Laura Keener
Editor

Pilgrims from the Diocese of Covington participated, Jan. 24, in the 47th annual March for Life in Washington, D.C.

The March for Life is a peaceful demonstration opposing the Supreme Court’s 1973 Roe v. Wade decision, which made abortion on demand legal in the United States and has polarized Americans into two political blocs — pro-choice (a women’s right to abortion) and pro-life (an unborn child’s right to life). Each year at the March for Life thousands of Americans give voice to the voiceless demanding that U.S. laws restore protection to the unborn.

From the diocese, about 300 people attended this year’s March for Life including students from Bishop Brossart High School, Alexandria; Covington Catholic High School, Park Hills; Covington Latin School, Covington; Holy Cross District High School, Latonia; Notre Dame Academy, Park Hills; St. Henry District High School, Erlanger; St. Patrick High School, Mayville; Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights; and Thomas More University.

Students, parents, teachers and supporters rally for scholarship tax credits in Frankfort Jan. 27.

Laura Keener
Assistant Editor

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Catholic schools represent at School Choice Rally for scholarship tax credits

Allegra Thatcher
Assistant Editor

Yellow scarves waved and children’s voices echoed through the Capitol rotunda during the School Choice Rally in Frankfort, Jan. 27. Held inside this year, the event still drew a sizeable crowd, with older students taking to the balcony with rally signs.

Students, teachers, parents and others behind the cause advocating for school choice and scholarship tax credits.

Scholarship tax credits would give businesses and individuals a dollar-for-dollar tax credit when they contribute to a qualified scholarship granting association. Schools then disperse those scholarships to families who otherwise couldn’t afford to choose a private or parochial school for their children.

Following the rally House Majority Whip, Rep. Chad McCoy, filed House Bill 350 that evening. This bill would create a scholarship tax credit.
Bishop Foys, cathedral to be a featured segment in ‘The Chair’ series

Laura Keener

On the 119th anniversary of the dedication of the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington, Jan. 27, crew members of the DeSales Media group began taping a documentary on the Cathedral and Bishop Roger Foys.

DeSales Media is the communications and technology arm of the Diocese of Brooklyn, New York. It is under the direction of Msgr. Kieran Harrington, vicar for Communications, and rector, Co-Cathedral of St. Joseph, Brooklyn.

The Covington documentary is the 55th segment of an ever-growing series called “The Chair.” For two days the crew photographed and filmed the Cathedral — top to bottom, inside and out — capturing its art and architecture that recounts the story of salvation history and the theology of the Catholic faith and interviewed Stephen Enzweiler, cathedral historian.

Msgr. Harrington conducted a one-hour, on-camera interview with Bishop Foys, which highlighted his family life, vocation story and joys and challenges of his episcopacy.

Among its other duties, DeSales Media runs a New York television station — NET TV. “The Chair,” which it is currently filming, is a series about cathedrals across the country and the local ordinary. Its stated objective is to highlight the diversity of the American Church, the diversity of American cathedrals and to tell the story of America’s bishops.

“It’s a way to evangelize by showing the beauty of our cathedrals,” said Msgr. Harrington.

DeSales Media anticipates that the Diocese of Covington segment will air sometime in the fall. When the schedule is available it will be posted in the Messenger.

 Celebrating Catholic Schools Week

Bishop Roger Foys visited St. Augustine School, Covington, Jan. 28, to celebrate Mass and Catholic Schools Week. He reminded students how fortunate they are to go to a Catholic school and encouraged them to thank their parents for their sacrifice when they got home from school that day.

(above right) At the end of Mass, Kathy Nienaber, principal, and students gifted Bishop Foys and Father Daniel Schomaker, pastor, with hard hats to signify the church and their hearts being under construction.
Prayers for a happy retirement
After 12 years, deaet Janice Wurtz, comptroller, Alliance for Catholic Urban Education, retired from her position at the Curia. In her honor Bishop Roger Foys hosted, Jan. 28, a farewell luncheon for the staff. Bishop Foys thanked Mrs. Wurtz for her wisdom and especially for her love of Catholic urban education. “It is through her dedication and work that our ACUE schools are on a solid foundation,” he said.

Happy 91st birthday Father Ruschman
Parishioners at St. Thomas Parish, Ft. Thomas, decorated the parish grounds with 91 candles — a creative use of swimming pool noodles — honoring the 91st birthday of Father Albert Ruschman. Father Ruschman, a retired priest of the Diocese of Covington, lives at St. Thomas Rectory and is very active at the church and school.

Primary schools to host open houses for Catholic Schools Week
The following primary schools in the Diocese of Covington are hosting an open house for prospective students during or around Catholic Schools Week. Sponsored by the National Catholic Education Association, CSW is an annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. In addition to hosting open houses, schools typically observe the week with Masses, special themes for each day and fun activities for students, families, parishioners and community members.

Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to Church, local communities and the nation. This year’s theme is “Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.”

The open houses listed are the ones that the Messenger was made aware of at the time of this publication. For more information, contact individual schools via their website or phone.

Thursday, Feb. 20
Covington Latin School, Covington, 6:30–8:30 p.m. (for fifth, sixth and seventh grade students)

Call to schedule a visit
Holy Cross Elementary School, Latonia, 581-6399
Holy Family School, Covington
Prince of Peace Montessori, Covington, 431-5153
St. Augustine School, Augusta
St. Edward School, Cynthia
St. Joseph School Pre-K, Camp Springs
Sts. Peter and Paul School, California
St. Philip School, Melbourne

Catholics@TheCapitol
Bishop Roger Foys invites Catholics from the Diocese of Covington to Frankfort, Feb. 27, to learn about proposed Senate and House bills and to share their Catholic perspective with Kentucky lawmakers.
Organized by the Catholic Conference of Kentucky (CCK), the event will address the Abortion Neutrality Amendment, the elimination of the death penalty for persons with mental illness and support of Scholarship Tax Credits, among other current issues. The CCK was created in 1984 by the Roman Catholic bishops of Kentucky to represent the four dioceses in public policy on the state and federal level. It advocates for laws and policies that reflect Gospel values and Catholic social teaching.
Each diocese is given a different day this year to bring their specific concerns to lawmakers. The bishops hope that the faithful will give a voice to the Church in the public square.
Contact the Catholic Conference of Kentucky at (502) 875-4345 or cckstaff@ccky.org for more information and to sign up for updates.

Bishop’s Schedule
Jan. 31
Individual meeting, 10 a.m.

Jan. 31-Feb. 1
Monthly day of recollection, St. Gertrude Priory, Madeira

Feb. 2
Mass, Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington, 10 a.m.

Feb. 3
Knights of Columbus presentation, 9:30 a.m.
Diocesan Building Commission meeting, 10 a.m.

DPAA solicitors luncheon, noon
Confirmation, St. Timothy Parish, Union, 7 p.m.

Feb. 4
Priests Continuing Education/Formation Day, St. Elizabeth Training and Education Center, 9:30 a.m.–2 p.m.
Confirmation, All Saints Parish, Walton, 7 p.m.

Feb. 6
Episcopal Council meeting, 9:30 a.m.
Individual meeting, 1 p.m.
Confirmation, Cristo Rey Parish, Florence, 7 p.m.

Feb. 9
Installation of permanent deacon candidates as lectors, Cathedral Basilica, 10 a.m.

Reporting Misconduct in the Diocese of Covington
Anyone who has experienced sexual misconduct by a cleric, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Covington is asked to contact Ms. Margaret Schack, diocesan victims assistance coordinator (859) 392-1515. Professional assistance and pastoral support will be provided in confidentiality and with respect.
A copy of the “Diocesan Policies and Procedures for Addressing Sexual Misconduct” is available by contacting the Chancery, (859) 392-1510 or visiting www.covdio.org and going to “Sexual Misconduct.”

Informando sobre conducta inapropiada en la Diócesis de Covington
Cualquier persona que haya experimentado conducta sexual inapropiada por parte de un clérigo, empleado o voluntario de la Diócesis de Covington está invitada a ponerse en contacto con Ms. Margaret Schack , coordinadora diocesana para dar asistencia a las víctimas. Teléfono (859) 392-1515. Asistencia profesional y pastoral será ofrecida de una manera confidencial y con respeto.
Una copia de “Normas y Procedimientos sobre Conducta Sexual Inapropiada” está disponible por ponerse en contacto con la Cancillería, Teléfono (859) 392-1510, o visitando www.covdio.org y marcando “Sexual Misconduct Policy.”
Building ‘a culture of life’ ... ‘a civilization of love’

Pope Benedict XVI’s presence at the United Nations Assembly on April 19 was a major event during his apostolic journey to the United States. His address — “Human Rights … Must Be Respected As An Expression of the Church’s Social Doctrine” — was the foundation of every truly free society.” (n. 10)

Science, as the cornerstones of the structure of human rights and the more in need of protection if they are considered to clash with a prevailing secular ideology or with majority religious dogmas. This fundaments to the cornerstones of the structure of human rights and the more in need of protection if they are considered to clash with a prevailing secular ideology or with majority religious dogmas.

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EIGHTH DAY

Father Daniel Vogelpohl

On the road to find out

In the three and a half years I’ve served as director of St. Anne Retreat Center, I’ve had the privilege of witnessing almost 100 Catholic High School retreats. I say privilege because I do enjoy having these young adults here; and they are young adults by the time they reach their senior year. What has really struck me is how uncertain they are about the future. Certainly some have made decisions about the direction they would like their life to take but quite a few have no idea what the future holds for them.

I often ask if they know where they are going to go to college or if not college, what the next step is in their life. In nearly every group, only a handful know. Looking back at my life, I was in this situation, to be appreciative where they are at this stage. I knew where I was going to go to school but beyond that I had no idea where the road of life was going to take me. The challenges of this day and age are different from when I grew up but the process of growing up is not much different.

I think it must be difficult to be in their position today. So much of their life is driven around technology and social media. We can be absolutely right to criticize them for that, but that’s the only world they’ve really known at this point. The rapid and constant change in the way we communicate has altered the dynamic of how they develop and maintain relationships. Much of their decisions making processes and learning mechanisms come through technological means and sources; if you don’t know the answer — Google it.

I try to communicate to teens that the decisions they make regarding their future are important and life altering. And that is why retreats are so important. I encourage them to place Christ at the midst of those decisions and to learn the significance of prayer and participating in the sacraments of the Church. That may not mean much to them at this point and some of them don’t even attend Mass. For some of them, this is the last meaningful Catholic event they will do for some time. It’s hard to blame them when their parents aren’t attending Mass. If we can give them a positive experience, then the seed has been planted and that’s what is so important.

Life is changing rapidly and these young adults are faced with a great many challenges. We need to pray for our young adults and encourage them in positive ways. Criticizing them for having their faces in their phones is not the right approach. I’ve seen plenty of adults, myself included, who are guilty of the same thing.

There’s an old Cat Stevens song called “The Road to Find out” “That’s a road that never ends. We’re constantly learning and growing in our day-to-day lives. These young adults are just now beginning the road. It would be won derful if we could impart on them the way to be a resource they can turn to for help.

At some point they’re going to come across a situation that they can’t Google or find on social media. Maybe then that seed we’ve planted about placing Christ at the center of their decision making will begin to blossom. Perhaps those years of attending Mass will take on a new significance. For them it could even be that one encounter with a person who is deeply in a relationship with God that can change a life. There don’t need criticism — they need prayer. As they approach the end of their high school life, pray for them and pray for all of our young adults and teenagers, that as they step on “the road to find out” they may find Christ.

Deacon David Profit is director of the St. Anne Retreat Center. Melbourne and is assigned to Holy Spirit Parish, Newport.

Educational choice and religious liberty

Andrew Vandiver

The U.S. Supreme Court is currently considering a case that will have a significant impact on educational choice and religious liberty: Montana Department of Revenue v. Elkhead.

The U.S. Constitution guarantees the people the right to “the free exercise of religion.” In Montana, public schools provide religious instruction and teacher-led prayer. As a result, many students and their families have sought religious instruction and teacher-led prayer opportunities outside of school.

The U.S. Supreme Court will hear the case on January 28, 2020, in arguments at the Supreme Court in Washington, D.C. The case involves whether the Montana Department of Revenue can refuse to provide tax credits to families who choose to educate their children at religious schools.

Montana law provides tax credits to families who choose to educate their children at religious schools. The Department of Revenue argued that the tax credits violate the Establishment Clause of the U.S. Constitution because they provide financial assistance to religious schools. The department also argued that the tax credits violate the Free Exercise Clause because they allow families to choose religious education for their children.

The court will rule on the case in June 2020. If the court rules in favor of the Department of Revenue, it will mean that the tax credits are unconstitutional. If the court rules in favor of the families, it will mean that the tax credits are constitutional.

Criticizing them for having their faces in their phones is not the right approach.
Scholarship Tax Credit

Scholarship Tax Credit program for K-12 non-public school students.

Speakers at the rally included State Senator Ralph Alvarado, Attorney General Daniel Cameron and a panel of parents who shared testimonies of the significant impact of school choice.

Senator Alvarado of the 28th district, a long-time champion for school choice, filed Senate Bill 110 on Jan. 24, which would back scholarship tax credits. He insisted that the scholarship tax credit program is necessary to building a strong education system in Kentucky.

“The lack of means to move or go to private school (shows a) discrepancy between rich and poor,” he said. “We need to give

Mr. Cameron accepted get-well cards from the students for the representative. Students from Holy Cross School, Covington, ended the rally with a School Choice Week dance, which they performed for everyone present.

Andrew VANDIVER, associate director, Catholic Conference of Kentucky also attended, and was pleased with the turnout and the lineup of speakers. EdChoice Kentucky organized the rally.

“I think more than anything it’s hearing from parents, because parents and students is what this is all about,” he said. “We had students from all across the state present. He also referenced Attorney General Cameron’s presence as significant to the rally.

“Mr. Cameron brought a bill to the floor. Recently fell ill and so has not been able to

Scholarship tax credits have the potential to compete nationally with their peers.”

Three mothers also gave testimonies to the impact of scholarships on their children.

“School choice is very important for our school because we have a lot of families that have a variety of socioeconomic needs and we’re trying to meet them the best that we can,” said Ms. Gardner. “When we heard that there was going to be legislation going to push this forward, we wanted to be part of it.”

Ms. Gardner said she was touched by the poignant stories of the parents whose families have suffered from a lack of school choice.

“I hope this is among the years of successful stories. Hopefully it’s not the end of a great story,” she said.

To stay informed on House Bill 30, follow the link: https://www.votervoice.com/CCKY/Home; to contact your state representative to show your support call 1-800-372-7181.

March for Life

Crestview Hills.

In his homily at Mass prior to the march, at St. Dominic Church, Washington, D.C., Bishop Roger Foys read extensively from an article, “The Truth About Abortion,” written in 1868 by Fr. Edward Howard. The article indicated that many are divided on the morality of abortion. After describing the developmental milestones of a fetus — at conception the baby has its own set of genes and chromosomes; before implantation the sex is determined; 19 days after conception the eyes begin to develop; after 24 days the heart begins beating; at 29 days and a 1/4 inch long the embryo has a brain, eyes, ears, mouth, kidneys and liver; 35 fingers are formed; 40 days brain waves are detected — Bishop Foys said, “I defy anyone to say that killing such a baby is not morally wrong. If you just a little bit, it’s not just some mass we are going to destroy and discard. It is a human being, as the Psalmist said, ‘knit by God in its mother’s womb.’

Since 1973, Bishop Foys said that 61,681,903 children have been aborted in the United States and 1,362,966,170 babies have perished in the womb worldwide.

“My friends, that should frighten us,” he said. “We know the truth, so what do we do?” Bishop Foys offered three directives —

pray, be informed and get involved.

Those poor unborn children cannot speak for themselves, so we speak for them — not with vengeance, not with hatred but with love and prayer and patience and understanding. We do not need to use more division — there’s enough of that in our world and in our country and in our Church. A house divided cannot stand. Jesus said,” Bishop Foys said.

Bishop Foys ended his homily thinking the pilgrims for attending the March for Life and encouraging them in their support of the unborn.

“We must not give up, we must not be silent — we must be a witness. This is why we are here today to be a witness. We are not here to protest, or harangue, or to discredit. We are here to be a witness to life. To show people, especially those who have the ability to change this law, that there are still people in our country who believe that God is indeed the author of all life. It is up to God, and God alone, to determine who is born and who dies and when they are born and when they die. God is the author of life.”

On the return home from the March for Life, one of the four school buses was involved in a serious accident. A car traveling south in the northbound lane on the AA Highway near the California Crossroads intersection in Campbell County collided with the school bus carrying Covington Catholic High School students and chaperones.

The driver of the car was pronounced dead at the scene. Four students were transported from the scene to the hospital with non-life threatening injuries. They were treated and released the same day. The remaining students were transferred to other buses in the caravan and returned safely to the drop-off point where parents and family members were waiting.

In a released statement Bishop Foys said, “Please join us in praying for everyone involved in this accident.”

Religion teacher/Catechist Certification Program and Adult Faith studies

The Office of Catechesis and Evangelization offers classes for teachers, catechists, deaconates of parents and any adult who would like to expand their knowledge of the Catholic faith — everyone is welcome to attend.

March 5: “Using Art in Faith Formation” (d), Feb. 8; 15; 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Roxanne Thomas, Blessed Sacrament Parish, Ft. Mitchell

March 12: “Introduction to Scripture” (d), Feb. 29; 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Father Andrew Young, Bishop Howard Memorial Auditorium, Covington

March 19: “Theological Reflections on Creation” (d) and “Theological Reflections on the Church” (d) — not with vengeance, not with hatred but with love and prayer and patience and understanding.

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

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THANK YOU!
Serving others by discerning God’s will

Karen Kuhlman
Message Correspondent

Adults who attended Catholic grade schools as children have fond memories of religious sisters whose inspiration or encouragement made a difference in their lives. Such is the case for Sister Cynthia Ferenbach, a member of the Congregation of Divine Providence. She remembers her second-grade teacher as someone who was always happy and kind. The demeanor of that CDP sister ignited a tiny spark in the little girl’s heart that grew over time.

As a teenager, Sister Cynthia realized that there was something different about women religious; there was something more there—a something that she wanted, too. She was impressed by the sisters whom she met and felt an attraction to their way of life—an attraction that never waned. Her Catholic faith had always been very important to her, and she began to wonder if she was called to be a religious sister.

Following high school graduation, she wanted to take a closer look. She joined with other young girls discerning a vocation and visited St. Anne Convent in Melbourne, Ky. The girls walked and talked as they toured the Provincial House and its beautiful grounds, and the young Cynthia decided to give religious life a try. The shy young woman’s family accompanied her to Melbourne on an August day in 1969 as she began her life as a member of the Congregation of Divine Providence. Her mother and father were supportive of her vocation, just as they had been of her brother’s when he entered the Congregation of Christian Brothers. She was very nervous in the beginning. St. Anné’s was so big and everything seemed so strange. There was a lot to learn and a lot to figure out during her postulancy.

She earned a Bachelors of Arts in Education at Thomas More College and an Master’s in Education at Northern Kentucky University. She devoted four years to children in Catholic grade schools and an Master/quoteright.lat of Education at Northern Kentucky University. During her postulancy.

She found a love for working with children and for teaching. She enjoyed working at the thrift store that provides families in need with a way to acquire some of life’s necessities they might otherwise have to do without. Sister Cynthia also volunteers with La Soupe at the Midwest Culinary Institute in Cincinnati State. She and others take rescued food that would usually be discarded and turn it into nutritious meals for those for whom she has long prayed.

During her years in education, she offered many prayers that expressed the love and concern she felt for the hungry, for the homeless, for poor families and their children. Retirement has given her the time and opportunity to personally minister to the poor as a volunteer at the Clothes Closet, a ministry of the Brighton Center, Newport. She enjoys working at the thrift store that provides families in need with a way to acquire some of life’s necessities they might otherwise have to do without. Sister Cynthia also volunteers with La Soupe at the Midwest Culinary Institute in Cincinnati State. She and others take rescued food that would usually be discarded and turn it into nutritious meals for those for whom she has long prayed.

Sister Cynthia’s prayer life is central to every other part of her life, and she says, “If I want a relationship with God, I must spend time with him in prayer. If I am a true religious, God is what needs to be important in my life.

The decisions I make have to be made by looking at the will of God. The way I live my life has to be determined by looking at Jesus’s life and asking how to incorporate the aspects of his life into mine.”

Sister Cynthia said that a strong prayer life is important to us if we wish to develop a relationship with God. Married people develop a relationship by spending quality time together; they come to know that they can depend on one another. In a similar way, developing a prayer life helps us build a strong relationship with God. We learn that we can depend on him, rather than feeling alone because we have weakened our relationship with him and have drifted far away.

“Prayer is the key to developing my dependence on God. In religious life, we are fortunate because prayer is built into our lives. For families, that is harder due to the hectic pace of life today.”

Sister Cynthia said, “I encourage parents to nurture a spirituality in their families. I want to tell parents that religious life is a great place to be, and not to be afraid to encourage young women to consider a religious vocation. We may have different lifestyles, but we are all called to do God’s work. I thank God that we can do that together. Listen to your call, follow your heart and reach out to do what you can for others.”

Be Witnesses

‘Wake up the world! Be witnesses of a different way of doing things, of acting, of living!’ — Pope Francis

Religious Communities in the Diocese of Covington
Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery
Brothers of the Poor of St. Francis
Passionist Nuns
Sisters of Divine Providence
Sisters of Notre Dame
Sisters of St. Joseph the Worker
Franciscan Daughters of Mary
Missionaries of St. John the Baptist

Public and Private Associations
Franciscan Daughters of Mary
Missionaries of St. John the Baptist

February Birthdays
1  Mother Saraphina Marie Quinlan, FDM
3  Sister Mary Jennings, CDP
10  Michelle Blevins, SND postulant
13  Sister Marilyn Hoffman, CDP
15  Sister Jean Marie Hoffman, SND
16  Sister Elizabeth Ann Barkett, SJW
16  Sister Mary Patricia Bruemmer, SND
16  Sister Mary Ellen Strunk, SND
19  Sister Nancy Kordenbrook, OSB
21  Sister Leslie Keener, CDP
22  Sister Kimberly Porter, OSB
23  Sister Mary Sharron Goller, SND
24  Sister Henrietta Seiler, OSB
25  Sister Mary Teree Deye, SND
25  Sister Marie Sand, SND

For more information about consecrated life in the Diocese of Covington, contact Sister Fran Moore at (859) 362-1300.
Students from Bishop Brossart High School, Alexandria; Covington Latin School, Covington; Covington Catholic High School, Park Hills; Holy Cross District High School, Latonia; Notre Dame Academy, Park Hills; St. Henry District High School, Erlanger and St. Patrick High School, Maysville met the night of Jan. 23 at St. Barbara Parish, Erlanger, for a send-off Mass before boarding buses for the March for Life in Washington, D.C. (below) Bishop Roger Foys, Father Dan Schomaker and Father Joey Shelton met the pilgrims in Washington. Students, chaperones and clergy represented the Diocese of Covington in the nation’s capital. (left) Father Michael Black with students outside of St. Dominic Church. (below) High school students from the Diocese of Covington attending the March for Life in Washington, D.C., gather for a photo at the end of the march.

National March for Life

Students, chaperones and clergy represented the Diocese of Covington in the nation’s capital. (left) Father Michael Black with students outside of St. Dominic Church. (below) High school students from the Diocese of Covington attending the March for Life in Washington, D.C., gather for a photo at the end of the march.

National March for Life

Students from Bishop Brossart High School, Alexandria; Covington Latin School, Covington; Covington Catholic High School, Park Hills; Holy Cross District High School, Latonia; Notre Dame Academy, Park Hills; St. Henry District High School, Erlanger and St. Patrick High School, Maysville met the night of Jan. 23 at St. Barbara Parish, Erlanger, for a send-off Mass before boarding buses for the March for Life in Washington, D.C. (below) Bishop Roger Foys, Father Dan Schomaker and Father Joey Shelton met the pilgrims in Washington. Students, chaperones and clergy represented the Diocese of Covington in the nation’s capital. (left) Father Michael Black with students outside of St. Dominic Church. (below) High school students from the Diocese of Covington attending the March for Life in Washington, D.C., gather for a photo at the end of the march.
The prayers of children speak volumes and on Jan. 24 the volume was turned up high in the Diocese of Covington. It was the day that Bishop Roger Foys declared as a Day of Prayer and Penance for Life. Schools throughout the diocese held prayer services to mark the anniversary of the Supreme Court’s decision in Roe v. Wade. (above left) Holy Trinity School students pray the rosary at Divine Mercy Parish, Bellevue.

Msgr. William Cleves leads the Holy Hour for Life at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington, to end the Day of Prayer and Penance for Life.

At Newport Central Catholic High School principal Ron Dawn and student representatives read meditations on the joyful mysteries as the entire student body pray a rosary for life in the school gym.

Representative Joe Fischer explains pro-life legislature currently on the floor. (above center, above right and below) Participants return to Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Burlington, for a holy hour following the March.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Burlington, drew a crowd to its “March for Life NKY,” Jan. 24. In solidarity with the pilgrims at the national event in Washington, D.C., NKY pilgrims walked a mile to and from the church to the Boone County Courthouse. They prayed the rosary and held signs in support of the pro-life movement.

At the Courthouse, the walkers heard from several speakers, including host Amy Ritchie, Mother Margaret Mary Fields of the Congregation of the Passion of Jesus Christ and Representative Joe Fischer, who gave updates about legislative action taken in favor unborn children. He cited Senate Bill 5, the Fetal Dismemberment Bill and others as reasons for hope that Kentuckians are making a difference and can continue to do so.

After the march, the parish was one of 10 in the diocese to host a Holy Hour for Life. Parishioners and guests participated in adoring the Blessed Sacrament. At the Holy Hour Father Matthew Cushing, pastor, All Saints Parish, Walton, gave a reflection on the noble duty to protect life at all stages.

March for Life NKY attracts many

Allegra Thatcher
Assistant Editor
Recycled caps to playground benches

Several Cub Scouts from Den 11, Pack 727 who attend Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Burlington, recently collected 600 pounds of plastic caps and recycled them into three benches for Immaculate Heart of Mary School. The benches replaced older wooden benches in the playground area.

Students getting ready for open house

Students from St. Anthony School, Taylor Mill, getting ready for open house to kick off Catholic Schools Week. Students carried yard signs home to help promote the event.

The international STEM Excellence Award

St. Pius X School, Edgewood, received second place in the international STEM Excellence Award, Middle School Division at the Future of Education Technology Conference in Miami, Florida. Faculty presented about the amazing advancements the school has made in their STEM program. They are looking forward to bringing new ideas, direction and some STEM hardware back to school.
Winning car design

Students in grades 5-8 from St. Philip School, Melbourne, attended the Cincinnati SEMA CUST.E.M. Car Experience. Pictured is one of the groups from St. Philip that won best car design for their eco friendly car.

Bake sale to help Australia

Sixth-grade students at St. Catherine of Siena School, Ft. Thomas, learned about the Australian wildfires and the impact the fires were having on the country, its citizens and wildlife. The group set out to raise money to help in relief efforts through an organization, Foodbank Australia. After teaching other grade levels about the wildfires, they organized a school-wide bake sale.

Students help fellow student search for a donor

Students at Holy Cross District High School, Latvia, have purchased advertising on a billboard on I-75 South to raise awareness for the need for organ donations, especially for fellow senior Kristen Robbins, who needs a kidney. They have hosted bake sales and other fundraisers for the campaign eKidneyForKristen in hopes of finding a donor.

Win these friends of yours not with blows, but with gentleness and kindness. So begin right now to show them that sin is ugly and virtue beautiful.

St. John Bosco
19th-century Italian priest who devoted his life to educating poor boys. He founded the Salesian Order in 1859.

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**BUSINESS MANAGER**
Saint Mary of the Assumption, Alexandria is seeking a fulltime Business Manager. The position entails administration of finances and facilities of the parish and school. Knowledge of and practical experience with general accounting procedures required.
Interested candidates may email or send a cover letter and résumé to: Rev. Joseph A. Gallenstein 8246 E Main St, Alexandria, KY 41001 joseph.gallenstein@saintmaryparish.com

**ST. PATRICK SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**
Saint Patrick School has a vacancy for the position of Principal beginning with the 2020-2021 school year. Our school is a growing Pre-K through 12th grade Catholic parochial school in beautiful Maysville, Kentucky. As the only Catholic school offering high school courses within a 50-mile radius in Kentucky and Ohio, we strive to form our students to be intentional disciples of Jesus Christ as they prepare to assume their adult responsibilities. Candidates must be actively practicing Catholics with a demonstrated commitment to Catholic education. A Master’s Degree in Education or an Education related program is required for the position, as well as a Kentucky teaching and/or Administrative Certificate. Candidates should have at least five years of teaching experience with some of that time spent in Catholic education. Administrative experience as a Principal and/or Vice Principal is preferred in Candidates but is not required to apply for this position. Commensurate experience or credentials may be accepted for teaching, Catholic education, and/or administration. All wishing to apply for this position need to submit a cover letter, resume, and a copy of all relevant transcripts and certifications to Father Andrew Young at 110 E. 3rd St., Maysville, KY 41056 or by e-mail to ayoung@stpatschool.com.
Remembering Holocaust is ‘a duty,’ pope says

Janno Arocho Esteves
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis said remembering the millions of men, women and children who perished in the Holocaust is a call for the world today to reflect and commit to not repeating the atrocities of the past.

Speaking to pilgrims at St. Peter’s Square Jan. 26, the pope said that “in the face of this immense tragedy, this atrocity, indifference is inadmissible, and remembering is a duty.”

“We are all called to have a moment of prayer and reflection, each one saying in his or her own heart, ‘Never again, never again’” the pope said.

International Holocaust Remembrance Day is observed around the world Jan. 27, which marks the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp in Oswiecim, Poland.

Operated from 1940 to 1945, Auschwitz was the Nazi’s largest camp and consisted of three parts: Auschwitz I, where many were imprisoned and murdered; the Birkenau extermination camp — also known as Auschwitz II — and Auschwitz III (Auschwitz-Monowitz), an area of auxiliary camps that included several factories.

In 1942, Auschwitz became the site of the mass extermination of over 1.5 million prisoners of war and thousands of Polish citizens of different nationalities.

The Nazi’s systematic persecution and genocide led to the deaths of six million Jews in Europe.

During his visit to Poland in 2016, the pope visited the Auschwitz death camp, where he prayed in silence and met with survivors of the Holocaust.

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NOVENA

SACRED HEART PRAYER. Dear Heart of Jesus — In the past I have asked for favors. This time I ask you for this very special one (mention favor). Take it, dear Jesus, and place it in your merciful eyes it will become your favor, not mine. Amen. H.W.

SACRED HEART PRAYER. Dear Heart of Jesus — In the past I have asked for favors. This time I ask you for this very special one (mention favor). Take it, dear Jesus, and place it in your merciful eyes it will become your favor, not mine. Amen. K.M.D.

SACRED HEART PRAYER. Dear Heart of Jesus — In the past I have asked for favors. This time I ask you for this very special one (mention favor). Take it, dear Jesus, and place it in your merciful eyes it will become your favor, not mine. Amen. I.W.

NOVENA

NOVENA TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN. Oh, most beautiful Flower of Mt. 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 to find my way. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth. I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity (make your request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary, Pray for us who have recourse to Thee, (three times). Holy Mary, I place this prayer in your hands. (three times). M.B.

Protecting God’s Children for Adults

For all employees and volunteers of the Diocese of Covington who in any way provide a safe environment for children.

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Step 2: Go to www.virtus.org and click on Registration. Follow the prompts to create an account and to request a background check. Selection.com is a secure site; the background check is posted on your account and you receive a copy if you request it during the registration process. You will also sign up for a VIRTUS class during the registration.

Step 3: Attend the VIRTUS training session you chose. No children, please.

Step 4: Your account becomes active when your background check, VIRTUS session and Acceptance Form are posted on your account. You will receive 12 bulletins per year. You will receive e-mail notices at system@pub.virtus.org unless your computer program blocks them.

Bulletin

VIRTUS Trainings
- Catholic Charities, Latonia (Mary Moser Room) Parking at Latonia Baptist Church NOT Holy Cross School.
- Wednesday, Feb. 12, 1:30-5 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 11, 1:30-5 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 8, 1:30-5 p.m.

Note: If your Training Tab is missing or you cannot access your account, contact your parish, school or institution.

For other difficulties, contact Marywyn Steffen at (859) 392-1500 or msteffen@covdio.org.
“1917” (Universal) Gripping historical drama, set in the midst of World War I, in which two British soldiers are dispatched across enemy territory to call off an attack by the midst of World War I, in which two British soldiers are dispatched across enemy territory to call off an attack by the brother of a similar structure nearby. But the mysterious shelter of a similar structure nearby. But the mysterious Chapman’s character is among those facing slaughter if they fail. By turns harrowing and lyrically beautiful, and Chapman’s character is among those facing slaughter if they fail. By turns harrowing and lyrically beautiful, and deeply humane throughout, director Sam Mendes’ film displays both the horrors of trench combat and the enduring of fundamental decency and spiritual striving. Unsparring in its portrayal of misery and desperation, it’s also luminous in its affirmation of civilized values and the triumph of faith, broadly considered, over cynicism. Much combat violence with gore, numerous grueso sights, slightly irreverent humor, a fleeting sexual reference, about a half-dozen uses of profanity, several rough terms, occasional crude and crass language. CNS: A-III; MPAA: R.

“Underwater” (Fox) Tedious survival saga follows an electrical engineer and some of her colleagues as they escape the severely damaged underwater drilling facility where they’ve been living and working and head for the shelter of a similar structure nearby. But the mysterious creatures that inflicted the destruction are not inclined to let them pass in peace. Like the ocean depths in which it’s set, director William Eubank’s monster movie is dim and murky as it alternates between the boredom of spending time in the company of one-dimensional characters and brief outbursts of nasty mayhem. Brief but intense scenes of violence with much gore, a few uses of profanity and a couple of mild oaths, at least one rough and several crude terms, a bit of crass talk. CNS: A-II; MPAA: PG-13.

“The Gentlemen” (STX) Darkly sophisticated, but sometimes widely wayward crime saga from writer-director Guy Ritchie. A British private detective hired by the editor of a London tabloid to investigate an American-born drug kingpin reconnects to the gangster’s legal counsel to the complex web of facts he’s uncovered surrounding the boss’ effort to sell his massive marijuana operation. His narrative, which also takes in the rivalry of two ethnic Chinese underworld figures, the part played by a boxing coach whose pupils double as thugs and the role of the crime lord’s beloved wife, is pitched as the opening salvo in a blackmail scheme. An energetic pace, witty exchanges and the effective spinning of the plot’s many wheels-within-wheels cannot compensate for the lighthearted outlook on brutal mayhem that marks this well-crafted but amoral film. Pervasive violence with much gore, including an attempted rape, implied aberrant sexual behavior, a 대부분 topics theme, relentless rough and crude language. CNS: O; MPAA: R.

“Parasite” (Neon) This South Korean feature begins as a sly comedy, then takes a surprising turn that leads on to a bloody, operatic climax laden with grim social commentary about class conflict. After the son of an impoverished family uses false pretenses to secure a position tutoring the daughter of a wealthy household, both his parents and his sister con their way into jobs with the prosperous clan ing the boss effort to sell his massive marijuana operation. His narrative, which also takes in the rivalry of two ethnic Chinese underworld figures, the part played by a boxing coach whose pupils double as thugs and the role of the crime lord’s beloved wife, is pitched as the opening salvo in a blackmail scheme. An energetic pace, witty exchanges and the effective spinning of the plot’s many wheels-within-wheels cannot compensate for the lighthearted outlook on brutal mayhem that marks this well-crafted but amoral film. Pervasive violence with much gore, including an attempted rape, implied aberrant sexual behavior, a 대부분 topics theme, relentless rough and crude language. CNS: O; 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:

- A-III — adults;
- A-II — adults and adolescents;
- A-I — general patronage;
- L — limited adult audience;
- O — morally offensive.

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SHOPPER’S GUIDE
Hospitality is an important eumenical virtue, pope says

VATICAN CITY — Hospitality makes a person a better human being and a better Christian and is an important part of promoting Christian unity, Pope Francis said. “Working together to live with ecumenical hospitality particularly toward those whose love is most vulnerable, will make us — all Christians, Protestants, Orthodox, Catholics, all Christians — better human beings, better disciples and a more united Christian people,” the pope said Jan. 22 during his weekly general audience. Christians today, like the people of Malta who welcomed St. Paul and his companions who were shipwrecked on their island, must show hospitality to and care for those who flee violence and persecution, he said. “Unfortunately, they sometimes encounter even the worst hostility,” he said. “They are exploited by criminal traffickers today, they are treated as numbers and as a threat by some leaders today; sometimes inseparability resists them as a wave carrying poverty or the very dangers from which they were fleeing.”

Pope, Iraqi leader discuss protecting Christians, national sovereignty

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis met with Iraq’s president for a closed-door meeting Thursday, the Vatican said, according to a Vatican statement. The topics included “the importance of promoting stability and development processes, encouraging the path of dialogues and the search for suitable solutions in favor of citizens and with respect for national sovereignty,” the Vatican said. In fact, their meeting came the same month tensions escalated between Iran, Iraq and the United States.

Bishops welcome guidance on school prayer, Trump's proposed rules

WASHINGTON — The chairmen of the U.S. bishops’ religious liberty and education committee called Jan. 26 on the Trump administration to rescind its proposed guidance for enforcing federal conscience laws that would allow employers — even churches — to “fund and facilitate” elective abortifacients. Although the committee chairmen described for the pope “how as a society, you know, we’re more and more divided, and people attack each other,” Pope Francis told a group of U.S. bishops Tuesday that “in a political system where there are only two parties, there’s money of a tendency to be this way.”

Federal judge says abortifacients lawsuit can proceed against Notre Dame

South Bend, Ind. — A lawsuit to force the University of Notre Dame to provide free contraceptives and abortifacients in its health plans will proceed after receiving a green light from a federal district court in South Bend. Judge Philip Simon of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana denied motions by Notre Dame and the federal government to dismiss the case. Irish 4 Reproductive Health’s Department of Health & Human Services et al. is issued the ruling Jan. 14. The lawsuit originally was brought in 2018 against the U.S. departments of Health and Human Services, Labor and Treasury and Notre Dame by a handful of women students calling themselves Irish 4 Reproductive Health. The lawsuit alleges that the university had reached an “unlawful settlement” with the federal government that allows it to “deny students, employees and their dependents insurance coverage of birth control.”

Trump administration announces steps to enforce federal conscience law

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration announced Jan. 24 it is taking steps toward an eventual movement to a federal law that prohibits discrimination by states against health insurance plans that do not cover abortion. The move “in extraordinary good news for the right to life, conscientious objection, religious freedom and the rule of law,” said a statement from the chairman of the U.S. bishops’ pro-life committee and his religious liberty committee. In their statement, they noted that since 2014, the California Department of Managed Health Care has forced all employers — even churches — to “fund and facilitate” elective abortions in their health plans “in direct violation” of the California constitution. The committee chairmen, Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Pro-Life Activities, and Bishop George V. Murray of Youngstown, Ohio, chairman of the Committee for Religious Liberty, stated that “the Trump administration’s announcement came on the day tens of thousands of pro-lifers from across the country gathered in Washington for the annual March for Life on the National Mall.”

Church’s social ministry is more than ‘single set’ of issues, cardinal says

WASHINGTON — Drawing from the teaching of Pope Francis and the documents of the Second Vatican Council, Cardinal Blase J. Cupich of Chicago called on attendees at the annual Catholic Social Ministry Gathering to remember that the work of the Church is rooted in its constitutional commitment to the poor and marginalized people.

Priest helping migrants, staff in Guatemala receive death threats

WASHINGTON — A Catholic priest helping feed and shelter migrants in Guatemala was recently targets by anti-immigrant groups. The father of five, described himself as “very committed” and “very active” and said “he was sad to hear the news” and offered prayers for him and his family. In Rome for his region’s “ad limina” visit with Pope Francis, Archbishop Sharmid Lopez canonical News Service Jan. 27 that Bryant “was a very good Catholic, a faithful Catholic” and recalled meeting the famed basketball player on several occasions. “I remember one time going to the Lakers’ practices,” he said, “and had a good conversation with him.”

Bryant relied on Catholic faith to see him through tough personal times

WASHINGTON — Drawing from the teaching of Pope Francis and Cardinal Blase J. Cupich of Chicago called on attendees at the annual Catholic Social Ministry Gathering to remember that the work of the Church is rooted in its constitutional commitment to the poor and marginalized people. However, the committee chairmen described for the pope “how as a society, you know, we’re more and more divided, and people attack each other,” Pope Francis told a group of U.S. bishops Tuesday. The Federal judge said abortifacients lawsuit can proceed against Notre Dame. Federal judge said abortifacients lawsuit can proceed against Notre Dame. Federal judge said abortifacients lawsuit can proceed against Notre Dame. Federal judge said abortifacients lawsuit can proceed against Notre Dame. Federal judge said abortifacients lawsuit can proceed against Notre Dame. Federal judge said abortifacients lawsuit can proceed against Notre Dame. Federal judge said abortifacients lawsuit can proceed against Notre Dame. Federal judge said abortifacients lawsuit can proceed against Notre Dame. Federal judge said abortifacients lawsuit can proceed against Notre Dame. Federal judge said abortifacients lawsuit can proceed against Notre Dame.
WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump credited attendees at the 47th annual March for Life for their commitment to protect the life of unborn and born children.

"Together we are the voice for the voiceless," Trump told tens of thousands of people gathered at a noontime rally Jan. 24 on the National Mall.

"You stand for life each and every day. You provide housing, education, jobs and medical care for the women that you serve," the president said.

He also credited the young people who made up a large portion of the crowd for their commitment to life, saying they were "the heart of the March for Life."

"It’s your generation that is making this a pro-life nation," the president said, adding, "You are powered by prayer and motivated by pure unselfish love."

Trump's speech before the largely supportive crowd was punctuated by applause and cheers.

The pro-life movement has been buoyed by Trump’s appointment of two conservative justices to the Supreme Court. Their goal has been a reversal of the court’s 1973 decision in Roe v. Wade that legalized abortion.

Vice President Mike Pence and his wife, Karen, addressed the rally in a video recorded in Rome prior to Trump's arrival at the rally. Pence met with Pope Francis earlier in the day.

He said in the video that he thanked the pope "for all that he and Catholic Americans have done to defend the sanctity of human life in the history of this movement."

Karen Pence thanked attendees for their witness and compassion for the unborn. "Thank you for standing for life," she said. "We cannot be more proud to be on this journey with you."

The vice president called Trump the "most pro-life president in American history" and a "champion for the movement."

"So keep standing strong and stand with that love and compassion that has always defined the movement for life," Pence said.

Rally-goers also heard from members of Congress and several other speakers, including women who survived attempted abortions, over the course of an hour following the president’s appearance.

Rep. Steve Scalise, R-Louisiana, urged the audience to support the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act that has been introduced in Congress. The bill would ensure that any child born alive after an abortion received medical care. It would also institute penalties for doctors who allow such infants to die or who intentionally kill a newborn.

He said he is working to bring the bill to a vote in the House of Representatives by filing a discharge petition, meaning it would bypass committee action and go directly to the full House. He said 204 House members have signed the petition — all 197 Republicans and seven Democrats — and that he is working to gain 14 more Democrats to gain a majority that would force a vote on the bill. He encouraged those at the rally to contact their member of Congress to express support for the petition and the bill.

In brief remarks, Rep. Chris Smith, R-New Jersey, noted how there have been incremental steps to end abortion throughout the nation.

"We’re making progress," Smith said. "Be very encouraged. With the help of ultrasound imaging, we will tirelessly struggle to ensure that unborn children are no longer invisible, trivialized, mocked, dehumanized and killed."

Smith, who co-chairs the Congressional Pro-Life Caucus, credited the crowd for their activism that has resulted in "countless" women and babies who have been spared "the violence of abortion and today live, love and thrive."

Others addressing the rally included Elisa Martinez, founder of New Mexico Alliance for Life and co-chair of Native Americans for Life, and Democratic Louisiana State Rep. Katrina Jackson.

President Donald Trump is projected on a large video screen as he addresses attendees of the annual March for Life rally in Washington Jan. 19. The address took place from the Rose Garden at the White House.

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President Donald Trump is projected on a large video screen as he addresses attendees of the annual March for Life rally in Washington Jan. 19. The address took place from the Rose Garden at the White House.