Those who minister to sick and dying are ‘angels’

By Carrie McClish
Staff writer

During a liturgy that brought together nurses, elder care providers, chaplains, doctors as well as caregivers for those who are homebound, Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ, called on God to bless these women and men and their efforts to help bring healing and comfort to those who are suffering from physical and mental illnesses.

“You are all collaborators of God in the ministry of healing,” said Bishop Barber at the Sept. 30 Mass of Thanksgiving for those who minister and work in the health care professions at Oakland’s Cathedral of Christ the Light. “You are instruments of God’s love, mercy and healing,” he said. “You are angels like St. Raphael the archangel.”

The bishop explained that St. Raphael, who is revered by Jews, Christians and Muslims, is known for performing many acts of healing which is detailed in the Book of Tobit and in St. John’s Gospel.

In Hebrew the name Raphael means “God gives us life” and in life there is suffering and pain, the bishop said. “You are angels in particular occupation.”

Doctors diagnose, nurses dispense medication, chaplains pray, “but God heals,” Bishop Barber said. “Everyone works hard to help those who are suffering and while some are healed others are not.”

“It is a mystery,” he said.

“God provides life and in life there is suffering and pain, the bishop said. “You witness an awful lot of suffering and death, that takes a toll.” He mentioned and lifted up in prayer the women and men who work in hospice and the difficult nature of this particular occupation.

“Yes, God heals, God is love,” the bishop said to those who work and minister in health care. “Angels are real. You are angels like St. Raphael. You accompany people through illness and may to eternal life.”

Concelebrating the Mass with Bishop Barber were Very Rev. James Matthews, rector at the Cathedral of Christ the Light; Rev. Samuel Oppong-Nkansah, CSSP, chaplain, Stanford University Hospital; Rev. Francisco Javier Diaz Diaz, SJ, a physician at the Malta Clinic and parishon, Bishop of Christ the Light; Rev. Geoffrey Baranain, pastor, St. Joseph Parish, Pinole; and Rev. Ailain McKeel, pastor, St. Columb Asia Parish, Oakland.

The lector, petition readers, those involved in liturgical movement and the presentation of gifts included a clinical social worker, pharmacist, nurses and chaplains and health care organizations throughout the East Bay such as UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital, St. Paul Towers and La Clinica de la Raza.

The choir was comprised of singers and musicians from several parishes and the parts of the Mass and music were sung or read in English, Spanish, French, Tagalog and Swahili.

Malta Clinic fulfilling mission

By Michele Jurich

The grand chancellor of the Order of Malta, Albrecht von Boeselager, visits the Order of Malta Clinic of Northern California at the Cathedral of Christ the Light in Oakland. He is joined by Dr. Vano Larencaves, the clinic’s medical director, and Dr. Thomas Wallace.

Malta Clinic, fulfilling its mission, served adults the clinic has served since opening its doors in 2009. No one has been charged a cent. No insurance has been billed. No government agency — federal, state, county or city — has been asked for money. Von Boeselager was accompanied by representatives of the order’s Global Fund for Forgotten People. The Oakland clinic was among the projects worldwide to receive a St. John’s Day Grant from the fund.

The grand chancellor was on the third leg of a North American journey that took him from New York, Ottawa and Oakland before his return to his home base in Rome.

The visitors were welcomed by John Christian, the clinic’s president, who gave the legal incorporation of Lumen Christi Academies of the Diocese of Oakland.

“Lumen Christi Academies is a renewal of our commitment to strengthen and sustain Catholic education for our families.” (Continued on Page 16.)

New education initiative: Lumen Christi Academies

By Carrie McClish

Seven schools in the Diocese of Oakland will become Lumen Christi Academies in fall 2018. They are Queen of All Saints, Concord; St. Anthony, Oakland; St. Catherine of Siena, Martinez; St. Cornelius, Richmond; St. Elizabeth, Oakland; St. Paul, San Pablo; and St. Peter Martyr, Pittsburg.

“Our beloved Catholic schools have always been places of hope, inspiration and success; we must ensure this gift for our future generations,” Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ, said Sept. 29 in announcing the legal incorporation of Lumen Christi Academies of the Diocese of Oakland.

By Michele Jurich

The grand chancellor of the Order of Malta paid his first visit to the Order of Malta Clinic Northern California at the Cathedral of Christ the Light in Oakland on Sept. 30, visiting with the clinic’s leaders who have always been places of hope, inspiration and success; we must ensure this gift for our future generations: Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ.

Staff report

Seven schools in the Diocese of Oakland will become Lumen Christi Academies in fall 2018. They are Queen of All Saints, Concord; St. Anthony, Oakland; St. Catherine of Siena, Martinez; St. Cornelius, Richmond; St. Elizabeth, Oakland; St. Paul, San Pablo; and St. Peter Martyr, Pittsburg.

“Our beloved Catholic schools have always been places of hope, inspiration and success; we must ensure this gift for our future generations: Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ.”


Lumen Christi Academies

Queen of All Saints, Concord
St. Anthony, Oakland
St. Catherine of Siena, Martinez
St. Cornelius, Richmond
St. Elizabeth, Oakland
St. Paul, San Pablo
St. Peter Martyr, Pittsburg

Lumen Christi Academies is a renewal of our commitment to strengthen and sustain Catholic education for our families.” (Continued on Page 16.)

On our cover

Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ, and Most Rev. James Matteo us distribute communion during the annual Health Care Mass on Sept. 30. Story above.

News in Brief . . . . . . . . 4
Oblatory . . . . . . . . . . . 18
Respect Life . . . . . . . . . 14
Seniors . . . . . . . . . . . . . 15
The Church . . . . . . . . . . 2
Travel . . . . . . . . . . . 6

See the WHOLE Catholic Voice online in our digital edition.

View entire pages, news and advertising, at catholicvoiceoakland.org and click on Digital Edition.
THE CHURCH

BISHOP BARBER’S SCHEDULE

Oct. 9-11: US bishops’ Secretariat on Higher Education, Symposium on Campus Ministry, University of Notre Dame; Notre Dame, Indiana

Oct. 12: 10:30 a.m., clergy study day on the V Encuentro of Pastoral Hispana, Santa Maria Parish, Orlando

Oct. 13: Noon, Catholic Charities of the East Bay Transforming Lives luncheon, Marriott Hotel, San Ramon

7 p.m., Soliem Mass, 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima, St. Joseph the Worker, Berkeley

Oct. 14: 4:30 p.m., 125th anniversary Mass, Congregation of the Divine Savior, Divine Savior Church, Orangevale

THE DIOCESE

Prayers after ‘terror’

WASHINGTON — The nation has experienced “yet another night filled with unspeakable terror,” and “we need to pray to and to take care of those who are suffering,” said the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington. In Las Vegas, a gunman identified by law enforcement officials as Stephen Craig Paddock, 64, was perched in a room on the 32nd floor of a hotel and unleashed a shower of bullets Oct. 1 on an outdoor country music festival taking place below. The crowd at the event num-

U.S. BISHOPS

bered more than 22,000. He killed at least 58 people and wounded more than 500. Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, conveyed Pope Francis’ prayers and condolences.

THE VATICAN

Cardinal Burke named

Pope Francis has named U.S. Cardinal Raymond L. Burke a member of the Apostolic Signature, the church’s supreme court, which the cardinal head

ed from 2008 to 2014. Members of the Apostolic Signature serve as judges in the cases, which mainly involve appeals of lower-court decisions or of administra-

tive decisions by other offices of the Holy See.

Recall not unusual

The recall of a Vatican diplomat sus-
pected by U.S. authorities of having a

connection with child pornography reflects

normal international protocol, but the sus-

pect must be put on trial and receive pun-

ishment if found guilty, said a key organizer

of a world congress on child protection.

Defend life

Everyone, but especially young people,

should have the “wonderful experience of

giving” of their time and resources; giving

open hearts and minds to brotherhood and

sharing is essential for building “the civil

world as a family,” Pope Francis said.

Cardinal Burke is a member of the Jesuit Order, Cathedral of Christ the Light, Oakland.

San Damiano Retreat

Coming Retreats

Mystical Spirituality: How We Evolve into Who We Really Are with David Richo, PhD, 11/4

LGBTQ Day of Dialog with San Damiano staff, 11/5

Journaling as a Spiritual Practice with N. Burchett, 11/7

Grieving with Gratitude with Fr. Padraig Greene, 11/17-19

Healing & Wholeness: Attitude of Gratitude as Thanksgiving with Tom Gorham & Davida Coady, 11/24-26

Scripture Study

Getting Ready for Advent & Christmas with Fr. Charles Talley, OFM

Thursdays at 7:00 PM (Oct. 26-Nov 16)

Fridays at 10 AM (Oct 27- Nov 17)

THE CATHOLIC VOICE

Interim Director of Communication & Community Relations

Associate Publisher: The Catholic Voice:

Helen Osman

hsoosman@gmail.com

Editor: Albert C. Pacciorini

apacciorini@oakdiocese.org; 510-419-1073

Advertising Manager: Camille Tompkins

tompkins@oakdiocese.org; 510-419-1081

Office/ Circulation Manager: Soni Gearhart

gearhart@oakdiocese.org; 510-893-5399

Graphics/Webmaster: Dexter Valencia

valencia@oakdiocese.org; 510-419-1076

Associate Editor/Staff writer: Michelle Jurich

mjurich@oakdiocese.org; 510-419-1075

Staff writer: Carrie McClish

mcclish@oakdiocese.org; 510-419-1074

The Catholic Voice (ISSN 0279-0645) is published for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Oakland twice monthly except in July, August and December when one issue is published for $25 a year (outside the diocese), $35. Copyright 2017. Altered to be a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of Alameda County. Court order No. 336394, dated Oct. 20, 1987. Periodical postage paid (USPS 394-040) at Oakland, California, and additional mailing offices.

Publisher: Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ

Defend life

Which is hosting a world congress on pro-

tecting minors from online abuse, violence and exploitation on Oct. 3-6 in Rome.

Little Sisters praised

Obviously struck by the Little Sisters of Jesus he met living in a trailer among poor

refugees and asylum seekers. Just four days after he kicked off Caritas

atlantic voice.org: photos.htm

Published photos must be suitable for print publication. Please refer to our photo guidelines: www.catholicvoiceoakland.org/photos.htm

Schedule: See our publication schedule and deadlines at: www.catholicvoiceoakland.org/publicdates.htm

Postmaster: Send change of address to: The Catholic Voice, 2121 Harrison St., Suite 100, Oakland, CA 94612.

REPORTED BY GREGORY A. WURTH FOR THE CATHOLIC VOICE
**Blessing of the animals**

**By Carrie McClish**

Staff writer

Except for Sonny, an orange tabby, sitting pretty and safe in a pink roller carrier, and a couple of stuffed bears, the Blessing of the Pets at Sacred Heart Church on Oct. 1 was mostly canine affair.

There was Rosco, a basset pit bull terrier mix, who accompanied parishioner Johnny Presley, Benzo, a Doberman Pinscher, came with Jerrik Hill, Tex, a feisty and active brown dachshund, escorted his owner, Sonny Dagdagan, down the center aisle of the church. Several other dogs of heritages unknown also walked in the church's center aisle of the church. Several other dogs of heritages unknown also walked in the church's center aisle of the church. Several other dogs of heritages unknown also walked in the church.

Rev. William Mason, OMI pastor at Sacred Heart Church blessed Rosco, a gentle giant of a dog pictured here with his human, Johnny Presley, during the Oakland’s parish’s pet blessing event on Oct. 1.

**Blessing of the animals**

By Carrie McClish

Staff writer

Except for Sonny, an orange tabby, sitting pretty and safe in a pink roller carrier, and a couple of stuffed bears, the Blessing of the Pets at Sacred Heart Church on Oct. 1 was mostly canine affair.

There was Rosco, a basset pit bull terrier mix, who accompanied parishioner Johnny Presley, Benzo, a Doberman Pinscher, came with Jerrik Hill, Tex, a feisty and active brown dachshund, escorted his owner, Sonny Dagdagan, down the center aisle of the church. Several other dogs of heritages unknown also walked in the church's center aisle of the church. Several other dogs of heritages unknown also walked in the church.

Rev. William Mason, OMI pastor at Sacred Heart Church blessed Rosco, a gentle giant of a dog pictured here with his human, Johnny Presley, during the Oakland’s parish’s pet blessing event on Oct. 1.

**Blessing of the animals**

By Carrie McClish

Staff writer

Except for Sonny, an orange tabby, sitting pretty and safe in a pink roller carrier, and a couple of stuffed bears, the Blessing of the Pets at Sacred Heart Church on Oct. 1 was mostly canine affair.

There was Rosco, a basset pit bull terrier mix, who accompanied parishioner Johnny Presley, Benzo, a Doberman Pinscher, came with Jerrik Hill, Tex, a feisty and active brown dachshund, escorted his owner, Sonny Dagdagan, down the center aisle of the church. Several other dogs of heritages unknown also walked in the church's center aisle of the church. Several other dogs of heritages unknown also walked in the church.

Rev. William Mason, OMI pastor at Sacred Heart Church blessed Rosco, a gentle giant of a dog pictured here with his human, Johnny Presley, during the Oakland’s parish’s pet blessing event on Oct. 1.
**Parish’s adopt-a-cop**

Officer David Fikes, K9 handler with the Brookhaven Police Department, and his full-service police work dog, Dante, demonstrated a series of commands Sept. 14 in front of St. John the Baptists and Kathleen Berge’s fifth grade class at Our Lady of the Assumption School in suburban Atlanta. Fikes and Dante, a Belgian Malinois, have been partnered together for more than three years. The Adopt-A-Cop ministry of Our Lady of the Assumption Church is helping parishioners forge relationships with local law enforcement. The ministry has grown to 144 parish families who have adopted 54 employees of the Brookhaven Police Department, which has 65 sworn police officers.

**Vandals attack Christians with impunity**

Sudian Father Antonio Scoula, caretaker of St. Stephen Church in the Beit Jamal Salesian monastery near Jerusalem, holds a portion of a shattered statue of Mary Sept. 26. Christians in the Holy Land, including Catholic leaders, have expressed frustration with lack of legal action against cases of desecration and vandalism of sacred places. Even as the Assembly of Catholic Ordinaries of the Holy Land issued a statement condemning the Sept. 20 desecration and vandalism of a Catholic shrine in Israel, some people criticized the statement’s “vague language” and asked, “How long will we be tolerated?”

**Cardinal Dolan opens session of the three-day Louisiana Priests’ Convention**

Cardinal Dolan opened the closing session of the three-day Louisiana Priests’ Convention Sept. 23 in Oklahoma City. The 13-year-old Blessed Ritter spent as a missionary in Guatemala “will always be remembered as the glorious epic of a martyr of Christ, an authentic lighted torch of hope for the church and the world,” the cardinal said in his homily during the U.S. priest’s beatification Mass.

**Honesty about flaws**

NEW ORLEANS — New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan suggested to more than 30 boys, to sing the soprano and alto parts that were written with their vocal timbre “are authentic light” of the choir Ritter’s presence. The choir resembles the choir of the Early Renaissance period of 500 years ago in that it features all males, including about 30 boys, to sing the soprano and alto parts that were written with their vocal timbre in mind.

**In your time of need, nothing is more important than choosing professional experience and dedicated service. That’s why we are here. We have been, and will continue to be proudly serving our Catholic community for generations.**

---

**Live King’s words**

WASHINGTON — The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.’s support of nonviolence to bring about social change applies as much today’s society as it did when Rev. King put his philosophy to paper 60 years ago, said speakers at an Oct. 2 news conference at the memorial dedicated to the civil rights figure in Washington. The news conference was scheduled in advance of the Las Vegas shooting spree Oct. 1. As a society, we need to stop making excuses and commit to nonviolence,” said Bishop George V. Murry of Youngstown, Ohio, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism.

**Pray together**

COLUMBIA, S.C. — A Catholic bishop and a Lutheran bishop told members of both their denominations gathered to mark the Reformation’s 500th anniversary that they need to keep finding ways to respect one another, pray together and cross “these bridges between us.” Lutherans and Catholics came together for a joint prayer service in Columbus which had as its theme “From Conflict to Communion: Together in Hope.”

**OKLAHOMA CITY — If the martyrdom of Blessed Stanislaw Francis Rother “fills us with sadness,” it also “gives us the joy of admiring the kindness, generosity and courage of a great man of faith,” Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints’ Causes, said Sept. 23 in Oklahoma City. The 13 years Blessed Ritter spent as a missionary in Guatemala “will always be remembered as the glorious epic of a martyr of Christ, an authentic lighted torch of hope for the church and the world,” the cardinal said in his homily during the U.S. priest’s beatification Mass.

---

**CNS VIA REUTERS**

**DEBBIE HILL/CNS**

**MICHAEL ALexANDEr/GEOrGIA bULLEtIN, CNS**

**WASHINGtON — The Sistine Chapel Choir came to Washington Sept. 20 on a rare U.S. visit. Its stops included Detroit and New York as well as The Catholic University of America, where it gave a concert and presented a workshop. The choir resembles the choir of the Early Renaissance period of 500 years ago in that it features all males, including about 30 boys, to sing the soprano and alto parts that were written with their vocal timbre in mind.**

---

**CNS**

**OCTOBER 9, 2017**

**THE CATHOLIC VOICE OCTOBER 9, 2017**
Berkeley parish celebrates 50 years in Holy Spirit’s glow

By Michele Jurich and Carrie McClish

The Holy Spirit is at work at the corner of College Avenue and Dwight Way, four blocks from the University of California, Berkeley.

Thirty-year parishioner Kara Speltz is among those who believe that.

The leader of the Newman Nonviolent Peacemaking Group has seen the transformative power of the Holy Spirit at work in the Holy Spirit/Newman Hall Parish community.

She had been away from the church for 20 years when she stepped inside those red doors in 1985.

“My spirit was very eclectic,” she said.

She went to church, because it was “nice to pray with someone again.”

She recalled that it was close to Christmas. “I remember Father Al,” she said, Rev. Albert Moser, CSP, served the parish from 1982 until his death in 2016.

“I didn’t think I’d go back,” she recalled.

But she did.

“I wanted to be struck by lightning,” she said. “I’d check the door, but she kept going back.”

“Over Memorial Day, I decided I wanted to be back,” she said. “I cried for the first 20 years when I left the church, for 20 years after I left the church.”

Here’s what keeps her coming back: “This parish brought me back after 20 years,” she said. “You’re going to have a great experience being with this community.”

“We’re appropriately called Holy Spirit,” she said. “The Holy Spirit is very present there. I experience that presence.”

The spirit alive within a community of parishioners and college students may be just what Bishop Floyd Begin, the first bishop of Oakland, envisioned 50 years ago at the dedication of the Mario Ciampi-designed concrete building.

While the campus Newman Hall, under the stewardship of the Paulist Fathers, dates to 1906, it was in 1967 that it became part of a new parish created by Bishop Begin.

“Parish life of Newman Center, of community membership, will flourish insofar as it is a living Eucharistic community,” wrote Bishop Begin in a lengthy article published in the May 10, 1967 issue of the Catholic Voice titled, “The Church and the University.” The bishop expressed his sentiments for a diverse congregation.

A diverse congregation was what gathered at 5 p.m. Mass Sept. 30 celebrated for 5 p.m. Mass Sept. 30 celebrated by Rev. George Fitzgerald, CSP, his Paulist brothers including former pastors dating back to the mid-1970s, and neighboring Jesuits and Dominicans.

In his homily, Rev. Ivan Tou, CSP, reflected on how the Beatitudes have been noticed here at UC Berkeley, “Students see themselves as part of a larger fabric of church,” Coppa said. “They see the faith as something passed on to them.”

Juliane Trapse, a third-year student at the university, is one of the two co-chairs of the Outreach Committee of the Student Ministry Team.

“Outreach deals with three main things: ecumenical relations, interfaith relations and making our presence visible and noticeable here at UC Berkeley,” she said.

Longtime parishioner Speltz would agree with her.

She called the recent Muslim-Christian dialogue hosted by Holy Spirit/Newman Hall “one of the things I’m most proud of” during her three decades of parish life.

“The parish broadens that experience,” said Coppa, who is serving at her third University of California campus. At Newman, she said, college students “see generations of faith and belonging,” as well as “different expressions” of faith.

“They see themselves as part of a larger fabric of church,” Coppa said. “They see the faith as something passed on to them.”

She said she sees students becoming involved in some of the parish’s outreach efforts.

Parishioners at Holy Spirit/Newman Hall stand during a musical reflection on the Beatitudes during the anniversary Mass on Sept. 30, attended by Lily and Bob Kelleher, who met at the “old” Newman Hall on the northside of campus and married there in 1954, were among the celebrants at the 50th anniversary party of the Newman.

Parishioners at Holy Spirit/Newman Hall

Parishioners at Holy Spirit/Newman Hall stood during a musical reflection on the Beatitudes during the anniversary Mass on Sept. 30, attended by Lily and Bob Kelleher, who met at the “old” Newman Hall on the northside of campus and married there in 1954, were among the celebrants at the 50th anniversary party of the Newman.

Parishioners at Holy Spirit/Newman Hall

Parishioners at Holy Spirit/Newman Hall stood during a musical reflection on the Beatitudes during the anniversary Mass on Sept. 30, attended by Lily and Bob Kelleher, who met at the “old” Newman Hall on the northside of campus and married there in 1954, were among the celebrants at the 50th anniversary party of the Newman.

Parishioners at Holy Spirit/Newman Hall

Parishioners at Holy Spirit/Newman Hall stood during a musical reflection on the Beatitudes during the anniversary Mass on Sept. 30, attended by Lily and Bob Kelleher, who met at the “old” Newman Hall on the northside of campus and married there in 1954, were among the celebrants at the 50th anniversary party of the Newman.

Parishioners at Holy Spirit/Newman Hall

Parishioners at Holy Spirit/Newman Hall stood during a musical reflection on the Beatitudes during the anniversary Mass on Sept. 30, attended by Lily and Bob Kelleher, who met at the “old” Newman Hall on the northside of campus and married there in 1954, were among the celebrants at the 50th anniversary party of the Newman.
The Catholic Voice invites you to enjoy an incredible journey!

HONOR THE VIRGIN OF GUADALUPE IN MEXICO CITY!

February 9-13, 2018  5 Days — $1,899
from San Francisco
(INCLUDING AIRFARE, TAXES, FUEL SURCHARGES, HOTEL, BREAKFAST & DINNER PER ITINERARY, AIR-COINDITIONED MOTOR COACH, FULL-TIME TOUR MANAGER)

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

• Visit the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City.
• Mass celebrated at Tulpetlac Church, the site of the fifth apparition of Mary.
• View the Church of Tepeyac, where the first apparition occurred in 1531.
• Visit the Church of San Francisco, the Metropolitan Cathedral, the National Palace and the Anthropology Museum!
• Journey to Cuautitlan, the birthplace of St. Juan Diego and view his original sackcloth.
• Tour the Pyramid of the Sun, dominating the ruined city of Teotihuacán, and view the Temple of Quetzalcoatl.

CALL FOR INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS
Contact: Unitours, Inc. – Marianna Pisano
1-800-777-7432 (9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. EST)
Email: mpisano@unitours.com or book online at http://bit.ly/CatholicVoiceMexico
To receive a mailed brochure contact: Camille Tompkins at The Catholic Voice at ctompkins@oakdiocese.org

The Catholic Voice invites you to enjoy an incredible journey!

Journey of St. Paul Pilgrimage
Greece and Turkey
Includes 4 Days/3 Nights Cruise
October 14-23, 2018  10 Days — $4,999 from SFO
(INCLUDING AIRFARE, HOTEL, BREAKFAST, EXTERIOR CABIN, MOST MEALS, TRANSPORTATION, FULL-TIME TOUR MANAGER)

View Pilgrimage video at https://youtu.be/wg5SjQoDuD8

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

Thessaloniki/Philippi/Veraia/Vergina/Kalabaka – We walk in the footsteps of St. Paul, in the very places where he preached the Gospel to the Thessalonians. We celebrate Mass where Lydia, the first Christian convert, was baptized.

Athens/Piraeus 4 Days/3 Nights Greek Islands Cruise – Featuring Mykonos, Ephesus, Patmos, Crete & Santorini.

Athens – We visit the famous Greek Orthodox Monasteries that are listed on the UNESCO World Heritage list and catch a glimpse of Mt. Olympus. Visit the famous Temple of Diana, one of the seven wonders of the Ancient World. In Ephesus we recall St. Paul’s Epistle to the Ephesians. We celebrate Mass at the Virgin Mary’s house, where she is said to have lived with St. John, after the death and resurrection of Our Lord.

Piraeus/Corinth/Athens – We enjoy spectacular views of the Corinth Canal, and celebrate Mass amid the ruins of Corinth, where St. Paul worked with Aquila and Priscilla. We visit the legendary Acropolis, the Parthenon and so much more!

CALL FOR INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS
Contact: Unitours, Inc. – Marianna Pisano
1-800-777-7432 (9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. EST)
Email: mpisano@unitours.com or book online at http://bit.ly/Greece2018
To receive a mailed brochure contact: Camille Tompkins at The Catholic Voice at ctompkins@oakdiocese.org

Diocese of Oakland
Spiritual Guide:
Fr. Lawrence D’Anjou
St. Raymond Parish, Dublin

Diocese of Oakland
Spiritual Guide:
Fr. Neal Clemens
Queen of All Saints Parish, Concord
A world of electives for pupils to choose from at St. Bede

Special to The Catholic Voice
Picture an hour a month where you are able to explore the joys of cooking, friendly competition or sign language. Now, imagine being able to do so while you were an elementary pupil.

The teachers and staff at St. Bede School, 26910 Patrick Ave., Hayward, are piloting an elective program to provide all TK-Eighth Grade pupils the opportunity to try a variety of classes. Some options include photography, coding, meditation and art.

One Friday a month, pupils gather in grade level groupings, K-2, 3-5, and 6-8, to experience multi-age, hands-on activities. While some primary pupils are participating in an elementary-level book club, others are learning conversational Spanish or physically challenging themselves at fitness stations. In the middle grades, there are children who are experiencing the art of origami paper folding, while another group is grasping the basic skills of sewing. At the junior high level, some pupils are engineering paper rockets to be launched, calming their minds and bodies while in meditation or improving their strategy through a rousing game of Dungeons and Dragons.

To ensure active participation, they were given the opportunity to determine their top three choices from the electives that were being offered.

Third-grader Diego Morfin, said, “I like that we get to choose whatever we want.” Each elective takes place for three classes per trimester. At the beginning of a new trimester, the students rotate through another elective for a total of three different classes for the entire school year.

For an incoming kindergarten student, St. Bede’s hope with this program, is that the child will have explored 36 various electives by the time graduation day arrives. The motivation behind this venture was to provide the pupils with rich learning experiences in addition to the traditional curriculum courses and allow them to explore activities that may develop into future hobbies or even careers.

Meditation instructor Maj Paguio, explained, “I like exposing the kids to new and different hobbies so that they can explore other interests and expose them to teachers’ interests outside of school.”

As an added benefit, teachers and staff members are inspired and excited to share their hidden talents.

Seventh-grader Glydelle Espano, expressed her enjoyment of the school’s electives by saying, “I wish we could have them more often.”

Learn more about St. Bede at www.mystbede.org.
Young cantor sings of the glories of God

By Carrie McClish
Staff writer

Singing at Mass suits Aidan Galvan. So much so he usually serves as a cantor at two Masses on Sunday mornings at the Church of the Assumption in San Leandro. He often sings with the children’s choir at the 9 a.m. Mass but he is just as attentive and composed singing with the adult choir at the 10:30 a.m. Mass that follows. In between Masses last month the young cantor, accompanied by William Vaughan, Assumption’s music director, sang a favorite song — “Ave Maria.” The song inspired goosebumps and brought smiles to the faces of everyone who happened to be inside of the church.

Aidan, a fourth-grader at Assumption School, has been taking music lessons from Vaughan since he was in kindergarten. Vaughan said that he noticed that his pupil, even at that young age, had a gift for song early on. “He had a sense for singing and had perfect pitch,” Vaughan said. “He was able to sing the right notes right away.”

When Aidan was given the “Ave Maria” to learn he “nailed it in a few weeks,” Vaughan said. In August Aidan served as cantor at the Mass celebrating the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary and has participated at several parish Masses since then. When asked what he likes about singing in church, Aidan said that it was fun and that it was bringing him closer to God.

Vaughan has been working with a number of students at the San Leandro school in helping them develop as cantors. His role is to have the children become more actively involved in the liturgies. “You have to start working with the children when they are very young and start planting the seed.”

So far the seed is flourishing in Aidan’s heart. Mozart’s Alleluia is another favorite song of the young singer. It’s the best, he said, because “it has a super high note.”
CONCORD — A pair of Fourth Grade pupils at St. Francis of Assisi School took it upon themselves to lead a schoolwide effort to help victims of hurricanes that have recently battered the United States from Texas to Florida, to Puerto Rico and other U.S. Territories.

Ryan Seto, 10 son of Ryan and Pam Seto of Brentwood, was the brainchild of the idea. And, with the help of his friend Will Watson, 9, son of Brad and Kristi Watson of Concord, who decorated a collection box, their fundraising effort really took off.

The boys approached their Fourth Grade teacher, Stephanie Marcinkowski and Principal Patti Calton for their blessing about the idea, and their rousing response was more than matched by their peers.

Since the effort kicked off Sept. 5, the duo has raised more than $500. The drive ended Oct. 5 and they were optimistic that hefty weight of their shoe box would continue to increase as final donations of all amounts were tallied.

“I am so proud of the kindness and compassion these two young men, along with the rest of the St. Francis community, have shown to give back to others in need,” said Marcinkowski. “We are choosing to focus on the virtue of kindness as a school and I could not think of a more perfect example.”

“It brings me such joy as a teacher to know that our students are becoming self-filled people and thinking about others before themselves,” she added.

Will recalled the news that he and his family were hearing and seeing about Irma and Harvey, and it just made him want to collect money to help them.

“I saw a lot on the news and it was terrifying,” he added.

As part of the effort, the boys visited some classrooms to make an in-person pitch to students, and also were given air time during the school’s daily morning announcements to further promote their cause.

The boys entered with expectations of maybe a couple of hundred dollars for the entire drive, but to their shared surprise that had already reached that goal in just opening weeks of the drive.

“I was surprised by the school’s response,” Ryan said with a big smile.

Asked what they hoped other young people can take from their experience, the boys agreed, “be confident in yourself, and you can overcome anything.”
School children pitch in to raise funds to aid disaster victims

Pupils, their parents and staff members at several schools throughout the Diocese of Oakland used several methods to raise funds to aid victims of recent natural disasters. Some of the efforts were:

At St. Raymond School in Dublin, pupils raised funds for St. Catherine of Sienna School in Port Arthur, Texas, to replace flood-damaged classroom items following Hurricane Harvey. Pupils brought a suggested donation of $5 to school for a free dress day and raised $2,708.36.

At St. Felicitas School in San Leandro, parents of the First Graders put together a bake sale to raise money for the hurricane victims. Fresh baked goods were sold after school.

And at St. Paul School in San Pablo, pupils raised $640 for the victims of hurricanes Irma and Harvey. The money will be sent to Catholic Charities for distribution.

Two weeks later the families raised another $2,778 for the victims of the earthquake in Mexico. Those funds will be sent to Padre Arturo Perez Cruz, pastor of Jesus Nazareno e Immaculada de Conception Church in Mexico City, and will be used to purchase resources for the parishioners and their families affected by the quake.
Berkeley principal receives national honor

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

By Michele Jurich
Staff writer

A Diocese of Oakland school principal who Tweets at @21stCenPrinKW is one of three Catholic elementary school principals to be named as winners of the 2017 National Distinguished Principals Award presented by the National Association of Elementary School Principals.

Ken Willers, who is in his eighth year as principal of School of the Madeleine in Berkeley, will be presented his award in Washington, DC, next week at a two-day celebration scheduled to include a visit to the Capitol and the White House.

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

The National Catholic Educational Association chose Willers as one of three Catholic elementary school principals to receive the award. The Catholic school principals are joined by a winning principal from each state.

Walt Disney, Steve Jobs, and Pixar are among his inspirations. Those toys could spark a different environment in the classroom.

Walt Disney and Steve Jobs are among his inspirations. Those toys could spark a different environment in the classroom.

Without that, you're just the boss. Y ou can't depend on approval or validation.

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

The National Catholic Educational Association noted his commitment to the Church’s mission of providing quality Catholic education and ensuring the next generation of Catholic families will be served by it.

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Ken Willers, who is being honored this month with the National Distinguished Principal Award, surrounds himself with inspiring images and words—and more than a few toys—in his office at the School of the Madeleine in Berkeley.

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

A principal and what I have come to grow edgement in what I've done in my life as a leader is to be a steward. What we are is not his alone.

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington

Mr. Willers goes to Washington
By Michele Jurich
Staff writer

“My job as a bishop and as a priest is to remind you of your No. 1 goal in life,” Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ, told eighth-graders from about three dozen schools from all corners of the Diocese of Oakland gathered at the Cathedral of Christ the Light in Oakland: “That’s to get to heaven.”

On Sept. 19 and 20, Bishop Barber celebrated the Mass of the Holy Spirit for the students, in groups of about 500 each day. The Department of Catholic Schools coordinate the events, which featured the Mass with choir, organ and trumpet, which the students were told was most likely different from what they were accustomed to in their parishes.

Their participation in the Mass was invited and encouraged, with worship aids clearly defining their parts.

The students were welcomed by Superintendent Kathleen Radecke, who offered them a tour of the cathedral from the pews. She drew their attention to the cathedral’s architectural elements, as well as its meaning.

“It’s our church, our spiritual haven, where we unify as one diocese,” she said. She repeatedly referred to the cathedral as “your cathedral.”

She told them when she first saw the cathedral, with its glass, concrete and wood, she wondered, “Where is the color?”

“The color in our cathedral is you. It’s me. Look around,” she said, noting the “diversity of us, the people of God” and not just the varied colors of the school uniforms.

Before Mass, Bishop Barber welcomed the students and, piece by piece, described the vestments he wears for Mass. He showed them the symbols of his office — the ring he wears on his right hand; the cross he wears on his chest; the miter he wears on his head; and the crosier he carries.

The crosier, he told them, is a ceremonial representation of the shepherd’s staff. With the bottom end, the shepherd can defend his sheep against wolves or other predators; with the crook the shepherd can snatch a wayward sheep and bring it back to the flock.

The sheep are safe when they stay with the flock; stray and they are subject to wolves, he said.

“As long as you stay part of the flock, you’re safe,” he said.

He told the students when he comes to Mass in their parish and they’re not there, “I’m going to McDonald’s or Starbucks or wherever you are,” he said, “I’ll bring you back.”

In his homily, the bishop reminded the students that as leaders of their schools, the younger students will emulate them. But his main lesson for them was looking forward.

“It comes and it goes fast,” he said. “Set your sights on your true goal.”

He encouraged them to love God with your whole heart and soul, and love your neighbor.

He offered some examples of items that might help them along the journey: a rosary, a holy card, a scapular, a statue of Mary and a cross.

He told the students he was giving a cross, with a dove, a symbol of the Holy Spirit, to each of them as a reminder of their visit and “so you remember where your life is going.”

“Jesus has loved you first,” he said. “Try to respond to his love every day.”

By Michele Jurich
Staff writer

Eighth-graders see and learn about Mass as never before

The students were welcomed by Superintendent Kathleen Radecke, who offered them a tour of the cathedral from the pews. She drew their attention to the cathedral’s architectural elements, as well as its meaning.

“It’s our church, our spiritual haven, where we unify as one diocese,” she said. She repeatedly referred to the cathedral as “your cathedral.”

She told them when she first saw the cathedral, with its glass, concrete and wood, she wondered, “Where is the color?”

“The color in our cathedral is you. It’s me. Look around,” she said, noting the “diversity of us, the people of God” and not just the varied colors of the school uniforms.

Before Mass, Bishop Barber welcomed the students and, piece by piece, described the vestments he wears for Mass. He showed them the symbols of his office — the ring he wears on his right hand; the cross he wears on his chest; the miter he wears on his head; and the crosier he carries.

The crosier, he told them, is a ceremonial representation of the shepherd’s staff. With the bottom end, the shepherd can defend his sheep against wolves or other predators; with the crook the shepherd can snatch a wayward sheep and bring it back to the flock.

The sheep are safe when they stay with the flock; stray and they are subject to wolves, he said.

“As long as you stay part of the flock, you’re safe,” he said.

He told the students when he comes to Mass in their parish and they’re not there, “I’m going to McDonald’s or Starbucks or wherever you are,” he said, “I’ll bring you back.”

In his homily, the bishop reminded the students that as leaders of their schools, the younger students will emulate them. But his main lesson for them was looking forward.

“It comes and it goes fast,” he said. “Set your sights on your true goal.”

He encouraged them to love God with your whole heart and soul, and love your neighbor.

He offered some examples of items that might help them along the journey: a rosary, a holy card, a scapular, a statue of Mary and a cross.

He told the students he was giving a cross, with a dove, a symbol of the Holy Spirit, to each of them as a reminder of their visit and “so you remember where your life is going.”

“Jesus has loved you first,” he said. “Try to respond to his love every day.”
Regional pregnancy resource collaborative launched

Catholic San Francisco
Abortion-vulnerable women in Northern California will have wider access to pro-life counseling and medical services, under a collaborative program being launched by two Catholic parishes that Oct. 13, Respect Life Sunday.

The coalition, Operation Respect Life North California, includes Options United, a non-profit, pro-life digital advertising provider and call center. Options United helps crisis pregnancy centers that offer pregnancy resources and post-abortion support, knowing we can greatly increase a woman’s ability to choose life, said Vicki Evans, a spokesperson for the coalition,

"If they choose abortion, often we won’t hear back from them. That’s why we are so focused on following through with our women and what they end up choosing. We know our women need that support for their decision," Evans said.

"At the time, I was 25 years’ married," Cordileone said. "I saw nuns in there. I saw other people who were involved in the pro-life movement," he said. He started the program was $10,000 a month to cover media resources.

"At the public right-of-way at 3:30 a.m.,” Crowley said. "I saw many people were working there. I called the police. I asked the police to come and take care of the situation."

"I started going with them. They pray the rosary. Divine service, Mass, it’s done in the monthly Police Officers Association newsletter. That’s the normal evangelization article, I started writing about the prolife issue," Cordileone said.

"It caused “a commotion,” he said. “I was worried about the safety of the women at that time.”

Bishop Barber endorses 40 Days for Life
during the 40 Days to let them know they have some alternative to abortion. "I’m going to do it.”"

"If we do, we offer post-abortion support, knowing we can only do so much."
Berkeley parish . . .
(Continued from Page 5.)
Fishers dinners and its support of parishioner J.C. Orton’s Berkeley Night on the Streets ministry, which provides food, sleeping bags and prayerful presence to those who live in People’s Park and Berkeley shelters, is one of its outstanding features.

The parish’s care for the student community has been fortified over the past few years by the addition of the FOCUS missionaries, who “evangelize through relationships,” Coppa said. The Berkeley students, Coppa said, “see themselves as part of something larger.” She noted “care for the environment, desire for diversity, to see people treated well, and desire to fight for a cause.” Berkeley students believe “my voice matters,” she said. Of the students already practicing their faith, she said, “I’ve been so impressed by the way they make time for their faith and share with others.”

Trapsim is part of that generation. “From my experience as a student and especially as a first generation freshman new to North Berkeley, I can tell that what the students hunger for is to see Christ and experience His love,” she said. “We all hunger to belong somewhere and to be needed and to be loved.”

She has found that at Holy Spirit/Newman Hall.

“Speaking as a student who has spent her four years here as an active part of this thriving Faith community I’ve come to call this ‘concrete tomb’ my home,” she said.

While it may look cold from the outside and it is rather drafty in the inside as well, one cannot ignore the warm heart and souls that make up the Body of Christ found here at Holy Spirit/Newman Hall Parish.”

That concrete building has been a fortress – literally, said Modesto Fernandez, whose attendance at Newman Hall goes back to the 1980s. It served as a “sanctuary” in 1970. “People’s Park is only two blocks away,” he said, pointing west. It held back tear gas quite well, he recalled.

“While it may look cold from the outside and it is rather drafty in the inside as well, one cannot ignore the warm heart and souls that make up the Body of Christ found here at Holy Spirit/Newman Hall Parish.”

That concrete building has been a fortress – literally, said Modesto Fernandez, whose attendance at Newman Hall goes back to the 1980s. It served as a “sanctuary” in 1970. “People’s Park is only two blocks away,” he said, pointing west. It held back tear gas quite well, he recalled.
Malta Clinic . . .

(Continued from Page 1.)

them an overview of the clinic’s work. In just 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday and Wednesday and 9 a.m.-noon Friday

Appointments: 510-587-3000

The clinic serves uninsured adults within Oakland.

Dr. Tom Wallace, a neurologist who joined the clinic in March after being in private practice the past eight years. Dr. Tom told the clinic’s computer patients who see patients with diabetes, hypertension and degenerative eye disease. From what they see, patients who require care beyond the clinic’s capacity, they are able to refer them.

Thank you for what you do,” von Boeselager told the local representatives.

After a tour of the medical clinic, von Boeselager escorted to the Pope Francis Legal Clinic by Greerty, the founding director of the two-day-a-week clinic that provides free legal consultation.

Greerty asked von Boeselager to sign the book of clients on a special page for visitors. He signed below bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ, who had signed the book on the clinic’s dedication day last year. Both Bishop Barber and Very Rev. George Mockel, vicar general of the diocese, are members of the Order of Malta.

El Heraldo Católico, the Spanish-language newspaper of the Episcopal Diocese of Oakland, is looking for freelance photographers and reporters. Ability to speak and write fluid Spanish and English, and prior experience reporting and photographing news is required.

Send a resume including previous experience to Al Pacinotti at apacciorini@oakdiocese.com, or 2121 Harrison St., Oakland 94612.

Angie C. Sinnott

President of St. Lawrence August 18, 1928 – August 25, 2017

A ngie Beattie Chiara Sinnott, August 18, 1928, in Grand Junction, Colorado, passed into heavenly paradise five days before her 90th birthday.

She was an exceptional individual in every way. She was a remarkable woman who loved her God, family, church, friends and community. She was a woman ahead of her time, raising three accomplished children; Valerie, Scott (Deborah) andMichael. She began her career in her mid-seventies as a senior member of the office of Finance and Development of the Episcopal Diocese of Oakland, where she had the honor and pleasure of working with Bishop Barber, Cardinal Newman and Cardinal Muller.

She gave love, comfort and support to her grandchildren, Danielle, Marco, Maria, Michael, Elizabeth and Matthew. She was blessed with extended family grandchildren, Katie, Lauren, Christopher, Richelle, Lisa, Richard, Banca and Hunter, and great grandchildren, Stella, Jett and Atlas.

Angie always found time to give back to her community by serving on numerous boards, committees, and organizations. Her life was celebrated with Mass and a grand birthday celebration on August 18, 2017.

New education . . .

(Continued from Page 1.)

he said. The creation of the network of seven schools had been announced in January. The schools were selected through a rigorous review of their strengths and resources; demographic data show the schools are needed to make Catholic education accessible to families who desire it, the diocese stated.

The Lumen Christi Academies are being modeled after similar, successful efforts in Catholic dioceses across the country. The academies are expected to attract families and major foundations interested in a robust academic setting permeated with Catholic values.

“Lumen Christi Academies are an innovative model of education,” said Elizabeth Guernereau, who is serving as the project lead for Lumen Christi Academies in the transition year.

“Leveraging the resources and knowledge of our diverse network of schools, we will build upon our traditions of spiritual and academic excellence for children with a renewed focus on excellence, equity, and enrollment,” she said. “We are blending the best of our Catholic school traditions with a bold new commitment to preparing ethical scholars who will illuminate a more just and joyful future. We are not just shaping the lights on — we built a new grid and we are lighting the way together for our children, families and communities.”

The academies will be led by a board of directors, consisting of community leaders and educational experts.

“The mission of Lumen Christi Academies is inspiring as we work together to establish an enduring Catholic school education for our children and their families.”

The new education schools, both in Oakland, are the oldest in the Diocese of Oakland. St. Anthony School was founded in 1877; St. Elizabeth was not far behind in 1883.

St. Jude Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be loved, adored, cherished, and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on us. Sacred Heart of Jesus be loved, adored, cherished, and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on us. Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Most Sacred Heart of St. Jude be loved, adored, cherished, and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on us. Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Most Sacred Heart of St. Jude be loved, adored, cherished, and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on us. Sacred Heart of Jesus be loved, adored, cherished, and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Most Sacred Heart of St. Jude be loved, adored, cherished, and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on us.
**NEW EVENTS**

**Oct. 11, 18, 25**

Adoration and Apostles, a missionary series at St. Stephen Church. 7 to 9 p.m., at 9111 Maryvale Way, Concord. Please call 925-885-6325 to reserve a seat.

**Nov. 6-10**

Evening with Renée Bondi

Almost 30 years ago, Renée Bondi had a bizarre accident that left her quadriplegic. Her life is a testimony of God’s love and oversight. Despite tremendous challenges, Renée triumphed. Lord and He has been faithful. Today, Renée is teaching Catholic audiences as an architect and a gifted national speaker and author. Her inspiring talk at Saringhimig Singers’ Exultate Deo: An Evening with the Philippine Saringhimig Singers.

**Evening with Renée Bondi**

Oct. 9 to 10, 17, 24, 31

Weekdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at St. Joseph the Worker Church, 1261 10th Ave., Berkeley. 510-449-1234.

**Thanksgiving**

Nov. 22

Thanksgiving Day at St. Joseph Church, 3246 Walnut Blvd., Berkeley. 510-548-4108.

**Christmas**

Dec. 24, 25

Adoration at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 3701 38th Ave., Oakland. 510-736-1390.

**New Year’s**

Jan. 1

Adoration at St. Mary Church, 2455 Broadway, Berkeley. 510-841-0675.

**TALIZÉ**

Oct. 15

Bishop Larry Silva of Honolulu, a former priest to the Oakland diocese, will say a mem- orial Mass for the late Bishop John Cardinal M. Bohn. St. Mary Church, 325 Chestnut St., Alameda. Cost: $85 (includes lunch). Information: 513-3412 or sandynca@sbcglobal.net.

**CFCS GRIFFIN SUPPORT GROUPS**

Support Group for Catholic Cemeteries. Group meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery, 6701 Antioch Church Lane, San Pablo. bring a photo of your loved one to share. 510-533-4114 for information.

**Coping with Grief Through the Holidays.**

Nov. 15 and Dec. 13

6 to 10 p.m. at the Cobra Experience, 665 Harrison St., Suite 100, Oakland, CA 94610. Sub mis sions due: Nov. 7 and Dec. 5.

**EVENTS**

**Danville**

Oct. 15

Catholic Divorced Widowed Separated of Faith Conference: The Final Weekend, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., at St. Mary Church, 325 Chestnut St., Alameda. Cost: $85 (includes lunch). Information: 513-3412 or sandynca@sbcglobal.net.

**Parish Outreach.**

Oct. 21

6 to 10 p.m. at the Cobra Experience, 665 Harrison St., Suite 100, Oakland, CA 94610. Sub mis sions due: Nov. 7 and Dec. 5.
**Raymond and Connie Gomez**

Gomez’ mark 70th anniversary

Special to The Catholic Voice

Raymond and Connie Gomez celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary with a renewal of their nuptial vows at the Wedgewood Banquet and Wedding Center, Castro Valley, on Aug. 12 with dinner and celebration with more than 100 guests, including their best man and maid of honor, two priests, two deacons, four doctors, friends and family.

Connie and Raymond Gomez are children of immigrants. Connie was born in 1942 in Mexico, and Raymond was born in 1940 in Oregon.

They met in high school and married on Aug. 12, 1947.

Connie and Raymond have been married for 70 years.

**OBITUARIES**

**Sister Marjorie Wakelin, SHF**

Sister Marjorie Wakelin was also known by her religious name Sister Eucharista, died after a long illness Sept. 27 at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of the Holy Family in Fremont, Calif. She was 86.

Sister Wakelin was born in Santa Barbara, and joined the Sisters of the Holy Family from the Cathedral of St. Mary in San Francisco at the age of 18 in July 1949. She served in the field of religious education in various parishes in the archdioceses of San Francisco and Los Angeles.

She was pastoral associate at St. Timothy Parish in San Mateo from 1991-2002. From 1983-1988 she served in the field of religious education in various parishes in the archdioceses of San Francisco and Los Angeles.

**Art exhibit focuses on hardship and healing in the Americas**

**Rev. Christopher Renz, OP, academic dean, shows a triptych of sculptures.**

**Ecce Homo!**

Devotional Expressions of Hardship and Healing in the Americas

Blackbirds Gallery, Dominican School of Theology & Philosophy

2001 Vine St., Berkeley

Opening gallery during school hours, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays

Opening reception: 2 to 4 p.m. Oct. 15

**On Good Friday.**

The artistic expression of Father Renz said, “invites us to unite our personal suffering with the suffering of Jesus.”

The middle of the gallery features more formal paintings from the colonial era, with such subjects of St. Rose of Lima, the first saint of the Americas, and founders of religious orders — curiously, St. Dominic is among the missing — and other art that may have been used in evangelization.

Near the fine art are humble offerings by crafters with little training, small images on metal, intended as a thank you for illness cured or sacraments received.

Near the end of the exhibit, the sculpture of Our Lady of Guadalupe depicts a pregnant Mary. Her skin is draped, open in the center to reveal a window into the mystery. Behold the baby Jesus.

The sculpture thus becomes an invitation for the onlooker to meditate upon both the present — the pregnant woman — and the yet unseen reality of salvation offered through Mary to the world,” Father Renz wrote in the exhibit commentary.

Visitors are welcome during the hours the school is open, weekdays between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Father Renz said the school is willing to provide tours for interested scholars. A catalog of the exhibit is being prepared for publication. A reception will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. Oct. 15 at the gallery. All are welcome.

**MOVING? PLEASE LET US KNOW**

Please call Circulation at 510-893-5339 or you may email your change of address information to squearth@adkcoakland.org. To send us your current address along with your new address to: The Catholic Voice, 2121 Harrison Street, Ste.100 Oakland, CA 94612
Contraception mandate
Jim McCrea (Forum, Aug. 14) takes issue with the U.S. Bishops’ attitude to the contraception mandate in ObamaCare. He seems to me to be rather off-base.

The first condition of good government is that government does not itself stand against the purpose of government; the abortion mandate must thus be opposed. Another situation is that government does not create, and congressional promotion is immoral because contraception itself is immoral.

Whatever advantage is thought to be acquired by contraception is better achieved by fertility-awareness-based methods of family planning, which are more secure, safer, environmentally friendlier and more economical.

The motives of those who urge contraception are often mixed. The great biologist J.B.S. Haldane wrote in one of his Possible Worlds essays back in the 1920s that contraception should be made widely available at public expense because it would reduce numbers and thus make use of it and so there would be fewer nasty, selfish people in the next generation (Planned Parenthood — under a different name — got into contraception precisely to limit the proportion of selfish people, as the poor and the Negroes). Haldane was mistaken: the availability of contraception apparently makes nastiness and selfishness more common (we have a sufficiency of evidence that the spread of contraception in a society tends to increase the accordance with its will, thus increasing the nastiest deed of all), so other excuses have been invented, but neither do these show that the fundamental moral reason is that contraception be discouraged, not publicly funded.

McCrea objects to the bishops’ opposition to the contraception mandate being linked to the call for a religious freedom. Would you agree with the bishops had they opposed the mandate in a different way?

John A. Wills
Oakland

Humility is key
One of our great saints reminded us that the three most important virtues are: humility, humility and humility. It truly is key.

Pope John Paul II taught us to keep our minds to think that we know better than everyone else. The famous words of the Bride of Christ to whom He promised freedom from error in matters of faith and morals.

It’s essential that we be open to the truth as a Catholic and the Church. As we hear the words of our Lord, we must feel our souls responding or we might lose them.

So many in the Church do not see the need to keep the fear of God before their eyes, as taught by the school of the Latin of Pope Paul VI. “The smoke of Satan has entered the Church.” Retired Bishop Rene Henry Gracida has a very excellent blog: Abyssus abyssum invocat (Deep calls to deep), https://abyssum.org/auth/abyssum.

I pray you’ll take advantage of such great resources so you will better know and understand what is happening in our beloved Church, founded by Christ Himself.

This is also the 100th anniversary of Our Blessed Mother’s apparitions to the children of Fatima. She showed them the vision of Hell and of how many souls go there because they have no one to pray for them or to sacrifice for them. God so deeply desires the salvation of all, but how many reject Him? May we heed the children, how much sacrilegious Communions often happen?

Prayer is indispensable, as is sacrifice. Too many Christians want Christ without the Cross. And too many want Him without His Church. To be able to bring others to Christ, fight against the evil society and the apostasy in the Church, we must strive for personal holiness. May we heed the warning of Our Lady of Fatima.

Better understanding
As Catholics, we are all aware of the slaughter of priests these days. I am also very grateful for the support that we receive and realize we are very lucky to be able to have at least one at each church in the Oakland diocese.

However, as so many priests come to us from other countries, their English is hard to understand. While I honor them as a priest of course, and also feel guilty for being a bit unfriendly and a bit, I go to Mass (especially if I am able) to hear some encouraging words and cannot understand what they are saying. After talking with some Catholic friends and family, I found that this is an issue for many, I thought I would write to suggest the diocese offer English as a second language classes for some of our priests, it could be informal and maybe relay messages to lay people, mostly focusing on pronunci-ation, I’m sure the priests would like to be able to communicate in another language.

I don’t want to sound disrespectful at all, I just want to understand.

Debra M. Trotzel
Oakland

President Obama successfully infected the Democratic Party with his anti-Catholic, anti-Christian bias. For the first time in my memory, senators have cited the bible as the foundation for their state’s policy on the basis of their faith. Democratic Sen. Diann Feinstein and Dick Durbin spoke on the Senate floor and expressed the opinion that she would vote ‘yes’ and “my good friend Catholic, so she must be a good Catholic” even though she explained how she was a Democrat and would not support dogma. Essentially they said “Catholics need not apply” to the federal courts. The candi-date, Amy Barrett, is extremely qualified (except for her religion). This anti-Catholic bigotry is a blot on the integrity and objectivity of the Democratic members of the Senate. I lay the blame for this on Obama as it was not present until he showed his anti-Catholic, anti-Christian side. I believe he is a times religion or race never occurs. Justice Antonin Scalia is remembered as an out-standing justice even though he was anti-Catholic and a conservative. He was never subjected to such attacks.

Black justices including Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg were not attacked because of their Jewish faith. Black appointees were never cross-examined regarding their thoughts on racism. This is a “minus test” based on religious bigotry. You can read the entire story on various online sites, including Catholic World Report, Sept. 13.

It’s time Catholics, and other Christians, should have a hard look at what the Democratic party has become. Are you willing to trust your future and your children’s future to a party that has become primarily a base for religious bigotry and supporting positions you consider immoral or just plain wrong? Don’t accept the media’s views, Google various party’s platforms, is it something you agree with?

Patricia Wiesner
Concord

Letters to the editor provide a forum for readers to engage in an open exchange of opinions and concerns in a climate of respect and civil discourse. The opinions expressed are those of the writers, and not necessarily of the Catholic Voice or the Diocese of Oakland. While a full spectrum of opinions will sometimes include those which dissent from Church teaching or contradict the natural moral law, it is hoped that this forum will help us to be more open and better others’ thinking on critical issues facing the Church.

Climate change
The Holy Father recently made the following comments regarding climate change and DACA: Doctrines Action for Childhood Arrivals:

“The Pope speaks of the unworldliness by some to admit climate change is real, ‘If we do not turn back, we will go down... And history will judge the decisions. He also noted the stubbornness of climate change deniers with a Biblical reference: "Man is stupid, the Bible says. It’s like that, when you don’t want to see, you don’t see: “They who deny it, should go to the scientists and ask them”, the pope added. "They are clear, very precise. Pope Francis’ comments on the rever-sal of trend.

I hope they rethink it a bit. Because I heard the U.S. president speak. He presents himself as a man who is pro-life. If he is a good pro-life believer he must understand that family is the cradle of life and one must defend its unity. In February 2016, Pope Francis said of President Trump’s immigration plan: “The person who thinks only about building walls, wher-ever they may be, and not about building bridges, is not a Christian.”

Pope Francis through his words and comments encourages all of us who call ourselves “pro-life” to defend life in all its forms. It is time to turn all people who reject climate change, demonizing immi-grants and allowing refugees to enter our country; to see and feel in a Christian and human way, this is “pro-life.” It is the core of the teachings of Our Lord Jesus Christ."

Joseph A. Maraccini
Concord

Contribution to Reader’s Forum should be limited to 250 words. Letters must be signed and must include the writer's address and phone number for verification purposes. All letters are subject to editing. Writers are generally limited to four letters in any 12-month period.

Mail your letter to: The Catholic Voice, 311 Harrison Street, Suite 100, Oakland, CA 94612. Fax: 510-893-4734.

Our e-mail address is: Forum@oakvoice.org

Christo Rey name
As sponsors of the new high school replacing St. Elizabeth’s and with one staff person on board, the Christian Brothers invested in sponsorship. We won the competition to name it: Cristo Rey La Salle East Bay. This left thousands of alumni and the general St. Elizabeth’s community feeling disappointed and it was thought that St. Elizabeth’s is not in the title. A possible solution instead of naming it La Salle De La Salle East Bay, call it Cristo Rey De La Salie (st. Elizabeth’s).

Bob Norris
Oakland

Moral of the story
The efforts of the Congregational leaders, the bishops, the media’s attempts to blame the Trump administration for the current problems of the unemployed but loved border crossers can only be described as disgusting. It was Congress and the Obama administration that advocated and voted for open borders and DACA. Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, They, not Trump have created a no-win morass of pain and sorrow for citizens and undocumented. U.S. citizens are now placed in a situation of demanding an unbelievable and emo-tionally painful solution to this massive influx of foreigners: do the illegals go back to their countries of origin leaving their U.S. born children here? Do the children of a father pay the price of Congress actions and are driven out of our country? These are legislative efforts to avoiding the immediate gratification of lobbyists for promised votes at election time.

The church officials appear to be using these immigrants’ plight just as the politi-cian through creation of sanctuary churches.

Camille Giglio
Walnut Creek
Catholic Funeral & Cemetery Services
Holy Angels Funeral and Cremation Center

Have you finalized your cemetery and funeral services?

CFCS is your complete resource for all your end-of-life services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Funeral Homes</th>
<th>Cemeteries</th>
<th>Cremation Society</th>
<th>CFCS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Decedent Pick Up</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funeral Services</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cremation Services</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cemetery Locations</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Organization</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish Connection</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Profit Charity/Tax Benefits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affordable Interest-Free Payment Plans</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faith Based Support &amp; Guidance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grief Ministry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Start planning today:
Funeral | Cremation | Cemetery | Family Estates

(510) 931-5646
cfcsoakland.org

Serving all faiths throughout the Bay Area