

25 days for 25 years  
Diocesan family offers spiritual bouquets for bishop, page 3.



# FaithLife

A farewell to arms  
A lecture on nuclear disarmament with Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, page 3.



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BI-WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

May 2, 2010

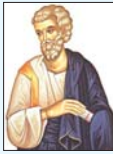
## Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

### Feast days



St. Matthias



St. Isidore

- May 1 St. Joseph the Worker
- May 3 St. Philip and St. James
- May 6 National Day of Prayer
- May 10 Blessed Damien Joseph de Veuster of Molokai
- May 12 St. Nereus and St. Achilleus, St. Pancras
- May 13 Ascension of the Lord (holy day of obligation)
- May 14 St. Matthias
- May 15 St. Isidore

## Confirmations

St. Cosmas and Damian, Punsutaway – Sunday, May 2 at 10:30 a.m. Confirmation classes include St. Adrian, Delancy, St. Anthony, Walston; St. Cosmas and Damian, Punsutaway; and St. Joseph, Anita.

Immaculate Conception, Brookville – Sunday, May 2 at 3 p.m.

St. George, Erie – Monday, May 3 at 7 p.m.

Our Lady of the Lake, Edinboro – Thursday, May 6 at 7 p.m. Confirmation classes include Our Lady of the Lake, Edinboro; St. Anthony, Cambridge Springs; St. Lawrence, Albion; and St. Philip, Crossville.

St. Jude the Apostle, Erie – Friday, May 7 at 7 p.m.

Notre Dame, Hermitage – Thursday, May 13 at 7 p.m.

Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg – Friday, May 14 at 7 p.m. Confirmation classes include Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg, and St. Anne, Wilcox.

St. Stephen, Oil City – Saturday, May 14 at 10 a.m. Confirmation classes include Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Oil City; Our Lady Help of Christians, Oil City; St. Joseph, Oil City; St. Stephen, Oil City; and St. Venantius, Rouseville.

Immaculate Conception, Clarion – Saturday, May 14 at 5:30 p.m.

### Ascension of the Lord – May 13 (holy day of obligation)



This solemnity, celebrated 40 days after Easter Sunday, commemorates the ascension of Christ into heaven, according to Mark 16:19, Luke 24:51 and Acts 1:2. Also known as Ascension Thursday, this feast is a holy day of obligation.

### 150th anniversary of St. Joseph, Sharon – May 16

Bishop Donald Trautman will celebrate the noon Mass on Sunday, May 16 in honor of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the parish.

The first Catholic church in the Shenango Valley was known as St. Rose of Lima in honor of the first native of the Americas to be canonized. This congregation was the predecessor of St. Joseph Parish in Sharon.

On May 16, 1860, Clemens Dach, a German immigrant, donated a half-acre of land to Bishop Josue Young to build a church.

Newer churches were completed in 1898 and 1965, which is the current church.

## Diocese celebrates Bishop Trautman's anniversaries

By Jason Koshinski  
FaithLife editor

ERIE – Affirming that his double anniversary was not a celebration about one person, Bishop Donald Trautman recalled the words of Pope Leo the Great.

In 444 while preaching on the anniversary of his own episcopal ordination, Pope Leo the Great said, "To celebrate a shepherd's anniversary is to honor the whole flock."

Bishop Trautman celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving April 13 at St. Peter Cathedral



Photo by Tim Rohrbach

in Erie marking his 25th anniversary as a bishop and 20th anniversary as bishop of Erie.

Among the flock joining the bishop at the cathedral were 15 visiting bishops from around the United States, Cardinal Justin

Rigali of Philadelphia, nearly 200 hundred priests from both the dioceses of Erie and Buffalo, deacons, religious, seminarians, ecumenical leaders and members of the faithful of the Erie Diocese.

After singing "O God Beyond All Prais-

ing," the congregation gave Bishop Trautman a warm and extended ovation during the entrance procession. Walking down the cathedral's main aisle, the bishop greeted well-wishers with waves and hellos.

In his homily, Bishop Trautman said God's grace given to an individual is a grace for the spiritual welfare of all God's people.

In a light moment, the bishop referenced his battle over the new English translation of the Roman Missal, which he has publicly critiqued.

"St. Paul stresses the same thought in his Letter to young Timothy: 'It is not because anything we have done, but it was according to his own purpose and the grace lavished on us in Christ Jesus'" (2 Timothy

See MASS, page 3

## Bishop Trautman: 'Thank you for walking with me'

**Editor's note:** The following excerpts are from Bishop Trautman's anniversary homily from his Mass of Thanksgiving April 13. For the complete text and audio version, visit www.ErieRCD.org.

Your Eminence Cardinal Rigali, brother bishops, brother priests and deacons and religious, seminarians, ecumenical leaders, civic and community leaders, family and friends, and my spiritual family — the Diocese of Erie — all brothers and sisters of the Lord:

Why have we come together this afternoon in faith and friendship? Why such festivity? What are we commemorating? Today's celebration is not about one person. There is

a much broader context. Let me explain. In the year 444 Pope Leo the Great preached on the anniversary of his own episcopal ordination. He said: "To celebrate a shepherd's anniversary is to honor the whole flock." God raises up a shepherd, not for the shepherd's own benefit, but for the sake of the flock. God's grace — given to an individual, making him a shepherd — is a grace for the spiritual welfare of all God's people. That's the emphasis, that's the broader context, which we need for today's celebration.

St. Paul stresses the same thought in his Letter to young Timothy: "It is not because of anything we have done, but it was according to his own purpose and the grace lavished on us in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy

1:9). I like that translation. That word "lavish" expresses so perfectly, so correctly, so poignantly, the reality of the unmerited abundance of God's grace. Because of the extravagant generosity of God, we celebrate this Mass of Thanksgiving. I have done nothing to deserve the fullness of the priesthood. It was through no merit of mine that God lavished his graces upon me. Why did God give such graces? We who are bishops know we were called, chosen, commissioned for the sake of the gospel. We were made shepherds to build up the church. St. Paul reflected on the imposition of hands received and his being set apart for the gospel. Paul pondered prayerfully about his ministry and commented: "We cannot

take credit for anything, for all our sufficiency comes from God" (2 Corinthians 3:4). To sum up my 25 years as a bishop of the Church and my 20 years as bishop of Erie, I point to these words of St. Paul. I wear a ring as a sign I am married, married to my diocese as Christ is married to his church. Today I renew the promise I made when I became a bishop: "With God's help I will be faithful to you in good times and in bad. I will shepherd and protect you in tranquil times and in troubled times."

Today in this cathedral church the risen Jesus asks all of us the same question he asked Peter: "Do you love me?" If you do, then give yourself completely as Peter did to building up my church.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep. A bishop as shepherd must also lay down his life for his flock — perhaps not dramatically in the blood of a martyr but in the blood of service — servant discipleship. For the bishop there is a service of suffering — preaching Christ crucified, folly to the world but salvation to believers. For the bishop there is the service of correcting, confronting others in charity. For the bishop there is the service of preaching and teaching and sanctifying, the service of leading, not as a CEO, but as a spiritual father.

Let me conclude on a

See HOMILY, page 3

## Cardinal Rigali congratulates bishop on double anniversary

**Editor's note:** Here is the complete text of Cardinal Justin Rigali's remarks from Bishop Donald Trautman's anniversary Mass April 13.

Now it's a great joy for me, dear friends, as metropolitan archbishop of the province of Philadelphia, to offer warm and cordial congratulations to Bishop Trautman for this important double anniversary—25 years as a bishop of the Church, 20 years the faithful pastor of this diocese. And it is a moment for all of us to express our personal support and our fraternal esteem for Bishop Trautman.

Likewise, it is a moment in which we gather together. We enter into Bishop Trautman's great prayer of thanksgiving, his great act of thanksgiving for, yes, all those graces that you mentioned that God has lavished on you during these years. And all those graces that, through you and through your sacred ministry, God has lavished on the people of this diocese.

It is also a special occasion to be part of the great joy of the entire church in Erie. Bishop Trautman is the first to tell us that all this celebration that involves his person is principally all about the church and the office of bishop as teacher and shepherd and father and brother and friend in Christ.

We come here then in order to honor and praise Christ's plan for his church and his love in providing a dedicated pastor for the Diocese of Erie.

It is through the office of the bishop that the church shares in the power of the paschal mystery, the power of the Lord's resurrection. We are pleased that these two anniversaries occur in this Easter season when the church continues to proclaim vigorously that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. In thanking Bishop Trautman for his dedicated pastoral ministry, we ask God to give him renewed grace and strength and to continue to lavish upon him and through his sacred ministry upon the people of God every blessing.

The collect in today's Easter ferial Mass contains a beautiful petition. We ask God, through Jesus Christ, help us to proclaim the power of the Lord's resurrection. And today we make this prayer for you, dear Bishop Trautman, asking God to help you always to proclaim faithfully and forcefully the great power of the risen Jesus Christ. Your priests and deacons, religious, seminarians and faithful people together with your brother bishops present here wish you peace and joy as you continue to proclaim in word and deed the great power of the Lord's resurrection.

And with deep fraternal affection, we say "ad multos annos" but also praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, high priest and eternal shepherd of the flock.



Cardinal Justin Rigali

## Pope Benedict XVI offers apostolic blessing to bishop, diocese

**Editor's note:** At Bishop Trautman's anniversary Mass, Cardinal Justin Rigali read a personal message from Pope Benedict XVI, signed by his holiness and addressed to "Venerable brother, Donald Walter Trautman, bishop of Erie." Here is the complete text of the letter:

When you were numbered among the successors of the apostles, venerable brother, and marked with the fullness of the priesthood, and as much as that day continues to be firm in your memory, we now esteem it even more highly on account of the singular event about to take place.

Seeing that 25 years have passed from that time, it is clear that you have honorably carried out the ministry of bishop with the blessing of God. Well known is the richness of your learning, which has been constantly assisted and augmented by your studies both at home and abroad, in the theological and biblical disciplines.

When you were ordained to the priesthood, you began as a minister of Christ to undertake various duties, first taking care of a parish then teaching young men in the seminary and then undertaking the office of vicar general.

Called to a higher place by the will of our revered predecessor John Paul II, you were named auxiliary bishop of Buffalo and began to give more devoted assistance to that ecclesial family. Exactly five years later, you came to the see of Erie that you might generously hasten to shepherd the flock. It is good also to remember your accomplishments in the national conference of bishops.

We are pleased, venerable brother, to touch upon and briefly summarize your more influential achievements from which you may take fitting encouragement for the work you have done. Wherefore eagerly awaiting this joyful commemoration of your episcopal ordination in the company of your dearest friends, we send our congratulations for this happy event by means of this letter.

Furthermore, we pray that the divine shepherd may reward you for your merits and that he may likewise give you strength and protection in the time still ahead of you.

Finally, venerable brother, we freely bestow our apostolic blessing, which is given to you first and foremost and to your entire diocese.

From the Vatican  
March 15, 2010  
The fifth year of our pontificate,

*Benedictus PP XVI*  
Pope Benedict XVI



Pope Benedict XVI

Visit [www.ErieRCD.org](http://www.ErieRCD.org) to enjoy videos, slideshows and more from the Diocese of Erie's celebration in honor of Bishop Trautman's anniversaries.



**IN THE U.S.**

■ **His teaching inspired millions in the 20th century,** and now producers of the documentary "Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen: Servant of All" are hopeful their film will introduce the famed media pioneer and his message to new generations. The newly released film biography of Archbishop Sheen had its broadcast debut on Easter Sunday on public television station WTTW in Chicago. After airings later in April in Peoria and Washington, the documentary will be marketed nationally through public screenings at the parish and regional levels. In remarks opening the documentary, Msgr. Stanley Deprula, executive director of the Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Foundation, added that "today few seem to understand or remember the tremendous impact he made on our nation and in our world." The film seeks to remedy that through a fast-paced retelling of the life story of Archbishop Sheen. A priest of the Diocese of Peoria, Archbishop Sheen became known around the world through his radio and television programs — including "Life is Worth Living" — as well as numerous books, and promotion of Catholic efforts in mission lands.



Archbishop Fulton Sheen

■ **Catholic Charities USA and its many U.S. diocesan-based affiliates** have long been known as social service providers. But they've also been part of the job-creation movement, even in the midst of tough economic times, and even for some of the hardest-to-place job seekers. Catholic Charities leaders detailed some of their initiatives at the Capitol during an April 20 congressional briefing on job creation and innovative workforce policies. In Cleveland, Catholic Charities conducts job training for felons. In Chicago, a food-service program instituted by the Catholic Charities affiliate there has an 85 percent job-retention rate, impressive given the

turnover in the food-service industry. In Baltimore, Catholic Charities expanded a feeding program into a multi-point service program that each year pulls hundreds of poor Baltimoreans out of the ranks of the jobless. Still, more could be done with congressional action, said Father Larry Snyder, president and chief executive of Catholic Charities USA. "The (economic) recovery must be an inclusive recovery and we are here today to discuss the absolute necessity of job creation and job stability as the foundation that must exist in order for this to happen," he said.

■ **Pope Benedict XVI has named Bishop Thomas Wenski of Orlando, Fla., 59,** as archbishop of Miami and accepted the resignation of Archbishop John Favalora, 74, who has headed the archdiocese since 1994. The pope also named Chicago Auxiliary Bishop Thomas Paprocki, 57, as bishop of Springfield, Ill. The changes were announced April 20 in Washington by Archbishop Pietro Sambi, papal nuncio to the United States.

**AROUND THE WORLD**

■ **The Vatican commission studying the alleged Marian apparitions at Medjugorje in Bosnia-Herzegovina** held its first meeting in late March. While the Vatican press office provided no details about the meeting, it published the names of the commission members April 13. The Vatican had announced March 17 that at the request of the bishops of Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith had established an international commission to investigate the claims of six young people who said Mary appeared to them daily beginning in 1981. The doctrinal congregation appointed retired Cardinal Camillo Ruini, former papal vicar of Rome, to head the commission. The Vatican said the commission members include: Slovakian Cardinal Jozef Tomko, retired prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples; Cardinal Vinko Puljic of Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina; Spanish Cardinal Julian Herranz, retired president of the Pontifical Council for

the Interpretation of Legislative Texts; and Archbishop Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes and former secretary of the doctrinal congregation.



A woman touches a cross at a venerated site in Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina.

**PEOPLE OF FAITH**

■ **The life and holiness of the late New York Cardinal Terence Cooke,** summarized in a 2,000-page tome bound in white, was presented to Pope Benedict XVI at the end of his weekly general audience April 14. The volume is the "positio" or position paper, which will be filed formally with the Congregation for Saints' Causes as a final step in the Vatican process to determine whether the cardinal should be beatified and canonized. Presenting the "positio" to the pope were: New York Archbishop Timothy Dolan; Baltimore Archbishop Edwin O'Brien; Patricia Handal, coordinator of the Cardinal Cooke Guild, which is promoting the sainthood cause; and Msgr. Joseph Giandurco, the cause's vice postulator. Cardinal Cooke, who was born in 1921, was archbishop of New York City from 1968 until his death in 1983. "He was a holy man and people just knew it," Archbishop O'Brien said after the papal audience. "At a very difficult time in the life of the church, he used to say his goal as archbishop was to move the whole church forward, but together."



Cardinal Terence Cooke

**By the Way...**

After 33 years at St. Luke School in Erie, including the last 15 serving as its principal, Marietta Stalsky is retiring. She announced it to the school faculty April 14. On April 16, Bishop Donald Trautman celebrated the school's weekly Mass. It marked 25 years to the day of his ordination as bishop. That was not a coincidence.



Jason Koshinski

"I wanted to get that day on his calendar," Stalsky says. "He knows the importance of a good, Catholic education. I just wanted him to be able to start his anniversary day with kids."

In October 2007, we reported on Ken and Marge Worley, members of All Saints Parish in Waterford, who have a goal of attending Mass at every church in the 13-county diocese. They visited with Father Robert Horgas at immaculate Conception Parish in Osceola Mills a few months ago. On the weekend of April 24-25, they visited St. Peter and Paul Mission in Hawk Run on Saturday and then St. Agnes Parish in Morrisdale on Sunday. Of the 146 churches in the diocese—which includes parishes, missions and oratories—the couple have only a few more to visit.

Ken and Marge, who are both retired, also sing at parish funeral Masses and are Eucharistic ministers at Hamot Medical Center in Erie.

Msgr. Robert Sheeran, president of Seton Hall University, will give the keynote address and will be awarded an honorary degree at Gannon University's spring commencement. Gannon President Dr. Antoine Garibaldi will confer some 745 degrees during the ceremony to begin at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 8 at Tullio Arena in Erie.

On his first visit to Portugal, Pope Benedict XVI will meet with political leaders and celebrate Masses in three cities, including at the Marian shrine in Fatima. The May 11-14 trip will mark the 10th anniversary of the beatification of blessed Francisco and Jacinta Marto, two of the shepherd children who saw Our Lady of Fatima in 1917.

The pope arrives in the Portuguese capital of Lisbon, where he meets with civil authorities and celebrates an outdoor Mass in the evening. He travels to Fatima May 12 for a series of encounters with bishops, priests, religious and the other pastoral workers and a Mass at the shrine the next day. On the last day of his trip, the pope will celebrate Mass during a six-hour stop in the city of Porto.

Jason Koshinski is editor of FaithLife. Contact him at [JKoshinski@ErieRCD.org](mailto:JKoshinski@ErieRCD.org) or 814.824.1171.

**Pope urges Malta to hold fast to its Christian roots, values**

By Carol Glatz  
Catholic News Service

**VALLETTA, Malta** — On a 27-hour visit to Malta, Pope Benedict XVI met with sex abuse victims, encouraged Maltese Catholics to keep the faith and walked in the footsteps of St. Paul.

In the midst of a worldwide storm over how the church has handled clerical sex abuse, the pope met privately with local sex abuse victims April 18, assuring them the church was doing everything in its power to bring perpetrators to justice and to prevent further abuse of young people.

The victims said they were pleased with the encounter and one said he felt "freed of a great weight" and was reconnected with his faith.

The shadow of sex abuse cases didn't dampen the local population's outpouring of enthusiasm nor did it obscure what the pope said was his main mission on the Mediterranean island: to reconfirm the faith of one of the most Catholic countries in the world and encourage the Maltese to fully live out their Christian identity and values.

Vans filled with youths waving giant Vatican flags coursed through the streets, humble stone

homes hung banners and pictures of the pope from their balconies, and tens of thousands of faithful and the curious lined city streets and squares to cheer and get a glimpse of the pope.

Celebrating the 1,950th anniversary of St. Paul's arrival in Malta, the pope was able to hold the apostle up as an example or inspiration in his talks to politicians, Catholics, young people and even journalists.

In remarks to the Vatican press corps aboard the papal flight from Rome to Malta, the pope said St. Paul shows how life's tragedies can become an opportunity to do good.

Just as St. Paul's shipwreck on the island became the seed that planted Christianity in Malta, so too "life's shipwrecks can be part of God's plan for us and they may also be useful for new beginnings in our lives," he said.

In his homily during Mass in Granaries Square April 18, the pope said St. Paul urged his companions to confront the stormy seas by placing their complete trust in God. To save their troubled craft, they had to cast all their supplies overboard and pray God would protect them from harm, the pope said.

People today also must shed

their excess cargo — that is, superfluous possessions, vain accomplishments and dependence on technology as a cure-all — because the real key to happiness and human fulfillment is one's relationship with God, he said. With God "we can do all things; without him we can do nothing."

The pope even evoked St. Paul's arrival by sailing across Malta's Grand Harbor before his meeting with young people April 18.

He rode together with a group of teens aboard a large white catamaran named "San Pawl." Navigating the choppy waters, his boat was flanked by every kind of sea craft imaginable from military ships and million-dollar yachts to traditional wooden boats and rubber dinghies.

On stage before the nearly 40,000 people stretched along the fortified waterfront, the pope used the example and teachings of St. Paul to respond to young people who spoke of their experiences and questions about faith.

The pope said, "God rejects



(CNS photo) Pope Benedict XVI prays inside St. Paul's Grotto in Rabat, outside Valletta, Malta, April 17. It is believed that St. Paul lived at the grotto site during the three months he and his companions were shipwrecked on the island.

no one. And the church rejects no one."

God knows people intimately — all their strengths and weaknesses — and yet he loves his children so much that he challenges people to purify themselves of their sins and faults, he said.

"When he challenges us be-

cause something in our lives is displeasing to him, he is not rejecting us, but he is asking us to change and become more perfect," he said.

One challenge facing Malta is the influx of illegal immigrants who end up on its shores on their way to other European countries.

But in a number of talks, the pope said the problem could not be solved by Malta alone. In his farewell speech at the Luqa airport, the pope told President George Abela and other government leaders to strive to continue to welcome the world's "strangers" as the ancient Maltese welcomed St. Paul. With the help of other European states and international organizations, Malta will act to aid "those who arrive here and to ensure that their rights be respected."

As part of his spiritual journey commemorating St. Paul, Pope Benedict prayed in Rabat at the grotto where tradition holds the apostle lived for the three months he was stranded in Malta.

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**YMT Vacations 1-800-736-7300**

# People in the News

## Father Joseph Maryland marks 70 years as a priest

Father Joseph Maryland will celebrate the 70th anniversary of his priesthood on May 2.

At age 99, Father Maryland is the longest-serving priest in the Erie Diocese. He was ordained a priest on May 2, 1940 by Archbishop John Mark Gannon.

Throughout his ministry in the diocese, he has served at St. Mark, Emporium; St. John the Evangelist, Girard; Sts. Cosmas and Damian, Puxuxatunaw; St. Joseph, Anita; St. Anthony of Padua, Walston; St. Basil the Great, Coalport; St. Paul, Erie; St. Bridget, Meadville; St. Hippolyte, Frenchtown; Our Lady Help of Christians, Oil City; and St. Timothy, Curwensville.

He retired from active ministry in 1981. He currently resides at St. Mary's Home at Asbury Ridge where he celebrates Mass weekly.



Father Joseph Maryland

## Briefly

### A lecture on nuclear disarmament with Bishop Thomas Gumbleton

ERIE - Bishop Thomas Gumbleton of the Archdiocese of Detroit will give a lecture on nuclear disarmament at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 6 at the Villa Maria Campus Lecture Hall, 2551 W. Eighth St. in Erie.

Bishop Gumbleton is a leading voice for peace, non-violence, justice and civil rights and the abolition of nuclear weapons. He is a founding member and past president of Pax Christi USA and Bread for the World.

This event is sponsored by Erie Benedictines for Peace. A free will offering will be accepted.



Bishop Thomas Gumbleton

### Pray the rosary five Saturdays in May

Join in praying the rosary five Saturdays in May at 9:15 a.m. at Mary, Queen of Peace Mausoleum, 6000 Lake Pleasant Road, Erie. Open to the public. Call Linda Chrzanoski of Erie Diocesan Cemeteries at 814.838.7724 for more information.

### NOVA preparation for remarriage

NOVA is a one-day marriage preparation program for couples planning remarriage in the Catholic Church. Topics include adjustments, blending families, legal issues and others.

Contact the Family Life Office at 814.824.1265 or e-mail at familylife@eriecd.org to register. Offered only four times per year, the next NOVA is scheduled for Saturday, June 5 in Erie. Couples preparing for convalidation are encouraged to apply.

### Catholic Leadership Institute to be held June 13-18

Applications for the Catholic Leadership Institute (CLI) are now being accepted and should be submitted as soon as possible. CLI is a six-day opportunity for high school students to grow more deeply in love with Christ while enhancing their communication, problem-solving and leadership skills. This year's CLI will be held at St. Philip Parish in Linesville June 13-18.

Registrations are limited to approximately 40 teens and must be received by May 21. Visit [online.vine.us](http://online.vine.us) for applications and more information.

## DEATH NOTICE

### Father John Schanz dies at 85 Longtime Gannon faculty member

Father John P. Schanz, 85, died April 16, 2010 at his residence, Westlake Woods, 3302 W. Lake Road, Erie.

Born in Erie on June 30, 1924, he was the only child of the late Conrad and Helen (Haas) Schanz. His home parish was St. Andrew Parish in Erie. After graduating from St. Andrew grade school, he graduated from Cathedral Prep in 1942. He attended St. Charles College in Catonsville, Md., and Catholic University in Washington, D.C. He received a doctorate from Western Reserve University in Cleveland in 1957.

Father Schanz was ordained a priest in Erie in 1950. He served as administrator of St. Elizabeth Parish in Smethport from June until September 1950. He spent the remaining years of his active ministry at Gannon University and assisting at Holy Cross Parish in Fairview. He retired in 1996.



Father John Schanz

# Diocese celebrates Bishop Trautman's anniversaries

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1:9) he said. After pausing a moment, he added, "I like that translation."

The comment gave way to some chuckles from the crowd which then grew into applause.

Bringing up the offertory gifts to the bishop were Catholic school students from around the diocese.

After communion, several speakers representing the diocese thanked Bishop Trautman for his ministry.

"You live well Christ's words to Peter, chosen as your episcopal motto, 'Feed my sheep,'" said Msgr. Robert Smith, vicar general of the diocese.

Sister Mary Rita Kuhn, SSI, vicar for religious, said the bishop has fed the diocese through his life of committed prayer, by the reverent manner in which he celebrates Mass and by the integrity of his life.

"You have shown us what courage means by your willingness to stand and speak out on matters of faith and morals," Sister Mary Rita said. "You do so out of love for the church."

Seminarian Robert Hersch noted that for 20 years, the bishop's confirmation homilies have been new and inspiring for the youth of the diocese. He thanked him for his willingness to even learn about Wii games.

"Speaking of technology, bishop, this is one area where you may be just slightly lacking," Hersch said, drawing laughter and applause from the crowd. "For having studied and mastered German, Latin, Greek and Hebrew in order to grasp the fullness of the Scriptures, we enjoy knowing that you are baffled by microwave ovens, GPS units and computers."

Before reading and apostolic blessing from Pope Benedict XVI, Cardinal Rigali thanked Bishop Trautman for his dedicated pastoral ministry. "We ask God to give him renewed grace and strength and to continue to lavish upon him and through his sacred ministry upon

the people of God every blessing," the cardinal said.

In his closing remarks, Bishop Trautman referenced Pope John XXIII and his gesture of motioning upward with his hands when the crowds at St. Peter's Basilica would break out in applause. Reporters asked the pope if he was trying to generate more applause with his gesturing. The Holy Father responded that he was sending the applause heavenward.

"That's my gesture today," Bishop Trautman said. "I send heavenward all of your thoughts, all of your applause. Thank you so very much. Thank you for your presence. Thank you for your prayers."

## Bishop Trautman: 'Thank you for walking with me'



Photo by Tom Rohrbaugh

HOMILY, from page 1

nostalgic note. As I look out from this pulpit I see priests whom I taught in the seminary. I see classmates and chancery and parish personnel I worked with. I see former parishioners. I see friends who were present in the cathedral of Buffalo 25 years ago when I was ordained a bishop. I see people who gathered under the big tent here in Erie next to the cathedral 20 years ago when I was installed as shepherd of this diocese. I see priests and deacons and religious and lay people of the Erie Diocese who have been so supportive and loyal. I see brother bishops who served with me on the Liturgy and Doctrine committees. I see brother bishops who have always modeled the role of a Vatican II bishop as servant disciple. I see you: friends, co-workers, ecumenical partners, a pilgrim people on a faith journey. Thank you for walking with me these 25 years as a bishop. Thank you for walking with me for the past 20 years of shepherding this diocese. You have shown me Christ by your goodness and faith, by the ways you have car-

ried your crosses and generously responded to the needs of God's people. I thank you and promise you my friendship, support and prayers. We have been together as disciples on the road to Emmaus. In a few moments we will break bread and recognize in our midst the Lord Jesus. That should remind us that we are not alone on our faith journey. We have good reason to move forward as hope-filled and joyful disciples, secure in our faith, in love with the Lord and his gospel. To my co-workers in the ministry of Christ, I say — remember: "Because we possess the ministry through God's mercy, we do not give in to discouragement."

Once more I say through no merit of mine God has lavished his graces upon me that I might fulfill his words: "Feed my lambs, feed my sheep." Pray that we may always fulfill Paul's words to the Ephesians: "To Christ, whose power now at work in us, can do immeasurably more than we ask for or imagine, to him be glory" (Ephesians 3:20-21). To him be glory Amen.

## Diocesan family offers spiritual bouquets for bishop

As a gift from the people of the Erie Diocese, Bishop Donald Trautman was presented with a number of spiritual bouquets at a reception following his anniversary Mass. For 25 days, marking Bishop Trautman's 25 years as a bishop, the faithful of the diocese offered prayers and sacrifices for his intentions.

"We thought people would join in the effort, but we were amazed at the enthusiasm and the creativity in which they embraced it," said Father Nicholas Rouch, vicar for education, in presenting the bishop with the bouquets. "In creating a spiritual bouquet as our gift to you, we have prayed for the intentions which you carry closely to your heart: priestly and religious vocations, youth and those in material and spiritual poverty."

Some messages from Catholic school students:

- "I gave up my favorite fruit, watermelon, and watching TV for Bishop Trautman."
- "I will abstain from the computer for four days for Bishop Trautman."

- "For 25 days I'm giving up hitting my brother."
- "Congratulations Bishop Trautman. I don't know any other bishop that has been in the holy church for that long. You're just plain old amazing."

- "Bishop Trautman, I think you're the best priest in the world. Thank you for being our pope."
- "Bishop Trautman, thank you for serving the church for 25 years. You're one of the greatest bishops ever."

Students are taught in religion class that the hands of a priest and the hands of a bishop are important for their ministry, for the Mass, celebrating the sacraments, anointing the sick.

Some offered to him their own hands and the things they use their hands for: To shake hands, to color, to paint and to pet animals gently and to pray for the bishop.

Catholic school students weren't the only ones praying and making sacrifices for the bishop. Parishes and parish organizations, religious education programs and students, prayer groups and individuals from around the diocese participated in the effort.



## Bishops, cardinal, archabbot among anniversary guests

Attending Bishop Donald Trautman's anniversary Mass were 15 visiting bishops from across the United States, one cardinal and one archabbot.

Seated (left to right): Bishop John Bura, Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of St. Josaphat, Parma, Ohio; Bishop Dominic Luongo, Diocese of Orange, Calif.; Bishop James Timlin (retired), Diocese of Scranton; Bishop Trautman; Cardinal Justin Rigali, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Bishop Edward Kmiec, Diocese of Buffalo; Auxiliary Bishop Edward Grosz, Diocese of Buffalo; Bishop Lawrence Brandt, Diocese of Greensburg.

Standing (left to right): Archbishop Douglas Nowicki, OSB, St. Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe; Auxiliary Bishop Robert Donnelly (retired), Diocese of Toledo; Auxiliary Bishop A. James



Quinn, Diocese of Cleveland; Auxiliary Bishop Joseph McFadden, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Auxiliary Bishop John Dougherty (retired), Diocese of Scranton;

Bishop Robert Cunningham, Diocese of Syracuse, N.Y.; Bishop George Murry, Diocese of Youngstown, Ohio; Bishop Raymond Boland (retired), Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph;

Bishop Joseph Adamc, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown; Auxiliary Bishop Thomas Gumbleton (retired), Archdiocese of Detroit.

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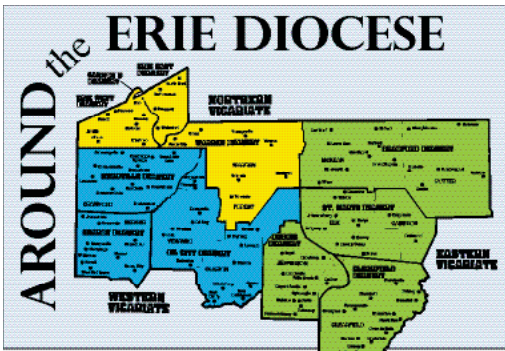
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Visit [ErieRCD.org/faithlife.asp](http://ErieRCD.org/faithlife.asp) to download quick and easy photo tips on a wallet-size card.



### Local administrators, teachers attend NCEA conference

MINNEAPOLIS – Several administrators and teachers from the Erie Diocese attended the annual convention of the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) April 6-8 in Minneapolis, which featured keynote speakers and workshops tailored to address different Catholic school interests including marketing, administration and religious education. More than 8,500 Catholic educators, administrators and leaders attended the conference.

Attending the convention, pictured left to right, were (front row) Sister M. Kevin Berdis, OSF, principal of Holy Family School, Erie; Kathy Smicker, teacher at St. Boniface School, Erie; Sheri Kurczewski, principal of Blessed Sacrament School, Erie; (back row) Cindy Stormer, teacher at St. Boniface School,



Barbara Portenier, principal of St. Boniface School, Erie, and Jeffrey Lipiec, principal of Our Lady of Peace School, Erie. The convention also included liturgies, keynote speaker Father James Martin, S.J., along with more than 400 sessions on a variety of topics dealing with education.

### Science expo at DuBois Area Catholic Elementary School

DUBOIS – Riley Meyers, a 5th grade student at DuBois Area Catholic Elementary School, explains her science project to her fellow classmates at the annual DACS Elementary Science Expo. The expo, open to students in kindergarten through fifth grade, gives students an opportunity to share their knowledge of a science topic of their choice and attend an evening presentation with hands-on, parent-run science activities, community science demonstrations and awards.



Photo by Lisa Hunt

### Hibernians of Mercer County honor Irishman, Irishwoman, Hibernian of the Year

HERMITAGE – Two local Hibernian groups honored a brother and sister as Irishman and Irishwoman of the Year at a recent dinner in Hermitage.

Richard P. McMahon, an educator and civic worker in the Shenango Valley, received the "Irishman of the Year" award from the Sons of Erin Division, Ancient Order of Hibernians. His sister, Jane O'Neill, was honored by the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, St. Brigid, Division I, Mercer County.



Recipients of the Ancient Order of Hibernians awards are, from left, Bill Shea, Hibernian of the Year; Jane McMahon O'Neill, Irishwoman of the Year; and Richard McMahon, Irishman of the Year.

McMahon, a former Sharon firefighter, was a junior high school math teacher in Sharon, a partner in the Ogdon McMahon Carpet business and was a Sharon city councilman for four years, the last two as council president. He purchased the former Shenango Valley Commercial Institute which later was renamed the Business Institute of Pennsylvania. In 1970 he was named Jaycee Outstanding Young Man under the age of 35. One of his greatest loves was the St. Joseph Parish softball team for which he was catcher for 30 years. He is a member of St. Joseph Parish in Sharon.

O'Neill is a founding member of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians. She was its original treasurer, has served on several committees and remains active in the organization. She worked for Golden Dawn Foods be-

fore becoming an auditor for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, retiring in 2008. She is a member of St. Bartholomew Parish in Sharpville.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians (Irish) dates back to the mid-1500s when several Irish societies were organized to protect the welfare of fellow Irish Catholics.

While it thrives in the United States to this day, its current branches function to preserve and foster the Irish culture – art, dance, music and sports. The AOH motto is "Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity."

"Our Mercer County branch has been active for 10 years," said Maurice Keaveny, historian of the group, which chose him Irishman of the Year in 2009. "Our main functions are to stimulate interest in Irish history and to select the Irishman of the Year. Members base this honor on the member's

accomplishments. We chose Peter Joyce our first Irishman of the Year 10 years ago."

Another activity is a "schishun" on the last Saturday in January. This is a night of Irish music and dancing. It takes place in the basement of St. Joseph Parish in Sharon and attracts a large audience.

Other officers of the local group are Dennis O'Neill, president; Gerald Hanley, vice president; John Edward Calior, treasurer; and Robert Moore, secretary. Membership is open to practicing Catholic males of Irish birth or descent with "even a fraction of Irish blood," Keaveny said. Current members are from Sharon, Greenville, Mercer, Hermitage, Jamestown and Brookfield, across the state line in Ohio.

Clergy do not have to be Irish for membership.

### Catholic schools awarded Highmark Healthy High 5 Challenge grants for exercise equipment

Five Catholic schools in the Erie Diocese were recently awarded Highmark Healthy High 5 Challenge grants. With rates of childhood obesity on the rise, these grants will support the schools' efforts to help students adopt healthy behaviors and provide them with enhanced physical activity.

The schools awarded grants include:

- St. Joseph School, Lucinda - \$8,300 in support of the Healthy Choice Fitness Program.

- St. Francis School, Clearfield - \$8,608 to purchase SPARK PE training and equipment benefiting students in grades 3-8.

- Holy Family School, Erie - \$8,286 in support of It Only Takes a SPARK program.

- St. Gregory School, North East - \$8,286 in support of It Only Takes a SPARK program.

- Notre Dame School, Hermitage - \$8,286 in support of It Only Takes a SPARK program.

St. Joseph School's grant will go toward the purchase of new outdoor exercise equipment. The school expects to break ground shortly and begin installing the equipment.

SPARK (Sports, Play and Ac-

tive Recreation for Kids) is a nationally researched physical activity after-school program designed to meet activity recommendations for children ages 5 -14. SPARK promotes quality, daily fitness-related activities for up to one hour per day and encourages kids to be "lifelong movers."

For more information on the Highmark Healthy High 5 School Challenge grant program, visit [www.highmarkhealthyhigh5.org](http://www.highmarkhealthyhigh5.org).

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