Groups decry end of immigration protection for Salvadoreans

As the Catholic Church in the United States began observing National Migration Week, a time to reflect on the circumstances confronting migrants, immigrants, refugees and human trafficking victims, the administration of President Donald Trump announced that it would end an immigration program for thousands of Salvadoreans, one of the largest groups of modern-day immigrants in the country and one that includes many Catholics.

More than 200,000 Salvadoreans, living under a special immigration status in the U.S., now face the prospect of staying in the country illegally or returning to a nation designated as one of the most dangerous in the world not at war, after the U.S. Department of Homeland Security announced Jan. 8 that it was ending a program called Temporary Protected Status.

It is estimated that the decision affects 6,000 people in Alameda County and 4,000 in Contra Costa County.

"The decision to terminate TPS for El Salvador was made after a review of the disaster-related conditions upon which the country’s original designation was based," DHS said in a statement. Salvadoreans affected can apply to stay under a different program, if they qualify, or make plans to return to their home country, the statement continued.

Citizens of El Salvador were able to apply for TPS in 2001 after the Central American nation experienced a series of major earthquakes. TPS grants a work permit and a reprieve from deportation to certain people whose countries have experienced natural disasters, armed conflicts or exceptional situations, to remain temporarily in the United States. El Salvador had previously received the designation in 1990 after thousands of Salvadoreans fled to the U.S. seeking refuge from a brutal civil war.

Supporters of the Salvadoreans said (Continued on Page 19.)

Legal assistance available

What can Catholic Charities of the East Bay provide?

Catholic Charities of the East Bay will continue to support the community by providing legal screenings to look for remedies that may be available. We provide high-quality immigration legal services provided by Board of Immigration Appeals accredited representatives and licensed immigration attorneys. People seeking help should dial 510-768-3100 or visit www.cceeb.org.Our-Services/Immigration-Legal-Services/ for more information.

Is there a path to citizenship or legal residency with TPS?

There is no path to citizenship with TPS. TPS did provide the right to live and work in the U.S., but not permanent residency.

What do you suggest people do next?

Get screened by a qualified immigration attorney or Bureau of Immigration Appeals accredited representative to see what other remedies may be available under current immigration law. Immigration law is complicated. It is risky to work with someone who is not qualified.

What should people bring to a legal consultation?

Bring your TPS work permit and any other immigration-related documents. Source: Catholic Charities of the East Bay

Day of the Sick

The annual World Day of the Sick Mass will be 11 a.m. Feb. 10 at The Cathedral of Christ the Light, 2121 Harrison St., Oakland. Those who are sick or ill and their families, caregivers and health care providers are invited to observe the day with the religious and lay people from the Diocese of Oakland.

World Day of the Sick events in Oakland will include Mass, Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, blessing of caregivers and health care providers, distribution of holy water from Lourdes, France, and a reception.

World Day of the Sick, initiated by Pope St. John Paul II and held annually worldwide near the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes, is a ministry of the Diocese of Oakland supported by the Order of Malta.

No RSVP necessary. This year there are three handicapped drop-offs: in front of the cathedral on Harrison Street, on 21st Street in front of the Chancery/Malta Clinic offices and on Kaiser Plaza near Specialty’s Cafe. There is general parking in the Kaiser Garage, turn right from Harrison onto 21st Street.

Tours of the Malta Health Clinic and legal advice from the Pope Francis Legal Clinic will be available.

On our cover

Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ, confirmed 62 adults on Jan. 13.

More on Page 12.

Staff and wire reports

Salvadoran immigrant Minda Hernandez listens during a news conference Jan. 8 at the New York Immigration Coalition in Manhattan.

Salvadorans depart after a news conference Jan. 8 at the New York Immigration Coalition in Manhattan.
Faith in the cold, flu season

Staff report

The obligation to attend Sunday Mass does not apply to those who are ill, especially those who suffer from contagious disease. It is a sign of consideration for socially those who suffer from contagious disease. It is a sign of consideration for those who fear infection should feel obligated to share the sign of peace or receive the Most Precious Blood from the communal Chalice. Sacred Communion is fully received by participat- ing in one or both species.

If a Liturgical Minister feels any symp- toms of flu or cold, the minister should excuse himself or herself. This applies to the sign of peace or receive the Most Precious Blood from the communal Chalice. Sacred Communion is fully received by participat- ing in one or both species.

Those who are feeling ill at Mass should refrain from partaking of the Blood of Christ from the communal chalice. They are also asked to refrain from offering a hand to others at the sign of peace. No one who fears infection should feel obligated to share the sign of peace or receive the Most Precious Blood from the communal Chalice. Sacred Communion is fully received by participating in one or both species.

A Liturgical Minister feels any symp- toms of flu or cold, the minister should excuse himself or herself. This applies to deacons, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, lectors, musicians, altar serv- ers, ushers, etc.

The Voice publishes only one issue in July, August and December.

Correction

A caption with a photo of The Most Rev. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, (Voice, Dec. 11) was incorrect. It implied he had not yet been installed. He was installed in 2013.

“Let the Catholic voice . . . be spread in every diocese, in every parish, in every association, in every family.” — Pope Paul VI
Defend innocent life

By Most Rev. Michael C. Barber, SJ

Your baby has fingernails!

The main character goes to a clinic for an abortion. She meets a prophet, who happens to be one of her high school classmates, and the young woman says “Your baby has fingernails!” The next scene shows people in the waiting room of the clinic drumming their fingernails, examining their fingernails, cleaning their fingernails — and then Juno decides not to have the abortion and she abruptly leaves.

There are many arguments we can make in favor of life, for human rights for the child in the womb, concern for the most innocent and neglected people in our society, the toll abortion takes on the mother — but the most convincing argument for me is when I meet a young person who says to me “My mother was going to have an abortion, and then changed her mind at the last minute. Otherwise I would not be here!” Thank God you are here! I am.

Children in the womb are real people. Human beings are created in the image and likeness of God “with inalienable rights” — because they are God’s children. Some slaves, Jews, immigrants, people of color, the elderly, the handicapped — all groups who were told — or are currently told — by one government or another, that they are not full human beings. And the most basic human right is the right to be allowed to live.

Believe in the “Seamless Garment” of Catholic Social Teaching which links the Right to Life with health care, access to education, affordable housing, opposition to the death penalty, justice for immigrants, shelter for victims of human trafficking, the right to a living wage.

Yes, all of these are elements of Catholic Social Teaching, and they are all interconnected. However, you can’t enjoy an affordable house or earn a living wage if you are not able to begin with. As we Catholics must defend innocent life, life from the first moment of conception to a natural death, or we cannot be credible proponents of all the other social justice issues that occur between life and death.

Martin Luther King had a dream. Thank God we have lived to see his dream move forward in reality in the passage of the Civil Rights Act, and the election of the first African American president of the USA.

We have a dream too. That all children in the womb will be given the right to life. That we all suffering elderly persons will be loved and supported in their aging process and protected from physician assisted suicide. That we will welcome today’s immigrants to our country in the same way our immigrants and great grandparents were welcomed.

If you want to do something and not stand by and watch, please join me at the Vigil Mass for Life at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 26 at St. Dominic’s Church, San Francisco; at the Walk for Life Mass with Archbishop Cordileone on Saturday at 9:30 a.m. Jan. 27 at St. Mary’s Cathedral San Francisco. The major event is the West Coast Walk for Life beginning at 12:30 p.m. Jan. 27 at San Francisco Civic Center Plaza.

My friend Pastor Walter Hoye will be leading a Standing Up for Life walk at noon Jan. 26 at the City Hall Plaza. There are other local events planned in the East Bay you can discover by looking on Page 5.

We recently celebrated a birth of Jesus Christmas in that most beautiful and tender of feasts. Just as we see God’s family gather on the Holy Trinity in the crib, so do we see the divine in the “smallest and most vulnerable” among us now, beginning with children in their mother’s wombs.

Strong majority of Americans want restrictions on abortion

By Kurt Jensen

Catholic News Service
WASHINGTON — The annual poll of Americans’ views on abortion sponsored by the Knights of Columbus indicates that more than three-fourths continue to want “significant restrictions” on abortion access, even though a slim majority describe themselves as “pro-choice.”

The poll, conducted by the Marist Institute for Public Opinion, surveyed 1,267 adults in December and 1,350 adults earlier this month.

Seventy-six percent indicated support for “significant” limits, with 52 percent of those who felt that way identifying as Republicans, and 61 percent as Democrats.

“Policy change,” he observed, “could be done with the support of three-quarters of the American people.”

Sixty-three percent indicated they support a ban on abortion after 20 weeks of pregnancy “That’s up a bit from last year,” Walther said.

The Senate is expected to vote soon on a 20-week ban called the Pain-Comparable Unborn Child Protection Act, which passed the House last year.

The bill is not expected to pass in the Senate, since it requires at least 60 votes. But as a symbol to the pro-life movement, the vote could be held as early as Jan. 19 to coincide with the annual March for Life, which is held to mark the anniversary of the Supreme Court’s 1973 Roe v. Wade decision, which legalized abortion.

President Donald Trump, who will address the pre-march rally via a satellite hookup from the White House Rose Garden, has said that if the Senate passes the bill, he will sign it into law.

Walther demurred on a question of whether the Knights are supporting Trump. “Some of the actions he’s taken have tracked very well and with where the American people are.”

He cited Trump’s 2017 expansion of the “Mexico City Policy,” which requires foreign nongovernmental organizations receiving American health assistance to certify that they do not use other nongovernmental funds to pay for abortions.

Other poll findings included:

• A majority of respondents, 58 percent, see abortion as “morally wrong,” and of those, most said they practiced a religion. The survey does not break out Catholic respondents.
• If it was considered likely that an unborn child will have a genetic disorder, more than 60 percent found abortion morally wrong.
• 52 percent thought that an abortion “did not improve a woman’s life in the long run.”
• 78 percent agreed that “laws can protect both a pregnant woman and the life of her unborn child.”

The results have a margin of error of plus or minus 2.8 percentage points for the December poll, and plus or minus 2.7 percentage points for the January poll. The Knights of Columbus have sponsored the survey annually since 2006.

JANUARY 22, 2018
THE CATHOLIC VOICE — 3
Religious killed in Algeria to be martyrs

Trappist Father Christian-Marie de Chergé, one of seven monks slain by Islamic terrorists in Algeria in 1996, left a letter that anticipated he would be assassinated. A bishop, the seven monks and 11 other religious men and women killed by terrorists in Algeria in the 1990s will soon be recognized as martyrs, the postulator for their cause said. The decree for their beatification should be published sometime in January, Trappist Father Thomas Georgeon said Jan. 1, in an interview with Mondèe Missione (World and Mission), a monthly magazine and website run by the Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions.

22 at age 95 at the Sinsinawa Dominicans’ motherhouse in Sinsinawa. She served as inspiration for the character of Mary Clancy in the book “Life With Mother Superior” by Jane Trehay, which was turned into the movie “The Trouble With Angels” starring Haley Mills as Mary Clancy and Rosalind Russel as the mother superior. Trehay was best friends with young Mary Courtney when both were students at Providence High School in Chicago. Also featured as a run in the movie’s fictional convent was Marge Redmond, who parlayed the role into a two-season stint as Sister Jacqueline in the television series “The Flying Nun.” Sister Courtney was born Sept. 26, 1922 in Chicago, the daughter of Harvey and Josephine Ogden Courtney. She made her first profession in 1949 and took final vows in 1962.

**“9 Days for Life”**

March for Life participants carry a banner past the front of the U.S. Supreme Court building in 2014 in Washington, D.C. A day before the Jan. 19 march, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops launched a virtual pilgrimage through the “9 Days for Life” event, asking Catholics and people of goodwill to participate, in person or via social media, in a variety of prayers. The intentions and other information on the event can be found at www.9daysforlife.com.

**Black Nazarene procession**

Pilgrims climb to touch the Black Nazarene during a Jan. 9 procession in Manila, Philippines. The wooden statue, carved in Mexico and brought to the Philippines capital in the early 17th century, is cherished by Catholics, who believe that touching it can lead to a miracle.
Jan. 27, 7 p.m.

Eric Genuisconcert
St. Raymond Church
7166 Shawnt Avenue, Dublin
Catholic composer and pianist Eric Genuis shares his gift of music in a concert that is inspiring preparation for the Walk for Life. He will be performing with, violinist, cellist and vocalist. Admission is free; a free-will offering is appreciated. Contact John Vit at 925-381-0007 or angelusmusic@aol.com.

Jan. 26, noon

Stand Up 4 Life Rally and Walk
Frank Ogawa Plaza
in front of Oakland City Hall
Issued: Life Foundation event speakers include Rev. Cleland Childress, founder of backporch.org; Sean Carney, president of 40 Days for Life; and Father Frank Pavone of Priests For Life. A short walk through downtown Oakland follows.

Jan. 26, 5-7 p.m.

Walk For Life Prayer Vigil
St. Dominic Church
2390 Buhl St., San Francisco
Hosted by the Dominican Friars: 5 p.m. Vespers: 5:30 p.m., Solemn Mass with Bishop Michael C. Barber, O.F.M. Conventual; 6:30 p.m. Holy Hour

Jan. 26, 7-9 p.m.

40 Days for Life Walk For Life Gala
JW Marriott Union Square
515 Mission Street, San Francisco
A high Mass in the Extraordinary Form will be celebrated for life by Fr. Francisco Nacnik, OFM Conv.

Jan. 27, 7:30 a.m.

Mass
St. Mary’s Cathedral,
1111 Gough St., San Francisco
Father Frank Pavone on duty and the principal celebrant; 6:30 p.m. Holy Hour

Jan. 27, 10:45 a.m.-

12:15 p.m.

Silent No More Awareness Rally
St. Mary Magdalen Church
2037 Oakland Blvd., Walnut Creek
Speaker: Dr. Haywood Robinson, former abortionist who is now a board member of Pro-Life Coalition of California. The rally will attract thousands to a state where the impact of worldview through the pro-life message of Dr. Robinson will spread our message of hope to the women and children. Dr. John Bruchalski, M.D., FACOG, who performed abortions during his residency but returned to the Catholic faith of his youth and in 1984 founded Turnaround for Women’s Care in San Francisco. In 2000, he founded Divine Mercy Care, a non-profit organization, to assist Tepeyac in its charitable works among his achievements, is a member of the board of the Pro-Life Religious Council of Washington, D.C. He has been so hurt by abortion that he said he was 'in the wrong business.'

Jan. 27, 12:30-

1:30 p.m.

Walk for Life West Coast
Civic Center Plaza
San Francisco
Speakers at the 14th annual event, which draws tens of thousands to San Francisco, include Rev. Childress; Terry Beatley, founder of Hosea Initiative; Dr. John Bruchalski, who after performing abortions during his medical residency, left God's call to start a medical practice that helped women. A walk down Market Street to the Embarecadero follows.

Jan. 27, 5 p.m.

Mass in the Extraordinary Form
National Shrine of St. Francis of Assisi
610 Vallejo St., San Francisco
A High Mass in the Extraordinary Form will be celebrated for life by Friar Francisco Nacnik, OFM Conv.

Jan. 27, 5 p.m.

Barbecue
Star of the Sea Parish
4232 Geary St., San Francisco
Free barbecue with presentation by the Sisters of Life, followed by Eucharistic Holy Hour.

Jan. 27, 7 p.m.

Catholic Underground
St. Mary Magdalen Church
2037 Oakland Blvd., Berkeley
Event for young Catholics, 18 to 40, beginning in church with Holy Hour, followed by a social gathering in the parish hall

Feb. 11, 1 p.m.

Kicks Off Rally for 40 Days for Life
St. Mary Parish Hall
2037 Mctlo Blvd., Walnut Creek
Speaker: Dr. Haywood Robinson, former abortionist who is now a board member of Pro-Life Coalition of California. The rally will attract thousands to a state where the impact of worldview through the pro-life message of Dr. Robinson will spread our message of hope to the women and children.

Feb. 14-25, 7 a.m.-

7 p.m. Monday-Saturday

40 Days for Life Vigil
On the public right-of-way at 1357 Oakland Blvd., Walnut Creek
Contact: friendsoftrevalley@gmail.com or 40daysforlife@walnutcreek

Birthday Tribute to Bishop Cummings

Honoring Steve Phelps

Bishop O’Dowd and St. Joseph Notre Dame high schools had not met on the basketball court since 2004. But when the Oakland school visited the Alameda campus on Jan. 13, the game took on additional meaning. The game was played in memory of Stephen Phelps, St. Joseph High School Class of 1962, who served as president of Bishop O’Dowd High School from 2005 until his death on Dec. 26, 2017. Ken Jennings, principal of St. Joseph Notre Dame, presented a check to J.D. Childs, principal of Bishop O’Dowd, for the Stephen Phelps scholarship fund. SJND Coach Al Lippi, a friend of Phelps for 45 years, offered a stirring tribute. The spirited game was won, in overtime, by Bishop O’Dowd.

Pilgrimages

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, taxes, exterior cabin, most meals, transportation, full-time tour manager)

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

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:
• Thessaloniki/Philippoi/Veria/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

For a mailed brochure contact: Camille Tompkins at ctompkins@oakdiocese.org

The Catholic Voice invites you to join the following:

IRELAND
October 8 – 19, 2018
Join Judy and Deacon Rick Simon, Fr. Tom Farrell, Fr. Adam Bradley on a 12-day pilgrimage

$3,399 + $399*
per person from San Francisco.
*Estimated airline taxes & fuel surcharges subject to increase/decrease at 30 days prior per person.

For a FREE brochure on these pilgrimages contact: The Catholic Voice
510-419-1081 • ctompkins@oakdiocese.org
For more information call 800-713-9800
www.pentecosttours.com

The Catholic Voice and Pentecost Tours, Inc. invite you to join in the following:

EASTERN EUROPE
October 15 – 26, 2018
Join Most Reverend Donald J. Hying on a 12-day pilgrimage to Austria, Czech Republic and Poland

$3,299 + $479*
per person from San Francisco.
*Estimated airline taxes & fuel surcharges subject to increase/decrease at 30 days prior per person.
Base price $3,399 + $479* after July 1, 2018.

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www.pentecosttours.com
What is National Catholic Schools Week?

Since 1974, National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. It starts the last Sunday in January and runs all week, which in 2018 is Jan. 28-Feb. 3. The theme for the National Catholic Schools Week 2018 is “Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.” Schools typically observe the annual celebration week with Masses, open houses and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation.

International students find themselves at home in Catholic high schools

By Kathleen Radecke

“Beyond question the vision of the threefold educational ministry presented here is an ambitious one. Were it of human origin, one might well despair of its attainment. But since it represents God’s plan, it must be energetically pursued.” ~ “To Teach as Jesus Did”

Here in the Diocese of Oakland we are energetically ministering to our students and school communities with true Hope, the Hope of Jesus as our anchor, steadying each of us along our journey. We also minister with true Joy, the Joy that Pope Francis calls each of us to be faithful to. This Joy is a not a fleeting emotion but rather a conscious choice to approach the work that we do with our students and school communities to be founded in faith and joyful witness to Christ.

The faculty, staff members and administrators in our schools continue to work toward developing our system of schools and the fulfillment of our united mission of Catholic education here in the diocese. Serving is the way that mission is carried out, the way to be disciples of Jesus.”

International students from Moreau Catholic High School celebrate their graduation. Most international students seek admission to U.S. colleges and universities. Several high schools in the Diocese of Oakland are taking an international route. Many international students from Moreau Catholic High School celebrate their graduation from a U.S. high school. Catholic schools, with their high academics including numerous Advanced Placement courses, safe campuses and value-based education, are attractive to parents seeking an international experience for their children.

St. John Paul II said, “The Mission of the Catholic school is the integral formation of students, so that they may be true to their condition as Christ’s disciples and as such work effectively for the evangelization of culture and for the common good of society.” Here in the Diocese of Oakland we lead with Christ’s energy and joy, rooted in the Gospel and united in our faith as we minister to our students ranging in age from preschool through high school.

Our message of unity and care for others is the foundation of the success of our Catholic schools. We are truly grateful to those who continue to support our Catholic schools! We pray that each Catholic school pastor, principal, teacher, staff member, school parent, volunteer, donor and especially our students realize how truly grateful we are to them for remaining united in our mission, the mission of Christ, to serve the families here in the Diocese of Oakland and to make our mission of Catholic education greater known.

We have much to celebrate this Catholic Schools Week! We continue to pray in support for the formation of our Cristo Rey high school and our Lumen Christi Academies. We have also recently developed a new Department of Catholic Schools Leadership Academy and are working to create a systematic profession.

By Michele Jurich

Several high schools in the Diocese of Oakland are taking an international route. The concept of the foreign exchange student, who would come to campus for a year, has been updated, with students typically coming for three to four years, seeking graduation from a U.S. high school. Catholic schools, with their high academics including numerous Advanced Placement courses, safe campuses and value-based education, are attractive to parents seeking an international experience for their children.

(Continued on Page 8.)
(Continued from Page 7.)

The international program is one of the legacy projects of Bishop O’Dowd President Stephen Phelps, who died in December. The program was one of the first he instituted when he arrived at the school in 2005.

Today there are 33 international students on the Oakland campus, served by a coordinator counselor who looks after their academic needs. An English teacher provides an after-school gathering to help them with the nuances of the English language.

The students at this time are primarily from Asia, with China, Hong Kong and Vietnam providing the most students. The students from China arrive on campus with proficiency in English, having studied it since the first grade.

They bring something to their classmates, too. “Having this authentic, pro-longed exposure to students from diverse backgrounds opens the world to them early,” said Robin Lau, coordinator and counselor for the O’Dowd international program. She is in her fourth year at the school.

“It helps them develop greater empathy,” she said of the domestic students. “My hope is it encourages them to be braver in their learning choices.”

While many of the students, those from China in particular, arrive with plans to study business, engineering or computer science, some have other art majors, or social science majors.

“They know it’s a transformative process,” Lau said.

At Moreau, Catholic High School in Hayward, international students bring not just cultural diversity, but their leadership skills to campus, he said.

“The thing I’m most impressed with,” said admissions director Julia Wang, “is they’re here on their own.” She finds them to be “mature, independent leaders.”

They have started clubs to share not just their culture, but their passions. “One of our international students started a model airplane club.”

Moreau Catholic’s international student program began in 2009. “We’ve grown the program over the last eight years,” said Wang. There are 61 international students at Moreau Catholic, whose student population is 950.

“Students who come to Moreau need to want to graduate,” Wang said. They arrive in ninth or 10th grade. Most of the students come from China and Vietnam, Wang said.

They are required to be at least a 3.2 letter grade students, and have proficient in English, having studied it for three to four years, and want to improve their English well enough to attend a U.S. university. “Our first class of kids is graduating,” she said.

“They’re so strong,” she said of the students. “They’re independent. They’re focused. They work so hard. They are able to be successful.”

The school offers an assessment of their language skills, and two levels of English as a Second Language. “They go on to take part in electives and optional clubs,” she said.

Among the messages Karabinas received over Christmas break was one from one of the international students, who got into the No. 1 college choice.

St. Joseph Notre Dame High School plans to welcome its first international students to the Alameda campus for the 2018-19 school year. The school has selected a company to work with, and if all goes well, four to six students are expected to enter school this fall.

The program is expected to grow slowly, adding four students a year. “It’s a global world,” said Principal Ken Jennings. International students will “bring global awareness” to the already diverse campus.

It will be an opportunity for his students, Jennings said, “to see how broad the world is.”

Thoughts of spring … in Cuba

Kaleb Allison and Darrien Russell, seventh-grade honor students at St. Joseph School in Pinole, are two of the 15 young men selected to represent California from the professional Cuban baseball clubs. To help support their trip, continue next year. Fifteen players were chosen from the 30 who remained. To try out were told to continue to work hard, and try again next year. Fifteen players were chosen from the 30 who remained.

The thing I’m most impressed with,” said admissions director Julia Wang, “is they’re here on their own.” She finds them to be “mature, independent leaders.”

They have started clubs to share not just their culture, but their passions. “One of our international students started a model airplane club.”

Moreau Catholic’s international student program began in 2009. “We’ve grown the program over the last eight years,” said Wang. There are 61 international students at Moreau Catholic, whose student population is 950.

“Students who come to Moreau need to want to graduate,” Wang said. They arrive in ninth or 10th grade. Most of the students come from China and Vietnam, Wang said.

They are required to be at least a 3.2 letter grade students, and have proficient in English, having studied it for three to four years, and want to improve their English well enough to attend a U.S. university. “Our first class of kids is graduating,” she said.

“They’re so strong,” she said of the students. “They’re independent. They’re focused. They work so hard. They are able to be successful.”

The school offers an assessment of their language skills, and two levels of English as a Second Language. “They go on to take part in electives and optional clubs,” she said.

Among the messages Karabinas received over Christmas break was one from one of the international students, who got into the No. 1 college choice.

St. Joseph Notre Dame High School plans to welcome its first international students to the Alameda campus for the 2018-19 school year. The school has selected a company to work with, and if all goes well, four to six students are expected to enter school this fall.

The program is expected to grow slowly, adding four students a year. “It’s a global world,” said Principal Ken Jennings. International students will “bring global awareness” to the already diverse campus.

It will be an opportunity for his students, Jennings said, “to see how broad the world is.”

Catholic schools . . .

(Continued from Page 7.)

a development program in emphasis on Catechetical formation and advancement in the field of STEAM and early literacy and development.

We want every person interested in a Catholic school education to please approach us and allow the opportunity for us to share the good news of Catholic education with you. For more information please visit our website at www.csdo.org or any of our 39 elementary schools and 9 high schools throughout our two counties. May the God of Hope fill you with Joy and Peace because you trust in Him.

Happy Catholic Schools Week 2018. Catholic schools…come see what we are all about!

(Kathleen Reddeck is superintendent of schools for the Diocese of Oakland.)

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Happy Catholic Schools Week 2018.
May the God of Hope fill you with Joy and Peace.
Catholic Schools Week

OPEN HOUSE DATES AND TIMES

1. St. Raymond
   Sunday, January 28
   1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
   925-389-4054
   Principal: Catherine Deehan

2. St. Michael
   Livermore
   Sunday, January 28
   11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
   925-447-1888
   Principal: Alison Wilkie

3. Holy Rosary
   Antioch
   Sunday, January 28
   10:00 a.m. – Noon
   925-757-1270
   Interim Principal: Fely Fajardo

4. St. Agnes
   Concord
   Sunday, January 28
   10:00 a.m. – Noon
   925-689-2690
   Principal: Jill Lucia

5. St. Francis of Assisi
   Concord
   Sunday, January 28
   11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
   925-682-5414
   Interim Principal: Patti Calton

6. Queen of All Saints
   Concord
   Sunday, January 28
   11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
   925-685-6700
   Principal: Lucia Prince

7. St. Isidore
   Danville
   Sunday, January 28
   10:00 – 11:30 a.m. after Mass
   Thursday, February 1
   5:30 – 7:00 p.m
   925-637-2977
   Principal: Maria Ward

8. St. Perpetua
   Lafayette
   Sunday, January 28
   10:30 a.m. – Noon
   925-284-1640
   Principal: Karen Goodshaw

9. St. Catherine of Siena
   Martinez
   Sunday, January 28
   9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
   925-228-4140
   Interim Principal: Mary Pult

10. St. Peter Martyr
    Pittsburg
    Sunday, January 28
    10:00 a.m. – Noon
    925-439-1014
    Principal: Joseph Siino

11. Christ the King
    Pleasant Hill
    Sunday, January 28
    10:15 a.m.
    Thursday, February 1
    8:00 a.m.
    925-685-1109
    Principal: Christopher Caban

12. St. Mary
    Walnut Creek
    Sunday, January 28
    10:30 a.m. – Noon
    925-935-5054
    Principal: Tracey Schmidt
Lumen Christi Academies: excellence, equity and enlightenment

By Michele Jurich / Staff writer

Seven Catholic schools in the Diocese of Oakland will be flying a new banner during Catholic Schools Week, Jan. 28-Feb. 3. Each of the schools has a long history, with two of them founded in the late 1800s; the newest was founded in 1952. As Lumen Christi Academies, they will be places of “learning in a new light,” with Christ at the core.

“This set of seven schools is incredibly diverse: It’s ethnically diverse, socioeconomically diverse, racially diverse, linguistically diverse, geographically diverse,” said Liz Guneratne, project lead on the Lumen Christi Academies. “Our model is about excellence, equity and enlightenment,” she said. “Our new logo, which we are debuting during Catholic Schools Week, is a way to visualize these qualities and remind everyone of the centrality of Christ to our work.”

The Lumen Christi Academies’ rigorous curriculum is designed to support the needs of 21st-Century students, with integrated focus on science, technology, engineering and math. “As a Lumen Christi Academy, it is exciting that we have been given the responsibility of leading and setting the standards for a cutting-edge model for change in the Catholic school system,” said Lucia Prince, principal of Queen of All Saints School.

“Academic excellence is the academies’ hallmark, but their mission is also to cultivate these nurturing communities of faith-filled students who can contribute to the world in Christ’s name. Our model of many Catholic dioceses, such as the Diocese of Camden, New Jersey; Archdiocese of New York; Diocese of Memphis; and Diocese of San Jose, which have implemented such networks in recent years, presents such a great opportunity, not just for the seven schools directly involved but for the greater diocesan community of schools that seek creative and vibrant ways to enhance and improve Catholic education to our students,” said Armond Seishas, principal of St. Joseph School in Hayward.

The academies are also receiving enthusiastic support from educators whose schools are not part of the network. “LCA presents such a great opportunity, not just for the seven schools directly involved but for the greater diocesan community of schools that seek creative and vibrant ways to enhance and improve Catholic education to our students,” said Armond Seishas, principal of St. Joseph School in Hayward.

“Some of our schools are in communities that need change; we want our students to be agents of change,” she said.

That work will be enhanced by enrichment programs, including art, music and physical education.

The academies’ teachers, many of them seasoned veterans of Catholic education, will benefit from more extensive training and professional development in STEM and literacy that will be made available to them.

Principals will be able to focus even more on students and teachers, as an independent leadership team will provide centralized direction and administrative support to all seven schools. Principals will report to a new chief academic officer within the team.

Natalie Lenz-Achuta, principal of St. Paul School, shared her excitement about the changes ahead. “Being part of a network of schools who will contribute their strengths and talents, amazing leadership and teachers, and work together on challenges to explore possibilities for the good of all with the power and grace of the Holy Spirit ... I am excited to be a part of changing the face of Catholic education.”

Over time, the network will invest in improved facilities, classroom technology and teaching resources. Scholarships will continue to be made available to all qualified families and students in need.

“We have always believed in equity. Our child will grow and succeed. Others in building a model based on best practices, taking into account the diversity here. There’s room to grow at the academy schools. We welcome visitors at the open house during Catholic Schools Week.”

Guneratne has words of welcome for those approaching the Lumen Christi Academies: “Join us. Your child will be loved. Your child will grow and succeed. You will create these nurturing communities of community. Together we’ll make a huge difference in our world.”

“This is a place of joy and hope. This is a place we create opportunities for success.”

Moreau Catholic course publishes children’s books for St. Jude’s Hospital

The Lumen Christi Academies open house...
High school days the second time around

By Carrie McClish  Staff writer

When Colleen Galloway, a member of the Class of 1977, returned to Moreau Catholic High School to join the faculty in 2001, she couldn’t help but notice that the campus landscape had undergone a number of physical changes.

“I share with the students tales of eating lunch in what is now the art rooms. There were handball courts where our student center is now located. There was only one paved parking lot, so many students had to park on the dirt (and often mud) or on local city streets,” said Galloway, who is now dean of students at the Hayward high school.

“We now have some classrooms that are geared toward 21st-century learning with technology that encourages students to make their own discoveries (our Maker Lab), learn the way that is best for them and experience 3D models in our zSpace,” she said.

William Heidenfeldt, who teaches French and English as a Second Language at Salesian College Preparatory, also mentioned how technology has changed academic life at the Richmond campus since his 1994 graduation.

“Salesian has become a one-to-one iPad school, so now, instead of walking around with my five-subject notebook, I carry an iPad. Frankly, I see no essential changes at Salesian. The tight-knit community, rich diversity of students, and caring faculty and staff remain intact,” Heidenfeldt said.

Both Galloway and Heidenfeldt and other Catholic school alums shared their experiences and thoughts on having returned to work and serve at their high school alma maters in the Diocese of Oakland.

Some like Paul McKenna, now a multimedia instructor at Moreau Catholic, have expressed delight at having the opportunity to work beside teachers they admired.

“The most rewarding part of returning back in 2004 was discovering that several of my favorite teachers were still at the school. Mr. Morneau and Mr. Wilder, in particular, made me feel like a peer and provided much needed friendship and support during those chaotic first couple of years,” said McKenna, who made the transition from advertising to teaching.

Constance Hubbard described her return to the hallways of Oakland’s Holy Names High School in 2015 as principal as “an opportunity of Divine coincidence.” No sooner did she retire as superintendent from the Piedmont Unified School District, she made the transition from advertising to teaching.

From basketball player to dean of students, Colleen Galloway has a long and stellar career at Hayward’s Moreau Catholic High School.

William Heidenfeldt, now in his third year as French and ESL teacher at Salesian College Prep, finds delight in the diversity of language at his alma mater.

Paul McKenna spent 11 years in the advertising world before returning to teach at his high school, Moreau Catholic.

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COURTESY PHOTOS
Constance Hubbard returned to serve first as principal, is now the new president at Oakland's Holy Names High School.

Kendra Carr, former assistant principal and dean of students, is now in her first year as HNHS principal.

High school . . .
(Continued from Page 11.)
District — after a 38-year career in public education in the East Bay — than she was hired to take the helm of her alma mater less than three months later.

Everyone with whom I worked knew that I credited Holy Names for preparing me to be successful in college and more importantly to have confidence in tackling difficult tasks,” Hubbard, a member of HNHS’s Class of 1970, said. “I was the first in my family to attend college and I credit Holy Names for providing the preparation and instilling the expectation that it was my obligation to use my talents to the best of my ability”.

Hubbard saw the opportunity of her return to HNHS as a chance to give back to students of today the many skills and values that were passed onto her and helped prepare her to become an educator. “It was careful to keep the separation of church and state in my public school career while keeping values of equity for all students at the core of all decisions,” she said. “The fundamental respect for all children and their families and the notion of noblesse oblige was part of the fiber of my responsibilities to the community who depended on a quality public education.”

At the beginning of this school year Hubbard teamed up with another Holy Names alum, Kendra Carr, Class of 1999, who had been dean of students and assistant principal, to form a new administrative partnership at the Oakland campus, with Hubbard taking the position of president and Carr becoming principal.

“It is an honor because I love Holy Names,” said Carr, when asked about her first year as HNHS principal. “I love working with this generation of students. When I came back seven years ago it really was like a homecoming because Holy Names nurtured me. I felt comfortable going to school here. I felt safe.”

When speaking of connections to one’s high school, Galloway’s ties to Moreau are not only close rather extensive. She can trace her family’s history to the school to 1971 when her oldest sister started as a first-year student there. “I am one of seven children and we all graduated from Moreau,” Galloway said.

“My Mom taught here for almost 10 years and both my parents were softball coaches during that time — Moreau’s first ever NCS championship was their 1985 team that was my youngest sister’s senior year, Galloway said. “My oldest sister worked in the business office for many years . . .”
High school . . .
(Continued from Page 12.)
years and I have nieces that graduated from Moreau. Moreau has always been a second home and a second family, so once I began teaching. I had my sights set on returning here. Since I have been back, both my children have attended and graduated from Moreau.”

That connection to one’s alma mater also holds true for Lisa Coffey-Mahoney, who serves as director of communications at Oakland’s Bishop O’Dowd High School. She has worked at O’Dowd since 2006. “I previously worked for many years as a newspaper reporter and was very satisfied professionally. But when the opportunity to work at O’Dowd presented itself, I took it without hesitation,” she said. A member of the Class of 1977, Coffey-Mahoney said Bishop O’Dowd “provided me a tremendous foundation — academically, spiritually and socially — that helped shape me into the person I am today.” As a staff member, she added, she can see first-hand “how our school is continually evolving to meet the needs of our students and provide them that same strong foundation. I feel so fortunate that I get to work alongside unbelievably hard-working and dedicated colleagues in this effort. The icing on the cake is that I have the opportunity to interact with engaged, enthusiastic and passionate students each and every day.”

Lou Richie, another faculty member at Bishop O’Dowd, expressed similar emotions about returning to work for his alma mater. “It is the greatest honor to work with the future leaders of our communities at my alma mater. It is the greatest honor to work with the future leaders of our communities at my alma mater. I have such pride in this institution as a vessel of learning for the entire and whole person.” If there is one thing as good as or better than working at the place that you love it is doing what you love. That sums up Heidenfeldt’s experience as a teacher at Salesian. “I am thrilled on a daily basis to teach what I love to passionate, multilingual students,” he said. “Even more, I love the world that my students and I create in our language classes and the engaged people that our Salesian students become. I am also delighted that our Little French program at Salesian has grown from 14 to 48 students in less than three years. I grew up in a family that spoke English, Spanish and Norwegian, and I went to school and now teach in a school where we speak more than a dozen different languages at home and/or in school,” Heidenfeldt said. “I have always loved those different voices that fill our hallways, classrooms, and play areas.”

Lisa Coffey-Mahoney left the newsroom to serve as communications director at her alma mater, Bishop O’Dowd High School.

Lou Richie, a teacher in the physical education department, returned to Bishop O’Dowd in 2001.

Saint Mary’s College High School, serving Bay Area students since 1863, salutes the Grade Schools in the Oakland Diocese for their excellence in the work of Catholic Education

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Carondelet inspires young women to achieve their highest potential.
All Saints bell choir’s harmony boosts students’ lives

By Jennifer Ortega

Special to The Catholic Voice

For the third consecutive year, Carondelet High School will welcome middle school pupils to campus for its co-ed summer school programs designed to keep youth engaged and active during the summer months.

The Concord-based, all-girls school will again open its doors to male and female students from any school in the community. Launched in 2016, the middle school program for rising sixth, seventh and eighth graders includes courses in language arts, math, speech and debate, and — new this year — sports broadcasting.

Middle school girls can enroll in one of seven advanced sports clinics, which are designed for students who are looking to improve their skills and prepare themselves to compete at the high school level. Soccer, lacrosse, swimming and tennis clinics will be hosted at the brand new Carondelet Athletics Complex in Walnut Creek, slated to open in early 2018. Basketball, dance and volleyball clinics will be offered at the school’s Winton Drive campus.

New to the academic program is Carondelet’s partnership with ID Tech, which will host a co-ed camp for students ages 7-17. The courses will feature principles of coding, robotics, game development and more.

Rising fourth and fifth grade girls can also participate in a weeklong Girls Leadership camp. This all-day program offers fun activities that teach girls how to build self-confidence and develop healthy and rewarding relationships.

For high school students, Carondelet is offering both advancement and remediation courses, which are open to girls and boys from any school. Advanced options include Algebra 2/Trig, Geometry, Biology, World Art and Lifetime Activities. These courses will help students get a head start on earning credit toward graduation and college, as well as free up time in their 2018-19 schedule.

Courses are staggered throughout the summer with the first course beginning June 11, and registration opens Jan. 19. To learn more, visit www.CarondeletHS.org/Summer.

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Directed by Steven Meyer, who is also the school’s music teacher and founder and director of the Golden Gate Boys Choir and Bell Ringers, the All Saints Boys and Girls Honors Bell Choirs are an extension of the regular curriculum.

The choir is open to pupils in grades 7 and 8 (grades 6 space allowing) who study bells during their free time, and join the choir understanding and committing to the dedication for which this choir has a reputation.

Students in the Honors Bell Choirs bring their time and talents to events both at school and to the wider community to bring joy to others through performances of the time-honored art of handbells.

The Honors Bell Choirs has been invited to perform at many community events, such as The Day of Remembrance at Chapel of the Chimes, the Salvation Army Thanksgiving Dinner at Hayward’s Veterans Hall, the school’s annual Bells Festival, the school’s Thankful Dinner and the city of Hayward’s Light Up the Season event.

Performances have impressed guests every time, sparking comments such as “just beautiful…” “takes me back to my childhood” “thank you for valuing this beautiful tradition,” “takes your breath away…”

All Saints Catholic School is proud of its dedicated students and their families. Our mutual commitment to Catholic education is something we never take for granted.

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To learn more, contact the Office of Admissions at 510.881.4320 or admissions@moreaucatholic.org.
Holocaust survivor’s story transfixes seventh-graders

By David Scholz

The experiences of a Jewish girl during World War II were made all the more real for the seventh grade class of St. Francis of Assisi School in Concord last month, students were able to hear the chilling and all too real first-hand account of Holocaust survivor Ralph Samuel.

Samuel’s reflections as a member of the Kindertransport (Children’s Transport), which was the informal name for a series of rescue efforts that brought thousands of refugee Jewish children to Great Britain from Nazi Germany between 1938 and 1940, followed the class’ reading of a memoir entitled “The Children of Willesden Lane.” This story told of another Holocaust survivor, Lisa Jura, and her own journey from Vienna to England.

Samuel, 86, of Oakland, with the help of a Powerpoint presentation, walked his young audience through his travels as a 7½-year-old — surrounded entirely by adults — aboard an airplane bound for London in January 1939. There he recounted fond memories of living with the Epsteins, a warm and supportive family.

Unlike Jura’s initial experiences with coming to England, Samuel was fortunate that his host family could also bring his mother over as a domestic worker to serve in their London residence. It was bittersweet for him, as he recalled how he would eat with the Epsteins around the dining table, while his mother would eat her meals back in the kitchen.

Ahead of the devastation of The Blitz, the air raids that would ravage London, Samuel recalled being evacuated on Sept. 1, 1939, to a manor house in the English countryside near Guildford, Surrey. There, he was 1 of 8 children who escaped the carnage and persecution in London. In an amazing and lucky twist of fate, his mother was able to find work there as well, so they were able to stay together for the duration of the war.

Students were transfixed, and very inquisitive of Samuel’s experiences, both during and after the war. They asked questions from the life and world they know. One question, asked by student Katelyn Brown was, did this experience bring him closer to his mother? Samuel acknowledged in all the years and all the talks he had given to middle school students he had never been asked that particular question, and what a wonderful question it was. Posing to answer, he replied “Yes,” obviously moved by the query.

Another inquiry from the class was about Samuel’s father. He noted his father died in Auschwitz. In the past, Samuel acknowledged visiting Nazi-run work camps but not the death camps like Auschwitz or Birkenau.

Among the Powerpoint slides in Samuel’s talk was one displaying his papers that accompanied his transport to England. He focused the attention of the students on the gaudy red stamp of a capital “L” on his papers that distinguished him as a Jew.

“How many of your parents or grandparents have that on their identifiers?” he asked them.

Samuel lauded the “significant questions” that the students asked him during his presentation, including one from Sophia Flores who asked him whether or not he would have left Germany had World War II never happened.

For all the wonderful memories Samuel recalled of his time as a youth in England during the war years, like the fun of running about carefree in the open spaces near Guildford, he also noted there are things he has never forgotten. Things like being called a dirty, rotten Jew by an English boy who was also staying at the manor house. Samuel used that as a teachable moment to remind his young audience that every time they say something that hurts someone, those words aren’t forgotten by that person.

“Please go home tonight and say something nice to a brother or sister,” he said. “Can you do that for me?”

Many years later he spoke of reunions with the few surviving residents of the manor house, including that English boy who ridiculed Samuel. To this day, he said he doesn’t hold a grudge.

Holocaust survivor Ralph Samuel shares his experiences as a Holocaust survivor who was part of the Kindertransport humanitarian effort during World War II with the seventh grade class of St. Francis of Assisi School in Concord in December.
Catholic Schools Week

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Preschool - 8th Grade

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St. Clement Catholic School in Hayward

teachers and students were fully engaged
in the Google Expeditions Augmented
Reality Pioneer Program (STEM-
aligned). It was an exciting day in
STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering
and Math) learning on Dec. 5. St. Clement School was one of the first
schools in the Bay Area to participate
in the Google Expeditions Augmented
Reality Pioneer Program. Expeditions AR uses Google’s Tango technology to
map the physical classroom and place
3D objects in it for students to observe
and interact with in real time. The
“woahs” and “wows” to the 3D moun-
tains, dinosaurs, planets, organs, etc.,
were music to our ears. Saint Clement
in Google Expeditions AR.

FACE Gala will help support
low-income families

Staff report

FACE is fabulous at 40.
Since 1978, Family Aid Catholic Education has assist-
ed families who have needed financial help to secure a
Catholic education for their children.

The spring gala is the primary fundraiser for FACE,
which was started in 1978 as a grass-roots effort by
Catholic school parents, primarily at St. Theresa Parish,
who were concerned that the cost of Catholic educa-
tion was going to make it unattainable for lower-income
families.

That mission has stayed constant for the past 40 years.
This year’s spring gala is set for April 21 at the Greek
Orthodox Cathedral of the Ascension in Oakland.

Bishop Emeritus John Cummins, the second bishop
of Oakland, who served from 1977 to 2003, is the spe-
cial honoree at this year’s gala. Bishop Cummins turns
90 in March.

In the current school year, FACE funded 740 students
for a total of $1.7 million. Elementary school students receive $1,750 toward tuition, with high school students receiving $3,050.

Applications for grants for the 2018-19 school year are
available at the Catholic elementary and high schools.
There is a link at www.oakdiocese.org/giving/face/applying-for-a-grant.

FACE Gala

When: April 21
Where: Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Ascension
4700 Lincoln Ave.
Oakland, CA 94602
Information: 510-287-8358

FACE grants

Information on FACE grants for
2018-19 school year:
Contact your Catholic school or
www.oakdiocese.org/giving/face/applying-for-a-grant.

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10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
Kindergarten
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Tuesday
January 30, 2018
7:00 p.m.
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SJND gives back during the holidays

Special to The Catholic Voice
St. Joseph Notre Dame High School completed its annual Adopt-A-Family program in which they adopted approximately 50 local families from the Oakland Catholic Worker, Catholic Charities, and Angel Tree programs, for the holiday season.

The SJND community came together to donate hundreds of gifts for the families, including bikes, toys and gift cards, and distributed the gifts to families on Dec. 10.

Weeks prior in October, seven Spanish-speaking students, including sophomore Erika Aguayo Gutierrez, volunteered their Saturday to interview the adopted families to learn about their Christmas wish lists.

“My experience with interviewing families for Adopt-a-Family has made me feel extremely grateful. The families kept thanking me over and over again for taking their Christmas wish lists,” Gutierrez explained. “One of the families I interviewed, the mother told me she was very grateful for this program and that if it wasn’t for this opportunity, her little boys wouldn’t have presents to open on Christmas day. She told me how she had just arrived to this country from Nicaragua a few months ago and how her kids are slowly adjusting to life in the US; she said it hasn’t been easy and there have been a lot of obstacles such as language and tradition differences.”

Additionally, in the weeks leading up to Christmas, SJND faculty and staff came together to support our colleague Mike Kamplain who collected Christmas gifts for seven families displaced by the Sonoma County wildfires this past October. Kamplain and his family, whose Santa Rosa home was spared from the destruction, know several families impacted by the fires.

SJND seniors Noah Whiteley, top right, Ryan Jawad, center and Noah Fong, below help with the Adopt-a-Family program.

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- Financial Aid Info Night: Jan. 25, 6:00-7:00 p.m.
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OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, January 28, 2018 • 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
School Tour • 10:00 a.m.
Information packets available for Pre-K-7
1650 Manor Blvd., San Leandro, CA 94579
(510) 357-2330
www.stfelicitas-school.org

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East Bay High School
St. Elizabeth Campus
1530 34th Ave., Oakland
910-332-4847
www.cristoreydelasalle.org
info@cristoreydelasalle.org

New high school registering students

By Michele Jurich
Staff writer

The first 26 members of the founding class of Cristo Rey De La Salle East Bay High School St. Elizabeth Campus are registered.

Two additional deadlines loom for prospective students to apply early. The Class of 2022 is projected to have 140 students. The final deadline is geared toward students who have gone through the Oakland public school lottery process and are seeking alternatives to the result. The administration believes about half the students will come from public schools.

“We’re trying to target families for whom Catholic high school has not been accessible,” Anderer said.

At Cristo Rey De La Salle East Bay High School, financial barriers to Catholic education are lowered, because the students participate in a work-study program that offsets a portion of their tuition. The school is open to students from families whose income falls below 75 percent of the median income for the area. In the East Bay, the maximum qualifying income is about $73,000 for a family of four.

The work-study program drew interest from both prospective students and their parents during open houses at the St. Elizabeth campus. “So many of the young people are interested in going to work and learning those skills,” Anderer said. “The parents are happy they will start to get work experience.”

The employment picture looks promising, too, Anderer said, with commitments for jobs for all the prospective students.

The school’s personalized learning curriculum drew attention, too. The importance of meeting the student where he or she is, and taking the student to becoming agents of their own learning, Anderer said, was well received. The classroom the students visited, too, looks different from traditional classrooms, with different kinds of spaces and types of furniture, Anderer said.

It’s a busy time at the Fruitvale campus, with renovations on the building continuing. All 188 windows are being replaced. A new roof, new flooring in the classrooms and fresh paint, inside and out, are on the to-do list.

Cristo Rey De La Salle East Bay High School St. Elizabeth Campus will open its doors July 5 for the summer bridge program.

COURTESY PHOTO
COURTESY PHOTO
COURTESY PHOTO
The nuns who witnessed the life, death of Martin Luther King

By Kevin Jones
Catholic News Agency
WASHINGTON — The death of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day was the first without Sister Mary Antona Ebo, the only black Catholic nun who had worked with civil rights leader Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Selma, Alabama in 1965.

“I’m here because I’m a Negro, a nun, and a Catholic, and because I want to bear witness to our African-American people,” Sister Mary Antona Ebo said to fellow demonstrators at a March 10, 1965 protest attended by King. “I was, in fact, the only African-American nun at the protest.”

The protest took place three days after the “Bloody Sunday” clash, when police attacked several hundred voting rights demonstrators with clubs and tear gas, causing some severe injuries among the nonviolent protesters.

She passed away Nov. 11, 2017 in Brown County, Wisconsin, at the age of 93, the St. Louis Review reported at the time.

Just before she left for Alabama, she had written to her white minister who had traveled to Selma, James Reeb, had been severely beaten and left in a Selma restaurant.

At the time, Ebo said, she wondered: “If they would beat us to death on the streets of Selma, what are they going to do when I show up?”

On Good Friday, March 25, 1965, she went to Brown Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, joining local leaders and the demonstrators who had been injured in the attack.

They had bandages on their heads, teeth were knocked out, crutches on their arms. “They were freshly injured,” she told the Post-Diocese. “They had already been through the battle ground, and they were still wanting to go on their arms. You could tell that they were teeth were knocked out, crutches, casts

Many of the injured had been treated at Good Samaritan Hospital, run by Edmundite priests and the Sisters of St. Joseph, the only Selma hospital that served blacks. Since their arrival in 1957, the Edmundites had faced intimidation and threats from local officials, others, and even the Ku Klux Klan. CNN reported.

The injured demonstrators and their supporters left the Selma church with Ebo in front. They marched toward the courthouse, then blocked by state troopers in riot gear. She and other demonstrators then knelt to pray the Our Father before they agreed to turn around.

“Despite the violent disruption, the 5-mile march would draw 25,000 people,” the newspaper reported. It concluded on the steps of the state capitol in Montgomery, with King’s famous March 25 speech against racial prejudice.

“‘How long, not long. Because the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice,’” King said.

On a fateful April 4, 1968, he was shot by an assassin at his Memphis hospital room. “He had no chance,” she said.

She thought the Ferguson protests were controversial and the public would serve in her congregation’s leadership as it reunited with another Franciscan order, and she served as a chaplain after her retirement from the Franciscan Catholic Church.

“After reflecting before a statue of Mary, he felt the urge to ‘go’ to the chapel and he needed this advice. I ended up living in the Capuchin priory in 1967, she said. Fitzgerald said:

She frequently spoke on civil rights topics. When controversy over a Ferguson, Mo. police officer’s killing of Michael Brown in 2014 reached a breaking point, she thought the Ferguson protests were comparable to those of Selma.

“I mean, after all, if Mike Brown really did swig the box of cigs, it’s not the police- man’s place to shoot him dead,” she said.

Archbishop Robert J. Carlson of St. Louis presided at her requiem Mass Nov. 11. “We will miss her living example of working for justice in the context of our Catholic faith,” said Vigneron.

She is also the shopper for the parish’s First and Fourth Street Catholic News Service

A grand day for the extended Casey family

By Michele Jurich
Staff writer

Ann Fitzgerald described in detail her family that her beloved brother, Father Solanus Casey, was “known beyond our family.”

Born in Oak Grove, Wisconsin, Bernard Francis Casey was the sixth of 16 children in the family of Irish immigrants Bernard James Casey and Ellen Marie Hofmeyer. Casey’s father asked church leaders from around the state capitol in Montgomery, with King’s famous March 25 speech against racist prejudice.

Father Casey co-founded the Capuchin Soup Kitchen’s Jefferson House — a 12-bed residential treatment facility for addicts.

Its Earthworks Urban Farm harvests six tons of produce from a 2-acre organic farm. The Soup Kitchen’s On the Rise Bakery assists individuals recovering from substance abuse. In addition, the Capuchin Soup Kitchen’s Jefferson House — a 12-bed residential treatment facility — assists indigent males seeking to reclaim their lives from addiction.

The group connected with East Bay Sanctuary Covenant to support migrant workers when they began, she said, taking “rice and beans, furniture and bedding.”

The pleasure of the pact was watching a local committee work with the migrant community.

The committee is reaching out to the people who work at Golden Gate Fields. “They follow the horses the way people follow crops,” she said. Workers can use bicycles to travel between barns.

She is also the shopper for the parish’s First and Fourth Street

Who was Solanus Casey?

Catholic News Service

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The National Guard and local police locked down the hospital for security rea-sons as doctors tried to save King.

“They were obviously not allowed to go in when they were working with him because they were feverishly working with him,” Sister Jane Marie said. “But after they pronounced him dead we did go back into the E.R. There was a gentleman as big as the door guarding the door and he looked at us and said you want in? We said yes, we’d like to go pray. We then got within three of us in, closed the door behind us and we gave our time.”

Hofmeyer recounted the scene in the hospital room. “He had no chance,” she said. Fitzgerald said authorities delayed the announcement of King’s death to prepare for riots they knew would result.

“Nothing happened that night with King’s widow, Coretta Scott King, at a meeting of the Catholic Health Association Board in Atlanta where King was a keynote speaker. The Franciscan sister and the widow of the civil rights leader told each other how they had spent that night.

Klein said being present that night in 1968 was “indeed important.”

“Do you what you do to,” she said. What’s the right thing to do? Hindsight? “It was a privilege to be able to take care of him that night and to pray with him. Who would have ever thought that we would be that privileged?”

“Dr. King’s life shows “to some extent one person can make a difference.”

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The committee is reaching out to the people who work at Golden Gate Fields. “They follow the horses the way people follow crops,” she said. Workers can use bicycles to travel between barns.

She is also the shopper for the parish’s First and Fourth Street Sunday dinners for the homeless, acquiring the groceries herself. She said that King once wanted to go twice a month.

“People get involved because there’s a problem and you can solve it somehow. But big the problem is, she said, or you may wind up doing nothing.

Of Blessed Solanus Casey, she said, “He’s a channel for grace.”

(Catholic News Service contributed to this report.)

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Staff writer

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Groups decry . . .

Dear parishioners,

I write to you today regarding the recent decision by the Trump administra-
tion to rescind Temporary Protective Status (TPS) for approximately 200,000 El Salvadorans living in the United States: This action by our president is heartbreaking. I am particularly troubled by this decision.

We are disrupting the lives of people who immigrated here legally under an order signed by President Bush in 2001. They are upstanding citizens who, every 18 months, pay to undergo a required vetting process to keep their permit active. They are homeowners, hard workers, and taxpayers whose children are U.S. citizens. They are contributing to the communities in which they live here in the U.S., and supporting their family members who stayed behind in El Salvador, a country still unstable and rocked by violence.

More than 190,000 U.S.-born children have at least one parent who will lose legal status due to the administration’s decision. Going back to a dangerous environment could have fatal consequences; if they choose to stay and lose immigration status they will be at immediate risk of deportation.

Our Catholic Charities of East Bay recommends all affected schedule a legal screening to identify potential remedies. Their services are provided by Board of Immigration Appeals accredited representatives and licensed immigration attorneys. People seeking help should call 510-768-3100 or visit www.cceb.org/our-services/immigration-legal-services.

This is yet another ill-conceived decision by an administration that ignores facts and that has lost sight of the United States’ long history as a safe haven for people who flee danger abroad,” said Bishop Kevin W. Vann of Orange, chairman of the board of the Maryland- based Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. “Congress must act now by terminating TPS for El Salvador, hundreds of thousands of people, includ-
ing U.S. citizen children and extended family, will be faced with wrenching decisions about how to proceed with their lives,” Bishop Vann said. “The administration’s response may be articulated by four words: ‘We are not responsible.’ This is yet another ill-conceived decision by an administration that ignores facts and that has lost sight of the United States’ long history as a safe haven for people who flee danger abroad,” said Bishop Kevin W. Vann of Orange, chairman of the board of the Maryland-based Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. “Congress must act now by terminating TPS for El Salvador, hundreds of thousands of people, including U.S. citizen children and extended family, will be faced with wrenching decisions about how to proceed with their lives,” Bishop Vann said. “The administration’s response may be articulated by four words: ‘We are not responsible.’

I encourage all of us to join efforts in seeking a better solution to this situation. Please also contact your senator and representative. We believe all people have the right to migrate to protect their lives and their families. While the Church recognizes the right of nations to regulate their borders, this right must be balanced with immigrants’ rights to human dignity and life.

Ministers of our Church have expressed concern that deportations have expressed concern that deportations have at least one parent who will lose legal status due to the administration’s decision. Going back to a dangerous environment could have fatal consequences; if they choose to stay and lose immigration status they will be at immediate risk of deportation.

From our experience working with the Catholic Church and other local partners in El Salvador, the Salvadoran government does not have adequate humanitarian capacity to receive, protect or integrate back into society safely many people,
said Catholic Relief Services in a statement released shortly after the decision was announced.

A big concern for Catholic organiza-
tions and leaders is the 192,000 U.S.-born children of Salvadoran families who, every 18 months, pay to undergo a required vetting process to keep their permit active. They are homeowners, hard workers, and taxpayers whose children are U.S. citizens. They are contributing to the communities in which they live here in the U.S., and supporting their family members who stayed behind in El Salvador, a country still unstable and rocked by violence.

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Counseling

OBITUARIES

Sister Claire Herlihy, OP

Sister Claire Herlihy, a longtime educator who was formerly known as Sister M. Bartholomew, died Dec. 29 at Our Lady of Lourdes Convent in San Rafael. She was 89 and had been a Dominican Sister of San Rafael for 64 years.

Born in San Francisco, her family moved to El Cerrito where she was gradu-

ated from El Cerrito High School. After graduating with a bachelor's degree from

Dominican College, she entered the convent and received the name Sister Bartholomew.

Sister Herlihy spent 30 years in educa-
tion as a teacher and principal. In the Diocese of Oakland she served as principal at St. Michael School in Livermore, from September 1966 to June 1973, and as a teacher at St. Leander School in San Leandro from September 1973 to January 1975. She also served in schools in San Francisco, Benicia, Reno, Monterey and Vallejo.

Sister Herlihy also spent many years serving her congregation as the director of personnel and as a member of two leadership teams. A quiet person, she was full of ideas and the strength to put them into action, often saying to others, "We can do it!" according to the observant issued by her community.

She was committed to serving the needs of those with little means. In 2001 she helped establish the De Paul Women's Resource Center, which became a critical lifeline for women and children in Vallejo. As a member of her congregation, she was well known for both her keen humor and deep faith. She believed that her vocation to religious life was "fulfilling God's plan in my life."

Survivors include her sisters, Jan Castillo and Jean Worton, their spouses and children.

The funeral Mass was held Jan. 9 at the Dominican Sisters Center in San Rafael. Burial followed at St. Dominic Cemetery in Benicia. A memorial Mass was held Jan. 18 at St. Vincent Ferrer Church in Vallejo.

Msgr. James Ervin Cain

Msgr. James Ervin Cain, an Oakland native who was instrumental in the develop-

ment of the Diocese of Stockton, died June 9, 2017. He was 97.

Cain, Oakland in 1919. Msgr. Cain was ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of San Francisco in June 1950. In the East Bay he served as associate pastor of the St. Ambrose Parish in Berkeley from 1950 to 1953. He later served in parishes in Sonoma, San Rafael and Los Gatos before he was incardinated to the newly created Diocese of Stockton in 1962. He went on to serve in various positions in the diocese including chap-


tor, superintendent of schools, director of continuing education and vice general.

The funeral Mass was held June 16 at the Cathedral of the Annunciation, followed by the Rite of Committal at San Joaquin Cemetery, both in Stockton.

By Tom Webb

Special to The Catholic Voice

Oakland Catholic Worker program builds bridges

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By Tom Webb

Special to The Catholic Voice

Elect goes to OCW staff member Molly

Moll 

A gift Program.

Each goes to OCW staff member Molly and staff. 

The generosity of Catholic Worker supporters total of 450 children benefited from the that entertains children in refugee camps

Without Borders, an international nonprofit holiday merriment was provided by Clowns Teamsters Local 70 and Kids Bike Lane. 

pupils and faculty at St. Felicity Elementary joined this year by members of Most Holy Joseph Notre Dame High School and of Pleasanton, St. Joseph Basilica, St. 

Army of the Catholic Worker Christmas pro-

Paschal Baylon Parish hosted the Oakland Catholic Worker volunteer to help distribute gifts to migrant family guests of the Catholic Worker. 

A couple share in Christmas joy. Salvadoran members entertain gift recipients with presents for her family. A small but lively

family. A Cambodian refugee receives ing gifts for a Latin American migrant 

...
Mission Organ concert Feb. 3
Mission San Jose, 4300 Mission Blvd., Fremont will host “Batalha” by Portuguese composer Alfredo Cardoso, a free organ concert featuring the Rosales Organs 14 organ on Feb. 3. Donald McKechnie will perform on the Rosales organ that depicts a military campaign and victory... all prominent in the Spanish 17th century mind. Also featured will be engaging bird chirping, whirring, buzzing, chirping, chirping, singing, and various other sounds that will give you pre-concert talk at 7 p.m. to explain how the Rosales organ, one of only three in the U.S., functionally recreates the vibration of the organ pipes. The concert will be followed by a reception with wine, hors d’oeuvres, dessert, and an informal meeting in the historic setting of the Rosales organ. Donald McKechnie

Feb. 10 to 11
funeral Mass for Padre Fausto — Retreat with Father Philip Nealon. At San Martin Center, 25 Magnolia Ave., San Rafael. 3:30 and 6:30 p.m. Masses. 415-657-7727 or www.sanmartincenter.org.

Feb. 17, March 10, April 21
Engaging the Heart Workshops. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 4330 Godinez St. at 74th Avenue, Santa Clara. Devotions, prayer and spiritual exercises to understand the music of Hildegard. Suggested donation: $10-20. Information: 408-657-4772 or www.sanmartinspiritcenter.org.

Feb. 16, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at St. Joseph Basilica, 1109 Chastain St., Alameda, 510-521-5300. Third Fridays at 4330 Godinez St., Santa Clara. Devotions, prayer and spiritual exercises to understand the music of Hildegard. Suggested donation: $10-20. Information: 408-657-4772 or www.sanmartinspiritcenter.org.

**SUPPORT GROUPS**
January 30
Healing the Heart Gregorien Workshop. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Newman Center, 4100 Old Almaden Blvd., San Jose. Cost: $25. Information: 408-372-9633.

February 7
Free support group for health care workers and caregivers. 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish, 2233 Edith St., San Leandro. Cost is $215 (shared room) or $245 per person and can be purchased in the church foyer after masses, the office or by contacting St. Bonaventure Parish Outreach — Holy Spirit Parish Outreach — Holy Spirit Parish, 458 Maple St. at Fourth St., Danville. Information: Sandy Heinisch, 925-373-9400 or shpoutreach@gmail.com.

February 8
Engaging the Heart Workshops. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 4330 Godinez St., Santa Clara. Devotions, prayer and spiritual exercises to understand the music of Hildegard. Suggested donation: $10-20. Information: 408-657-4772 or www.sanmartinspiritcenter.org.

February 21
2023 Bermuda Drive, Pleasanton. Information: michael@mgallagher1025.org or 925-525-1777.

February 22, Jan. 29, Feb. 5
Weekly meditations in the John Main, OSB, Center Eight o’clock to 9 p.m. at the Kelley Center, 750 California St., San Francisco. Presented by Kathy Coffey, this class will explore visual arts, literature and contemplative prayer. Cost is free. To register to go to http://www.sfbaycenters.org.

February 23, Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 4, 11

February 24
Engaging the Heart Workshops. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 4330 Godinez St., Santa Clara. Devotions, prayer and spiritual exercises to understand the music of Hildegard. Suggested donation: $10-20. Information: 408-657-4772 or www.sanmartinspiritcenter.org.

February 25
Engaging the Heart Workshops. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 4330 Godinez St., Santa Clara. Devotions, prayer and spiritual exercises to understand the music of Hildegard. Suggested donation: $10-20. Information: 408-657-4772 or www.sanmartinspiritcenter.org.
VANTAGE POINTS

‘God’s power and love will eventually make all things well’

By Rev. Ron Rolheiser, OMI

There’s a line in the writings of Julian of Norwich, the famous 14th-century mystic and perhaps the first theologian to write in English, which is endlessly quoted by preachers, poets and writers: “But all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well.” It’s her signature teaching.

We all have an intuitive grasp of what that means. It’s our basis for hope. In the end, the good will triumph. But the phrase takes on added meaning when it’s seen in its original context. What was Julian trying to say when she coined that phrase? She was struggling with the problem of evil, sin and suffering. Why does God allow them? If God is both all-loving and all-powerful what possible explanation can there be for the fact that God lets us suffer, lets us sin and lets evil be present all over the world? Why didn’t God create a world without sin, where we would all be perfectly happy from birth onwards?

Julian had heard enough sermons in church to know the standard apologetic answer for that, namely, that God allows it because God gave us the great gift of freedom. With that comes the inevitability of evil and all its sad consequences.

That’s a valid answer, though one that’s often seen as too abstract to offer much consolation to us when we are suffering. But Julian, despite being a loyal daughter of the church and having been schooled in the standard apologetic answer, doesn’t go there. She offers something different.

For her, God allows evil, sin and suffering because God will use them in the end to create for everyone a deeper mode of happiness than they would have experienced if sin, evil and suffering hadn’t been there. In the end, these negatives will work toward creating some deeper positives.

Let me quote Julian in the original (the Middle English within which she wrote): “Jesus, in this vision informed me of all that I needed answered by this word and said: ‘Sinne is behovely, but alle shalle be welte, and alle shalle be welte, and all manner of thing shalle be welte.”

She shares that Jesus says sin is “behovely.” In Middle English, behovely has these connotations: “useful,” “advantageous,” “necessary.” In her vision, sin, evil and suffering are ultimately advantageous and even necessary in bringing us to deeper meaning and greater happiness. (Not unlike what we sing in our great Easter hymn: “O happy fault, O necessary sin of Adam!).

What Julian wants us to draw out from this is not the idea that sin and evil are of little consequence but rather that God, being so unimaginable in love and power, is able to draw good out of evil, happiness out of suffering and redemption out of sin in ways that we cannot yet grasp.

This is Julian’s answer to the question: Why does God allow evil? She answers by not answering because, in essence, no adequate answer can ever be imagined. Rather, she sets the question into a theological framework within which we can imagine at present and beyond what God’s power and love will eventually make all things well, dry every tear, redeem every evil, erase every bad memory, unfreeze every cold heart and turn every manner of suffering into happiness. There’s even a hint in this that the final triumph of God will be to empty hell itself so that, indeed, absolutely every manner of being will be well.

In a subsequent vision, Julian received a five-fold assurance from God that God may, can, will, and shall make all things well and we ourselves will see it. All of this is predicted of course on a particular concept of God. The God that Julian of Norwich invites us to believe in is not the idea that God lets suffering happen. Rather, she sets the question into a theological framework within which we can imagine at present and beyond what God’s power and love will eventually make all things well, dry every tear, redeem every evil, erase every bad memory, unfreeze every cold heart and turn every manner of suffering into happiness. There’s even a hint in this that the final triumph of God will be to empty hell itself so that, indeed, absolutely every manner of being will be well.

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LETTERS

Alcohol bad too
In Rev. Gerald Coleman’s article “Recreational marijua

na: Pleasure, panacea, poison” (Forum, Jan. 8) one can replace the word “marijuana” with “alcohol” and make similar arguments against the legalization of alcohol, and yet the Church does not take a stance against alcohol legalization and recreational usage. In fact, the church makes alcohol a key symbol in the Mass. So it seems hypocritical to denounce one and not the other, especially when one (marijuana) has actual medical benefits while the other (alcohol) is responsible for liver, heart and brain diseases, not to mention negative social impacts like divorce, violence and drunken driving. After all, I don’t think marijuana was responsible for 88,000 deaths annually like excessive use of alcohol was between 2000-2004.

So, before the church takes a moral high ground against marijuana, I suggest it first examine its stance on alcohol.

Chris Jue

Open Pandora’s Box
Rev. Gerald Coleman’s essay (Forum, Jan. 8) is “spot on” I am afraid the states that have approved recreational marijuana have opened a Pandora’s Box that left them with nothing but the hope that all will be under control.

Unfortunately, the experience of the states that did so have earlier found it to be almost impossible. Much like the Greeks and Howe declared it will lead to more death and ever more heartbreaking and moral.

The same people who are so quick to criticize the nation with few restraints on evil and may continue to an end as did the once all-powerful Roman Empire.

Earl E. Smith

Marijuana poison?
I’m sorry Rev. Gerald Coleman (Forum, Jan. 8) did not defend the Catholic Church in this column. The same federal government that declares marijuana “poison” promotes same-sex marriages and unlimited abortions. This is a clear contradiction of itself. The same people who promote contraception over up that the contraceptives are a real poison. There is a risk that they promote same-sex marriages and unlimited abortions.

Michael Miarelli

Kill letters section
It is my opinion that the letters published in the Forum Section of the Voice should be discontinued. The letters contain only disjointed comments and multiple copies of the same statement reading and may sell some papers, but I think the letters just take up space and space could be used to help poor what it means to be Catholic.

Richard Trevor

Want to write?
Contributions to Reader’s Forum should be limited to 250 words. Letters may be signed and must include the writer’s address and telephone number for verification purposes. All letters are subject to editing. Writers are generally limited to four letters in any three-month period.

Mail your letter to: The Catholic Voice, 2215 Hamilton St., Suite 100, Oakland, CA 94612, Fax. 510-893-4734.

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

How can we help?
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Women say Eucharist, helping poor what it means to be Catholic
By Beth Griffin

NEW YORK — American Catholic women are increas-

ingly disengaged from the church although they remain affiliated and say helping the poor and receiving the Eucharist are the most important aspects of what it means to be Catholic.

They also have the potential to turn the tide in the 2018 mid-term elections, according to a nationwide survey released Jan. 16 by America magazine, a Jesuit-owned publication.

The online survey of 1,508 self-identified Catholic women was commissioned by America magazine and conducted in August 2017 by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate and the Center for Global Development.

The survey was offered in English and Spanish and the margin of sampling error is plus or minus 2.5 percent. Unweighted points. Among those who attend church, 37.3 percent say helping the poor and 28.8 percent are adults.

The survey showed that while the overwhelming major-

ity of U.S. Catholic women believe in God (98 percent), the numbers of those who attend Mass or participate in the sacrament of reconciliation are dwindling. Younger Catholic women are the least likely to attend Mass. Seventeen percent of millennial respondents attend week-

end Mass compared to 24 percent of all Catholic women.

“Research is this is a real wake-up call for the Catholic Church,” said Rev. Andrew Furman, director of the Center for Global Development. “There can be a real opportunity for engagement among younger Catholics, especially since the majority of young women who did not attend Mass during their teenage years want to engage now and in new and creative ways,” said Kaye Weber, executive editor of America.

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