address conscience-based objections to the preventive-care mandate." During the White House ceremony, Trump told some of the Little Sisters of the Poor in the crowd: "Your long ordeal will soon be over." The sisters are just one of the groups that challenged the federal contraceptive mandate.

Mother Loraine Marie Maguire, superior of the Little Sisters' Baltimore province, said in a statement that the sisters are "grateful for the president's order and look forward to the agencies giving us an exemption so that we can continue caring for the elderly poor and dying" without fear of government punishment. Another aspect of the order is a weakening of the Johnson Amendment, the 1954 amendment that bans churches and nonprofit organizations of all types from participating in partisan political activity at the risk of losing their tax-exempt status. Trump told the religious leaders that the order's attempt to lessen restrictions of the amendment will



President Donald Trump signs his executive order on religious liberty during a National Day of Prayer event at the White House in Washington May 4. In the background, center, is Cardinal Donald Wuerl of Washington, D.C.

be "giving our churches their voices back."

The order states the Treasury Department shall ensure and "respect and protect the freedom of persons and organizations to engage in religious and political speech."

It also calls for department officials to "not take any adverse action against any individual, house of worship, or other religious organization" for speaking about moral or political issues from a religious perspective.

Regarding religious liberty, the order is not very specific. It states: "In order to guide all agencies in complying with relevant federal law, the attorney general shall, as appropriate, issue guidance interpreting religious liberty protections in federal law."

Cardinal DiNardo told CNS that the executive order emphasizes that there should "not be an overly intrusive federal government" involved when a person or group is exercising one's faith.

Johnston's Evergreen Nursery, Inc.
GARDEN CENTER
10000 Wales Road
Erie, PA 16510
(814) 739-2820

Since 1953

WHOLESALE OFFICE
(814) 897-1900

"We grow our plants with you in mind"

johnstonplants.com

I-90, Exit 35, South 3.5 miles (or) From Route 8, North onto Wales Rd.

Try our new **ONLINE MEMORIAL DESIGNER** from the comfort of home

Monday - Friday 9 to 5 • Saturday 9 to Noon
Evenings & Weekends by Appointment
32980 Route 66 • Leeper, PA 16233

BORLAND MEMORIALS (814) 744-8340
www.borlandmemorials.com

Photos and news
Diocese of Erie
facebook

LEARN ROSARY MAKING
LEWIS & COMPANY
Contact us for a catalog and introductory offer.
rosaryparts.com
(800) 342-2400

ERIE DIOCESAN CEMETERIES
cordially invites the public to attend the **Memorial Day Mass**
Bishop Lawrence T. Persico, celebrating
Monday, May 29th at 9 a.m.
Gate of Heaven Cemetery
5711 West Lake Road, Erie
Call (814) 838-7724
or visit www.eriecd.org
for more information.

Your Perfect Cook Forest Getaway
Cherry Run Cabins

CALL FOR SPRING SPECIALS!

www.cherryruncabins.com
814-752-6481
Luxury Cabins • Year-Round Rental

ProximoTravel
Pilgrimages for Catholics and people of all faiths

Travel to the Holy Land with Father Paul Siebert: St. Mark Parish; September 27, 2017 - October 07, 2017; \$4,000

We also offer several other trips to different destinations: the Holy Land; Italy; France; Portugal, & Spain; Poland; Medjugorje, Lourdes, & Fatima; Ireland & Scotland; England; Austria, Germany, & Switzerland; Greece & Turkey; Budapest; Prague; Our Lady of Guadalupe, Colombia; Brazil; Argentina; Domestic Destinations; etc.

We also specialize in custom trips for Bishops, Priests, and Deacons.

Call us 24/7 **800-340-9370**
Hablamos Español 856-842-8001
www.proximotravel.com anthony@proximotravel.com

PHOTOS from AROUND the DIOCESE

Email news items to: FaithLife@ErieRCD.org

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



Adding up cash for St. Jude

BRADFORD—Throughout the month of March, St. Bernard students in Bradford asked the community to sponsor them to do math problems to benefit children at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. The school raised more than \$4,700.

Top-earning students are pictured in the front row, from left: Aisley Greisbaum, Cooper Haight and Bella Davidson, and in the back row, from left: Peyton Haight, Larissa Webster and Dominic Ritts.



Johnston's Nursery blesses its fields



ERIE—During Holy Week, Johnston's Evergreen Nursery in Erie County conducted its annual field blessing. Those who participated joined in the blessing of an established field and a new field. Deacon Kyle Seyler, who will be ordained to the priesthood next month, presided at the service. Pictured with Deacon Seyler, center, are: Jenna Sins, Scott Kooker, Noel Sins and Julie Sins, all of Holy Rosary Parish, Erie; Gary and Susan Johnston, and Joseph Johnston, all of St. Thomas, Corry.

Outdoor Stations of the Cross represent local history

WATERFORD—Several parishioners of All Saints Parish in Waterford, along with friends, recently walked the Stations of the Cross that were built of stone many years ago by members of the former St. Matthew-in-the-Woods Parish along Townhall Road in Summit Township.

When the St. Matthew's church building was de-commissioned, some parishioners purchased the land on which the Stations of the Cross are located and have continued to maintain the area.

All Saints was founded with the merger of St. Matthew and St. Cypryan parishes.



St. George students participate in Autism Walk



ERIE—For more than six years, students at St. George School in Erie have participated in the annual Autism Walk at Presque Isle State Park. Students learn about autism before they attend the event in order to gain an understanding and appreciation for individuals with autism and the issues they face. This year, about 30 seventh- and eighth-graders, one sixth-grader and even a few alumni participated.

National Pastoral Musicians hold Spring SongFest

EDINBORO—The Diocese of Erie Chapter of National Pastoral Musicians (NPM) held its Spring SongFest April 23 at Our Lady of the Lake Church in Edinboro. The theme for the day was "Singing the Liturgical Seasons" and featured music from the seasons of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany. Pictured are musicians from the Erie deaneries, Julie Warren, Pat Pinea, Donna Clark, Pat Marshall, Matt Clark, Ken Daub, Maripat Grant, Brian Kuzmin and Brittany Barko, along with director Brandon Vogt.



Catholic Foundation offers students Code-a-Pillars

OIL CITY—St. Stephen School in Oil City was one of several schools in the Diocese of Erie to receive the Fisher-Price Code-a-Pillar to develop such skills as curiosity, experimentation and problem-solving. A grant from the Catholic Foundation made the purchase of the tools possible.

The Code-a-Pillar assists young learners in the first stages of learning coding, a technology skill taught in many middle-school technology classes. By connecting segments of the Code-a-Pillar using codes or instructions, students move the caterpillar-like robot along a specified path.

Pictured, from left, are students Sophia Cozad, Ava Eisenman, Elysium Disque and Lauralie Lander.



Youth group hosts dinner after remembering the Passion



WARREN—The CCY Youth Group of St. Joseph and Holy Redeemer parishes in Warren recently hosted a grilled cheese and tomato soup dinner followed by a moving portrayal of Christ's Passion. Pictured, from left, are students Kelsey Fadale, Jarod Peterson, Connor Guiffre, Rachel Cecco, Maddie Fadale, Lucy Belleau, Jimmy Lobdell, Troy Shattuck and Josh Chimenti.

COLLEGES OF CATHOLIC DISTINCTION
2016 2017

MERCYHURST UNIVERSITY
1896

OPEN HOUSE!
Sunday, June 4 • 1 - 4PM
Celebrating Mass at noon

- Camp Information
- Refreshments
- Wagon Rides
- Friends / Family

ages 4-16

boys girls

CAMP NOTRE DAME
Est. 1960

Fairview, PA • 814.474.5001 • CampNotreDame.com

CELEBRATING 57 YEARS

BUS TRIP!
Tour of the Roycroft Campus and the musical **WICKED**
Shea's Performing Arts Center
Buffalo, NY

Thursday JUNE 1, 2017
\$195 (all-inclusive) Round trip motor coach transportation, food (lunch at Roycroft Inn; dinner at Anchor Bar) plus all fees and tips including driver tip

7:45AM Meet in the old Cinema parking lot at the Millcreek Mall; bus departs promptly at 8:00!

Seat availability
Marianne 814- 873- 9603
Reservations
Marci 814- 450- 3199

Are you 65 or older and concerned about your Medicare benefits?

CONTACT **THE WILLIAM J. ANDERSON INSURANCE AGENCY**

814-730-4653
ANDERSONWILLIAM56@YAHOO.COM

Representing Western Catholic Union A Fraternal Organization