

Silver and Gold

Couples attend diocesan wedding celebrations, page 2.



FaithLife

POPE QUOTE

INSPIRED WORDS FROM POPE FRANCIS

"God always wants mercy for everyone and not condemnation."

www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

August 18, 2013

Swapping zucchetos Erie seminarian trades caps with pope in Rio

Mary Solberg
FaithLife

Buying a white skullcap, or zucchetto, may have cost Erie seminarian Jerry Stumpf a grand total of \$93, but exchanging it with Pope Francis this summer was priceless.

Jerry, 21, was randomly selected to attend the July 27 papal Mass at the Cathedral of St. Sebastian in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, during World Youth Day. Excited at the prospect of actually seeing, perhaps meeting, the pope, Jerry decided to buy a zucchetto from the pope's tailor, Gammarelli's of Rome. There is a longtime Catholic tradition of swapping zucchetos with a prelate, dating back to Pope Pius XII. (See box below.)

So Jerry took the new hat in its specially made box to Rio, carefully transporting it through the crowded city streets to church

early the morning of July 27. Nine rows back from the altar and standing among thousands of seminarians, priests, bishops and archbishops, Jerry thought a personal meeting with the pope was a far-fetched idea. But immediately after the Mass, when Pope Francis began to walk among the people, everyone who saw Jerry carrying the white zucchetto box pushed him to the front.

"I went from 10 people away to eventually two people away from

See SEMINARIAN, page 3



History of the zucchetto

The tradition of a pope giving away his zucchetto—or skullcap—started in the modern era with Pope Pius XII, who led the Catholic Church from 1939 to his death in 1958. If someone presents a new zucchetto as a gift to the pope, the Holy Father then trades the one he is wearing on his head.

Usually, the faithful can purchase a white zucchetto from Gammarelli's, the papal clothing store in Rome. It comes in a specially made white box.

In the Catholic tradition, the zucchetto is usually made of silk or polyester. The design utilizes eight panels joined to form a hemispherical cap. Jutting from the center at the top is the "stem," known as *stipris*. It is made of a twisted loop of silk cord and is meant to make the handling of the zucchetto easier.

The stipris is the primary distinction between the zucchetto and the Jewish kippah.



Go to YouTube and search "Pope gives 'papal hat' to American couple" to see a zucchetto exchange.

3 million strong Pope Francis inspires youth

Catholic News Service
FaithLife Staff

RIO DE JANEIRO (CNS) — Pope Francis commissioned an estimated 3 million young people—including some from the Diocese of Erie—to join forces and form what could be called Missionaries Without Borders.

"Where does Jesus send us?" he asked World Youth Day pilgrims July 28. "There are no borders, no limits: He sends us to everyone."

On the white sand of Copacabana beach—under partly sunny skies, a relief after days of rain—Pope Francis celebrated the closing Mass for the July 23-28 celebration of World Youth Day in Rio.

The weeklong event was tailor-made for Pope Francis, who seemed just as comfortable among the millions of youth gathered in the city and on the beaches as he did in the small slum communities he visited privately.

"Sharing the experience of faith, bearing witness to the faith, proclaiming the Gospel: this is a command that the Lord entrusts to the whole church and that includes you," he told his beachfront congregation, which included hundreds of thousands who had spent the night on the sand, sleeping or not.

Long journeys, days of rain and sometimes improvised accommodations did not dampen the spirits of World Youth Day participants, and Pope Francis told them that if they did not share their experience of God's love with others it would be "like withholding oxygen from a flame that was burning strongly."

For five people from the Diocese of Erie who attended World Youth Day, seeing the pope on Copacabana beach and being close to him on other occasions was the thrill of a lifetime. (See sidebar on page 3.)

"The one thing that inspired me the most was when the pope said put on faith, put on hope,



Contributed photo

Christ the Redeemer statue on Mount Corcovado in Rio de Janeiro was a magnet on World Youth Day 2013. Erie seminarian Kevin Holland, far left, is shown here with Rebecca Novosel, center, and Amanda Novosel, both from Our Lady Queen of the Americas Parish, Conneaut Lake.

and put on love. That's how you become the reflection of Christ," said Kevin Holland, a seminarian from the Diocese of Erie. "It really struck a chord with me. I won't forget that."

Pope Francis seemed to attract the most attention of his young pontificate when he finished his appearances at World Youth Day with an unscripted 80-minute press conference during the flight

back to Rome. The July 28 meeting with journalists covered everything from the canonization of Blessed John Paul II to divorce and homosexuality.

In responding to the final question of the interview, Pope Francis made headlines around the world with the simple phrase, "If a person is gay and seeks the Lord and has good will, who am I to

judge him?" While the comment reflected a change in tone, theologians—and the pope himself—noted his views are in line with church teaching.

"The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains this in such a beautiful way," Pope Francis concluded. "It says, 'these persons must not be marginalized because of this; they must be integrated in society.'"

Catholic radio 88.3 FM broadcasts in diocese

Possible opportunities in City of Erie

Mary Solberg
FaithLife

More than a quarter-million people in northwestern Pennsylvania—including seven counties in the Diocese of Erie—can now hear Catholic news and features on their radio 24/7.

The Station of the Cross Catholic Radio Network, headquartered in Buffalo, N.Y., added a new 6,000-watt station (WQHE 88.3 FM) from a transmitter located along Petroleum Center Road north of Oil City. It reaches people living in a 45-mile radius of Oil City, including Erie, Warren, Forest, Clarion, Venango, Mercer and Crawford counties.

"Let's spread the word," said

Jim Wright, president of Station of the Cross Catholic Radio Network. "The importance of Catholic radio is to teach the truths of the Catholic Church."

Wright told FaithLife that his network is "looking at some opportunities to develop Catholic radio" in the City of Erie, although he did not share the specifics of those possibilities. "If God is calling us there, we will go," he added.

Meanwhile, Wright is depending on the St. Thomas More House of Prayer in Oil City to be the grassroots sponsor for 88.3 FM. As a not-for-profit, listener-supported station, it requires community and individual support to thrive.

"We're only successful if there are people on the ground," Wright explained.

There is no radio personality physically sitting in Oil City; all programming is sent to the Oil City tower from the network station in Buffalo, which offers a variety of national shows from Eternal Word Television Network (Ave Maria Radio, Catholic Answers Live, Sacred Heart Radio, Women of Grace, and The Son Rise Morning Show).

Carrie Kolesar with House of Prayer already has written for the network's newsletter and will provide local Catholic news to the Buffalo headquarters. She and her husband and eight children already have become devout listeners, mostly tuning in while driving to work or doing errands.

"The radio station gives you the sense that it's a big Catholic world out there and we're all connected," Kolesar said.

Wright is excited about the possibilities of Catholic radio. He thinks it may address the unfortunate trend in the past 25 years of Catholics becoming more inactive in their faith.

"Catholic radio is for all people, regardless of their religion, circumstances or particular viewpoints," Wright said. "All are invited to listen in the comfort of their homes, cars and workplaces. It is a very private experience, in which listeners are able to think and reflect on



Contributed photo

Jim Wright, president of Station of the Cross Catholic Radio Network, oversees programming from the network's headquarters in Buffalo, N.Y.

their own and relate what they are hearing to their own lives."

88.3 FM is the newest of Station of the Cross Catholic Radio

Network's stations. The network also serves Rochester, Syracuse and Elmira, all in New York, as well as Boston.

For more information, go to www.wqhe.org. You may download an app for your smart phone at www.icatholicradio.com.

Play ball!

Sunday, Sept. 1

Bishop Lawrence Persico will throw out the first pitch on **Diocesan Day** at Jerry Uht Park, Erie.

Call 814-456-1300 to reserve your tickets for 3rd base, section 211.

See the back page of Faith magazine, in homes now, for a reservation form or visit www.ErieRCD.org.



■ Black clergy, religious march for nonviolence in Chicago

CHICAGO (CNS)—Members of the Joint Conference of the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus, the National Black Sisters' Conference and the National Black Catholic Seminarians' Association joined the National Association of Black Catholic Deacons in a July 29 march for nonviolence in Chicago.

At the end of the march, Chicago Cardinal Francis E. George met participants for a prayer service and a Mass.



CNS photo

Several children ages 7 and younger were shot in street violence in Chicago in July. Members of the black Catholic clergy and religious are shown marching in the city.

■ Bikers aim to serve community, spread Catholic values

TULSA, Okla. (CNS)—Members of the Knights on Bikes, an extension of the larger ministry of the Knights of Columbus, adamantly make it clear that they are not a "bike gang." While they proudly wear a vest with a patch, they claim no territory like a traditional motorcycle club. Instead, the group is a family friendly organization that seeks to serve the Catholic Church and the community through a common interest in riding motorcycles.

Knights on Bikes is a motorcycle ministry dedicated to improving the image of bikers and promoting safety and Christian values. In April 2005, Raymond C. Medina in Fort Worth, Texas, founded Knights on Bikes as a way to further the work of the Knights of Columbus by organizing members who are also motorcycle riders. It is now an international group with chapters in more than 30 states and in Mexico, Canada, and the Philippines. Their

motto is "In God We Trust and Ride," and they strive to address the spiritual and cultural needs of the Knights of Columbus and encourage faith, friendship and service.

■ Ireland's pro-lifers vow to repeal new abortion law

DUBLIN (CNS)—Irish pro-life campaigners vowed to work to repeal a new law that permits abortion in limited circumstances.

President Michael D. Higgins signed the Protection of Life During Pregnancy Bill July 30 after tense parliamentary debates during which several legislators resigned. The Pro-Life Campaign said the passage of the abortion bill into law "is a very sad day for our country."

The law will permit abortions when there is a substantial risk to the life of the mother, including when a woman says the continuation of the pregnancy leads to suicidal thoughts. It would also provide for jail terms of up to 14 years for those performing abortions in circumstances other than permitted by the new law.

■ Pope blesses youth minister who overcame drugs

RIO DE JANEIRO (CNS)—Pope Francis blessed a former drug addict turned youth minister during a June 27 meeting with political, economic and cultural leaders at Municipal Theater in Rio de Janeiro.

Walmyr Junior, 28, shared his story of transformation and how he discovered a loving God and church. Junior, who now works as a lay minister with the Archdiocese of Rio de Janeiro, recounted his upbringing as an orphan in one of the city's notorious "favelas," or slums, his experience of drug abuse, and his recovery with the help of the church, which led to his graduation from the city's Pontifical Catholic University.

Junior teared up before finishing his speech and then hugged Pope Francis to loud applause from the audience.



Pope Francis embraces a former drug addict in Rio de Janeiro.



Editor's Notes

Mary SOLBERG

Along with most of the media throughout the country, I was a surprised and happy recently to hear Pope Francis address so candidly the church's response to homosexuality. It was the top news story for at least a few media venues, including NBC Nightly News and National Public Radio.

The statement by the pope that drew so much attention was, "But if a person is gay and seeks God and has good will, who am I to judge him?"

For many Catholics, the pope's words were stunning, probably because he used the word "judge." So many Catholics who are gay or who have a family member or friend who is gay sometimes feel that they are being condemned or judged. So the pope, in his down-to-earth style, reached out like no other pope has on this issue.

Pope Francis has a way of sharing, teaching and living out the core Catholic teachings of love and respect. He really didn't say anything that hasn't already been stated in the United States Catholic Bishops' statement from 1997 that reads, in part: "God does not love someone any less simply because he or she is homosexual. God's love is always and everywhere offered to those who are open to receiving it."

Pope Francis continues to open our hearts.

Congratulations to the Our Lady of the Lake youth praise band in Edinboro. Adonai, a five-member group led by Edinboro University senior Becca Moore, will be the opening show of the year Sept. 14 at Faith Café, located at Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, 3520 Perry Highway. Faith Café is a non-denominational venue where bands from the area play Christian music every Saturday night during the school year. If

the name Moore sounds familiar, Becca is the daughter of Tennessee Backporch band members Chris and Julie Groucutt Moore.

Diane Hornamen, a registered nurse practitioner who cares for people in chronic pain, inspired a lot of people who gathered at St. Mary of Grace Church in Meadville this summer. "She talked about her journey of faith and everyone was so moved by what she said," said Rose Bronson, a parishioner. About 65 people attended the talk, sponsored by the parish support group.

It was good to see Altoona-Johnstown Bishop Mark L. Barchak, formerly of the Diocese of Erie, pictured with Pope Francis at the papal summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, in July. Bishop Barchak (known as Bishop Mark in his diocese) was leading a pilgrimage when he was unexpectedly offered a seat inside the barriers set up to control the crowd of 20,000 visitors gathered outside the pope's palace. You can watch a video at www.ajdiocese.org.

What a relief to hand over three large plastic bags full of stuffed animals to Kathy Schriever of Operation Christmas Child of Northwestern Pennsylvania. My husband and I sifted through boxes and boxes of our kids' stuffed animals this summer, fluffed them in the dryer and discarded all the ones that were not clean or whose appendages were missing. Kathy will send the animals to children around the world through Samaritan's Purse (www.samaritanaspurse.org).

Schriever told me that since she got involved with the group eight years ago, she has collected 85,000 stuffed animals. (And I thought I had a lot in my basement!) If you want to donate or would like to volunteer to help stuff the boxes in November, call Schriever at 814-823-2574. This past spring, the Mercy Center named Kathy Schriever one of its Women Making History honorees.

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25s and 50s run in these families

Silver and gold never meant so much for four Erie couples celebrating wedding anniversaries this summer.

Daniel and Janet Nawrocki Sr. and Daniel and Mary Beth Nawrocki Jr. marked their 50th and 25th anniversaries, respectively, at the diocesan wedding anniversary Mass at Sacred Heart Church in Erie on Aug. 4.

And at the same Mass, Diane and Robert McCarthy Sr. and Diane (DeeDee) and Robert McCarthy Jr. also marked their golden and silver jubilees.

"I think it's so wonderful. It's so unique," says Diane McCarthy. "It wasn't planned ahead of time. It just happened that way."

The Nawrockis and the McCarthys didn't know each other, but they all attended the annual diocesan celebration at Sacred Heart to honor couples who have been married 25, 30, and 60 or more years.

They were among 105 couples who participated in the anniversary Mass and received a

scroll signed by Bishop Lawrence Persico.

Another diocesan anniversary celebration is being held today, Aug. 18, at St. Mary Church in Crown. Thirty-two couples are being honored there.

Ann Badach, director of Family Life for Catholic Charities, says the two diocesan celebrations are inspiring.

"It's a testament to marriage and a testament to the loyalty and faithfulness of these couples," Badach says.

Bishop Persico, in his homily at the Aug. 4 event, referred to Mark Twain who said, "Love seems the swiftest but it is the slowest of all growths. No man or woman really knows what perfect love is until they have been married for at least a quarter of a century."

Bishop Persico told the celebrating couples, "... You have been blessed with nothing less than a perfect love."

If you met the Nawrockis and McCarthys,

that's what they'd say, too. All of them discussed participating in the anniversary Mass together, not realizing so many years ago that their silver and golden anniversaries would fall in the same year. The McCarthy Seniors attend St. Patrick Parish; the McCarthy Juniors are parishioners at Our Lady of Peace. The Nawrocki Seniors are parishioners at St. Luke, and the Nawrocki Juniors attend St. Andrew.

"It just hit us this year that we were going to be celebrating big anniversaries at the same time," says DeeDee McCarthy, who married the younger Bob McCarthy on May 28, 1988. Dan Nawrocki Jr. and his wife were happy that their children, ages 22, 20 and 16, were able to attend the Mass marking their 25th anniversary.

They already had given his parents a party at Erie's Maennerchor Club for their 50th.

"It's kind of neat. It's a nice milestone to celebrate together," Dan Nawrocki Jr. said.



Photo by Anne-Marie Welsh

These four couples—representing seniors and juniors from two separate families—marked their 25th and 50th wedding anniversaries together at the diocesan wedding anniversary celebration in Erie Aug. 4. Standing from left to right are: Bob McCarthy Jr. and Diane (DeeDee) McCarthy of Our Lady of Peace, Erie, and Bob McCarthy Sr. and Diane McCarthy of St. Patrick, Erie; Janet Nawrocki and Daniel Nawrocki Sr. of St. Luke Parish, Erie, and Mary Beth and Daniel Nawrocki Jr. of St. Andrew, Erie.

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POLISH FESTIVAL

St. Michael the Archangel Church, 15 Robinson Street in DuBois will hold its Annual Polish Festival Saturday, August 31 from 4:00 until 10:00 pm and Sunday, September 1 from 12:00 until 10:00 pm. New days and time(s) this year! Homemade Polish, American and baked goods will be available. Live music and games for all ages. Please call 814-371-5773 for more information.

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Briefly

Bishop Emeritus Trautman honored

SEATTLE—Bishop Emeritus Donald W. Trautman accepted the Blessed John XXIII Award in Seattle this summer for his efforts to bring about change to the liturgical texts that were fully implemented in the United States in 2012.

"I was surprised and honored by this award," Bishop Emeritus Trautman told *FaithLife*. "I accept this honor for all those who have struggled through the years to give an accurate, prayerful, understandable, proclamable translation of the lectionary and missal."

The Association of U.S. Catholic Priests presented the award to Bishop Emeritus Trautman for his "dedication to the love of the liturgy and for his devotion to priestly and episcopal ministry in the liturgical renewal envisioned by the Second Vatican Council."

Tickets for Rwandan survivor talk available this month at St. Jude

ERIE—Immaculée Ilibagiza, one of eight women who hid in the bathroom of a local pastor's house for 91 days during the Rwandan holocaust, will speak at St. Jude the Apostle Parish, Erie, Oct. 22, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets to the event are available now for \$15 per person at the parish office, 2801 W. 6th St., Erie.

A strong faith in God helped Ilibagiza overcome the horrific events that happened, including the slaughter of family members. Ilibagiza is the author of *Left to Tell* and *The Boy Who Met Jesus*. For more information, call 814-833-0927.



Immaculée Ilibagiza

St. Boniface pastor elected to national board

CINCINNATI—Father Jay Schultz, pastor of St. Boniface Parish, Erie, has been elected to serve a three-year term on the board of directors of the National Association of Church Personnel Administrators (NACPA), headquartered in Cincinnati.

Father Schultz will continue to serve as pastor of St. Boniface, while representing Catholics in the northeastern United States.

NACPA was founded by the National Federation of Priestly Councils 41 years ago. It provides salary and personnel information to dioceses, religious orders and American bishops.

NFP plans skating party

SENECA—A roller skating party sponsored by the Natural Family Planning/Chastity Education Office of the Diocese of Erie will be held Aug. 19 at Skate Capital, 255 Salina Road, Seneca, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. For information, call 814-758-1020.

DEATH NOTICE

Gannondale sister dies at 97

CARROLLTON, Ohio — Sister of Our Lady of Charity Julia Gardlik, a longtime minister to teenage girls at Gannondale in Erie, died July 14 at the age of 97.

A member of the Sisters of Our Lady of Charity in Erie for 62 years, Sister Julia moved several years ago to her religious community in Carrollton, Ohio, when her health began to fail. She continued her life of outreach among her fellow sisters.

"She had a beautiful smile," says Sister Catherine Gentile, superior of the Sisters of Our Lady of Charity at Gannondale. "She was such a gracious lady. Every time I visited her in Carrollton, I said I was from Gannondale and her whole face lit up."

Such was the degree of commitment that Sister Julia felt for Gannondale, where she served as a religion teacher and as a mentor to the young women in residence. She also was sacristan and

receptionist for her religious community in Erie, which she joined in 1951. Known for her kind spirit, Sister Julia visited the sick and comforted families in hospitals and rehabilitation units in Erie each week for many years.

Sister Julia was born June 21, 1916, in Homestead, Pa., and graduated from Aliquippa High School and the Knights of Columbus Normal School in Pittsburgh, where she earned a secretarial certificate.

During World War II, she was a director of the NCCS-USO Club in Miami, Fla., providing services to military men and women. She also was active with the American Red Cross in Florida and in Pennsylvania.

Memorials in Sister Julia's name may be made to the Education Fund of the North American Union Sisters of Our Lady of Charity, P.O. Box 158, Carrollton, Ohio 44615-0158. Funeral arrangements were handled by Sweeney-Dodds Funeral Home in Carrollton.

Mercy Sisters hold special events

It has been a busy summer for Sisters of Mercy and their associates with the New York, Pennsylvania, Pacific West Community.

First, the community dedicated the Mercy Center for Women's Audrey Hirt Wing in Erie, and then preparations got fully underway for the inspiring Theology of a Merciful Heart weekend where they listened to noted speakers and welcomed a new novice.

On June 25, Bishop Lawrence Persico blessed the new Mercy Center wing. Then from July 19-21, more than 200 members of the community from Erie, Rochester, Pittsburgh, Buffalo and the Philippines gathered at Mercyhurst University, Erie, to attend the Merciful Heart conference.

Calling participants to be modern-day mystics, joining their love of God with love of others in everyday life, three speakers addressed the theme, "Mysticism: Contemplation and Action."

In one of the main talks, Joseph Kelly, a Mercy associate and

a retired professor of religious studies at Nazareth College, Rochester, N.Y., said, "When we contemplate, we let go and let God. From that intimacy of God, we go out into the world."

Other talks were given by Christine Bochen, who studies and teaches Catholic theology, feminist theology, American religions and spirituality at Nazareth, and Sister Patricia "Patty" Bearsto, who is a campus minister and theology teacher at Our Lady of Mercy School for Young Women, Rochester.

The weekend ended with a moving chapel ceremony during which Sister Nordia Brusola was formally accepted as a novice for the Sisters of Mercy.

As a novice, Sister Nordia is given the title "Sister" and will enter into a two-year period of further discernment and study in her continuing formation. She will arrive at Institute Novitiate in St. Louis, Mo., on Aug. 18 to begin this new phase of her journey.

"I want to do more for the



Photo by Gary Lanchi

It's all smiles as Sister Nordia Brusola, left, is welcomed as a novice for the Sisters of Mercy New York, Pennsylvania, Pacific West Community. Sister Kathy Sisson, community incorporation minister, joins in the celebration.

love of God specifically in line with the service to God's people," she said.

While in Erie, she earned a master's degree from Mercyhurst. She volunteered at Mercy Center

for Women and worked at St. Mark the Evangelist Parish, Erie, and at the Mercyhurst Preparatory School bookstore. Most recently, she ministered to refugees in the Erie area.

Dollar fund helps Fryburg parish pay for renovations

FRYBURG—A penny saved is a penny earned, but in the case of St. Michael Parish in Fryburg, it's more like a dollar.

Every man, woman and child at the Clarion County parish has been putting a dollar a week in the collection basket to help defray the cost of last year's renovations to the church interior.

To date, the dollar fund has raised \$60,000 to help defray the cost of repainting and re-plastering interior walls and the high ceiling of the 126-year-old church.

"And we're still doing it [the dollar collection] until everything is paid back," Father D.G. "Skip" Davis says.

Currently, the parish contin-



Photo by Becky Eisenman

Father D.G. "Skip" Davis, pastor of St. Michael Parish, Fryburg, is proud of parishioners and the new renovations.

ues to raise about \$200 to \$300 a week through dollar contributions.

Like anyone who has experienced the dislocation of a home renovation project, the 450 families at St. Michael are now delighted to sit back and admire the vibrant colors of the church interior.

And when they look up, there's no more plaster peeling from the ceiling.

"It looks really sharp. It looks like a church should look," Father Davis says.

View more pictures of the church renovation process at www.st-michael-church.com and click on "photos."

Seminarian enjoys zuchetto custom

SEMINARIAN, from page 1

the pope," Jerry recalls. "I got his attention. I just yelled, 'Papa Francisco!'"

Just as Pope Francis met Jerry's eyes and was about to exchange his white cap, people began to crush the pontiff and security guards broke up the swap. A Brazilian seminarian standing nearby then shouted in Portuguese to a Brazilian bishop, pointing to Jerry's white zuchetto.

"The Brazilian bishop

took my zuchetto and exchanged it for me," Jerry says. "The pope understands this tradition. He takes his zuchetto off and switches it. It's kind of cool."

The weekend of Aug. 10-11, Jerry presented the papal zuchetto to his hometown parish of St. Michael in Greenville.

It is expected to be placed inside a glass cabinet in the church gathering space, a thank-you to parishioners who raised money for his memorable pilgrimage to Rio de Janeiro.



Photo by Mary Salberg

Erie seminarian Jerry Stumpff, right, presents the zuchetto he traded with Pope Francis to Father V. David Foradori, pastor of St. Michael Parish, Greenville.

Excerpts from World Youth Day blog



Contributed photo

The following are unedited excerpts from *FaithLife's* Erie to Rio blog that was published during World Youth Day, July 23-28:

July 27
"Today I attended a Mass said by Pope Francis. I was among hundreds of bishops, priests and brother seminarians. I had an exciting experience of getting blessed by a cardinal and meeting the pope and exchanging a zuchetto with him. I was interviewed by the Brazilian news."
— Seminarian Jerry Stumpff

July 29
"There would be random pilgrims run up to us just because they saw the American flag. They would ask for a picture with the flag, trade items, or have me sign their book bags. It was something that made me really reconsider my pride to be an American. I don't know if they know just how blessed we are."
— Seminarian Kevin Holland

July 30
"I have so many great memories from the week that it's hard to pick favorites, but getting to see Pope Francis drive by was definitely one of the best! Realized just how universal the Catholic Church is by meeting people from many different countries: Mexico, the Netherlands, Spain, Venezuela, India, Australia, South Africa, Canada, Luxembourg, Lebanon, Argentina, Bangladesh, Uruguay, New Guinea, Poland, Columbia, and, of course, Brazil."
— Amanda Novossel, Our Lady Queen of the Americas Parish, Conneaut Lake

See <http://faithlifeblog.wordpress.com>

July 31
"It was such an incredible feeling to be among 3 million other young Catholics from all over the world and to be united together in our beautiful Catholic faith."
— Rebecca Novossel, Our Lady Queen of the Americas Parish, Conneaut Lake

Aug. 1
"Don't let the press or anyone from the world tell you that youth and young adults don't care about their faith. Three million people united in one place says a lot to the world—we care."
— Leader Susan Kline, St. Callistus Parish, Kane

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175 years strong



ERIE—Msgr. Henry Kriegel of St. Patrick Parish in Erie has watched family membership jumped since he became pastor in November 2009. It's a trend that speaks well of the heritage, faith and renewal of the parish in its 175th year.

More and more people have been drawn to the East Fourth Street church since it completed its massive \$1.3 million restoration project in 2012. On June 23, Bishop Lawrence Persico presided at a rededication Mass, followed by a brunch for 300 people at Erie's Bayfront Convention Center.

The future holds only promise for St. Patrick. Msgr. Kriegel is thrilled that a parishioner recently donated a high-tech camera that will allow the parish to videotape homilies to view online (www.saintpatrickparisherie.org).

Enjoying a conversation after the St. Patrick Parish rededication Mass are, from left to right: Msgr. Henry Kriegel, pastor; parishioners Sue Taccone, her mother Rose Schriever, and Dave Taccone; and Bishop Lawrence Persico.

Fundraising at St. Luke Parish in Youngsville benefits Jamaica's poor

YOUNGVILLE—Religious education students from St. Luke Parish, Youngsville, recently held a car wash fundraiser at the NAPA auto parts store on Route 6 to benefit the poor in Jamaica. Donations collected were used toward building a house under the auspices of Food for the Poor, Inc., Jamaica. Since last fall, the parish has held many fundraising events, including a food booth at the Youngsville bicentennial, a sale of nut rolls at Christmas, raffles, and a parish



picnic gift auction. Students are pictured washing a van with Sandi Mineweaser, religious education director, second from right; and her son, Todd Mineweaser, far right, confirmation class instructor.

Artist creates crucifix for Our Lady of Mount Carmel

ERIE—Union City artist Brent Butler used hand tools to carve a new 12-by-6-foot wooden crucifix for Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Erie.

Butler, who took about four months to create the cross and corpus, is shown here at the July 16 blessing and incensing of the new crucifix.

The cross is suspended over the tabernacle and was put in place after the parish remodeled its sanctuary.



Photo by Rich Papaluz

Youth attend Catholic Heart Workcamp



REYNOLDSVILLE—Six students from St. Mary Church in Reynoldsville attended the Catholic Heart Workcamp in Lancaster, Pa., this summer. Some of their activities included working with disabled youth and

the elderly, cleaning a church, and doing yard work, painting and cooking. (Look for a feature on the Catholic Heart Workcamp in Oil City this summer in the September edition of Faith magazine.)

Pictured in the front, left to right, are: Henry Sutter, Kate Sutter, Alyssa Cribbs, Kelly Kometis, and Jacob Sutter. In the back, left to right, are: Jess Mullins, Jessica Stover, and Betsy Stover. Missing from the photo is Katherine Lang.

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