



January 27, 2011

Local Catholic Students Participate in Annual March for Life

By Sharon Masterson

SBA Communications & Sports Information

For the 22nd year, 120 St. Benedict at Auburndale students and along with their chaperones traveled to Washington, D.C. to participate in the Annual March for Life. The theme for this year is, "Thou shalt Protect the Equal Right to Life of Each Innocent Born and Preborn Human in Existence at Fertilization. No Exception! No Compromise!" The date marked the 38th Anniversary of the Supreme Court decision, Roe v. Wade, legalizing abortion in the U.S.

The students and chaperones traveled approximately 17 hours by bus arriving in Washington to tour the major monuments, Viet Nam Memorial, The Capitol Visitor's Center, Arlington Cemetery and other attractions. Following the day's tour, the group checked in at Catholic University of America to set-up their sleeping bags for the night's lodging, with 1300 other students from around the country, on the floor of the gymnasium in CUA's Athletic Center. Then they trekked to the nearby Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception to attend the Annual Pro-life Vigil Mass concelebrated by many of this nation's Cardinals, Archbishops, Bishops and priests.

Early the next morning, the group arose and traveled to the Verizon Center for the Archdiocese of Washington Pro-Life Youth Rally and Mass.

Before the rally at the Verizon Center, the group from St. Benedict was seated in the upper stadium seats cheering and celebrating. A representative from the rally came and got the entire group and escorted them to better seats on the arena floor so that their enthusiasm could be shared with others. They were also featured on the jumbo-tron screen.

After the rally and Mass, the group made their way to the mall for the March for Life pre-march rally and then, with hundreds of thousands of others, they marched down Constitution Avenue to the Supreme Court Building where they prayed with Rachel's

Vineyard victims (women and men who have had been involved in abortion or have had them and are now pro-life). The students then visited Union Station for dinner and shopping and boarded their buses for the approximately 17-hour trip home.

Sponsor of the trip, Sharon Masterson, again, was gratified by the students' perseverance and thanked the students for their sacrifice in making the long trip and for their witness on behalf of the right to life for all. She reminded them, "Abortion destroys the image of God, as we are all created in His image from the moment of conception." She said, "It's important that we come to Washington to witness for life and stand for those who can't stand up for themselves. You are the future and your commitment will help end the culture of death that was brought on by the decision in 1973."

St. Benedict senior Kaitlyn Favorite, a leader of the school's Teens for Life, said, "I've been on this trip all four years and look forward to it every year because there are so many young people standing up for life. Another leader, senior Louis DeGruy says, "Each year, these rallies, Masses and the March, itself, brings more people to Washington to stand up for life. I'm so grateful to be a part of it."

Italian Winterfest Supports Education

From the Catholic Schools Office

Tony Barrasso, Sam Bomarito and Angelo Lucchesi joined forces with local Italian restaurants and beverage distributors to create the first annual Italian Winterfest to benefit Catholic Education Scholarship Fund, the CBHS Scholarship Fund and the Jubilee Schools Scholarship Fund. The event, which was held on Sunday, January 23 at CBHS Heffernan Hall featured food from Pete & Sam's, Coletta's, Garibaldi's and Frank Grisanti's, along with wines provided by Delta Wholesale, Athen's Distributing, Southwestern Distributors and Star Distributors.

Dr. Mary McDonald, Superintendent of Catholic Schools said, "We are thrilled about the incredible response to the Italian Winterfest. The event sold out quickly. Bishop Steib and the many friends of the Catholic schools attended in support of the children. We are grateful that our schools have such enthusiastic supporters, such as Tony, Sam, Angelo, the restaurants and the distributors who made such an exciting evening possible. The overwhelming spirit of community was evident."

To see more photos of this event visit www.cdom.org and click on Schools.

The Reality of Evil and Spiritual Warfare in Our Modern World

By Father Michael Werkhoven

The opening scene in the trailer to the new movie "The Rite" is this statement, "On November 12 and 13, 2010, a meeting of Roman Catholic Bishops convened to respond to the growing demand for exorcism rites." The next statement is a quote that appeared in the New York Times on November 13, "The devil is a real and constant force..." one bishop said, "... we have to be prepared."

At the Bishops' Conference in November, the media jumped on the leaders of the Church questioning why they held on to this outdated and archaic rite in the modern world. As the doors were closed to the media, exorcists, bishops, and bishops' representatives talked about the needs of the Church, specifically in America, and how we proceed from here. The conference, contrary to public opinion, was not an exorcist training seminar. What the conference was and what it did was to discuss how the Church deals with a very real and growing concern among the faithful; that we are in spiritual warfare with evil, but God has given us everything we need to defeat the devil.

The Church has generally defined evil as being a deprivation or lacking of the good. Evil only exists because the good existed first. It can be compared to darkness being the absence of light. Shadows only exist because there is light, and light shines on the object first. Or compare it to sickness being the absence of health such as the analogy of a cavity in a tooth being the absence of a healthy part of the tooth. The pain caused is due to the absence of the healthy, it is corrupted by what is missing. But this may lead us to an abstraction of evil, to say that it is only a theoretical problem. But while evil may not exist as a created thing in its own right, it does exist in things and in creatures. The Church has always taught that the devil, like all angels, was created good, but by his own free will, chose to reject the true good and suffered the consequences of that choice. Many Church Fathers said that when the angels were created, they were given a choice and were able to see into salvation history and the mystery of the Incarnation; that God would become Man to save all humanity. Some angels did not agree with God's vision of humbling himself to save lower created beings, and so in their pride, they rebelled against God and rejected His will. Their punishment is a separation from God, a "pain of loss" in which they are cut off from the only source of true happiness. In this hell, they are forever tormented, their hate has deformed their nature, and in their jealousy, they have sought to separate us also from God.

This jealousy over our relationship with God has caused a perpetual spiritual war between the devil and his demons with God and His angels; with this world and our souls being the battlefield. We are definitely at war with evil, but we must know what we are fighting and how to defeat it. To look at this in modern warfare terms, think of the wars in the Middle East. It is not enough to "sell the public" on the war being fought, because we will be divided into extremes. Depending on your political leanings, either we are fighting in the Middle East to depose an evil despot and save us from weapons of mass destruction, or we are fighting to keep oil prices where they are and protect our business ventures. Well, depending on your spiritual view of the cosmos, the problem of evil is usually seen in one of two extremes: first- Satan is seen as the god of evil who has equal power to God; or second - Satan is seen as not existing at all, he is a myth used to scare people into obeying the moral authority of someone else. The truth is, the devil, the prince of lies, would be happy with either one of those definitions, and while they may describe the reality of the world's beliefs in Satan and the concept of evil, both are far from the truth.

One of the most overused quotes about Satan is one by the French poet Charles Pierre Baudelaire who said, "the greatest trick the devil ever pulled was convincing the world that he did not exist." It has been quoted by theologians, writers such as C.S. Lewis and also quoted by actor Kevin Spacey in the movie "The Usual Suspects." As overused as that quote is, it also best describes a major problem with our view of evil in the world today.

In several general audiences in 1972, Pope Paul VI addressed the reality of the devil and evil in our modern world. *Evil is a terrible, mysterious, and frightening reality. Whoever refuses to acknowledge its existence, or tries to explain it away as a conceptual and fantastic personification of unknown reasons for our evils, diverges from the field of biblical and ecclesiastical teaching...The demon is the root of the first human disaster, original sin...It is a story that continues to this day. Reminding us of this reality, the rite of exorcism during baptism, the liturgy, and Sacred Scripture frequently refer to the regressive and oppressive power of darkness. He is our number one enemy. He is the tempter par excellence.*

In 1975, in response to the audiences of Pope Paul VI and the questions raised by these public statements, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith released a document entitled *Christian Faith and Demonology*. The document stated that "Satan, whom Jesus confronted by his exorcisms, cannot be simply the product of the human faculty of inventing fables and personifying ideas, nor can he be an erroneous relic of primitive language," rather he is, in fact, very real.

But the reality of the devil and evil cannot lead us to think of him as the "boogey man" hiding in our closets to scare our children into obeying us, or an all powerful entity that we have no hope of defeating. The Catechism of the Catholic Church stresses that "the power of Satan is, nonetheless, not infinite. He is only a creature, powerful from the fact that he is pure spirit, but still a creature." The power of Satan is not in any way equal to or a threat to God. In fact, Satan understands that by the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ on the Cross, his time is very limited. We therefore hear the demons address Jesus in Matthew's Gospel: "What have you to do with us, Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the appointed time?" (Mt 8: 29)

When talking with the exorcists and bishops at the conference in Baltimore in November, what was stressed over and over is the need to remember that we already know the ultimate outcome of this spiritual combat. We win. God and the Church win. We are given absolute confidence to trust in God and His Church because the gates of hell will not prevail against us. As limited as the devil's time is, it could be much shorter and the casualties could be much less if the Church were to take this spiritual warfare seriously. Every exorcist goes into the Rite of exorcism with a confidence that he has already won. He will need the help of God, he will need the prayers of others, he will need to be holy, knowledgeable, and prudent, and he will need to persevere in the face of evil, but victory has already been won through Jesus Christ.

The challenge for us on the front lines of this battle is to not pass the responsibility of spiritual warfare on to someone else. When we hear that the victory has already been won, we may believe that we have no part to play in the battle. But although the victory is imminent, there may still be casualties, both our selves and our loved ones. Therefore, we must not only join the battle in confidence, but also have the right weapons. St. Paul, in his letter to the Ephesians says to use the "armor of God," the "breastplate of righteousness," the "shield of faith," the "helmet of salvation," and the "sword of the Spirit." These tools named by St. Paul are the scripture, tradition and magisterium of the Church. Use all the tools made available to us, for God gives us what we need. In the 13th century, the Fourth Lateran Council addressed the nature of evil and the reality of demons within the cosmos and our daily lives, and in that reality stressed the importance of the sacraments in

combating evil and unifying us to Christ. The council fathers stated that remaining faithful to the sacraments is our best defense against the attacks of the devil, and this gives us no reason to fear him or to lose hope. To win this war, we need to persevere in faith, faith in God and in His Church; frequent reception of the sacraments, especially Communion and Reconciliation; the reading of Sacred Scripture; a strong devotion to Mary and the intercession of the angels and saints; and an active prayer life in which we trust in God.

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil.

-- *Father Ben Bradshaw contributed to this article.*

CBHS to Host 10th Annual Trivia Night on February 4

The 10th annual Christian Brothers High School Trivia Night will be held on Friday, February 4 at 7 p.m. in Heffernan Hall on the CBHS campus, located at 5900 Walnut Grove Rd. Brother Ignatius Brown, F.S.C. will emcee the event, established in 2002 as a fund raiser for the De La Salle Jubilee School (formerly Blessed Sacrament School), which is now supported and administered by the Christian Brothers here in Memphis. Last year the Trivia Night Committee was able to give De La Salle School a check for more than \$5,000, which was used to buy children's books for the school library.

Teams are encouraged to come early and decorate your table. Participants may bring snacks, dinner, five course gourmet feast, and beverages of your choice. There will also be free snacks available such as candy, chips, popcorn and soft drinks.

Teams of eight will have a table reserved after they register. Each player must be age 21 or older. Teams should be present and ready to begin the fun by 7 p.m. To register, download a form on the CBHS website at www.cbhs.org, pick one up at the school, or call the CBHS Development Office at 901-261-4930.

Pilgrim's Place: On the Journey of Discipleship

By Kristin Walker

During my first pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2008, I experienced a profound calling to a "vocation of pilgrimage." I had no idea how it would materialize or even what it really meant at the time; all I knew was that the Lord wanted me to minister to the community in this way. As my understanding deepened and the Lord's timing became clear, I discerned a ministry called "Pilgrim's Place, " which is aimed at facilitating a deepening communion with Christ on the journey of discipleship as described by the Incarnation: "If anyone wishes to follow me, he must deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow me." (Luke 9:23)

While we may travel to many pilgrimage destinations, our ultimate mission is to help pilgrims discover in new and profound ways an encounter with Jesus Christ; to seek a loving relationship with Him and with one another in the fellowship of the Body of Christ; to participate in on-going and ever-deepening conversion. Every Christian desires to find the light of Christ; it is this ministry's mission to bring pilgrims on an

"itinerary of conversion" to places that have been illuminated by the light of Christ throughout history.

According to St. Paul, pilgrimage is the calling of every Christian. We all become "strangers and sojourners" the moment we realize it is the Kingdom of God that we are seeking; not an earthly homeland but a "heavenly country." (Hebrews 11: 13-16). On pilgrimage, we have the chance to participate in sacred liturgies unique to each pilgrimage site. We are given the task to practice detachment, patience, and self-abandonment; to leave fear behind and journey towards the unknown; and to grow in self-knowledge, humility and other virtues.

In the words of Pope Benedict during his visit to Santiago de Compostela, Spain, in 2010, "To go on pilgrimage is not simply to visit a place to admire its treasures of nature, art, or history. To go on pilgrimage really means to step out of ourselves in order to encounter God where He has revealed Himself, where His grace has shone with particular splendor and produced rich fruits of conversion and holiness among those who believe."

This past October, I had the great privilege of coordinating a pilgrimage from Fatima to Lourdes under the Spiritual guidance of Father Ben Bradshaw. Our group of 26 journeyed from Lisbon, Portugal to Lourdes, France over a period of 11 days. It was an extraordinary time of spiritual growth and healing for us all; the supernatural bond of Christian fellowship will remain with us forever.

Together we visited the birthplace of St. Anthony of Padua, the Eucharistic miracle of Santarem, and the birthplace and site of conversion for St. Ignatius of Loyola. We participated in the Feast Day liturgies in both Fatima and Avila and had Mass at some of the most sacred shrines in all of Western Europe. We traced the footsteps of the Great Mystics, St. Theresa of Avila and St. John of the Cross; and our journey ended with the healing waters of Lourdes and the fruit Our Lady's appearances to St. Bernadette Soubirous.

This Fall, Pilgrim's Place will be heading to Europe again on a journey of "Italian Splendor" starting in Venice with stops in Padua, Bologna, Florence, Assisi, Siena, Orvieto, Cascia, Loreto, Lanciano, Monte Sant'Angelo, San Giovanni Rotondo, Monte Cassino and Rome.

For more information, contact Kristin Walker at 901-331-6445 or pilgrimsplace7@gmail.com.

What is Cursillo?

Cursillo (pronounced Cur-see-yo) is a movement of the Church that promotes Catholic ideals, fellowship, and spiritual growth in daily living. It provides an opportunity to deepen your Catholic faith, and to experience the love of God within a supportive and prayerful community. The Cursillo is a method of giving those, who have the potential of influencing others, a personal encounter with Christ and the means to further enhance, support, and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through evangelizing their environments.

Each winter and fall, a Cursillo 3-day weekend is held (separately for men and women) to introduce others to Cursillo and provide an experience to enable them to follow Jesus more faithfully and effectively. These weekends are held at Our Lady Queen of Peace Retreat Center in Dancyville. The Cursillo weekend format consists of a series of spiritual talks and discussions, blending seriousness and lightheartedness. The talks focus on the necessity for Piety, Study and Apostolic action and are conducted by both clergy and lay people. Although Cursillos are primarily lay-directed, the clergy play an integral role. Candidates come with many questions and some apprehensions, but they leave full of joyful enthusiasm as brothers and sisters in Christ, determined to extend His kingdom.

For more information about Cursillo or for an application, visit www.memphiscursillo.com.

Auction Benefits Sophia's House

The first annual "Healing Hearts With The Arts: Ending Domestic Violence" art auction will be held on Friday, February 4. The event will be held at Christian Brothers University, in the Thomas Center, from 7-10 p.m. The Silent Auction will begin at 7 p.m. and end at 8:15 p.m. The Live Auction will begin at 9 p.m. featuring Kay Manley, afternoon DJ on KIX 106. Local Memphis Musician Gerry Finney will be performing live from 7 to 9 p.m.

Proceeds will benefit *Sophia's House*, a long-term residential treatment program of Catholic Charities of West Tennessee serving homeless women and their children who are fleeing domestic violence. They provide a network of therapeutic and supportive services that helps these women make healthier, long term choices, find housing and employment.

Sophia's House provides a safe "family home" where mothers and children can live without fear on a daily basis.

For tickets and more information, contact Amy Strange at 901-201-0467.

Trivia Night at OLPH

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church (OLPH) will hold its annual Trivia Night contest on Saturday, February 19 starting at 7 p.m.

In honor of Presidents Day, this year's theme is "Hail to the Chief" and will be hosted by Brother Ignatius Brown from Christian Brothers University. The deadline for registration is February 15. Babysitting will be available on site.

OLPH is located at 8151 Poplar Ave. in Germantown. For registration information, contact Deacon John Moskal at 901-754-1204 ext. 306 or via email to jmoskal@olphgermantown.org, or visit www.olphgermantown.org.

Relic Collection on Display at CBU

Christian Brothers University (CBU) is proud to announce that the "Relic Collection," belonging to the De La Salle Archives of the Christian Brothers of the Midwest District, is on exhibit from January 1 through May 1, 2011 on the main level of Plough Memorial Library.

The 358 relics are exhibited once every three years so that students and others interested, can view them and learn about the relics' history in the Catholic Tradition. The look of the exhibit has recently been modernized to help students and others to better understand the men and women saints whom it honors.

A relic, as defined by The Modern Catholic Encyclopedia, is an object kept and revered as a memorial of a holy person or saint. Relics include bodily remains of such persons i.e. bones as well as objects that once belonged to them or which they touched i.e. clothing. For an object to be classified as a relic, it must be certified as authentic by Church authority, and may not be bought or sold for money.

This collection contains the relics of many saints, including Thomas, Aloysius Gonzaga, Ambrose, Anastasia, Andrew the Apostle, Anthony of Padua, Benedict, Clare of Assisi, Dominic, Francis of Assisi, Francis Xavier Cabrini, Ignatius, Saint John the Apostle, John Baptist de la Salle, Joseph and Mary, Martin de Porres, the Apostles Matthew, Peter and Paul, Simon, John the Baptist, Teresa of Jesus, Valentine and Vincent de Paul and others.

The exhibit is free and open to the public. Hours at the Plough Memorial Library are Monday-Thursday, 7:45 a.m. - 11 p.m.; Friday, 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Saturday, Closed; and Sunday, 1-11 p.m. Hours may vary due to University schedules. Call 901-321-3243 to verify, or visit the website at www.cbu.edu/library.

CBHS Tower Gets New Bell

The Christian Brothers High School Class of 1960 headed up by class president Lee Chandler celebrated its Golden Jubilee this past summer with several events, capped off by the donation of a 33-inch in diameter bell to the school for the Bell Tower. The class had enjoyed the sound of a similar bell in the tower on Parkway where they attended school. CBHS, which moved to its present Walnut Grove location since 1965, now enjoys the ringing of the 1929, Troy, New York cast bell six times a day.

The bell is fitted with an electronic clapper system and hangs in the third story of the bell tower erected using funds raised by the CBHS Mothers' Club, just as their organization did on the Parkway in 1958. The Verdin Bell Company of Cincinnati, Ohio selected the bell from its inventory and provided the electronic operating system. In addition to this cast bell, to replace the 45-year-old electronic carillon that went defunct this past summer, the school purchased from Verdin an electronic carillon that will toll the hours from seven in the morning until seven in the evening, as well as play hymns and tunes from a catalog of over 500 selections. A keyboard in the school office will also facilitate the playing of the school song, the alma mater, or other original settings. CBHS is grateful to the Class of 1960 for their generous and thoughtful donation to their alma mater. Generations of students and faculty will enjoy the sounds of their efforts for years to come.

Online Social Networks Can Help Spread the Gospel

By John Thavis

Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI invited Christians to join online social networks in order to spread the Gospel through digital media and discover "an entirely new world of potential friendships."

At the same time, the pope warned of the limits and the dangers of digital communication, including the risks of constructing a false online image and of replacing direct human contact with virtual relationships.

"Entering cyberspace can be a sign of an authentic search for personal encounters with others, provided that attention is paid to avoiding dangers such as enclosing oneself in a sort of parallel existence, or excessive exposure to the virtual world," the pope said in his message for the 2011 celebration of World Communications Day.

"In the search for sharing, for 'friends,' there is the challenge to be authentic and faithful, and not give in to the illusion of constructing an artificial public profile for oneself," he said.

The theme of this year's World Communications Day, which will be celebrated June 5, is "Truth, proclamation and authenticity of life in the digital age." In his message, released Jan 24, the pope acknowledged that the Internet has fundamentally changed the way people communicate today.

"This means of spreading information and knowledge is giving birth to a new way of learning and thinking, with unprecedented opportunities for establishing relationships and building fellowship," he said.

In the digital world, he said, information is increasingly transmitted through social networks as a form of sharing between persons. He said this dynamic has favored dialogue, exchange, a sense of solidarity and the creation of positive relations.

"The new technologies allow people to meet each other beyond the confines of space and of their own culture, creating in this way an entirely new world of potential friendships," he said.

The pope added that digital communication has built-in limits, including the one-sidedness of the interaction and "the tendency to communicate only some parts of one's interior world." The creation of an artificial online image instead of an authentic one "can become a form of self-indulgence," he said.

In their online activities, he added, Christians also need to remember that direct human relations remain fundamental for transmission of the faith.

The great potential of social networks for building relationships makes it a natural place for the church to be present, he said. But there is a "Christian way" of being

online — through communication that is "honest and open, responsible and respectful of others," he said.

Archbishop Claudio Celli, president of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, was asked in a briefing with reporters whether the pope's words reflected concern over an aggressive and derisive approach found on some Catholic sites and blogs.

"The risk is there, there is no doubt," the archbishop said. He added that his council was working on a document that would offer, among other things, some reference points about the appropriate tone and behavior for church-related Internet sites.

Pope Benedict's message, while underlining the risks of the Internet, was generally positive about online opportunities, saying they had opened new "spiritual horizons."

He said proclaiming the Gospel through new media was not simply a matter of inserting religious content into online platforms, but also of witnessing the Gospel consistently when communicating choices, preferences and judgments.

Follow Bishop Steib on Twitter:

Bishop Steib is now sharing a twitter-sized tidbit from the Liturgy of the Hours and other thoughts. To receive his tweets on Twitter.com, search for "Bishop_Steib" and sign up as a follower. You will receive a thought for the day, words of encouragement, and reminders of how to put your faith in action.

Secondhand Books and Recycled Grace: Why Good Stewards Share

By Christina Capecchi

Twenty Something

Nothing feels like a better bargain than a one-cent book, so I always click on Amazon's used category. Not only does it save me money, it comes with the added benefit of footprints from a previous reader _ marks flagging the sentences that struck someone somewhere, a person who can unknowingly offer me a flashlight for the story ahead.

I also look for clues to identity _ a library stamp, a cursive inscription _ and marvel at the book's journey.

Joseph Cardinal Bernardin's end-of-life reflection "The Gift Of Peace" was passed from a daughter to a mother, then back to a daughter from a mother _ with Goodwill in between. When I read the note inside, dated April 1998, "To Mom _ All my love, Mary," I knew a similar love brought it to me.

Then there's the "Chicken Soup For the Soul: Living Your Dreams" edition, copyright 2003 Amazon offers 121 used copies _ 18 for a penny _ but mine came through Sam's Club, where it sold for \$7.47, down from its cover price of \$12.95, and was later consigned for a dollar.

The first chapter includes a goal sheet for the reader to fill out. A previous owner played by the rules, leaving secrets in black ink.

He vowed to triple his income of \$30,000 and lose half of his 240 pounds. "My ideal soul mate is: someone I can talk with, share things we like to do together," he wrote in the book. "My right livelihood is: be my own boss. Other dreams I have are: a home on a lake."

It's not just hand-me-down books that become hand-me-down wisdom. As I orient to 2011, I'm thinking of all the things we share: recipes and knock-knock jokes, bobby pins and bug spray. Parking spaces and prayer cards, passwords and priests. How impossible a year would be if I were left to my own bag of tricks.

Giving something small can have a big effect, cracking open the heart and sharpening a sense of purpose. I know for sure that generosity invites grace, and I'm determined to welcome the new year with upturned palms, as the cheerful giver God loves. When we share we are drawn into community, practical support underlined by neighborly affection.

Our year begins with Epiphany, when the Magi from the East follow the star. Along the way they share bread and blankets. Their fellowship guides and sustains them, carrying them to Bethlehem where they drop to the ground in worship of the Christ Child. "Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh."

We are prepared for this well-known Gospel by a short second reading, when St. Paul tells the Ephesians about "the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit." And therein is the key to it all, that we are merely stewards of the blessings and crock pots and laptops in our homes. We do not own them; we are temporary keepers. In that spirit we do not count or collect but give freely.

When we embrace the call to community and stewardship, it becomes easier to journey toward the star. As you do, look out for the pilgrims who fall into stride with you, if even for an hour. And together, leave bread crumbs for the ones who will follow.

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn. Email her at Christina@readchristina.com.

Liturgy of the Hours

Psalter Week IV

Lectionary Readings

Year A of the Sunday Cycle

Jan.30 - Feb. 5, 2011

Sunday, January 30, 2011

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13

Psalm 146:6-10

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Matthew 5:1-12a

Monday, January 31

John Bosco, priest

Hebrews 11:32-40

Psalm 31:20-24

Mark 5:1-20

Tuesday, February 1

Weekday

Hebrews 12:1-4

Psalm 22:26-28, 30-32

Mark 5:21-43

Wednesday, February 2

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Malachi 3:1-4

Psalm 24:7-10

Hebrews 2:14-18

Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Thursday, February 3

Weekday; *Blaise, bishop, martyr; Ansgar, bishop*

Hebrews 12:18-19, 21-24

Psalm 48:2-4, 9-11

Mark 6: 7-13

Friday, February 4

Weekday

Hebrews 13: 1-8

Psalm 27: 1, 3,5,8-9

Mark 6: 14-29

Saturday, February 5

Agatha, virgin, martyr

Hebrews 13:5-17, 20-21

Psalm 23: 1-6

Mark 6: 30-34

Obituaries

DiMIGLIO

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated January 17 for Ronald Anthony DiMiglio, 74, at St. Louis Church by Msgr. John McArthur. Burial was in Memorial Park Cemetery.

Survivors include his wife, Betty DiMiglio; a daughter, Teri Tate; a son, Stephen DiMiglio; two sisters, Marilyn Sopezak and Sandra DiMiglio; two brothers, James DiMiglio and Nicholas DiMiglio; and six grandchildren.

DUNAVANT

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated January 11 for Thomas E. Dunavant, at St. Louis Church by Msgr. John McArthur. Burial was in Memorial Park Cemetery.

Survivors include a daughter, Mary Anne Lissley; three sons, Stephen Dunavant, Vincent Dunavant and Phillip Dunavant; two brothers, Pat Dunavant and James Dunavant; and eight grandchildren.

GATTUSO

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated January 14 for Doris Kiersky Gattuso, 86, at St. Therese the Little Flower Church by Father Carl Hood.

Survivors include two grandchildren.

GORMAN

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated January 18 for Sarah Jean Gorman, 61, at St. Paul Church by Father Ben Bradshaw and concelebrated by Father Michael Werkhoven. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery.

Survivors include a son, Eddie Gorman; two sisters, DeDe Carroll and Reesie Carroll; and two brothers, Pete Riley and Joe Boy Riley.

GRAHAM

A funeral home service was conducted January 19 for Kelina Graham, 90, at Memphis Funeral Home by Father Ernie DeBlasio. Burial was in West Tennessee Veterans Cemetery.

Survivors include two sons, Danny Graham and Michael Graham; and four grandchildren.

HOPKINS

A funeral home service was conducted January 19 for Mary Ellen Hopkins, 77, at Family Funeral Care by Father Charles Bauer. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery.

Survivors include her husband, Joseph Hopkins; three daughters, Shirley Aiken, Linda Cierzniewski and Patricia Hopkins; two sons, David McCain and Richard Hopkins; two sisters, Nancy Pirtle and Katherine Cadle; a brother, William Browning; nine grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

McCUAN

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated October 8 for Doris Stevens McCuan, 94, at Holy Angels Church by Father Russell Harbaugh. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery in Dyersburg.

Survivors include a sister, Rosanna Brogan; and a brother, Floyd Stevens.

McKELVEY

A funeral home service was conducted January 20 for Anne Dolan McKelvey, 85, at Family Funeral Care by Deacon Walt Bolton. Burial was in West Tennessee Veterans Cemetery.

Survivors include a daughter, Peggy Winborn; two sisters, Mary Robertson and Sr. Mary Maurice Dolan, R.S.M.; a brother, John Dolan; two grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

SANTORO

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated January 8 for Donald William Santoro, 75, at the Church of the Holy Spirit by Msgr. Albert Kirk assisted by Deacon Bill Nourse. Entombment was in Memorial Park Mausoleum.

Survivors include his wife, Barbara Spencer; two daughters, Kimberly Owens and Vickie Spencer; two sons, Gregory Spencer and Brady Spencer; and 12 grandchildren.

WARD

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated January 8 for Avis Ward, 98, at St. Anne Church by Father David Graham. Entombment was in Memorial Park Mausoleum.

Survivors include two sons, Frederick Ward, Jr. and William Ward; nine grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Calendar

JANUARY

29 Ministry to the Sick Training Class

The Catholic Center, 5825 Shelby Oaks Dr.

8:45 a.m.-3 p.m.; Call 901-373-1237 for info.

29 St. Anne School Alumni Dinner Dance

St. Anne Church, Sebastian Hall, 706 S. Highland

5- 11 p.m.; \$10; Call 901-323-3817 for tickets or info.

29-31 *GWEE* (An Original Spoof of the TV Show *GLEE*)

St. Benedict High School, 8250 Varnavas Dr.

7 p.m.-Jan. 29 &31; 2:30 p.m.-Jan. 30; Call 901-260-2840.

30 Ravioli - Spaghetti Dinner

St. Therese Church, 1644 Jackson Ave.

11 a.m.- 2 p.m.; Call 901-276-1412 for info.

30 St. Ann School 50th Anniversary Mass & Celebration

St. Ann Church, 6529 Stage Rd., Bartlett

11:30 a.m. Mass; Visit www.stanncolts.org/alumni for info.

30 5th Sunday Series: *The Importance of Religious Dialogue*

St. Peter Church, 190 Adams Ave.

5:30 p.m.; Call 901-578-2643 for info.

31 Catholic Schools Festival

Holy Rosary Gym, 4851 Park Ave.

5-7 p.m.; Call 901-373-1219 for info.

FEBRUARY

1 Catholic Ministry with Gay and Lesbian Persons - Potluck

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 1695 Central Ave.

6:30 p.m.; Call 901-355-8997 for info.

3 *Gathering to Remember for Inactive Catholics*

Church of the Nativity, 5955 St. Elmo Rd., Bartlett

7 p.m.; Call 901-373-1224 for info.

4 Blessed Sacrament Homeschool Group Mass & Meeting

St. Michael Church, 3863 Summer Ave.

10 a.m.; Every first Friday; Call 901-861-0553 for info.

4 CBHS Trivia Night

CBHS Heffernan Hall, 5900 Walnut Grove Rd.

7 p.m.; Benefits De La Salle School; Call 901-261-4930 for info.

4 7th & 8th Grade Dance

St. Francis of Assisi Gym, 2100 Germantown Pkwy, Cordova

7 p.m.; Call 901-756-1213 for info.

4 Middle School Dance

St. Louis Church, 203 S. White Station Rd.

7-10 p.m.; \$10; Call 901-682-6606 for info.

7 Natural Family Planning Class Series Begins

The Catholic Center, 5825 Shelby Oaks Dr.

7 p.m.; Preregister; Visit www.cdom.org or call 901-373-1285.

11 Vanderhaar Symposium: *Peacemakers*

CBU, University Theater, 650 East Parkway South

7 p.m.; Free; Father Patrick Ryan, SJ, speaker.

11 40th Anniversary of the CCRMD

St. Louis Church, 203 S. White Station Rd.

7 p.m.; Call 901-454-5314 for info.

12 Prayer & Healing Retreat with Fr. Bruce Nieli, CSP

St. Louis Church, 203 S. White Station Rd.

9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Call 901-454-5314 to register or for info.

12 World Day of the Sick Divine Mercy Healing Mass

St. Ann Church, 6529 Stage Rd., Bartlett

10:30 a.m.; Bishop J. Terry Steib, SVD presiding.

12 Boogie on the Bayou

Holy Rosary Gym, 4851 Park Ave.

7 p.m.; \$30; Call 901-619-9533 for tickets or info.

14 Queen of Peace Rosary, Mass & Adoration

St. Louis Church, 203 S. White Station Rd.

6 p.m.; Call 901-682-6606 for info.

18 6-8 Grade Dance for the Morgan Corbitt Scholarship Fund

Holy Rosary Gym, 4851 Park Ave.

7-10 p.m.; \$10; Call 901-685-1231 for info.

18 Trivia Night at CBU

CBU, 650 East Parkway South

7 p.m.; Call 901-321-3254 or email: vgamble@cbu.org.

19 Pax Christi Meeting

Church of the Holy Spirit, 2300 Hickory Crest Dr.

1 p.m.; Visit www.paxchristimemphis.org

19 Spaghetti Dinner

St. Paul Church, K of C Hall, 1425 E. Shelby Dr.

5-7 p.m.; Call 901-346-2380 for info.

19 Trivia Night at OLPH

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 8151 Poplar Ave., Germantown

7 p.m.; Call 901-754-1204, ext. 306 for info.

19 UNICO Trivia Night

CBHS Heffernan Hall, 5900 Walnut Grove Rd.

6 p.m.; Call 901-628-4175 for info.

27 Crossroads Concert with Marcela Pinilla

St. Benedict High School, 8250 Varnavas Dr., Cordova

6:30 p.m.; \$10 each; Call 901-260-2840 for info.

Diocese to Celebrate World Day of the Sick on February 12

By Alma Abuelouf, Director of Pastoral Services and

Jay Hastings, 24 Hour Chaplet of Divine Mercy Prayer Group.

The Catholic Diocese of Memphis joins the universal Church in commemorating the Nineteenth World Day of the Sick. World Day of the Sick is a global observance of the Roman Catholic Church held annually since 1992 on the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. World Day of the Sick has three consistent themes. First, it reminds the faithful to pray intensely and sincerely for those who are sick. Second, the celebration invites Christians to reflect on and respond to human suffering. And third, this day recognizes and honors all persons who work in health care and serve as caregivers.

The *4th Annual Divine Mercy Healing Mass* will be celebrated on Saturday February 12 at 10:30 a.m. at St Ann Church, located at 6529 Stage Rd. in Bartlett. The event is hosted by the Diocesan Office of Pastoral Services, St Ann Catholic Church and the 24 hr Chaplet of Divine Mercy Prayer Group.

The Liturgy will be celebrated by The Most Reverend J. Terry Steib S.V.D., Bishop of Memphis in TN and concelebrated by Msgr. Victor Ciaramitaro, Fathers Russell Harbough, Jacek Kowal, Mike Morgera, Richard Coy, Martin Orjanioko, and John Atkinson. Deacons Chip Jones and Bob Skinner will assist. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated between 9:30-10:15 a.m. After the celebration of Mass, and anointing of the sick, a first class relic of St Faustina and the icon of the Divine Mercy will be offered for veneration. A reception will follow in Trinity Hall.

Through the commemoration of the *World Day of the Sick*, Catholics are reminded of the healing ministry of the church. When someone becomes seriously ill, regardless of his or her age, they are vulnerable, and often frightened and alone. It is during those times when they reach out to their faith community for strength, prayers and support. The day is also set aside to remember caregivers, health care workers and the men and women of the parishes who give their time, love, compassion and offer prayers through the Ministry to the Sick, Health Ministry and the 24 Hour Chaplet of Divine Mercy Prayer Group.

The 24 Hour Chaplet of Divine Mercy Prayer Group began at St Ann Church in Bartlett. The members pray over the sick and the dying with the first class relic of St Faustina. The prayer group prays for people locally and across the world. They help people understand the crosses and sufferings that they are experiencing and encourage them to pray the Chaplet, embrace their crosses, and build virtue and intimacy with God in their lives which will bring them to a peace and joy that only God can give. Because of the diary of a young Polish nun, Sister Faustina, a special devotion began spreading throughout the world in the 1930's. The message is not new, but it is a reminder of what the Church has always taught through scripture and tradition: that God is merciful and forgiving and that all people must show mercy and forgiveness. But in the Divine Mercy Devotion, the message has a new focus, calling people to a deeper understanding that God's love is unlimited and available to everyone-especially the greatest sinners.

For more information call 901-438-7772 or 901-373-1224.

From Pope Benedict:

Dear brothers and sisters, on this World Day of the Sick, I also invite the authorities to invest more and more in health-care structures that provide help and support to the suffering, above all the poorest and most in need, and addressing my thoughts to all dioceses I send an affectionate greeting to bishops, priests, consecrated people, seminarians, health-care workers, volunteers and all those who dedicate themselves with love to treating and relieving the wounds of every sick brother and sister in hospitals or nursing homes and in families: in the faces of the sick you should know how to see always the Face of faces: that of Christ.