Youth involvement in parish life central to growing Church

By Christine Schreck
Special to the Catholic Voice

With an emphasis on youth evangelization and sustaining vibrant parish communities, the Diocese of Oakland Catechetical Congress 2019 convened at Bishop O’Dowd High School in Oakland on Aug. 10 with 700 catechists and staff members from parishes around the diocese in attendance.

The day-long event featured workshops in English, Spanish and Vietnamese as well as keynote speeches in English and Spanish. Coordinator of Faith Formation for Children and Youth Patti Collyer told participants the goal for the day was for them to leave “enriched, inspired, overflowing with enthusiasm and ready to tackle the school year.”

Rev. Carl Arcosa, pastor at St. Michael Parish in Livermore, gave a workshop on ways to revive struggling parishes focused on Catholic identity, spirituality and community building.

Father Arcosa’s prescription for parish revitalization relies heavily on priests being present to their congregations and offering spiritually nourishing worship. Father Arcosa has what he calls a “talk in the streets” every Tuesday to ensure he is meeting the needs of his parish.

Father Arcosa encouraged the assembled catechists to cultivate a culture of hospitality by being welcoming to newcomers — greeting people at Mass, ensuring a positive experience at their first point of contact with the parish and issuing personal invitations to events.

Youth involvement in parish life is central to sustaining the health of any parish. Father Arcosa said: “I’m a...(Continued on Page 3.)

Martinez parish embraces Divine Renovation, literally

By Albert C. Pacciorini
Staff writer

Parishes throughout the Diocese of Oakland are embarking on ambitious “Divine Renovation” plans to re-energize themselves and grow.

Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ, established three priorities to revitalize and evangelize the Church: improving the Sunday Mass experience, emphasizing the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy and forming the people into Missionary Disciples.

At St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Martinez, said Rev. Anthony Huang Van Le, parochial administrator, that involved “taking an assessment of where we were.”

Church records indicate in 1962, 2,000 people attended Sunday Mass. There were no Spanish-language Masses and Martinez’s population was 8,000. Now, 450-500 people attend weekend Masses, while the city population has grown to 40,000.

St. Catherine of Siena

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“We had to question, what has gone wrong,” Father Le said.

“We are a strong, committed group of Catholics,” he said, “we have to challenge the culture we are living in.

“What could we do to make a bold statement of faith,” he asked.

“Our church is still amazing and beautiful after 80...(Continued on Page 13.)

For diocesan priests, service doesn’t stop at retirement

By Michele Jurich
Staff writer

Retirement looks like this for priests of the Diocese of Oakland: Those who are able are serving wherever they are called. Those who are less able are serving in place. Those who are retired serve those who are called.

Although responsibilities as a pastor may go away – the roof leaking is someone else’s business these days – the retired priests of the diocese continue to serve the people of God.

In parishes throughout the diocese, the weekend of Sept. 7-8, a second collection will be taken up to support the Priests’ Retirement Fund. There are 49 retired priests in the diocese. Supporting the collection is a way to thank them and honor them for their service.

It’s quite possible it might be a “retired” priest celebrating Mass.

Their readiness to serve has been witnessed time and again in the Diocese of Oakland this past year. Two pastors of large, vibrant parishes died; three pastors or parochial administrators have been placed on temporary administrative leave.

“We don’t retire from the priesthood, that’s for sure,” said Rev. Paul Vassar, who celebrates four to five Masses a weekend.

In addition to serving in where someone is lost, the retired priests also keep an eye out for their active counterparts.

“So we are a strong, committed group of Catholics,” he said, “we have to challenge the culture we are living in.

“With an emphasis on youth evangelization and sustaining vibrant parishes. Story above.

On our cover

More than 700 catechists and staff members from parishes around the diocese came to learn about evangelization and sustaining vibrant parishes. Story above.

Collection for Retired Priests of the Diocese of Oakland

When: Sept. 7-8
What: Give at your parish
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“We do a lot of relief work, giving a break to our fellow priests who are still in the trenches,” he said. “It’s just what you do.”

When Rev. Paul Minnihan, the 52-year-old pastor of the Catholic Community of Pleasanton, died unexpectedly Feb. 24, Father Vassar called the parochial vicar, Rev. B. Kwame Assenyn, to ask if he needed help.

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Nuclear-free world

With the anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945, the bishops of Japan renewed calls and prayers to build peace by abolishing nuclear weapons worldwide and promoting integral human development. They also expressed hope that Pope Francis visit in November and his expected calls for peace will strengthen people’s desire and boost efforts to bring about a nuclear weapon-free world.

Action on reforest

Describing the Amazon rainforest as “vital for our planet,” Pope Francis joined the regions bishops in praying for action to extend the forest and prevent fires burning there. “We are all worried about the vast fires that have developed in the Amazon,” the pope said Aug. 25 after leading the recitation of the Angelus prayer with pilgrims gathered at St. Peter’s Square Aug. 25. The pope said the Lord will recognize those worthy of experiencing eternal joy if they have lived “a life of faith that translates into deeds” and not whether they have attended conferences or rubbed shoulders with church leaders.

“Spiritual tourism” destroys

Christians who focus more on being superficially close to the church rather than care for their fellow brothers and sisters are like tourists who wander around aimlessly, Pope Francis said. People who are “always passing by but never enter the church” in a fully communal way of sharing and caring engage in a sort of “spiritual tourism that makes them believe they are Christians but instead are only tourists of catacombs,” the pope said Aug. 21 during his weekly general audience. — Catholic News Service

Music to Our Lady

Organist John Renke acknowledges applause from the afternoon concert-goers at the Cathedral of Christ the Light in Oakland on Aug. 14. Renke, who serves as director of cathedral of operations, presented a recital for the Eve of the Feast of the Assumption. He closed with Alexandre Guilmant’s “Induant justitiam,” postlude for the Feast of the Assumption. The postlude was heard again Aug. 15, The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a Holy Day of Obligation. For other cathedral events, see www.cclight.org.
New pastor for Pleasanton

Rev. Mark Wiesner was installed as pastor of the Catholic Community of Pleasanton on Aug. 25 at St. Augustine Church. The date was chosen, Father Wiesner wrote in the parish bulletin, because it was the Sunday closest to the Feast of St. Augustine, patron saint of the community's original church. Father Wiesner was installed by Rev. Laurence D’Anjou, pastor of St. Raymond Parish and dean of Deanery 11, which includes the parishes of the Tri-Valley area.

In his bulletin letter, Father Wiesner thanked family and friends who attended the installation Mass, those from his home parish of St. Francis of Assisi in Concord, and the parishes he had served: All Saints in Hayward, Assumption Parish in San Leandro, St. Augustine in Oakland, and St. Charles Borromeo in Livermore. At the reception afterward, many people lined up to have selfies taken with Father Wiesner.

Youth involvement...

(Continued from Page 1.)

culture of hospitality, focus on your youth. Who is the most energetic in the parish? Who is the most hospitable group in the world? Remember that. With joy, with vibrancy, with energy. Use them, use them, Use their energy and use their youthfulness. Catechize them so that when they encounter other youth, other people, they always bring a smile because you know that the parish is really lively with these young people. It creates a culture of hospitality through them.”

Bob Rice, an associate professor of catechetics at Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio, delivered the morning keynote speech. According to Collyer, he has the only doctoral degree of youth ministry evangelization in the country. Rice ministers to teens and young adults, many of whom have what he refers to as a super-hero mentality when it comes to God, that of whom have what he refers to as a super-ministry evangelization in the country. Rice has the only doctoral degree of youth ministry evangelization in the country.

“God always loves us. God loves us no matter what we do. There’s nothing we can do that can make God love us more. There’s nothing we can do that will make God love us less… It sounds like you get left off the hook when you say things like that. There is some truth to that, but the reality is this: God loves me but by my actions I can either put myself in an experience of that love or I can walk away from that love.”

Rev. Hy Nguyen, a professor of theology at Catholic University of America, returned to the diocese to give the afternoon keynote speech on the need to understand the divine origins of the Church in order to restore trust and faith damaged by human actions.

Associate Superintendent Jocelyn Pierre-Antoine and Rodney Pierre-Antoine, executive director of the Lumen Christi Academies, led an interactive workshop on forming young people in the faith through storytelling as Jesus did during his lifetime. They modeled strategies for teaching Bible stories by sharing teaching through engaging stories results in better retention than just presenting facts according to brain research presented by Jocelyn Pierre-Antoine.

The congress concluded with Mass celebrated by the Most Rev. Michael C. Barber, S.J. Most Rev. Oscar Cantu, Bishop of San Jose, and Very Rev. George Mockel, vicar general of the Diocese of Oakland. The first reading was proclaimed in Spanish and the second in Vietnamese.

In his homily, Bishop Barber reaffirmed that connecting the young people of the diocese with the faith is a priority. “We have a rich treasure trove of things to share in our Catholic faith, so let’s use those and help make our diocese and our parishes and our Catholic schools places where our students, our young people, can experience Jesus Christ and where Christ can be with them.”

A common theme throughout the day was when it comes to ministering to youth, it is important to lead by the example of your witness. As Rice said: “They’re going to remember more who you are than what you say.”
LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES


Quarterback quits at 29
Andrew Luck, a Catholic and star quarterback of the Indianapolis Colts, unexpectedly announced his retirement from football at just 29 years old. The seven-year veteran of the National Football League said it was due to persistent injuries.

Build Pax Christi
WASHINGTON — When Johnny Zokovitch started working for Pax Christi USA in 2001, he was tasked with connecting young people with the Catholic peace organization. And after his new executive director beginning Aug. 14, the movement “among Catholics and other people of faith who desire to build peace in a violent world.”

Tribute to St. Louis Jesuits
CANTON, Ohio — Great Catholic Music, a free audio web streaming service, will honor “the music legacy” of the St. Louis Jesuits with a nostalgia celebration of the five’s most beloved songs, including “One Bread, One Body” and “Earthan Vessels.”

Priest accused of stealing
WASHINGTON — The Chester County District Attorney’s office announced Aug. 21 arrest of Msgr. Joseph McLoone, 56, the former pastor of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Downingtown, Pennsylvania, who is accused of stealing $98,405 to fund a “a beach house, travel, dining and spending on adult men with whom he maintained sexual relationships.”

Sisters affected by abuse
SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Catholic sisters must face the reality that they have also been part of the sexual abuse scandal in the church, said Holy Cross Sister Sharlet Wagner. “We have all been affected by this scandal. We have listened to the trauma of survivors, and we have felt shame for the church we love and outrage over the crimes committed.”

Sisters affected by abuse

Two students expelled
COLUMBIA, S.C. — Cardinal Newman School is boosting security and stepping up diversity training after expelling two students tied to racist videos and threats against the institution. Robert Loza, principal of the Columbia school, announced the steps and discussed the circumstances during an emotionally charged town hall meeting Aug. 8.

New York opens limitations
ALBANY, N.Y. — New York state’s longstanding “window” in the statute of limitations opened Aug. 14, allowing suits to be filed by victims alleging abuse by priests, church workers and employees of public schools, hospitals and other institutions no matter how long ago the alleged abuse occurred. New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan in a video message on Twitter noted that the day was also the feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe, who gave his life at the Nazi Auschwitz death camp in Poland to spare the life of a young father.

Stands up to Pride
PLOCK, Poland — A 15-year-old Catholic boy holding a crucifix and rosary aloft confronted a 1,000-person LGBT Pride parade here Aug. 10, in this town west of Warsaw. A number of European media outlets reported that Jakub Baryla had to be removed by police. Afterward, he said as Jesus “stood against evil and sins,” we must also counteract evil deeds. — Catholic News Service

Youth art class
Emmanuel Kistena and Barshoo Luusambo, Tanzanian youths with albinism who had limbs chopped off in witchcraft rituals, talk on they take part in an art class in the Staten Island borough of New York City Aug. 29. The church in Africa must work to end violence against people with albinism through its schools and other educational efforts, said Bishop Sithenbesile Sipuka of Mthatha, South Africa, first vice president of the Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar.

Rohingya reject return
A Rohingya refugee boy has his hair cut at a refugee camp in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh, April 9. The second attempt in nine months to repatriate hundreds of Rohingya Muslims from camps in Bangladesh failed after the refugees refused to return “unconditionally” to Myanmar. Rohingya refugees reject “unconditional return” to Myanmar. The attempt came only days before the Aug. 25 second anniversary of the military crackdown in Myanmar’s Bakhinie state, which forced more than 742,000 Rohingya Muslims to flee to Bangladesh.

3 BIG MYTHS

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installation always included.
By Michele Jurich

Staff writer

When Carolyn Steele began her job four years ago as care manager for retired priests, she asked Rev. Paul Schmidt, who was vicar for clergy, if the priests wanted a care manager.

“We’re going to find out,” he replied.

Turns out, they did.

She was introduced by Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ, at the annual luncheon for retired priests. That’s how she set out to meet individually with the priests.

“Everyone was so welcoming,” Steele said.

She asked them about their history, their family and past ministry.

“They remember it all,” she said. “It’s amazing, their whole life. They are the wisdom and history of the Diocese of Oakland.”

Getting to know the priest in his home was important. “I want to get to know you, and for you to know me,” she told them.

Her goal was to make sure each had an advanced directive and designated power of attorney for healthcare care.

“They can change quickly,” she said. “You really need to have an advocate, when you can’t make decisions for yourself.”

The advocate can fulfill the person’s wishes when he can’t speak for himself. It was important, too, that the document be where it can be found in time of need, and that the person named is still up to the responsibility.

Her position is not a 9 to 5 – it varies. “There will be late nights and weekends in emergency rooms,” she said. “I support the priests and their network of family and friends in a health crisis,” Steele said.

She has first-hand experience with the support. She served as advocate for her friend — a longtime pastor — Rev. Patrick Goodwin, in his retirement.

When Father Goodwin learned the diocese was looking for a care manager for retired clergy, he suggested to her that she might be the one for the role.

Steele, then an accountant in Silicon Valley, said Father Goodwin would say something only once.

She considered it, and now has what she calls “the best job in the world.”

“I’ve never been on time a day for a week and had full support when she needed care for a priest.”

She has helped priests transition from being adepending on living, she keeps up-to-date information on available caregivers and services they might need. Five priests of the diocese — three retired, two active — died in the first three months of 2019. One was Father Goodwin, whose care Steele continued to assist with, on her own, until his death Jan. 7. Steele has also assisted active members of the clergy.

“She is a joy in the world.”

“Get to know the priest in his home,” she said. “I was available.”

For diocesan priests ...

(Continued from Page 1)

It was a community Father Vazquez knew well, having served there for four months during a leave Father Minihan had taken.

“A lot of them want to be friends,” he said. “When you had connections.”

Connections may be key in the service the retired priests continue to offer to the people of the diocese.

“Father’s place is around the block, you’ve made all these connections,” Father Vazquez said.

Rev. Msgr. Antonio Valdivia filled in at Corpus Christi Parish in Fremont, celebrating the Spanish-language Masses, and being present to the parishioners.

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*Spiritual Guide*

Father Richard A. Mangini

Father Jimmy Macalinao

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*This pilgrimage is not sponsored by the Diocese of Oakland or The Catholic Voice.*
Retired professor reflects on the pro-life front lines

By Lidia Wasowicz
Catholic San Francisco
Raymond Dennehy has spent his life fighting for life.
For five decades, the decorated philosopher, professor, writer, and crusader has rushed to the barricades, where faith and reason meet, and fought to defend the unborn.
He has been involved in a collision course with modern-minded millennials who drove him into the dumper,” said Dennehy, who retired five years ago when “it just wasn’t fun or productive anymore.”
He exonerates the students, who without spiritual guidance are left to secular sources for information and inspiration.
“People have to hear the truth from the pulpit, and they’re not,” he insisted. “So Madison Avenue and the media, which promote a hedonistic, meaningless, purposeless life, are teaching kids what to believe and how to live. The kids don’t stand a chance, ” Priests and bishops should step up and speak out, but many fear backlash from the faithful Catholics fear to tread: the front lines of the war against abortion.
Two of his parents were doctors.
It was a big hero with previous generation Catholics.
 mid-2019, but he did leave them with a valuable lesson, said famed physician and author, Dr. Valcom Potts, 84, who for 12 years provided the counterpoint in the two-hour biannual abortion debate in front of 400 undergraduates in a public health class.
“He was always very professional and respectful, which is unusual in this kind of highly charged situation,” recalled Potts, who co-founded the UC-Berkeley School of Public Health who continues to debate pro-life voices.
Dennehy’s wife of 29 years, Maryann, remains awed at his unfurled handling of angry students whose verbal attacks left her “scared and very tense.”
The ending exploit has earned Dennehy ample awards and acclaim.
In 2013, he received one he especially treasures, the Fifth Annual Pro-Life Award for Distinguished Contributions to Pro-Life Scholarship, granted annually by the University Faculty for Life to an academic for significant intellectual contributions to the cause.
“Professor Dennehy was chosen to receive this honor because of his stalwart defense of the unborn and the aged, both individuals and entire communities over the years with various pro-abortion and pro-euthanasia scholars,” said Jesuit Father Peter D. V. Canavan, of philosophy at Fordham University and the current president of EFCA, which determines the recipient.
“God’s been very good to me,” said Dennehy, who’s holding down a daily writing a day writing to add to the collection of books he’s written on abortion, the death of his four children and his 12 grandchildren.

Roundup of pro-life events through October

Sept. 7: Pro-life conference
The Knights of Columbus Lafayette Council will hold a pro-life conference — UC-Berkeley — is the home for Let There Be Life, the 2019 statewide pro-life young adult conference.
Speakers include Rev. Frank Pavone, President for Life; Terrisa Bukovinac, Pro-Life UC-Berkeley campus; Dr. Raymond Dennehy, Pro-Life San Francisco; Cheryl Geraghty, Rehumanize International; Dr. Eric Cochran, Pro-Life San Francisco; Rev. Walter Hoye, Issues4Life Foundation; Priests for Life; Terrisa Bukovinac, Pro-Life UC-Berkeley campus.
The event begins at 8 a.m. and ends at 5 p.m., Sept. 7 in Pauley Ballroom of the University of California Berkeley campus.

Sept. 14: Day of Life
The Knights of Columbus Lafayette Council will gather at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Monument of Rachel Weeping at Queen of Heaven Cemetery to pray the rosary.
For the past 20 years, at that time, there has been at least one knight, at or near the monument, praying in memory of aborted babies.
Sept. 14 will be no different though the gathering may be a bit larger than usual, as the council participates in the National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children. They will be joined by Knights of neighboring councils, as well as representatives of the California Right to Life Educational Fund.
“It seems to be growing a little,” said Cecilia Cody of California Right to Life.
The gathering, at which the Joyous Mysteries will be prayed, is part of the nationwide movement to remember the unborn.
Queen of Heaven Cemetery is at 1965 Reliz Valley Road, Lafayette. Citizens for a Pro-Life Society, Priests for Life and the Pro-Life Action League are the sponsors.
The event, held the second Saturday of September, began in 2013. Ceremonies are held at memorials to the unborn and faithful throughout the United States.
For additional information: www.abortionmemorials.com.

Sept. 24: 40 Days for Life
The kick-off for 40 Days for Life in Walnut Creek begins with a talk by Brian Johnston, writer and motor of the National Right to Life Council of California. Johnston will speak at 7 p.m. Sept. 24 in the St. Mary Parish Gym, 3072 Mont Diablo Blvd., Walnut Creek.
At 7 a.m. Sept. 25, the vigil begins nearby, on the public right-of-way outside an abortion facility at 1357 Oak Blvd., Walnut Creek. The vigil ends Nov. 3.
Vigil hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily, except Sundays. To sign up see www.40daysforthelife/walnutcreek.
Many of those who staff vigil are parishioners at St. Mary’s, said Linda Mertz, who coordinates the vigil, which has been held twice a year.
“These women have been there every day of the vigil and have said, “Everybody is so sad, official, willing to get out and do it, and then sad again.”
The 40 Days for Life organization, started in Texas in 2004, goes national three years later. There are vigils in all 50 states and around the world.
For additional information: www.40daysforthelife/walnutcreek or friendsforki淋valley@gmail.com.

Oct. 5: Respect Life Gathering
The annual gathering of pro-life ministers throughout the Diocese of Oakland will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Oct. 5 in the Parish Hall of the Cathedral of Christ the Light, 2211 Harrison St., Oakland.
Presenters include the Very Rev. Branden Macauley, rector of the Cathedral of Christ the Light, and Maria José Fernandez Flores, legislative advocate with the California Catholic Conference.
The theme, to coincide with US bishops’ conference for 2019, is Christ Our Hope in Every Season of Life.
Free parking and free continental breakfast and lunch included. Register at www.oakdiocese.org/primeconference.

Oct. 12: Relationship conference
Ethos California is hosting a Relationship Conference for teens, parents, young adults and singles.
Mr. D.J. Hueneman’s “matured adult” takes place from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Oct. 12 in Pleasant Hill. Presenters on present dating and handling sexual harassment are on the agenda.
Presenter D.J. Hueneman’s work is based on the Theology of the Body curriculum developed by Ruah Woods Publishing Co. He is an educator at the company.
Presenter Cynthia J. Wood, who is also a speaker, is with Ethos California. Her topic is “Find Your Assertive Voice: Preventing and Addressing Sexual Harassment.”
Seating at the free conference is limited, and registration, preferably by Sept. 7, is required. To register, dial 925-494-9887 or go to ethoscalifornia.org. The event will be sent after registration. Meals are available.

Oct. 12: Birthright dinner
Birthright of Contra Costa’s fall dinner and fundraiser is planned for Oct. 12 at St. Mary Parish Hall, 1180 Bourland Lane, Walnut Creek.
Signs that line the driveway of Walnut Creek’s historic, 1942 St. Mary Parish are a clue. “Women’s Voices: Preventing and Addressing Sexual Harassment.”
“Perhaps the best written book of all is one, divided into 14 categories, with up-to-date content,” said Field.
“Everyone who comes to us is stressed, dealing with a challenging situation,” Field said.
“Perhaps a woman needs insurance,” Birthright knows how to help her get it. Same goes for housing and employment.
— Staff report
Dave Perry achieves a first at Saint Mary's College

By Kay Carney
Special to The Catholic Voice

Dave Perry ‘97 has accomplished something that no other Gael has achieved. He holds the record for being awarded the most degrees from Saint Mary’s College.

Perry was graduated with bachelor of arts in 1997, an MBA in 2001, teaching credential in 2002, a master’s in education in 2004, and his doctoral degree in education in 2012. His ascent from a doting freshman to “Dr. Perry” has been a blessed journey.

Perry’s love for Saint Mary’s made his decision to pursue all of his academic goals a no-brainer. Credit can also be given to his father, Dennis Perry ’94, also a Saint Mary’s alumnus, who told him during his senior year in high school, “You can apply anywhere you want, but I’m only paying for you to go to Saint Mary’s.”

The younger Perry discarded his other applications and applied to Saint Mary’s. “My dad in his infinite wisdom knew that attending Saint Mary’s would be a great opportunity,” said Perry. “My brother [39] and sister [30] are also alumni, so it was a foregone conclusion that I would attend Saint Mary’s.”

Perry entered Saint Mary’s in 1993 and quickly embraced all that the college had to offer. “I was involved in student government for three of my four years as an undergraduate and had the opportunity to serve as a student body president in my senior year,” said Perry.

The Christian Brothers strongly impressed his forma- tion in high school and ultimately his career. After graduating from Saint Mary’s the first time, Perry started working in banking and finance, and later decided to enroll in the evening MBA program. After completing his second degree, his “inner voice” kept pulling him to put study — the broad and bolder of the ministry — is worth their time.

Once they commit, she said, “they’ll be there.”

Michaela’s goal for her missionary team is “for us to go above and beyond to being present on campus.” They will meet students on campus, and as the student sees friends and invites them to join in conversation, the circle widens. The missionaries look forward, too, to “fund all of this craziness,” the multiple degrees and scholarships are available.

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3500 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, CA   www.hnu.edu

An education rooted in Catholic intellectual and spiritual traditions.
New provost drawn to social justice mission

By Jeffrey Hall

Special to The Catholic Voice

Holy Names University is introducing Sheila Smith McKoy as its new academic leader, to the Oakland diocese. As the institution's provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, Smith McKoy provides leadership for all activities related to academic affairs and conducts the duties of HNU’s President, Mike Groener, in his absence.

Smith McKoy, a native of Raleigh, North Carolina, comes to HNU most recently from Georgia's Kennesaw State University. She has held academic leadership positions throughout her career, including academic program director, college diversity officer and cultural center director at public and private colleges and universities.

It was Holy Names University's founding social justice mission and the core values of the Sisters of the Holy Names that drew Smith McKoy to the institution. "What has defined my career as a life-long learner and educator was my early education at a Catholic school. I grew up in the South and started my education at a time when the educational system was completely segregated. My parents chose to send my siblings and me to Catholic schools because of the quality of education and vision. In both the public and private school system back then, Black students were underfunded and behind in their curricula. Ours was a Black Catholic school, but..." Groener added. (Jeffrey Hall is an estate-planning attorney in Pleasant Hill. His College Package Protection includes a last will, durable power of attorney and health-care proxy, all for an advanced health care directive for $295. See more at www.HallLawGroup.com or call 925-230-9002 for information.)

What's new at HNU?

Michael Groener, who had been interim president Oakland's Holy Names University for the past two years, starts the 2019-2020 school year as the campus' 38th president. Groener was appointed president in March with the approval of the Board of Trustees. He had joined Holy Names as vice president for finance and administration in 2016 and was appointed interim presi dent in November 2017.

According to HNU board chairperson Steven Berg, Groener and his cabinet had earned the confidence of the trustees with their leadership in developing the university’s five-year strategic business plan. Key components of the plan include strengthening academic programs in areas like business and criminology that help students succeed in the job market and the greater community, an increased emphasis on fundraising to assist students in need of financial aid and seeking more opportunities to deepen the university’s relationship with the Oakland community.

The latest addition to HNU’s administration is Larry G. H FRONT HOUSE

 groener,” Hall says. “We call it our college package, which can be drafted by an estate planning attorney. The form should receive a copy of the form, which can be drafted by an estate planning attorney or downloaded from the internet for “springing” power of attorney, this allows the parent or guardian temporarily to access the child’s financial accounts at any time, rather than only if he or she is declared incompetent.

“With such a document, a parent can pay a child’s bills, access his or her financial accounts or replace a lost debit card without the child being incapacitated or simply away at college. This document must be updated every couple of years or financial institutions will not accept it,” Hall says.

Robert Eckstein may have missed the angle or the storyline, or even release information to you,” says Christina Vidita, a Boston-based attorney at Margolis & Blair, which specializes in estate planning. Without proper documents, parents may not be able to access a child’s financial accounts, either.

Parents assume that because they are paying for college or the child is still living under their roof, they have the right to make decisions. But once individuals reach 18, the law classifies them as adults, with “the legal right to protect their own financial matters.”

Two of my clients were unable to secure even bank accounts for their grandchildren because of conditions of their college-aged daughters after they had been declared incompetent and unconscious in the hospital. After a few days, both daughters regained consciousness and were able to communicate with their parents. But a third client — who was paying for college — was worried for weeks after a head injury while playing rugby (no helmet, of course) — had to sue to become the son’s temporary conservator. Such cases usually cost thousands of dollars, attorneys say.

Class action lawsuits by their adult children to draft basic estate-planning documents on their 18th birthdays. “We call it our college package,” Hall says.

While not every 18-year-old needs a will, all should appoint a trusted friend or relative to serve as their health-care proxy. This person has the authority to make medical decisions on the patient’s behalf in case the patient is unable to. The child’s doctors and proxy should review the documents regularly. (The proxy can be the patient’s spouse, child or parent, for example.)

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St. Joan of Arc Parish celebrates its 40th jubilee

Staff report

Festivals may not be an annual event at St. Joan of Arc Parish in San Ramon. They are strictly for special occasions.

The parish that lives by “to be Christ for others as Christ is for us,” is celebrating its 40th anniversary on Oct. 6.

The celebration will begin at 11 a.m. with Mass on the parish lawn, followed by an afternoon of music, games, raffles and gourmet food.

The community is cordially invited. Representatives of faith communities in the San Ramon area will join in the festivities to offer their perspectives on what it means to be connected to the St. Joan of Arc community.

Today the parish is spiritual home to 2,900 families and offers 50 to 60 ministries to serve parishioners and the community at large.

Among the organizations supported by the parish are St. Isidore Parish in Danville and St. Raymond Parish in Dublin. The community is cordially invited. Representatives of faith communities in the San Ramon area will join in the festivities to offer their perspectives on what it means to be connected to the St. Joan of Arc community.

The youth of the parish help keep the food pantry stocked at the Monument Crisis Center, a Concord-based organization that feeds homeless, one family at a time. The pantry provides food and water for those in need. Volunteers move chairs into the library on Saturday, then move them out again on Sunday after the Masses. Baptisms and weddings are held in the school library, popularly known by parishioners as “St. John Baldwin.”

St. Joan’s was built on an eight-acre parcel originally part of a 20-acre ranch. The church sits on the site of the old farmhouse, looking out at Mount Diablo.

Parishioners had a good idea of what they wanted in their church:

- A large parking lot
- A flat and open area for the sanctuary
- A school for the children
- A community center for the adults
- A place to celebrate Mass
- A place to escape from the world
- A place to be Christ for others as Christ is for us

According to the parish history, the parish spent its first four years in temporary quarters. Masses were held in the library of John Baldwin Elementary School in Danville. Each week volunteers would move chairs into the library on Saturday, then move them out again on Sunday after the Masses. Baptisms and weddings were held in the school library, popularly known by parishioners as “St. John Baldwin.”

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- A large parking lot
- A flat and open area for the sanctuary

The statue of St. Joan of Arc in front of the church is almost 14 feet tall and weighs a ton.

COURTESY PHOTO

The Catholic Voice thanks them for their support. We encourage our readers to show their support by taking some time and attend these events.

Have some fun and help carry on these time-honored traditions.
Fall Festivals

St. Joan of Arc . . .

(Continued from Page 10.)

• We want people to have a sense of closeness to the altar.
• We want a window so we can keep ourselves connected
to this world of ours.

This list was submitted to several architects, and a design
by Aaron Green of San Francisco, a longtime associate of
Frank Lloyd Wright, was selected as the favorite.

The groundbreaking ceremony was held on April 25,
1982, and the first Mass was held in the church on Oct.16,
1983. On Dec.11, 1983, Bishop John S. Cummins conse-
crated the altar at the dedication ceremony.

The statue of St. Joan of Arc, in front of the church, was
commissioned through the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation
in Arizona. Heloise Swaback spent 2½ years creating the
13'9" bronze statue, which weighs a ton.

The bronze of St. Joan has her holding her sword by
the blade instead of the hilt, not to express battle, but to
show the spirit of God through the hand guard raised to
the heavens forming a perfect cross. The statue was dedicated
on June 9, 1985.

On Sept. 8, 1991, a second groundbreaking was held to
commence the construction of a Parish Center. The Parish
Center, also designed by Green as part of the master plan,
consisted of six pastoral offices with a main office, lobby
and workroom, two conference rooms, a religious educa-
tion office, a library, large gymnasium, four connecting
classrooms and a multipurpose room with a connecting
kitchen and lawn area for social events. The church was also
expanded to its present size at that time. The construction
was completed in fall 1993.

In 1994, the parish welcomed its second pastor, Rev.
After his retirement in 2015, Rev. Ray Sacca became pastor.
Old-fashioned fun at St. Philip Neri Fun Fair

Staff report
Alameda’s St. Philip Neri Church opened in 1929; its first festival was likely two years later.

The much-anticipated Fun Fair will take place 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 21 with game booths, food booths and, for adults only, a beer garden, offering sausages and beer, staffed by the Knights of Columbus.

It’s an old-fashioned festival: You buy tickets. You play games and eat.

The youth choir provides music throughout the day.

The food booths will include Filipino and Mexican offerings; pizza is under the purview of the Italian Catholic Federation.

Most of the volunteers are school families, with parents earning service hours.

Middle school students also have the opportunity to earn service hours through volunteering at the Fun Fair.

Student participation is a key to the fair’s fun — and success. Pupils at St. Philip Neri School participate in a spirited competition to design the art for T-shirt fair-goers wear. This year, the winning artist is fourth-grader Eric Liu.

The Fun Fair may come to an end at 4 p.m., but the community gathers at 5:30 p.m. for the Vigil Mass followed by a pasta dinner. After a day of Fun Fair-going, booth-tending, set-up and take-down, it’s a welcome delight.

The dinner was added about three years ago.

Fun doesn’t stop there. The Boy Scouts sponsor a pancake breakfast the next morning.

The drawing for raffle prizes is part of the action.

Fun Fair
When: Sept. 21, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
What: Games, food, music, raffles
Also: Pasta dinner, pancake breakfast

Annual family picnic
The Livermore Knights of Columbus had its annual family picnic at Monsignor Adams field on Aug. 11. The day started with a Knights’ family Mass at St. Michael Church followed by a traditional barbecue fare of burgers, hot dogs and salads at the field. Knights, families and friends enjoyed an afternoon of fellowship and camaraderie.

Youth aged 9 to 14 would later participate in the 2019 Youth Soccer Challenge.

Larger festival at St. James the Apostle
Rev. Antony Vazhappilly joins members of the Knights of Columbus council at St. James the Apostle Parish on Aug. 18 during the parish’s annual two-day festival. The event saw double the number of vendor and food booths, with entertainment, raffle prizes and a drawing for a new car.

St. James the Apostle is at 34700 Fremont Blvd. Fremont 94555; www.sjapostle.net.

Our Lady of Velankanni Festival
Address: St. Stephen Parish
555 Last Ave.
San Jose CA 95136
Celebrant: Most Rev. Bishop Oscar Cantú
Celebrants: Rev. Vincent Pineda, Rev. Louis Leveil SJ, Rev. Chandrasekar Paulraj
Saturday, Sept. 7, 2019 - 6:30 p.m.
Holy Mass, Rosary Procession, Fellowship & Dinner
email: festival@shg.org | contact: 408-480-0804
web: www.velankanni.shg.org

St. Raymond Fall Festival
Live Music - International Food
Carnival Games - Wine Pull - Chili Cook Off
Kids Zone - Beer Garden
Cupcake Challenge
Saturday, Sept. 21st 11 am - 9 pm
Sunday, Sept. 22nd 10 am - 4 pm
St. Raymond Catholic Church, 1155 Shannon Ave, Dublin, CA
For more information: www.sf.raymond.dublin.org
Our facebook event page: St.Raymond Fall Festival
Soft openings ease pupils, teachers back into swing of school

By David Scholz
Special to the Catholic Voice

The 2019-20 school year is well underway two weeks after soft openings welcomed students back to their classrooms. Several days are built into the Diocese of Oakland’s 180-day calendar as a period in which students arrive, are armed with designated supplies, including paper towels, boxes of Kleenex, disinfectant wipes, copy paper and binder paper, leave before summer vacation.

About 60 percent of the schools began on a Wednesday and have had all three days as minimum days. This practice does not align with the goal of the students and the teachers, but is the rhythm of the new school year, said Ken Willers, associate superintendent-innovation and growth.

However, Assumption School in San Ramon had a minimum day that took a lot of those that went a bit further.

Dumbed “Visiting Day” a tradition since at least the 1950s of school is being refurbished and there’s a new sound system, landscaping and handicapped access.

The major colors inside are gold, white, brown and red — bright colors and gold trim. We looked at the traditions in the life of Christ, Father Le said, white for purity, dark brown for humility, red for blood and the tradition of gold from Leviticus.

When the woman died, Father Le found she had left an abundance of supplies from their students.

The old baptismal font has been placed at the front of the church in San Francisco, will be installed by year-end, said Anderson.

A new Rogers organ, coming from St. Dominic Church in San Francisco, will be installed by year-end. There’ll be a new piano too.

The choir loft is being reclaimed, and across its front, 34 icons will tell the history of salvation, bringing into focus Jesus’ directive: “Go into the world and make disciples of all nations” (Mark 16:15).

The old baptismal font has been placed at the front of the church. New paint and flooring are in, the altar is being refurbished and there’s a new sound system, landscaping and handicapped access.

The major colors inside are gold, white, brown and red — bright colors and gold trim. We looked at the traditions in the life of Christ, Father Le said, white for purity, dark brown for humility, red for blood and the tradition of gold from Leviticus.

Many people and organizations have contributed to the renovation, but one donor stands out.

The teachers are using their time to get to know the students and doing fun activities. “(Day one) is a chance to get used to their new classmates and to learn firsthand what the teacher would like in his/her room the first week,” said Anderson of students only bringing items on Day One.

That first day is a short one and it seems foolish to spend much of it unpacking items and shleving them,” she added.

San Ramon: Mini retreat for parents, music included

By Michele Jurich
Staff writer

Parenting can be a lonely job.

Sometimes it looks like everyone else has the answers — their kids behave beautifully in church, for example, while you are squeezing yourself between two of them to prevent a mid-homily squabble — and you don’t.

Here’s a message from the organizers of Holy Chaos, an upcoming retreat for parents of kids of all ages: We’re all in this together.

The Sunday afternoon mini-retreat is set for 1-3:45 p.m. Sept. 29 at St. Joan of Arc Parish, 2601 San Ramon Valley Road, San Ramon. Tickets are $25 for one parent, or $40 for two.

Childcare — at $10 per child — is available. But act quickly. Space is limited.

“The teachers are using their time to

What: A mini-retreat for parents

When: Sept. 29, 1:45-6 p.m.

Where: St. Joan of Arc Parish, 2601 San Ramon Valley Road, San Ramon

Featured speaker: Mark Hart, “The Catholic Bible Geek”

Register in advance: www.srholychaos.org

Cost: $25 for one parent, $40 for both parents

Childcare: $10 per child, advance reservation only, space limited
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Parish revitalization focus at annual Napa Institute meeting

By Al Donner

Special to The Catholic Voice

NAPA — “Why does this parish exist?”

Oakland’s Very Rev. Brandon Macaeadge described helping revitalize a parish “almost on the verge of giving up.”

Looking for a key to energizing a parish, he challenged it with a central question — why does this parish exist?

Up with the answer grew into a success story through combined efforts of the clergy, staff and members of the parish, he explained at the 2019 Napa Institute.

“The heart of parish revitalization is ‘all relational’ among people in the community, which means people work together and energize each other,” he said. “That brings forth life in a parish,” as Father Macaeadge sees it.

It often starts with people getting re-energized by each other in staff meetings and spreads to the entire parish community.

Father Macaeadge now is rector of the Oakland’s Christ the Light Cathedral Parish, an assignment he began July 1.

If a parish is only a spot where people spend an hour a week, then the soul of the soul-strengthening each other, the parish is much more likely to fail than if the community’s members interact with and strengthen each other.

Parish revitalization was a recurring focus for a wide range of discussions and soul-searching at the Institute, which explores the current state of the Church and challenges of reform.

More than 600 people participated, with 115 priests and bishops, including Oakland Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ.

Parish Revitalization in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis has helped parishes begin to revitalize, using methods of energizing many business organizations.

Some core building blocks it uses are prayer, teamwork and active discipleship.

New leaders for St. Patrick’s Seminary

Staff report

MENLO PARK — Rev. Daniel B. Donohoo was named president-rector of St. Patrick Seminary & University, and Rev. Anthony Stoeppel as vice-rector. Both appointments are for five-year terms and effective Aug. 15.

“Father Donohoo has served the seminary with dedication for more than six years, most recently as vice rector and dean of men. He has a keen understanding of the challenges of diocesan priesthood and the spiritual and human formation required for a successful vocation,” noted Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone of San Francisco.

St. Patrick’s is operated by the San Francisco Archdiocese.

Father Donohoo’s previous positions at the seminary include terms as dean of students and vice president for administration.

In addition, in his home Archdiocese of Indianapolis he served as a judge in the Metropolitan Tribunal and led a successful program for continuing education for clergy.

He also served as pastor of a number of parishes in the Indianapolis archdiocese, including the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul. He was educated at the University of San Diego; Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium; and St. Patrick’s Seminary and University. He was graduated with a master of science degree in Marriage and Family Therapy.

Father Donohoo said, “I hope, in collaboration with my current colleagues, to help form men of compassionate pastoral presence; men illuminated by sound theology, inspired by a continued deep personal encounter with Jesus Christ, issuing forth in generous service to all people.”

Father Anthony Stoeppel joins St. Patrick’s as a faculty member and as its new vice-rector. He was most recently vicar general of the Diocese of Tyler, Texas, and also served as chairman of the Parish and Mission Assistance Program and president of Bishop Thomas K. Gorman Catholic Schools, as well as pastor of Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, a largely Spanish-speaking parish in the Diocese of Tyler.

Stoeppel attended Holy Apostles Seminary in Cromwell, Connecticut, and was graduated with a doctorate of Sacred Theology degree in the field of bioethics from Pontifical University of the Holy Cross in Rome.
New leaders for Dominican Sisters of San Rafael
The Dominican Sisters of San Rafael have announced the election of the five-member leadership team that will be installed in September and will serve through 2024. From left, Sister Margaret Diener, OP; part-time councilor; Sister Barbara Green, OP; second councilor; Sister Carla Kovack, OP; prioress general; Sister Cathy Murray, OP; first councilor; and Sister Abby Nacot, OP; part-time councilor. The new prioress general had served as first councilor on the 2014-2016 leadership team. Prior to that, she served as associate director of campus ministry at Dominican University of California for 11 years.

Questions, answers
Fifth-grade and sixth-grade pupils at Our Lady of Grace School listened intently as Diana Zankowsky, the Religious Chairperson of Congregation Shir Ami in Castro Valley, described passages in the Torah that she brought in as part of her talk on Judaism. Display of the Torah, and a lively question and answer session culminated visit to the school that also included a slide show and showing of other artifacts and objects from the synagogue to the pupils.

The Catholic Voice next edition: September 16 • Deadline: September 6

Thank you St. Esipidto for coming to my help when I most needed answers to push through a tough decision. I am placing this ad to spread your name. I hope many may come to know God’s work through your intercession. Thank you for all financial assistance you have and continue to give me.

C.N.E.

COURTESY PHOTO
DAVID SCHOLZ/SPECIAL TO THE CATHOLIC VOICE

Youth Soccer Challenge
The Livermore Knights of Columbus hosted the 2019 Youth Soccer Challenge at Mage, Adams Field in Livermore on Aug. 11. Athletes between the ages of 9 and 14 competed to determine who had the most accurate penalty kick shooting skills. With last year’s winners from Livermore moving on to sweep the District and Regional levels, this year’s competition was more intense. At the end of the competitions, the Livermore champions for the boys division are Juan Pena (14), Bryan James (13), Alfred Steve Perez-Camero (11) and David Lary (9). For the girls division, the champions are Melina Cruz Soto (13), Diana Garcia (11) and Anel Cruz Soto (9). These council-level champions will advance to the Archdiocese of San Francisco Youth Soccer Challenge in September.

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**NEW EVENTS**

Sept. 5 to Oct. 24

**Fall Festivals**

**Spirituality**

Sept. 2, 9, 16

**Evangelization**

The Berkeley Chapter of St. Paul Evangelization is a grass-root organization that take seriously the Christian mission to spread the good news. We do it in a non-confrontational approach on the streets. Planning and training meeting are held at 7:15 p.m. on the last Wednesday of the month in the portable classrooms of the Catholic Men’s Fellowship Fall Retreat. Contact: Kim Sullivan, 510-582-7282.

Nov. 12 to 17

**Support Groups**

Sept. 10 to Oct. 15

Healing the Heart — St. Bonaventure Council Grief Ministry. 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at 5522 Clayton Road, Concord. St. Bonaventure Catholic community is offering a six-week grief workshop for those who have loved ones has died. No cost, but registration required. Sept. 5; registration: contact Helen Billcs, 510-681-8158 or sbcfwb@ sbcfwb.org. Information: stbonaventiurevents.net.

Sept. 7 to 10

Three Days Support Ministry Workshops. 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at St. Antuan Parish, 2601 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon. First Friday of the month. Information: DivorceCare. Questions/registration, email RoseMarie McKinnon, McKinnonR@gmail.com.

Sept. 4

Pleasanton DivorceCare. Questions/registration, email RoseMarie McKinnon, McKinnonR@gmail.com.

First and Fourth

School, and attorney Bill Gagen. Talk and book signing for “River of Fire: My Spiritual Journey,” will be joined Sept. 20 at 2 p.m. in the St. Anthony Church. For more information, call Eleanor Calhoun at 925-837-7337.

**FALL FESTIVALS**

**Spirituality and Consciousness**

Sept. 6 to 7

Spirituality and Consciousness: Finding Meaning in Our Lives. 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Mission San Jose, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Mission San Jose. Two sessions. Registration: contact Jim Briggs. At San Dimas Retreat, 710 Highland Ave., San Dimas. Cost: $200 (includes lodging and meals); 110 (shared room). Information: registration visit www.sanandros.org or call 925-837-3141, ext. 315.

Sept. 13 to 15


**TAIZE**

An ecumenical, candlelit service of prayer in simple chant, Scripture readings, silent worship and veneration of the cross.

Saturday, Sept. 15

Please visit the parish website at www.olrchurch.org. (For more festivals, see an updated list in the Sept. 16 issue.)

Sunday, Sept. 20

Visit the parish website at www.olrchurch.org.
Mass murders a mark of excessive individualism

By Rev. Gerald D. Coleman, PSS

Recently the Barna Group, an evangelization research firm, released a report, Spirituality, that showed 81 percent of Americans identify as Christian, yet only 21 percent believe any connection to a faith community (seemingly themselves “spiritual” but not “religious”). This posture reveals an atheistic or agnostic individualism that exonerates a person from any responsibility to connect to others. This radical individualism pervades not only religion but all levels of society.

Excessive individualism is a driving force behind the massive killings that have occurred in the United States and elsewhere. Undisguised hate and racism are forms of social dissolution where there is no middle ground, only isolation. White supremacy and neo-Nazi growth out of a hyper-individualism where the “mirror, mirror on the wall” reflects individual righteousness to the detriment of anyone different from me. At a recent rally in Florida, the president asked how America could stop the massacres, and I said, “I don’t know, probably change the culture and confront the evils.”

Many forces foment hate, racism and xenophobia (a deep-seated fear of the unknown, often bigotry) (intolerance toward those who are different), and violence due to past acts of violence against oneself, for example, bullying, injustice collection (seething and brooding over past wrongs) and (potentially) political affiliations and actions and to take responsibility for preserving and promoting peace and justice.

By George Weigel

In late June I visited the concentration camp at Dachau, a commune in a wooded suburb a few miles from downtown Munich. Dachau is the kind of place that comes to mind when we remember what can happen when ordinary human hatred, aggression, and the atmo sphere, despite a blistering hot afternoon, was antiseptic.

There was little of the miasma of raw evil that pervades Auschwitz and Birkenau, even though Dachau and Dachau prison was the prototype for those concentration factories.

Dachau was, for years, the “world’s largest ersatz concentration camp.” It was there that the Reich consigned more than 2,500 Catholic priests: almost 1,800 Poles, more than 150 Germans, as well as Czechs, Slovaks, Dutchmen, Belgians, Italians, Luxembourgers, Yugoslavs, and clergymen from other countries. That is, if they managed to maintain forms of sacramental life — celebrating Masses in clandestine factories in a wooded suburb a few miles from downtown Munich.

Dachau is the kind of place that comes to mind when we remember what can happen when ordinary human hatred, aggression, and xenophobia (a deep-seated fear of the unknown, often bigotry) (intolerance toward those who are different), and violence due to past acts of violence against oneself, for example, bullying, injustice collection (seething and brooding over past wrongs) and (potentially) political affiliations and actions and to take responsibility for preserving and promoting peace and justice.

The mass shooting epidemic must stop.

People hold hands in prayer Aug. 5 in honor of victims of a mass shooting Aug. 3 at a Walmart store in El Paso, Texas. Since 1996, 287 mass shootings have occurred in the United States, leaving 26,100 survivors, 2,500 injured, and nearly 10,000 dead, the Great American Massacre Project found that only 20 percent have a psychotic illness, according to a study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association in 2014.

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What price?
I write this as a person who was raised with a Judeo-Christian perspective. I am Catholic, I went to Catholic schools until I remain a parishioner today. For years I deeply held the idea that abortion was a sin because of the church’s teachings. After all, abortion prevents the first right of men and women to be born. True pro-life individuals care about the innocent, not just the powerful and the dominant. True pro-life is committing to feed, shelter, cloth, and clothe these. True pro-life is taking care for the vulnerable and the marginalized. True pro-life equals anti-abortion.

As I write this, we are not truly pro-life at all. This is because we as a society profess that is inalienable right to life. After all, abortion prevents the first right of men and women to be born. True pro-life is taking care for the vulnerable and the marginalized. True pro-life等于 anti-abortion.

Name change
The “Catholic Voice” should change its name to “The Catholic Catholic.” The voice of the Democratic Party’s radical agenda. This includes promoting the idea that “justice” must be respected as having a moral equivalence between a woman’s reproductive “right” and the right to life. This is a serious threat.

Wake up
I would like to respond to Ramona Kruzeck (Forum, June 10). President Trump’s statement about shooting someone one on Fifth Avenue is a horrible right to allow by law. We as a society profess that it is inalienable right to life. It is a serious threat.

Our duty
I am sorely disappointed in the lack of onerous measures against the Catholic Church over what is happening at our border. No matter what you feel about immigration, the way migrants are being handled, especially innocent children is immoral and should not be allowed. I urge all of those in positions of authority to speak up until these practices stop. Please. It is our duty.

Our most basic human right, the right to life?
Bear in mind, if one of these candidates becomes president, he or she will endow and embrace laws contrary to Catholic beliefs. They will enact laws against God’s laws.

If, as Christian people, we ask, “What is the “Catholic Voice”?” The name explains its “tan.”

Pro-life is the protection of all lives and their dignity, not belong in the political world of power, where “the voice” of the Democratic Party’s radical agenda. This includes promoting the idea that “justice” must be respected as having a moral equivalence between a woman’s reproductive “right” and the right to life. This is a serious threat.

I mean, it is not more than an issue. It is a moral equivalence between a woman’s reproductive “right” and the right to life. This is a serious threat.

We need to demand change in our Church and its future. As far as I am concerned, the clerical crisis a great separating is occurring in the Catholic Church within the United States in 2019.

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Thank you, diocese
I haven’t heard much from our Church about it. No matter what you feel about immigration, the way migrants are being handled, especially innocent children is immoral and should not be allowed. I urge all of those in positions of authority to speak up until these practices stop. Please. It is our duty.
Catholic Funeral & Cemetery Services

Have you finalized your cemetery and funeral services?

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

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