The Extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the Pastoral Challenges of the Family in the Context of the New Evangelization is over, for now. It was a very earnest attempt to look into the issues at the heart of both immediate family life and the life of this much larger family of ours that we call Church. It was not simply an exercise to be logged and forgotten. It is a reality we must face directly and honestly. Unlike the more sheltered environment of the Second Vatican Council, which I witnessed as a seminarian in Rome, the 24-hour news cycle environment we live in today created too many expectations and disappointments from this synod.

But echoes of false and misleading statements, suppositions, propositions and perceptions about the synod remain. Unfortunately, some of them have led to a belief that the Synod was not successful, that the Church does not care about people who are not cut from an “Ozzie and Harriet” mold, and that she has closed off any way of welcome or invitation to walk together in faith as a family. The discussions about the discovery of potential pastoral approaches to these issues and challenges will continue in the coming year as we prepare for the General Synod in October 2015. At the same time, the Church and her people will take time to focus on such joyful moments as the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia in September.

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The department of Pastoral Ministry with Persons with Disabilities of the Archdiocese of Newark is dedicated to the participation of individuals with disabilities in parish life. Inclusive Family Masses were established to ensure that individuals and families with special needs feel welcome to celebrate the Eucharist. Masses are held at Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Bergenfield; Saint Augustine Parish, Union City (in Spanish); Nativity Parish, Midland Park; and Our Lady of The Lake Parish, Verona.

Saint Therese of Lisieux Parish in Cresskill recently established an Inclusive Family Mass in September. Father Samuel Citero, O.Carm., was inspired to host the Mass after a journey to Lourdes with the American Special Children’s Pilgrimage Group. Each Easter, the Bergen-

Continued on page 4
Honohan named president of Immaculate Conception High School

MONTCLAIR—Archbishop John J. Myers has appointed Celia Triggs Honohan as president of Immaculate Conception High School.

Most recently, she served as director of development coordinating efforts to keep the open. The monumental effort by students, parents, teachers, administration, board of trustees, alumni and friends put the school on a path to financial stability.

As president of the Catholic co-educational high school, Honohan will be responsible for designing and implementing a range of fund-raising, development and admissions programs to increase enrollment and ensure long-term viability for the school. She also will be responsible for daily personnel and financial matters at the high school, and will report to the Board of Trustees.

An alumna of Immaculate Conception, along with six of her siblings, Honohan has experience in business, educational management, curriculum development and implementation, and fund-raising and institutional development.

She holds a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Marymount Manhattan College, and a master’s degree in educational theatre from the Steinhardt School of Education of New York University.

“Celia will bring to the helm of Immaculate Conception High School a vocation that calls on all of us to stand in solidarity with South Sudan, work for the common good and to confront these injustices through education, advocacy and prayer,” said Sr. Cathy Arata, S.S.N.D., Sisters of Notre Dame, whose mission is to transform the world for students, faculty, alumni, friends and supporters—will surely benefit from the strength, wit, determination, initiative and innovation that Celia will bring to the helm of Immaculate Conception in this year of transition. For all of these reasons, the board unanimously chose her to serve as president.”

Celia Triggs Honohan

Sister reflects on her mission in Sudan

DEMAREST—On Nov. 4, The Academy of the Holy Angels welcomed Sister Cathy Arata, S.S.N.D., who shared her experiences working for Solidarity with South Sudan. The organization is a consortium of more than 200 religious congregations dedicated to training teachers, health care workers and pastoral personnel to improve the lives of the people in the North African nation.

Holy Angels President Melinda Hanlon commended Sr. Cathy for reflecting the ideals of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, whose mission is to transform the world through education and to live in solidarity with all creation.

Sr. Cathy, who worked with the organization for six years, offered an overview of South Sudan’s geography and recent history, as well as some of its most pressing humanitarian challenges. Even before the country’s independence in 2011, its people have been struggling with the effects of civil war. Many are displaced and lacking basic necessities and very few Sudanese receive an education; those that do are typically boys. With only one medical doctor per 100,000 people, its healthcare system is severely lacking and the country leads the world in infant mortality. Although the country is rich in natural resources, including oil and gold, many of its citizens struggle for survival on a daily basis. Solidarity with South Sudan seeks to confront these injustices through education, advocacy and prayer.

Sr. Cathy urged Holy Angels students and staff to seek justice and work for the common good and to stand in solidarity with South Sudan, through prayer, service and action.

“We are all called to be brothers and sisters to one another. And this is not an option but rather a vocation: a vocation that calls on all of us,” she explained.

In addition to holding their Sudanese brothers and sisters in prayer, the Holy Angels community will direct this year’s Thanksgiving fund-raising efforts to the organization. The campaign’s goal is to raise enough money to cover a year’s tuition for at least twenty Sudanese students.
Annual collection raises funds for religious

AREA—The 27th national collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious will be held Dec. 6-7 in the Archdiocese of Newark. The annual, parish-based appeal is coordinated by the National Religious Retirement Office in Washington and benefits more than 35,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests.

Last year, the Archdiocese of Newark contributed $540,799.71 to this collection. In 2014, the Augustinian Recollects, Dominican Nuns, Marist Brothers and the Sisters of Saint Dominic received financial support made possible by the Retirement Fund for Religious. Women and men religious who serve or have served in the archdiocese but whose communities are based elsewhere may also benefit from the annual collection.

The 2013 appeal raised nearly $28.4 million, enabling the Retirement Office to distribute $23 million in financial assistance to 424 religious communities. Additional funding is allocated for communities with the greatest needs and for retirement planning and educational resources.

Catholic bishops in the United States initiated the collection in 1988 to address the significant lack of retirement funding among U.S. religious communities. Proceeds are distributed to eligible communities to help underwrite such day-to-day needs as prescription medications and nursing care. Since the collection began, Catholics have contributed $726 million. Over 93 percent of donations directly support senior religious and their communities.

Despite the overwhelming generosity to this fund, many religious communities continue to lack resources sufficient to support retirement and eldercare. Of 590 communities submitting data to the Retirement Office in 2013, fewer than eight percent were fully funded for retirement.

Visit www.retiredreligious.org to learn more.

The financial crisis is rooted in low salaries and changing demographics. Traditionally, Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests—known collectively as women and men religious—worked for small stipends that furnished only the basics of daily living. As a result, many communities lack adequate retirement savings. At the same time, elderly religious are living longer and now outnumber younger, wage-earning religious. Sixty-eight percent of religious in communities providing data to the Retirement Office are past age 70, and the income of those engaged in compensated ministry cannot keep pace with the growing cost of eldercare. In 2013 alone, the total cost of care for senior women and men religious was over $1.2 billion.

In recent years, the national office has expanded efforts to help religious communities address the root causes of the retirement-funding shortage. For many, a major obstacle to financial stability is the struggle to maintain outdated congregational properties while providing quality eldercare. In 2013, the Retirement Office received a $2.5 million grant from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, payable over three years. A substantial portion of this award is being dedicated to the creation of educational programming and resources related to effective property planning and management.

“Despite the troubling statistics, many religious communities have made great strides in addressing their funding deficits, and contributions to the Retirement Fund for Religious have bolstered this progress,” said Precious Blood Sister Janice Bader, the office’s executive director. “Religious are humbled by the generous donations to this fund and determined to make the most out of every dollar.”

The U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Associations named Union Catholic High School coach Mike McCabe 2014 Coach of the Year. Last year McCabe led the boys cross country and track teams to two conference championships, four county championships, two state championships and four national titles. Included among those titles was the Union Catholic girls track team’s first-ever national title. McCabe is in his 12th year of coaching at the high school. “Essentially, I wanted to build a culture of pride, confidence, commitment, hard work and success,” he said. “I want each athlete to improve every day in the classroom and on the track. As a team, we will continue to work to win our Conference, County, and State meets while being a major factor on the National Track & Field scene.”

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Synod

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Catholic Christians. That couldn’t be farther from the truth.

One of the concerns I have had with the buzz both during and since the synod stems from the decision by so many to disregard the fact that this gathering was an effort to look at the challenges “in the context of the new evangelization,” and to examine how members of the Church can to serve those in need.

Evangelization is a calling of people to become disciples, to follow in the path that Jesus revealed through the mystery of the Church that He established. It is not “All ways are the best way” or a manufactured-for-the-moment solution.

In terms of the Church’s teaching on marriage, for instance: it is a sacred and permanent bond between a husband and a wife, and is based in natural law. The Church provides spiritual and temporal care to those whose condition or state does not match the ideal. Perhaps more effort should have been made prior to the start of the Synod to shape expectations within the mystery of Church, rather than encourage speculation about “outside of the mystery” thinking.

I am hopeful that this lesson and others have been learned. I am confident that in the months to come some very compassionate and innovative ideas will emerge to serve all the People of God who need our love and our care.

I do know this: throughout my life as a priest and bishop, I have encountered couples who seriously wished to participate fully in the life of the Church. I have never said to them: “Go ahead and do what you want.” Such a rash action would not help them, and would violate the ordination promises I made. I have, however, asked them to embrace the words of our Lord: “If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me” (Lk 9:23), and I accompanied them on their journey. Together, we have said “yes” to continuing discipleship.

The 2014 final report will function as a discussion document for next year’s Synod. In turn, the 2015 synod will report to Pope Francis, who will subsequently issue an apostolic exhortation that will seek to help the Church face the challenges of the family in today’s world.

The 2015 discussions on the pastoral care of the person and the family will spring from last month’s final “relatio,” or working document http://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2014/10/18/0770/03044.html

The document provides bishops and faithful world-wide with discussion points for next year’s assembly.

“Synods are not about taking a poll or voting in a democratic way on Church teaching and practice but they embody a humble openness to the fact that the Lord is leading the pilgrim church through the power of the Holy Spirit,” Cardinal Lorenzo Baldisseri, secretary general of the Synod of Bishops said in an Oct. 31 speech.

Inclusive Family Masses

Continued from page 1

field-based organization travels to the French town of Lourdes with children and young adults with special needs. Gerry and Rosemarie Flood, who founded the pilgrimage in 1995, are parishioners at Saint Therese.

“The Inclusive Family Mass is growing every month,” Fr. Citero said. “It is an open invitation for families with special needs to feel more comfortable coming to church in general. Sometimes families feel embarrassed or self-conscious but this Mass makes them feel welcomed.”

The masses follow guidelines typically used for a children’s liturgy, with only one reading and the Gospel.

“The Mass is more fun and whimsical with upbeat music and clapping. There is more interaction between the presider and the congregation. Young people with special needs are readers during the Mass and they also participate as ushers and greeters. The Mass is more relaxed. As a presider, it is a lot of fun,” Fr. Citero explained.

Families and individuals are very appreciative of the Mass, Fr. Citero explained, and feel like they are a part of the church community.

“Parents wanted to have their children receive the sacraments and now they feel they have a place. There was one mom who cried during the whole Mass because no one was staring at her son and telling him to be quiet. It was overwhelming for her,” Fr. Citero recalled.

“As Catholics, we believe that everyone is welcome,” said Anne Masters, M.A., director of Pastoral Ministry with Persons with Disabilities. “Some families living with disabilities struggle with the concept at first because I thought it set up the model of something being different. The goal was to say ‘everyone is welcome.’ Some families with disabilities that attend their regular parish Mass also like the Inclusive Family Mass because it’s an opportunity to relax and be with families on the same journey. It’s powerful for families who were once afraid to now feel comfortable.”

Saint Therese of Lisieux Parish celebrates Inclusive Family Masses on the third Sunday of every month.

For more information on other Mass times and locations, visit www.rcan.org/disabilities or e-mail Anne Masters at masteranrcan@gmail.com.
Our Lady of Lourdes celebrates centennial with open house

WEST ORANGE—As one of many activities this year to mark its 100th anniversary, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish will host an open house Nov. 15, from noon-4 p.m. Catholic and non-Catholic neighbors, community members and township officials are invited to stop by and learn about the history, architecture and the parish’s deep roots in the West Orange community.

“Even non-Catholics will be delighted by the architectural nuances of this church,” says Father James Ferry, of the upcoming open house. “Obviously we are hoping to connect with fellow Catholics, perhaps those looking for a new parish home, but we have such an interesting history that we invite anyone to stop by and say hello and tour the church.”

While Our Lady of Lourdes was founded in 1914, the present church at One Eagle Rock Avenue was constructed 50 years ago and was considered quite radical for the day. Its color scheme reflected a 1960’s style, and unusual for the day. Its color and was considered quite radical. Lourdes was constructed 50 years ago to stop by and say hello and tour the church.

“The architect traveled to Italy for each piece,” Fr. Ferry said. Our Lady of Lourdes has seen more than 50 parishioners enter religious life and ordained priests.

“The architect traveled to Italy for each piece,” Fr. Ferry said. “These are women and men who grew up at Lourdes and found their calling in ministry and service to the Church here,” Fr. Ferry remarked.

The parish is also known for attracting many famous figures over the years, including Ed Sullivan and his wife, Sylvia Weinstein, who were married at the parish by renowned composer and priest, Father Joseph P. Connor.

Clergy, staff and ministry leaders are conversant in multiple languages including English, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, French, Korean and Tagalog. “We encourage everyone to come see us and see what we are about,” Fr. Ferry said. “We have been ministering to West Orange for 100 years and intend to continue to share our love of God and the word of the Gospel to the greater community, especially those in need.”

For more information, call (973) 325-0110 or visit www.lourdeswestorange.org.

Contagions guidelines from the Office of Divine Worship

With Ebola in the headlines and the flu season approaching, the Office of Divine Worship offers guidelines to the faithful of the Archdiocese of Newark for receiving Communion under both species.

“An important element of containing germs and disease, both during and outside the liturgy, involves common sense,” said the memo issued by director Father Thomas Dente. “There is no need to severely limit liturgical practice due to the fear of contagions.”

Those who feel they may be contagious, “can legitimately excuse themselves from the obligation to attend Mass,” while those who attend must personally “determine their level of liturgical involvement in sensitive situations.”

For example, those who come to church, even if they are not feeling well, should “refrain from receiving the Blood of Christ and avoid physical contact with others.” During the sign of peace, a reverent bow could suffice, because “It is not obligatory to touch.”

The guidelines urge priests, ministers and members of the assembly to wash hands before and after Mass and make liberal use of hand sanitizers. Priests who are ill and must preside should consider a separate chalice for their use.

Parents are also responsible for deciding the level of participation in the liturgy of sick children.

Finally, the ill who are homebound long-term should consider requesting the parish bring Communion to them.
Sister Claire Grieco, M.P.F.


Sr. Claire entered the Religious Teachers Filippini in 1949 and received her habit in 1950, and made her religious profession in 1953. She earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Fordham University, Bronx, NY, and attended Rider University for business education.

She served as a teacher at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Orange (1951-1955), Holy Family, Nutley (1982-1984), and Saint Bartholomew, Scotch Plains (1984-1986).

Sr. Claire was honored in 1992 by the Diocese of Metuchen for excellence in education. In 1999, with administrative experience, the Community appointed her as administrator of Villa Walsh’s home health care center. In 2005, Sister Claire was instrumental in setting a new direction for Saint Joseph Hall, a health care facility at Villa Walsh. She remained in this position until she entered the infirmary.

Sister Catherine Green, S.S.N.D.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Oct. 16, at Villa Notre Dame, Wilton, CT, for Sister Catherine Green, S.S.N.D., 81, who died Oct. 11.

Born Ann Eileen Green in Dumont, she attended Saint John Grammar School in Bergenfield. After graduation, she entered the School Sisters of Notre Dame Aspiranture in Fort Lee. On July 24, 1953 she pronounced her first vows as a Sister.

She received her bachelor’s degree from Catholic Teachers College, Providence, RI, and a master’s degree in Secondary Education from Seton Hall University, South Orange. In 1988 she earned a second master’s degree from Seton Hall in pastoral ministry.

Sr. Catherine was a teacher at Saint John the Evangelist School, Leonia (1972-1982) and Saint John the Evangelist School, Bergenfield (1964-1966). She taught at the Academy of Holy Angels, Demarest, from 1982 until she retired in 2014.

Sister Clare Pisaneschi, M.P.F.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Oct. 28 at Villa Walsh, Morrisstown, for Sister Clare Pisaneschi, M.P.F., 85, who died Oct. 22.

Sr. Clare entered the Religious Teachers Filippini in 1949. She received the habit a year later, and made her religious profession in 1953.

She taught at Marywood University, Scranton, PA, and earned a master’s degree in history from Seton Hall University, South Orange.

Sr. Clare taught at the following schools in the Archdiocese of Newark: Our Lady of Sorrows, Jersey City; Saint Francis Xavier, Newark; Our Lady of Libera, West New York; Saint Joseph, Lodi; and Saint Bartholomew, Scotch Plains. She was principal at Saint Anthony, Belleville, from 1980-1982.

Brother Raymond Albert, F.M.S.


Brother Raymond was a member of the Marist Brothers of the Schools for 68 years. He served as a teacher in New York and Pennsylvania. In 1983, he relocated to the Archdiocese of Newark where he worked in the business office at Roselle Catholic High School until he retired in 1994.
The College of Saint Elizabeth, Morristown, “Interfaith Dialogue after the Holocaust,” 7:30 p.m., call Jill Alexander at (973) 290-4416 or e-mail jalexander@cse.edu.

Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry. Archdiocese of Newark, Youth Ministry Recognition Awards, at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark, 3 p.m., call Rich Donovan at (201) 998-0088 ext. 4150 or e-mail donovari@rcan.org.

Saint Mary High School, Rutherford, orders for wreaths, poinsettia and grave blankets due Nov. 18, 12” decorated wreath: $15; 6” poinsettia: $11; small decorated grave blanket: $17; large decorated grave blanket: $20; pickup will be Dec. 6 from 9 a.m.-noon; call Lisa DelloStritto at (201) 773-8747 or e-mail ldello612@icloud.com.

Immaculate Conception High School, Lodi, Mass celebrating 140th anniversa-ry of Felician Sisters in North America, 9:15 a.m. in convent chapel, special organ rededication and blessing on Nov. 22 at 2 p.m., (973) 773-2400.

Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Park Ridge, “Why Hunger” benefit concert, 8 p.m., cost: $20 in advance online/ $25 at the door; bring a non-perishable item for the local food pantry, call (201) 573-0718 or visit www.cafeacous-tic.org.

Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry. Archdiocesan Youth Conference Day, at the Archdiocesan Youth Retreat Center, Kearny, 9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m., cost: $20, visit www.newarkoym.com/ ayd-day or call Rich Donovan at (201) 998-0088 ext. 4150.

St. Aedan’s, the Church of St. Peter’s University, Jersey City, celebration of the Solemnity of Christ the King, vespers service and multicultural concert, 3 p.m., reception at Hudson Catholic High School will follow, (201) 433-6800.


LIFENET, Archdiocese of Newark, “Night with the Pro-Life Stars” fund-raising gala, at Mayfair Farms, West Orange, cost: $150, call Christine Flaherty at (973) 497-4500 or visit www. lifeneteducation.org/gala.html.

St. Genevieve Catholic School, Elizabeth, open house, noon-3 p.m., (908) 355-3355 or visit www. saintgenevieveschool.com.

Office of the Metropol-itan Tribunal. Archdiocese of Newark, annulment information evening, at St. John the Apostle Parish, Linden, 7:30 p.m., (973) 497-4145.

Obituaries

Father Robert J. Greco, O.Carm.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Oct. 3 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Middletown, NY, for Father Robert J. Greco, O.Carm., 83, who died Sept. 30.

Fr. Greco, a native of West Orange, was a member of the Order of Carmelites of the North American Province of Saint Elias. He received his habit in the Order of Carmelites in September 1949, when he entered the Carmelite novitate in Auburn, NY. He professed First Vows a year later and on Sept. 12, 1953, he professed Solemn Vows. He was ordained to the priesthood at Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark, on June 4, 1955.

He served as a teachervice principal in Auburn and as assist-ant provincial Saint Albert’s Junior Seminary in Middletown. From 1967 to 1988, Fr. Greco served as a U.S. Navy Chaplain, traveling to Vietnam, Japan and Sicily, as well as stateside. From 1988 to 1998, he ministered as chaplain at Bellevue Hospital, NY.

Father John A. Palasits

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Nov. 8 at Saint Mary Parish, Watchung, for Father John A. Palasits, 81, who died Nov. 1.

Born and raised in Jersey City, Fr. Palasits attended Seton Hall University, South Orange and Immaculate Conception Seminary, Darlington. He also received a bachelor’s degree in sacred theology from Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. He later received a master of divinity in pastoral ministry from Immaculate Conception Seminary. He was ordained a priest on May 31, 1958.

Fr. Palasits served at Saint Michael Parish, Union, from 1958 to 1979, at Saint Aedan Parish, Jersey City, from 1980 to 1986, and as pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Lyndhurst, from 1986 to 1993. His final assignment was at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in South Orange, from 1993 to 2003.

Father Thomas M. Foye

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Nov. 11 at Saint Andrew Parish, Bayonne, for Father Thomas M. Foye, 86, who died Nov. 5.

A graduate of Seton Hall University, South Orange, Fr. Foye attended Immaculate Conception Seminary, Darlington, and was ordained to the priesthood June 4, 1955.

He served as parochial vicar at several parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Newark including: Saint Andrew, Bayonne; Our Lady of Fatima, North Bergen., Saint Paul the Apostle, Irvington.; Holy Family, Union City; Saint Catharine, Glen Rock.; Saint Paul of the Cross, Jersey City; and Saint Henry, Bayonne. Fr. Foye also served as chaplain at Holy Name Hospital, Teaneck; Alexian Brothers Hospital, Elizabeth; Overlook Hospital, Summit; and Hospital Center at Orange.

Appointments

Archbishop John J. Myers has announced the following appointments:

Reverend Basil Lek, part-time Chaplain at Paramus Catholic High School, Paramus, and part-time Chaplain at Bergen Regional Medical Center; Paramus, has been appointed Pastor of St. Valentine Parish, Bloomfield, effective Nov. 5.

Very Reverend Jan Sasin, Pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish, Newark, has had his appointment as Dean of the North Newark Deanery, Deanery 19, extended for another five-year term, ending Sept. 16, 2019.
Saint Dominic Academy students give back

JERSEY CITY—Saint Dominic Academy recently recognized two students who performed extraordinary acts of kindness and charity.

Freshman Francesca Guido, a North Bergen native, is an active member of the Squire Roses #0002, a youth fraternity run within the Knights of Columbus, for Catholic girls between the ages of 10 and 18.

On Sept. 20, Guido, her family and the Squire Roses team attended a Saint Baldrick’s event at Saint Matthew Parish in Ridgefield. The Saint Baldrick’s Foundation is a volunteer-driven charity committed to funding the most promising research to find cures for childhood cancers.

As Guido watched her father and brothers shave their heads, she decided to join in the effort. She will be donating all 19 inches of her hair to the Pantene Beautiful Lengths program that supplies free wigs to cancer patients.

On Sept. 21, Hoboken native Sophia Baldassari sold craft items at the 28th Annual Broadway Flea Market and Grand Auction, the proceeds of which benefit Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS.

Baldassari combined her love of Broadway shows with her affinity for looming by designing and creating figurines in the costumes of different Broadway plays. She worked on her crafts all summer, creating over 100 figures which she sold at the flea market for a grand total of $710, all of which she donated to charity.

Knights team up for life

SHORT HILLS—Committing manpower and financial support to pro-life causes is a tradition with the Saint Rose of Lima Council of the Knights of Columbus. On Oct. 21, Council 6386 reached a new milestone, with a major donation to the First Choice Women’s Resource Centers of New Jersey for the purchase of a state-of-the-art ultrasound machine at the organization’s newly-opened Plainfield office. The donation culminated a year-long fund-raising campaign by the council.

The council raised 25 percent of the $28,784 gift through the generosity of parishioners and fellow Knights. The New Jersey State Council of the Knights provided a matching grant of 25 percent and the combined Saint Rose-NJ Council funding was matched by the Knights’ Supreme Council.

First Choice Women’s Resource Centers offer pregnancy testing, medical consultation and confirmation of pregnancy via ultrasound to clients free of charge, at five Northern New Jersey locations. After an initial visit, local staff members provide ongoing counseling services, with the goal of educating women about alternatives to abortion.

The new ultrasound machine, soon to arrive at the Plainfield office, provides high-resolution images as well as other advanced features.

“We’re delighted to support First Choice Women’s Resource Centers,” noted Saint Rose Council Grand Knight Frank Alexander. “The important thing is we’re saving lives together.”

The Knights will continue their fund-raising efforts in collaboration with the parish Respect Life Committee and have plans to fund a second machine for a yet-to-be-designated care provider.

Aimee Huber, executive director, First Choice Women’s Resource Centers, received checks from New Jersey Knights of Columbus State Treasurer, Bob Hatler (left), Saint Rose Council Deputy Grand Knight Peter Quinn, and Saint Rose Council Financial Secretary Dominic Balzano for the purchase of an advanced ultrasound machine.

HAPPY Thanksgiving

Psalm 100:4-5

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting, And His truth endures to all generations.

From Advocate Publishing Corp.
Archbishop John J. Myers served as the principal celebrant and homilist at the Annual Mass for Law Enforcement Officers Nov. 6 at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark. The Mass honored in particular those who lost their lives in the line of duty in the past year. Father Kevin Carter, whose father was a police officer, voiced his support of these brave men and women in his homily. “Today, this gathering is about the Catholic Church saying thank you for what you do,” he said. “Never ever forget that God is with you and he loves you dearly and he is extremely thankful to you for protecting and serving his lost sheep.”