Archdiocese files suit challenging state cemetery law

By Al Frank
Associate Publisher

NEWARK — A public interest law firm has filed a federal case on behalf of the Archdiocese of Newark challenging a New Jersey law that barred its Catholic Cemeteries unit from selling headstones.

“This case addresses one of the most important unanswered questions in constitutional law: how far government power can act for primarily private gain,” said Jeff Rowe, senior attorney for the Institute of Justice.

The Arlington, VA-based institute offered to litigate the case without charge after Gov. Chris Christie enacted a law last year barring the 11 archdiocesan cemeteries from selling headstones to parishioners. Christie and Attorney General John Hoffman are defendants in the action.

“The law was passed at the behest of the New Jersey Monument Builders Association, after the trade group lost a 2013 challenge in state court that upheld Catholic Cemeteries’ rights under long-standing state law, according to the suit.

“This is one of the most egregious examples of economic protectionism in the country,” said Greg Reed, another institute attorney, adding that the “sole purpose” of the new law was to limit economic choice, stifle competition and enrich monument builders.

Archbishop John J. Myers, who attended the July 21 news conference explaining the filing, branded the law arbitrary and unconstitutional and noted how it infringed on a fundamental Church ministry.

I volunteered to take on the project and began by searching the Internet. I found a helpful website about repurposed stained glass, with photos of windows available from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Most of them featured images of saints (no Dominicans among them, alas), which ranged from the exquisite to the unfortunate. The majority were also too large. I realized that finding the windows would not be easy.

In the meantime, Justin had contacted the Archdiocese of Newark’s Office of Property Management, which is a clearinghouse for stained glass windows and other liturgical items from closed churches. The office sent a few photos of available windows (none met our needs). But the archdiocese also offered to let us visit churches to see more.

I developed an image of what the windows should look like: a matching set of three, in a symbolic or ornamental design. I entrusted my window “wish list” to the Lord, confident that He would take care of finding them.

In early May, I received permission from our prioress to spend a few days at my family home in Bayonne to assist in the care of my mother. My brother had spoken to

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Stained glass

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me about visiting the closed convent of our parish, Our Lady of Mount Carmel; the convent was always a place of mystery to us.

Built in 1921, it had served as the residence of the Felician Sisters who taught for decades at the parish school. I arranged for Father Michael Barone, parochial vicar, to give me a tour. We walked through the convent, and as we reached the stairs leading to the second floor, I stopped and looked up. There, in the stairwell wall, were three large identical stained glass windows, emitting a lovely, pale yellow glow. I was so transfixed, that Fr. Michael looked at me with alarm and asked if I was okay. “I don’t believe it!” I blurted out. “Father, these windows would be perfect for our new wing! Do you know if we can have them?” I quickly took some photos with my cell phone, stunned that the Lord had answered my prayers with such speed. The stained glass windows have an unusual repeating design of what appears to be a stylized representation of elderberries featuring hues of pale yellow, gold, and amethyst. As we continued our tour, we discovered that two windows of the same design had already been removed and restored. We would later find a third. When I got back to the monastery, I shared the photos with the sisters, and received the approval of our prioress, Sister Mary Martin, to make inquiries about the windows’ availability. I phoned Monsignor Ronald Marczewski, the pastor, who graciously agreed to give them to us.

The windows were carefully restored from the convent and are being restored by Hiemer & Company Stained Glass Studio in Clifton. They will eventually be incorporated into the new wing, relocating from one sacred space to another. I think of the Felician Sisters who once passed by these windows each day on their way to and from the parish school. These dedicated teachers in their black veils and brown habits were my first encounter with religious sisters. Their example planted the first stirrings in my heart of a vocation to the religious life.

In a few years, visitors and guests to our monastery will pass by these same windows, enjoying their beauty as they walk through the new foyer, browse our gift shop or head to the parlor or chapel. For now, we rejoice in the first physical components of our new wing: that demonstrate how “God always provides...etiam ad minimal!”

Sister Judith Miryam, O.P. is Director of Advancement for the Centennial Campaign of the Dominican Nuns of the Monastery of Our Lady of the Rosary, Summit.

The three stained glass windows are among the naming/underwriting opportunities in support of the Monastery’s Centennial Campaign. For more information, contact Maryann Cocoziello, Director of Development, at (201)452-4996 or development@summitdominicans.org.

Law suit

Continued from page 1

“From the Roman catacombs to the cemeteries of the archdiocese, there is a 2,000-year old tradition of the Church, honoring the bodies of those who have died, providing a final resting place on sacred ground, and supporting their family and friends who want to honor them and pray for them,” the archbishop said. “This law harms consumers, and our mission and tradition.”

Catholic Cemeteries, which administers archdiocesan cemeteries, was challenged after it began offering inscription rights to head stones in 2013 in response to consumer demand, said Andrew P. Schafer, executive director.

However, it is only an option; cemetery customers are free to contract for such services independently, he said.

“With this new law, parishioners are prohibited from their freedom of choice to select us as a memorial provider,” Schafer said. “Simply put, this new law protects only the interests of funeral directors and monument dealers while eliminating the rights of our ministry and our families.”

The income generated by the sales helps pay for perpetual care at the cemeteries.

One of the plaintiffs, Emilio Mazza of Edison, said he was angry the law will prevent his sons from getting the same level of service he has received in the last five years since he built a mausoleum for himself at Saint Gertrude Cemetery in the Colonia section of Woodbridge.

“The great thing is they take care of it forever,” Mazza said, adding that he believed the law would mean his sons—for whom he bought two lots for future use—will not receive the same care.

To see the Institute for Justice animated video on the case visit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xYSpijkTfIi.

Greg Reed, attorney for the Arlington, VA-based Institute of Justice.
Knights of Columbus call attention to suffering Middle Eastern Christians

PHILADELPHIA—The Knights of Columbus will redouble its humanitarian efforts benefiting persecuted Middle Eastern Christians and begin an education campaign to make their plight better known. The effort is part of the Knights’ Christian Refugee Relief Fund, which has delivered more than $3 million in humanitarian aid to persecuted Christians and other religious minorities in the Middle East.

Knights of Columbus CEO Carl Anderson appeared at a press conference in Philadelphia on Aug. 4, the first day of the Knights’ 133rd international convention, along with two archbishops whose people have suffered intense persecution in Iraq and Syria.

“Today I announce that we will begin a new campaign to expose the crimes against humanity that are being committed,” Anderson said. “It is time for a season of truth about what is happening to Christians and other minorities.”

Melkite Catholic Archbishop Jean-Clement Jeanbart of Aleppo, Syria, and Chaldean Catholic Archbishop Bashar Matti Warda, C.Ss.R. of Erbil, Iraq, expressed their thanks to the Knights for their support and prayers.

“Please, speak for the Christians in the Middle East, because they have been subject to all kinds of violence because they are Christians,” Archbishop Warda said. “This is part of your heritage, this is part of being an American. Please speak for the persecuted around the world.”

WASHINGTON—Federal funds should be reallocated so women can obtain their health care from providers that do not promote abortion, Cardinal Sean P. O’Malley, archbishop of Boston, said in an Aug. 3 letter to the U.S. Senate. Cardinal O’Malley, who chairs the Committee on Pro-Life Activities of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, urged support for S. 1881, which would withhold federal funds from the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and its affiliates.

“The most recent revelations about Planned Parenthood’s willingness to traffic in fetal tissue from abortions, and to alter abortion methods not for any reason related to women’s health but to obtain more “intact” organs, is the latest demonstration of a callousness toward women and their unborn children that is shocking to many Americans.

The Catholic Church comes to this issue from a perspective rooted rightly grown in recent years.

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The full text of his letter follows:

I am writing to ask your support for S. 1881, to withhold federal funds from the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and its affiliates.

It has long been troubling to many Americans that the nation’s largest abortion network, performing over a third of all abortions, receives over half a billion taxpayer dollars a year. This concern has
The current crisis calls for an integrated ecology if we are to have any hope in overcoming the great challenge that stands before humanity, the pope says. This means creating an ecological culture that does more than simply respond to immediate problems. Instead, there “needs to be a distinctive way of looking at things, a way of thinking, policies, an educational program, a lifestyle and a spirituality.”

An integrated ecology demands that everyone participate in the discussion: science, religion, politics, the arts, the poor, etc., so that all these specific areas of knowledge and experience can be “integrated into a larger vision of reality.”

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, of Louisville, KY, and president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, hailed the encyclical, saying the pope had drawn extensively from the teaching of his predecessors and was teaching all people of good will, “that care for the things of the earth is necessarily bound together with our care of one another, especially the poor.” He said the question at the heart of the encyclical is the same question asked by Pope Francis in paragraph 160: “What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us?”

**BY THE NUMBERS**

An encyclical letter is a high-level teaching document that expresses the pope’s thoughts on matters of faith and morals. Encyclicals may be to the entire Church, a particular Church or people, or to all people of goodwill. Encyclicals do not constitute ex cathedra (“from the chair”) pronouncements, i.e., they do not have infallible authority. However, they are important in that the pope is fulfilling his role as pastor and teacher.

Here is a look at the number of encyclicals issued by recent popes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pope</th>
<th>Dates of Papacy</th>
<th>Encyclicals</th>
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<tr>
<td>Francis</td>
<td>March 2013 – present</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Paul II</td>
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<td>John Paul I.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul VI.</td>
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**WHAT CAN WE DO?**

In *Laudato Si’* (211) Pope Francis provides us a list of a few of the “little daily actions” we can do to fulfill our duty to care for creation:

- Avoid the use of plastic and paper
- Reduce water consumption
- Separate refuse
- Cook only what we can reasonably consume
- Use public transportation or carpool
- Plant trees
- Turn off unnecessary lights


Information provided by Faith Catholic
Local News

August 19, 2015

John Downey, athletic director and cross country coach at Immaculate Heart Academy in Washington Township, and five student-athletes recently traveled to Lake Placid, NY, to participate in the Life of an Athlete program at the U.S. Olympic Training Center. Giavanna Tabbachino, Lauren Gallagher, Jill Neggia, Jacqueline Rogers, and Bridget Scanlon attended workshops where speakers talked about sleeping and eating right, staying away from alcohol and drugs, and living a healthy lifestyle. The girls also had the chance to run on some of the local trails, work out with a group of Navy SEALs, climb Whiteface Mountain and visit the Ski Jump Complex. “We all took notes at the workshops and put them together when we came back,” Gallagher said. “We sent them to our whole team to help us all improve and grow together. It was a great experience.”

Left to right, Giavanna Tabbachino, Lauren Gallagher, Jill Neggia, John Downey, Jacqueline Rogers and Bridget Scanlon.

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Submitted photos
Tabbachino, Gallagher, Rogers, Neggia and Scanlon at the Lake Placid Olympic Training Center.

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Archbishop Myers appoints new directors

Archbishop John J. Myers has appointed Father Emeka Christopher Okwuosa, S.D.V., as Director of Vocations for Religious Life in the Office of Delegate for Religious for the Archdiocese of Newark.

Fr. Emeka will work closely with Sister Theresa Maria Holtschlag, C.S.J., Delegate for Religious of the Archdiocese, to develop cooperative initiatives to support vocation efforts of the 49 communities of women Religious and 26 communities of Religious priests and Brothers within the archdiocese. He will be the archdiocesan resource to the communities and raise awareness among young people in parishes, schools and religious education programs of the joys and gifts of consecrated life.

Fr. Emeka is a priest of the Society of Divine Vocations, a community founded in Italy in the early 20th Century by Blessed Justin Maria Rassolillo. The charism of the Vocationists is to inspire, nurture and train those who feel called by God to the priesthood and Religious life, especially among the poor, in service to the Church.

Born in Nigeria in 1977, he is the third to last child of the late Vitus Gogo Okwuosa, and the ninth of 10 children of his mother, Priscilla Efuru Okwuosa. One of his brothers is a priest, and one of his sisters is in the religious life.

He entered the Society of Divine Vocations in Rome in 2002, and professed his first vows in 2004. Between 2004 and 2011, he completed his philosophical and theological studies at the Pontifical Salesian University in Rome. During his time as a student, he served as the president of the Nigerian Students organization, and vice president and secretary of the university’s African Students organization. In 2006, following a summer mission in the US, Fr. Emeka was sent for a year-long apostolic assignment as the Educator of the Vocationists’ junior seminarians in Naples. He professed his perpetual vows in 2007. In 2011, he was ordained a deacon in Rome, and on Feb. 4, 2012 was ordained to the priesthood.

Between 2011 and 2013 Fr. Emeka was a deacon and later a parochial vicar of Mater Dei Parish, Newport, VT, serving four churches near the southern border of Canada. In 2013 he was transferred to the order’s Blessed Justin Vocationary in Florham Park, where he served as formator, vocation director, and missionary coordinator of the Vocationists in the US. In 2014, he opened, with two other priests, the Vocationists’ community in the Diocese of Metuchen, and has served as Vice Superior of the community.

Archbishop Myers also appointed Deacon James Detura as Director of the Office of Family Life Ministries.

Deacon Detura will work closely with Rev. Msgr. Richard Okwuosa, S.D.V., as the Archdiocese’s diaconate formation program in 2007 and was ordained in 2011. Prior to his ordination, he served his home parish, Saint John the Evangelist in Bergenfield, for more than 25 years in a range of family life areas including Marriage Encounter. He also served as men’s commission parish leader and Disciples in Mission family coordinator.

Since his ordination, Deacon Detura has continued to serve in parish ministries, as well as on the parish’s finance and parish councils. He also is chair of the Saint John the Evangelist “We are Living Stones” campaign.

He and his wife of 37 years, Trish, live in Bergenfield and are the parents of Michael, Erin, Megan and Kerrin.

Oak Knoll alumna completes competitive internship at Overlook Medical Center

SUMMIT—Recent Oak Knoll graduate Caroline Burley, Class of 2013, completed a highly selective and competitive internship program with Overlook Medical Center in which she received a first-hand glimpse into the daily life of medical professionals.

Burley, who is currently a junior at Kenyon College in Gambier, OH, was one of 17 students to be accepted in the program, according to Overlook Medical Center.

Designed to show prospective medical students aspects of the health care field, the four-week program in June gave students a first-hand insight into the life of physicians, nurses and other medical staff in a variety of specialized fields.

A Summit native, Burley said she wanted to participate in the program to cement her desire to pursue medical school.

Through the program, in which she followed physicians working in the operating room, emergency departments and other medical facilities, she was able to do just that.

“It was definitely daunting going into it,” she said. “I was a little intimidated to be sure, but all the physicians were so nice and so helpful.”

Through the program she experienced the relationship and bond that builds between patient and doctor. She also witnessed four births.

“That was amazing and something that definitely stands out,” she said.

Reflecting on her time at Oak Knoll, Burley attributed the school’s influence for her applying to the internship program.

“Oak Knoll really encourages you to ask questions, to put yourself out there,” she said, pointing to her running for class president as an example.

She also feels the small classes offered by Oak Knoll encouraged her to be an active, eager and inquisitive learner, both in the Overlook program and during her studies at Kenyon College.

The internship program, in its sixth year and overseen by Overlook Staff President Clifford Sales, only accepted 3 percent of applicants, hospital officials said.

Oak Knoll alumna Caroline Burley, fifth from right, recently completed a highly selective internship program in which she insight into the daily life of a medical professional.
High school seniors experience life at Caldwell College

Fifty high-achieving high school students have completed a Summer College at Caldwell experience. “Enlightening” is how students Andrew Sosanya and Roehsa Andre described their time at the Aim High Academy on Caldwell University’s campus in July.

The students were able to attend the rigorous science and math program that has been offered for the past five summers at Caldwell, thanks to the U.S. Department of Education College Access Grant made available through the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education. The intensive three-week program was open to high school seniors who will be the first generation in their families to attend college.

The program was not for the faint hearted. It involved “late nights and not a lot of sleep,” but was totally worthwhile, said Sosanya, a student at Saint Benedict’s Preparatory School in Newark. The faculty and staff provided the students with “a real taste of professors, fast-paced, no holding hands—they treated us like college students,” Sosanya said.

The students lived in the dormitories and attended lectures and labs with the chance to earn three college credits. They studied biology, chemistry, environmental science, statistics, medicine and vectors. College prep workshops focused on topics like financial aid, admissions, conflict resolution and SAT skills. The students were exposed to cutting-edge scientific tools like robotic surgery, 3D printing design and Google technology.

Participants went on field trips to the Liberty Science Center, Duke Farms and a Jackals game, where they learned how physics and statistics are used in baseball. Their final projects were presented at a reception attended by community leaders, teachers and family members. Research subjects included water resource management, biochemistry and eating disorders, biochemistry medicine and health, and alternative energy and agriculture.

Julaisi Caguana, from Saint Vincent Academy in Newark, said the students tutored and tested one another and helped each other with homework. “We all had something we were good at (and) balanced each other out,” she said.

Resident life assistants acted as tutors and mentors. One taught knitting, another sang for them, while others cooked pancakes for dinner one night. “They tried to make it fun for us,” Andre said, who attends Mary Help of Christians Academy in North Haledon. “I will miss them,” said Caguana.

Best of all, they made friends who shared their commitment to academics.

Holy Door sealed at Cathedral Basilica

By Al Frank
Associate Publisher

A nine-foot cross, last used for the 2000 Jubilee, sealed the Holy Door at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in preparation for the Year of Mercy to begin Dec. 8.

After erecting a scaffold in front of the door of the Clifton Avenue tower on July 13, a crew from Malanga Construction of Fairfield affixed the Year of Mercy symbol in the tympanum before blocking the bronze doors with the red, wooden cross.

The doors will reopen Dec. 13, the day Pope Francis has designated for opening holy doors worldwide, following the Dec. 8 opening of the Holy Door at St. Peter’s Basilica.

The last time the cathedral sealed a Holy Door was in May 1998, in preparation for the Great Jubilee of the Year 2000 declared by St. John Paul II to celebrate the second millennium of Christianity.

The Holy Door custom began with Pope Martin V in 1423. An aspect of the jubilee observance is a pilgrimage to Rome and passing through holy doors at St. Peter’s and other basilicas as an act of penitence.

Those who cannot make the journey can replicate the pilgrimage by passing through the holy doors of local cathedrals and churches and observing prescribed devotions. Doing so qualifies the faithful for spiritual benefits, including plenary indulgences.

In 1998, the cathedral’s Holy Door was in the Mary tower on the Ridge Street side, while this year’s is in the Gesu tower.

Father Joseph Mancini, Director of Pontifical Ceremonies and Archdiocesan Liturgies, said it is an appropriate spot for the Year of Mercy. The suffering Christ is depicted in a carving above the portal and the cathedral basilica itself is dedicated to the merciful Sacred Heart of Jesus, who calls himself the door to salvation in John 10.

Just as for the upcoming Year of Mercy, a Holy Door at St. Peter’s Basilica was sealed for the 2000 Jubilee. Hours after the pope opened the one in Rome in 1999, Sacred Heart’s was opened before midnight Mass on Christmas Eve.

Jim Goodness, archdiocesan Director of Communications, remembers that someone had forgotten to extend the automatic timer’s shut-off for the outdoor floodlights. The near-darkness that suddenly enveloped then-Archbishop Theodore McCarrick and others gathered on the plaza was dispelled a few minutes later after the switch was flipped back on.
Holy Angels go ‘green’

Academy of the Holy Angels might be closed for the summer months but the students have still been busy tending to their new vegetable garden planted this past spring as a part of the school’s Project Greenhouse. The girls have been taking shifts weeding, watering and harvesting lettuce, radishes, cherry tomatoes, zucchini, cauliflower, arugula and summer squash for distribution to local food banks.

Project Greenhouse began last November when more than 100 students, staff and family members, assisted by volunteers from Home Depot in North Bergen, joined to construct a greenhouse at the school’s Demarest campus. Students planned and designed the greenhouse, complete with solar panels for power, storage areas, a self-watering system, and a fence. The greenhouse is located directly behind the science classrooms.

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Local News

August 19, 2015

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ST. JUDE PRAYER
May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adorned, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus pray for us. St. Jude worker of miracles pray for us. St. Jude helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer nine times a day. By the eighth day your prayer will be answered. Say it for nine days. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you St. Jude.

D.A.R.T.

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN
Oh most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the Sea, help me and show me that you are my mother. Oh Holy Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to secure me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. I place this cause in your hands. Amen. Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. Novena is published in gratitude. Thank you.

J.G.
Local News

HEALTHCARE

An archdiocesan sponsored spiritual support group for persons experiencing same-sex attractions who desire to lead a chaste life in accord with Catholic teaching on homosexuality. For information, call (908) 272-2307. (All calls confidential)

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Announcement

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HOW TO REPORT ABUSE

The Archdiocese of Newark takes very seriously any and all credible complaints of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform the archdiocese immediately so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse.

Individuals who wish to report an allegation of sexual misconduct may do so by calling the Archdiocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection at (201) 407-3256.
Around the Archdiocese

August 30

St. Augustine Parish, Union City, celebrated feast of St. Augustine, Mass at 9 a.m. followed by procession to start festival, includes folk dances, flea market, food, games and a raffle, ends at 9 p.m., (201) 863-0233.

September 2

Holy Spirit Parish, Union, Holy Hour for Life, 7:30-8:30 p.m., call Jim at (908) 451-0876 or e-mail jsondey@comcast.net.

September 17

Loyola Jesuit Center, Morristown, 24th Annual Fr. Harvey Haberstroh, S.J. Memorial Golf Classic, at Suburban Golf Club in Union, includes brunch, on-course refreshments, cocktail reception and dinner, awards ceremony held after tournament, e-mail retreathouse@loyola.org, call (973) 539-0740 or visit www.loyola.org.

September 19

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Wallington, 35th anniversary of Share & Care social services association, 7:30 p.m., $25, call Mary Jane Kowalczyk at (201) 939-8576 or Ginny Topolski at (201) 715-2087.

September 20

Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Jersey City, Anniversary Mass, 1:15 p.m., reception at Casino in the Park, cost $50, (201) 434-7500.

September 23

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Ridgewood, bereavement support group, Wednesday evenings at 7:30-9 p.m. through Nov. 18, call Drew Rodney at (201) 214-4637 or e-mail drewrod@optonline.net.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Wallington, “Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother,” eight-part study featuring Dr. Edward Sri, Wednesdays at 7 p.m., through Nov. 18, $30, call Eileen McGuire at (201) 835-2516 or Chris Zembicki at (973) 546-9043.

September 8

Holy Name Medical Center Hospice and Palliative Services, Teaneck, bereavement support group, “Understanding Your Grief after the Death of Your Child,” will run for ten weeks, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., registration by Sept. 2; call Lenore Guido at (201) 833-3000, ext. 7580.

Obituaries

Sister Louise Del Carpine, M.P.F.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July 10 at Saint Lucy Chapel, Villa Walsh, Morristown, for Sister Louise Del Carpine, M.P.F., 87, who died July 7.

Sr. Louise entered the Religious Teachers Filippini in 1941, received her habit in 1944, and made her religious profession in 1947. She earned a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Georgian Court University, Lakewood.

Sr. Louise was a teacher at Holy Family School, Nutley, and principal at Our Lady Queen of Peace School, Maywood. She also served throughout New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Ohio. She retired and became a resident at Saint Joseph Hall Infirmary in 2011.

Sister Eufemia Parducci, M.P.F.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July 13 at Saint Lucy Chapel at Villa Walsh, Morristown, for Sister Eufemia Parducci, M.P.F., 95, who died July 7.

Sr. Eufemia entered the Religious Teachers Filippini in 1948, received her habit in 1949, and made her religious profession in 1952.

She earned a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from the College of Saint Elizabeth, Convent Station, and a master’s degree from Manhattan College, NY.

Predominantly a first grade teacher, Sr. Eufemia taught at the following archdiocesan schools: Our Lady of Mount Virgin Garfield; Saint Bartholomew, Scotch Plains; Saint Joseph, East Orange; Saint Nicholas, Palisades Park; and Our Lady of Libera, West New York.

She also served as an educator throughout Connecticut, New York and Ohio.

Sister Ellen Normile, S.C.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July 20 at Saint Anne Villa, Convent Station, for Sister Ellen Normile, S.C., 92, who died July 15.

Formerly Sister Catherine Alexis, Sr. Ellen was a Sister of Charity of Saint Elizabeth for 74 years. She graduated from the College of Saint Elizabeth, Convent Station, with a bachelor’s degree in education, and earned her master’s in education from Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA.

Sr. Ellen was an educator in Connecticut, New Jersey and Massachusetts. She served as a teacher in Saint Lucy School, Jersey City. She resided at Caritas Community, Jersey City, from 2006 to 2007 and retired to Saint Anne Villa until her death.

Sister Conchetta Latina, M.P.F.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Saint Lucy Chapel at Villa Walsh, Morristown, for Sister Conchetta Latina, M.P.F., 89, who died July 24.

Sr. Conchetta entered the Religious Teachers Filippini in 1944. She received her habit one year later, and made her religious profession in 1948. She earned a bachelor’s degree in English and Philosophy from Seton Hall University, South Orange; a master’s degree in English from Seton Hall University and a master’s in pastoral counseling from Iona College, NY.

Sr. Conchetta taught the intermediate grades at the following archdiocesan schools: Holy Rosary, Jersey City; Our Lady Queen of Peace, Maywood; and Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Newark. She was a teacher, principal and superior at Villa Victoria Academy, Trenton, for 27 years.

Sr. Conchetta was a counselor for the Catholic Welfare Bureau in Trenton for 22 years and continued in private counseling services for women at Villa Victoria until her illness in 2010 when she entered Saint Joseph Hall, Morristown.

Sister Noreen Conheeney, O.P.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July 30 in the chapel of Saint Catherine of Siena Convent, Caldwell, for Sister Noreen Conheeney, O.P., 78, who died July 27.

A Jersey City native, Sister Noreen entered the novitiate of the Dominican Sisters of Newburgh, NY, in September 1955, made her First Profession in 1957, and Final Profession in August 1960. Sister Noreen earned a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Mount Saint Mary College, NY, and a master’s degree in special religious education from Cardinal Stritch College, WI.

Sister Noreen taught at Saint Anthony School, Hawthorne, from 1957-70. From 1980-93, she was a teacher at Saint Paul School, Jersey City. She was a special education instructor in Bayonne public schools for 18 years.

Sister Noreen retired from active ministry in 2011. She then moved to Saint Catherine of Siena Health Care Facility in Caldwell until her death.

Sister Filomena Di Carlo, M.P.F.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated August 10.
Cusack Care Center honors ‘Generations’

JERSEY CITY—The Margaret Anna Cusack Care Center, a 139-bed skilled nursing facility housed in the historic Saint Joseph’s Home for the Blind, will host the 12th Annual Generations Benefit Luncheon on Sunday, Sept. 27 from noon - 3 p.m. at Casino in the Park in Jersey City.

This year’s event will honor Sister Alice McCoy, O.P., Hudson Hospice Volunteers, educator and choir director at Saint Dominic Academy Joseph Napoli, and Randolph Riotto, founder at Riotto Funeral Home.

As a way of celebrating the lives of its residents, the Cusack Care Center instituted its own unique annual event surrounding National Grandparents Day, traditionally celebrated on the first Sunday after Labor Day. In 2010, the luncheon shifted focus to celebrate generations – those, not necessarily grandparents, who have committed themselves to service to others by carrying on the traditions of those who preceded them.

Proceeds from the 2015 12th Annual Generations Benefit luncheon will be designated for programs and services for the benefit of Cusack Care Center residents.

Deacon Thomas J. Bulgia

A Mass of Christina Burial was celebrated Aug. 14 at Saint Andrew Kim Parish, Maplewood, for Deacon Thomas J. Bulgia, 70, who died Aug. 9.

Born in Orange, Deacon Bulgia lived in East Orange for the past 48 years. He was a graduate of Our Lady of the Valley High School, Orange, and a Marine Corps veteran of the Vietnam War before becoming an East Orange police officer.

He was ordained a deacon by the Archdiocese of Newark June 5, 1999, before serving at Holy Name Parish, East Orange, for five years and the past 11 years at Saint Andrew Kim. He was also the police chaplain for the Glen Ridge Police Department.

Deacon Bulgia was a member of the Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh, West Orange, the Army National Guard, Glen Ridge Volunteer Ambulance Squad and the Marine Corps League.
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Catholic Cemeteries

Fall Open House Schedule

SAT & SUN
SEPT. 19 & 20
GATE OF HEAVEN
Cemetery & Mausoleum
225 Ridgedale Ave.
East Hanover, NJ

SAT & SUN
OCT. 3 & 4
MARYREST
Cemetery & Mausoleum
770 Darlington Ave.
Mahwah, NJ

- Holy Cross Cemetery & Mausoleum
  Oct. 17 & 18
- St. Gertrude Cemetery & Mausoleum
  53 Inman Ave., Colonia, NJ
  Oct. 31 & Nov. 1
- Holy Name Cemetery & Mausoleum
  823 West Side Ave., Jersey City, NJ
  Nov. 14 & 15
- Christ the King Cemetery
  980 Huron Rd., Franklin Lakes, NJ
  Nov. 21 & 22

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