anyone who comes to me …This is the will of the One
the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject
Jesus gives us very consoling words: ‘Everything that
is over, your sins are forgiven, and you are resurrected,
die. Even Lazarus had to die again. So if you fear death,
the lame, the blind, lepers. But those people still had to
heart disease.
between big and little, human sickness, like cancer or
receive 'big' healing.” The bishop had drawn a distinction
Barber, SJ, in his homily. “Even more I pray you will
Christ the Light in Oakland.
Day of the Sick celebrated Feb. 8 at the Cathedral of
joined for Mass and the Sacrament of the Sick on World
24 Hours for the Lord: a time of
observe the 24 hours beginning at 5 p.m. Feb. 28 and ending at 5 p.m.
Richmond — have announced plans to observe 24 Hours for the Lord
Elizabeth in Oakland; St. Joan of Arc in San Ramon; and St. Mark in
Campbell was
hundred’s of caregivers, the sick, families and friends,
Mass and the Sacrament of the Sick on World
Day of the Sick celebrated Feb. 8 at the Cathedral of
Cathedral of Christ the Light
I pray you will be healed,” said Bishop Michael C.
He cured
the lame, the blind, lepers. But those people still had to
die. Even Lazarus had to die again. So if you fear death,
it’s good to hear again what Jesus said. When this life
is over, your sins are forgiven, and you are resurrected.
Jesus gives us very comforting words: ‘Everything that
the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject
anyone who comes to me …This is the will of the One
who sent me.”
I pray you will be healed
Order of Malta Northern California Clinic
Cathedral of Christ the Light
2121 Harrison St., Oakland, 510-587-3000
The clinic serves uninsured adults
www.orderofmaltaclinic.com
Everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may
have eternal life.”
During the Mass, the Sacrament of the Sick was
administered. In a change this year, people were asked
to stay in their seats while several priests went around
the church, offering the sacrament.
The ministry is supported by the Order of Malta. The
World Day of the Sick was instituted by Pope John Paul
II in 1992 and is celebrated annually on the feast of Our
Lady of Lourdes. It affirms the Church’s duty to remember
the poor of the world.
The ministry is supported by the Order of Malta. The
World Day of the Sick was instituted by Pope John Paul
II in 1992 and is celebrated annually on the feast of Our
Lady of Lourdes. It affirms the Church’s duty to remember
the poor of the world.
The Order of Malta — officially the Sovereign Military
Hospitalier Order of St. John of Jerusalem of Rhodes
and of Malta — was founded in 1048 to serve the sick in
pilgrims to and from the Holy Land. The knights became
a military force, but as that need diminished, the order’s
full attention turned to the service of the sick and the
poor of the world.
At the end of the Mass, Bishop Barber offered a prayer
for care-givers of those who are ill.
At a reception afterward, Knights and Dames of Malta
distributed prayer books, rosaries, small vials of water
from Lourdes and new this year, a prayer card to Our
Lady of Lourdes.
There was information available to those interested in
either of the free local ministries offered by the Knights of
Malta, a medical clinic for those without insurance and a
legal clinic for those in need of advice.
24 Hours for the Lord: a time of
encounter, mercy, reconciliation
Seven parishes – Most Holy Rosary in Antioch; St. Bonaventure in
Concord; St. Catherine of Siena in Martinez; Holy Spirit in Fremont; St.
Elizabeth in Oakland; St. Joan of Arc in San Ramon; and St. Mark in
Richmond — have announced plans to observe 24 Hours for the Lord
from Feb. 28 to 29.
During this time, participating churches will be open, with opportunities
for Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Most will
observe the 24 hours beginning at 5 p.m. Feb. 28 and ending at 5 p.m.
the next day. Check the adjoining list for specific times at each parish.
For additional information on reconciliation times, contact the parish.
This is the fifth year the Diocese of Oakland has observed 24 Hours for the Lord.

The power of radical kinship
By Michele Jurich
We are called to create a community of kinship that
God might recognize. Dismantle the barriers. All of us
are called to inch ourselves to the margins.
We stand with the poor, the voiceless and those
whose dignity has been denied.
Rev. Greg Boyle, SJ, titled his latest book “Barking
to the Choir,” and his Jan. 26 talk at St. Joan of Arc
Parish drew a choir of familiar faces of social justice
movements. St. Vincent de Paul conferences, diocesan
detention ministry. JustFaith: fair trade and other like-
missioned ministries.
The San Ramon parish offers its parishioners a two-
week GIFT each January. The GIFT – Growing in Faith
Together – is a free program with keynote speakers
(continued on p. 17)
24 Hours ...

(continued from p. 1)

Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ, will celebrate Mass on any day.
Feb. 28, 5:30 p.m. Feb. 28-5 p.m. Feb. 28 with break for Stations of the Cross and Mass; p.m. Feb. 28, (37958 Fremont Blvd, Fremont, 510-797-1660)
St. Bonaventure: 9 a.m. Feb 28-9 a.m. Feb. 28-9 a.m. Feb. 28-9 a.m. Feb. 28-9 a.m. Feb. 28.
St. Benjamin: 5 p.m. Feb. 28-5 p.m. Feb. 28, (1500 34th Ave., Oakland, 510-536-1356)
St. Mary of the Assumption: 5 p.m. Feb 28-5 p.m. Feb. 28, (2601 San Ramon Valley Road, San Ramon, 925-0060)
St. Mark: Moon Feb 28-noon Feb. 28 (15100 Harbour Road, Richmond, 510-234-5886)
Father Francis initiated "24 Hours for the Lord," the Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, which he announced in 2015. He asked that "the season of Lent in this Jubilee Year be lived more intensely as a privileged moment to celebrate and experience God's Mercy." The Vatican will observe 24 Hours for the Lord March 20-21.

THE CHURCH

THE DIOCESE

Rev. Alengadan placed on leave

Staff report

Rev. George Alengadan has been placed on administrative leave and, under the terms of a canonical decree, he is not to present himself in public as a priest, nor can he celebrate a public Mass or other sacraments until the investigation is completed and a report provided to Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ, of the Diocese of Oakland announced Feb. 17.

Last summer, the Diocese of Oakland received allegations that Father Alengadan had engaged in inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature with current and former female employees of the diocese. At that time, Father Alengadan was placed on administrative leave as pas-

A new investigation is being opened. If possible, the fast on Friday is recommended until the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday, since it is the "passover" of the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus and to prepare in ordinary times and especially those of self-denial, almsgiving, and through works of kindness and compas-

The guidelines state that Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of uni-

Fasting is obligatory for all who have completed their 18th year until the beginning of their 60th year. Two smaller meals may be taken, not to equal one full meal. Abstinence (from meat) is obligatory for all who have com-

Parishes should be encouraged to offer the faithful various opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament, including individu-

The Voice publishes only one issue in July, August and December.
Bishop Barron floats ‘online mandatum’ for Catholic teachers

Cardinal Blase J. Cupich of Chicago Jan. 30 at St. Genevieve School in Chicago. The cardinal visits students and their families during a lunch break at St. Genevieve School to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the birth of Raphael, the Renaissance master. The tapestries were designed to accompany Raphael’s frescoes as they “played behind glass on a rotating basis elsewhere in the museums,” according to the Vatican Museums. (CNS/VATICAN MUSEUMS)

FEBRUARY 24, 2020

Catholic News Agency

Bishop Robert Barron has said that bishops should consider an official designation for Catholic teachers on social media, Barron, an auxiliary bishop of Los Angeles, is well known for his work promoting Catholic teaching online.

He said he believes it is within the scope of a diocesan bishop’s authority to apply a vetting and recognition process for online teachers of the faith, similar to the mechanism Pope St. John Paul II developed in the 1990 apostolic constitution Ex Corde Ecclesiae for colleges and universities.

There are, to be blunt, a disconcerting number of people on social media who are teaching in hateful, divisive speech, often deeply at odds with the theology of the Church and who are, sadly, having a powerful impact on the people of God,” he said in an article in the National Catholic Register Jan. 24. Bishop Barron accompanied other Western bishops on an ad limina trip to Rome Jan. 24-Feb. 2.

The bishops, said Bishop Barron, are “the shepherds of the Church, those entrusted with supervising the teaching office,” and they “can and should point out when people on social media are harming the Body of Christ.”

In order to combat online misinformation online from people claiming to represent what the Church teaches, Barron told the Register that perhaps he and his brother bishops could “introduce something like a mandatum for those who claim to teach the Catholic faith online, whereby a bishop affirms that the person is teaching within the full communion of the Church.”

While some websites denounced Bishop Barron’s suggestion as an attempt to “police” Catholics on social media, the bishop’s proposal was narrowly drawn to apply to those presenting themselves as teachers or Catholic theologians on social media.

Chicago Catholic schools receive $90 million commitment

Catholic News Service

CHICAGO — With a newly announced commitment of more than $90 million to several Catholic schools over the next 10 years, the Archdiocese of Chicago and the Big Shoulders Fund intend to ensure those schools will remain in their communities.

The funds will benefit 23 schools, mostly on Chicago’s South and West sides, serving 5,600 children.

Under the agreement, the Big Shoulders Fund will provide $47.5 million to the schools, with the Archdiocese of Chicago committing $44.9 million to the same schools.

“Our Catholic schools are true beacons of hope in changing lives, developing engaged citizens and contributing to the common good of our great city,” Chicago Cardinal Blase J. Cupich said.

“This historic agreement, the Archdiocese of Chicago and Big Shoulders Fund will strive to provide the lifelong benefits of a Catholic education to Chicago-area children and society at large,” he said. “I am very grateful to the Big Shoulders Fund and donors for their decades-long support of archdiocesan schools and family.”

The agreement also calls for the Big Shoulders Fund to take a leadership role in helping principals manage everything from academic programming to marketing. It marks a new moment in the 35-year partnership between the archdiocese and the fund, which was created to support Catholic schools in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods.

“This is an important moment and a way to celebrate a truly great artist, Barbara Jatta, director of the Vatican Museums, told Vatican News Feb. 17. Raphael died in Rome on Good Friday, April 15, 1490, at the age of 37.

The 10 enormous tapestries designed by Raphael for the lower walls of the chapel were on display Feb. 17-23 in the Sistine Chapel, "putting them in the place they were commissioned for in 1515 and where (some) were hung in 1519," Jatta said. The tapestries are normally displayed behind glass on a rotating basis elsewhere in the museums. The colorful and detailed tapestries depict the lives of Sts. Peter and Paul and events from the Acts of the Apostles. They were designed to specifically correspond to the frescoed images higher on the walls depicting scenes from the lives of Moses and Jesus, and Michelangelo’s images from the story of Genesis.
Chinese government targeting Christians

Starting this month, the Chinese government has targeted unregistered Catholic and Protestant churches with a new expansion of rules and regulations governing religious organizations. It institute another raft of laws covering 41 religious-related topics Feb. 1, 2020, after the implementation of another set of restrictive laws for religious groups in the country. Observers have noted that if widely implemented, Article 34 of the Chinese Communist Party paper — published in late December — would apply direct pressure on unregistered churches. As many as half of China’s estimated 10 million to 12 million Catholics worship in communities not registered with the Chinese government.

Help struggling church

TUCSON, Ariz. — The three challengers facing both the U.S. Catholic Church and this country right now are segregation, polarization and resignation, Boston College professor Hosffman Ospino told attendees at the Sixth Annual Southwest Liturgical Conference Study Week in Tucson. The keynote address by one of the foremost experts on the growth of the Hispanic presence in the U.S. church and culture was unblinking in its criticism, though Ospino was optimistic that, with hard work, both could be turned around. “There is racism in our church,” Ospino said in his Jan. 18 speech. “Everybody knows where the black parishes are: governing religious organizations. It will be added. In dioceses, parishes are designated Hispanic, for Hispanic, for Vietnamese, for example, and little effort is made to provide for the pastoral needs of those cultural communities outside those designated parishes.

McCarrick gave $1 million to scandal-hit religious order

WASHINGTON — Former cardinal Theodore McCarrick was a major donor to a religious community whose founder was found guilty of sexual misconduct.

The Washington Post reported Feb. 17 that McCarrick gave nearly $1 million to the Institute of the Incarnate Word from 2004-2017. The religious community was founded in 1984 in Argentina by Rev. Carlos Miguel Buela, who was found guilty of sexual misconduct with seminarians by the Vatican in 2016.

According to previous CNN reports, McCarrick used his status as a senior archbishop and cardinal to support critics within the Church, including then-Archbishop Jorge Bergoglio, before his election as pope.

McCarrick was laicized by Pope Francis in Feb. 2019, after a Vatican court ruled last August that the university had improperly granted him legal status as a priest.

Iberian bishops reject euthanasia

Spanish and Portuguese church leaders rejected plans to legalize euthanasia in their traditionally Catholic countries and urged broad discussions of such proposals because they are considered by legislators.

The bishops’ comments came as the Spanish parliament voted 208-140 to advance draft legislation by the government of Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez.

LeafFilter

CLOG-FREE GUTTERS OR YOUR MONEY BACK GUARANTEED!

LeafFilter provided peace of mind and an unknown number of churches torn down in the region between 2013-2017.

Finally at rest

SOUTH BEND, Indiana — A cold, gray, wintry day in South Bend seemed like an appropriate setting for the burial of 2,411 aborted babies, whose remains were interred in Southlawn Cemetery in the city Feb. 12. The babies had been aborted from 2000-2003 by the late Dr. Ulrich “George” Klopfer, who operated abortion clinics in Indiana since the 1970s and performed an estimated 30,000 abortions before having his license revoked in 2016. The medically preserved remains of those fetuses had been transported across state lines and stored for years on Klopfer’s Illinois property, in his garage and in the trunk of his car. The gray discovery of the remains was made after his death Sept. 3 last year.

Learn history, heritage

WASHINGTON — Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory of Washington urged students at Archbishop Carroll High School to take time during Black History Month to study the heritage and history of African Americans. The Washington area is full of historical monuments and markers “reminding us of the history that belongs to African Americans,” the archbishop said at a special Mass celebrated Feb. 5 at the school to mark the special February observance.

Abortion stance hurts

NEW YORK — A prominent associate professor of theological and social ethics at Jesuit-run Fordham University and, until recently, a longtime board member of Democrats For Life said Feb. 6 the Democratic Party’s support for abortion at any stage has driven him away from the party. For someone who is progressive on most issues, this decision doesn’t come easy, Charles Chong wrote in a commentary in the New York Post daily newspaper.

Knights celebrate 100

HOME — Less than 40 years after its humbler beginnings in New Haven, Connecticut, the Knights of Columbus was invited by Pope Benedict XVI to establish a permanent presence in Rome. The Knights celebrated the 100th anniversary of their charitable work in the Eternal City with an audience with Pope Francis Feb. 10 and a press event Feb. 11, reflecting on the fraternal organization’s past achievements and ongoing projects.

Lawsuit dropped

SOUTH SAN MARCOS, Texas — California State University-San Marcos has agreed to revise and ongoing projects.

Announcing

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Announcing
Saints? In Hawaii?

By Rev. Jayson Landeza
Special to The Catholic Voice

For those of us who remember Bay Area radio ads over 40 years ago, the phrase “Farms? In Berkeley?” was a way for us to remember Berkeley Farms’ products, as it was somehow incredible to think that there were farms in our beloved hometown.

Yet in the land of my parents’ birth, there were indeed saints in Hawaii.

If you’ve never been to Hawaii and would like to explore beyond the traditional tourist sites and perhaps learn more about the rich Catholic history of the islands, then this September pilgrimage is for you. Ask anyone who went last year, and they will tell you that the time spent in Molokai was a “once in a lifetime” experience.

My parents were born and raised in Hawaii. My late father, Daniel Landeza, was from the North Shore of Oahu and my mother, Frances O’Sullivan Landeza, hails from Molokai, both of the islands covered on this pilgrimage.

When I was growing up in Berkeley, my mother shared stories about her childhood trips from topside Molokai, walking down narrow paths on steep cliffs into the Kalaupapa Settlement (the Leper/Hansen’s Disease colony) to visit her grand uncle, James Kahakualuwi, who was a patient and a resident of the Settlement. My mother would also share stories about Father Damien de Veuster and the work he did at Kalaupapa in the late 1800s and early 1900s, as well as the suffering the residents, both lay and clergy, experienced.

My ordination to the priesthood, I became keenly interested in the life of Father Damien de Veuster and the work he did at Kalaupapa. I am excited that we will also get to know more about Sr. Marianne Cope, the Catholic nun who was canonized by the Vatican in 2005 as a saint of the Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii, he also made regular trips to Kalaupapa, and had a chance to be the resident priest for the Settlement, assigned to work at St. Francis Church, Kalaupapa, for about two weeks, covering for their regular priest, who went on vacation.

When Fr. Larry Silva was a priest for the Diocese of Oakland, he also made regular trips to Kalaupapa, and had a chance to meet and know many of the residents, as I had. We used to share our experiences and talk about common friends we had at the Settlement. Now that Fr. Larry is Bishop Larry, the Bishop of Honolulu (The Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii), he will lead us in that portion of the pilgrimage as part of our journey to Kalaupapa. I am excited that we will also get to know more about Sr. Marianne Cope, the Catholic nun from the Congregation of the Heart of Jesus order as Fr. Damien, and a Molokai native, attended the canonization. The ceremony received unlimited attention by Hawaii’s media, and helped to increase awareness and solidify the unique ministry, heroic sacrifice and special bond that St. Damien has to the people of Hawaii.

This connection to Hawaii is evident at the entrance to the State Capitol Building: you are greeted by a solitary statue of Fr. Damien. Surprisingly, it’s neither King Kamehameha the Great (who united the islands) nor Queen Liliuokalani (the last monarch), but St. Damien who graces the entrance to the State Capitol Building: “Hawaii’s media, and helped to increase awareness and solidify the unique ministry, heroic sacrifice and special bond that St. Damien has to the people of Hawaii.”

As you can see, Hawaii is more than just palm trees swaying and Mai Tai’s with umbrellas. These magic islands hold a special place for Catholics and people of good faith who want to experience two people who lived out their Christian faith and sacrificed their lives in Christ-like service to the people of Hawaii. Please consider joining us on this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see Hawaii from the eyes of our faith.

Honor the Great Saints of Hawai’i!
Saint Damien of Molokai and Saint Marianne Cope
September 13-19, 2020
$2,999* from Oakland nonstop to Oahu

Includes: round-trip airfare from Oakland to Honolulu, flight to Molokai excursion, taxes, surcharges, Waikiki 4-star hotel-ocean view, breakfast, meals per itinerary, tours, Polynesian dinner show, air-conditioned motor coaches, full-time tour manager.

(*per person based on double occupancy. Land only rate available, call for details)

Highlights include:
Celebrate Mass at St. Philomena Church on Kalaupapa with a private tour of the collection of artifacts of St. Damien, Mass at St. Augustine by-the-Sea Catholic Church while its pastor, Fr. Lane Akiona, from the same Sacred Heart order as Fr. Damien, a Molokai native, attended the canonization. The ceremony received unlimited attention by Hawaii’s media, and helped to increase awareness and solidify the unique ministry, heroic sacrifice and special bond that St. Damien has to the people of Hawaii.

Those who went on the pilgrimage last year included folks who had never been to Hawaii and others who were seasoned travelers to the Islands. All of them were drawn to learning more about their Catholic faith and how holy women and men like St. Marianne and St. Damien helped to bring the healing presence of Christ to the most isolated and rejected within Hawaii. An added blessing for our Diocesan pilgrimage was to interact with the Bishop of Honolulu (the Catholic Church in Hawaii), the Most Reverend Larry Silva, whom many of our pilgrims knew from his days as a priest of the Diocese of Oakland. It was also nice that our travelers represented a broad and diverse spectrum from throughout the East Bay.

As you can see, Hawaii is more than just palm trees swaying and Mai Tai’s with umbrellas. These magic islands hold a special place for Catholics and people of good faith who want to experience two people who lived out their Christian faith and sacrificed their lives in Christ-like service to the people of Hawaii. Please consider joining us on this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see Hawaii from the eyes of our faith.

Q&A Informational meeting to find out more about this pilgrimage:
Saturday, March 21, 2020, 2:30-4:00 p.m.
St. Bonaventure School Classroom
5562 Clayton Road, Concord
R.S.V.P. email ctompkins@oakdiocese.org or call 510-419-1081
Light refreshments served

Belinda@APilgrimsJourney.com or 724-586-2726 (9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. EST)

To receive a mailed brochure contact:
Camille Tompkins at The Catholic Voice 510-419-1081 or ctompkins@oakdiocese.org

The pilgrimage is sponsored by the Diocese of Oakland and The Catholic Voice.
Catholic Italy Pilgrimage
March 15-27, 2021
13 DAYS FROM SFO
ROME • ASSISI • FLORENCE • PADUA • VENICE • MILAN

$5,199 PER PERSON

INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS:
Marianna Pisano, mpisano@unitours.com (800) 777-7432 (Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. EST)
TO RECEIVE A MAILED BROCHURE CONTACT:
Camille Tompkins, The Catholic Voice (510) 419-1091
cptomkins@oakdiocese.org

Spiritual Guide
Fr. Richard Mangini

Join Unitours Inc. and Fr. Richard Mangini for a Q&A Informational Meeting about the Italy Pilgrimage. Have your travel questions answered or find a roommate.
Saturday, March 21, 2020, 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.
at St. Bonaventure School Classroom 1
5562 Clayton Road, Concord
R.S.V.P.: cptomkins@oakdiocese.org or 510-419-1091
Light refreshments will be served

The 90 members of Unitours Holy Land pilgrimage (Feb. 10-20) stop for a group photo at the Wedding Church in Cana, in Kafr Kanna, Israel. The group, all from the Diocese of Oakland, is being guided by Revs. Richard Mangini and Jimmy Macalinao. Although the site of biblical Cana, the scene of Jesus’ first miracle, is unknown, the current church was built in the 1800s, and remodeled several times since. It is owned by the Franciscans; archaeologists have determined the site was a synagogue in the fourth century.

The pilgrimage is not sponsored by the Diocese of Oakland or The Catholic Voice.
‘Serving the Lord and each other’

By Bill Ford

A Celebration of Scouting

Special to The Catholic Voice

Accompanied by a lively organ fanfare, scouts from around the Oakland diocese entered in procession into the Cathedral of Christ behind their individual unit flags, accompanied by their scout leaders and greeted by their families and friends.

The procession Feb. 1 began the annual Celebration of Scouting, honoring young people in the scouting programs and recognizing their achievements in earning Catholic scout religious awards. The annual celebration recognizes both girls and boys in scout programs with a prayer service and awards presentation.

Presiding over the celebration in the cathedral was Rev. Jayson Landeza, pastor of St. Benedict Parish, Oakland, and the diocesan scout chaplain. The service included a flag ceremony with the recitation of the scout oaths, a flurry of the word with scouts proclaiming scripture readings and prayers of the faithful, presentation of the religious awards and a blessing of the scouts and their leaders.

The theme for the day was the one chosen by Pope Francis for the 2020 World Youth Day: “Stand up to the Lord’s call to mission.”

During his reflection on this theme, Father Jayson quizzed the scouts on how they should wake up each day, asking them to wake up as excited as the young man in the Gospel to whom Jesus gave new life.

Citing Pope Francis, he told them that God is saying to each young person, “allow yourself to be touched by God’s power in Jesus. To live your joy, dreams, hopes, enthusiasm and generosity to others. Challenge them to ask themselves how scouting can allow them to wake up like that every day.”

After the reflection, 41 Catholic scout religious awards were presented, earned by completing projects with scout-like activities centered on their Catholic faith, while guided by adult award counselors. Both boys and girls in scouting earn a variety of religious awards based on their ages. The awards can be presented at the Celebration of Scouting or in the local parishes.

In addition to the individual religious awards, there were six “Pillars of Faith” recognitions presented. The Pillars of Faith recognizes scouts who earn all four religious awards from their years as young Tiger Cubs through older Boy Scouts or as Daisies through older Girl Scouts.

Awards were presented this year to: Matthew Conners (Our Lady of Guadalupe, Fremont); Benjamin Swift, Ethan Uyehara, St. Edward, Newark; Martin Lee from Scout Emily Lee from St. Joseph Parish, Fremont; and Jennifer Laus, St. Joseph MSJ, Fremont; Nathan Laus, St. Joseph MSJ, Fremont; Martin Lee, St. Joseph Parish, Fremont.

Light of Christ Award

Nicholas Pierre, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Aidan Velasco, Corpus Christi, Piedmont

Parvuli Dei Award

Davin Khoury, St. Joseph MSJ, Fremont; Emily Lee, St. Joseph MSJ, Fremont; Marcos Kyle Miyamoto, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Brentwood; Rich Oliver Miyamoto, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Brentwood; Gabriel Pierre, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; William Selman, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Aidan Velasco, Corpus Christi, Piedmont

Ad Altare Dei Award

William Arnold, St. Michael, Livermore; Michael Bruin, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Nicholas Carano, St. Michael, Livermore; Matthew Dominguez, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Terri Jalane Francisco, St. Michael, Livermore; Mathew Goldweber, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Jack Giro, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Peter Ishimaru, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Tobias Lee, St. Joseph MSJ, Fremont; Kevin McKillop, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Daniel Thrent, St. Charles Borromeo, Livermore; Ricky Thomas, St. Joseph MSJ, Fremont; Alexander Velasco, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Juan Pablo Vera, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Fremont; John Vri, St. Charles Borromeo, Livermore; Joseph Vri, St. Charles Borromeo, Livermore

Pope Pius XII

Jack Conn, St. Joseph MSJ, Fremont; Matthew Connors, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Fremont; Billy Johansen, Christ the King, Pleasant Hill; Martin Laus, St. Joseph MSJ, Fremont; Nathan Laus, St. Joseph MSJ, Fremont; Aidan Noland, Christ the King, Pleasant Hill, Sam Pickett, Christ the King, Pleasant Hill; Benjamin Swift, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Fremont; Ethan Uyehara, St. Edward, Newark

Pillars of Faith Award – Duty to God

Jack Conn, St. Joseph MSJ, Livermore; Matthew Connors, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Fremont; Billy Johansen, Christ the King, Pleasant Hill; Aidan Noland, Christ the King, Pleasant Hill; Sam Pickett, Christ the King, Pleasant Hill; Benjamin Swift, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Fremont

Ad Altare Dei Award – Light of Christ

Nicholas Pierre, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Aidan Velasco, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; David Kubik, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; William Selman, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Aidan Velasco, Corpus Christi, Piedmont

A Celebration of Scouting

Rev. Jayson Landeza joins scouts at the altar of the Cathedral of Christ the Light.

FEBRUARY 24, 2020

THE CATHOLIC VOICE — 7

Scouting Awards

Light of Christ Award

Nicholas Pierre, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Aidan Velasco, Corpus Christi, Piedmont

Parvuli Dei Award

Davin Khoury, St. Joseph MSJ, Fremont; Emily Lee, St. Joseph MSJ, Fremont; Marcos Kyle Miyamoto, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Brentwood; Rich Oliver Miyamoto, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Brentwood; Gabriel Pierre, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; William Selman, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Aidan Velasco, Corpus Christi, Piedmont

Ad Altare Dei Award

William Arnold, St. Michael, Livermore; Michael Bruin, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Nicholas Carano, St. Michael, Livermore; Matthew Dominguez, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Terri Jalane Francisco, St. Michael, Livermore; Mathew Goldweber, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Jack Giro, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Peter Ishimaru, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Tobias Lee, St. Joseph MSJ, Fremont; Kevin McKillop, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Daniel Thrent, St. Charles Borromeo, Livermore; Ricky Thomas, St. Joseph MSJ, Fremont; Alexander Velasco, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Juan Pablo Vera, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Fremont; John Vri, St. Charles Borromeo, Livermore; Joseph Vri, St. Charles Borromeo, Livermore

Pope Pius XII

Jack Conn, St. Joseph MSJ, Fremont; Matthew Connors, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Fremont; Billy Johansen, Christ the King, Pleasant Hill; Martin Laus, St. Joseph MSJ, Fremont; Nathan Laus, St. Joseph MSJ, Fremont; Aidan Noland, Christ the King, Pleasant Hill, Sam Pickett, Christ the King, Pleasant Hill; Benjamin Swift, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Fremont; Ethan Uyehara, St. Edward, Newark

Pillars of Faith Award – Duty to God

Jack Conn, St. Joseph MSJ, Livermore; Matthew Connors, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Fremont; Billy Johansen, Christ the King, Pleasant Hill; Aidan Noland, Christ the King, Pleasant Hill; Sam Pickett, Christ the King, Pleasant Hill; Benjamin Swift, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Fremont

Ad Altare Dei Award – Light of Christ

Nicholas Pierre, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Aidan Velasco, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; David Kubik, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; William Selman, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Aidan Velasco, Corpus Christi, Piedmont

A Celebration of Scouting

Rev. Jayson Landeza joins scouts at the altar of the Cathedral of Christ the Light.

FEBRUARY 24, 2020

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Scouting Awards

Light of Christ Award

Nicholas Pierre, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Aidan Velasco, Corpus Christi, Piedmont

Parvuli Dei Award

Davin Khoury, St. Joseph MSJ, Fremont; Emily Lee, St. Joseph MSJ, Fremont; Marcos Kyle Miyamoto, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Brentwood; Rich Oliver Miyamoto, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Brentwood; Gabriel Pierre, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; William Selman, Corpus Christi, Piedmont; Aidan Velasco, Corpus Christi, Piedmont

Ad Altare Dei Award

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A Celebration of Scouting

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Santa Sabina Center
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JULY 7 - 12, 2020
Retreat week with Joe Nassal, CPPS
Making All Things New: Becoming a New Creation

AUGUST 4 - 9, 2020
Retreat with Anthony Gittins, CSSP
Seek First the Realm of God

NOVEMBER 12 - 15, 2020
Retreat weekend with Kayleen Asbo
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DECEMBER 5, 2020
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For detailed and registration information: www.santasabinacenter.org

By Michele Jurich
Staff writer

Lent offers the invitation to pray and reflect. Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose's Center for Education and Spirituality is offering opportunities to do just that. On the holy ground of the Motherhouse in Fremont, the center has scheduled an Ash Wednesday Day of Reflection, a day-long Lenten retreat and six-session book group, along with visits from speakers, including Bishop Robert McElroy of San Diego, who participated in the Amazon Synod.

The Center for Education and Spirituality was established at a July 2012 Assembly of the Congregation as an action item under Preaching of our Motherhouse. It grew out of the closure of the Congregation’s Queen of the Holy Rosary College, where generations of Dominican Sisters were educated. In the years leading up to its closing in 2009, women of other religious communities also studied there. In designing the Center for Education and Spirituality, the Sisters expanded their education ministry.

“We didn’t want to lose that opportunity to continue to provide best-quality, ongoing faith formation for adults,” said Sister Glenn McPhie, OP, who, with Sister Ingrid Clemensen, OP, co-directs the center.

The mission statement demonstrates the Sisters’ commitment providing life-long learning opportunities. It reads: “The Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose Center for Education and Spirituality provides welcoming space for those seeking to deepen their life-giving relationship with God, themselves, one another, and all of Creation. Grounded in the Dominican tradition of searching for truth wherever it is found and in keeping with the mission of the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose, the Center provides opportunities for spiritual and educational enrichment.”

The center launched programs in 2014 that continue, including Taizé from 8 to 9 p.m. on third Fridays, and the New Year’s Eve retreat. The next Taizé Prayer will be March 20. Retreats are offered seasonally, at Advent and Lent. On March 21, Sister Colleen Mary Malbin, OP will present the Lenten retreat, “Living at the Disposable Cross, Lenten Reflections on Christian Discipleship.”

The Dominican Sister of Mission San Jose serves as associate professor of systematic theology at Aquinas Institute in St. Louis, Missouri.

Book clubs have featured works by authors such as Henri Nouwen, Joyce Salo and Louis Trevino.

At the end of the “Serra: Saint and Stainer” presentation in 2015, Vincent Medina Jr., with microphone, invited members of his family to join him as he read a poem in the Chichewa language. From left, Corrina Gould, Ruth Orta, Medina, Andrew Galvan and Louis Trevino.

www.msjdominicans.org

By Michele Jurich

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www.msjdominicans.org
Miami man met future kidney donor at Catholic retreat

By Priscilla A. Greear
Catholic News Service
MIAMI — After a routine exam 16 years ago, Dr. Shawn Fibkins discovered that he had inherited polycystic kidney disease from his father.

"It was devastating for me because now I was in the medical field and I knew what that disease meant for people: trips to the hospital with ruptured brain aneurysms and kidney failure," he said.

That same year, the radiologist was encouraged by his wife to attend an Emmaus retreat at St. John Neumann Parish in Miami where he found not only spiritual help, but future physical help from retreat participant, John Fernandez.

While the two men were talking, Fibkins told Fernandez about his incurable kidney disease and fears of leaving his twin boys fatherless. When he said his kidneys would eventually fail, Fernandez casually replied, "If you ever need a kidney, let me know man, I got you."

A few months later, Fibkins was diagnosed with an aneurysm and traveled to the University of Massachusetts for a procedure to prevent a rupture. His community of Emmaus "brothers" rallied to support him, including two men who came to pray with him in the hospital.

Fibkins surrendered himself to God, mindful that his father had died of this same kidney disease at the age of 35.

"As a Christian we are always asked to give everything up to God and put him in the driver's seat and let the Lord guide us. And I didn't really know what that meant until I went through the aneurysm scare," he recalled. "I chose that path and said if this is my time to go then take me and I was OK with dying, actually. That kind of brought me a peace."

But the doctor discovered he hadn't actually had an aneurysm. "If I had gone somewhere else, he said that kind of support was what got me through two very rough months."

Following their surgeries, Fernandez was back to work in a week and Fibkins in three months, neither with complications. The radiologist takes four daily doses of medicine, but he now feels closer to his family, inhales life more deeply, and empathizes more profoundly with patients facing kidney failure and chemotherapy.

Fibkins, a member of Mary Help of Christians Parish in Parkland, also feels inspired to speak on the safety of kidney donation in gratitude for Fernandez.

"I drag John through this because I feel if we save one life it's worth his grumbling," he said. "There are so many people that need it. Lives can be saved. And that's a very Christian act, to give part of yourself."
What is a retreat for?

By Carrie McClish
Staff writer

What is a retreat for? A tune-up for the soul? Shake off the hassles of daily life? Hang out with God – alone or with a few of God’s friends?

While Jesus is associated with the desert experience, if you prefer there are several retreat houses in the mountains and on the coast. Villa Maria del Mar overlooks Monterey Bay in Santa Cruz. Time spent here is enriched by the natural beauty of the beach where egrets are seen strolling in the nearby surf or the whales and other sea creatures that are often seen swimming in the distant waves.

Associates of the Sisters of the Holy Names, in the photos, who gathered at Villa Maria del Mar in November for their annual retreat, spent a weekend reflecting on and discussing the theme, “Because God First Loved Us.” Their experience as a Catholic educator has shown this.

“T’ve had students come back from St. Elizabeth’s [he served as campus minister at the Oakland high school] and say how much they enjoyed. Their Kairos retreat.”

He has received similar feedback from students at Moreau Catholic.

The themed retreat program at Moreau Catholic is offered during a student’s four-year journey.

First-year students participate on a Holy Cross retreat. Second year, the agape retreat focuses on “the highest love and our relationship with one another and with God,” Landeza said.

Junior year’s social justice retreat is “extremely transformative,” he said.

“We go to the Tenderloin,” he said, where they help at service providers such as St. Anthony’s and Up on Top, and get a tour of the area.

When he was teaching at St. Elizabeth’s High School, Landeza said he asked the principal, Sister Mary Liam Brock, OP, about taking students on service retreats such as this, as some might have been from families that were receiving services.

He recalled the counsel he received: “You continue to share that gift with them. In that respect, social justice is profound.”

The senior Kairos retreat is voluntary for Moreau Catholic seniors. “This is the last time you’ll get an opportunity to take time out with your classmates,” Landeza said. “In groups of about 30, they go to the Valtombrasca retreat center in Menlo Park. As a Kairos retreat, he said, it’s a special retreat in itself. They are able to look at the four years but also be able to prepare to launch themselves” for their post-high school adventure.

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“The hope Landeza said he has for retreats is in “transforming these students, allowing them to grow, being sure they follow within our pillars of being family and bringing hope.”
Radical kinship ...

(continued from p. 1)

and workshops. Father Boyle’s address capped the 2020 series.

Father Boyle is the founder of Homeboy Industries of Los Angeles, a self-described business of second chances, which runs food service, electronics recycling, printing and other services. No entity on the planet removes more tattoos than Homeboy Industries, he told the crowd. Tattoo removal is a free service provided to participants in the Homeboy Industries’ program, which counts among its associates former gang members.

Over the course of an hour, microphone in hand in front of the altar, Father Boyle unpicked a series of stories of individuals whose lives have been changed by what he calls “the power of radical kinship.”

He tells the stories of the “homies” in vignettes, moments overhead; and observational humor could be described as George Carlin minus the seven bad words. He offered an invitation to not only hear their stories, but to become part of them.

“Homies taught me so much that has touched my heart,” he said.

Recalling a meeting that begins the day at Homeboy Industries, he said, “Heaven wouldn’t be different from morning meeting— it’s glorious.”

Six tour groups a day visit the Homeboy Industries, with one of the workers as guide. His glass-warded office

allows them “to observe the founder in his natural habitat,” he said. It also allows him to hear what the guides say. He learned, for example, that “he is a jujitsu priest.”

“It’s the privilege of my life for 35 years to have worked with gang members,” he said. He spoke of former gang members, once rivals, now colleagues. “They used to shoot bullets at each other, now they shoot messages,” he said. “That’s kinship.”

“Fifteen thousand walk through the door trying to reimage their lives,” he said. “Nothing stops a bullet like a job.”

He had encouraging words for those who tell in the social justice field, who might face criticism that their work might be ineffective.

“You don’t go to the margins to make a difference,” he said. “You go so the people on the margins make you different.”

Among those at the church for the talk was Father Patrick Shandroni, a parishioner at St. Joan of Arc, who is the volunteer coordinator of the CRS Ethical Trade ministry for the diocese.

“Although I have been a huge admirer of Father Greg and his work for years, interestingly enough, the livelihood project that I am doing in Mexico with KBI (the Kino Border Initiative) has been formed by a lot of Father Greg’s work and the work of Homeboy Industries,” said Shandroni, who introduced Father Boyle at the St. Joan of Arc event. “While Father Greg’s homegirls and homeboys have somewhat higher barriers to clear, what works for them seems to work with migrants, refugees, returnees (deportees) and asylum seekers as well. Namely, nothing builds a person up more than a job,” he said.

Bishop O’Dowd alumn bequeaths $5 million to school

Staff report

Members of Bishop O’Dowd High School’s inaugural class of 1955 returned to the campus last month to celebrate one of their own and his enduring legacy — James T. “Jim” Bill, who left a gift of $5 million to his alma mater.

Funds from the $5 million bequest, the largest single gift from an individual in the history of the Oakland high school, will provide tuition assistance for future students.

“This landmark endowment will produce approximately $200,000 in tuition assistance annually, supporting 22 students on average,” J.C. Chidlaw, O’Dowd president, said at the gathering. “Over the course of 50 years, that’s 275 students who through their efforts may experience the opportunity of an O’Dowd education as a result of his foresight and generosity.”

Classmates and friends of Bill, who died after a brief illness on May 9, 2019, at age 82, gathered at O’Dowd’s theater which was newly dedicated the James T. Bill ’55 Theater to honor his love of the arts. Guests included Bill’s former teacher, Bishop Emeritus John S. Cummins, Rev. Mag. Ann K. O’Leary, who attended the seminary with Bill, and Rev. Don Osuna, a retired priest of the diocese who attended both elementary school and seminary with Bill.

Ten couples win Voice anniversary drawing

Staff report

Ten couples selected in a random drawing were winners in a wedding anniversary contest sponsored by The Catholic Voice and Scott’s Seafood Restaurant, Jack London Square, Oakland.

Each couple will receive a $50 gift certificate. The winners will be notified by mail.

The winners, with their wedding date and hometown are:

• Deacon Emeritus Richard and Esther Yee, July 7, 1961, Fremont.

• Miguel and Teresa Pena, Sept. 2, 1995, Oakland.

• Dennis and Kathleen Valerio, March 30, 1985, Alameda.

• Dennis and Patricia Lesniak, Oct. 13, 1962, Concord.

• Dennis and Socorro McMinn, Nov. 6, 2015, San Leandro.

• Miguel and Teresa Pena, Sept. 2, 1995, Oakland.


• Tom and Dina Joiner, Sept. 30, 2004, San Pablo.


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The Catholic Voice is on Facebook
By Ron Brazil
Special to The Catholic Voice

Sister Collette Carroll, SNJM, a longtime educator, died Jan. 19 at Villas of Saratoga in Saratoga. She had 91 years of age.

A proud native of San Francisco, Sister Carroll started her teaching ministry in elementary education at St. Cecilia School in San Francisco, St. Anselm School, San Anselmo, and Our Lady of Lourdes School, Oakland. She also spent a total of 41 years in secondary education, ministering at Holy Names High School in Oakland for 25 years and at Ramona Convent Secondary School in Alhambra, for 16 years. After she “retired” from teaching, she was a tutor at Next Step Learning Center in Oakland, a ministry founded by her religious community.

In addition to being a “requisite” lifeguard for the San Francisco Giants and 49ers, Sister Carroll had a great love and devotion to Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher, especially since they both shared the birth date of Oct. 9, according to an obituary that appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle.

She was preceded by her parents, Mary and Larry Carroll; and her sisters, Sister Barbara Carroll, SNJM, and Sister Rosemarie Carroll, CSJ.

The funeral Mass was held Feb. 6 at Saint Joe Church in Campbell. Burial followed at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, in Hayward.

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**NEW EVENTS**

**February 26, 3**
Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose present: "On the Fringe with Father John Osuna and Rev. Martin Valdivia. 2-4 p.m. at 3333 Mission Circle (entrance off Mission Tierra), Fremont. Father Osuna shares memories covering 40+ years of his life's work with the poor, especially the San Jose diocese. Free. Information: Mike, 510-915-2921.

**February 28, 4**
SUPPORT GROUPS

**February 29, 5**

**CRAB FEEDS**

**February 26, 6**

**SPRITUALITY**

**February 26, 7**

**LENTEN EVENTS**

**February 26, Wed.**
Ash Wednesday at St. Ignatius of Antioch Church, 3531 Contra Costa Blvd. (corner of Iron Horse Parkway and San Felipe), Walnut Creek. Seven days of prayer, reflection, and mercy. Services at 8 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. (in English and Spanish). Information: 925-579-5956.

Ash Wednesday Day of Renewal, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at San Damiano Retreat, 710 Highland Drive, Danville. Cost: $50. Retreat begins at 9:30 a.m., with music, veneration of the cross, and offers the chance to renew one's commitment to the Christian life. Information: 510-330-9331.

Lenten Soup Suppers. Fridays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at St. Ignatius of Antioch Church, 3531 Contra Costa Blvd. A free will offering will be received and all proceeds will be donated to our adopted parishes of the diocesan Mary Pitiry. Following the supper there will be a different Lenten service each week in the church at 7:30 p.m. 925-778-0768.

**February 28, April 3**
Catholic Food Coalition Branch 10 (Alameda) Fish Fry Dinners. Fridays in March, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, 22870 Second St., Danville. Dinner (fish, pasta, salads, rolls and dessert) follows Stations of the Cross, which begin at 4 p.m. Cost: $15 for adults, $10 for children. Wine and beer available for separate purchase. Reservations unnecessary. Information: 925-373-8320.

**March 4, April 1**
Lenten Stations of the Cross with Fr. Stephen. Saturdays from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. at San Damiano Retreat, 710 Highland Drive, Danville. Free. Information: www.sandamiano.org or 510-927-0141.

**April**
Sacred Heart Parish dinner, 7:45 p.m. to 2:45 a.m. at 5785 Thornton Road, Antioch. Information: 925-456-4000.

**April 2, 4**
Lenten Prayer and Veneration of the Cross Prayers, 7:30 p.m. in the Fiction Room at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church, 14560 Don Miguel Drive, Novato. Information: www.melkitechurch.org or 415-885-7220.

**April 10, 11**
Lenten Holy Hour for Priests. Wednesdays at 8 a.m.; Liturgy of the Word and imposition of ashes: noon and 7 p.m. 925-338-0110; Ext. 315. Information: 510-419-1074; or by fax at 510-839-4374.

**April 10, 11**
Lenten Holy Hour for Vocations. Thursdays at 8 a.m.; Holy Hour for Priests: noon and 7 p.m. 925-338-0110; Ext. 315. Information: 510-419-1074; or by fax at 510-839-4374.

**April 12**
Lenten Holy Hour for Priests. 8 a.m., Holy Hour for Priests: noon and 7 p.m. 925-338-0110; Ext. 315. Information: 510-419-1074; or by fax at 510-839-4374.

**April 13**
Lenten Holy Hour for Priests. 8 a.m.; Holy Hour for Priests: noon and 7 p.m. 925-338-0110; Ext. 315. Information: 510-419-1074; or by fax at 510-839-4374.

**April 15, 16**
Lenten Holy Hour for Priests. 8 a.m.; Holy Hour for Priests: noon and 7 p.m. 925-338-0110; Ext. 315. Information: 510-419-1074; or by fax at 510-839-4374.
Mercy Retirement and Care Center in Oakland has embarked on The Mercy Revitalization Project, with the goals of sustainability, accessibility and enhanced resident experience for the 165 people who call it home. "We're not increasing residents," said Natalie Brown, development director, "but we're increasing the quality of life." In 1907, after the great San Francisco earthquake, the Sisters of Mercy brought their mission to serve the elderly across the Bay to Oakland. What began as Our Lady's Home grew into Mercy Retirement and Care Center. The tower residence building, built in 1969, provides assisted living and memory care residences. The care center has its own wing. The five-acre property on Foothill Boulevard between 34th and 35th avenues in the Fruitvale District has served more than 10,000 residents over the years. Three of them were mentioned lovingly in the homily by Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ, who celebrated Mass Jan. 18 in the renovated Senior Center, which is the first completed portion of the revitalization project.

With Bishop Barber on the altar was Bishop Emeritus John S. Cummins and Rev. Owen Carroll. "In the movie the girl finds that in the closet, the wardrobe in her bedroom, she went in to hide, was actually a portal to another world, and she came out the other side, and it was a place of fantasy and experience and love. And you are living near such a door and the name of that door is Mercy." That's why I brought my grandmother here in 1990, thanks to Sister Patrick Lewis. "Chronicles of Narnia," and the film "The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe.

"What we're increasing is the quality of life," said Sister Natalie Brown, development director. The expansion, she said, should "make the whole campus more welcoming." The addition of showers to all rooms in the tower residences, as well as a third elevator, will improve the daily lives of residents. "The expansion, she said, should make the whole campus more welcoming." The expansion of the renovation process, which began in 2017, is the second phase of the revitalization. In the early phase of the campaign, she said, they are halfway to the goal. Residents were engaged in the planning process, which began in 2017.

By Michele Jurich
Staff writer

Mercy Retirement and Care Center
3431 Foothill Blvd., Oakland
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The bay to Oakland. What began as Our Lady's Home grew into Mercy Retirement and Care Center. The tower residence building, built in 1969, provides assisted living and memory care residences. The care center has its own wing. The five-acre property on Foothill Boulevard between 34th and 35th avenues in the Fruitvale District has served more than 10,000 residents over the years. Three of them were mentioned lovingly in the homily by Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ, who celebrated Mass Jan. 18 in the renovated Senior Center, which is the first completed portion of the revitalization project.

With Bishop Barber on the altar was Bishop Emeritus John S. Cummins and Rev. Owen Carroll. "In the movie the girl finds that in the closet, the wardrobe in her bedroom, she went in to hide, was actually a portal to another world, and she came out the other side, and it was a place of fantasy and experience and love. And you are living near such a door and the name of that door is Mercy." That's why I brought my grandmother here in 1990, thanks to Sister Patrick Lewis. "Chronicles of Narnia," and the film "The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe.

"What we're increasing is the quality of life," said Sister Natalie Brown, development director. The expansion, she said, should "make the whole campus more welcoming." The addition of showers to all rooms in the tower residences, as well as a third elevator, will improve the daily lives of residents. "The expansion, she said, should make the whole campus more welcoming." The expansion of the renovation process, which began in 2017, is the second phase of the revitalization. In the early phase of the campaign, she said, they are halfway to the goal. Residents were engaged in the planning process, which began in 2017.
The Sexual Revolution on some clerics may be labeled unpatriotic, soft on terrorism at Israeli behest, of General Soleimani, a John the Baptist, condemned his adulter... Christianity Today, urges the bishops to... Moral leadership... John A. Wille Oakland

Post-truth society

We are living in a society where we are surrounded by deliberate, distortion of facts to deceive us for some political, monetary or social gain. We require accurate knowledge to vote intelligently, administer justice correctly, advocate responsibly and purchase wisely. Those who deceive us have abandoned their integrity for a short-term gain... I for one have had enough. Can we exist in the future as a democratic society while the government continues to distort information the public has a right to know? We have seen the public is not only tired of beingU.S. led alliances... the largest the size of an avocado...

My personal viewpoint on abortion was formed years ago, when I was a 15-year-old in Catholic high school biology class. My teacher had access to information about the fetus from various stages of gestation. The facts he provided to us were the most graphic, the largest the size of an avocado (around 4 months). These little babies were condemned as natural (not dismembered as happens in abortive matters)...

When I saw them, I felt very sad and I grew even more mee.. I saw how little one who would never know the joys of life. That same year in another class I also saw how the prisoners of the Nazi concentration camps. Another profound experience I carry with me after 50 years...

High school students can see reality (and mortality) more clearly than adults. They aren’t jaded or inspired by villains. They want the need to rationalize or make excuses for atrocities that they are taught to recognize as “evil acts.”... We were more wrong to these disturbing images than high school students. The Democrats as a part of our moral formation? I don’t think so. I don’t believe abortion, genocide or other immoral acts against human life would be commonly accepted if the truth were honored and shared responsibly. I would encourage you to consider taking a stand this year and do this rant next year. It is great to see so many people marching and speaking truth to power on behalf of the most vulnerable... Mike McDermott Concord

Moral leadership

Dennis Wasco (Forum, Jan. 20), quoting Christians Today, urges the bishops to consider taking a stand next year. I know the президиум for taking a stand next year. It is great to see so many people marching and speaking truth to power on behalf of the most vulnerable... Mike McDermott Concord

World in danger

I extend credit and respect to the author of “Saving Lives” (Forum Jan. 6) for honestly acknowledging her connection to the fossil fuels industry which I had queried in a previous letter. But as a citizen of the world, one must recognize that carbon dioxide makes up only .04 percent of the atmosphere (what laymen call “greenhouse gas”). To promote the idea that the industrial Revolution and a trend that has dramatically increased in the last century Continued similar increases will eventually lead to the destruction of all life on earth is unfounded. The four percent represents a 50 percent increase since the Industrial Revolution and a trend that has dramatically increased in the last century Continued similar increases will eventually lead to the destruction of all life on earth is unfounded... John A. Wille Oakland

Good in everyone

It’s said there’s some good in everyone. Donald J. Trump is the exception. So goes the thinking of many, including many Catholics. So urgent to ask ourselves why we hold this deep-seated hatred. Hate destroys... Emily Cueva Antioch

Letters to the editor provide a forum for readers to engage in an open exchange of opinions and considerations. While the views expressed are those of the writers, and not necessarily of the Catholic Voice or the Diocese of Oakland, we seek to foster a full exchange of views. Those which dissent from Church teaching or contradict the natural moral law, it is hoped that this will not happen, actually is not the best... thinking on critical issues facing the Church...

Catholic programs generally do more a bar and balanced job. I urge you, my broth... the World Catholic News contains a great many knowledgeable and articulate, and has many wonderful guests covering politics and events in the U.S. as well as worldwide, and in the Church...
REMEMBER THE FAITHFUL

Celebrating God’s presence in the Mass at 11:00 am on the first Saturday of every month at each of our parishes. Please join us in remembrance of loved ones.

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Antioch: Holy Cross Cemetery
Lafayette: Queen of Heaven Cemetery
San Pablo: St. Joseph Cemetery
Oakland: St. Mary Cemetery
Livermore: St. Michael Cemetery

* Saturday Mass not available

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