Local rector named ‘missionary of mercy’

By Melissa McNally
Editor

When Rev. Msgr. Joseph R. Reilly received a letter from the Vatican in December that he had been selected as a “missionary of mercy,” he was “surprised, grateful and humbled” by the appointment.

As rector and dean of Immaculate Conception Seminary at Seton Hall University, he became aware of his nomination for the special role last fall during a meeting with Archbishop John J. Myers. “I still don’t know who submitted my name to him for the appointment,” Msgr. Reilly recalled.

During the Holy Year of Mercy, the Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization sought priests who were living signs “of the Father’s welcome to all those in search of His forgiveness.” Every missionary needed a letter of recommendation from his local bishop before being selected. Those nominated, according to the council, must be “inspiring preachers of mercy; heralds of the joy of forgiveness; and welcoming, loving, and compassionate confessors.”

Msgr. Reilly is the only priest from the Archdiocese of Newark to be appointed a missionary of mercy. All will be commissioned formally by Pope Francis at Saint Peter’s Basilica today, Ash Wednesday. They will also have a private audience with the pope.

“Archbishop Hebda asked me a few days ago if I was getting excited with the pope. I said before leaving for Rome, ‘I’m anxious to get back to New Jersey and be able to remove the excommunication. If the person is repentant, he said, the missionaries will bring with them automatic excommunication.”

According to Bishop Juan Ignacio Arrieta, secretary of the Pontifical Council for Legislative Texts, reserved sins are actions that can bring with them automatic excommunication. If the person is repentant, said the missionaries will be able to remove the excommunication and grant absolution in those cases, which normally require the intervention or permission of the local bishop or the Apostolic Penitentiary, a Vatican court.

After the official commission, he will be tasked with administering the sacrament of reconciliation during special Jubilee Year of Mercy events. Pope Francis granted missionaries of mercy special authority or faculties “to pardon even those sins reserved to the Holy See.”

The Works of Mercy component, explained Cardinal Arrieta, is “exempt year” after beginning Livings Stones in two phases. The third and final group of about 100 parishes are now in their “exempt year” after beginning Living Stones last month.

Those in the first group of Living Stones parishes began the annual appeal last weekend; those in the second will launch in May.

“Both support many of the same programs,” she explained. “Living Stones is adding funds to existing endowments that, together with the funds from the appeal, make it possible for us to support seminarians and retired priests. While the Catholic schools portion of Living Stones is for tuition assistance, the annual appeal funds the operations of the schools.”

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Caldwell University students serve in Belize

Caldwell—Seven Caldwell University students spent part of their winter break serving in remote villages in southern Belize, Central America.

The group helped repair schools and churches in the town of Punta Gorda and in the Mayan villages of Dolores, Santa Cruz and Pueblo Viejo.

Professor Thomson Ling, associate professor of sociology and counseling, was one of the chaperones. “On the first day, we constructed steps that would allow children at the school to reach the dumpster when throwing out classroom trash,” he said. They also helped build walls to divide the one-room building into separate classrooms. “I can’t imagine what it was like to learn in an open space where there are several other classes and teachers all trying to run classes at the same time.”

John McLaughlin, a junior and a nursing major, said he was struck by the poverty region’s and how welcoming and polite the people were. After seeing what the Mayan people go without in material terms, he said he could only tell himself, “Don’t complain.”

The group painted the exterior of a church in the small village of Pueblo Viejo and spent a day in Santa Cruz removing an old, rusty tin roof from a church and prepared the structure for reroofing.

At first it was an adjustment to go without the comforts of home, including Internet access and being in constant contact with loved ones. “It was nice to disconnect. It makes you look at things in front of you,” said Katlyn Houtz.

Houtz said that the atmosphere made “you take a step back from what you are used to and gain insights into how they live. They appreciate what they have, their family, their religion,” she said.

This was the third time the university had sponsored a mission trip to the Toledo district on the Caribbean Sea. In addition to their service work, the group attended Mass at Saint Peter Claver Church in Punta Gorda and took a trip to the Mayan ruins in Lubuantun.

“No matter what the task, our students stepped up to do it,” Ling said. “I don’t recall a single complaint from any of our students the entire trip. You could really tell our students were there for the right reasons.”

He said the trip underscored how people are connected. “No matter distance or culture, there are commonalities that we share. Just because there were cultural or language differences didn’t mean we couldn’t come together and accomplish great things.”

‘missionary of mercy’

Continued from page 1

“I’m delighted to be chosen as a minister of mercy,” Msgr. Reilly explained. “As rector of Immaculate Conception, much of my time is spent doing administrative tasks. Canon law also prohibits me from hearing confessions at the seminary. I’m blessed for the opportunity the Lord has given me. This is the heart of being a priest.”

A Mountainside native, Msgr. Reilly was ordained in 1991. In 1994, he served as priest-secretary to then Archbishop Theodore McCarrick, and in 1995 joined the staff of Seton Hall Preparatory School in West Orange, where he served as a faculty member and chaplain. In 2002, he was named rector of Saint Andrew’s Hall, Seton Hall’s college seminary, and then was appointed rector/dean of Immaculate Conception in 2012.

As a young man in the seminary, Msgr. Reilly initially wanted to become a missionary in Africa or South America. “I quickly realized that I didn’t have the temperament to be a missionary,” he reflected. “It’s quite a demanding life and I wouldn’t be able to walk away from everything that I know.”

Today, as a missionary of mercy, he gets to realize his dream. “My prayers have been answered, in a way. I don’t have to leave everything behind but I still get to fulfill my heart’s desire be a missionary,” Msgr. Reilly said.

Sharing God’s Blessings

Continued from page 1

these programs. Having it all rolled into Living Stones for one year, allowed pastors to concentrate on conducting the campaign and not having to take the time to also promote the annual appeal. I think the parishioners also felt better about doing it that way.”

Repollet said the faithful are invited to discern their participation through the lens of the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, which began in December and ends Nov. 20.

“The corporal works of mercy are based on the teachings of Jesus (Mt. 25:31-45) and give us a model for how we should treat others—as if they were Christ in disguise. They are charitable actions by which we help our neighbors in need,” she said.

“The Sharing God’s Blessings Appeal is our response to fulfill those works of mercy by serving so many in our community and providing the basic necessities to those in need of shelter, food, and clothing,” she said. “The tens of thousands of people that support the appeal each year understand the calling and the responsibility to serve as a living example of Jesus’ teachings—to serve one another.”

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Our Archdiocese
February 10, 2016

Caldwell student Katlyn Houtz with school children in Santa Cruz

Submitted photo
Parishes of West Essex announce 10th anniversary Faith Quest Series

Caldwell—The parishes of West Essex will present the 10th annual Lenten adult spirituality forum Faith Quest on Wednesday evenings Feb. 24, March 2, March 9 and March 16, from 7:30 - 9 p.m. at Saint Thomas More Parish in Fairfield. The program is open to the public and the three topic areas are: Prayer and Spirituality, Sacred Scripture, and Faith in Practice. Faith Quest is an initiative of Saint Aloysius, Caldwell; Our Lady of Blessed Sacrament, Roseland; Notre Dame, North Caldwell; and Saint Thomas More. An offering of $3 per session or $10 for the four-week series is requested. Pre-registration is preferred.

Prayer in Spirituality presenters:

Feb. 24 – Nonprofit chief executive Greg Tobin will speak on “The Spirituality of Saint Patrick.”
March 2 – Author and counselor Dr. Ginger Grancagnolo will speak on “The Last Seven Words of Christ: A Meditation for Life.”
March 9 – Father John Gabriel, Administrator, Saint Rose of Lima, Short Hills will present on “The Little Flower: Saint Therese and Her Family.”

Sacred Scripture presenters:

Feb. 24 – Father Gene Gniewyk, retired parochial vicar of Saint Thomas More, will speak on “The Story of Joseph and His Brothers” and how the story can give Jews and Christians hope in today’s world.
March 2 – Father Gene Gniewyk, retired parochial vicar of Saint Thomas More Parish, will present on “Psalm 22: A primer of Prayer for Jesus and the Christian.”
March 9 – Father Robert LaFerrera, Pastor of Our Lady of Blessed Sacrament Parish, will present “Our Common Home: A Look at Laudato Si.”

Holy Name receives grant from Toshiba

Teaneck—The Association for Medical Imaging Management and Toshiba America Medical Systems has awarded Holy Name Medical Center a “Putting Patients First” grant for its efforts to improve the patient experience and for safety in diagnostic imaging. Holy Name is one of seven leading U.S. healthcare providers, and the only hospital in the New York/New Jersey metro area to be selected as a recipient of the grants.

“Patient care and safety are our highest priorities, so we’re proud to be recognized among the nation’s most innovative programs for radiology safety,” said Michael Maron, President and CEO, Holy Name Medical Center.”

Grant funding of $7,500 will establish Holy Name’s Radiation Awareness to Reduce Radiation Exposure program, which will develop best practices in all imaging modalities, provide extended training for medical staff and offer community education on medical imaging radiation.

“The program is part of a broader, hospital-wide initiative to raise the bar for reducing medical imaging radiation for all patients,” said Pete De Graff, Director of Radiology Services. “The grant will give us the opportunity to create a new set of tools for clinicians that will promote efficiencies for the reduction of imaging radiation exposure.”

List your upcoming events in Advocate and online @ www.rcan.org
Email your submissions to Melissa McNally mcnallme@rcan.org or fax to (973) 497-4192

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Local News

February 10, 2016

Advocate
VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Lent is a time of conversion and a time to deepen one’s faith, demonstrating that one is god, something often expressed in concrete everyday actions meant to help our neighbors in body and spirit,” the pope said in his message for Lent, which begins today for Latin-rite Catholics.

Feeding the hungry, visiting the sick, welcoming strangers, offering instruction, giving comfort —“on such things will we be judged,” the pope wrote in the message, which was released at the Vatican Jan. 26.—is a time of conversion and a time to assist others by communicating God’s love and mercy through words and deeds.

“The root of all sin” is thinking we can satisfy with the idols of knowledge, power and riches.

“Love alone is the answer to that yearning for infinite happiness,” Pope Francis wrote. It is the only response to the longings “that we think we can satisfy with the idols of knowledge, power and riches.”

“The danger always remains that by a constant refusal to open the doors of their hearts to Christ who knocks on them in the poor,” he said, “the proud, rich and powerful will end up condemning themselves and plunging into the eternal abyss of solitude which is hell.”

But through acts of mercy and charity, “by touching the flesh of the crucified Jesus in the suffering,” he wrote, “sinners can receive the gift of realizing that they too are poor and in need.”

“In the corporal works of mercy we touch the flesh of Christ in our brothers and sisters who need to be fed, clothed, sheltered, visited,” he wrote. “In the spiritual works of mercy—counsel, instruction, forgiveness, admonishment and prayer—we touch more directly our own sinfulness.”

In the Christian life, Pope Francis said, “the corporal and spiritual works of mercy must never be separated.”

Cardinal Francesco Montenegro, president of Caritas Italy and head of the archdiocese that includes the Italian island of Lampedusa, told reporters at a Vatican news conference that the pope’s message, like the Bible, “does not stop simply at reaffirming that God is merciful, but clearly indicates that his children must be merciful, too, by living a greater love, especially by taking care of the little ones, the poor and defenseless.”

The cardinal said that from his own experience as archbishop of Agrigento, he has seen how people’s faith and joy have grown and become contagious when they not only go to Mass, but also volunteer to assist the thousands of migrants who land on Lampedusa’s shore seeking safety and a better life for their families.

Pope: Live your faith during Lent, perform works of mercy

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON—The annual Collection to Aid the Church in Central and Eastern Europe will be held in most parishes today, Ash Wednesday. The collection supports pastoral, educational and construction projects in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

In 2015, the Subcommittee on Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe awarded over $7.7 million through more than 250 grants. Projects supported by the collection assist a broad range of needs focused on providing pastoral care and developing resources in countries of the former Soviet Union and have struggled to rebuild faith communities in a post-communist society.

Among projects recently supported are the construction of a daycare center facility for children with disabilities in Armenia and conflict resolution and peer mediation training for faculty members of a Catholic school in Russia.

“What a great way to begin our celebration of Lent during this Jubilee of Mercy. This annual collection on behalf of our brothers and sisters who are struggling in Central and Eastern Europe offers a vivid reminder that mercy is needed not only in our personal lives but in our world. The people in this region of the world have great need as they continue to rebuild their lives and Church communities in a post-Soviet society,” said Archbishop Blase J. Cupich of Chicago, chairman of the subcommittee.

“Participating in this collection is a tangible way for us to be a sign of mercy for those who struggle to practice the faith. Your continued support makes a real difference and is greatly appreciated,” Archbishop Cupich said.

Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe held Ash Wednesday

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ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK

2016 LENTEN REGULATIONS

1. The days of both fast and abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honoring both God and the real needs of human beings.

2. The obligation to observe the laws of fast and abstinence “substantially”, or as a whole, is a serious obligation.

3. The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.

4. The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the First Sunday of Lent, February 14, to the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, May 22.

*Canon 920, §1. All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.
Union Catholic raises money for children in Haiti

SCOTCH PLAINS—On Jan. 5, Union Catholic High School’s Project Haiti and French Clubs donated over $1,000 to Mission Haiti Helping Kids, a non-profit organization that serves the children of Haiti, many of whom are orphans, and provides them with food, shelter, education medical and emotional care.

Mission Haiti Helping Kids was founded by Diddi Washington, who is also the aunt of Union Catholic students Julia and Tori Hayes. Following the 2010 earthquake, Washington traveled to Haiti through the Dominican Republic after a 7-hour taxi ride. After a week-long medical mission, she rented a small house and began helping children. The organization provides food and creates sustainable projects that can help alleviate poverty throughout the country.

Moderator of both Project Haiti and the French Club, Kamila Cirignione is thrilled with her students’ altruism. “The children at Mission Haiti Helping Kids are near and dear to our hearts since we have been supporting them now for over five years,” she said. “Diddi Washington is such an inspirational humanitarian to us all by her selfless act of love and dedication to these children. Project Haiti will continue to support the organization as it has become such an integral part of our social justice initiative at Union Catholic.”

23rd Annual Business & Labor Reception to be held March 1

Archbishop John J. Myers announced that Alexander Gerardo, vice president of administration and government relations for the Troy Corporation, and Joseph Demark, Jr., president and business manager of Sheet Metal Workers Local 25, will be honored at the 23rd Annual Newark Archbishop’s Business & Labor Recognition Reception on Tuesday, March 1 at Mayfair Farms, West Orange.

The event, which has raised more than $2 million since its inception, is attended annually by hundreds of labor and business leader. Proceeds from the dinner benefits the Newark Archdiocese’s Catholic Youth Organization and Retreat Center in Kearny, which serves thousands of young people.

“Both these gentlemen exemplify the best in leadership qualities and are well known for the generous amount of time they dedicate not only to their professions, but also to charitable work,” Archbishop Myers said. “These gentlemen are icons of character and success among their peers and exemplify the type of leaders who have been honored before them these many years.”

Gerardo holds a Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Maryland and a bachelor’s degree from Seton Hall University. Prior to his position at Troy Corporation, he held senior executive positions in employee and labor relations for many leading companies, including Givaudan Corporation/Hoffmann-LaRoche and the parent company of Matchbox toys.

Demark is a third-generation sheet metal worker who began his career at 18 as an apprentice with a Sheet Metal Workers local in Bloomfield. He moved up within the ranks of the union through his volunteer and organizing work and was elected to serve on Local 28’s Executive Board and was subsequently hired as an organizer. Demark currently serves as a vice president of the New Jersey State Building and Construction Trades Council and as vice president of the New Jersey State AFL-CIO.

For more information contact Geraldine Menegolla at (201) 998-0088, ext. 4154 or e-mail ricciger@rcan.org.
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Local News

Oak Knoll students celebrate foundress’ 207th birthday

SUMMIT—The entire student body at Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child celebrated the 207th birthday of Cornelia Connelly, foundress of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus, with a variety of activities Jan. 15.

During the prayer service for Oak Knoll’s all-girls middle and high school, freshman Elizabeth Hadley encouraged her classmates to embrace Connelly’s spirit of faith and joy.

“We should undoubtedly strive to follow in Cornelia’s footsteps. She overcame her obstacles with patience and joy throughout her life,” said Hadley, of North Caldwell.

“Just by striving to live our lives learning from Cornelia Connelly, her legacy continues to endure,” she said. “By learning from her life, we are living out her dream to help, love, serve and understand one another and reinforce our relationship with God.”

During their Friday assembly, students in Oak Knoll’s coed elementary school learned about Connelly’s life and educational philosophies through a skit by fifth grade students.

“Although she’s no longer with us, I like to think she’s watching us and looking down at us at our Holy Child School,” said Christine Spies, Lower School division head, who urged students to give Connelly the ultimate birthday gift by showing kindness to others.

Earlier in the day, first graders used Skype to communicate with a group of students from the Rosemont School of the Holy Child in Pennsylvania.

The event, scheduled to coincide with Connelly’s birthday, was intended to kick off a pen pal project between the two classes that will culminate with another Skype chat at the end of the school year, according to Jeanne Mackin, Lower School language arts teacher.

In addition to singing “Happy Birthday” to Connelly, students from both schools showed off posters and talked about their uniforms, recess times and what they’re learning in class.

Cornelia Connelly, born Cornelia Peacock in Philadelphia on Jan. 15, 1809, founded the Society in 1846. Nearly 80 years later, the Oak Knoll School was founded by the Society.

Immaculate Heart Academy’s literary magazine “Orb” recently received the Highest Award in the 2015 National Council of Teachers of English Program to Recognize Excellence in Student Literary Magazines. The Washington Township high school’s literary magazine was ranked first in New Jersey, and was one of only 24 magazines throughout the country to receive the Highest Award. From left to right are Jacqueline Rogers and Melissa Mendizabal, “Orb” literary co-editors; Michelle Mathews, English teacher and moderator; and Julie Kim, “Orb” art editor.
Trinitas honored for leadership

ELIZABETH—The New Jersey Hospital Association, the state’s oldest and largest healthcare trade association, recently held its annual awards program to honor several individuals and organizations for their commitment to the state’s healthcare system and the patients and communities they serve.
The awards were presented during the organization’s 97th Annual Meeting at the Hyatt Regency Princeton.
The association’s 2016 Distinguished Service Award was presented to Gary S. Horan, president and CEO of Trinitas Health & Regional Medical Center. Horan has given a lifetime of service to the advancement of healthcare administration. His leadership is credited with carrying out the successful merger of Elizabeth General Medical Center and Saint Elizabeth Hospital—a merger that created Trinitas Hospital in January 2000.
“When you do something you love, you never just ‘go to work.’ You go to your passion. Healthcare management has been my passion for 44 years,” Horan said.

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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.
Felician University recently invited all to come out and show their support for the women’s and men’s basketball teams by joining in the fourth annual basketball “Green Out” night. In the spirit of the event, both Felician teams wore their road green uniforms as they played against Bloomfield College. Golden Falcon fans were encouraged to wear dark green. The Felician Sisters came out in full force in support of the basketball teams. Sister Marie Teresa Soltys (affectionately known to all students as “Sister T”), displayed her green spirit by painting her face with school colors and flaunting green hair. Pictured at left, President Dr. Anne Prisco and Sister T.

Immaculate Conception Parish in Mahwah welcomed Bishop John W. Flesey, pastor of Most Blessed Sacrament Church in Franklin Lakes and Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Newark, as a guest speaker on Jan. 13. Bishop Flesey presented “A Reason to Hope” where he shared personal anecdotes and biblical insights that reflect hope within our everyday experiences. The next guest speakers at Immaculate Conception are Chris and Linda Padgett who will present “Holy Marriage, Happy Marriage: Faith-Filled Ways to a Better Relationship” on Feb. 16. For more information about the Spiritual Life Program series, call (201) 327-1276 or visit www.iccmahwah.org.

WALLINGTON—Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, 127 Paterson Ave., will host the “Relics of the Passion” program on Thursday, Feb. 18, at 7 p.m. in an event designed to connect participants to the roots of their faith.

The event is sponsored in collaboration with the Apostolate for Holy Relics. The apostolate is guardian of more than 1,200 relics organized into special collections.

Generally seen only in Rome or the Holy Land, the relics are used as part of a program of meditations and prayers commemorating the Passion of Christ.

Documents for these relics were reviewed and authenticated prior to the first tour in 2007. The relics have been venerated in many archdioceses and dioceses throughout the world. Tours are generally scheduled only during the Lent and are limited by the travel availability of the apostolate members.

The collection includes a relic of the True Cross and a piece of stone from the room where the Last Supper was held.

For additional information, call Carol Puzio at (201) 935-0273.
Father Gennaro Sesto, S.D.B.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Jan. 19 at Don Bosco Preparatory High School, Ramsey, for Father Gennaro “Jerry” Sesto, S.D.B., 94, who died Jan. 5.

Born in Maine, Fr. Sesto was a professed Salesian for 75 years and a priest for 65 years. He was a member of the Don Bosco Prep community in Ramsey since 2013 and was the school’s director from 1981-1987.

Fr. Sesto served as director (religious superior) of the Salesian community in Newton and president of Don Bosco College in 1963. Following his stint at Don Bosco Prep, he returned to the college as director of religious activities and treasurer.

Fr. Sesto was coordinator of the Marian Shrine in Haverstraw-Stony Point, NY, from 1995 through 2003. He also served as parochial vicar at Saint Anthony of Padua Parish in Elizabeth from 2003 to 2013.

Father Egionor Cunha

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Jan. 18 at Saint Fatima Parish, Elizabeth, for Father Egionor Cunha, 53, who died Jan. 11.

Born in Brazil, Fr. Cunha was ordained on May 30, 1992. He served as parochial vicar at the following parishes: Saint Theresa, Kenilworth; Our Lady of Fatima, Newark; Saint Cecilia, Kearny; Saint Mary of the Assumption, Elizabeth; Saint Joseph of the Palisades, West New York, and Blessed Sacrament, Elizabeth.

Fr. Cunha also served as chaplain at the former Saint Elizabeth Hospital and at Bergen Regional Medical Center, Paramus.

Chaplain Colonel John J. Krozser

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Jan. 25 at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, South Orange, for Chaplain Colonel John J. Krozser, 85, who died Jan. 16.

Born in Maplewood, Fr. Krozser, graduated from Seton Hall Preparatory School and Seton Hall University. He attended Immaculate Conception Seminary, graduating with a master’s degree in theology.

Fr. Krozser was ordained May 26, 1956, and that year was assigned as parochial vicar at Our Lady of Sorrows Church in South Orange. He became a United States Air Force chaplain in 1968. He served on military bases throughout the world, including Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio, TX; Tainan Air Base in Tainan City, Taiwan; Otis Air Force Base in Bourne, MA.; Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene, TX; Croughton Air Base in Northamptonshire, England; Clark Air Base in the Philippines, and Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base in Montgomery, AL.

While in Alabama, Fr. Krozser administered to inmates in federal prison and juvenile detention centers and worked among the poor and disenfranchised in Lowndes County. He retired from active duty as a colonel in 1981, remaining with the Air Force as a reservist until 1990. During his military career, Fr. Krozser received the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Award with two devices, and the National Defense Service Medal.

Sister Teresa Nighland, S.C.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Jan. 14 at Saint Anne Villa, Convent Station, for Sister Teresa Nighland, S.C., 88, who died Jan. 11.

Formerly Sister Mary Benedict, Sr. Teresa entered the Sisters of Charity on March 25, 1946, and was a member for 69 years. Sr. Teresa served as a teacher at Saint Patrick School, Elizabeth; Marylawn of the Oranges, South Orange; Sacred Heart School, Rochelle Park; Immaculate Conception School, Elizabeth; Saint Catherine School, Glen Rock; Mother Seton Regional High School, Clark; Gould School, West Caldwell; the North Caldwell school system; Essex County College and Project Home/Lutheran Social Ministries, Jersey City.

She retired to Saint Anne Villa in 2012 where she resided until her death.

Sister Betty Hannagan, S.C.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Feb. 1 at Saint Anne Villa, Convent Station, for Sister Betty Hannagan, S.C., 78, who died Jan. 28.

Born in Newark, Sr. Betty, formerly Sister Joseph Kathleen, entered the Sisters of Charity on March 6, 1955 and was a member for 60 years.

Sr. Betty was a teacher at Saint Bridget School, Saint Anne School and Saint Michael School in Jersey City; Our Lady of All Souls School and Our Lady Help of Christians School in East Orange; Sacred Heart School, Newark; and Saint Andrew School, Westwood. She also served in parish ministry at Saint Joseph Parish, Oradell.

Sr. Betty served in retreat ministry at Mount Carmel Retreat House in Mahwah and Xavier Center in Convant Station. She moved to Saint Anne Villa in 2006 where she resided until her death.

Sister Grace Dorothy Everett, S.C.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Feb. 3 at Saint Anne Villa, Convent Station, for Sister Grace Dorothy Everett, S.C., 93, who died Jan. 31.

Born in Jersey City, Sr. Grace Dorothy entered the Sisters of Charity on Sept. 8, 1940 and was a member for 73 years.

Sr. Grace Dorothy served as a teacher at Saint Mary Elementary School, Dumont; DePaul Catholic High School, Wayne; Mother Seton Regional High School, Clark; Immaculate Conception High School, Montclair; Saint Vincent Academy, Newark; East Orange Catholic High School; and Saint Aloysius High School, Jersey City.

She was director of the Student Learning Center at Hudson Catholic Regional High School, Jersey City, and was a volunteer at Caritas Community, Jersey City.

In 2009, Sr. Grace Dorothy retired to Saint Anne Villa, where she resided until her death.

Brother Thomas Lee, F.M.S.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Feb. 4 at Mount Saint Michael Academy Chapel, Bronx, NY, for Brother Thomas Lee, F.M.S., 85, who died Jan. 30.

Brother Thomas entered the Marist Brothers novitiate at Tyrngsboro, MA, in 1949 and professed first vows a year later. After completing his religious and academic studies at Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY, he was a teacher at Marist High School in Bayonne from 1954 to 1965. He also taught at Roselle Catholic High School from 1966 to 1972.

For eight years, Brother Thomas served as Assistant Superintendent for Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Newark. He retired from active ministry in 2005.
### February 13
**Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Bergenfield, Neo-Catholic Community** begins mission of home visits with parish families, continuing on Saturdays through the spring, call Fr. Jonathan Perez at (201) 384-0101.

### February 18
**Saint Mary Parish, Rutherford** bereavement support group, also held Feb. 25, March 3, March 10, March 17 and March 31, 7:30 p.m., (201) 438-2200.

### February 20
**Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Ridgewood, Parish Lenten Mission, “Walk in the Way,”** 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., call Peter Denio at (201) 335-0315 or e-mail pdenio@olmcridgewood.com.

### February 23
**Holy Name Medical Center, Teaneck, “Is It My Heart? Know the Facts,”** with guest speaker cardiologist Dr. Anuj Shah, 7-8 p.m., (201) 833-3336.

**Saint Dominic Academy, Jersey City, open house for 7th and 8th grade program,** call Andrea Apruzzese at (201) 434-5938 ext.14 or e-mail apruzzese@stdominicacad.com.

### February 27
**Archdiocesan Women’s Commission, Day of Reflection,** “Alive in Christ: Celebrating the Jubilee Year of Mercy,” at Seton Hall University, South Orange, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., $20, visit http://rcan.org/offices-and-ministries/womens-commission.

### March 2
**Holy Spirit Parish, Union, Holy Hour for Life, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Union, (908) 687-3327.**

**Archdiocese of Newark, Respect Life Office, Theology of the Body Enrichment Day, for campus ministers, youth group leaders and youth group volunteers, at the Archdiocesan Center, 9 a.m.-noon, call Cheryl Riley at (973) 497-4350 or e-mail rileyche@rcan.org.**

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