Usccb president urges world leaders to pursue dialogue, seek peace

Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — Hours after Iran launched more than a dozen ballistic missiles at two Iraqi bases, Archbishop Jose H. Gomez, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, issued a statement calling for urgent prayers “that our world’s leaders will pursue dialogue and seek peace.”

“In the face of the escalating tensions with Iran,” he said, people should join him in “asking our Blessed Mother Mary, the Queen of Peace, to intercede, that Jesus Christ might strengthen the peacemakers, comfort the suffering, and protect the innocent and all those especially the men and women in our military and diplomatic service.”

Iran’s missile launch — Jan. 8 in Iraq, late Jan. 7 in the U.S. — was said to be in retaliation for Washington’s targeted killing of Iran’s top military com- mander, Maj. Gen. Qassem Soleimani, in Baghdad Jan. 3. The missiles hit the al-Asad airbase, which houses U.S. troops, and American and coalition forces in the northern Iraqi town of Irbil, in areas not heavily pop- ulated.

During his general audience Jan. 8, Pope Francis also addressed the current situation in Iraq, offering “a warm welcome to the Arab-speaking pilgrims, espe- cially those from Iraq, Lebanon, Syria and the Middle East.”

“In the saddest moments of our lives, in the most distressing moments and of trial, we must not be afraid and be bold as Paul was, because God watches always close to us. May the Lord bless you all and always protect you from the evil one,” he said.

President Donald Trump addressed the nation Jan. 8, calling on the world to pursue a path to peace in the Middle East. He urged the nations that remained part of the so-called Ps-1 pact that limited Iran’s development of nuclear weapons — the United Kingdom, France, China, Russia plus Germany — to “be clear and firm” in the deal and negoti- ate a new agreement that would allow Iran “to thrive and prosper.”

“We must all work together to mak- ing a deal with Iran that makes the world safer and more peaceful place,” he said.

The president also called on NATO to “become much more involved” in Middle East affairs, without elaborating on how that could be accomplished.

Pointing to the development of new weapons systems, Trump said the U.S. was prepared to defend Americans in the region, but that military action would not be the nation’s first response.

“The fact that we have this great mili- tary equipment does not mean we want to use it,” he said.

He announced, again without detail, that new economic sanctions would be

Encore: March for Life theme borrows page from suffragist centennial

Mark Pattison

Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — The March for Life, the annual march in Washington to protest legalized abortion in the United States, is tying itself in 2020 to the women’s suffrage movement for the 100th anniver- sary of the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote.

The theme of the march is “Life Empowers: Pro-Life Is Pro-Woman.”

Joanne Mancini, head of the March for Life, remarked how this year’s suffragists of their day Alice Paul and Susan B. Anthony were themselves staunchly against abortion. A voted measure to support the upcoming march, to be held Jan. 24, said the women called abor- tion “the ultimate exploitation of women.”

An unnamed woman speaking in the video and 30 million female babies had been aborted since the twin 1973 Supreme Court rulings in Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton that legalized abortion virtually on demand.

Mancini said speakers lined up for the pre- march gathering include Louisiana State Sen. Katrina Jackson, a pro-life Democrat who authored a bill in 2014 to require abortion doc- tors to have admitting privileges at nearby hospitals. It was ruled unconstitutional in 2017, but that ruling in June, Medical Services v. Gee was reversed by the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. The U.S. Supreme Court said in October it would take up the case, its first abortion-related case since the death of Antonin Scalia and the retirement of Anthony Kennedy.

Also on the speakers’ list is U.S. Rep. Christopher Smith, R-New Jersey long a pro-life advocate, who has sponsored the Born-Alive Survivors Protection Act, which would bar the killing of any baby who survives an abortion. Two such survivors will speak as well, according to Mancini.

The 2020 march will be the 47th such march. “We march regardless,” said Tom McClusky, president of March for Life Action, which is the sis- ter organization of the March for Life Education and Defense Fund headed by Mancini, also spoke at the briefing. “If Roe v. Wade is ever turned or weakened,” he said, “there will be even more action in the
At midnight Mass worshipers encouraged to make room in their heart for Jesus

Laura Keener  Editor

The Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption was filled with worshipers, Dec. 24, in anticipation of Christmas Midnight Mass. Forty-five minutes prior to the beginning of Mass, celebrated by Bishop Roger Foys, the Bishop’s Choir sang Christmas carols and hymns.

The joyous celebration began with a procession to the Cathedral’s Nativity scene, where Bishop Foys uncovered the baby Jesus and blessed and prayed before the Holy Family.

In his homily, Bishop Foys reflected on St. Luke’s Gospel account of the Nativity narrative and how amidst the joy and merriment of Christ’s birth there is one troubling phrase, “there was no room for them at the inn,” he said.

“Hospitality among the Jewish people was a priority … yet the mother, foster father and Savior of the world could not find a place to lodge,” he said. “Jesus was born in a stable and placed in a feed box where animals eat their hay. Although there was no warmth in the hearts of the innkeepers that night, Jesus was kept warm by the breath of the animals. Think about that.”

Bishop Foys said he wonders if the innkeepers ever learned who Jesus was and ever realized that they had turned him away.

“Can you imagine living with that — I turned away the Savior of the world?” he said. “When the last history book is written at the end of time the saddest line will be ‘there was no room at the inn.’”

Bishop Foys said that God is asking every individual to make room for him in their heart.

“We ask ourselves on this Christmas night, when we celebrate the light coming into the darkness, when we celebrate salvation being born, when we celebrate God becoming one of us, he asks us tonight, ‘Will you make room for me in your life? Will you make room for me in your heart?’ That’s what this night is all about, the Lord God coming into this world and into our lives.”

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins Saturday, Jan. 18, and continues through Saturday, Jan. 25. The theme for 2020 is "They Showed Us Unusual Kindness." (cf. Acts 28:2) Join with Christians around the world praying “that all may be one … that the world may believe.” (John 17:21)
At forum, Northern Kentuckians show support for Scholarship Tax Credits
As Kentucky’s legislators (above left) prepared for the upcoming General Assembly, constituents were encouraged to share issues important to them, Jan. 4, at the Northern Kentucky Legislative Forum, held at Gateway Community and Technical College — Boone Campus Convening Center.
Andrew Vandiver, associate director, Catholic Conference of Kentucky; Michael Cline, superintendent of Catholic Schools; Beth Riechman, diocesan director, Alliance for Catholic Urban Education (pictured top, center); and Alan Pickett, executive director, Catholic Social Services, Diocese of Covington; were among several others in attendance showing support for Scholarship Tax Credits.
“This is an opportunity to show elected officials that Scholarship Tax Credits are an important issue and should be prioritized during the 2020 legislative session,” Mr. Vandiver said in an e-mail encouraging supporters to attend the forum.
About six people, including Sandy Cammack (above right), grandparent of students at St. Joseph Academy, Walton and St. John the Evangelist, Cynthiana, spoke to legislators about how Scholarships Tax Credits would help their families. Opponents of the proposed legislation were also in attendance and shared concerns with legislators.

Religion teacher/Catechist Certification Program and Adult Faith studies
The Office of Catechesis and Faith Formation offers stimulating classes for teachers, parish catechists, diaconate aspirants and any adult who would like to expand their knowledge of the Catholic faith — everyone is welcome to attend any course/ workshop.
The courses are separated into two categories: Certification Core Courses (c) and Maintenance Courses (m). All courses are open to anyone interested.

“Praying All Ways” (c), Jan. 25, Feb. 1; 9 a.m.—12 p.m., Rosanne Thomas, Blessed Sacrament Parish, Ft. Mitchell
“Using Art in Faith Formation” (c), Feb. 8, 15; 9 a.m.—1 p.m., Rose Thomas, Blessed Sacrament Parish, Ft. Mitchell
“Introduction to Scripture” (c), Feb. 29; 9 a.m.—2 p.m., Father Ray Enzweiler, Curia Building, Bishop Howard Memorial Auditorium, Covington
“Bioethics” (m), March 7, 14; 9 a.m.—2 p.m., Father Ray Enzweiler, Curia Building, Bishop Howard Memorial Auditorium, Covington

Day of Prayer and Penance for Life and Eucharistic Adoration
In solidarity with the pilgrims who are traveling to the March for Life in Washington, D.C., Bishop Roger Foys has called for a Day of Prayer and Penance for Life, Jan. 24, throughout the Diocese of Covington. Each church is to be open for prayer and to schedule at least one hour of Eucharistic adoration.
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
All Saints, Walton, all day
St. Barbara, Erlanger, all day (call parish for code)
St. Benedict, Covington, 8:30 a.m.—12 p.m.
Blessed Sacrament, Ft. Mitchell, 10:30 a.m.—6:30 p.m.
Sts. Boniface and James, Ludlow, 3–5 p.m.
St. Catherine of Siena, Ft. Thomas, 9:30 a.m.—5:45 p.m.
St. Cecilia, Independence, 8 a.m.—12 p.m.
Cristo Rey, Florence, 12–6:30 p.m.
Divine Mercy, Bellevue, 12:30 p.m.—8 p.m.
St. Edward, Cynthiana, 7 p.m.—8 p.m.
St. Edward, Overtown, 8 a.m.
Holy Cross, Latonia, 10 a.m.—12 p.m.
Holy Spirit, Newport, 8:30 a.m.—12 p.m.
St. John the Baptist, Wilder, 8:30—9 a.m.
St. John the Evangelist, Carrollton, 1 p.m.—midnight
St. John the Evangelist, Covington, 1:30—2:30 p.m.
St. Joseph, Camp Springs, 8:30 a.m.—12 p.m.
St. Joseph, Cold Spring, 10 a.m.—12 p.m.
St. Joseph, Crescent Springs, all day
St. Mary of the Assumption, Alexandria, 7:30—8 p.m.
Our Lady of Lourdes, Park Hills, 1—8 p.m.
St. Patrick, Taylor Mill, all day
St. Patrick, Maysville, 9 a.m.—7 p.m.
Sts. Peter and Paul, California, 9 a.m.—5 p.m.
St. Pius X, Edgewood, 9 a.m.—5:30 p.m.
St. Therese, Southgate, 8:30 a.m.—5 p.m.
St. Timothy, Union, 10:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.
St. Thomas, Ft. Thomas, 9 a.m.—1 p.m.
St. William, Williamstown, 8:30—10 a.m.

Holy Hour locations
Bishop Foys encourages the faithful of the diocese to join together in prayer for a Holy Hour for Life, Jan. 24, 7 p.m. Nine parishes throughout the diocese have been designated.
Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington
Blessed Sacrament Parish, Ft. Mitchell

For more information or to register visit www.covdio.org/catechesis-and-faith-formations or call (859) 392-1500. Walk-ins accepted, but preregistration is encouraged.

Correction
In the story “Mass and blessing in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe,” page 24, Dec. 20, 2019 edition of the Messenger, the name of the couple donating the Our Lady of Guadalupe statue was incorrect. Teresa Pikar — not Kathleen — and her husband Dan are the donors.

Maintenance Courses (m). All courses are accepted, but preregistration is encouraged.

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Introduction to Catholic Spirituality” (c), March 14, 21; 9 a.m.—2 p.m., Claire Therese, St. Mary Parish, Alexandria
For more information or to register visit www.covdio.org/catechesis-and-faith-formations or call (859) 392-1500. Walk-ins accepted, but preregistration is encouraged.
Deep Incarnation — another meaning of Christmas

Some years ago at a religious conference a man announced that he had rescued a dog after apologizing for what he felt would be an inappropriate question, asking this: “I love my dog. When he dies will he go to heaven? Do animals have eternal life?”

The answer to that question comes to many of us, but, looked at through the eyes of Christian faith, yes, his dog can go to heaven. It’s one of those things at Christmas. God came into the world to save the world, not just the people living in it. The Incarnation has meaning for humanity; but also for the cosmos itself. We don’t know exactly what that means, but perhaps our imaginations aren’t up to the task of picturing it, but because of the Incarnation, dogs too can go to heaven. Is this fanciful? No, it’s scriptural.

At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus and see in his birth the beginning of the mystery of the Incarnation unfolding in history, the mystery of God becoming human in physical flesh in order to save the world. What we tend to struggle with though is how we come to understand what’s meant by Christ saving the world. Most of us take that to mean that Christ came into the world to save the people, those of us with self-awareness and eternal souls.

That’s true, but our faith also asks us to believe that God’s saving activity in the Christ extends to more than just human beings and more than just animals and other living things. God’s saving activity in Christ reaches so deep that it saves creation itself — the oceans, the mountains, the soil that grows our food, the desert sands, and the earth itself. Christ came to save all of those things too, not just the people.

Where, you might ask, does scripture teach this? It teaches us most everywhere in implicit ways though it teaches us quite explicitly in a number of different places. For example, in the Epistle to the Romans (8, 19-25) Paul says: “For the inconstant creature suffers not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the children of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. We know that all creation is groaning to be set free from its present limits.”

This may come as a surprise to us since, until quite recently, we’ve seen in the Incarnation only the most immediate meaning for humanity, but that’s not the way scripture understands the Incarnation. We believe the Incarnation has come true — but in the most unexpected way. The Incarnation is meant to be interpreted, understood, and put to use to bring the world into freedom and glory of God.

We need to ask ourselves this question: What do we believe will happen to physical creation at the end of time? Will it be destroyed, burnt-up, annihilated? Or, will things simply be abandoned and left empty and deserted like a house that has been robbed? God will have power to govern creation — not just the cosmos, but also creation of all sorts, not just the people living on this earth, but rather, “the world”, the planet itself, and everything on it.

Resurrection, he manifested his decisive victory God’s love, we believe, is strong enough to save even the cosmos itself. We also believe it will be saved. But there is more to this odd story and a glance back at St. John’s prologue will help us understand what that is.

The evangelist says, “He was in the world and the world came to know him.” (“John 1:10”) There is no doubt about that at all. The newborn baby Jesus is just as certain as the self-awareness of the ancient Israelites that God, who spoke through Moses and the other prophets, would send to save the cosmos. And the world did know him. He was born in Bethlehem, in the midst of poverty and powerlessness, and his presence, even his mere appearance, was a sign that something was changing. He was a child born in the manger, just as the Son of God had been born in the manger, but he was also an ordinary child born of ordinary parents in the midst of a world in which the powerful turned their backs on the powerless. He was not just born with the hope of salvation, he began his earthly existence with the hope of salvation.

The prophecy is clear: “He will startle the nations with his power, pass through as through a doorway, and make his pathway to be deep; in the might of his breath he will inflate as a stream, and as a chariot he will trample on the heads of the mountains.” (Isa 66:7-9)

The prophet is envisioning a day when the newborn baby Jesus will be born, and he will bring the power of God’s salvation to all humankind. It’s a world-shaking prophecy. It’s a story about the birth of the Messiah, the Saviour, who will bring hope to all of humanity. It’s a story about the birth of the Messiah who will bring hope to all of humanity.
Please grow up

I am reminded of the feast day — the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God — every time I take my post as greeter at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption in Covington. My desk is in view of the Marian windows. This is one of the largest stained-glass windows in the world of a religious nature. It is 67 feet high and 24 feet wide at its base, and divided into four sections: the Litany of Loreto, the Crowning of Mary, the Council of Ephesus, and saints of Mary.

The top section depicts various titles named in the “Litany of the Blessed Mother:” Mystical Rose, Tower of David, Seat of Wisdom, Cause of Our Joy, etc. It is inspired by Marian liturgies from the 12th century on, and was approved by Pope Sixtus V in 1587.

Below that, the Crowning of Mary commemorates the “Queenship of Mary:” We use this title as we pray the “Salve Regina,” or the “Hail, Holy Queen.” This title was promulgated on Oct. 11, 1954, by Pope Pius XII, after this window was installed in our Cathedral, by 1950.

Jesus’ adult baptism is celebrated by the liturgy of Ordination: Ordination applies as much to us as they did to Israel and to Jesus: “...He came directly out of the water.” Even the child/infant Jesus is no longer the child Jesus, but the mature Christ, Nazareth, beginning in Galilee with the baptism John preached; of the way God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and power.

Eighth Day

Father Daniel Vogelpohl

full responsibility for his role in the Pope’s plan. “Give in for now. We must do this if we would fulfill all of God’s desires.”

Jesus’ sense of resoluteness is echoed in the language Matthew uses to describe Jesus’ behavior after his baptism. “...He came directly out of the water.” Even the words describe a person who acts with conviction and commitment to a purpose.

Having begun to act in this decisive way, the Father now bestows his Spirit. “Suddenly the sky opened and he saw the Spirit of God descend like a dove and hover over him.” (Peter, referring to the Acts of the Apostles, describes these same events. “I take you now what has been reported all over Judea about Jesus of Nazareth, beginning in Galilee with the baptism John preached; of the way God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and power.”

It is no longer the child Jesus, but the mature Christ, empowered with the Holy Spirit by his Father who now begins to live his vocation, the work of salvation. Jesus is our model in leaving behind our childhood, moving on to accept more responsibility in our vocation, our role in God’s plan for salvation. As in the case of Jesus, our vocation too is rooted in baptism. We too are empowered by the Spirit in our Christian initiation — that same Spirit described by Peter in today’s second reading that enabled Jesus when he “went about doing good works and healing all who were in the grip of the devil.”

The Church today challenges us to reflect on our own baptism and the fact that it has called us to that same sort of ministry to which Christ’s called him. “Grant, we pray, that they may be inwardly transformed through him whom we recognize as outwardly like ourselves. (Opening Prayer) The solemn blessing at the end of today’s liturgy reminds us that Christians that their baptism not only gives them light and God’s favor, but also empowers them “to bring forth from one’s store both old growing old — to remain flexible, to accumulate wisdom and to know how to bring forth from one’s store both old and new.”

I think this wisdom and flexibility are crucial today if we hope to reverse the vacation craze and the tide of young people leaving the church. Sociologist Sister Mary Johnson, S.N.D. de N., writes, “Staying mentally flexible enough to communicate across any cultural boundary — whether of ethnicity class or generation — is hard work. As a result, most people do not bother to do it very often. We tend to choose our friends from those like us … The older we get, the more the twenty-somethings seem foreign to us, and we to them, unless we make concerted attempts to bridge the gap.”

Twenty-somethings are showing us just how foreign we are to them. Recent surveys indicate that 50 percent of young people who were brought up Catholic now self-identify as “nones,” meaning they do not espouse any religion. As we set off on this new year, let’s ask ourselves what we can do to stem this tragic exodus!

In “Christus Vivit,” the document Pope Francis wrote following the 2018 Synod on Youth, he advises us to return to the sources of our Catholic faith. “Jesus is risen, and he wants to make us sharers in the new life of the resurrection. He is the true youthfulness of a world grown old, the youthfulness of a universe waiting ‘in travail’ (Rom 8:22) to be clothed with his light and to live his life. With him at our side, we can drink from the true wellspring that keeps all alive, our dreams, our projects, our great ideals, while impelling us to proclaim what makes life truly worthwhile.”

The Holy Father said that when he began his ministry as pope, God broadened his horizons and granted him a renewed youthfulness. “The same can happen to a married for many years, or to a monk in his monastery,” he writes. “An institution as ancient as the Church can experience renewal and a return to youth at different

Aging without growing old

Sister Constance Veit, L.S.R.

In his book on aging, “Shaping the Wisdom of Time,” the pope laments older people who have become cynical. “They become unwilling to share their experience,” he writes. “They look down on young people. They are always complaining. They cannot share wisdom. They can only look back fruitlessly on earlier times.”

At the same time, Pope Francis affirms the biblical admonition “to accept the authority of those who are older” (1 Peter 5:5). “The Bible never ceases to insist that profound respect be shown to the elderly, since they have a wealth of experience,” he writes. “In the silence of their heart, they have a store of experiences that can teach us not to make mistakes or be taken in by false prophets.”

“Jesus tells us that the wise are able to bring forth from their store things both new and old (cf Mt 13:52).” Francis continues. Hence lies the key to aging without growing old — to remain flexible, to accumulate wisdom and to know how to bring forth from one’s store both old and new.

When writing I generally try to reach as broad an audience as possible, but, as we begin this new year, I’d like to address myself to those who feel they are growing old.

“Aren’t we all growing old?” you might wonder. Well, yes and no!

Although Pope Francis often expresses his esteem and appreciation for the elderly, he also speaks of “growing old” as something to avoid at all costs. He refers to a certain kind of aging: “growing old out of sorrow, resentment or fear, doubt or failure,” of “being ‘exhusted in the past,’” and letting one’s ‘spirits shrink.’

This does not mean to avoid growing old, it means to avoid growing old — to remain flexible, to accumulate wisdom and to know how to bring forth from one’s store both old and new.

We tend to choose our friends from those like us … The older we get, the more the twenty-somethings seem foreign to us, and we to them, unless we make concerted attempts to bridge the gap.”

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2019 — A Year in the Life of the Diocese of Covington

As reported in the Messenger, how the local Church lived its faith in the last year

Items are listed in the month they occurred, in a number of cases, the news appeared in the Messenger the following month.

Bishop Roger Foys and Dale Henson, diocesan chief financial officer, release the diocesan annual report for year ending June 30, 2018.

Students from Northern Kentucky University’s Newman Center and Thomas More University attend annual SEEK conference in Indianapolis, sponsored by POCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students).

On the solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord, Bishop Foys baptizes three infants: Marie-Klaire Poles (daughter of Brich and Margaret Poles); Kathryn Ellington Fischer (daughter of Michael and Sarah Fischer); and John Thomas Osterhage (son of Noah and Heidi Osterhage). Quoting Mark Twain, Bishop Foys said: “There are two important moments in our life — the day we were born and the day we realize why we were born.”

Bishop Foys asks priests, in collaboration with the Deanery Pastoral Council, to propose a restructuring of Mass schedules to address two concerns: the limited number of active priests available and the decreasing number of people attending Mass and fulfilling liturgical roles.

Bishop Foys blessed a new ultrasound machine at the Rose Garden Home Mission, Covington. The Knights of Columbus raised the funds for the 2018 4-D model machine.

After 43 years as a nurse in Irvine, Ky., and Northern Kentucky (the last 28 serving the homeless in Covington), Benedictine Sister Ann John Koteh retires.

Pilgrims from the Diocese of Covington and Bishop Foys attend the 46th annual March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Following the March for Life in Washington, D.C., an encounter with Covington Catholic High School students and a Native American elder is captured on video and posted to a diocesan website.

Items are listed in the month they occurred; in a number of cases, the results of our inquiry exonerate our students; … Our students did not instigate the incident. Their stance was surely a pro-life stance.

High school and elementary school student representatives participate in the annual Catholic Relief Services Operation Rice Bowl kickoff luncheon. This year Daniel Mumuni, CRS program manager, is the keynote speaker.

Carmelite Sister Leda Domino succeeds Sister Diane Mack as administrator of Carmel Manor, Ft. Thomas.

Lexington Knights of Columbus host a rally at the Capitol, Frankfort, highlighting HB 100, the “heartbeat bill” and HB 169, “Rape Survivor Child Custody Act.”

Thomas More University welcomes speaker Magnus MarFarlane-Barrow, founder and CEO of Mary’s Meals.

An engaged and energetic crowd attends the Diocese of Covington Catholic’s/Cathedral event at Bishop Howard Memorial Auditorium.

At the first Young Adult Leadership Summit hosted by Young Adult Ministry coordinator, Brad Turlene, Bishop Foys encourages young adults to “help save the Church.”

In honor of its upcoming 150th anniversary in 2020, Father Daniel Schmiker, pastor; St. Augustine Parish, Covington, launches a $1.5 million capital campaign to renovate the church.

Bishop Foys releases a report on the findings of the investigation of the encounter involving Covington Catholic High School students and a Native American elder. In a letter to Covington Catholic parents, Bishop Foys said. “... the results of our inquiry exonerate our students. ... Our students did not instigate the incident. Their stance was surely a pro-life stance. I commend them.”

High school and elementary school student representatives participates in the annual Catholic Relief Services Operation Rice Bowl kickoff luncheon. This year Daniel Mumuni, CRS program manager, is the keynote speaker.

Four schools from the Diocese of Covington — St. Augustine School and Holy Family School, Covington; Holy Cross Elementary, Latonia; and St. Joseph Academy, Walton — attend the National School Choice Week rally in Frankfort.

Due to continued safety concerns at the Curia, the Deputy Pastoral Council convention is cancelled.

The Department of Catholic Schools begins its celebration of Catholic Schools Week.

Bishop Foys celebrates Mass acknowledging the 118th anniversary of the dedication of the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington. Bishop Camillus Maes, the third bishop of Covington, oversaw the building and celebrated its dedication. Reflecting on the reading from St. Paul to the Romans, Bishop Foys said, “I’m just building on a foundation. I’m not completing the building, somebody is going to build on what I build... our foundation is Christ.”


February

The diocesan Youth Committee releases the handbook “Youth Ministry: How to Create a Program in Your Parish.”

Thomas More University Institute for Religious Liberty welcomes speakers Archibishop William Edward Lori, Archbishop of Baltimore and Dr. Hunter Baker, Union University.

Young Adult Ministry welcomes speaker Dr. Allen Hunt to share his conversion from mega church pastor to Catholicism. Carmelite Sister Leda Domino succeeds Sister Diane Mack as administrator of Carmel Manor, Ft. Thomas.

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Veterinarians from the University of Kentucky are honored with the Presidential Volunteer Service Award.

Net Care Pregnancy Center Care expands services to include same day ultrasounds.

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Helen Hutchins is honored for her 35 years of service as housekeeper at the rectory. Bishop Brossart High School, Alexandria, breaks ground on its Mustang Athletic Complex.

Franciscan Daughter of Mary Mother Scarpina Quintilan tapes a segment sharing her vocation story for EWTN’s “The Journey Home.” It will begin to air in March.

On the 43rd anniversary of Roe vs. Wade, diocesan seminarians at St. Edward Seminary, LaGrange, Ky., pray a Holy Hour in solidarity with Bishop Foys and the priests.

March

Our Savior Parish hosts a panel of speakers from different faiths and cultures who share their experience of racism and prejudice at its annual Martin Luther King breakfast.

Four schools from the Diocese of Covington — St. Augustine School and Holy Family School, Covington; Holy Cross Elementary, Latonia; and St. Joseph Academy, Walton — attend the National School Choice Week rally in Frankfort.

Due to continued safety concerns at the Curia, the Deputy Pastoral Council convention is cancelled.

The Department of Catholic Schools begins its celebration of Catholic Schools Week.

Bishop Foys celebrates Mass acknowledging the 118th anniversary of the dedication of the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington. Bishop Camillus Maes, the third bishop of Covington, oversaw the building and celebrated its dedication. Reflecting on the reading from St. Paul to the Romans, Bishop Foys said, “I’m just building on a foundation. I’m not completing the building, somebody is going to build on what I build... our foundation is Christ.”

Obituary: Divine Providence Sister Margaret Mary Hustong (Jan. 1); Divine Providence Sister Gertrude Ann Knapper (Jan. 10); Notre Dame Sister Mary-Juliane Malleddorff (Jan. 19); Richard Louise Lange, father of Father Joshuas Lange (Jan. 29).

March

The diocesan Youth Committee releases the handbook “Youth Ministry: How to Create a Program in Your Parish.”

Thomas More University Institute for Religious Liberty welcomes speakers Archibishop William Edward Lori, Archbishop of Baltimore and Dr. Hunter Baker, Union University.

Young Adult Ministry welcomes speaker Dr. Allen Hunt to share his conversion from mega church pastor to Catholicism. Carmelite Sister Leda Domino succeeds Sister Diane Mack as administrator of Carmel Manor, Ft. Thomas.

Lexington Knights of Columbus hosts a rally at the Capitol, Frankfort, highlighting HB 100, the “heartbeat bill” and HB 169, “Rape Survivor Child Custody Act.”

Thomas More University welcomes speaker Magnus MarFarlane-Barrow, founder and CEO of Mary’s Meals.

An engaged and energetic crowd attends the Diocese of Covington Catholic’s/Cathedral event at Bishop Howard Memorial Auditorium.

At the first Young Adult Leadership Summit hosted by Young Adult Ministry coordinator, Brad Turlene, Bishop Foys encourages young adults to “help save the Church.”

In honor of its upcoming 150th anniversary in 2020, Father Daniel Schmiker, pastor; St. Augustine Parish, Covington, launches a $1.5 million capital campaign to renovate the church.

Bishop Foys releases a report on the findings of the investigation of the encounter involving Covington Catholic High School students and a Native American elder. In a letter to Covington Catholic parents, Bishop Foys said. “... the results of our inquiry exonerate our students. ... Our students did not instigate the incident. Their stance was surely a pro-life stance. I commend them.”

High school and elementary school student representatives participate in the annual Catholic Relief Services Operation Rice Bowl kickoff luncheon. This year Daniel Mumuni, CRS program manager, is the keynote speaker.

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October – A bird’s-eye view of the funeral Mass and entombment of Bishop Camillus Maves, Oct. 26, at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington. Atop Bishop Maves’ casket are symbols of the episcopacy. Above: Bishop Foys incenses the casket at the final commendation.

March

Notre Dame Academy honors four graduates at its annual Women Making A Difference luncheon: Rosa Hells-Biru, Karen Barber Finan, Julie Prewitt Schneider and Julie Mullen-Bruns.

Bishop Foys celebrates the First Friday candlelight Mass at Divine Mercy Parish. The diocesan Young Adult Ministry hosts the Mass each month.

Franciscan Daughters of Mary Catherine Mary Arozarena and Clare Marie Bouchard make final profession of vows.

Divine Providence Sister Mansueta Martineau celebrates her 105th birthday.

April

Asr Wednesday: “The Church gives us the season of Lent to go into the desert and reflect on our life …,” said Bishop Foys. Are the Heart of Our Future.”

Bishop Foys celebrates Mass for the 45th anniversary of its founding.

TMU confers an Honorary Certificate for Women’s Leadership to 91-year-old Sarah Kohmann.


During National Infertility Awareness Week, Father Andrew Young celebrates Mass for those struggling with infertility. ‘The Mass is organized by the newly formed Diocese of Northern Kentucky. The Sisters of St. Joseph the Worker, Walton, celebrate the 45th anniversary of its founding.

May

The Sisters of St. Joseph the Worker, Walton, celebrate the 40th anniversary of its founding.

Thomas More University announces that Joseph L. Chillo has been elected 15th president of TMU.

Continued on page 10.

Obituaries

Divine Providence Sister Jane Frances Kaelin is credited for creating the bill.

The Department of Catholic Schools announces that beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, the students of Holy Trinity Junior High School, Newport, will join students at Holy Trinity Elementary School, Bellevue, to create one kindergarten through eighth-grade school building.

Seminarian Jordan Hainsey is named the 17th rector/president of the Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus. The diocese has seminarians studying at the Josephinum.

After nearly 100 years of use, St. Augustine Church restores its three bells in the Church bell tower.

The Catholic Conference of Kentucky (CCK), announces that Kentucky’s four bishops applaud the ruling of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit upholding the Ultrasound Informed Consent Act.

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Father Stephen Bankemper reflects on the upcoming Holy Week liturgies, encountering the God who stoops down in order to lift us up.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul and its in-home visits, stores and food pantries are highlighted as a ministry served by the society.

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The evangelization prayer intention for January, as recommended by Pope Francis, is for the promotion of world peace: that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

The weekly TV Mass from the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption will be broadcast on Sunday 5:6 p.m. on station WTVW; on channels: over the air 5-2, Spectrum 188 in Kentucky and Cincinnati Bell 23 or 291.

Planning an event featuring a speaker or minister from outside your parish? In the Diocese of Covington, before contracting the services of a priest or deacon, man or woman religious, or lay person, a request for verification in good standing must be submitted to the Chancery office no later than four weeks before the desired date of service. Screening applications and instructions can be found at www.covdio.org/chancery/


Immaculate Heart of Mary School, Burlington, open house, Jan. 12, 1:30-3:30 p.m.


Catholic Newman Center, Northern Kentucky University, Father John Bullock’s apologetics schedule: Jan. 16, Religion — What is it? Which One?, Jan. 30, God.
Here we come caroling

Students in grades 2-3 at St. Augustine School, Covington, visited members of the parish and school community to share the joy of Christmas through the tradition of singing Christmas carols. Students learned about the Victorian tradition of Christmas caroling, wherein groups of singers traveled from house to house to sing for the community. In keeping with the Victorian tradition, students received small gifts — prayer cards, candy canes, cookies, and hot chocolate — in return for singing.


NKY Family Promise shelter program is having its 5th annual “Home is Where the Heart Is” bourbon and wine tasting, Feb. 7, 6:30 p.m., St. Elizabeth Training and Education Center, Erlanger. Cost $85. Tickets http://www.nkyfamilypromise.org, in the memo/comments section write “Home Tastings” Call 380-0055.

Father Nihy Kenai is leading a trip to Germany, Switzerland and France, July 14-25, 2020. The focus of the trip will be the Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany which is performed once every 10 years. Visit www.procatholictours.com for itinerary Contact Father Nihy 325-6809.

Bingo every Friday, St. Mary’s undercroft, Alexandria. Jimmy games, 7 p.m.; regular games, 8 p.m.

Volunteer medical interpreters are needed to help Spanish speakers with specialist appointments. Rose Garden Center for Hope and Healing, 281-0323. Must be VER-TUS-compliant and able to meet patients at various locations.

Help Parish Kitchen, a ministry of Catholic Charities – Diocese of Covington, provide warmth for the homeless this winter. Donate new sleeping bags or new twin blankets at either: Parish Kitchen, 141 W Pike St., Covington, Monday–Friday 8-11 a.m. or Catholic Charities, 3629 Church St., Latonia, Monday–Friday 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Contact 565-7475 or rmcavos@covingtoncharities.org.

St. Charles Resource Center for the Aging is a service to inform, educate and empower seniors and their families who are in need of support services. The consultation service is free and aimed to educate seniors and their families about the resources offered in the community and other aging issues. Contact Margie Volpenheim at 511-3224, ext. 1449.

A faith-based support group, New Beginnings provides separated and divorced individuals the opportunity for healing and growth. Participants will find new understanding of themselves and their relationships and gain courage to discover new life. Sessions at Thomas More University, Crestview Hills. Registration required, call 382-1388, ext. 1392. The next eight-week session is Wednesdays, Jan. 8–Feb. 26.

Project Rachel, God’s greatest desire is to forgive. Come back to God who is love and mercy. Project Rachel hotline, (890) 391-0147 or e-mail projectrachel@covdio.org. All calls and e-mails are confidential.

PrimeWise at St. Elizabeth Healthcare offers adults, age 50 and over, a free network of valuable services especially suited to their needs and interests. It’s not a club and there are no membership dues or meetings, just lots of benefits, information, programs and special discounts. PrimeWise can provide information on topics like advance directives and living wills, Medicare and many health related concerns. Call 381-5889 or e-mail primewise@stelizabeth.com.

For couples in troubled marriages, Retrouvaille is a program of healing and renewal consisting of one weekend and six follow-up sessions over the course of three months. Contact: www.canceryouretrouvaille.org or (513) 436-5433.

Free support group, Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL), meets every Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. at Catholic Charities, Latonia. Group provides continuing education and support, at no charge, for parents with a son, daughter or spouse suffering from addiction to alcohol or drugs. No cost. Just come. Information, 581-8074 or www.covington-charities.org.

Cemetery of Innocents

On Nov. 23, more than 80 volunteers from preschoolers to retired persons installed over 4,000 crosses on the property of St. Henry Parish, Elsmere. The display of crosses goes across the front of the property on Dixie Highway, down Garvey Ave., across Cross St., and back up to Dixie Highway on Vine St. The display is a visual to our community of the number of lives lost daily to surgical abortions.

Storytelling at its finest

Everyone loves a good story — everyone, not just children — although sometimes children are the best storytellers. Mary Pratt’s preschool class of three- and four-year olds at St. Joseph School, Cold Spring, reminds the audiences of that when it retells the Christmas story about the birth of Jesus.
June 10, 2020

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(Continued from page 7)

Newport Central Catholic High School awards Bishop Foys its St. John Baptist de La Salle Award, for extensive stewardship in the mission of NCCHS. Students from Villa Madonna Academy visit St. Bernard Prep, Cullman, Alabama, in the first Benedictine Exchange Program.

Bishop Foys announces the “Speaking for Centuries: Completing the Façade — Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption” campaign. The campaign will bring 24 statues to the outside front of the Cathedral and complete the two side tympana. Additionally, and not a part of the campaign, Bishop Camillus Maes, the third bishop of Covington whose vision and vigor built the Cathedral, will be exhumed and entombed at the Cathedral.

Four men are ordained to the permanent diaconate — Brian Cox, James Forster, Harry Henry and Joseph Wiedeman.

Bishop Foys celebrates the First Communion of four young Cathedral parishioners and celebrates a traditional May Crowning.

Three generations of Decker family women — Mary Decker, Pattie Watters (gum) and Dorothy Decker (grandmother) — acknowledge for volunteering at the Notre Dame Urban Education Center, Covington.

The Department of Catholic Schools honors 133 teachers for years of service at the annual Teacher Appreciation luncheon.

Bishop Foys meets Dustin Scherer and Mises the white ram that he received for his 90th birthday.

Stephen Enwezor begins a series of articles on Bishop Maes, the first installment begins with a little girl’s gift that built a cathedral.

Six parish and school catechists are recognized at the 40th annual Catechetical Leaders’ Receptions. Stephanie Baxter, Nichols Johnson, Regina Smith, Denise Decker, Andrea Strow and Chelsea Vail and Mandee Wells.

The Kentucky Symphony Orchestra closes its season with “Viva Vivaldi,” a sold-out event at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, featuring an inside concert and an outside concert that includes photographic images projected on the north face of the cathedral to the music of “Four Seasons.”

Seminarium Michael Emlinger receives his Bachelor of Arts in Theology on May 12. Bishop Foys sends his congratulations to the graduates of Divinity, Master of Arts, STB from the Pontifical College Josephinum.

Covington Catholic High School honors Mike Schlotman as its Northern Kentuckyman of the Year. Students at St. Catherine of Siena School, Ft. Thomas, participate in “The Amazing Shake” program, demonstrating their manners, discipline, respect and professional conduct.

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Henningsen to chaplain, Covington Catholic High School; Father Nilly Kamani to chaplain, St. Henry District High School; Father Ross Kelsch to chaplain, Newport Central Catholic High School; Father Rujo Kalaggen to chaplain, Villa Madonna Academy; Father Thomas Robbins to chaplain, Holy Cross District High School; Father Robert Rottgers to chaplain, Bishop Brossart High School; Father Ryan Stenger to chaplain, Covington Latin School; Father Jeffrey Von Lehmen to chaplain, Holy Cross District High School; Deacon Charles Melville to pastoral associate, St. Barbara.

Obituaries: Notre Dame Sister Mary Walter Ann Knammer (July 17)

August

New teachers and principals are commissioned for the 2019-2020 school year:

Father Michael Comer, pastor, begins a two-year series of weekly talks on the Catholic faith “Know Your Faith — an RCA for Catholics” at Mother of God Parish, Covington.

The Sisters of Notre Dame appoint Notre Dame Sister Margaret Mary German provincial of the SNDUSA province. Her six-year term begins July 20.

On the solemnity of the Assumption of Mary Bishop Foys says that Mary is “a sign of hope for all” that by following her example of love for God and her Son we will “join her in heaven — body and soul.”

Carmel Manor celebrates its 70th anniversary of caring for the aged and infirmed.

The new chapel, STEM, fine arts and student and alumni centers at Covington Catholic High School are blessed and dedicated.

Covington Catholic High School blesses and dedicates its new chapel tower. Dr. Anthony R. Zembrzushki, STEM and Fine Arts Center and Drees Student and Alumni Center, culminated a $10 million expansion project that began in 2013.

Gerri Schultz, secretary, St. Joseph Parish, Camp Springs, retires after 31 years.

Obituaries: Deacon John (Jack) Alexander (Aug. 7)

September

“Driving Home the Faith” evening radio program celebrates its one-year anniversary. The radio program features weekly news from the diocese, in-praggegment with other local ministers and features, especially this year Cathedral historian Raymond John Enzweiler.

Notre Dame Urban Education Center begins a new “Kindergarten Readiness” program.

The Office of Catechesis and Faith Formation and the Family Life Ministry Advisory Board host its first marriage enrichment conference “The Marriage Journey”.

Bishop Foys celebrates Mass with high school seniors.

This year’s “The Super’s Spotlight” highlights “newbies” kindergarteners and freshmen.

Part of one of a Stephen Enxwerler’s two-part series on Bishop Camillus Maas, “From the beginning, Camillus Maas seemed destined to become Covington’s shepherd.”

Grand Jury declines to indict Glenmary Father David Gledenek; Glenmary Home Missioneers will commission an independent investigation. Until process completed Father Gledenek will live at Glenmary’s residence in Fairfield, Ohio.

“The Marriage Journey,” a marriage enrichment day sponsored by the Office of Catechesis and Faith Formation and its Family Life Ministry Advisory Board is held.

Notre Dame Academy is awarded its third and St. Thomas Elementary School its second National Blue Ribbon designation.

Dr. Joseph Chillo is installed as TMU’s 15th president.

TMU honors Bishop Foys with the 2018 Bishop William A. Hughes Award.

Sarah Bowers, St. Patrick High School; Joe Cordenho, Villa Madonna Academy; Ann Maloney, St. Henry District High School and Nancy Sratman, Notre Dame Academy.

Parishes offer spiritual programs “Walking With a Purpose” for women and “That Man Is You” for men.

Catholic Order of Foresters Court 1494, Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, California, celebrate its 100th anniversary.

Newport Central Catholic High School names soccer field after first coach of girls’ team: Den Velten Field.

Obituaries: Father James Ryan (Sept. 7)

Dennis Cushing, father of Father Matthew Cushing and St. Joseph the Worker Sister Patricia Joan Cushing (Sept. 13)

Notre Dame Sister Mary Harrietta Gausepohl (Sept. 28)

October

Respect Life Month begins with the theme “Christ Our Hope in Every Season of Life.” Bishop Foys celebrates annual diocesan Pro-Life Mass: Father Ryan Stenger is the homilist.

Bishop Foys announces that an independent review of priests files is underway to ensure the priests and people that the diocese has, as far as is humanly possible, addressed the scourge of sexual abuse of minors by its priests.

Bishop Brossart High School dedicates the $5.2 million Mustang Athletic Complex (MAC).

Northern Kentucky University Catholic Newman Center welcomes speaker Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers.

St. Catherine Praise and Worship Series welcomes speaker Deacon Terry Saunders, promoter of the cause for sainthood of Irving Houle.

Paul and Margie Klee share their love story after 70 years of married life.

Part of two of a Stephen Enxwerler’s two-part series on Bishop Maas “Amid great trials, Bishop Maas built as a gift to the Cathedral a cathedral to speak for centuries.”

Diocesan sons Brother William Schlosser and Father Charles Stander celebrate golden jubilees as professed members of the Society of Mary.

Over 250 people attend the annual Seminary Ball.

TMU Institute for Religious Liberty hosts a discussion on anti-Semitism with speaker Dr. Michael Meyers, professor emeritus of Jewish History, Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati.

Matthew Groser, principal, St. Mary School, Alexandria, is named a 2019 National Distinguished Principal by the National Association of Elementary School Principals.

Nearly 700 people attend the entombment of Bishop Maas at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption.

To meet demand for services, Care Net Pregnancy Services of Northern Kentucky moves to a larger facility and add a second ultrasound machine with the assistance of the Northern Kentucky Knights of Columbus.

The artwork of Ellen Moyer senior, VMA, is chosen for Bishop Foys’ annual thank you card.

TMU announces the “Diocese of Covington Guarantee.”

$20,000 in institutional aid to TMU students.

Obituaries: Raymond John Enxwerler, father of Father Raymond Enxwerler (Oct. 4)

November

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Northern Kentucky (Continued on page 13)
Aging without growing old
(extracted from page 9) points in her age-old history. Indeed, at the most dramatic moments of her history, she feels called to return with all her heart to her first love.”

Pope Francis tells us: “more of his friendship, more fervor in prayer, more hunger for his word, more longing to receive Christ in the Eucharist, more desire to live by his Gospel, more inner strength, more peace and spiritual joy.”

He challenges us to “let go of” whatever is holding us back, and to be open to receive new gifts from God. “True youth means having a heart capable of loving,” he exclaims.

In this new year, let’s shake off whatever is weighing us down and limit our horizons so that we can reach out with open arms and hearts to welcome the younger generations into the Church and to show them how much God loves them and is waiting for them.

Sister Constance Veit is director of communications for the Little Sisters of the Poor.

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PAYROLL COORDINATOR

The Finance Office of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Covington is qualified, actively practicing Catholics to apply for the full time position of Payroll Coordinator. This important Curia role requires a personable, self-starter individual who likes numbers and detail, and who is good with both. Requirements include a general working knowledge of payroll operations and basic bookkeeping, and some prior experience with payroll software. Applicants should submit a resume with cover letter and compensation history, along with references including contact email addresses, by mail, fax or e-mail to: Stephen Koplyay, SPHR, 1125 Madison Avenue, Covington 41015-3115; fax (859)392-1589; skoplyay@covdio.org.

Cafeteria Worker

St. Henry District High School, Erlanger, serving students in grades 9-12, has an opening for a part-time cafeteria worker. Duties include food preparation, staffing the serving line, and general cleanup for three hours per day, Monday through Friday. Interested individuals may contact Jacking Kaiser at the Diocese of Covington’s School Food Services office by e-mail at jkaiser@covdio.org, or call 859/392-1500.

ST. ANNE RETREAT CENTER

The Saint Anne Retreat Center is accepting applications for multiple positions throughout the Center.

• Part-Time Hospitality Ministers work at the Center for a weekend or midweek retreat catering to the needs of visiting retreat groups. Hospitality applicants must be able to stay overnight.
• Part-Time Hostesses helps with food prep, set-up, clean up, and works closely with the cook.
• Part-time Dishwasher assist in all aspects of kitchen and Dining Hall clean up. Dishwasher is ideal for high school students.

Weekly schedules vary. All candidates must submit to a background check. Please contact Karen for more information at klittle@covdio.org or (859) 441-2003, ext. 325

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O Holy St. Jude! Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracles, near kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor for all who invoke you, special patronage in time of need. To you I have recourse from the depth of my heart, and humbly beg you, to whom God has given such great power, to come to my assistance; help me now in my urgent need and grant my earnest petition. In return, I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked. (Say 3 Our Fathers, 3 Hail Mary, & 3 Glory Be for nineconsecutive days.) St. Jude pray for us all who invoke your aid. Amen. M.F.

Call Kim at the Messenger for information on placing your ad in the Classified Advertisements. (859) 392-1500
announces its new micro loan program as a way out of poverty.

Mary Paula Schuh and Randy Rawe accept the invitation to lead the 2020 DP AA as general chair and leadership gifts chair, respectively.

St. Timothy School breaks ground for “The Goliath,” a massive playground structure set for completion next spring.

233 youth, young adults and chaperones attend the biennial National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis.

Bishop Foys recognizes 13 religious sisters celebrating 50th and 60th jubilees at the annual diocesan Religious Jubilee Mass and celebration.

TMU establishes new space for student veterans to accommodate unique needs.

Bishop Foys blesses the new Kenton County Government Center; Kris Knochelmann, judge-executive, says project has always been about the citizens of Kenton County.

Amid stricter enforcement of fire codes, Emergency Shelter of Northern Kentucky struggles to provide life-saving shelter for local homeless.

The Knights of St. John Commanderies host its exemplification and banquet at the cathedral where 22 men and 2 priests are knighted. Bishop Foys’ Advent message reminds us that Jesus “lives now among His people and touches our lives in every way.”

Stephen Enzweiler shares the story of the model (Catherine Fogarty) who posed for the statue of Mary that adorns the front of the cathedral and the sculptor (Clement Barnhorn).

Bishop Foys leaves for his third ad limina to Rome.

TMU honors four alumni: Steven Lutkenhoff, Jeffrey Mando, Dr. Jeanne-Marie Tapke and Dr. Sherry Cook Stanford.

The Sisters of Divine Providence celebrate the 40th anniversary of the beatification of founder Blessed John Martin Moye.

Notre Dame Sister Mary Evelyn Reinke begins a new ministry designing Christmas greeting cards.

Volunteers at Catholic Charities, Diocese of Covington provide Thanksgiving dinner for 86 local families.

Rose Garden Home Mission provides 760 Thanksgiving dinners to local families at its 15th annual Thanksgiving meal distribution.

Dec 31

In memory of Notre Dame de Namur Sister Rosemarie Pohlman (Nov. 23)

December
Covington Catholic High School football teams caps-off its undefeated season with a State Championship — its second in three years.

Stephen Enzweiler shares the history behind the Cathedral’s unique Nativity scene.

Catholic Charities’ St. Joseph Apartments offer stability and a path out of homelessness for those suffering with disabilities of physical or mental health.

Bishop Foys returns from ad limina visit, says meeting with Pope Francis was “like sitting down with a father or a brother and sharing with him both the joys and struggles that we all have.”

St. Stephen Cemetery adds 15 columbaria to meet the growing demand for cremation niches.

High school students entertain residents at the Regency Manor during a Christmas party organized and hosted by the diocesan Pro-Life Office, with festivities provided by the diocesan Curia.

Dan and Teresa Pikar, parishioners, St. Anthony Parish, restore and donate Our Lady of Guadalupe statue to Pro-Life Office.

Bishop Foys’ Christmas message encourages faithful to “journey to the crib, to the Lord Jesus: to find “comfort, well-being and peace.”

Obituaries: Benedictine Sister Estelle Schulte (Dec. 10)

(Continued from page 11)
“The Irishman” (Netflix) The disappearance of union boss Jimmy Hoffa, who vanished without a trace in 1975, has never been solved. But that doesn’t deter director Martin Scorsese from solving the mystery in this epic historical drama, based on the life of union official and erstwhile gangster Frank Sheeran. Crime boss Russell Bufalino initiates Sheeran into the seedy mob underworld, and introduces him to the charismatic Hoffa. More of a detailed character study than a seedy mob underworld, and introduces him to the charismatic Hoffa. More of a detailed character study than a

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Takal uses the horror genre as a vehicle for a preposterously overblown feminist message, the bottom line of which is that the only good white male is a dead one. If frigates are few and some of the plot elements incoherent, at least the mayhem is mostly kept under wraps. Much stylized violence, a scene of nonmarital sensuality, a few sexual jokes, occasional crude and crass language. CNS: A-III; MPAA: R.

“Black Christmas” (Universal) Sorority sisters are preyed on by hooded assailants who seem to be connected to a fraternity on campus. Director and co-writer Sophia Takal uses the horror genre as a vehicle for a preposterously overblown feminist message, the bottom line of which is that the only good white male is a dead one. If frigates are few and some of the plot elements incoherent, at least the mayhem is mostly kept under wraps. Much stylized violence, a scene of nonmarital sensuality, a few sexual jokes, occasional crude and crass language. CNS: A-III; MPAA: R.

For full reviews of each of these films — go to catholic-news.com and click on “Extras,” then choose “Movies.” Catholic News Service (CNS) classifications are:

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A-II — adults and adolescents;
A-III — adults;
L — limited adult audience;
R — morally offensive.

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Pope begins New Year with apology, prayers for peace

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis began the New Year with an apology for losing his patience the night before with a woman who grabbed his hand and yanked him closer to her while he was greeting people in St. Peter’s Square. To get more space, the pope had slapped her hand and gave her a very screechy sort. A video of the incident went viral on Twitter. Becting the midday Angelus prayer Jan. 1, Pope Francis was talking about how God’s offer of salvation in Jesus “is not magic, but patient, that it is, it involves the patience of love, which takes on insouciance and destroys its power.” Then, b ribbly departing from his prepared text, the pope said, “I love makes us act. We often lose our patience; me, too, and I apologize for my bad example last night.” Returning to his text, Pope Francis said that in among the Nativity scene with the eyes of faith, “we see the world renewed, freed from the dominion of evil and placed under the regal lordship of Christ, the baby living in the manger.” The Church marks Jan. 1 as both the feast of Mary, Mother of God, and World Peace Day he said, urging Catholics to pray for peace and to recognize their responsibility to work for peace.

Pope prays for dialogue as tensions mount between U.S., Iran

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis led pilgrims in prayers for peace as the saber-rattling between the U.S. and Iran escalated following the assassination of a top Iranian general. Several days after Iranian Maj. Gen. Qassem Soleimani, Iran’s supreme leader, was warned of “harsh retaliation” for the Jan. 3 U.S. drone attack that killed Maj. Gen. Qassem Soleimani, the pope said that “the terrible air of tension is felt in many parts of the world. The world only brings deaths and destruction. I call on all parties to keep alive the flame of dialogue and self-control and avoid the shadow of enmity.” The pope said after praying the Angelus prayer with pilgrims outside St. Peter’s Square Jan. 5, he then led the pilgrims in a moment of silent prayer so that “the Lord may give us the grace” of peace.

Iraqi cardinal: Innocents will ‘be the fuel’ for fire after drone strike

BAGHDAD — Cardinal Patriarch Louis Sako, responding to a U.S. drone attack in Baghdad that killed Iran’s top general, said “wisdom is required to avoid the ‘vacum-capric’ we are about to face.” Speaking during the Epiphany Mass at St. Joseph’s Church in Baghdad Jan. 5, he said the current crisis resulted from the “upsetting escalation, as well as the emotional and impulsive enmity,” the pope said after praying the Angelus prayer with pilgrims outside St. Peter’s Square Jan. 5, he then led the pilgrims in a moment of silent prayer so that “the Lord may give us the grace” of peace.

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With the seminarians home for the Christmas season, Bishop Roger Foys invited them to vespers, Dec. 20, at the Cathedral, followed by a Christmas gathering at the Cathedral rectory. The seminarians are studying at the Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus, Ohio and St. Vincent Seminary, Latrobe, Penn.