The Catholic Advocate
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July 15, 2015

Parishes raise $12 million for ‘Living Stones’ campaign

By Al Frank
Associate Publisher

The second phase of the $90 million “We Are Living Stones” archdiocesan campaign is about to launch as pledges by parishes in the first stage reached 65 percent of their goals.

Archbishop John J. Myers praised pastors for their leadership and the faithful for their generosity, even as the pledge phase continues in some of the 52 parishes in the first phase.

He said he believed the $12 million pledged so far was a recognition by parishes that they are the “prime beneficiaries,” because they will receive half the total they collect, and that none of the money funds archdiocesan administration.

The campaign is “really needed to build for the future,” the archbishop added, noting a survey by the archdiocesan property management administration determined that churches, schools and other parish facilities will need some $125 million in renovations in the next decade.

Parishes can use their campaign cash for those purposes and other pastoral needs they list in case statements each develops prior to fund raising.

In addition, they will share in the proceeds of a new $8 million fund for parish renovation. Parishes will be able to request funds to spend on parish faith formation programs, including evangelization and training for pastors, catechists and lay leaders.

Another $18 million is dedicated to a new endowment for tuition assistance in archdiocesan Catholic schools; $8 million to increasing the endowment for seminarians and $6 million for the growing medical expenses of retired priests.

The archbishop made his comments on June 22 at an information session for the next cohort at Saint Mary in Rutherford, where three pastors in the first cohort of parishes shared their experiences.

All said they approached the campaign with some trepidation and, while none thought their original WEEHAWKEN—Saint Lawrence Church played host this past Father’s Day to Most Reverend Archbishop Bernardito C. Auza, recently appointed by Pope Francis as Apostolic Nuncio, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations in New York City.

Saint Lawrence linked with Saints Peter and Paul Parish in Hoboken last September due to financial difficulties.

“It is a great blessing to celebrate Mass at Saint Lawrence on Father’s Day, bearing witness to the foundations of faith that these fathers, here in the pews, are building for their sons and daughters,” explained Archbishop Auza at the June 21 celebration.

Archbishop Auza visited the parish earlier this year and celebrated the joint Easter Vigil for Saints Peter and Paul and Saint Lawrence. He also administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to Saint Lawrence candidates.

“The Church needs its fathers and its mothers more than ever,” Rev. Msgr. Robert S. Meyer, administrator of Saint Lawrence, said at the Mass. “While we at Saint Lawrence provide a great place for worship, those ‘foundations’ of faith... Continued on page 6

Apostolic Nuncio celebrates Mass at revitalized Saint Lawrence

By Melissa McNally
Editor

SOUTH ORANGE—Seton Hall University President A. Gabriel Esteban has been recognized as a “Great Immigrant” by the Carnegie Corporation of New York. Esteban, the first Filipino president of a major American university, will be among the 38 “Great Immigrants” nationally honored this year.

The 2015 “Great Immigrants: The Pride of America” initiative includes individuals who have helped advance and enlighten American society, culture and economy.

“The promise inherent in the America Dream, which has attracted immigrants to the United States for centuries, has been fulfilled in my life many times over. For that, I will be forever grateful to my adopted homeland,” Esteban said. “At Seton Hall, I work to ensure that today’s young Americans — many of whom come from immigrant families — receive an education that will allow them to realize their own hopes and aspirations.”

Fellow honorees include Nobel laureates Arieh Warshel and Thomas C. Südhof, along with Pulitzer Prize-winners Geraldine Brooks and Anne Telnaes.

“Our founder, Andrew Carnegie, came to this country as the son of impoverished immigrants and grew up to become one of the greatest contributors to American industry and philanthropy,” said Vartan Gregorian, president of the Carnegie Corp. “His devotion to U.S. democracy stemmed from his conviction that the new infusion of talent that immigrants bring to our country keeps American society vibrant.”

“On behalf of all immigrants, it is an honor to receive this distinction, which has been bestowed on luminaries from many fields. I thank the Carnegie Corp. for its thoughtfulness in counting me among such an esteemed group,” Esteban said.

Seton Hall announced plans earlier this year to form the only private medical school in New Jersey in partnership with Hackensack University Health Network. In addition, the university established a new College of Communication and the Arts.

Recently, Esteban was named one of the 100 most powerful business leaders in New Jersey and one of the 50 most influential individuals in health care in New Jersey by NJBIZ. He was also knighted into the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.
Caldwell students raise over $16K to help earthquake ravaged Nepal

Caldwell University students have raised over $16,000 to support relief efforts in the aftermath of the 7.8 earthquake that slammed Nepal on April 25.

After the quake hit, students and several alumni from Nepal began fund raising for their “Caldwell University Prays for Nepal” project. The students organized events and the campus community and area organizations responded with great generosity. Proceeds from their project will benefit the America Nepal Medical Foundation.

Caldwell University Nepal-ese students Sudin Shakya, Hritesh Regmi and Assistant Director of Student Engagement Meghan Moran recently visited Aquinas Academy in Livingston to discuss the earthquake and the fundraising project with 6th grade students. The Aquinas students presented Caldwell with a check for $1,125 that the elementary school students had raised. The event was organized by Lindsay Hulin, a teacher at Aquinas and an alumna of Caldwell, and Sister Lena Picillo, O.P., principal at Aquinas and a Sister of Saint Dominic of Caldwell.

Joan Marie Bellotti, an English teacher at High Tech High School in North Bergen, recently presented Caldwell University President Blattner with a check for $1196.50 that was raised to support the relief efforts.

The Sisters of Saint Dominic at Saint Catherine of Siena Convent and Saint Aloysius Parish in Caldwell also made generous donations.

Regmi, who is entering his junior year at the university, said the response from the community “has been extraordinary and we are incredibly grateful.”

Recently, the 13 members of Saint Dominic Academy’s 8th grade class had their official “Moving Up” ceremony. The event began with a Mass at the Saint Peter’s University Chapel celebrated by Father Rocco Danzi, S.J. Following Mass, each girl and her parents were invited back to the Jersey City academy for a celebratory luncheon. Head of School Barbara Griffin opened the ceremony by congratulating the girls on being the “first” class to complete both 7th and 8th grade at Saint Dominic Academy in a new and accelerated program that began only two years ago. As each girl’s name was read by the 7th and 8th grade program coordinator, Mary Ann McLean, Griffin and Academic Dean Sarah Degnan presented them with official certificates. Mahalia Armea, the 8th grade homeroom teacher, gave each student an orange rose.
Supreme Court decision on marriage ‘a tragic error’ says president of Catholic Bishops

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Supreme Court decision, June 26, interpreting the U.S. Constitution to require all states to license and recognize same-sex marriage “is a tragic error that harms the common good and most vulnerable among us,” said Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, KY, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The full statement follows:

Regardless of what a narrow majority of the Supreme Court may declare at this moment in history, the nature of the human person and marriage remains unchanged and unchangeable. Just as Roe v. Wade did not settle the question of abortion over 40 years ago, Obergefell v. Hodges does not settle the question of marriage today. Neither decision is rooted in the truth, and as a result, both will eventually fail. Today the Court is wrong again. It is profoundly immoral and unjust for the government to declare that two people of the same sex can constitute a marriage.

The unique meaning of marriage as the union of one man and one woman is inscribed in our bodies as male and female. The protection of this meaning is a critical dimension of the “integral ecology” that Pope Francis has called us to promote. Mandating marriage redefinition across the country is a tragic error that harms the common good and most vulnerable among us, especially children. The law has a duty to support every child’s basic right to be raised, where possible, by his or her married mother and father in a stable home.

Jesus Christ, with great love, taught unambiguously that from the beginning marriage is the lifelong union of one man and one woman. As Catholic bishops, we follow our Lord and will continue to teach and to act according to this truth.

I encourage Catholics to move forward with faith, hope, and love: faith in the unchanging truth about marriage, rooted in the immutable nature of the human person and confirmed by divine revelation; hope that these truths will once again prevail in our society, not only by their logic, but by their great beauty and manifest service to the common good; and love for all our neighbors, even those who hate us or would punish us for our faith and moral convictions.

Lastly, I call upon all people of good will to join us in proclaiming the goodness, truth, and beauty of marriage as rightly understood for millennia, and I ask all in positions of power and authority to respect the God-given freedom to seek, live by, and bear witness to the truth.

Religious communities receive $25 million from national appeal

WASHINGTON—The National Religious Retirement Office distributed $25 million in financial assistance to 394 religious communities across the country. The funding is made possible by the Retirement Fund for Religious collection, an annual, parish-based appeal benefiting more than 33,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests.

The latest collection was held in the majority of U.S. Catholic parishes in December 2014 and raised $28.3 million. Eleven dioceses and three archdioceses had record-high donations.

“We are humbled and overwhelmed by the love and generosity Catholics across the nation share with our senior religious each year,” said Precious Blood Sister Janice Bader, the office’s executive director. “We remain committed to ensuring the broadest and most beneficial distribution of these donations.”

The funding disbursed the week of June 22, known as Direct Care Assistance, represents the majority of financial support distributed by the Religious Retirement Office. Additional funding will be allocated for religious communities with the greatest needs and for ongoing education in retirement planning and eldercare delivery. Ninety-three percent of the donations are used for administration and promotion of the annual appeal.

The U.S. bishops launched the Retirement Fund for Religious in 1988 to address the profound deficit in retirement funding among U.S. religious communities. The NRRO coordinates the annual collection and distributes the proceeds to eligible communities. The organization is sponsored by the Conference of Major Superiors of Men, the Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious, the Leadership Conference of Women Religious and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Traditionally, Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests—known collectively as women and men religious—served for little to no pay and received no retirement benefits. As a result, many religious congregations now lack adequate savings for retirement and eldercare.

Religious communities are financially autonomous and thus responsible for the care of their senior members. Most support eldercare through their own income and savings, and many also participate in government programs such as Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security. Annual allocations from the Retirement Fund for Religious supplement these funds and help underwrite a variety of immediate and ongoing needs, such as prescription medications and nursing care.

For more information visit www.retiredreligious.org.

Natural Family Planning Awareness Week Begins July 19

WASHINGTON—“All Natural! Natural Family Planning: Good for the body. Great for the soul!” is the theme of this year’s Natural Family Planning Awareness Week, a national educational campaign of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to celebrate God’s design for married love and the gift of life and to raise awareness of Natural Family Planning methods.

Natural Family Planning, as the U.S. bishops have written, is supportive of Catholic beliefs about married love because it “respects the God-given power to love a new human life into being” (U.S. Bishops, Married Love and the Gift of Life).

The slogan for this year’s campaign was inspired by Pope Francis’ anticipated encyclical Laudato Si, released this June. In it the Holy Father emphasizes the beauty and importance of developing an authentic ecology that encompasses all of creation, including man: “Learning to accept our body, to care for it and to respect its fullest meaning, is an essential element of any genuine human ecology.”

Natural Family Planning Awareness Week (July 19 – 25) highlights the anniversary of the papal encyclical Humanae Vitae (July 25) which articulates Catholic beliefs about human sexuality, conjugal love and responsible parenthood. The dates also include July 26, the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, the parents of the Blessed Mother.

Resources including prayers, homily notes, bulletin inserts and ideas for celebrating and promoting the campaign can be found at http://www.usccb.org/nfp/awareness-week/index.cfm
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Submitted photos

John and Lizanne Kenney of Summit hosted an evening event at Baltusrol Golf Club, Springfield Township, on May 28 in support of the Dominican Nuns of Summit’s Centennial Capital Campaign. The sisters, who will celebrate their 100th anniversary in 2019, are in the midst of a $4 million campaign for a new 5,500-square-foot addition to the Monastery of Our Lady of the Rosary. The project will provide much-needed space, bring the facility up to code and provide handicapped access to the chapel and other spaces. Guests were shown the rendering and the architectural plans. Above photo, left to right: Lizanne Kenney; Justin Mihalik, architect; Deborah Q. Belfatto, Centennial Campaign Committee. In the photo at left, Mihalik discusses plans for the new wing with Lenore Ford.

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‘Living Stones’ campaign

Continued from page 1

goals were achievable, all have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of generosity.

“I thought it was a typo,” said Father Lawrence Fama, pastor of Our Lady of Peace in Maywood, said of his $500,063 parish goal. But he said 72 percent has already been pledged, thanks to an effective parish leadership committee.

“Having this goal challenges you,” said Father Michael J. Kreder, pastor of Saint Mary, which had just completed a $2.5 million campaign for new roofs, boilers, doors and windows at its complex. “But our emphasis was that we must look beyond ourselves.” So far, Saint Mary has pledged 37 percent of its $895,436 goal.

Michael Goodwin, executive director of Guidance in Giving, the organization helping the archdiocese coordinate the drive, said one key message is that the campaign supplements other giving. “It’s not the annual appeal with different numbers,” he said, explaining that offering giving is expected to continue at the same or higher levels.

Goals roughly equate to annual parish offertory receipts and Goodwin said pastors find them achievable when they approach the campaign in a systematic way.

“I wasn’t happy about it,” said Father George D. Gillen, pastor of Saint Genevieve in Elizabeth. “Raising money and asking people for money is not on the top of my list.”

But he said he changed his mind after the kick-off meeting for pastors in Summit last September, when he heard priests advocate for the greater needs of the Church of Newark.

“Our attitudes are essential,” said Father Gillen, whose parish has so far pledged half its $538,976 goal. “If parishioners believe what we’re asking, they’ll come through.”

At the meeting, Archbishop Bernard A. Hebda also assured the priests and parish representatives that “one of the great assets” of the campaign are the directors assigned each parish by Guidance in Giving. Having attended campaign receptions in a number of parishes since last year’s kickoff, the archbishop said he was impressed with the way the directors tailor the campaign to the needs of each parish.

The last group of parishes will begin the campaign in January.

Archbishop John J. Myers

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Top 10 Performing Parishes

As of July 6, 2015
Gift Report

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<tr>
<th>PARISH</th>
<th>% OF GOAL</th>
<th>% OF PARTICIPATION</th>
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<tr>
<td>Korean Martyrs Church, Saddle Brook</td>
<td>223%</td>
<td>29%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parish of the Transfiguration, Newark</td>
<td>142%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immaculate Heart of Mary/Saint Patrick, Elizabeth</td>
<td>136%</td>
<td>11%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Newark</td>
<td>114%</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saint Bartholomew, Scotch Plains</td>
<td>107%</td>
<td>11%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saint Francis de Sales, Lodi</td>
<td>104%</td>
<td>14%</td>
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<td>Saint Catherine of Siena, Hillside</td>
<td>101%</td>
<td>27%</td>
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<td>Saint Francis of Assisi, Hackensack</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>12%</td>
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<td>Guardian Angel, Allendale</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Jersey City</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
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Clergy Phase Results | 109 Gifts | $421,000

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 abuse 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.

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Father Michael Eguino, S.D.B., was ordained to the priesthood June 27 by Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of New York, at his home parish of Saint Benedict in the Bronx.

Fr. Eguino, 30, is a 2008 graduate of Seton Hall University in South Orange and studied theology at Immaculate Conception Seminary.

For the last four years he has been a member of the Salesian formation community in Orange. He served as a deacon for the last year at Holy Rosary Church in Port Chester, NY, and his first priestly assignment is to newly-combined Corpus Christi-Holy Rosary Parish in Port Chester.

In August Father Eguino will take up priestly ministry and teaching at Archbishop Shaw High School in Marrero, L.A., and the nearby parishes served by the Salesian community.


At Salesian High School (2008-2010) he taught world history and theology. Other ministry included work in the youth center at Our Lady of the Valley Parish in Orange.

Some 50 Salesians, diocesan, and religious priests concelebrated the ordination Mass with Cardinal Dolan and Fr. Eguino. Cardinal Dolan’s homily began with an unusual statement: that he and Father Thomas Dunne, S.D.B., the provincial, had just lied to everyone. They had testified that Deacon Michael Eguino was worthy of ordination as a priest. And, said the cardinal, we all—including Michael—know that he is not worthy. No one is.

The cardinal observed that a few minutes earlier Michael had lain prostrate on the floor while the congregation prayed the Litany of Saints—a testimony of his unworthiness and helplessness. The priesthood, Cardinal Dolan said, is not a prize to be won, a career to be pursued, a degree to be earned, but a pure gift from God to someone who admits his unworthiness. It’s all God’s grace, mercy and initiative.

Ordination, the cardinal continued, is all about Jesus and his Church. Jesus continues to summon unworthy, sinful, and clumsy men to the vocation of sharing God’s grace and mercy with the Church.

At one point, the cardinal asked Deacon Michael whether he was afraid. “No,” he answered. “But I’m nervous.”

Cardinal Dolan followed up: it’s OK to be nervous. But Jesus tells us often not to be afraid. God takes care of us. This trust in Divine Providence, in fact, is a part of the Salesian charism passed on by founder St. Don Bosco, the cardinal said.

The cardinal also paid tribute to Fr. Eguino’s parents, the parish clergy, and community for fostering his vocation. He also lauded the Salesians and the Salesian Sisters for their ministry in the archdiocese and throughout the world.

On an earlier occasion, Cardinal Dolan had admired the Good Shepherd cross that is given to Salesians when they pronounce their perpetual vows. At the end of Mass, as a token of appreciation for the cardinal’s love for Don Bosco and the Salesians, Fr. Dunne presented him with a larger version of that cross, to the cardinal’s delight. He immediately removed his pectoral cross and put on the Salesian cross.

Cardinal Timothy Dolan lays hands on Fr. Eguino.

Felician College hosts Franciscan poetry reading

LODI— Felician College recently hosted a poetry reading by Father Murray Bodo, O.F.M., a Franciscan priest and poet. An expert on Franciscan spirituality, Fr. Bodo read from several of his books of poetry, including “Of Francis and Clare,” a collection of poems about Saint Francis, his parents, Saint Clare and Assisi.

In her introduction, Sister Juanita Arnister, C.S.S.F., Vice President for Mission Integration at the college, said, “It is pure joy to have Fr. Bodo with us to share his moving words in his own voice.”

The audience of more than 70 people listened as Fr. Bodo explained his great love for poetry. “Poetry is a sacrament of language. A poem creates a reality that can’t be seen or touched,” he said. “It is seen by the soul through the power of imagination.”

In a clear, melodic voice Fr. Bodo read several of his poems and moved his listeners to both laughter and tears with his words and commentary.

The author of more than 20 books and hundreds of poems, Fr. Bodo holds a Ph.D. in English and has taught English and American literature, composition, and creative writing. His latest books are “Francis and Jesus,” and “Enter Assisi: An Invitation to Franciscan Spirituality.”

Fr. Bodo resides in Cincinnati, OH, and spends two months of the year in Rome and Assisi, Italy, as a staff member of the Franciscan pilgrimage programs. He has read his poetry at various venues in America, Italy and England.
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The applicant must possess strong organizational, computer, and leadership skills, and be able to work collaboratively with the pastor and the members of parish staff to achieve common ministerial goals.

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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.

D.T.

PRAYER TO ST. THERESA
Oh Glorious Saint Theresa, whom Almighty God has raised up to aid and counsel mankind. I invite your miraculous intercession. So powerful are you obtaining every need of body and soul, our Holy Mother Church proclaims you a “Prodigy of Miracles.” Now fervently I beseech you to answer my petition (mention here) and carry out your promise of doing good upon earth of letting fall from heaven a shower of roses. Henceforth, dear little flower, I will fulfill your plea to be made known everywhere and I will never cease to lead others to Jesus through you. Amen.

(Say prayer everyday for 9 days. By 4th day, ask for a sign. If prayers are answered between 4th and 9th day, you will see a rose in magazine, TV picture or receive roses. You can also get a strong scent of roses in home even if no roses are present. Must promise publication. Thank you.)

D.T.
Sister Mary Grace Riccardelli, M.P.F.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated June 17 at the Saint Lucy Chapel, Villa Walsh, Morristown for Sister Mary Grace Riccardelli, M.P.F., 89, who died June 13.

Born in East Orange, Sr. Mary Grace entered the Religious Teachers Filippini in 1944. She received the habit a year later, and made her religious profession in 1948. She earned a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Seton Hall University, South Orange, and a master’s degree from Canisius College in Buffalo, NY.

Sr. Mary Grace was a teacher at Our Lady of Lourdes School, Union City; Our Lady of Mount Carmel School, Montclair; Saint Peter the Apostle School, River Edge; and Holy Family Academy, Nutley. She also ministered in New York, Connecticut and Rhode Island.

Sr. Mary Grace retired at Holy Family in 2009, and came to Saint Joseph Hall, Villa Walsh in 2010.

Father Henry R. Ferrazoli

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated June 29 at Holy Rosary Parish, Jersey City, for Father Henry R. Ferrazoli, 87, who died June 22.

A Jersey City native, Fr. Ferrazoli was ordained a priest May 26, 1956. He served as parochial vicar at Saint Margaret of Cortona Parish in Little Ferry and later at Saint James Parish in Newark until 1968. Following the assignment, he began teaching and actively serving in administration at Seton Hall University.

In 1982, Msgr. Stengel was appointed pastor of Saint Philip the Apostle Parish in Saddle Brook. During that time he also served as Dean of Bergen Region, Deaneries 1 and 4 and was an active member of the Metropolitan Tribunal in the Archdiocese of Newark. In 1994 he joined the staff of Immaculate Conception Seminary in South Orange.

In 1994, Msgr. Stengel returned to Jersey City to serve as pastor of Saint John the Baptist Parish where he remained until his retirement in 2007.

Rev. Msgr. Charles G. Stengel

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated June 24 at Saint John the Baptist Parish, Jersey City, for Rev. Msgr. Charles G. Stengel, 85, who died June 18.

Msgr. Stengel was born and raised in Jersey City. He was ordained a priest May 26, 1956. He served as parochial vicar at Saint Margaret of Cortona Parish in Little Ferry and later at Saint James Parish in Newark until 1968. Following the assignment, he began teaching and actively serving in administration at Seton Hall University.

In 1982, Msgr. Stengel was appointed pastor of Saint Philip the Apostle Parish in Saddle Brook. During that time he also served as Dean of Bergen Region, Deaneries 1 and 4 and was an active member of the Metropolitan Tribunal in the Archdiocese of Newark. In 1994 he joined the staff of Immaculate Conception Seminary in South Orange.

In 1994, Msgr. Stengel returned to Jersey City to serve as pastor of Saint John the Baptist Parish where he remained until his retirement in 2007.

Father Walter D. Lucey

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated June 26 at Immaculate Conception Chapel, Seton Hall University, for Father Walter D. Lucey, who died June 21.

Fr. Lucey received a bachelor’s degree in American literature from Ramapo State College. He served for three years in the U.S. Army, after which he was employed by the IBM Corporation, where he was a marketing executive for 25 years.

Upon retirement, Fr. Lucey entered Immaculate Conception Seminary, South Orange. Ordained in 1998, he was assigned to Queen of Peace Parish, North Arlington, where he served for eight years. In 2006, Father Lucey was named a member of the formation faculty of Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology, where he served until 2013.

Rev. Msgr. William J. Koplik


Born in Union City, Msgr. Koplik graduated from Seton Hall University, South Orange, and Immaculate Conception Seminary in Darlington. He was ordained to the priesthood May 26, 1962. His first parochial assignment was parochial vicar at Saint Margaret of Cortona, Little Ferry, and Saint Anthony Parish in Northvale.

Msgr. Koplik served as temporary administrator at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Mountainside, and chaplain at Jersey City State College while residing at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, North Arlington. In 1981 he was assigned to Saint Matthew Parish, Ridgefield, where he served for 14 years as pastor and Dean of Bergen/Southeast Deanery.

His next assignment as pastor was at Holy Trinity Parish, Hackensack. During this time Msgr. Koplik also served as Director of Evangelization for the Archdiocese of Newark and was invested as a Prelate of Honor. He returned to Saint Anthony, Northvale, as pastor, and retired from there in 2002.

In retirement he resided at Saint Matthew, until he moved to The Jewish Home at Rockleigh where he was affectionately known as “the pope of The Jewish Home.”

In addition to his parochial assignments, Msgr. Koplik collaborated with Joan Brady in writing religious education programs and also co-authored a three-part Lenten series with Richard Haffey.

Sister Jean Hemmer, S.C.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July 8 at Saint Anne Villa, Convent Station, for Sister Jean Hemmer, S.C., 93, who died July 2.

Sr. Jean was born in Newark and entered the Sisters of Charity on Sept. 8, 1947. She was a member for 67 years.

She attended the College of Saint Elizabeth, Convent Station, earned a master’s degree in English from Seton Hall University, South Orange, and a doctorate from Fordham University, Bronx, NY.

Sr. Jean was a teacher at Saint Michael School, Newark, and Immaculate Conception High School, Montclair. At the College of Saint Elizabeth she served as instructor, associate professor, professor, and chair of the English department. She also served as Assistant Dean of Studies and as an academic advisor.

She served at the College of Saint Elizabeth for 46 years. From 2006 to 2009, Sr. Jean was a volunteer in the archives of the Sisters of Charity. She retired to Saint Anne Villa in 2009 where she resided until her death.
Apostolic Nuncio celebrates Mass

Continued from page 1

“Over the course of nearly three years, the church has now been restored to full operational capacity, a reconstruction that has cost close to $900,000,” Msgr. Meyer explained. “Looking ahead, two major repairs remain before we can turn the page, starting with the grounds of the church, which includes replacing of all affected plants and re-sodding the grass. This work is estimated to cost approximately $30,000. In addition, the lower rectory, which hosted meetings like Boy Scouts and parish events before the storm, still needs to be restored. That project is currently out for bid and we hope to have it completed by the fall.”

Established in 1887, the northern Hudson County parish is engaged in a grassroots movement to gather and share new energies with Saints Peter and Paul.

“Change is always difficult and that’s especially true when it comes to our parish churches because each has its own culture, style and ‘flavor.’ In my time as administrator of Saint Lawrence, I think we have come to greatly respect and learn from one another as we continue toward a path of sustainability,” Msgr. Meyer explained.

As administrator, Msgr. Meyer has to assuage the concerns of parishioners while keeping the faithful versed and involved in the day-to-day progress of the church. “The most outstanding challenge for Saint Lawrence going forward is growing the base of regular, committed and faithful supporters to help keep the parish sustainable for generations to come,” he noted. “We have made great strides but there is still more to do.”

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Official Appointments
Archbishop John J. Myers has announced the following appointments:

**ARCHDIOCESAN AGENCY/MINISTRY**
Reverend Emeka Okwuosa, S.D.V., has been appointed Director for Vocations for Religious Life for the Archdiocese of Newark, effective July 13.

**PAROCHIAL VICAR**
Reverend Josemanuel M. Abalon, Parochial Vicar of Saint Anthony of Padua Parish, Union City, has also been appointed part-time Parochial Vicar of Saints Joseph and Michael Parish, Union City, with continued residence at Saint Anthony of Padua. This appointment is effective Aug. 15.

Reverend Pawel Dolinski, S.D.S., has been appointed Parochial Vicar of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Bayonne, effective July 1.

Reverend Tadeusz Jank, Parochial Vicar of Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish, Linden, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of Saint John the Baptist Parish, Hillsdale, effective July 23.

Reverend Jerzy Pikulinski, Parochial Vicar of Saint John the Baptist, Hillsdale, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of Saint Michael the Archangel Parish, Lyndhurst, effective July 23.

Reverend Anthony Onyekwelu has been appointed Summer Parochial Vicar of Immaculate Conception Parish, Mahwah, effective July 1 through July 31.

Reverend Joseph A. D’Amico, Pastor of Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Verona, has also been appointed Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus, Father James J. Kelly Council #3632, effective July 1.

Reverend John J. Prada, Parochial Vicar of Saint Vincent de Paul Parish, Bayonne, has been appointed Chaplain at Hackensack University Medical Center, effective Oct. 1.

Reverend Ivan Sciberras, Pastor of Saint Peter Parish, Belleville, has also been appointed Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus, Belleville Council #835, effective immediately.

**PASTOR**
Reverend Celso L. Martins Jr., Parochial Vicar of Saint James Parish, Newark, has been appointed Pastor there, effective July 25.

Reverend Daniel O’Neill, O. Carm., has been appointed Pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Tenafly, effective July 1.

Reverend Frank J. Rocchi, Pastor of Good Shepherd Parish, Irvington, has also been appointed Parochial Vicar of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Tenafly, effective July 25.

**DEAN**
Reverend Deacon Daniel J. Gralnick, Parochial Vicar of St. Peter’s Parish, Bayonne, has been appointed Part-time Parochial Vicar of Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish, Linden, effective Aug. 15.

Reverend Stanislaw K. Konopka, Pastor of Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish, Linden, has been appointed Part-time Diocesan Vocations Director.

Reverend Pawel Dolinski, S.D.S., has been appointed Diocesan Vocations Director.

Reverend Frank J. Rocchi, Pastoral Coordinator, has been appointed Part-time Diocesan Vocations Director.

Reverend Josemanuel M. Abalon, Parochial Vicar of Saint Anthony of Padua Parish, Union City, has also been appointed Part-time Parochial Vicar of Saints Joseph and Michael Parish, Union City, with continued residence at Saint Anthony of Padua. This appointment is effective Aug. 15.

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Around the Archdiocese

**July 16**
Archdiocesan Youth Retreat Center, Kearny, free six-week summer formation series, for volunteers in youth ministry, Thursdays from 7-9 p.m., (201) 998-0088 or visit www.newarkoym.com.

**July 21**
Filipino Clergy of New York and New Jersey, Sportsfest 2015, at St. Aloysius Parish, Jersey City, includes baseball, volleyball and tennis, 4 p.m., (201) 433-6365.

**August 10**
Archdiocesan Youth Retreat Center, Kearny, leadership training for young adults, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (lunch included), call Brian Caldwell at (201) 998-0088 ext. 4153 or e-mail caldwebr@rcan.org.

**August 1**
St. Philomena Parish, Livingston, celebration of the Feast Day of St. Philomena, includes blessing and veneration of the saint’s relic, procession to the Memorial Garden dedicated to Rev. Msgr. Kevin Hanbury, and unveiling of a marble statue of the patroness, 7 p.m., call Father Jacek Napor at (908) 577-4591.

**August 22-23**
Lay Missionaries of Charity, Newark, retreat at Betania II Retreat Center in Medway, MA, departures from Annunciation Parish parking lot in Wayne at 6:30 a.m. or St. Augustine Parish lot in Newark at 7 a.m., $215 for double room, $239 for single room, call Joyce Vernieri at (973) 636-6602.

Oak Knoll students support local animal shelter

SUMMIT—Students in Oak Knoll School's first grade classes gathered donations and supplies for animals at Saint Hubert’s Animal Welfare in Madison.

On June 3, students from Ann Higgins and Jeanne Mackin’s first grade classes brought in cat and dog food, carrying crates, cleaning supplies, toys and more to be delivered to the local organization, which operates animal shelters throughout North Jersey.

Saint Hubert’s also operates a training and behavior center, which offers specialized classes and consultations. In addition, the organization provides a variety of services to the community, including pet adoptions, a pet food pantry, low-cost spay/neuter of community cats, a pet helpline and a professional education series.

The donation drive was part of a grade-wide service project for Oak Knoll’s first grade.

“The first graders chose to help Saint Hubert’s for many reasons including that Saint Hubert’s is a local organization dedicated to the welfare of animals for many years,” Higgins said. “We hope to continue strengthening the relationship between Saint Hubert’s and Oak Knoll, and we think our foundress Cornelia Connelly would approve. Helping the organization goes along with Cornelia’s mantra of ‘actions, not words,’ and we think it’s incredibly important to be the voice of those who don’t have a voice, such as animals.”

Service is important to the Oak Knoll community. The school hosts an official school-wide service day in the fall and students, faculty, and staff pride themselves on participating in volunteer projects throughout the year.
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