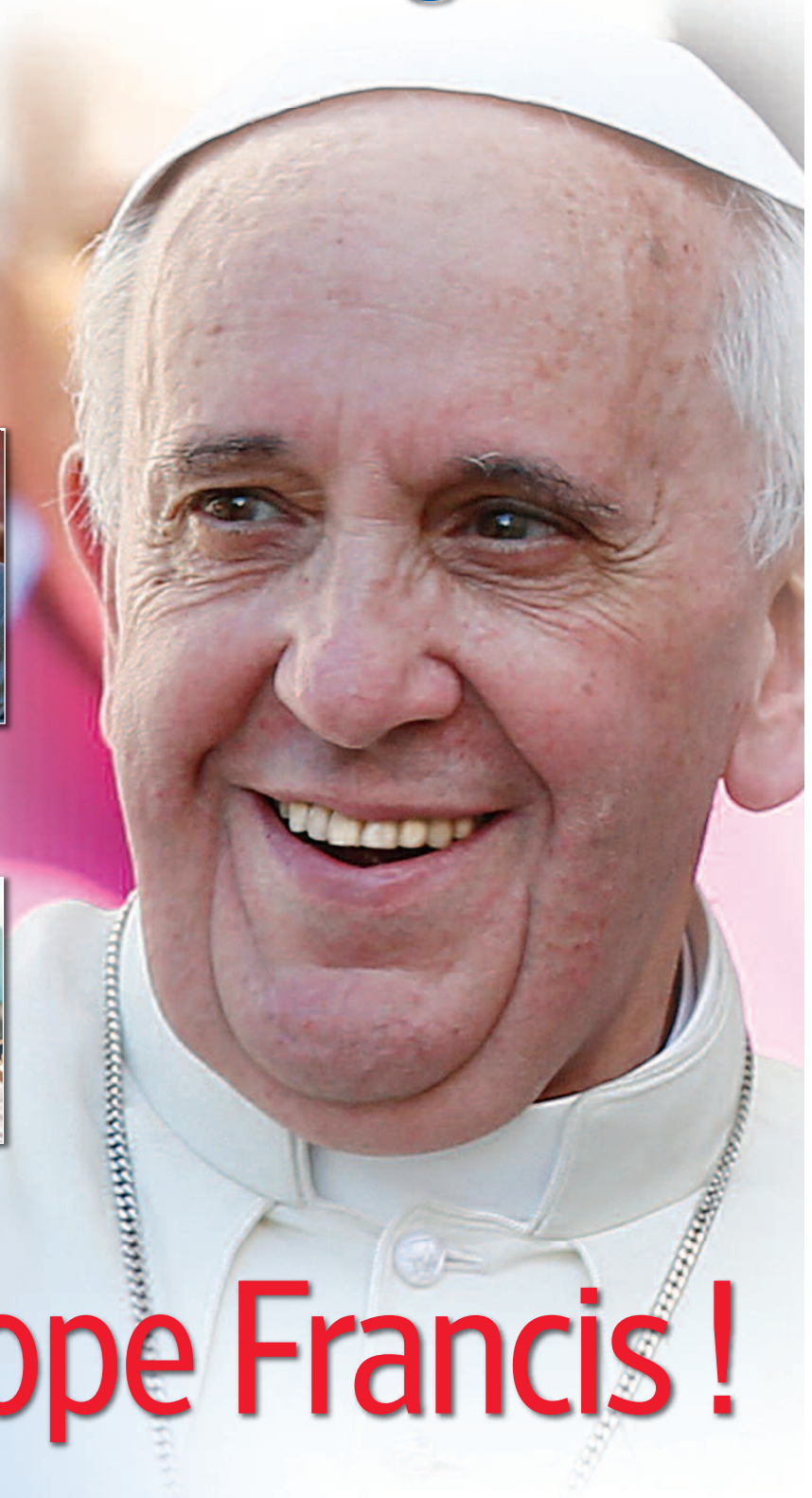


CATHOLIC STANDARD

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Pope Francis!

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who cannot **repay** us.”

— Pope Francis



Welcome Pope Francis!

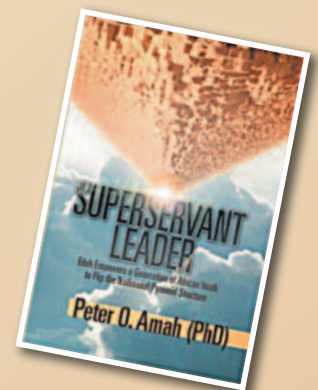
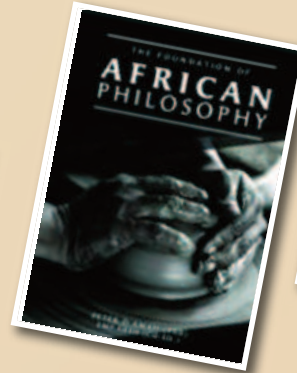
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leadership corroborate
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PAPAL VISIT

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ON THE COVER

From Sept. 22-24, the Archdiocese of Washington will welcome Pope Francis on his first apostolic visit to the United States. This special edition previews the papal visit and provides an overview of the archdiocese.

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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Walking with Francis, to Jesus

As is the case when you are preparing for a special guest coming to your home, you have a to-do list, and that has certainly been the case for people in the Archdiocese of Washington working these past few months to welcome Pope Francis to the nation's capital for his Sept. 22-24 visit here.

This special 80-page papal visit preview edition of the *Catholic Standard* that will be mailed to subscribers on Sept. 10 reflects our main work prior to Pope Francis's arrival at Joint Base Andrews on Sept. 22, but we will continue to post new stories and photos in the days to come. Our next paper will be produced on Sept. 25, the day after Pope Francis's departure for New York, and it will include complete coverage of his visit here. We have a distribution plan underway, involving our regular delivery crew and volunteers from our staff, to deliver the Sept. 25 papal visit edition to parishes, so folks going to Mass that weekend can pick up that keepsake paper.

But while we have been checking off our own "to-do" list prior to the papal visit, we



Mark Zimmermann

know that Pope Francis would not want us to make too much of a "to-do" over him. The purpose of his visit, quite simply, is for him to bring the Gospel of Jesus to the people of the United States. As Pope Benedict said seven years ago at the White House, "I come as a friend, (and as) a preacher of the Gospel..."

Cardinal Wuerl has often pointed out that one thing that has captivated the world about Pope Francis is that he not only preaches the Gospel, but he shows us how to do the Gospel, how to live it in our daily lives. The theme of Pope Francis's visit to Washington, "Share the Joy, Walk with Francis," is really all about following the pope's words and example in seeking to draw closer to Jesus and then sharing His love with others, especially the poor and forgotten. By walking with Francis – and taking the Walk with Francis Pledge to pray, serve and act on behalf of those in need – we will join him in walking with Jesus as his disciples and his friends in today's world.

Pope Francis began his apostolic exhortation "The Joy of the Gospel" by



CNS PHOTO/
PAUL HARING

Pope Francis greets one of eight poor people at his general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Dec. 17, 2014, the pope's 78th birthday. A group of the poor were invited to the audience in celebration of the pope's birthday.

noting, "The Joy of the Gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus." We've seen that joy in him, in the photos of him smiling while he is posing for selfies with young adults, or signing the cast on a woman's broken arm. But more importantly, we've seen that joy in Pope Francis as he embraced a man with a disfiguring disease, as he welcomed homeless men for breakfast on his birthday, and as he celebrated Mass on the Italian island of Lampedusa on an altar built over a small boat, to pray for refugees drowned at sea and to show solidarity with people migrating to other countries seeking better lives for

themselves and their families.

The pope's call for Catholics to be "missionary disciples" and to "go forth" doesn't mean that we all have to go to foreign lands. When he says we should "go to the margins," that journey might be as close as the family members in our home, the coworkers in our office, or the homeless woman on a nearby sidewalk. By sharing Christ's love and hope with those who need it, we are indeed "Walking with Francis," and there can be no better way to welcome our special guest to our home later this month.

—mark@cathstan.org

Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

Reverend Monsignor Walter R. Rossi, Rector

12 September 2015

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3:00 PM - Great Upper Church

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Celebrant & Homilist

13 September 2015

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12 NOON (Choir), 1:30 PM (Spanish) & 4:30 PM

Booksigning

11:30 AM - Shrine Book Store

Pope Francis: A Photographic Portrait of the People's Pope

Reverend Michael Collins, Author

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PAPAL VISIT

Pope Francis's visit to Washington will include several historic firsts

By Richard Szczepanowski
Catholic Standard

Pope Francis's brief but very busy visit to Washington Sept. 22-24 will include several historic firsts. While here, he will become the first pope to address a joint meeting of Congress and the first pope to canonize a saint on American soil.

During his stop in the Archdiocese of Washington, the pope will also pray and meet with the U.S. bishops at the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle in Washington; he will visit St. Patrick's Church in Washington; and visit the headquarters of Catholic Charities, where he will meet with clients served by a meal program there.

"The Holy Father is visiting our home, he is coming to visit us," Cardinal Donald Wuerl said earlier at press conference to announce details of the papal visit. He stressed that the pope will be visiting "not as a politician, but as a pastor."

The theme of the Pope's visit to the Archdiocese of Washington is "Share the Joy, Walk with Francis." It is the first leg on his first trip to the United States, that also includes stops in New York City and Philadelphia.

Cardinal Wuerl said that the "excitement and desire to see the Holy Father" from even among non-Catholics, is because Francis "speaks in an inviting way to us to add a spiritual dimension to our lives, and to have a relationship with God."

Pope Francis will arrive in Washington on Tuesday,



CS PHOTO BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

At a June 30 press conference at the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle, Cardinal Donald Wuerl announces details of Pope Francis's Sept. 22-24 visit to Washington. Seated behind the cardinal (from left) are Msgr. John Enzler, president and CEO of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington; Frank Persico, vice president for university relations and chief of staff at The Catholic University of America; and Msgr. W. Ronald Jameson, rector of the cathedral.

Sept. 22, on a flight from Cuba to Andrews Field at Joint Base Andrews just outside of Washington. There will be no public events that day.

On Wednesday, Sept. 23, Pope Francis will begin his day with a welcoming ceremony at the White House followed by a private

meeting with President Obama.

"During the visit, the president and the pope will continue the dialogue, which they began during the president's visit to the Vatican in March 2014, on their shared values and commitments on a wide range of issues," a White House press statement said. "The president looks forward to continuing this conversation with the Holy Father."

Also on Sept. 23, Pope Francis will have mid-day prayer and meet with the bishops of the United States at the Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle.

"We are so blessed to have the Holy Father visit St. Matthew's during his time in Washington. There is so much excitement about this visit because the Holy Father shows us how to live our relationship with Jesus Christ," said Msgr. W. Ronald Jameson, rector of the cathedral. "I can't think of a more joyous commemoration of our parish's 175th anniversary year than to be able to say that we had Pope Francis pray here."

After departing the cathedral, he will offer Mass that afternoon on the east portico of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

and the University Mall at The Catholic University of America. During the Mass, the pope will canonize Blessed Junipero Serra, the famous 18th century Spanish Franciscan missionary who established mission churches along the coast of California.

"As we count down the days until Pope Francis lands on American soil and makes his visit to Mary's Shrine, preparations for the Mass are in 'high gear' and the excitement of hosting the Holy Father continues to build," said Msgr. Walter Rossi, rector of the National Shrine. "This will be the third pope to visit the Shrine

and the first canonization and Mass ever to be celebrated by a pope at the shrine."

Pope John Paul II visited the National Shrine and The Catholic University of America during his 1979 visit to Washington, and Pope Benedict XVI visited both locations in 2008.

Msgr. Rossi added that "when the Holy Father looks out at the thousands gathered in prayer, he will encounter a small portion of the vibrant, faith-filled Church in the United States."

About 30,000 people will be able to attend the

Tickets for Papal Mass

Parishes have received notification of the very limited number of tickets available for the Sept. 23 Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception that they will be able to distribute. The pastor at each individual parish in the Archdiocese of Washington will determine how those tickets are distributed within his parish.

PAPAL VISIT



CS PHOTO BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

A billboard along Route 5 in St. Mary's County promotes Pope Francis's upcoming visit to Washington and encourages members of the community to take the Walk with Francis Pledge.

Continued from page 7

canonization Mass.

Parishes have received notification of the very limited number of tickets available for the Sept. 23 Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception that they will be able to distribute. The pastor at each individual parish in the Archdiocese of Washington will determine how those tickets are distributed within his parish.

There will also be large jumbotrons set up around the campus for those who cannot get into the Mass area.

"The Catholic University of America is overjoyed to welcome Pope Francis to our campus during his apostolic

Papal visit on social media

- The Archdiocese of Washington has a dedicated presence on the archdiocesan website, www.adw.org/papalvisit.org, to provide information about the Holy Father's Washington visit.

- Walk With Francis Pledge takers can log on to www.WalkwithFrancis.org and promise to either pray for the pope and others or do some charitable service or to learn more about the faith. Then, after taking the pledge, site visitors can invite their friends and family to do the same.

- To receive email and text alerts, individuals may also sign up on the papal visit page to receive emails or text PopeInDC to 84576.

- The Catholic Standard's Twitter handle is @CathStandard. The Archdiocese of Washington's Twitter handle is @WashArchdiocese. The hashtag for the papal visit is #PopeInDC.

visit to the United States this September," said John Garvey, CUA's president. "When the Holy Father celebrates Mass on the stairs of the East Portico of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, he will look out over our beautiful campus. The congregation attending the Mass will fill our University Mall."

Noting that this is a reigning pope's third visit to CUA, Garvey said, "No other U.S. university has hosted a pope more than once. This unprecedented record is a reminder of Catholic University's unique relationship to the Holy See as the national university of the Catholic Church in the United States."

While the faithful will be outside for the Mass, inside the National Shrine will be seminarians and novices whom the pope will greet prior to the Mass.

Thursday, Sept. 24 "will truly be an historic day" Cardinal Wuerl said.

Pope Francis will address a joint meeting of the U.S. Congress in the morning, becoming the first pontiff in history to ever do so.

House Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio), who invited the pope Francis to speak to Congress, said in a statement that "it is with humility and deep gratitude that we will welcome His Holiness Pope Francis to the U.S. Capitol. His visit to the U.S. Capitol is unprecedented, and it is with open ears and hearts that we will welcome his address to the Congress."

"I join Speaker Boehner in welcoming this inspirational leader, with his simple message of compassion and openness to others, to the Capitol," Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Kentucky) said in a statement.

"The American people look forward to hearing Pope Francis' call to love our neighbors and to find new and creative ways to meet the pressing needs of those who exist on the fringes of society. From the slums of Buenos Aires to St. Peter's Square, Pope Francis is moving the hearts of millions and inspiring a new generation with an engaging and compelling style," McConnell's statement said.

Cardinal Wuerl, when he announced the schedule, said that the pope "will speak to Congress as a shepherd, a pastor

Schedule of Pope Francis's visit to Washington, D.C.

Pope Francis's Washington schedule, as confirmed by the Holy See, includes:

Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2015:

- Pope Francis will begin his pastoral visit to the United States with his arrival at Andrews Field at Joint Base Andrews in the afternoon. No other public events that day.

Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2015:

- Welcoming ceremony at the White House followed by a private meeting with President Obama.

- Mid-day prayer with the bishops of the United States at the Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle.

- Mass in the afternoon on the east portico of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and the University Mall at The Catholic University of America. During the Mass, the pope will canonize Blessed Junipero Serra, an 18th century Spanish Franciscan missionary who established mission churches along the coast of California.

Thursday, Sept. 24, 2015:

- Address joint meeting of the U.S. Congress in the morning.

- Visit St. Patrick's Catholic Church in D.C. and meet with several clients of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington in late morning.

- Blessing and brief remarks to the clients gathered at lunchtime for St. Maria's Meals, a program of the Catholic Charities for the Archdiocese of Washington.

- Depart for New York.

of souls who has no political agenda. I do not know what he will say, but I am sure he will speak about our relationship to God and how that can be manifested by our service to others."

After that historic address, the pope will visit St. Patrick Church in Washington.

"Pope Francis's visit this September will truly be a historic occasion and our parish family is so blessed that he will visit our parish," Msgr. Salvatore A. Crisculo, pastor of St. Patrick Church, said in a statement.

After visiting the church, the Holy Father will meet with clients of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, which is headquartered next door to the historic downtown Washington parish, offering remarks to those gathered for lunch at the St. Maria Meals Program.

"This visit (to Catholic Charities) says that whatever else is going on, the Holy Father asks us, don't lose sight of our brothers, the poor," Cardinal Wuerl said. "We want to highlight the work we do on behalf of and in response to the needs of the poor. The Holy Father will "experience one of the many, many program we offer in service to others."

Msgr. John Enzler, president and CEO of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, said Pope Francis will "bless all those there that day (at Catholic Charities), those receiving and those serving food."

"He (Pope Francis) validates what we do every day," Msgr. Enzler said. "The pope says, 'I want the Church to be in the streets.' Catholic Charities is in the streets serving those in need."

Pope Francis will depart Washington after that stop and head to New York.

THE TEACHING OF CHRIST



Cardinal Donald Wuerl
Archbishop of Washington

Share the Joy, Walk with Francis

The Church of Washington and our entire community are looking forward in joyful anticipation of Pope Francis' imminent visit to our nation's capital. Everywhere you look, people have accepted the invitation to "Share the Joy, Walk with Francis." Our enthusiasm grows out of the recognition that our Holy Father, as the successor of Saint Peter and touchstone to Christ, confirms us in our Gospel faith as he announces to the entire human family the love and mercy of God that renews the world.

As we welcome the Vicar of Christ, we also extend a welcome to all of our sisters and brothers in the wider community. What strikes such an appealing cord with Pope Francis is his invitation to a fresh way of living the Gospel in our world which is so desperate for mercy, kindness, reconciliation and love. Many have remarked how they feel drawn to him and his message. This popularity of our Holy Father offers us a special opportunity to engage others in a deeper conversation about the Risen Lord and invite them to a richer engagement with his Church.

There are so many people today who are on the spiritual peripheries. As they search for meaning and purpose in life, they find that the promises of the secular world are often unable to satisfy the deep longing in their hearts. In gathering around our Holy Father, we affirm our commitment to see that the threads of the encounter with the Lord and his life-giving message are woven into the fabric of our human experience. Particularly with those who do not really know Jesus or who do not have a living relationship with him, we are summoned to help them to discover the treasure that is Christ's saving love and liberating truth, which cannot deceive or disappoint.

In the course of Pope Francis's visit, we will all have the opportunity to hear his words which echo so clearly Christ's words of life, salvation and God's love for us. He comes to us as a pastor of souls, and we can anticipate his words of encouragement for families who face the challenges of a culture that too often lends little support to enduring married love and wholesome family life.

We know also from past experience that this apostolic journey of our Holy Father will bear fruit in our young people for



CNS PHOTO/ANA UESLEI MARCELINO, REUTERS
Pope Francis smiles from his popemobile after arriving in Rio de Janeiro for World Youth Day in the summer of 2013. The Holy Father will arrive in Washington on Sept. 22 to begin his first apostolic visit to the United States.

years to come. Already one of the bright lights of our Church has been the vibrancy of faith in the generation under the age of 40 who are helping in their daily lives to build a civilization of inclusion, solidarity and love. In a particular way, with their witness of joy and hope, in what they do and what they say, in giving of themselves and serving others, these young people can inspire us all.

Whatever your age, young or old, we can all share the faith and thereby build a better world. Pope Francis reminds us again and again that we are all brothers and sisters of the same loving Father, and therefore we are called to care for one another, especially the least among us – those with the most needs. There is no reason not to take on the challenge of feeding the hungry and giving drink to the thirsty, of clothing the naked and welcoming the homeless.

Sometimes people say they do not know how to engage in spreading the Gospel. "What counts above all else is 'faith working through love,'" teaches Pope Francis. "Being a disciple means being constantly ready to bring the love of Jesus to others, and this can happen unexpectedly and in any place: on the street, in a city square, during work, on a journey" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 37, 127).

The Walk with Francis Pledge, an initiative of the archdiocese and Catholic Charities, remains an inviting way for people to bring that love to others while participating in the excitement of the Pope's visit. Yet this outreach is nothing new. It is only one of an uncounted number of ways Christians from the beginning have manifested Christ's love, which "makes itself felt in every action that seeks to build a better world" (*Laudato Si'*, 231).

Love in action is shown every day by countless followers of Jesus and in the ministries and schools of our Church. Through the love we share, our lives transfigured by God's presence, the Gospel faith that was once delivered to the Apostles still has the power to transform the world – my life and yours, our family members' lives, our neighbors' lives.

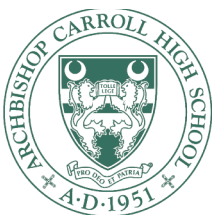
At this moment of grace for the Church of Washington, we rejoice in the love of God as we renew our faith, deepen our hope, and strive to bring the light of Christ into the world in which we live.



The Catholic High Schools of the Archdiocese of Washington

Welcome Our Holy Father Pope Francis

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INTERVIEW



Cardinal Donald Wuerl

Archbishop of Washington

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RELLANDINI, REUTERS

Pope Francis waves to the crowd gathered at St. Peter's Square in Rome at the end of a May 2013 Mass.



Papal visit 'a time of grace'

In interview, Cardinal Wuerl reflects on Pope Francis's upcoming visit to Washington

(The following is the text of an interview of Cardinal Wuerl regarding Pope Francis's upcoming visit to Washington. The cardinal responded to questions from Mark Zimmermann, the editor of the Catholic Standard.)

Seven years ago, the Archdiocese of Washington hosted Pope Benedict's visit here. What was your reaction when you learned that Pope Francis would be visiting Washington this fall?

Cardinal Wuerl: "Joy! My first reaction to learning that Pope Francis would visit this archdiocese in September was joy. His time will be such a spiritual and pastoral blessing and we all can be truly delighted to know that, once again, we will have in our midst the Vicar of Christ, our Holy Father. From the first announcement of the visit already there was enormous excitement, not just within the

Catholic community, but from all of our neighbors who share admiration, appreciation and respect for Pope Francis. Knowing how enormously informative, helpful and fruitful Pope Benedict's visit was in our efforts at the New Evangelization, I am excited to again have this revitalization of our Church and ministries."

What do you think the Archdiocese of Washington learned in the preparation for the papal visit in 2008 that will help in preparing for the pope's visit this year?

Cardinal Wuerl: "As we began preparations for the visit of Pope Francis, we of course had the great advantage of having already enjoyed the grace of a papal visit, this time in 2008 when Pope Benedict XVI came to this archdiocese. Among the things we came to appreciate was the need for exten-

sive catechetical and educational materials to help people not only here but across the country understand exactly who the pope – any pope – is. We also learned that our focus had to be on the loving Gospel message and presence of the pope, and not be distracted by the fact that, for some, there will always be political overtones to whatever the pope says or does. This means also remembering to trust in God's providence and seek the help of the Spirit in what we do.

"It also has been a great benefit to us to have in place almost the entire same team that organized the 2008 visit. In fact, I said to the Italian head of the Papal Visit Preparation Team that he should find himself very much at home in working with this archdiocese since he already knows all of the members of our team from the last visit."

From your encounters with him, from what you've witnessed of him, what is Pope Francis like as a man of God and on a personal level?

Cardinal Wuerl: "Pope Francis strikes me as truly being a pastor of souls as a priest, bishop and now pope. I find that on a personal level he exudes the same spiritual qualities, his humility, clarity, straightforwardness, compassion, understanding that are evident in all of his public appearances and statements. It is impressive to see how easily he enters into conversations with people and how well he listens, even at length, to a variety of opinions voiced at a meeting."

Pope Francis has been TIME magazine's person of the year, and even been on

Continued on page 12

INTERVIEW

Continued from page 11

the cover of Rolling Stone magazine. How do you explain his worldwide popularity? What makes this pope different from other popes?

Cardinal Wuerl: “One reason for the worldwide popularity, I believe, is Pope Francis’ inviting style. He reminds people that the Church is part of God’s plan for our healing and that there is a place in Church for all of us as we struggle with the human condition and all of the wounds of life. Jesus seeks to save everyone. He wants no one to be lost, and again and again he tells us to care about each and every person. The way Pope Francis speaks of the Church as a field hospital and the manner in which he goes out of his way to invite the marginalized and those who feel disaffected from the Church only reinforces the image of Pope Francis as emulating the Good Shepherd in search of the sheep that have drifted away.”

In your book on the Holy Spirit, you wrote that what the world calls “the Francis effect,” is really the impact of the Holy Spirit, working through him. How do you explain “the Francis effect”?

Cardinal Wuerl: “The Francis effect’ means many things to many people. There is undeniably a personal appeal to the Pope for many, but there is something more important than the popularity of a celebrity. For me, I think ‘the Francis effect’ indicates his personal openness to the Spirit working in and through him and the impact that has on people who sense that fact. The Spirit is the principal agent of evangelization and it is only with the Spirit that our efforts truly bear fruit. This is why the Pope so often exhorts us to be “Spirit-filled evangelizers.” Pastorally, I see here in the archdiocese a response from people who are young and not so young to Pope Francis’ invitation to reconsider, once again, their relationship with God who invites them, even if they have a sense of failure or sin, to let God’s mercy embrace them.”

What do you expect Pope Francis’s key messages or themes when he visits the United States? Some analysts expect that when the Holy Father meets with the president, addresses Congress and the United Nations, he is likely to talk about immigration, protecting the environment, and building opportunities for the poor – do you think these will be among the issues that Pope Francis will emphasize?

Cardinal Wuerl: “While I do not know what Pope Francis will say when he speaks to the President or addresses Congress and the United Nations, I suspect that whatever it is, it will be pastoral in tone, challenging in content and engaging in its delivery. Pope Francis will have an opportunity to speak to the political leaders of our nation and representatives of political leaders around the world. Already this pontificate is marked with the pope’s call for respect for human dignity, our need to care for one another as members of the human family and at the same time our obligations towards the environment, the care of our common home. I would not be surprised to find any or all of these as part of his messages. Just as important as what the Holy Father says – or perhaps more important – is what we do in response.”

When he chose the name Francis, our new pope said that he wanted to emulate St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of the poor, and he wanted the church to be a church for the poor. In Washington, Pope Francis will meet with homeless people helped by Catholic Charities; in New York City, he will visit with children and immigrant families at a Catholic school in Harlem; and in Philadelphia, he will visit inmates at a correctional facility. What do those planned encounters say about Pope Francis, and what do you think the pope is saying to American Catholics, through these actions?

Cardinal Wuerl: “Pope Francis indicated that he chose this name precisely because of his devotion to Saint Francis of Assisi and the particular appreciation in the Church of this humble holy man as a model of living the Gospel in simplicity and total reliance on God and a respect for one another; the



PHOTO COURTESY OF L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO

In this photo from May 2013, Cardinal Donald Wuerl is greeted by Pope Francis at the Vatican.

poor and the environment. Among the places he will visit here and on the rest of his trip include locations where he can highlight our obligation in charity and justice to lift up the marginalized and needy. The visit to Catholic Charities will allow that wonderful good works arm of the Church to be better seen and recognized and perhaps inspire others to the corporal and spiritual works of mercy.”

Another highlight of the Washington visit will be Pope Francis’s canonization Mass of Blessed Junípero Serra at the Basilica of the National Shrine, with the congregation on The Catholic University of America’s campus. That planned canonization has drawn some controversy from Native American groups. What would you say in response to those objections, and what do you hope the impact of Junípero Serra’s canonization will have on Catholics in the United States, especially Hispanic Catholics?

Cardinal Wuerl: “Blessed Junípero Serra brought the Gospel to parts of Mexico and a large portion of what is now California. When the Holy Father announced that he would canonize him at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception during his visit, I could not help but think how historic this moment will be. The first pope chosen from the New World will have a canonization for the first time in history of our country and it will be of a saint whose whole life was a witness to missionary discipleship.

“For centuries he was recognized for what in fact he had accomplished, that is, the compassionate embrace of the Native Americans that he encountered in a way that shared with them the Good News of Jesus Christ. All of the serious scholarship shows how Junípero Serra was a blessing to those he encountered and evangelized. It is only in recent years that there has been some effort to ignore the substantiated history and attempt to rewrite it in a way that casts a shadow over

Serra. But as I have already indicated, there is serious scholarship that supports the assertion that Serra is worthy of our admiration. For Catholics, after the canonization, we will be able to ask his intercession before God.”

How do you hope Catholics in the Archdiocese of Washington, and members of the community, prepare for Pope Francis’s visit?

Cardinal Wuerl: “There are many ways to prepare for the visit of Pope Francis, the Successor of Peter who, above all else, brings to us Jesus Christ. Spiritually, I hope we will all take advantage of this moment to renew our own faith conviction, frequent the sacraments, especially Reconciliation and the Eucharist, and at the same time share our own enthusiasm for our Holy Father and our faith in the Church he represents with our neighbors. The Walk with Francis Pledge is also a way of saying to the pope that we recognize his message, embrace it and try to live it. The best way we can prepare is by that interior, spiritual conversion to which we are called every day as Christians.”

What do you hope the “Francis effect” will be on the Archdiocese of Washington, after the Holy Father leaves?

Cardinal Wuerl: “As the Holy Father leaves the Archdiocese of Washington, I hope part of his legacy will be that afterglow that continues to warm our hearts, challenge our consciences and deepen our faith. Not only will this be a time of grace in which we ourselves are renewed, but this visit can be a leaven in the whole of society. It is an opportunity to evangelize those who perhaps do not really know what Christ and his Church are all about. Touched by the Gospel love and truth in this way, through Pope Francis and us in communion with him, our city and nation can grow and take just a few more steps toward God’s kingdom.”

PAPAL VISIT

Pope Francis

Jorge Mario Bergoglio

Is the first pope...

- From the Americas
- From Jesuit order
- To take name Francis

Is known to...

- Take the bus and subway
- Cook his meals
- Have strong devotion to Mary
- Visit the poor
- Be very spiritual
- Have low-key style
- Love soccer and tangos

Speaks

- Spanish, Italian, English, French and German



"Now let's begin this journey, bishop and people... a journey of brotherhood, love and trust among us."



Then Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio poses with young soccer players from the San Lorenzo soccer club, of which he is known to be a fan.

Dec. 17, 1936

Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, to Italian immigrant parents

1957

At age 21, falls gravely ill; eventually severe pneumonia is diagnosed, right lung partially removed

March 11, 1958

Enters novitiate of the Society of Jesus

March 12, 1960

Takes first vows as Jesuit

1960

Studies humanities in Padre Hurtado, Chile

1961-1963

Studies philosophy at San Miguel Seminary, Buenos Aires

1964-1965

Teaches high school literature and psychology at Jesuit secondary school in Santa Fe

1966

Teaches at prestigious Colegio del Salvador secondary school in Buenos Aires

1967-1970

Studies theology at San Miguel seminary



Dec. 13, 1969

Is ordained priest

1970-1971

Spends "tertianship," or Third Probation period of Jesuit formation in Spain

1971-1973

Serves as master of novices and vice chancellor, San Miguel seminary

1973

Takes perpetual profession as Jesuit

1973-1979

Serves as superior of Jesuit province of Argentina and Uruguay

1979-1985

Serves as rector of Colegio Maximo and theology teacher

1986

Goes to Germany to finish doctoral thesis

June 27, 1992

Is ordained auxiliary bishop of Buenos Aires

June 3, 1997

Is named coadjutor archbishop

Feb. 28, 1998

Is installed as archbishop of Buenos Aires

2001

Co-presides over Synod of Bishops

Feb. 21, 2001

Is elevated to cardinal

2005

Receives second-highest number of votes in conclave that elected Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger as pope

2005-2011

Serves as president, Argentine Bishops Conference



March 13, 2013

Is elected pope by conclave of 115 cardinals

Sources: Catholic News Service, Vatican Radio, Jesuit Conference of Argentina and Uruguay, Archdiocese of Buenos Aires.

TIM MEKO FOR THE CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

A pope true to his roots

Priorities, preaching, personal touch reflect Pope Francis' background

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

A self-described "homebody," Pope Francis will make the 10th foreign trip of his pontificate in September, visiting Cuba and then, for the first time in his life, the United States.

The visit of the 78-year-old Argentine pope comes in a year packed with important events for him: the publication in June of "Laudato Si'," his encyclical on the environment; the world Synod of Bishops on the family in October; and the opening Dec. 8 of a special Year of Mercy.

The former Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio of Buenos Aires was not a household name to most North American Catholics when he was elected to succeed Pope Benedict XVI March 13, 2013, but his brothers in the College of Cardinals knew who he was.

The Argentine Jesuit reportedly had been second on the balloting in the conclave that elected Pope Benedict to succeed St. John Paul II in 2005.

His growing up with four siblings in a family with strong ties to its Italian origins, his training and ministry as a Jesuit – including what he says were mistakes as a provincial superior – and his regular contact with the poorest residents of Buenos Aires are influences seen in his preaching, priorities, style of governance and, especially, in the way he interacts with individuals.

The pope signaled just how strong those influences were almost immediately after his election. The first sign was his decision not to live in the Apostolic Palace, but in the Vatican guesthouse where the cardinals stayed during the conclave.

He told reporters it was a matter of liking to have a lot of people around and not a statement about simplicity or austerity, although he said both are essential for every minister in the Church.

As he settled into his new life as pope, he shook up much of what had become tradition with a small "t" in the Vatican. He cold-called Vatican officials to check on the progress of projects; he kept his own schedule in the afternoon, phoning people who had written to him or inviting them over for a chat; he lectured clerics on the need for simple lifestyles; and

he repeatedly condemned office gossip and clerical careerism.

Early in his pontificate, Pope Francis named an international panel of cardinals – most of whom head dioceses, not Roman Curia offices – as an advisory panel for Church governance. Their first big task, one that is ongoing, is to reorganize the Vatican bureaucracy.

While the bulk of the project has not been completed, the pope accepted the cardinals' recommendations to establish a council and secretariat for economic affairs, a secretariat for communications and a commission to promote child protection. They already are at work.

Just eight months after taking office, Pope Francis published his apostolic exhortation, "The Joy of the Gospel," a detailed vision of the program for his papacy and his vision for the Church – particularly the Church's outreach and its response to challenges posed by secular culture.

In the document, the pope called on Catholics to go out into the world, sharing their faith "with enthusiasm and vitality" by being living examples of joy, love and charity. "An evangelizer," he said, "must never look like someone who has just come back from a funeral."

Jorge Mario Bergoglio was born in Buenos Aires Dec. 17, 1936. He earned a chemical technician's diploma from his high school and entered the Jesuit novitiate in March 1958.

As part of his Jesuit formation, he taught literature and psychology at Jesuit high schools in the mid-1960s, and he was ordained to the priesthood Dec. 13, 1969.

In 1973, he was appointed superior of the Jesuit province of Argentina. "I was only 36 years old. That was crazy. I had to deal with difficult situations, and I made my decisions abruptly and by myself," he said in an interview after becoming pope. "My authoritarian and quick manner of making decisions led me to have serious problems and to be accused of being ultraconservative."

In 1992, Pope John Paul II named him an auxiliary bishop of Buenos Aires. He was promoted to coadjutor archbishop in 1997 and became head of the archdiocese in 1998; St. John Paul named him to the College of Cardinals three years later.



CNS FILE PHOTO L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO VIA REUTERS
Pope Francis blesses an inmate during the foot-washing at a Holy Thursday he celebrated at a prison in Rome last April.

WALK WITH FRANCIS

2015 PAPAL VISIT TO WASHINGTON, D.C.



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The Most Reverend
✠ Wilton D. Gregory
Archbishop of Atlanta

PAPAL VISIT

Legacy of St. Francis of Assisi shapes Pope Francis's papacy



CS FILE PHOTO OF A MOSAIC OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI TAMING THE WOLF AT THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE'S ST. ANTHONY CHAPEL

By Richard Szczepanowski
Catholic Standard

Pope Francis – in meeting the press for the first time after his March 2013 election – explained why he chose to name himself after the great saint from Assisi. St. Francis, the new pope said, “is the man of poverty, the man of peace, the man who loves and safeguards creation.”

“How I would like a Church that is poor and that is for the poor,” the new pontiff added, referring to St. Francis’s rejection of the wealth into which he was born and his embracing a life of poverty. Pope Francis visited Assisi on the first feast day of his patron after being elected pope.

So beloved is this great saint, he is venerated in other Christian traditions who have recognized his love of Jesus and the simple, humble and holy life he led.

St. Francis was born Giovanni di Pietro di Bernardone to a wealthy Assisi family in either 1181 or 1182. From an early age his family had nicknamed him Francesco (Francis). Once, while deep in prayer, Francis heard God’s voice calling him to give up everything and live a life of poverty and simplicity.

Francis became a preacher and founded several religious orders for men and women. He preached to both man and beast because he called it the duty of both to praise God.

Francis died Oct. 3, 1226, and was proclaimed a saint less than two years later. He is the patron saint of animals, the patron saint of the environment and one of two patron saints of Italy. His feast day is Oct. 4.

Outside of the Catholic Church, St. Francis is honored in the Church of England, the Episcopal Church USA, the Anglican Church of Canada, the Evangelical Lutheran Church and other denominations.

Francis preached that the world is a beauti-

ful creation of God and that humans have an obligation – as stewards and as creatures themselves – to protect and respect nature.

The pope’s recent encyclical on the environment “Laudato Si’” (“Praise Be to You”) takes its name from the paean of St. Francis: “Laudato si’ mi’ Signore” – “Praise be to you, my Lord.”

It is the opening line from the saint’s “Canticle of the Sun” in which he thanks God for “Brother Sun,” “Sister Moon” and the rest of creation.

In his encyclical, the pope calls on people of every faith to protect “our common home” and to have “concern for nature, justice for the poor, commitment to society, and interior peace.”

Pope Francis acknowledged in the encyclical that it was written after “turning to that attractive and compelling figure, whose name I took as my guide and inspiration when I was elected Bishop of Rome.”

“I believe that Saint Francis is the example *par excellence* of care for the vulnerable and of an integral ecology lived out joyfully and authentically,” the pope wrote. “He was particularly concerned for God’s creation and for the poor and outcast.”

“Saint Francis, faithful to Scripture, invites us to see nature as a magnificent book in which God speaks to us and grants us a glimpse of his infinite beauty and goodness,” the pope wrote in “Laudato Si’.” He added that St. Francis’s message is, “the world is a joyful mystery to be contemplated with gladness and praise.”

Pope Francis designated Sept. 1 as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. He said the observance is meant to be a time for the faithful to “reaffirm their personal vocation to be stewards of creation, to thank God for the wonderful handiwork which he has entrusted to our care, and to implore his help.”



The United States Army Office of the Chief of Chaplains



**Welcomes
His Holiness,
Pope Francis to America!**
**“Pro Deo et Patria”
For God and Country
“Vive Vocationem”**

Wall to Wall Coverage

Pope Francis Visits the U.S.



POPE **FRANCIS**
In America
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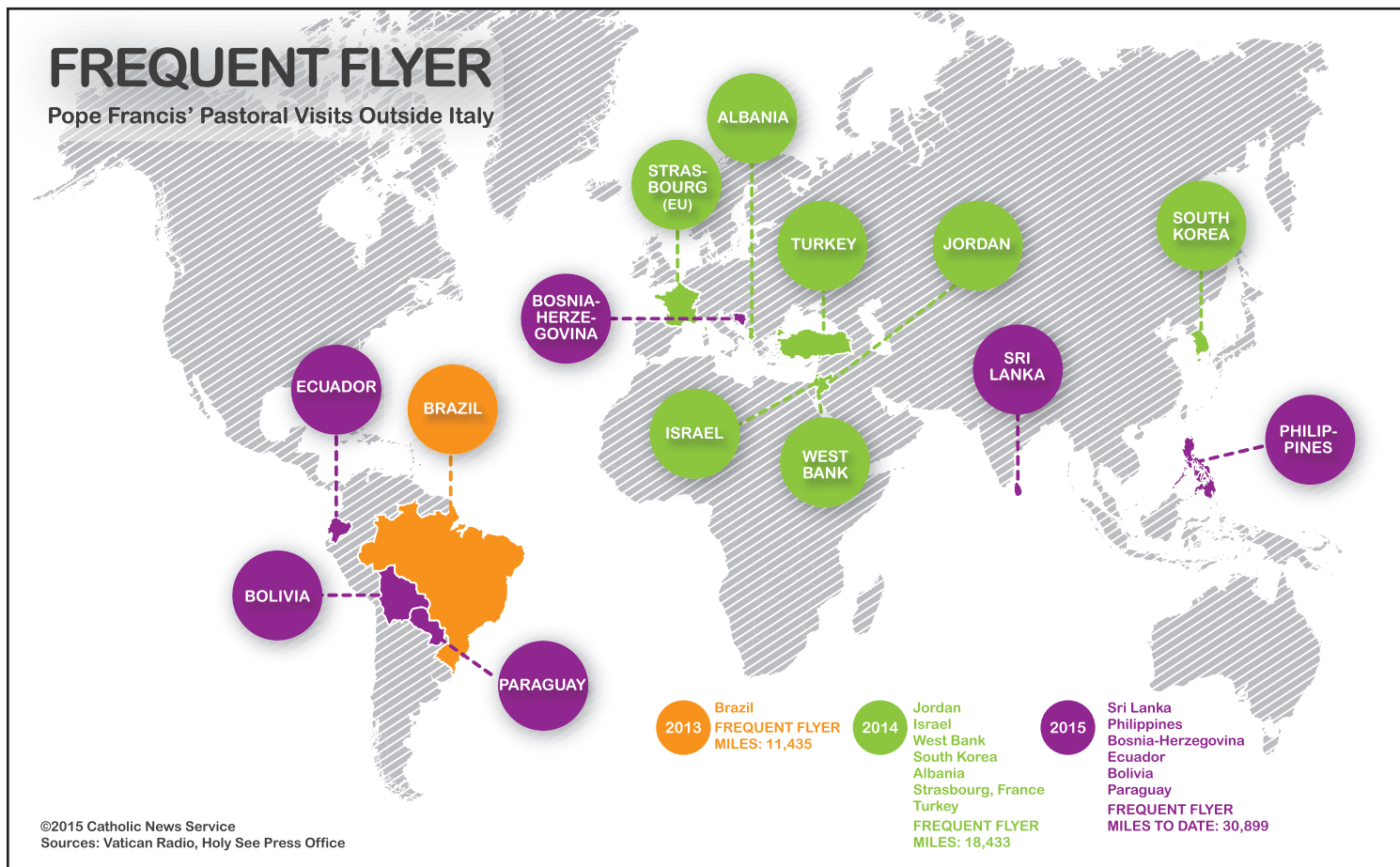
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PAPAL VISIT

Papal pilgrim

Pope Francis to make 10th pastoral visit outside Italy



By Richard Szczepanowski
Catholic Standard

Pope Francis's Sept. 19-22 visit to Cuba and his Sept. 22-26 visit to the United States will be the Holy Father's 10th trip outside of Italy since he was elected pope in March, 2013.

Here is a look at his previous foreign trips:

Brazil (July 22-29, 2013)

Visiting Rio de Janeiro for World Youth Day, Pope Francis made his only trip outside of Italy during 2013. The trip was previously planned for his predecessor, Benedict XVI, before his resignation.

Israel, Jordan and Palestine (May 24-26, 2014)

Pope Francis's three-day trip to the Holy Land included visits to Bethlehem, Jerusalem and Amman. He visited with Jordan's King Abdullah II, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew I.

South Korea (Aug. 14-18, 2014)

Pope Francis visited South Korea as part of the Sixth Asian Youth Day. He met with South Korean President Park Geun-hye, and beatified 124 Korean Martyrs during a Mass attended by an estimated 800,000 people.

Albania (Sept. 21, 2014)

During his 11-hour trip to Albania, Pope Francis met with Albanian President Bujar Nishani, celebrated Mass, and met with representatives of the Muslim, Orthodox, Bektashi, Jewish and Protestant faiths.

France (Nov. 25, 2014)

Pope Francis's four-hour trip to France is the shortest foreign trip by any pope in history. He

went to France to speak before the European Parliament and the Council of Europe.

Turkey (Nov. 28-30, 2014)

Invited by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew I, Pope Francis visited a mosque where he prayed with Muslim clerics, and he prayed with Bartholomew I at the Greek Orthodox Church of St. George in Istanbul.

Sri Lanka and the Philippines (Jan. 13-19, 2015)

In Sri Lanka, Pope Francis canonized Joseph Vaz, a 17th-century priest and missionary who ministered on that island off the southeast coast of India. In the Philippines, he visited Tacloban, a city that suffered huge casualties and tremendous damage in the wake of Typhoon Haiyan. He celebrated Mass in Manila before a crowd of an estimated between 6 to 7 million people.

Bosnia and Herzegovina (June 6, 2015)

In one-day visit to Sarajevo, Pope Francis made a plea for interreligious dialogue and celebrated Mass for pilgrims from Bosnia, Croatia, Serbia, Hungary, Austria, Germany, Slovenia and Macedonia.

Ecuador, Bolivia and Paraguay (July 5-13, 2015)

In Ecuador, Pope Francis met with President Rafael Correa, visited with priests and seminarians, made a private visit to friend, visited a home for the elderly in Quito, and celebrated Mass for more than one million people. In Bolivia, he met with President Evo Morales, who awarded him that country's Grand Cross of the Order of the Condor of the Andes, opened the fifth National Eucharistic Congress, celebrated Mass and visited with prisoners. In Paraguay, he visited patients and their parents at a children's hospital, made a pilgrimage to a Marian shrine and celebrated Mass.

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PAPAL VISIT

Archdiocese of Washington

Archdiocese of Washington facts

- 139 parishes in Washington, D.C., and five Maryland counties: Montgomery, Prince George's, Charles, Calvert and St. Mary's
- Led by Cardinal Donald Wuerl, who was installed as Archbishop of Washington in June 2006
- Established in 1939 by Pope Pius XII. Celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2014
- Includes more than 620,000 parishioners
- 343 priests are serving in the Archdiocese of Washington, which has 79 seminarians
- Washington, D.C., is home to national entities such as the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and is the location of three Catholic universities: The Catholic University of America, Georgetown University, and Trinity University

Catholic education in the Archdiocese

- Nearly 27,000 students attend 95 local Catholic schools, including early childhood centers, elementary and high schools
- 99 percent of Catholic high school students graduate, and 97 percent of Catholic high school graduates go on to college
- More than 25,000 students attend parish elementary and high school religious education programs

Diversity

- Nearly 270,000 Catholics of Hispanic descent; Spanish-language Masses celebrated at 38 locations
- Approximately 100,000 Catholics of African and Caribbean descent
- Mass is celebrated in more than 20 languages weekly
- Languages include French, Spanish, Italian, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Korean, Haitian Creole, and more

Social Service

- Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington serves more than 120,000 people annually regardless of religion
- Victory Housing provides affordable housing and related social services to more than 2,100 low- and moderate-income senior citizens and families in the Archdiocese



CS PHOTOS BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

Cardinal Wuerl baptizes a baby during a recent 25th anniversary Mass at Our Lady of Vietnam Parish in Silver Spring.

History

- The Archdiocese of Washington includes the site of the first Mass in English-speaking North America, which was celebrated at St. Clement's Island in Maryland on March 25, 1634.
- Maryland's Religious Act of 1649 was the first legislation a representative body ever enacted for religious freedom.
- Originally part of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, the Archdiocese of Washington was established in 1939 and at first included only the nation's capital, with five surrounding Maryland counties added in 1948.
- The Archdiocese of Washington celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2014. As part of the anniversary celebration, an Archdiocesan Synod consisting of local Catholics charted a blueprint for future outreach in the key areas of worship, education, community, service, and stewardship and administration.



A couple prays during a recent Mass at Jesus the Divine Word Parish in Huntingtown.



Children sing during a recent Mass for students at Sacred Heart School in Washington, one of four schools in the Consortium of Catholic Academies.



A woman participates in a Mass at St. Matthias, Apostle Parish in Lanham.



Volunteer dentists and hygienists serve at Catholic Charities' Mission of Mercy clinic at the University of Maryland.

PAPAL VISIT

Five ways to
Walk like Pope Francis



CNS PHOTO BY PAUL HARING

Pope Francis walks with children of prisoners in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, during his visit to that country in July.

'Walking like Francis means walking with the joy of Christ visible to the world.'

By Father William Byrne

You may have heard that the Archdiocese of Washington is encouraging us all to take the Walk With Francis Pledge, and get closer to Jesus through prayer, service and action. I have taken my pledge to walk with Pope Francis, but I have also decided to do so by walking like Pope Francis. Here's my five ways to walk like Francis.

1. Shoes – You may have noticed that Pope Francis decided not to wear the traditional red shoes. He sports regular black shoes, but if you look closely, his shoes are rubber soled and clearly made for walking. They are decidedly comfortable, but I suppose with the weight of one billion Catholics on your shoulders, you definitely need some good arch support. So to walk like Francis, make sure you don't just look good – you are set to carry the weight of other's burdens.

2. Smile – If you look at the images of Pope Francis walking around, there is almost always a smile on his face. People



(Father Byrne serves as the pastor of Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Potomac.)

need joy, and you and I are the ones Jesus is asking to bring it. Walking like Francis means walking with the joy of Christ visible to the world.

3. Luggage – When Pope Francis is getting off a plane, it is not unusual to see him carrying his own bag. World leaders have a lot to worry about, so it is typical for others to take care of such things. Not the Holy Father, however, and it is important to know that he carries his bag because of what it contains. It holds his Breviary, the prayer book also called the Liturgy of Hours, that priests and laypeople pray every day. Walking like Francis means never forgetting your prayers.

4. A Helping Hand – When the Holy Father is saying a big Mass and is wearing all the heavy vestments and holding his shepherd's staff, one of his aides will usually support his elbow as he climbs the steps of the sanctuary. He does not seem bothered by this, probably because it is much better than taking a tumble. Walking like Francis means letting others give you a hand when you need it.

5. Stopping Along The Way – When Pope Francis is walking through a crowd, he does not get a chance to talk long strides; he is busy stopping at every other person to give them a hug or a blessing. To walk like Francis means that the people on the journey are as important as the destination.

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The Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA
in whose jurisdiction Pope Francis will plant his first step on US soil
joins the Archdiocese of Washington in welcoming His Holiness

PAPAL VISIT

St. John Paul II's 1979 visit to Washington



Pope John Paul II greets students at The Catholic University of America during his 1979 visit to Washington. In 2014, Pope Francis canonized St. John Paul II. CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA FILE PHOTO

“I do not hesitate to proclaim before you and before the world that all human life – from the moment of conception and through all subsequent stages – is sacred, because human life is created in the image and likeness of God. Nothing surpasses the greatness or dignity of a human person. Human life is not just an idea or an abstraction; human life is the concrete reality of a being that lives, that acts, that grows and develops; human life is the concrete reality of a being that is capable of love, and of service to humanity.”

– Excerpt from Saint John Paul II's homily during his Oct. 7, 1979 Mass on the National Mall in Washington.

- In October 1979, one year after his election to the papacy, St. John Paul II made his first pastoral visit to the United States, which he concluded with a two-day visit to Washington, D.C. The first-ever papal visit to the nation's capital came after the pontiff earlier visited Boston; New York; Philadelphia; Des Moines, Iowa; and Chicago.

- In his week-long trip to the United States, St. John Paul II delivered more than 70 speeches, addressing farmers in Iowa, youth in Boston, seminarians in Philadelphia and diplomats at the United Nations. He prayed in small chapels and greeted 80,000 cheering people at Yankee Stadium.

- The highlight of St. John Paul II's visit to Washington came when he celebrated Mass on the National Mall for 175,000 people on Oct. 7.

- In Washington, St. John Paul II received a key to the city and became the first pope to visit the White House, where he was welcomed by President Jimmy Carter.

- Also during his visit to Washington, St. John Paul II celebrated a Mass for clergy at the Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle; met with women religious at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception; addressed Catholic educators at The Catholic University of America; prayed with ecumenical leaders at Trinity College's Notre Dame Chapel; and visited the Vatican

embassy (the Apostolic Nunciature) and the Organization of American States. Crowds of thousands squeezed along the sidewalks of nearly every stop the pope made.

- The official announcement for the papal visit did not come until late July, so local Catholic officials only had two months to plan for the complex event, which they pulled off with the help of an army of volunteers.

- An exhibit on the pope's life at the St. John Paul II National Shrine in Washington highlights his visit to Washington, with video highlights of his homily at the National Mall Mass. The Saint John Paul II National Shrine is located at 3900 Harewood Road, N.E. For more information, see jp2shrine.org.

PAPAL VISIT

Pope Benedict XVI's 2008 visit to Washington



CNS PHOTO/LOSSERVATORE ROMANO VIA REUTERS

In April 2008, Pope Benedict XVI waves as he arrives to celebrate Mass at Nationals Park in Washington. About 50,000 people from around the Washington area and from across the United States attended the liturgy, the Holy Father's first public Mass as pope in this country. Later, Pope Benedict told Cardinal Donald Wuerl, "That liturgy was a true prayer!"

"Those who have hope must live different lives! (cf. *Spe Salvi*, 2). By your prayers, by the witness of your faith, by the fruitfulness of your charity, may you point the way toward that vast horizon of hope which God is even now opening up to his Church and indeed to all humanity: the vision of a world reconciled and renewed in Christ Jesus, our Savior. To him be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen."

– Excerpt from the concluding words of Pope Benedict XVI's homily at his 2008 Papal Mass at Nationals Park in Washington.

- In April 2008, Pope Benedict XVI made his first pastoral visit to the United States, first visiting Washington, D.C., from April 15-17, then traveling to New York, where he concluded his apostolic journey on April 20. The theme of the papal visit was "Christ Our Hope."

- The highlight of Pope Benedict XVI's visit to Washington, D.C., came when he celebrated a Papal Mass on April 17 for nearly 50,000 people at the newly opened Nationals Park.

- Welcoming Pope Benedict XVI at the Papal Mass, Washington Cardinal Donald

Wuerl said the crowd at the park represented the face of the Catholic Church in the United States: "The Church that welcomes Your Holiness embraces people from every continent and numerous ethnic and cultural backgrounds. All of us at this Mass reflect the breadth of this faith family that includes women and men, young and old."

- After his "Shepherd One" plane touched down at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland, Pope Benedict XVI was greeted by dignitaries including President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush, along with Cardinal Wuerl and other Catholic leaders. The next day, President Bush and the first

lady welcomed Pope Benedict to the White House. The pontiff said he had come to America "as a friend, (and) a preacher of the Gospel."

- Also during his Washington visit, Pope Benedict prayed evening vespers with U.S. bishops at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception; addressed national Catholic educational leaders at The Catholic University of America; and participated in an ecumenical prayer service at the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center (now the Saint John Paul II National Shrine). Joyful crowds greeted the pope as it traveled Washington's streets.

- Pope Benedict XVI stayed at the Apostolic Nunciature during his visit to Washington, and he was hosted by Archbishop Pietro Sambi, then the apostolic nuncio to the United States. On the morning of April 16, Pope Benedict XVI's 81st birthday, the pontiff stepped out of the nunciature's front door and was greeted by

students from nearby Annunciation School in Washington, who sang "Happy Birthday" to him in his native German and in English.

- After celebrating Mass at Nationals Park, Pope Benedict XVI met privately with a small group of survivors of priest sexual abuse, and he listened to their stories and prayed with them in the nunciature's chapel.

- To commemorate the papal visit, Catholics at parishes and schools in the Archdiocese of Washington collected 112 tons of food in Catholic Charities' Hunger to Hope drive honoring the pope.

- During his visit to New York, Pope Benedict XVI prayed at Ground Zero, addressed the United Nations, celebrated Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral and Yankee Stadium; participated in a rally for seminarians and young people at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, N.Y.; visited a New York synagogue; and participated in an ecumenical prayer service at the Church of St. Joseph in New York.

PAPAL VISIT

Faith in Action

A pope for the poor, a pope for all

By Msgr. John Enzler

Early in my priesthood, I was deeply affected by Mother Teresa and her great love for the poor. She embodied Christian love, compassion and service as she ministered to the poor, the sick and the dying in Calcutta. Her actions evoked some of the most touching passages in the Bible, such as Jesus's touch of lepers, his weeping over the death of Lazarus, and the Good Samaritan.

I was blessed to meet Mother Teresa twice, and after her death, I spent time working with her sisters in Calcutta. To be frank, seeing all of the suffering was not easy. And yet, that was how I knew that her extraordinary service was only possible because, as she said, she saw Jesus in every

person she met.

Now, more than 42 years into my priesthood, I will soon have another opportunity to meet a great leader who has inspired me and so many of us with his love for the poor. Pope Francis will visit us at Catholic Charities on Thursday, Sept. 24, his last day in Washington. He will come right after making an historic speech to Congress, so in a matter of minutes, he will go from being surrounded by some of the most powerful people in the world to being surrounded by those who are vulnerable and in need of assistance. In my mind's eye, I can already see him walking with ease among our clients, talking with them, smiling at them and embracing them. In other words, treating them with the dignity they deserve as children of God.



CNS PHOTO/LOSSERVATORE ROMANO VIA REUTERS
Pope Francis talks with three men who live on the streets near the Vatican. As part of a low-key celebration of his 77th birthday on Dec. 17, 2013, the pope celebrated morning Mass and had breakfast with the men.

With Joyful Hearts

Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito

and the faith family of the
Diocese of Palm Beach

Welcome our Holy Father Pope Francis

on the occasion of his first visit to the
United States of America.

May the Holy Family guide and protect him on his historic visit.

To me, that is one of the great lessons we can learn from both Mother Teresa and Pope Francis. They love each person they encounter, whether it's the president of the United States or one of our homeless clients, and they do it because God first loves us.

There's no doubt that Pope Francis feels a special call to help the poor and be a voice for them, a call that resonates especially strongly with me in my current role at Catholic Charities. Care for the poor has clearly been central to his papacy, but as critical as that is, it goes even deeper than that.

In a speech last summer, he asked: "Tell me, when you give alms do you look into the eyes of the man or woman to whom you give alms? And when you give alms, do you touch the hand of the one to whom you give alms, or do you toss the coin?"

Those are challenging

words, but ones we know in our heart to be true. Mother Teresa said she saw Jesus in every human being. Are we seeing Jesus in others, including and even especially the poor? And are we doing all we can so that others see Jesus in us?

I can tell you that many of the poor know Jesus' love for them. On Ash Wednesday of this year (Feb. 18), Cardinal Wuerl blessed a new statue in front of our Catholic Charities offices on G Street. It's called Homeless Jesus, and it portrays Jesus sleeping on a bench covered by a blanket. The same sculptor has made several versions of a Homeless Jesus statue, including one in Rome that was blessed by Pope Francis. Cardinal Wuerl saw the statue in Rome and encouraged us to consider one for our area.

In the months since, I've witnessed homeless individuals sit by Jesus on the bench. Others have come and

touched his head. In one instance, when someone was actually sitting on the statue, several homeless people across the street yelled at him to get off. It has become almost their own memorial in Washington, and because it shows the savior of the world as a fellow homeless person, it helps restore their dignity.

Pope Francis has said that we should be a Church for the poor. It's to live the Gospel call to care for the "least among us" and, in so doing, care for Jesus himself. He has also said it's because Jesus, when he took on human flesh, became poor to save us.

It all comes back to Jesus' greatest commandment to love God and neighbor, and Pope Francis is a great role model in living that commandment. That makes him a pope for the poor, yes, but more than that, a pope for all who try to live the Gospel each and every day.

My prayer is that Pope Francis's presence among us will touch our hearts and souls even more deeply, renew our faith, and inspire us to walk with him. In so doing, we, too, can walk in the footsteps of Jesus, and see him in every person we meet.



(Msgr. Enzler serves as the president and CEO of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington.)

PAPAL VISIT

Catholic Charities

Charitable outreach arm of Archdiocese of Washington to welcome Pope Francis on Sept. 24 visit with clients



CS PHOTO BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

Volunteer Michele Breaux serves a meal to a guest last year at Catholic Charities' dinner van outreach, now known as the St. Maria Meals Program. On Sept. 24, Pope Francis will meet with several clients of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, and then offer a blessing and brief remarks to the clients gathered at lunchtime for the St. Maria Meals Program.

- Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, formed in 1922 during the Great Depression and incorporated seven years later, continues bringing help and hope to people in the digital age.

- Catholic Charities operates more than 65 programs at 47 locations in Washington, D.C., and in the five surrounding Maryland counties.

- This past year, 8,700 people volunteered to support the work of Catholic Charities and its more than 800 employees.

- Catholic Charities serves the equivalent of 4.2 million meals a year to those in need in the Washington, D.C., and Maryland region.

- Doctors and lawyers provide more than \$16 million in pro bono services to Catholic Charities' clients.

- The Health Care Network of Catholic Charities provides nearly 2,000 low-income patients and uninsured patients with critical medical care, worth more than \$6 million, from pro bono medical specialists.

- The 700 volunteer lawyers and 60 participating law firms in Catholic Charities' Legal Network annually provide about \$2 million in pro bono legal services for the poor.

- Last year, Catholic Charities' programs provided dental, medical and mental health care to 16,000 adults and children in our community.

- Catholic Charities played a key role in

assisting the D.C. government with the crisis of homeless families by helping 140 homeless families move into their own apartments.

- Catholic Charities provides 1,800 beds each night to people who have nowhere else to go, and also offers programs to help the homeless find employment and housing.

- Catholic Charities' programs serve adults and children from around the world, including newly arrived immigrants and longtime residents from all different backgrounds and religions.

- Catholic Charities annually helps more than 700 adults and children with developmental disabilities.

- More than 24,000 people were assisted in Catholic Charities family centers and through Parish Partners.

- This past year, over 4,100 volunteers packaged and distributed more than 107,000 breakfasts for the homeless through Catholic Charities' "Cup of Joe" program, and students from 40 Catholic schools, along with local parishes and church groups, collected more than 5,700 coats for Catholic Charities' "Joseph's Coats of Many Colors" drive.

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington is headquartered at: 924 G. St, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Learn more about their work at: catholiccharitiesdc.org

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PAPAL VISIT

St. Patrick Church

Oldest Catholic church in federal city to host Sept. 24 visit by Pope Francis

• On Sept. 24, Pope Francis will visit St. Patrick Church in downtown Washington, where he will meet with several clients of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington. The agency is headquartered next door to the church. Then the pope will offer a blessing and brief remarks to clients gathered at lunchtime for the St. Maria Meals Program of Catholic Charities.

• Saint Patrick Catholic Church, located at 619 Tenth Street, N.W., in Washington, D.C., was the first church of any denomination to be erected in the “Federal City.”

• Saint Patrick’s, which was established to serve the Irish immigrants who came to the city to work on the federal building projects, was named after the “Apostle of Ireland,” St. Patrick. He is the patron saint of Ireland and is credited with the conversion of the Irish people. He died on March 17, 461, which is also his feast day.

• The parish was established by Bishop John Carroll in 1794. The initial meeting place of the congregation was a house at the corner of 10th & E Streets, N.W. They worshipped in three other locations until the fourth location was blessed in 1872, and 12 years later, on Nov. 2, 1884, the first Mass was celebrated in the new church.

• The new church quickly became the venue for national



CS PHOTO BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

and international events, most notably the First National Eucharistic Congress in 1895. At the same time the parish was fast becoming the “downtown” church of a thriving commercial area.

• The first American to be ordained a priest in the United States, Father William Matthews, was named pastor in 1804

and occupied the post for 50 years, during which time he was also president of Georgetown University and co-founder of the D.C. Public Library, as well as founder or promoter of innumerable institutions, including Gonzaga College and Visitation Convent.

• Father Jacob Walter, its fourth pastor, was outspoken in the defense of Mary Surratt, a parish member who was convicted of complicity in Lincoln’s assassination. The pastor stood beside her on the gallows at her execution.

• The Victorian Gothic style church underwent renovations in anticipation of its 1994 bicentennial, yet it still retains most of its historical character, including its stained glass windows depicting scenes from the life of St. Patrick.

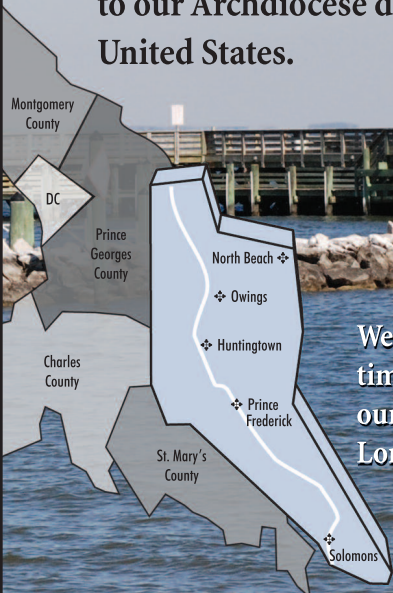
• Each year, St. Patrick’s celebrates a St. Patrick’s Day Mass, as traditional Irish music and dance fill the streets of downtown Washington in honor of St. Patrick. The parish also hosts the Blue Mass each year in May to pray for those in law enforcement and fire safety and remember fallen officers.

• As a spiritual and cultural oasis in the heart of a booming neighborhood of office workers and residents, St. Patrick’s is in its third century of service to the Federal City.

For more information, go to saintpatrickdc.org.

BIENVENIDO, SANTO PADRE!

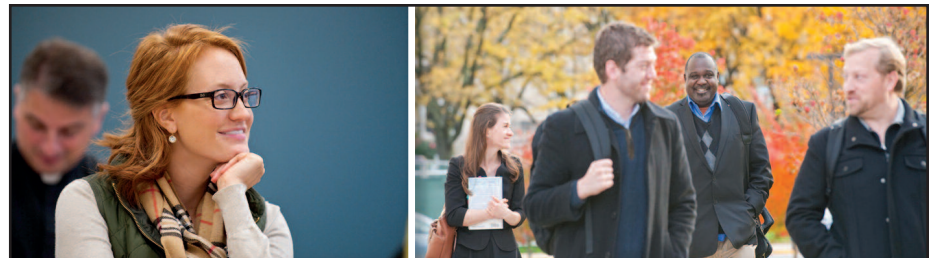
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PAPAL VISIT

Outreach center bears name, spirit of Pope Francis

By Richard Szczepanowski
Catholic Standard

Volunteers and staff of the Pope Francis Outreach Center in Southeast Washington say they hope the upcoming visit to Washington of its namesake will help the faithful better know and love the poor.

“Pope Francis said that the poor are not to be pitied because Jesus is present among them. In their suffering, they know Christ in a special way,” said Ryan Hehman, director of Assumption Parish’s Pope Francis Outreach Center. “We hope our efforts reach out to those who hurt the most and are in need the most, especially those in need not just of material help, but of love and friendship.”

Father Gregory Shaffer, pastor of Assumption Parish, said the center is aptly named because “Pope Francis is the pope of the poor. He told us we can learn much from the poor.”

“Pope Francis is in solidarity with the poor, the needy, the marginalized,” Father Shaffer said. “Pope Francis lives as poor a life as he can to be like Christ who was poor, and to be in solidarity with the poor.”

The priest noted that in serving at the Pope Francis Outreach Center he has learned “sometimes those who have so little are grateful for anything and everything they have. Our people may not have much, but they have gratitude. They see everything as a gift from God.”

“The people we serve see the Kingdom of God through the volunteers and staff here,” he said. “They see our love in the bags of food – their daily bread – and in the bags of clothes they receive. And, they receive with joy. Those of us who serve are the real recipients because we are getting something back when we serve. We can feel their joy.”

The Pope Francis Outreach Center is located on the grounds of Assumption Parish in Southeast Washington. It provides food



CS PHOTOS BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

Father Gregory Shaffer (center), pastor of Assumption Parish, and Will Fitzmaurice, a seminarian volunteer, offer food to a guest at the parish’s Pope Francis Outreach Center in Southeast Washington. The center offers its guests food, clothing, Bible study, Catholic devotional items and friendship.

and clothing to residents of the Ward 8 section of the city.

“We love and care about our neighbors and people in need,” Hehman said. “We try to offer more than just food and clothing. We try to offer the consolation of personal attention and prayer.”

The center is open three times a week – Monday, Wednesday and Friday – from 9 a.m. to noon, and serves about 600 to 700 guests each month. Food for the pantry comes from donations from individuals, do-

nations from other churches and from the Capital Area Food Bank.

The need for food is not necessarily the most pressing need, Hehman said, because “spiritual poverty is a large problem facing the poor.”

“People suffer, and they can face a lot of extraordinary needs, and the effects of this can be astounding. The consolation of faith is the greatest and only real answer to those needs,” he said.

Father Shaffer called the outreach “a

goldmine for Christianity.”

“We want to represent the generosity of God. In the Gospels we learn ‘the first shall be last and the last shall be first,’” the priest said. “In this world, the people we serve are last, but in the Kingdom of God they are first. That is an anomaly that God taps into that the people can identify with.”

Volunteer Richard Miller said he has served at the center “for 20-some years now, and as long as God gives me the strength, I’ll

Continued on page 27



At left, food pantry volunteer Richard Miller prepares bags of food for guests at the outreach center. Miller has volunteered at the center for more than two decades. At right, volunteer Jeanette Thomas sorts clothing items that have been donated for guests at the outreach center. A 40-year member of Assumption Parish, Thomas is in charge of the outreach center’s clothing closet.



PAPAL VISIT

Continued from page 26

keep on doing it.”

“My work here has taught me what it means to give to others,” the 74-year-old member of Assumption Parish said. “The most important thing is to care about those we serve. If you don’t care, then you can’t be a volunteer.”

Jeannette Thomas, a 40-year member of the parish, volunteers with the outreach center’s clothing distribution.

“We give people the best. Everything we give is clean and sorted and ready to wear,” she said. “That is because we are working for the Father in His house, and these are His clothes we give.”

The outreach center also offers Bible study and makes available rosaries, Catholic prayers and literature for guests to take home.

“What we really want to convey is not just ‘here is food, take it,’ but ‘God loves you and I love you,’” Hehman said. “We want to develop friendships with the people we serve. The material help we offer serves the feeling of friendship and love we also offer.”

Hehman’s philosophy and that of the Pope Francis Outreach Center are exemplified in Simple House, a



CS PHOTO BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN
Father Gregory Shaffer, pastor of Assumption Parish, blesses a guest at the parish’s Pope Francis Outreach Center in Southeast Washington. Prayer and friendship are offered to all guests of the center named after the pope.

ministry Hehman also directs. The two ministries have formed a partnership.

Established in 2003 and located in Southeast Washington, Simple House is a lay-led, inner-city outreach effort. Lay volunteers live in community and attend daily Mass, say morning and evening prayer, and make time for personal prayer and Scripture study. The missionaries visit families in the neighborhood and the homeless in their camps, offering prayer and fellowship.

Hehman said the goal of visiting those in need is “to create an

authentic friendship that benefits the poor and glorifies God.” He called the work of Simple House a “friendship evangelization.”

“We go to the poorest neighborhoods, we visit the sick and elderly,” he said. “Sometimes we bring groceries or children’s items. We offer rides to doctor’s appointments or to visits with a family member in jail. We can also help people get the rehab help they may need. We always pray with people.”

He added that with the partnership with Simple House, “guests know we (the Pope Francis Out-

reach Center) are more than just a social service. We want people to know that this is run by Christians who love them.”

Hehman said the outreach center strives to operate according to the teaching of its namesake because “Pope Francis stresses the poor are conduits of God’s love and God’s grace for us.”

As the papal visit draws near, he said, the outreach center is thinking of celebrating with a large welcome banner or maybe by offering cupcakes to its guests.

“Even the non-Catholics we serve are happy for us that the pope is coming,” he said. “This is a very beautiful event that many people share in.”

He said that those who wish to honor Pope Francis’s visit to Washington by helping the outreach center can donate food or clothing, “but most importantly, pray for us.”

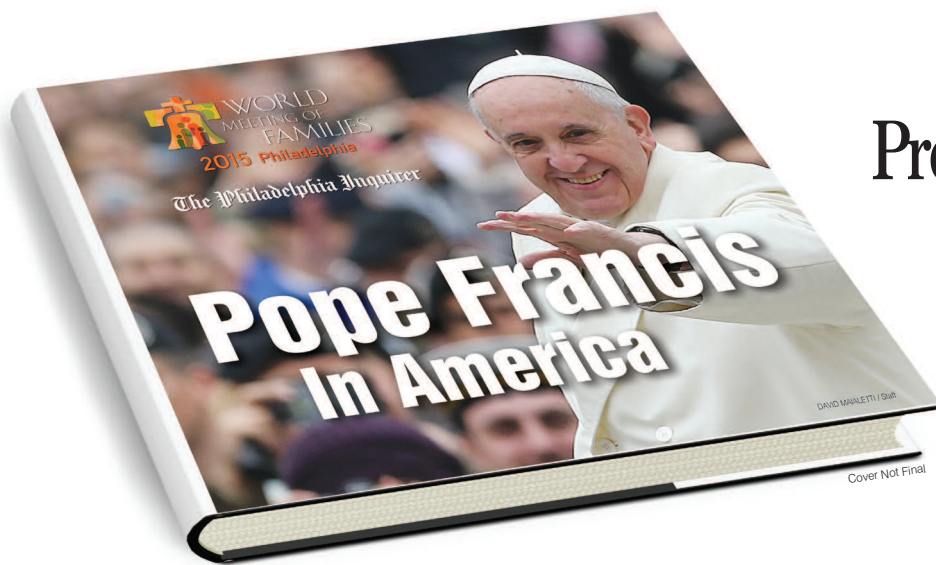
He said that while volunteer opportunities are available, “we are open during the week, so those who work may not be able to volunteer. However, there are so many opportunities around the archdiocese for people to help the poor. Just go do it, it doesn’t matter where, as long as you get to know and love the people you serve.”

How to help

- The Pope Francis Outreach Center is located at 220 Highview Place, S.E., and is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon. People are asked to pray for the guests while the center is open.

- To contact the center, call 202-561-5941 or email outreach@assumptionchurch-dc.org. Donations can be mailed to the Pope Francis Outreach Center in care of Assumption Parish, 3401 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., S.E., Washington, D.C. 20032 or online at assumptionchurch-dc.org/outreach.

- Donations of GIANT gift cards help the center purchase food items for guests. serve.”



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The Philadelphia Inquirer

NEWS

Pope calls on Europe's parishes, religious houses to take in refugees

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

Given the ongoing crisis of people fleeing from war and poverty, Pope Francis asked every parish and religious community in Europe to take in a family of refugees as a concrete sign of hope and God's mercy.

"The Gospel calls us, asks us to be near the least and the abandoned. To give them concrete hope, not just say 'Hang in there, have patience!'" he said in an appeal after praying the Angelus Sept. 6.

"Christian hope has a fighting spirit with the tenacity of someone who is heading toward a sure goal," he said, while he encouraged all of his "brother bishops of Europe – true shepherds," to support his appeal in their dioceses.

"In the face of the tragedy of tens of thousands of refugees, who are fleeing death because of war and hunger," the pope called on "parishes, religious communities, monasteries and sanctuaries all across Europe to give concrete expression of the Gospel and receive a family of refugees."

God's mercy is expressed through the works of regular men and women, he said, reminding people that Christ taught that "whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."

He said the gesture would also be a concrete way to prepare for the Holy Year of Mercy, which begins Dec. 8.

The Vatican newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*, said St. Peter's Basilica and the Vatican's St. Anne Church would sponsor their first refugee families soon as well as seek employment for each head of the household.

The pope asked that two apartments near the Vatican be made available for refugees, said Cardinal Angelo Comastri, archpriest of St. Peter's Basilica.

"The pope wants the apartments to be near where he is, also to guarantee health care" and other services available in Vatican City and not put a burden on the Italian government, the cardinal said.

The pope said Christians must not be closed up inside themselves. "We create so many inaccessible and inhospitable islands," he said.

The most basic relationships some-

times can become incapable of openness and mutual exchange, such as families, associations, parishes, even nations, demonstrating yet another example of human sin, he said.

He reminded Christians they are called to open themselves up to God and His word, and to others, sharing the Word with those who "have never heard it or to those who have forgotten it – buried under the brambles of the worries and deceptions of the world."

Meanwhile, people of all religious beliefs must never give up and give in to war, the pope said in a message to an international gathering for peace in Tirana, Albania.

"We must never resign ourselves to war, and we cannot remain indifferent before those who suffer because of war and violence," he said in a message to those gathered for the interreligious meeting. "Violence can also be building up walls and barriers to block people who are seeking a place of peace."

Believing peace to be possible is not a sign of naiveté, he said, but an expression that "nothing is impossible" with God.



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

A Syrian refugee from Aleppo holds his 1-month-old daughter moments after arriving on a boat on the Greek island of Lesbos Sept. 3. Catholic aid agencies have urged Europeans not to turn against migrants seeking refuge from Syria and other countries, in what media reports describe as the continent's greatest refugee movement since World War II.

On behalf of the Brothers of the Congregation of Holy Cross & Bishop McNamara High School, we welcome His Holiness, *Pope Francis!*

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PAPAL VISIT

Welcoming the Pope of Mercy by becoming a Church of Mercy

By Jem Sullivan

What a beautiful truth of faith this is for our lives: the mercy of God! God's love for us is so great, so deep; it is an unending love, one that always takes us by the hand and supports us, lifts us up, and leads us on."

These words of Pope Francis, spoken at the beginning of his pontificate and echoed since in his preaching, lead us to the heart of the Gospel message of God's unending love and unending mercy. We are invited to a renewed understanding of who God is and who we are in relationship to God, who is rich in mercy. For divine mercy, notes the Holy Father, is "the strongest message of the Lord."

This time of preparing for Pope Francis's pastoral visit to the United States offers the faithful of this archdiocese a graced opportunity to reflect on the vital place and transforming power of God's mercy in our lives. And as we welcome the Pope of Mercy in our midst and anticipate humbly the many graces of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, we walk together on the path of becoming more fully a Church of mercy.

Jesus Christ is the face of God's mercy

Pope Francis invites all to return to Jesus Christ in whom, "mercy has become living and visible...(for) whoever sees Jesus sees the Father...Jesus by his words, his actions, and his entire person reveals the mercy of God." The emphasis on God's mercy is meant to restore in us the confidence to approach God with every weakness, imperfection, and sinfulness. Human forgiveness and compassion is limited and weak. God's merciful love is strong and boundless reaching into the depths of the sinful human condition and liberating each person with new life and the dignity of friendship with God.

The face of Jesus is the face of God's mercy. For "Jesus reveals the nature of God as that of a Father who never gives up until he has forgiven the wrong and overcome rejection with compassion and mercy" (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 9)

"The mercy of God," says Pope Francis, "is not an abstract idea, but a concrete reality through which God reveals his love as that of a father or a mother, moved to very depths out of love for their child."

Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy

A simple glance at the world around us shows turmoil, persecution, enmity, war, and violence. Now more than ever we need to not only contemplate the mystery of divine mercy but to return, personally and communally, to the merciful embrace of God. Given the troubled "signs of the times," Pope Francis invites all the faithful to "gaze even more attentively on mercy so that we may become a more effective sign of the Father's action in our lives...for mercy is the force

that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope."

For this reason, the Holy Father proclaimed an Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy "as a special time for the Church; a time when the witness of believers might grow stronger and more effective." Every Christian is invited to live out this Jubilee Year of Mercy as an "extraordinary moment of grace and spiritual renewal," in the midst of the many difficulties and challenges faced on the level of each person, nation, and the world.

During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, the faithful are to rediscover that "mercy is at the very foundation of the Church's life." (*MV*, 10). For the "Church's first truth is the love of Christ. The Church makes herself a servant of this love and mediates it to all people...(so that) wherever there are Christians everyone should find an oasis of mercy." (*MV*, 12).

On Dec. 8, 2015, the Church will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council by taking up once again the teaching of Saint John XXIII who spoke of the "medicine of mercy," so needed in our times as that council opened. On the same day, Pope Francis will inaugurate the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy by opening the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica, Rome. Then in various dedicated churches around the world pilgrims may walk through specially designated Holy Doors that become a "Door of Mercy" through which a person discovers the path to conversion, the depths of divine forgiveness, and the tender mercy of God reaching into each human heart.

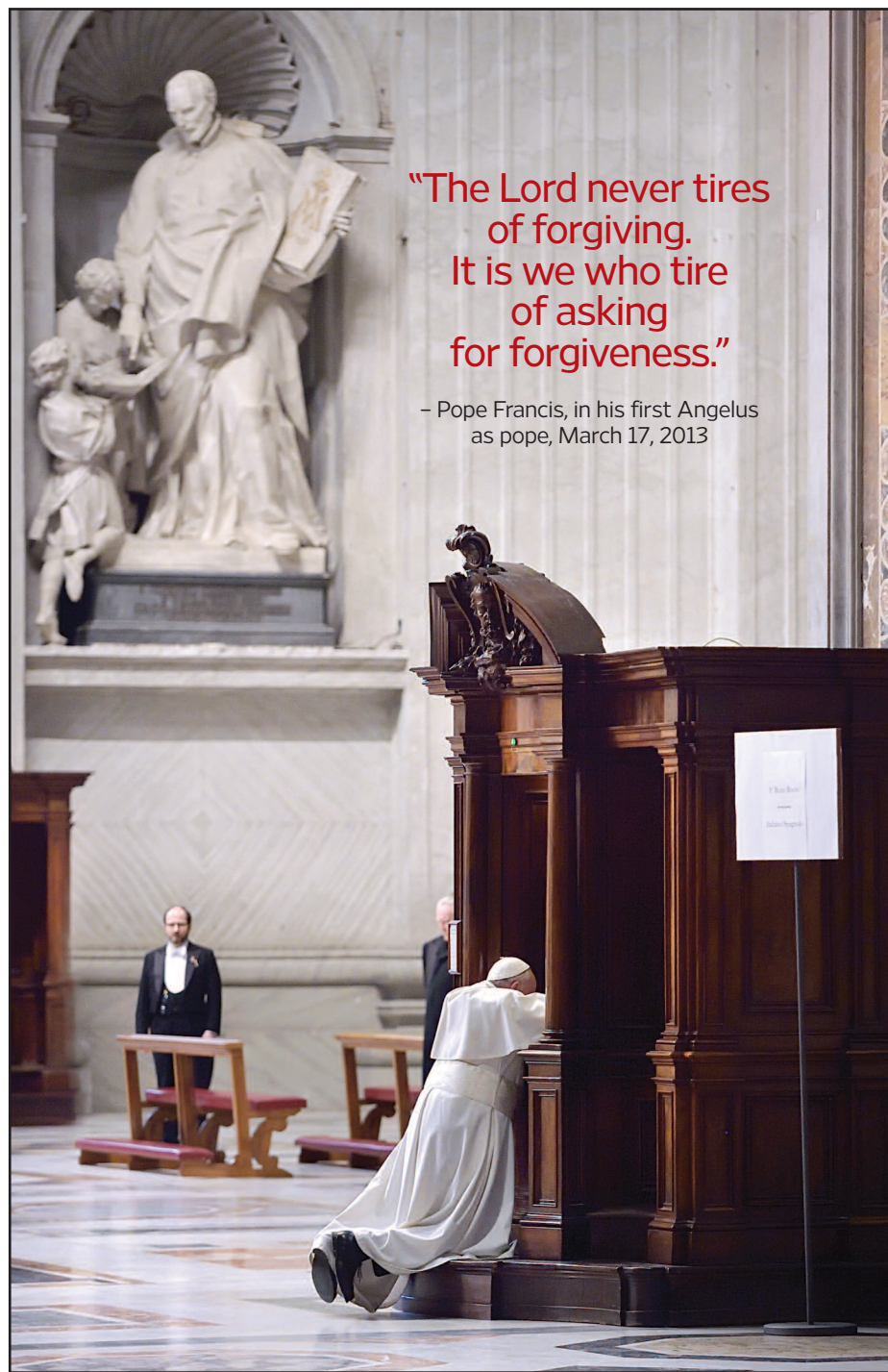
The motto of the Jubilee of Mercy is "Merciful like the Father." We are to become instruments of mercy because we have first received mercy from God.

Papal motto

That Pope Francis returns often to the theme of God's mercy should come as no surprise. The Holy Father's own papal motto, *Miserando atque eligendo*, meaning "lowly but chosen," evokes the call to encounter once again God's mercy and to become, in turn, "merciful as your Father is merciful." (*Luke* 6: 36). Translated from the Latin the papal motto means, "by having mercy, by choosing him," a phrase taken from an eighth century homily on the Gospel account of the calling of Matthew (*Matthew* 9: 9-13) by the Venerable Bede. Jesus sees the tax collector, with all his sinfulness, through the loving eyes of mercy. And because He sees him through the eyes of mercy He chooses him as His disciple. Jesus says to Matthew, "Follow me'...and he rose and followed Him."

Implicit in the call of his and our discipleship is the mercy of Jesus

Pope Francis first chose this motto when



"The Lord never tires of forgiving. It is we who tire of asking for forgiveness."

— Pope Francis, in his first Angelus as pope, March 17, 2013

CNS PHOTO/STEFANO SPAZIANI

Pope Francis goes to Confession during a Lenten penance service in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican March 13. During the service the pope announced an extraordinary jubilee, a Holy Year of Mercy, to be celebrated from Dec. 8, 2015, until Nov. 20, 2016.

he was consecrated bishop in June 1992. It carries a deeply personal meaning that goes back to the time when he, as a young 17 year old teenager, heard the Lord's call. He experienced that call, on the Feast of Saint Matthew in 1953, as the loving hand of God's mercy on his life and responded with generosity in a life consecrated to God in the community of Saint Ignatius of Loyola.

Soon the people of this archdiocese will experience that same generosity of service as the "Pope of Mercy" walks among us to confirm our faith in Christ and bring the message of God's mercy to this land.

Jem Sullivan, Ph.D. is a catechist and author who writes on catechesis and evangelization.

PAPAL VISIT

‘The Light of Faith’

Excerpts from Pope Francis’s encyclical, ‘Lumen Fidei’

Pope Francis issued his first encyclical, *Lumen Fidei* – Latin for “The Light of Faith” – in June 2013, about four months after becoming pope. He noted that the encyclical was meant to supplement Pope Benedict XVI’s encyclical letters on charity and hope. Pope Francis noted, “He himself (Pope Benedict) had almost completed a first draft of an encyclical on faith. For this I am deeply grateful to him, and as his brother in Christ, I have taken up his fine work and added a few contributions of my own.” Following are some excerpts from Pope Francis’s encyclical, “The Light of Faith”...

“The light of Faith: this is how the Church’s tradition speaks of the great gift brought by Jesus. In John’s Gospel, Christ says of himself: ‘I have come as light into the world, that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness’ (*John* 12:46). (*Lumen Fidei*, 1)

“The light of faith is unique, since it is capable of illuminating every aspect of human existence... Faith is born of an encounter with the living God who calls us and reveals his love, a love which precedes us and upon which we can lean for security and for building our lives. Transformed by this love, we gain fresh vision, new eyes to see; we realize that it contains a great promise of fulfilment, and that a vision of the future opens up before us.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 4)

“...When we welcome that word, Jesus Christ the Word made flesh, the Holy Spirit transforms us, lights up our way to the future and enables us joyfully to advance along that way on wings of hope. Thus wonderfully interwoven, faith, hope and charity are the driving force of the Christian life as it advances towards full communion with God.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 7)

“The man of faith gains strength by putting himself in the hands of the God who is faithful.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 10)

“Believing means entrusting oneself to a merciful love which always accepts and pardons, which sustains and directs our lives, and which shows its power by its ability to make straight the crooked lines of our history. Faith consists in the willingness to let ourselves be constantly transformed and renewed by God’s call.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 13)

“Faith is God’s free gift, which calls for humility and the

Turning in prayer to Mary

Pope Francis in his encyclical “The Light of Faith” calls Mary “the perfect icon of faith, and he closes the encyclical with this prayer...

Mother, help our faith!

Open our ears to hear God’s word and to recognize his voice and call.

Awaken in us a desire to follow in his footsteps, to go forth from our own land and to receive his promise.

Help us to be touched by his love, that we may touch him in faith.

Help us to entrust ourselves fully to him and to believe in his love, especially at times of trial, beneath the shadow of the cross, when our faith is called to mature.

Sow in our faith the joy of the Risen One.

Remind us that those who believe are never alone.

Teach us to see all things with the eyes of Jesus, that he may be light for our path. And may this light of faith always increase in us, until the dawn of that undying day which is Christ himself, your Son, our Lord!

courage to trust and to entrust; it enables us to see the luminous path leading to the encounter of God and humanity: the history of salvation.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 14)

“In the love of God revealed in Jesus, faith perceives the foundation on which all reality and its final destiny rest.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 15)

“We ‘believe in’ Jesus when we personally welcome him into our lives and journey towards him, clinging to him in love and following in his footsteps along the way.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 18)

“Christ came down to earth and rose from the dead; by his incarnation and resurrection, the Son of God embraced the whole of human life and history, and now dwells in our hearts through the Holy Spirit.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 20)

“We come to see the difference, then, which faith makes for us. Those who believe are transformed by the love to which they have opened their hearts in faith.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 21)

“Faith becomes operative in the Christian on the basis of the gift received, the love which attracts our hearts to Christ (cf. *Galatians* 5:6), and enables us to become part of the Church’s great pilgrimage through history until the end of the world. For those who have been transformed in this way, a new way of seeing opens up, faith becomes light for their eyes.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 22)

“The truth we seek, the truth that gives meaning to our journey through life, enlightens us whenever we are touched by love.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 27)

“The truth which faith discloses to us is a truth centred on an encounter with Christ, on the contemplation of his life and on the awareness of his presence.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 30)

“By his taking flesh and coming among us, Jesus has touched us, and through the sacraments he continues to touch us even today; transforming our hearts, he unceasingly enables us to acknowledge and acclaim him as the Son of God. In faith, we can touch him and receive the power of his grace.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 31)

“Christian faith, inasmuch as it proclaims the truth of God’s total love and opens us to the power of that love, penetrates to the core of our human experience.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 32)

“The light of love proper to faith can illumine the questions of our own time about truth... the light of faith is an incarnate light radiating from the luminous life of Jesus.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 34)

“God is light and he can be found also by those who seek him with a sincere heart. An image of this seeking can be seen in the Magi, who were led to Bethlehem by the star (cf. *Matthew* 2:1-12). For them God’s light appeared as a journey to be undertaken, a star which led them on a path of discovery... Religious man is a wayfarer; he must be ready to let himself be led, to come out of himself and to find the God of perpetual surprises.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 35)

“Those who have opened their hearts to God’s love, heard his voice and received his light, cannot keep this gift to themselves... The light of Christ shines, as in a mirror, upon the face of Christians; as it spreads, it comes down to us, so that we too can share in that vision and reflect that light to others, in the same way that, in the Easter liturgy, the light of the paschal



CS PHOTO BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

Inside a darkened Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle in Washington, people hold lit candles during the 2015 Easter Vigil.

candle lights countless other candles.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 37)

“Finally, faith is one because it is shared by the whole Church, which is one body and one Spirit. In the communion of the one subject which is the Church, we receive a common gaze. By professing the same faith, we stand firm on the same rock, we are transformed by the same Spirit of love, we radiate one light and we have a single insight into reality.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 47)

“Faith is truly a good for everyone; it is a common good. Its light does not simply brighten the interior of the Church, nor does it serve solely to build an eternal city in the hereafter; it helps us build our societies in such a way that they can journey towards a future of hope.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 51)

“Faith teaches us to see that every man and woman represents a blessing for me, that the light of God’s face shines on me through the faces of my brothers and sisters.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 54)

“At the heart of biblical faith is God’s love, his concrete concern for every person, and his plan of salvation, which embraces all of mankind and all creation, culminating in the incarnation, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 54)

“Christians know that suffering cannot be eliminated, yet it can have meaning and become an act of love and entrustment into the hands of God who does not abandon us; in this way it can serve as a moment of growth in faith and love. By contemplating Christ’s union with the Father even at the height of his sufferings on the cross (cf. *Mark* 15:34), Christians learn to share in the same gaze of Jesus.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 56)

“Faith is not a light which scatters all our darkness, but a lamp which guides our steps in the night and suffices for the journey.” (*Lumen Fidei*, 57)

“As the Son, Jesus brings to the world a new beginning and a new light, the fullness of God’s faithful love bestowed on humanity... The movement of love between Father, Son and Spirit runs through our history, and Christ draws us to himself in order to save us (cf. *John* 12:32).” (*Lumen Fidei*, 59)

PAPAL VISIT

Pope Francis and the Joy of the Gospel

In document, he encourages all Catholics to be missionary disciples in today's world

By Jem Sullivan

In invite all Christians, everywhere...to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this un-faillingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since 'no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord.'"

Pope Francis begins his apostolic exhortation, "The Joy of the Gospel," (*Evangelii Gaudium*) with this personal invitation. The same voice of our chief shepherd and pastor of the universal Church will soon be heard in our midst as the Holy Father walks among the faithful of our Archdiocese of Washington during his pastoral visit to the United States of America.

So as we prepare to welcome Pope Francis to this community of faith we do well to reflect on his words in *Evangelii Gaudium*. There, Pope Francis sets forth, in five chapters, a vision of the new evangelization in a missionary key for the renewal of the Church and the life of every Christian. The Holy Father's vision invites us to a Christ-centered and joy-filled recovery of the innermost vocation of the Church and our common vocation as missionary disciples who go out "to reach all the 'peripheries' in need of the light of the Gospel," offering "to everyone the life of Jesus Christ"

To aid our spiritual preparations in these days of anticipation of the papal visit the following five themes from *Evangelii Gaudium* are offered for our reflection.

1. To God belongs the primacy in evangelization.

Pope Francis calls for a new phase, a fresh chapter in a renewed stage of evangelization. Throughout the Church, says Pope Francis, "let us be permanently in a state of mission." And the starting point for this journey of the Church and of every baptized Christian is nothing less than the infinite love of God revealed in Jesus Christ and continued in the power of the Holy Spirit in the community of the Church.

"An evangelizing community knows that the Lord has taken the initiative, he has loved us first (cf. 1 John 4:19), and therefore we can move forward, boldly take the initiative, go out to others, seek those who have fallen away, stand at the crossroads, and welcome the outcast. Such a community has an endless desire to show mercy, the fruit of its own experience of the power of the Father's infinite mercy." (EG, 24)

An experience of the joy of the Gospel begins with a renewed encounter with God's love. For as Pope Benedict XVI notes, "being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction." In the midst of many challenges we return to the love of Christ and discover a joy that moves us once again to share God's love. We are confident that "no one can strip us of the dignity bestowed upon us by this boundless and unfailing love. With a tenderness which never disappoints, but is always capable of restoring our joy, Christ makes it possible for us to lift up our heads and to start anew...Joy adapts and changes, but it always endures, even as a flicker of light born of personal certainty that...we are infinitely loved."

2. Let the beauty of the saving love of God made manifest in Jesus Christ shine forth.

To share the joy of the Gospel the pope encourages the faithful to focus on the essentials of the Gospel message, "on what is most beautiful, most grand, most appealing, and at the same time most necessary...(so that) the message is simplified, while losing none of its depth and truth." Radiating from the core of the Gospel is "the beauty of the saving love of God made manifest in Jesus Christ...before all else, the Gospel invites us to respond to the God of love who saves us, to see God in others, and to go forth from ourselves to seek the good of others." As



CNS FILE PHOTO BY PAUL HARING

Pope Francis notes, "on the lips of the catechist the first proclamation must ring out over and over: Jesus Christ loves you; he gave his life to save you; and now he is living at your side every day to enlighten, strengthen, and free you." The special place of homilies that are "simple, clear, direct, and well-adapted," is also noted so that preaching "takes up once more the dialogue which the Lord has established with his people." (EG 135-159)

3. We are all missionary disciples belonging to a Church that exists in a missionary key.

"The Church is herself a missionary disciple," notes the Holy Father echoing Pope Paul VI's teaching that the Church is, by her very nature, missionary. Within this community of faith each Christian, by virtue of Baptism, is a missionary disciple. This is the identity of every disciple of Christ. For, "every Christian is a missionary to the extent that he or she has encountered the love of God in Christ Jesus." (EG, 120).

The entire pastoral mission of the Church and the vocation of each disciple is to unfold in a missionary key that opens out to everyone, without exception or exclusion. The Church as a missionary community of bishops, priests, pastors, evangelists, catechists, and the lay faithful are all active participants, each in their own distinct way. Pope Francis desires that all partake of this "missionary option," marked by a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today's world, rather than for her self-preservation." (EG, 27).

4. Meet the many challenges to Christian faith with hopeful realism and evangelical discernment nourished by the light and strength of the Holy Spirit.

There are many cultural and social challenges to the Gospel

today. In place of the "diagnostic overload," that surrounds us, Pope Francis encourages missionary disciples to a different approach, "nourished by the light and strength of the Holy Spirit." Several challenges to faith are identified: attacks on religious freedom, marriage and family, deep seated secularization and rampant relativism whereby objective moral norms are rejected, an economy of exclusion, idolatry of money, economies that rule rather than serve, inequalities that spawn violence, and the lack of an adequately inculturated Gospel.

What then is the source of our courage and conviction as missionary disciples? Pope Francis quotes St. John Paul II's memorable words: "The missionary is convinced that, through the working of the Spirit, there already exists in individuals and peoples an expectation, even if an unconscious one, of knowing the truth about God, about man, and about how we are to be set free from sin and death. The missionary's enthusiasm comes from the conviction that he is responding to that expectation. Enthusiasm for evangelization is based on this conviction. We have a treasure of life and love which cannot deceive and a message which cannot mislead or disappoint. It penetrates to the depths of our hearts, sustaining and ennobling us. It is a truth which is never out of date because it reaches that part of us which nothing else can reach." (EG, 265).

Corruptions and temptations among pastoral workers are also identified: spiritual worldliness marked by self-indulgence, a superior and self-enclosed spirit, selfishness and spiritual sloth, internal warring, a pervasive pessimism, division, calumny, and jealousy within the Christian community. Pope Francis invites all to recover a genuine "missionary spirituality" rooted in renewed relationships brought by Christ. In order to be "successful" evangelizers of souls, we are to resist the temptation to look down on others and to instead "develop a spiritual taste for being close to people's lives and to discover that this is itself a source of greater joy." (EG 268). Throughout his earthly life, Jesus himself is the model of this method of evangelization.

5. God's heart has a special place for the poor.

When Pope Francis visits with the poor in cities across America the social dimension of evangelization, taken up in chapter four of *Evangelii Gaudium*, will come to life in a poignant way. The Holy Father consistently expresses his desire for "a Church which is poor and for the poor." He calls us to "find Christ in them, to lend our voice to their causes, but also to be their friends, to listen to them, to speak for them, and to embrace the mysterious wisdom which God wishes to share with us through them." (EG 198). The Church makes an "option for the poor," the defenseless and the most vulnerable, as a "special form of primacy in the exercise of Christian charity, to which the whole tradition of the Church bears witness." This option is implicit in Christian faith in a God who became poor for us, so we might be enriched with his poverty.

Evangelii Gaudium concludes with a prayer of intercession to Mary, Star of the New Evangelization. Evangelizing is marked by a "Marian style," shaped and guided by the life and heart of Mary. Pope Francis tells us to look to the Mother of God in whom we see that "humility and tenderness are not virtues of the weak but of the strong, who need not treat others poorly in order to feel important themselves...the interplay of justice and tenderness, of contemplation and concern for others, is what makes the ecclesial community look to Mary as a model of evangelization." (EG, 288).

Pope Francis' invitation to become missionary disciples is extended to each one of us. As we reflect on his words and actions during his upcoming pilgrimage to America our response to his invitation can become one more graced opportunity for renewed faith, restored hope, and deep and lasting joy.

(Jem Sullivan, Ph.D., is a catechist and author who writes on catechesis and evangelization.)

PAPAL VISIT

St. John the Baptist Parish finds inspiration in ecology encyclical

Zoey Di Mauro
Catholic Standard

The members of the eco-ministry program at St. John the Baptist Parish in Silver Spring know that care for creation goes much deeper than energy efficient light bulbs and recycling; more than that, they pray that their ministry inspires people to live simply and to see God in nature. As member Dave Pettit put it, “This is not just a problem to be solved, it’s a change of heart that has to happen.”

The pope’s recent encyclical, *Laudato Si’: On Care for Our Common Home*, says that a “change of heart,” in the words of Patriarch Bartholomew, involves replacing “consumption with sacrifice, greed with generosity, wastefulness with a spirit of sharing, an asceticism which ‘entails learning to give, and not simply to give up. It is a way of loving, of moving gradually away from what I want to what God’s world needs.’” Spiritual insights like those are what excites eco-ministry member Arlene McGarrity.

“I think all the practical pieces of earth care are in [*Laudato Si’*], but also the spiritual basis,” she said. “It’s easy to come to the notion that the earth is here for us to use. But if we begin to think of all creation as a manifestation of God, what’s our relationship with it? ...And once you start thinking about that, deeply, it gives you reason to have a different kind of relationship than you had before.”

Pettit said his greatest take-away from the encyclical was the sense that creating a better relationship with the environment involves unity among all peoples. “What it says was refreshing, [that] you don’t want to run over other people in order to fix this problem. You need to have everybody together... and that’s going to require a lot of talking, a lot of changing of minds in some cases, a lot of compromises,” he said.

At their own parish, the ministry has made it a priority to encourage “talking” through weekly statements in the bulletin, having a booth at their monthly community Sundays

and by encouraging their priests to include messages in homilies about care for creation. In response to *Laudato Si’*, the group along with the parish’s adult formation team is holding a series of eight discussions on the document, using the Archdiocese of Washington’s related parish resources, found online at adw.org/creation-resources. Their “talk” is backed up with frequent action, including planting trees on Arbor Day, and cleaning up New Hampshire Avenue. “You would not believe the stuff that we find,” said Bill Dinges, a professor of religious studies at The Catholic University of America and the founder of the eco-ministry team.

As they work on the micro level, McGarrity noted she was heartened to see that many more Catholics and people around the country were getting involved, like the Archdiocese of Chicago, which recently became the first diocese in the United State to monitor its buildings’ energy usage, water consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. “Just think if all the dioceses did that? Not only would it be good for the environment, it would also be good for the parishes because it would conserve our resources,” she said. Though the scale of the problem and the solution is great, said Pettit, “It’s given me something else to pray for. I’ve come to realize how integral this is to what God intended for us.”

Dinges believes that this encyclical is an important way the Church is responding to one of the moral crises of the day. “Over the last 120 some years, going back to Leo XIII’s *Rerum Novarum* (an 1891 encyclical on the rights and duties of capital and labor), we were reminded as Catholics to read the signs of the times, to pay attention to what’s going on in the world,” he said. Dinges notes that the Church is here to remind Catholics and all others that the ecological crisis is not simply a public policy or a scientific problem, but one that has moral dimensions as well. “One of the important things that religion and our faith tradition can bring to that circumstance is a sense of hope, a sense that something can be done,” he said.



Pope Francis offers prayers for creation

Catholic News Service

Leading prayers for the safeguarding of creation, Pope Francis prayed that people would learn to contemplate God in the beauty of the universe, give thanks and protect all life.




During an evening celebration of the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, the pope prayed that God would “enlighten the lords of power and money so they would not fall into indifference, but would love the common good, encourage the weak and care for the world in which we live.”

The pope announced last month that the Catholic Church would join the Orthodox Church in marking the prayer day Sept. 1 each year.

In his opening prayer, he asked God to fill people with a desire “to protect every life, to prepare a better future so that your kingdom of justice, people, love and beauty would come.”



Although the pope led the service in St. Peter’s Basilica, he asked the preacher of the papal household, Capuchin Father Raniero Cantalamessa, to give the homily.

**POPE FRANCIS,
“WE WALK WITH YOU”**


*The Clergy and Faithful of the
Lower Prince George’s County Deanery*

Saint Bernardine of Siena, Suitland	Saint Mary of the Assumption, Upper Marlboro
Saint Ignatius, Oxon Hill	Saint Mary’s, Piscataway
Holy Family, Hillcrest Heights	Mount Calvary, Forestville
Holy Family, Mitchellville	Saint Philip the Apostle, Camp Springs
Saint John’s, Clinton	Holy Rosary, Rosaryville

*Dearest Holy Father,
Pope Francis
Welcome to the United States!*

*Thank you for bringing the joy
of the gospel to our land!
We love you and are praying for you.*



*St. John Neuman Parish,
Gaithersburg MD.*

PAPAL VISIT

'On Care for Our Common Home'

Excerpts from Pope Francis's encyclical on ecology, *Laudato Si'*

(Pope Francis issued his second encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, on Care for Our Common Home, in May 2015. Following are some excerpts from Pope Francis's encyclical on ecology.)

“*LAUDATO SI', mi' Signore* – ‘Praise be to you, my Lord.’ In the words of this beautiful canticle, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us.” (*Laudato Si'*, 1)

“The urgent challenge to protect our common home includes a concern to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change... I urgently appeal, then, for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all.” (*Laudato Si'*, 13, 14)

“Each year hundreds of millions of tons of waste are generated, much of it non-biodegradable, highly toxic and radioactive, from homes and businesses, from construction and demolition sites, from clinical, electronic and industrial sources. The earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth.” (*Laudato Si'*, 21)

“Climate change is a global problem with grave implications: environmental, social, economic, political and for the distribution of goods. It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day. Its worst impact will probably be felt by developing countries in coming decades. Many of the poor live in areas particularly affected by phenomena related to warming, and their means of subsistence are largely dependent on natural reserves and ecosystemic services such as agriculture, fishing and forestry.” (*Laudato Si'*, 25)

“The human environment and the natural environment deteriorate together; we cannot adequately combat environmental degradation unless we attend to causes related to human and social degradation. In fact, the deterioration of the environment and of society affects the most vulnerable people on the planet... Today, however, we have to realize that a true ecological approach always becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.” (*Laudato Si'*, 48, 49)

“Nature is usually seen as a system which can be studied, understood and controlled, whereas creation can only be understood as a gift from the outstretched hand of the Father of all, and as a reality illuminated by the love which calls us together into universal communion.” (*Laudato Si'*, 76)

“Our insistence that each human being is an image of God should not make us overlook the fact that each creature has its own purpose. None is superfluous. The entire material universe speaks of God's love, his boundless affection for us. Soil, water, mountains: everything is, as it were, a caress of God.” (*Laudato Si'*, 84)

“Everything is connected. Concern for the environment thus needs to be joined to a sincere love for our fellow human beings and an unwavering commitment to resolving the problems of society... Everything is related, and we human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage, woven together by the love God has for each of his creatures and which also unites us in fond affection with brother sun, sister moon, brother river and mother earth.” (*Laudato Si'*, 91, 92)

“Whether believers or not, we are agreed today that the



CS PHOTO BY MICHAEL HOYT

earth is essentially a shared inheritance, whose fruits are meant to benefit everyone. For believers, this becomes a question of fidelity to the Creator; since God created the world for everyone.” (*Laudato Si'*, 93)

“Our relationship with the environment can never be isolated from our relationship with others and with God.” (*Laudato Si'*, 119)

“Once we start to think about the kind of world we are leaving to future generations, we look at things differently; we realize that the world is a gift which we have freely received and must share with others.” (*Laudato Si'*, 159)

“Beginning in the middle of the last century and overcoming many difficulties, there has been a growing conviction that our planet is a homeland and that humanity is one people living in a common home. An interdependent world not only makes us more conscious of the negative effects of certain lifestyles and models of production and consumption which affect us all; more importantly, it motivates us to ensure that solutions are proposed from a global perspective... A global consensus is essential for confronting the deeper problems, which cannot be resolved by unilateral actions on the part of individual countries. Such a consensus could lead, for example, to planning a sustainable and diversified agriculture, developing renewable and less polluting forms of energy, encouraging a more efficient use of energy, promoting a better management of marine and forest resources, and ensuring universal access to drinking water.” (*Laudato Si'*, 164)

“The Church does not presume to settle scientific questions or to replace politics. But I am concerned to encourage an honest and open debate so that particular interests or ideologies will not prejudice the common good.” (*Laudato Si'*, 188)

“The majority of people living on our planet profess to be believers. This should spur religions to dialogue among themselves for the sake of protecting nature, defending the poor, and building networks of respect and fraternity. Dialogue among the various sciences is likewise needed... The gravity of

the ecological crisis demands that we all look to the common good, embarking on a path of dialogue...” (*Laudato Si'*, 201)

“There is a nobility in the duty to care for creation through little daily actions, and it is wonderful how education can bring about real changes in lifestyle. Education in environmental responsibility can encourage ways of acting which directly and significantly affect the world around us, such as avoiding the use of plastic and paper; reducing water consumption, separating refuse, cooking only what can reasonably be consumed, showing care for other living beings, using public transport or car-pooling, planting trees, turning off unnecessary lights, or any number of other practices. All of these reflect a generous and worthy creativity which brings out the best in human beings. Reusing something instead of immediately discarding it, when done for the right reasons, can be an act of love which expresses our own dignity.” (*Laudato Si'*, 211)

“An integral ecology includes taking time to recover a serene harmony with creation, reflecting on our lifestyle and our ideals, and contemplating the Creator who lives among us and surrounds us...” (*Laudato Si'*, 225)

“We must regain the conviction that we need one another, that we have a shared responsibility for others and the world...” (*Laudato Si'*, 229)

“Love, overflowing with small gestures of mutual care, is also civic and political, and it makes itself felt in every action that seeks to build a better world.” (*Laudato Si'*, 231)

“The universe unfolds in God, who fills it completely. Hence, there is a mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person's face.” (*Laudato Si'*, 233)

“God, who calls us to generous commitment and to give him our all, offers us the light and the strength needed to continue on our way. In the heart of this world, the Lord of life, who loves us so much, is always present. He does not abandon us, he does not leave us alone, for he has united himself definitively to our earth, and his love constantly impels us to find new ways forward. Praise be to him!” (*Laudato Si'*, 245)

PAPAL VISIT

Archdiocesan YouTube channel to air creative videos promoting papal visit

By Zoey Di Mauro
Catholic Standard

For her submission to the Archdiocese of Washington's YouServe video contests, a woman from Columbus, Ohio, decided to complete all seven of the corporal works of mercy in one month: giving drink to the thirsty by passing out water at a charity run, caring for the sick by making her mom food when she caught a virus, and caring for the homeless by volunteering at a shelter, among others.

"It's very easy for me to take for granted all the blessings I have been given, but when I stop to show mercy to my brothers and sisters in Christ, I am able to delve deeper into God's love for us all," she said in her video submission, which was picked by the archdiocesan staff to be showcased on their YouTube channel "WashArchdiocese." The winners of the contest, who will win tickets to the papal Mass in Washington and their choice of an iPad Air 2 or a GoPro HERO 4, will also have their videos on the channel. (The contest winners were to be announced after this edition of the Catholic Standard went to press.)

But the channel features more than just YouServe videos. In one made by the archdiocese's digital media team, Father Mario Majano from our Lady of Sorrows Parish in Takoma Park gets a little carried away while conducting DC Papal Visit focus group interviews in an interrogation spoof. "Wait a minute, I'm the one asking the questions here, ok?" he said,



CS PHOTO BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

The Archdiocese of Washington's multimedia office is producing several videos promoting Pope Francis's upcoming visit, including one showing a Lego pope and popemobile.

when a young woman asked if his parish had grown as a result of the "Francis effect?"

Videos like this one, meant to be a creative and humorous way of catechizing, will be released on the YouTube channel "WashArchdiocese" before the pope's visit, said Christopher Baker, the archdiocesan director of multimedia production. One video has a sitcom style complete with a laugh track,

while another uses Legos of the pope and Vatican City for a younger audience. Still another is "man on the street video" where a priest brings a Pope Francis cutout to downtown Washington. "We start with the pope, but it's kind of getting to where people are at [in their faith journey]," said Baker.

To watch these videos and others, visit www.youtube.com/user/WashArchdiocese/videos

Popemobile route to be announced

Tickets are required for the Papal Mass and for Pope Francis's other scheduled events in Washington during his Sept. 22-24 visit to the nation's capital.

Public viewing opportunities of Pope Francis in his popemobile will be announced later this week on the Archdiocese of Washington's papal visit website at walkwithfrancis.org/visit and also through the archdiocese's social media, and on the *Catholic Standard's* website at cathstan.org

Shirley Seyfried

NATIONAL REGENT

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PAPAL VISIT

Walking the Walk with Francis

Parishes and schools take Walk with Francis Pledge in variety of ways

By Zoey Di Mauro
Catholic Standard

During Masses on the weekend of Sept. 5-6, members of parishes across the Archdiocese of Washington took the Walk with Francis Pledge to honor Pope Francis's upcoming visit to the nation's capital. Students at Catholic schools have also begun taking the pledge. Here are some examples of the many thousands of people who have taken the Walk with Francis Pledge:

- **Holy Redeemer Catholic Church** in Washington walking with Francis by studying his ecology encyclical *Laudato Si'* as a parish over the next couple of weeks after Sunday Mass.
- Kate Abbott and her husband, parishioners at **St. Vincent De Paul Parish** in Washington, walked with Francis by picking up trash on the beach.
- Different grades at **Little Flower School in Great Mills** choose different ways to Walk with Francis. Fourth graders there have pledged to help people who are having trouble, and to pick up trash. Sixth graders are pledging to do one nice act for a different



CS PHOTO BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

For their Walk with Francis pledge, seventh graders from Our Lady of Victory School in Washington – from left to right, Tadhg Martinez, Greyson Kiondo, Garrett Joldersma and Samantha MacPherson – make sack lunches for the homeless served by Friendship Place. person each day. First graders have pledged to “Walk with Francis” by praying the Our Father everyday. Second graders are pledging to

“Walk with Francis” by acting like the school’s patroness, St. Therese, and doing small acts of kindness every day. Fifth graders are pledging

to “Walk with Francis” by more fully participating in all forms of prayer here at school and by starting a school garden.

- **St. Vincent de Paul Parish** in Washington tweeted- “Pray for Mary & Eric who will #WalkwithFrancis in a big way today - they are getting married @dePaulDC!”
- Students at **Holy Cross School in Garrett Park** made cards and prayed for the students at Holy Cross in Ghana.
- **Georgetown University** challenged all the campus ministries to Walk with Francis. Georgetown’s Jewish community will be hosting a film and a series of events on the environment, and the Muslim community there will “continue to be a voice for women all over the world,” said Imam Yahya Hendi.
- Vivian Richards from the **Academy of St. Matthias in Lanham** is walking with Francis by packing meals for struggling citizens at the AARP event “A Celebration of Service” on 9/11 to honor the fallen.

(To take the Walk with Francis Pledge, go online to walkwithfrancis.org or on social media to #WalkwithFrancis.)

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PAPAL VISIT

Upcoming papal visit spurs efforts to share faith

By Zoey Di Mauro
Catholic Standard

Fast the vendors selling jewelry and henna tattoos, past colorful stands offering chocolate covered bananas and funnel cakes, past brightly lit rides and across from stalls of goats and other barnyard animals, the volunteers from St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Derwood were flipping patties.

This year, the pope's visit is bringing extra opportunities of evangelization for the church, which runs a food stand at the annual Montgomery County Agricultural Fair, held in August in Gaithersburg. Under their banner, displaying St. Francis with outstretched arms, stood a life-size cutout of Pope Francis and a stack of papal door hangers, announcing the parish's Mass times and inviting people to come to future picnics and talks.

Find out if the Pope Francis cutout is coming to your area by following the Archdiocese of Washington on its social media accounts and searching #FrancisFridays for clues.

"The Holy Father talks about the New Evangelization, going out to the margins, and here we are!" said Father John Dillon. Ever since the Archdiocesan Synod, the parish has been looking for ways to evangelize and strengthen their community. "I was brainstorming with Deacon Dan (Finn), and the door hanger is a wonderful opportunity to make ourselves known," he said. In addition, the parish will soon implement a "Joyful Greeter Program" to welcome people at the Masses, and have an information desk.

On a sunny Friday afternoon at a busy pedestrian intersection in downtown Silver Spring, shoppers and restaurant goers walked by a life-size cutout of Pope Francis. "I thought that it was real!" said one woman in surprise. Sarah Yaklic and Daphne Stubbolo, both from the Archdiocese of Washington's Office of Digital Media, stood by the pope and asked people if they would like to pledge to walk with him.

Though many ignored the cutout, or simply appeared bemused, others approached the sign and asked to take a picture. One man walked up to the Pope Francis cutout and gave him a thumbs up



CS PHOTOS BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

Pierre Thompson hands out Pope Francis door hangers to people on a recent evening. He and other members of the Shrine of the Sacred Heart in Washington participated in an evangelization effort near the Columbia Heights Metro Station.



A group of Capitol Hill interns pose together with a life-sized cardboard cutout of Pope Francis during a #FrancisFridays evangelization effort carried out by the Archdiocese of Washington's Office of Digital Media.



A young man takes a "selfie" with a cardboard cutout of Pope Francis during a "#FrancisFridays" event at Union Station.

before walking away. For those willing to listen, Yaklic would explain that the pledges of service, action, and prayer would be collected into a book that will be given to Pope Francis as he ministers to the poor at Catholic Charities in Washington. "I got goose bumps just listening to that," one woman responded.

A week later, the cutout was placed in front of the bustling Union Station in Washington. A young man in a suit and carrying luggage saw it, and asked when and where the pope was coming. "I'm an Anglican, but I'm heading to visit my Catholic friends at UVA (the University of Virginia)," he said before snapping a picture with the faux pope. A large group of interns from Capitol Hill took a picture, as well as a woman who had attended an all-girls, Catholic school in Africa as a child. One man talked to Stubbolo about his admiration of the pope. "If you had to use one word to describe him, what would it be?" she asked. "Cool," he said.

After spending some time in Adoration, parishioners and priests from the Shrine of the Sacred Heart in Washington hit the streets. "Evangelization is not something that Catholics traditionally do, but I think that person to person contact [is] how you make connections and plant the seed and help faith grow," said Lovancy Ingram, an adult parishioner whose parents were married at the Shrine of the Sacred Heart, which she attended as a child.

She and a few others gathered around a nearby water fountain, where little kids splashed one another under the setting sun. As they passed out papal door hangers with the Mass schedule and information on the sunrise Mass at Sacred Heart during the pope's visit, Ingram played songs on her violin, including "This Little Light of Mine."

Others like Pierre Thompson, a lector and Eucharistic minister for the parish, stood outside the Columbia Heights Metro station. "I know that when I first moved into the neighborhood, I lived two blocks down from the church, but it took me more than a month to figure out that there was a Catholic church two blocks away," he said. "I think it's important for our church to be present in the community."

PAPAL VISIT

Catholic schools begin to Walk with Francis

By Zoey Di Mauro
Catholic Standard

Even before the start of the school year on Aug. 31, the teachers of the Academy of St. Matthias the Apostle in Lanham were preparing to lead the school in the Walk with Francis Pledge by living it out themselves. As the sun rose on Aug. 28, six members of the faculty and staff prepared a hot breakfast for those in need through Catholic Charities' St. Maria's Meals van, parked outside a 7-Eleven in Wheaton. "We're part of a Catholic community," said Shannon Norris, the technology teaching, speaking on why they decided to volunteer. "That's why we signed up to be Catholic school teachers."

Abigail Greer, the principal of St. Matthias, said, "Today we are up a little earlier than we normally would be, but it's a nice day for us to come together to model what we want our students to do." Every Friday morning, the van serves an average of 167 meals with the help of volunteers; that morning, members of St. Camillus Parish in Silver Spring as well as others joined the St.



CS PHOTOS BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

On their first day of classes, students at Our Lady of Mercy School in Potomac take a pledge together to Walk with Francis by praying and serving those in need. Students wrote their names on blue footprints that were attached to a banner to signify that they would be walking with the pope by carrying out the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

Matthias volunteers to make it happen. "Everyday we get to serve with families in need in a hands on way and

teach children how to serve others and pray," said Greer. "It's nice that Francis is the catalyst for this [movement], but we're lucky enough to get to do it every day."

Vivian Richards, the director of admissions, enrollment and advancement at the school, said she came with the faculty because she believes strongly in people helping one another. "I'm doing my Walk with Francis in service to people. [The recipients] are out here every day trying to get work, and they sometimes don't know where their next meal is going to come from," she said. Her hope is that the pope's visit will inspire more people to care for their neighbors. "I think [Pope Francis] wants to bring communities together, he wants us to unite, mostly in God's grace," she said.

On the first day of classes

at Our Lady of Mercy School in Potomac, the children met their new principal, Debbie Thomas; and their new pastor, Father Bill Byrne; and they pledged to take the Walk with Francis. Each student wrote the pledge on a blue footprint-shaped cutout, which they glued onto a banner. The whole school then gathered outside the building. "St. John (the Evangelist School in Silver Spring)—we challenge you!" they shouted to the video camera, before being sprinkled with holy water.

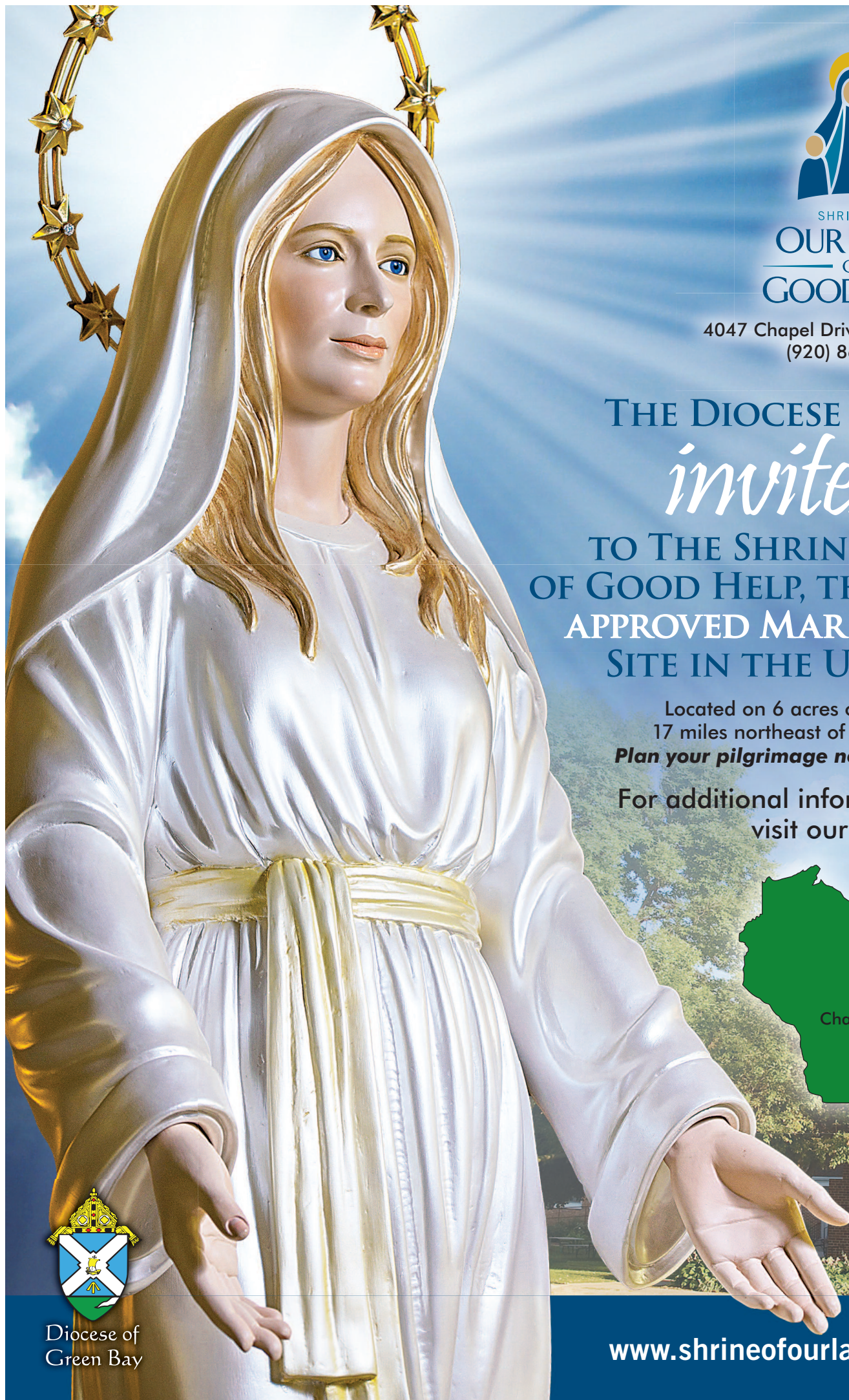
As they headed inside to finish the last few minutes of the first day, each child was handed a reminder of the pledge – a blue footprint cookie, baked by the retired school librarian, Gail Roddy. As a school, they pledged to do service monthly service projects such as playing

basketball with members of the Special Olympics, making breakfast for residents of homeless shelters through Catholic Charities' Cup of Joe program, and spending time with the elderly residents of the Byron House, an assisted living facility adjacent to the school property. Even with school guidance, "the most important thing that they can do is [living out the pledge] on their own," said assistant principal Frank English.

As the oldest students at Our Lady of Mercy School, the eighth graders plan on leading the other students in their Walk with Francis. "His mission is to help others, and I really like that," said eighth grader Ellie Brewer. Her classmate Henry Sullivan added, "I like how he's a leader for our Church, and he's a big role model."



Teachers and staff from the Academy of St. Matthias the Apostle in Lanham, including Julie Kelly (at left) and Vivian Richards (center) carry out their Walk with Francis Pledge by volunteering with Catholic Charities St. Maria's Meals van, serving breakfast to day laborers in Wheaton.



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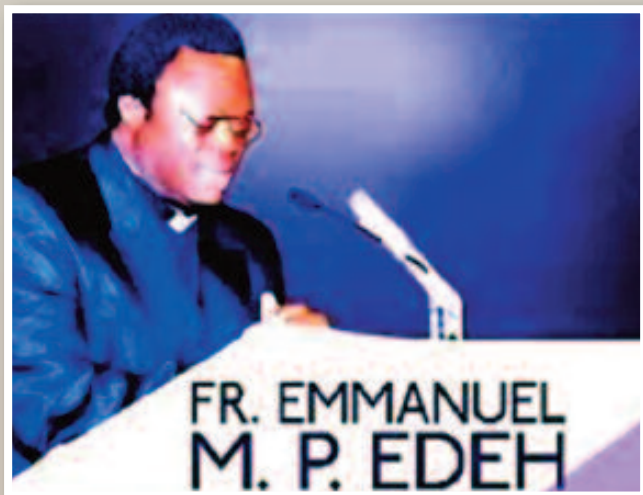
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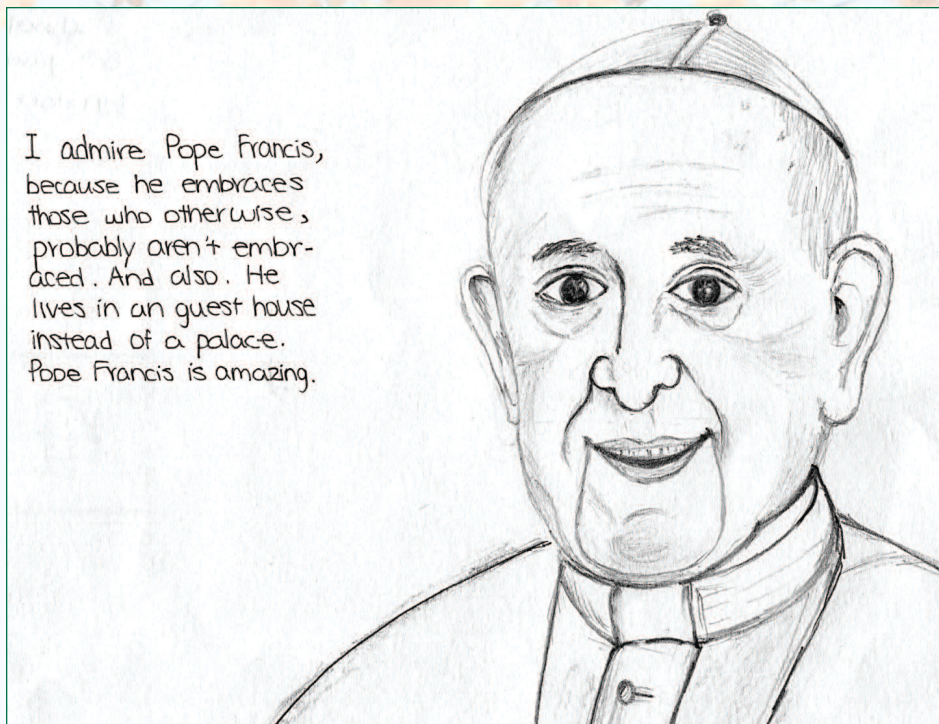
Rochas Okorochoa, the Nigerian youth free education ambassador and an emerging African leader, join the people of America to congratulate His Holiness, **Pope Francis**, the champion of servant-leadership principles in the modern era, on the occasion of his first visit to the USA.



Father Emmanuel M.P. Edeh, the founder of Saviorite priests and religious, Caritas and Madonna Universities, as well as the champion of global peace, join the people of America to congratulate His Holiness, **Pope Francis**, the exemplary servant-leader of the 21st century, on the occasion of his first visit to the USA.

FP

What I admire about Pope Francis

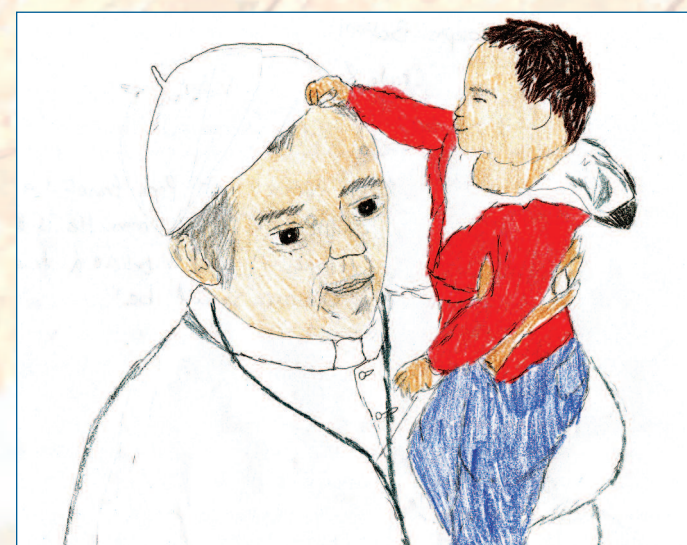


Linxiao Gu, sixth grade, St. Bartholomew School, Bethesda

Alex Soler, sixth grade, St. Andrew Apostle School, Silver Spring



Sophia Mcfillin, third grade, Cardinal Hickey Academy, Owings



Gabrielle Hernandez, eighth grade, St. Joseph Regional Catholic School, Beltsville



Ricardo Guerrero, seventh grade, St. Joseph Regional Catholic School, Beltsville



Sierra Fowler, eighth grade, St. Mary School, Bryantown



Zoe DeArmas, fourth grade, Holy Redeemer Catholic School, Kensington



Maddie Carrino, eighth grade, St. Mary School, Bryantown

"I admire Pope Francis... He is holy because he is all about God. The pope is up to date with Twitter. He is cool." – Margaret Ruble, seventh grade, Our Lady Star of the Sea School, Solomons

"The thing I admire the most about Pope Francis is that he is very honest and straightforward. He always tells the people what they need to hear to grow in faith, not necessarily what they want to hear." – Peyton Dziekiewicz, sixth grade, Our Lady Star of the Sea School, Solomons

"What I admire about Pope Francis is that when he was archbishop of Buenos Aires, Pope Francis was known to sneak out at night to break bread with the homeless. He would sit with them in the street and

eat with them, just to let them know someone cares." – Catherine Oldfield, fifth grade, St. Pius X Regional School, Bowie

"The thing that I admire most about Pope Francis is that he wants to be with the crowd and not far away from us." – Mariah Murray, fifth grade, St. Pius X Regional School, Bowie

"I like Pope Francis because of his smile. His smile is so sweet and kind. It also inspires me to do the right thing." – Alexander Rorke, fifth grade, St. John School, Hollywood

"I admire Pope Francis because he said this: 'The world tells us to seek success, power and money. God

tells us to seek humility, service and love.'" – Cole Remington, fourth grade, Holy Redeemer School, Kensington

"I admire you (Pope Francis), because you teach us to love God." – Jadison Peters, second grade, St. John School, Hollywood

"I am very excited because Pope Francis is coming to Washington, D.C., to talk to the U.S. Congress about human rights and economic justice. I like him because he travels a lot around the world to teach people about God and talk about his ideas. I also admire him because he is very popular and is not afraid to express his feelings and ideas." – Alex Cheesebrew, fourth grade, St. Mary School, Bryantown

"When Pope Francis went to the Philippines, he didn't care if it was raining outside. He went outside and greeted the people and said a Mass. What I admire about pope Francis is that he didn't care what the weather was, he would still help the people in need." – Gillian Cayabyab, seventh grade, St. Mary School, Bryantown

"I admire Pope Francis's generosity with himself and his time. He embraces those who are shunned or turned away like the sick or the poor, immigrants and prisoners. Just like Jesus, he touches the untouchable. 'God will judge us upon how we have treated the most needy.' – Pope Francis, July 8, 2013." – Aidan Hanley, third grade, St. Mary School, Bryantown

NEXT ISSUE

For the October issue of Junior Saints, draw a picture and write about what you or your classmates did to take the "Walk with Francis" pledge, and explain why. Please send your drawings and writings by Sept. 14 to:

Junior Saints
P.O. Box 4464 • Washington, DC 20017

Please print or write your name clearly on your work, and include the name of your parish or school and your grade.

PAPAL VISIT

The view from Rome

Washington priests, seminarian reflect on witnessing Pope Francis firsthand in Rome

Walking the walk

(Father Conrad Murphy, one of nine new priests ordained by Cardinal Wuerl for the Archdiocese of Washington in June, got to witness the beginning of the papacy of Pope Francis while studying at the Pontifical North American College in Rome. He will return there at the end of September for further studies, after serving as a parochial vicar pro-tem at St. Pius X Parish in Bowie. In an email, he offered the following reflection on Pope Francis.)

Pope Francis has been a tremendous example to me of how to be a priest. I was really blessed to be in the middle of my seminary formation in Rome during his election. It was an incredibly exciting time, and being in Saint Peter's Square and seeing the white smoke was such a joy!

"But the most memorable part was his tremendous humility. He asked us to pray for him and bowed down as we prayed in silence. The whole square, filled with hundreds of thousands of people was silent in prayer. It was a powerful experience of the Holy Spirit.

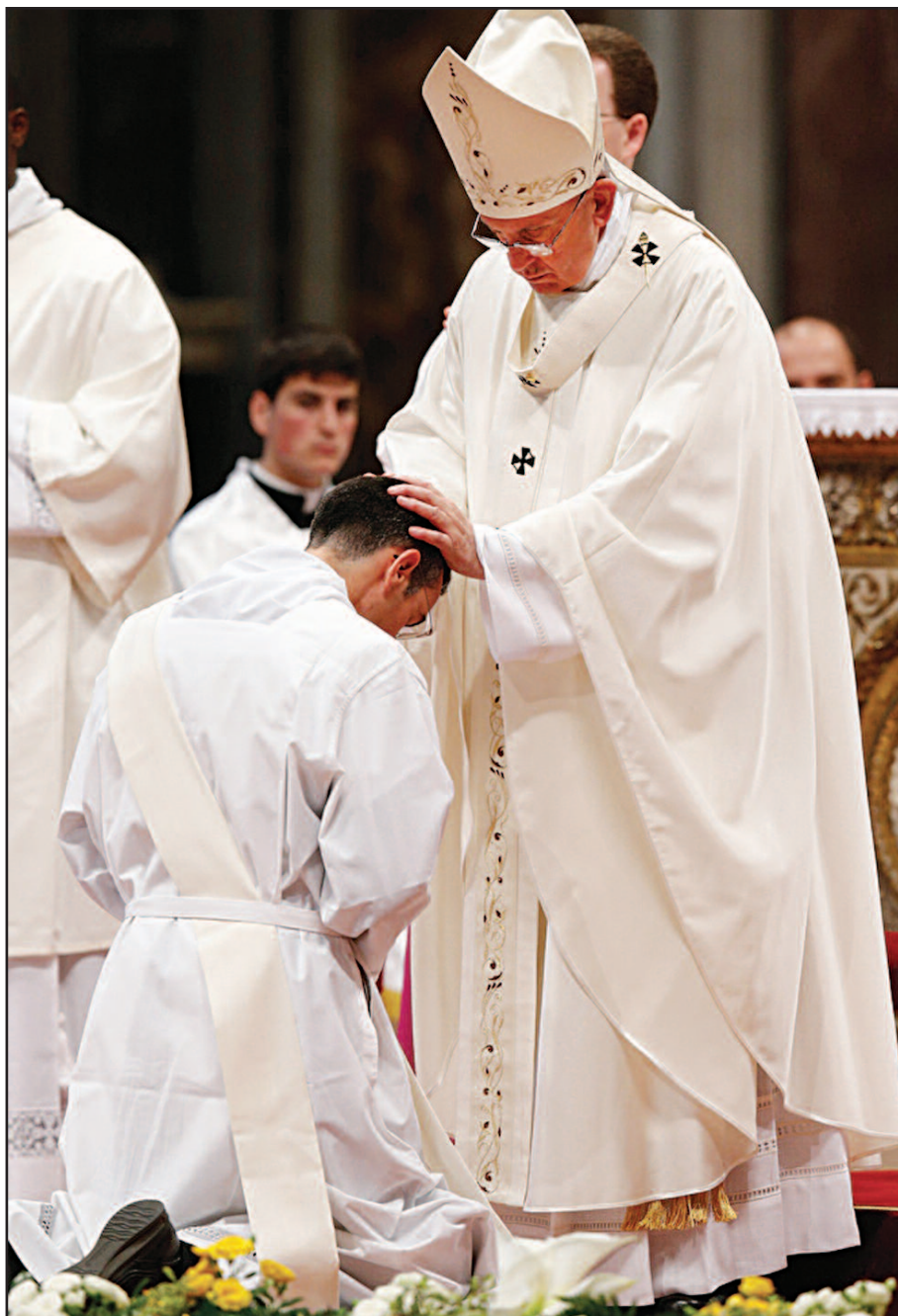
"As my seminary time went on, his insistence on radically living out the Gospel, of giving yourself entirely to Jesus and his people, was an incredible inspiration! And now as a priest, what a challenge: To truly live out Christ's Gospel, to show his mercy to his people, and to walk the walk like Pope Francis does every day! He has taught me so much already, and I look forward to trying to follow his example each day as a priest."

'Truly a shepherd'

(Robert Boxie III, a seminarian of the Archdiocese of Washington, returned to Rome last week to begin his fourth year of theology. In an email, he wrote about Pope Francis's impact on his life.)

To me, Pope Francis has been truly a shepherd in every sense of the word. He is calling all of us to go beyond ourselves, to get out of our comfort zones, and to truly meet people where they are and take them exactly as they are. He emphasizes so much in his writings and his homilies the importance of being in relationship, first with God and with our neighbor, and he actually puts this into practice. He gives us a concrete model of how to live out the great commandment of love today.

"I suspect this is why he is so popular worldwide – he practices what he preaches. People see a holy and a humble man who is trying to make this world a better place through the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. His authenticity and genuineness in preaching the Gospel message is fresh and new, especially in a world that hungers for real love and authentic relation-



CNS PHOTO BY PAUL HARING

Pope Francis ordains one of 19 new priests in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican this past April. In his homily, the pope told the new priests to make sure their homilies were not boring.

ships – what Facebook and Twitter and Instagram can never provide. And this is his challenge to priests, religious, and seminarians: to be that authentic witness of the Gospel message and put it into action by 'being Christ' to all those whom we encounter.

"I also find his preaching to be simple, accessible, and straightforward, but with a profound depth that really challenges you to go a little bit further than before. I really do like how he sometimes makes me feel uncomfort-

able because I should never be satisfied where I am. I should always be striving to do better, to love more, to work harder, and to continue to conform myself to Christ.

"I had the great privilege of serving a holy hour with Pope Francis at the beginning of my second year at the NAC in St. Peter's Square in September 2013. The pope called an impromptu Day of Prayer for Peace in the Middle East (when the US, the UN, and other nations were on the verge of taking military action in

Syria). I was one of the candle bearers for the Eucharistic procession and was probably about 30 feet from Pope Francis. Being in his presence was pretty incredible and memorable. I felt that Pope Francis had the weight of the world on his shoulders, to pray for divine intervention to prevent a situation from becoming catastrophic.

"As soon as the Eucharist came out, the entirety of St. Peter's Square fell silent. There were at least half a million people present, and you could have heard a pin drop. It was eerily silent (especially with the square full of people), but so intensely prayerful at the same time. It seemed that time had stopped and that the whole world was being offered up in prayer to the Father – all of us united together as one humanity. The following week, the US, the UN, and the other nations decided not to pursue military action. The prayers worked, and I was blessed to have been a part of such an experience with the pope."

Living the 'Joy of the Gospel'

(Father Alec Scott, another of the new priests ordained by Cardinal Wuerl for the Archdiocese of Washington in June, is serving as a parochial vicar pro-tem at the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Washington, and this fall he will return to the Pontifical North American College in Rome to continue his studies. In an interview with the Catholic Standard before his ordination, he reflected on what he admired about Pope Francis. The following remarks are excerpted from that earlier interview.)

"I was there when they announced his name, and he stepped out on the balcony," Father Scott said. "It was an amazing, amazing experience."

Father Scott said he has been especially inspired by the substance of what the new pope is saying, which he said is exemplified in the pontiff's apostolic exhortation, "The Joy of the Gospel."

"That's sort of the game plan for his papacy. We need to be showing the world... the joy of Christ and show them how transformative the presence of Christ is in our lives," Father Scott said, noting how the work of the two most recent popes flows together. Pope Benedict, he said, "opened the Gospel for us in his prayerful insights. Pope Francis shows us it's equally important, that lived experience of the Gospel."

Pope Francis, he added, "gives the model" for priests to proclaim and live the truths of the faith, by sharing the joy of the Gospel and Christ's love with their people.

"We have to be willing to reach out to people and meet them with a loving, pastoral heart, whatever situation they're in. I'm tremendously humbled to be able to step into this role," Father Scott said.

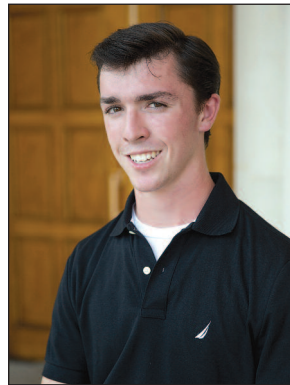
PAPAL VISIT

Young adults reflect on papal visit

“[My hope for the pope’s visit is] that people come together more, that you won’t have communities anymore where someone says, ‘Oh that person’s a different color from me so I’m not going to care about them,’ or ‘That person is poor so I’m not going to care about them.’ I hope that people are inspired and take something positive away from this visit.”



– Lovancy Ingram, parishioner of Shrine of the Sacred Heart, Washington



“I believe he brings a lot of energy to the Church, and that’s what the Church needs right now. He gets a lot of young people excited and that’s the future of the Church, so it’s important to keep them energized... Just seeing other young people in there makes it feel better to be part of the Church.”

– Thomas Doyle, sophomore at The Catholic University of America

“I’m so excited for the Holy Father’s visit to the United States. He’s not afraid to talk about hard issues, he doesn’t shy away from anything and that’s not a reflection on previous popes. [With his encyclical *Laudato Si’*] people now know that the Church has something to say about the environment. [I] pray that the message he is trying to convey to the American people will get across to us through the media.”

– Emily Latif, Washington, D.C intern and student at the University of Dallas

“I like that he’s inspiring us to push ourselves way outside of our comfort zone, especially in ministry. Being Christ-like is being willing to go to that fringe and reach out to people. Spiritually I would say he’s impacted me because he very obviously sees Christ in people. It’s one thing to minister to people, but it’s another thing to walk with people. And when you see Christ in them, then you can interact with them in a different way... you’re more willing to sacrifice yourself for them.”



– Cassidy Stinson, a second theology seminarian at Theological College

“I love that he has the name Francis, honestly. I just love Pope Francis’s take on all of that, how even he tries to live poverty in his own life, even though he’s the pope. [After reading one of his writings in theology class] it helped encourage me to reach out and be more a part of my faith.”

– Julianne Hyrcza, sophomore at The Catholic University of America



“He’s finding ways to attract a lot of positive attention back to the Catholic Church and he’s addressing a lot of issues of the day, like climate change... Him going into the jails and washing the prisoner’s feet was such a monumental thing to do, right away after he became the pope. It kind of stopped the world in tracks, for just a second. It made them realize the Catholic Church is actually a force for good in the world, and we have a lot to say.”

– Jonathan Christ, member of Immaculate Conception Parish, Washington

“I think that this pope is different in that he’s much more willing to engage the public in conversations about important policies, with his address to Congress being a prominent example. He inspires me through his way of encountering people and ...his ability to appeal to almost everyone, including non-Catholics. His sense of humility, and understanding of different people and different cultures is something I definitely strive for.”



CS PHOTOS BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

– Pierre Thompson, parishioner of Shrine of the Sacred Heart, Washington

To learn more about Young Adult Ministry in the Archdiocese of Washington, visit that office’s website at DCCatholic.org, like DCCatholic on Facebook, and follow @DCCatholic on Twitter.

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PAPAL VISIT

Pope Francis inspires people of all faiths, says interfaith leader

By Richard Szczepanowski
Catholic Standard

Pope Francis's Sept. 22-24 visit to Washington is important to people of other faiths because the pope "in both word and deed has already had a profound impact on members of other faith traditions," said the director of the InterFaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington (IFC).

"The Pope's unique combination of personal humility, pastoral care, and prophetic witness on behalf of the most vulnerable calls people of faith from all traditions to aspire to bring greater healing into our broken world," said Rabbi Gerald Serotta, the IFC's executive director.

Founded in 1978, the InterFaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington is a coalition of 11 faith communities – Baha'i, Buddhist, Hindu, Islamic, Jain, Jewish, Latter-day Saints, Protestant, Roman Catholic, Sikh and Zoroastrian – that work together to promote interreligious dialogue and understanding.

Rabbi Serotta said that Pope Francis's recent encyclical on the environment "Laudato Si'" ("Praise Be to You"), is "one specific example" of how the pope's message has resonated with other faiths.

"We see that the values of 'Laudato Si'" have already found an echo in a recent call for creation care by Muslim scholars from around the world," the rabbi said.

Pope Francis, in his apostolic exhortation "Evangelii Gaudium" ("Joy of the Gospel") has called for "(interreligious) dialogue, ever friendly and sincere," because "dialogue can enrich each side." (no. 251)

"Interreligious dialogue is a necessary condition for peace in the world, and so it is a duty for Christians as well as other reli-



gious communities," the pope wrote in that document. (no. 250)

"In this way we learn to accept others and their different ways of living, thinking and speaking," the pope wrote. "We can then join one another in taking up the duty of serving justice and peace, which should become a basic principle of all our exchanges." (no. 250)

In honor of Pope Francis's visit to this city, the IFC has joined its annual "Walk DC" with the Archdiocese of Washington's Walk With Francis Pledge campaign. The archdiocesan initiative invites people to serve others in their community – through prayer and learning about the faith; through charitable service to others; through taking action to spread the Gospel in families, workplaces and public policy – and then share their pledge on social media.

The IFC's "Walk DC 2015" will be held Sept. 27 along Embassy Row in Washington. Various faith communities will host open houses and share their religious traditions through music, art, service, and food. The theme is "from different

paths, we walk as one."

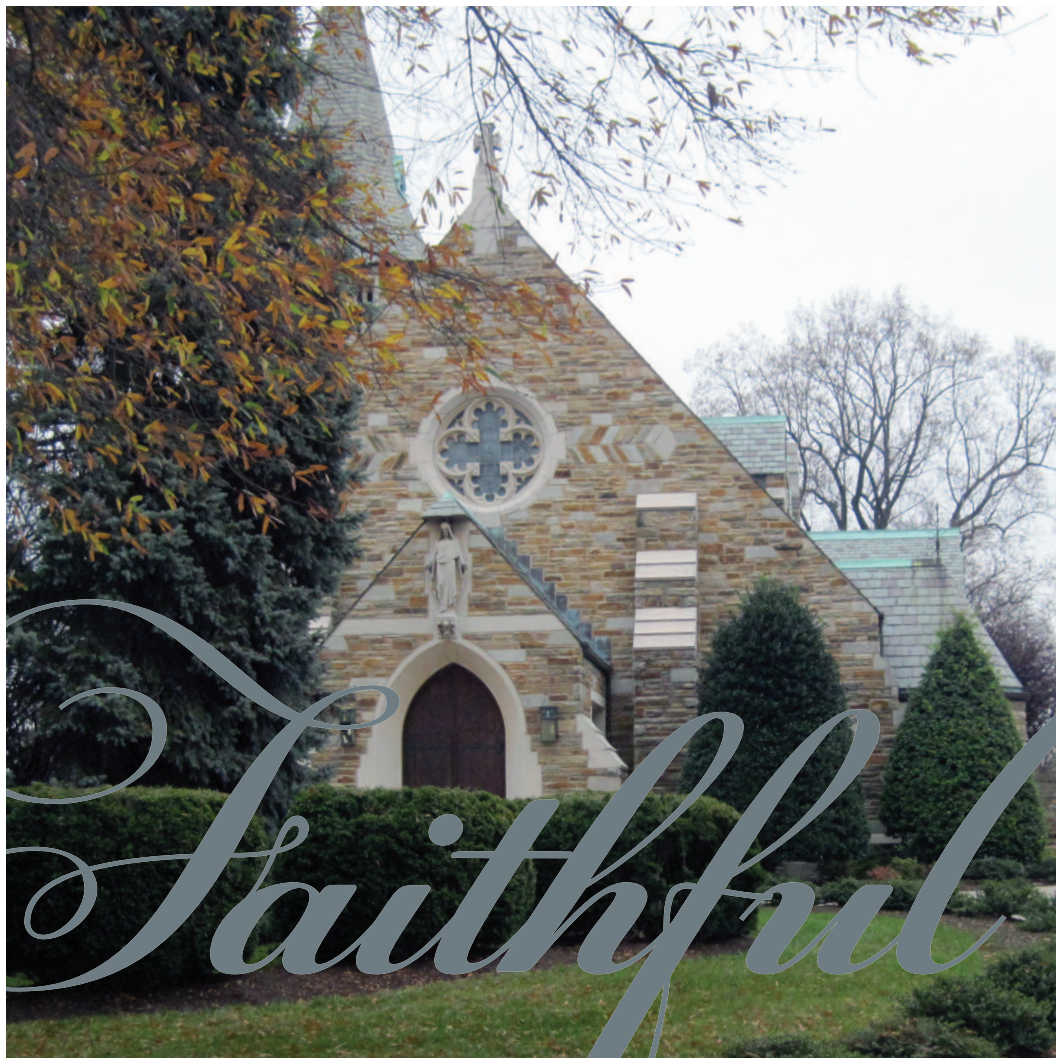
"The Walk DC is a registered event of the Walk with Francis campaign, as an act that promotes tolerance and a commitment to the common good," said Meghan Mulvenna, one of the organizers of Walk DC 2015. "Pope Francis continues to be an inspiration to many across the globe, as his calls to conscience and action relate to the hearts of people, around quality of life matters which affect us all."

As part of Walk DC 2015, the parishioners of the Church of the Annunciation and the members of its young adult group will host a gleaning project, where 8,000 pounds of potatoes will be bagged and delivered to soup kitchens around the city.

Walk DC 2015 begins with an opening ceremony at 1:30 p.m. at the Washington Hebrew Congregation, 3935 Macomb St. N.W., and concludes with a 4:30 p.m. closing ceremony at the Islamic Center, 2551 Massachusetts Ave., N.W. For more information, visit <http://ifcmw.org>.

Rabbi Serotta noted that Pope Francis's visit here comes just one month before the Vatican document "Nostra Aetate" ("In Our Time") turns 50 years old. The document – which outlines the relation of the Catholic Church with other faith traditions – was promulgated by Pope (now Blessed) Paul VI on Oct. 28, 1965.

Because this is the 50th anniversary of "the landmark document which describes the Church's foundation for inter-religious dialogue," Rabbi Serotta said, "so particularly this year members of other faith traditions are eager for words of inspiration (from Pope Francis) that can enhance not only dialogue but also opportunities to extend those words into action on behalf of God's children, living on God's increasingly vulnerable earth."



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PAPAL VISIT

‘One family and one faith’

Archdiocese’s diverse Hispanic Catholic community is united in language, faith and love of family

By Richard Szczepanowski
Catholic Standard

When Cardinal Donald Wuerl announced in June that Pope Francis would visit the Archdiocese of Washington Sept. 22-24, he made mention of the “huge, vibrant and significant population” of Hispanic Catholics that is “a big and welcome part of this archdiocese.”

Washington Auxiliary Bishop Mario Dorsonville, a native of Colombia, said he sees the truth of the cardinal’s statement every time he visits a predominately Spanish-speaking parish.

“The churches are full – and they are full with a lot of young faces and a lot of children. We worship God with a sense of happiness and a sense of joy that is vibrant,” Bishop Dorsonville said.

Bishop Dorsonville, who has been a priest for the Archdiocese of Washington since 1999 and who was named an auxiliary bishop of this archdiocese last March, has the primary responsibility of ministering to the estimated 280,000 Catholics of Hispanic descent in the archdiocese.

“With joy and music and a sense of celebration and worship, there is in this archdiocese a very committed immigrant Catholic community that continues to live its faith with a real commitment to the teaching of Jesus Christ,” the bishop said.



CS PHOTO BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

Bishop Mario Dorsonville gives Communion to a young girl at the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle during a July 27 Mass celebrating the 194th anniversary of Peru’s independence.



CS PHOTO BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

In this file photo, the faithful gather to celebrate the feast of El Salvador’s patron saint, “El Divino Salvador del Mundo,” at a procession and Mass held in the Crypt Church at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. This special yearly Mass honors Salvadoran culture and traditions.

The archdiocese has nearly 40 parishes that serve Spanish-speaking Catholics from 21 countries. The bishop noted that the Hispanic Catholic community in this archdiocese is diverse and includes “those who have been here a long time and those who have just come here. There are some who are very wealthy and some who are very poor.”

“One of the most beautiful things I see here in the United States is that everyone comes to the church without distinction of education or wealth,” he said. “Everyone is comfortable coming together to the same church.”

Bishop Dorsonville said that Spanish-speaking Catholics take pride in forging a Hispanic Catholic community.

“We are diverse, but most importantly, what makes us the same is one language, one religion and one experience – which is walking away from our countries to come here,” Bishop Dorsonville said. “The ‘Hispanic’ name, no matter what country we come from, makes us feel like brothers and sisters walking in a new nation with common cultural values.”

“We don’t forget our lands, but we focus on being one family and one faith. There is a lot of diversity, but we are very connected and we enrich each other,” he said. “What we look at as Catholics is our unity – we are one Church, we are universal.”

Bishop Dorsonville said that while the Hispanic Catholic community is diverse, there are commonalities that are shared within the community regardless of a person’s country of origin.

“We see life as a joyful celebration and we have a very particular devotion to family life and extended family life,” he said. “The sense of friendship, family and love is extremely important to the structure of Hispanic faith because it brings

us closer to the presence of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. Why? Because God is a member of our family.”

Another hallmark of Hispanic Catholic faith, “is our very strong devotion to Our Lady,” Bishop Dorsonville said. “She is the one who reminds us there is nothing more important than belonging to a family. Our Lady will always be our mother and the mother of our brother, Jesus Christ.”

Bishop Dorsonville said that the local Hispanic Catholic community “is very excited” by the pending visit of Pope Francis.

“He comes from our lands, our hemisphere,” he said. “He comes to us with the same knowledge and the same cultural background as we do, and therefore, his preaching is preaching to our hearts.”

When Pope Francis celebrates his historic canonization Mass Sept. 23 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate, he will offer it in Spanish.

“He is a pope who not only speaks our language, but who is one of us,” the bishop said. “He uses the same colloquialisms we do. He will connect with young people who speak his language.”

Bishop Dorsonville said that “Latin Americans and Hispanic Catholics have always loved the Holy Father no matter who he is, but we see Pope Francis as a man who shares our experience and understands our families and our challenges.”

“The Holy Spirit has been generous to us because with Pope Francis we can see in his face the that faces of the people who taught us our faith,” he said. “And he is the voice of the Church who can challenge us to live a Christian life, to be in solidarity with the poor, and to be aware of the challenges we face in this world.”

PAPAL VISIT

The Pope who Tweets the Gospel

By Sarah Yaklic
Special to the Standard

Tweeting in nine languages, to more than 22 million followers, in messages of 140 characters or less, Pope Francis brings the joy of the Gospel to life across the digital highways. Challenging cultural norms and a heavy secular influence, Pope Francis

calls us to embrace silence, to step out of our comfort zones, to create a bold cultural revolution where tenderness and kindness replace impatience and greed.

Sounds like a bold ask for a sound bite, but people are responding with great energy! In fact, Pope Francis has joined the ranks of tech-savvy celebrities and has been named the most influential leader on



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Twitter, gaining between 7,000-9,000 retweets for each tweet he sends.

Why is it that people are so captivated by his tweets? While I can't speak for the world, I can speak from my own experience. I'm hungry for truth. I'm ready to be challenged, to be motivated to make our world a better place – whether through silent prayer or direct action. I'm in search of that deep peace that only comes from the merciful heart of the Father. I desire more than a sound bite and believe that life is experienced in its most full sense when we take the opportunity to sit back and experience all of the gifts before us. And from what I've heard, there are many of you who feel the same!

How can you embrace the digital culture and live out Pope Francis's call to be a missionary disciple today? Here are my recommendations:

1. Follow Pope Francis on Twitter (@Pontifex) and make it your daily practice to see what he shares.

2. Reflect on his words. Put away the mobile device and invite the Holy Spirit to open your heart so you can hear all that God is waiting to speak to you.

3. Share your reflection. Follow his example and be a joyful missionary, sharing with at least one person how God is working in your life.

As Pope Francis has said, "All it takes is one good person to restore hope!" Let Pope Francis be that person in your life and you be that for others.

(Sarah Yaklic is the director of digital media for the Archdiocese of Washington. She tweets personally from @DMediaMission and from the archdiocese @WashArchdiocese.)

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PAPAL VISIT

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

Basilica to host Pope Francis's Sept. 23 Canonization Mass for Blessed Junípero Serra

- The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception located at 400 Michigan Ave., N.E., in Washington, D.C., is the largest Roman Catholic church in the United States and is one of the 10 largest churches in the world.

- The basilica is the nation's pre-eminent Marian shrine, dedicated to the patroness of the United States, the Blessed Virgin Mary, under her title of the Immaculate Conception.

- In 1913, Pope Pius X approved plans for the building of a national shrine in the United States, and its cornerstone was laid in 1920. The first Mass there was celebrated in 1924. The shrine's Crypt Church was completed two years later, and its Great Upper Church superstructure, delayed by the Depression and World War II, was dedicated in 1959.

- Over 70 chapels and oratories – including to Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Mother of Africa, and Our Lady of Vietnam – have been added to the National Shrine, dedicated by various ethnic groups and religious communities, showing the devotion that American Catholics from different cultures, traditions and ethnic backgrounds have to Mary.

- On Oct. 7, 1979, Pope John Paul II became the first-ever reigning pope to visit the National Shrine, and eleven years later, he elevated it to the status of a minor basilica.

- On April 16, 2008, Pope Benedict XVI visited the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on the first full day of his apostolic journey to the United States. He



BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION/PHOTO BY ROBERT ISACSON

presided over solemn vespers and addressed the bishops of the United States in the Crypt Church.

- On Sept. 23 at the Basilica of the National Shrine, Pope Francis will celebrate a Mass of Canonization for Blessed Junípero Serra – the famous 18th century Spanish Franciscan missionary to California. The Great Upper Church's sacristy, where Pope Francis will vest before the Mass, includes a stained glass window of Junípero Serra, and he is also represented in a mosaic on the East Portico of the basilica, where Pope Francis will celebrate the outdoor Canonization Mass.

- Open 365 days a year, the Basilica of the National Shrine receives an estimated one million visitors annually.

- The basilica's exterior includes its Great Dome, which towers over the skyline of northeast Washington, D.C., along with its 329-foot-tall Knights Tower, a gift of the Knights of Columbus.

- Adjoining the Basilica of the National Shrine is The Catholic University of America, which holds its annual commencement exercises on the eastern side of the basilica. The Basilica of the National Shrine also hosts the opening school year Mass for the CUA community. The congregation for Blessed Serra's Canonization Mass will be seated at the CUA Mall next to the basilica.

- For more information on the Basilica of the National Shrine, go to www.nationalshrine.com.



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CATHOLIC STANDARD

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The official newspapers of the Archdiocese of Washington.

PAPAL VISIT

Craftsmen putting finishing touches on altar for papal Mass at National Shrine

By **Richard Szczepanowski**
Catholic Standard

Painters have begun the detailed task of putting the intricate finishing touches on the altar Pope Francis will use when he celebrates the Sept. 23 canonization Mass of Blessed Junípero Serra at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Made of wood but crafted to look like marble, the altar requires a faux finish that artisans must painstakingly apply by hand. The altar was constructed by Deacon Dave Cahoon, the carpenter who also built the altar Pope Benedict used at his 2008 Mass at Nationals Park. Deacon Cahoon was assisted in building the altar by his employee Carlos Hernandez, and by Doug Fauth, a carpenter in Frederick who also constructed the chairs for the Papal Mass.

"It's an honor," is how painter David Donor described his feel-

ings of working on the papal altar. He also called it "a lot of fun."

Donor and his co-worker, Santiago Sanchez, have been working up to 12 hours a day to meticulously apply the acrylic paint.

Donor, a Catholic from Southern Maryland, said that the finishing work began at the end of August, and after about 60 hours of work, only about one-quarter of the altar was completed.

He added that the painting is taking place in the narthex of the shrine so that he and Sanchez can exactly match the veining of the travertine marble in the shrine's columns. He said that matching the marble takes five coats of paint.

The altar is being crafted to match the marble at the National Shrine, because it will become a permanent fixture there once the canonization Mass is over. The altar – which weighs about 1,000 pounds – was not made of marble so that it would be easier to move. The pope will celebrate the Mass

outside on the shrine's east portico, and the altar will be moved inside after the Mass.

Ariadne Cerritelli, a 24-year-old resident of Bethesda and a member of St. Jane de Chantal Parish, watched as Donor and Sanchez plied their art. She and Matthew Hoffman and Joseph Taylor – all students of the The Catholic University of America's School of Architecture and Planning – were the winners of the competition to design the altar, ambo and chair that Pope Francis will use at the Mass.

"This is so much better than my vision," Cerritelli said as she gave her seal of approval to Donor's and Sanchez's work. "I'm speechless at the faux paint – it looks just like the real thing."

Donor, who will attend the papal Mass, said that as he watches the Holy Father celebrate Mass at the altar he helped create, "I will think this is just amazing, unbelievable. I am really honored."



CS PHOTO BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN
Painter David Donor applies a faux marble finish to the altar that Pope Francis will use when he celebrates the Sept. 23 canonization Mass of Blessed Junípero Serra at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.



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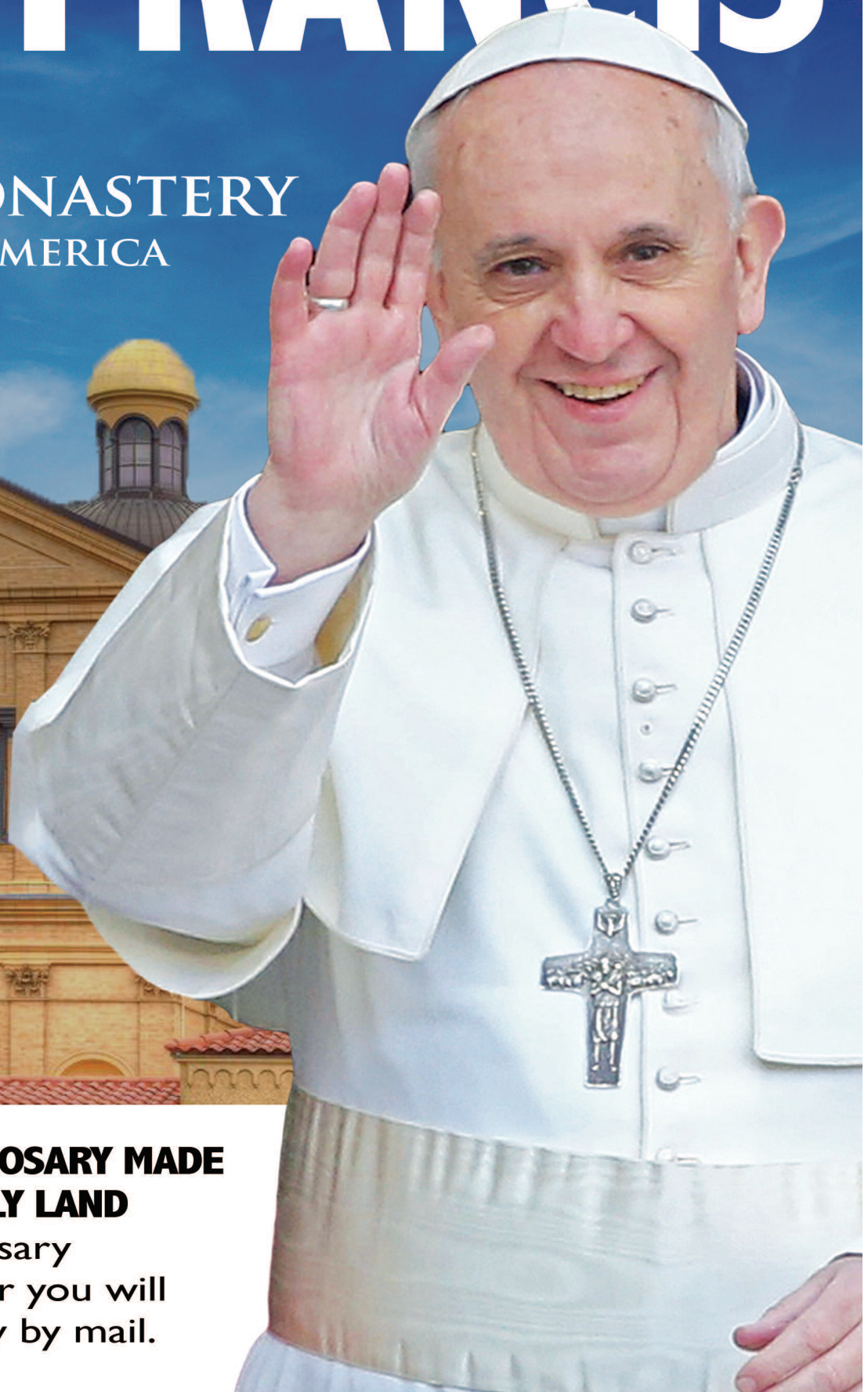
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PAPAL VISIT

Preview of Pope Francis's Canonization Mass for Blessed Junípero Serra

By Zoey Di Mauro
Catholic Standard

On Sept. 23 at the east portico of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Pope Francis will celebrate a Canonization Mass for Blessed Junípero Serra, the famous 18th century Spanish Franciscan missionary to California.

The Sights

A beautiful tapestry of Blessed Junípero Serra hanging from the outer wall of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and an altar, ambo and other furnishings designed by architectural students from The Catholic University of America will help to create the sanctuary of the papal Mass held on Sept. 23, said Father Mark Knestout, a priest of the Archdiocese of Washington who is serving as co-chairman of the papal visit liturgical planning committee.

The priest, who serves as pastor of St. Bartholomew Parish in Bethesda, noted that at canonizations in Vatican City, there is a long-standing tradition of hanging the tapestry of the soon-to-be saint from St. Peter's Basilica. This tapestry, based on a stained glass window depiction of Blessed Junípero Serra in the sacristy of the National Shrine, features him at one of the missions he founded on the coast of California, and the one he is buried at, San Carlos Borromeo de Carmelo.

At the liturgy, 265 bishops and 900 priests will be wearing vestments of white, the traditional color for celebrating solemnities of the Church, said Father Knestout. Those in the sanctuary will be wearing vestments commissioned for the papal Mass and designed by Cardinal Wuerl, based on



CNS PHOTO BY PAUL HARING

Pope Francis elevates the Eucharist as he celebrates Mass on the feast of Corpus Christi in Rome. At a Sept. 23 Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, the pope will canonize Blessed Junípero Serra.

the coat of arms of the Archdiocese of Washington. An estimated 25,000 people are expected to attend the Mass, and the congregation will be seated on Catholic University's mall adjoining the National Shrine. About 200 deacons will serve as ministers of Communion; they hope to distribute the Eucharist in about 15 minutes, he said.

Before the Mass, vendors will be selling food as well as religious items and papal souvenirs.

The Sounds

The faithful gathered at the Mass can expect to hear music from the Papal Choir, the Intercultural Choir, the Gospel Choir, The Catholic University of America Choir and the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Choir. The Mass will be primarily in Spanish, the language of both the Holy Father and Blessed Junípero Serra. However parts of the canonization will be in Latin, as it is the language of the Church, said Father Knestout. The first reading from *Isaiah* will be read in the Californian Native American language of Chochenyo, as a tribute to the history of America, said Father Knestout. The prayers of the faithful will be read in six different languages including American Sign Language and Tagalog.

The Canonization

The canonization of Blessed Junípero Serra will take place during the Mass after the entrance hymn and before the first reading. The congregation will join the choirs in singing "Veni Creator Spiritus (Come Holy Spirit)" followed by a brief biography of Blessed Junípero Serra. After the litany of the saints, the pope will decree Blessed Junípero Serra a saint. In the absence of the cardinal who heads the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, Cardinal Wuerl will fulfill that role in the ceremony. Both the postulator and two vice postulators, those who have been promoting the cause of Blessed Junípero Serra's sainthood, will be present.

After he is declared a saint, the descendant of a Native American who was converted to Catholicism by Blessed Junípero Serra will process to the sanctuary carrying a reliquarium, which was commissioned by the Franciscans—the order of Blessed Junípero Serra. Pope Francis will end the canonization ceremony with a prayer.

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PAPAL VISIT

Papal Mass Choir sings together for the first time

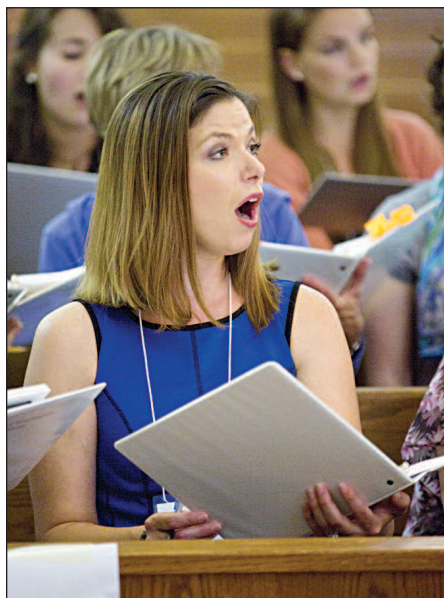
By Zoey Di Mauro
Catholic Standard

An opera singer, a Benedictine monk, a college student and a health policy adviser are just four members of the 90-voice choir that rehearsed for the first time at St. Mark the Evangelist Church in Hyattsville on Aug. 24. After hundreds of people from music ministries at their parish or religious community auditioned, these men and women from around the Archdiocese of Washington were chosen to create the beautiful harmonies that will elevate the liturgy of Pope Francis's Mass outside the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Sept. 23, when he canonizes Blessed Junipero Serra, the famous 18th century Spanish Franciscan who established missions along the coast of California.

"A bunch of people who've never met each other have one purpose: [to] really put their heart into the music," said Jourdan Richard, a sophomore at the University of Maryland at College Park. "...What an amazing way to serve God."

As rehearsal began that evening, however, there were few signs that the choir was hindered by their inexperience singing as a group.

"No one would ever believe you haven't sung together—it's just beautiful," said Tom Stehle, the director of the Archdiocesan Papal Mass Choir and the principal director of music ministries for the entire Papal Mass. On that Monday evening, Stehle—a full-time music minister for more than 30 years who serves as the pastoral associate for liturgy and the director of music ministries at the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle in Washington—stood in front of the altar conducting the choir while reading the



Colleen Daly, one of the choir members, sings at the first Papal Mass Choir rehearsal on Aug. 24 at St. Mark the Evangelist Church in Hyattsville.



CS PHOTOS BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

Members of the Papal Mass Choir rehearse for the first time on the evening of August 24 at St. Mark the Evangelist Church in Hyattsville. After men and women involved in music ministry at their parish or religious community auditioned, 90 were selected.

prayers of the faithful. Accompanied by the piano, the choir sang together for the first time with soaring voices, "Lord, Hear Our Prayer," and then words repeated in Latin and Spanish.

The archdiocesan Papal Mass Choir is just one of the five choirs that will be singing at the Mass, held on the lawn of The Catholic University of America, facing the east portico of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, where Pope Francis will preside at an altar designed by CUA students. But this choir has the specific role of leading the worship of all the Mass-goers, from the hymns to responses within the liturgy. "What I'm thrilled about, and I know that there are multiple choirs—we get to lead the congregation in the liturgy, and I think that's really special," said Roy Ramthun, the health policy maker from St. John the Baptist Parish in Silver Spring.

Music from the choirs, the Catholic University orchestra and the Washington Symphonic Brass will begin before 3 p.m. and continue until the start of the Mass at 4:15 p.m., said Stehle. As all the bishops arrive, the entire assembly will be invited to sing the hymn, "All Creatures of Our God and King," which quotes the text of St. Francis of Assisi. As the pope arrives, the bells of the shrine's tower will ring out, and the choir will be chanting in Latin: "You are Peter and upon this rock I will build my church." Other songs either before or during the Mass include two by Argentinian composer Pablo Sosa, a setting of Aaron Copland's "Simple Gifts" and a Central

American piece composed around the time of Blessed Junipero Serra.

"[We tried] to get a bit of the diversity... for the first papal visit by a pope who took the name Francis," Stehle said of the first Latin American pope, who earlier served as the archbishop of Buenos Aires. The "particular focus of his pontificate has been on mercy, and on the dispossessed and disenfranchised. All of that is combined into what is both uniquely an American and yet universally Catholic response," said Stehle. The choirs include a gospel and intercultural choir, as well as the chamber choir from Catholic University and the Choir of the Basilica.

Musically speaking, many of the Papal Mass Choir members have done it all. "I've sung at the Kennedy Center, at St. Matthew's Cathedral, the National Cathedral... I toured Germany with the Washington Bach Consort," said Ramthun. "[They] have all been thrilling experiences, but this is going to top them all... this is really an opportunity to marry the music and your faith, and to sing for the most recognized leader in the Christian world," he said.

Before joining the schola at St. Anselm's Abbey in Washington, Benedictine Brother Ignacio Gonzalez sang in a mariachi band in Austin, Texas, and played the alto saxophone and clarinet in the Marine Corps Band, and was the director of music for the Spanish Mass at St. James Parish in Falls Church, Virginia, for 10 years. "It was really a labor of love," he said of dedicating all his Sunday afternoons to the ministry. "I didn't want to get before God and He'd say, 'Well,

I gave you this talent, what did you do with it?'"

Chorister Colleen Daly has performed opera in Annapolis, Baltimore and Syracuse, and has even sung in front of Vice President Joe Biden, but on Sundays she can be found in the choir at Immaculate Conception Parish in Washington. When her husband, also a singer, found out about the Papal Mass Choir auditions, they jumped at the opportunity to be able to sing together, said Daly. "We both think Pope Francis is pretty awesome," said Daly. Additionally, "I have a 14-month-old at home so this is date night built-in for a month," she said.

A week and half before the papal Mass, all the choirs and orchestras will gather together for a seven-hour dress rehearsal, said Stehle, who also directed the music for Pope Benedict XVI's 2008 Mass at Nationals Park. Though the endeavor takes a massive amount of time and energy from hundreds of people, he said, "I have not yet asked for help from someone who has not been thrilled to cooperate, even if [his or her] participation will never be known by anyone else. It's a real tribute to the Church and I think the love of this Pope."

He hopes the music at the papal Mass will help people be able to pray deeply, and well. "To me, that would be success—if everyone who was there felt that the music touched their heart in a natural way so that song inside them could come out," he said.

As Brother Ignacio noted, "There's nothing to fear when we open our hearts to God...especially in song."

PAPAL VISIT

Pope defends Blessed Serra, prays for missionary zeal in Americas

By **Cindy Wooden**
Catholic News Service

People seem to enjoy finding the shortcomings of candidates for sainthood like Blessed Junípero Serra, but they should ask themselves if they would have his generosity and courage to leave everything behind to care for the poor and bring them the Gospel, Pope Francis said.

Visiting the Pontifical North American College, the U.S. seminary in Rome, Pope Francis insisted Blessed Serra fits into a host of saints who shaped the history and culture of the Americas, particularly by spreading Christianity, caring for the poor and defending the oppressed.

The pope's Mass May 2 with 250 seminarians from more than 100 U.S. dioceses, as well as Australia and Canada, came at the end of a symposium on Blessed Serra organized by the seminary, the Pontifical Commission for Latin America, the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and the Knights of Columbus.

Although the college is on the Janiculum Hill overlooking the Vatican, Pope Francis' was the first papal visit to the campus since

1980, when St. John Paul II went.

Pope Francis is scheduled to canonize Blessed Serra, the 18th-century Spanish missionary to California, during his September trip to the United States. "This meeting at your college and around the eucharistic table is a beautiful and meaningful introduction to my apostolic trip to the United States of America," he told the students, staff, bishops and cardinals at the Mass.

Pope Francis noted how missionaries in the 16th century had preached the Gospel across what is now the southern and southwestern United States from Florida to California. "This was long before the pilgrims of the Mayflower reached the North Atlantic coast," he noted.

While critics have claimed Blessed Serra was part of a system that destroyed native cultures and that he abused Native Americans at his missions, Pope Francis said Blessed Serra, like other Catholic missionaries in the Americas, "defended the indigenous peoples against abuses by the colonizers."

Referring to the Franciscan missionary as "Fra Junípero," Pope Francis said the Spaniard was motivated by a desire to share the Gospel with the indigenous peoples of the Americas.

"He was filled with joy and the Holy Spirit



CS PHOTO BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

This mosaic of Blessed Junípero Serra is located on the east portico of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Pope Francis will canonize the 18th century missionary at a Sept. 23 Mass at the National Shrine at an altar near the mosaic.

in spreading the word of the Lord," the pope said. "Such zeal excites us, it challenges us!"

People study the lives and works of the missionaries, he said. They look at their strengths and, unfortunately, especially "their weaknesses and their shortcomings."

"But I wonder if today we are able to respond with the same generosity and courage to the call of God, who invites us to leave everything in order to worship him, to follow him, to rediscover him in the face of the poor, to proclaim him to those who have not known Christ and, therefore, have not experienced the embrace of his mercy," the pope said.

The witness of Blessed Serra, he said, is a call for all Catholics to get personally involved in missionary activity across the Americas, motivated by "the joy of the Gospel."

Referring to Blessed Serra as "one of the founding fathers of the United States" – his missions were settlements that grew into some of the major cities of what is now the state of California – Pope Francis said the Franciscan is a reminder of the important role the Spanish had and their descendants continue to have in the U.S. Catholic community.

Blessed Serra is part of a long line of holy men and women who preached and lived the Gospel of charity in the Americas, he said, listing two dozen male and female saints who

ministered everywhere from Canada to Chile. He included the indigenous "humble workers in the vineyard of the Lord, like Juan Diego and Kateri Tekakwitha," as well as "martyrs like Roque Gonzalez (a Jesuit killed in Brazil in 1628), Miguel Pro (a Mexican Jesuit killed in 1927) and Oscar Arnulfo Romero," the assassinated archbishop of San Salvador, who is scheduled to be beatified May 23.

"There has been holiness in America – much holiness," Pope Francis said. "May a powerful gust of holiness sweep through all the Americas during the coming extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy"

Pope Francis, the first pope from the Americas, prayed that "the life of our American continent may be rooted ever more deeply in the Gospel it has received; (and) that Christ may be ever more present in the lives of individuals, families, peoples and nations, for the greater glory of God."

"We pray, too, that this glory may be manifested in the culture of life, brotherhood, solidarity, peace and justice, with a preferential and concrete love for the poor," he said.

As is customary, Pope Francis asked the congregation at the college to pray for him and he entrusted his Strip to Cuba and the U.S. to the protection of "Our Lady of Guadalupe, Fra Junípero and all the American saints."

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PAPAL VISIT

Canonizing Blessed Serra

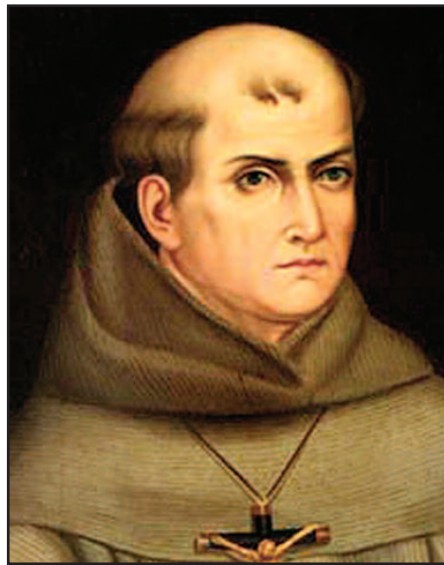
Speakers say missionary's example should spur today's Catholics to share their faith with others

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

Defining Blessed Junípero Serra as a "working-class missionary," Los Angeles Archbishop Jose H. Gomez said the 18th-century Franciscan deserves to be made a saint and to have his record as a defender of native peoples made known.

Pope Francis' announcement that he will canonize Blessed Serra in September "has opened old wounds and revived bitter memories about the treatment of Native Americans during the colonial and missionary period of America's history," the archbishop said.

Speaking at Rome's Pontifical North American College, Archbishop Gomez said the legacy of Blessed Serra, who founded nine California missions, has been



CNS PHOTO

Blessed Junípero Serra in an undated painting. His canonization is Sept. 23.

"distorted" by "anti-Spanish and anti-Catholic propaganda."

"Sometimes it seems like scholars and activists have made Father Serra a symbol for everything they believe was wrong with the mission era," he said, and it prevents people from appreciating "America's religious beginnings."

"It is clear that Pope Francis – the first pope from the New World – understands the Christian roots of the Americas and the continent's importance for the Church's mission in the 21st century," the archbishop said at the symposium organized by the U.S. seminary in Rome, the Pontifical Commission for Latin America, the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and the Knights of Columbus.

Archbishop Gomez said Blessed Serra "will be the first American saint to be canonized on American soil. And of course, he is being canonized by the first Hispanic

pope," the first pope to "speak the Spanish language as his native tongue, and a pope who himself is an immigrant's son."

At a time when the people of United States are "caught up in a divisive political and cultural debate over immigration and the future of its historic identity as a multicultural nation of immigrants," he said, the canonization is a "prophetic response to the sign of the times."

"I believe Father Serra would have us working to build an America that promotes the encounter of cultures and seeks to protect the sanctity and dignity of the human person," the archbishop said.

By canonizing Blessed Serra in Washington, Archbishop Gomez said, Pope Francis will send a message, "a call for America to return to its deep religious and intercultural roots – as a nation born from the universal mission of the Catholic Church and the encounter of the Gospel with the first nations, cultures and peoples found in this land."

The canonization also should be an encouragement for every Catholic to imitate Father Serra in boldly, but respectfully share their faith. "Father Serra believed – with all his heart – that the Gospel was true. And out of love, he was willing to give up everything – family and home, security and fortune, even his very life – to bring the truth of this salvation to people living on the other side of the world, people he did not know, people who did not share his language or customs."

Despite what people may have read in the newspapers recently, the archbishop said, Blessed Serra's own writings and documents recounting his activities in California in the late 1700s prove his efforts to defend the native peoples, particularly against the cruelty of the Spanish soldiers and governors.

Carl A. Anderson, supreme knight of the Knights of Columbus, also spoke at the symposium. He said, "It's very important that we set the record straight about Junípero Serra because he is a model of Catholic missionary activity in North America."

As U.S. Catholics discuss their identity and their future, he said, they need to understand their past, which includes "so many great missionaries – religious men, religious women – who built so many of the Catholic institutions of our country. Junípero Serra is really at the head of that list."

Anderson's presentation at the symposium focused on Blessed Serra and Our Lady of Guadalupe and included the fact that the ship that brought Blessed Serra to the New World was named Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Before Mary appeared to St. Juan Diego in Mexico in 1531, he said, "the missionary activity in the New World just did not get off the ground. But with her apparition, things changed dramatically because there on the

Evangelizing Alta California

Early Years 1713-1729
Born Miquel José Nov. 24, 1713, on Mallorca Island. Becomes Franciscan novice at age 16.

Priest and Scholar 1730-1748
Takes the name Junípero, finishes studies, is ordained priest. Becomes philosophy chair, Lullian University, Palma, at age 33.

1769 - Arrives in San Diego, erects first mission in string that would stretch north to Sonoma.

1770 - Establishes San Carlos Borromeo in Carmel, headquarters for Franciscan efforts in California. Credited with baptizing at least 530 Indians there.

1773 - Goes to Mexico City, successfully appeals to Spanish viceroy for more autonomy in mission affairs.

1778 - Secures permission to administer sacrament of confirmation to mission Indians. Confirms 1,716 at five southern missions.

1782 - Establishes San Buenaventura north of Los Angeles, last mission founded under his leadership.

1784 - Dies Aug. 28 at age 70 at San Carlos.

tilma is her image as a native person."

The apparition, he said, "brought a respect for native people and native culture," and Blessed Serra's missionary activity reflected that. He understood that "evangelization isn't domination, it's not substitution of one culture for another culture, but it is recognizing the dignity and value of every culture and calling it to the Gospel."

It is important to set the record straight about Blessed Serra and to imitate him, Anderson said.

"Pope Francis understands this better than almost anyone else because coming

from Latin America he understands this great tradition, he understands how history has treated it sometimes very unfairly and he's trying to preserve the record because what is past is prologue in terms of our identity," he said.

"Our Lady of Guadalupe comes to unify, she comes to promote respect for minorities, she comes to build a new world, bringing people together, not dominating anyone," he said. "The Holy Father understands that if we are going to evangelize in a time of globalization we must have an inculturated evangelization that respects diversity, different people, different cultures."

Source: New Catholic Encyclopedia and 'Junípero Serra: California's Founding Father' by Steven W. Hackel. Catholic News Service © 2015

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BIENVENIDO PAPA FRANCISCO!



PAPAL VISIT



CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY PHOTO

A photo from the Knights Tower of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception offers an overhead view of the campus of The Catholic University of America, where the congregation for Pope Francis's Sept. 24 Mass will be seated.



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The Catholic University of America

Congregation for Pope Francis's Sept. 24 Mass will be seated at CUA's University Mall

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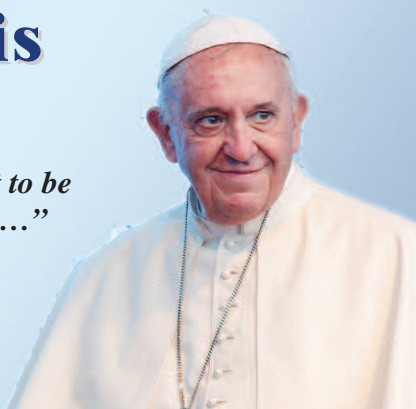
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- The Catholic University of America is the national university of the Catholic Church in the United States. On Sept. 24, Pope Francis will celebrate the Canonization Mass for Blessed Junípero Serra on the east portico of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. The congregation for the open-air Mass will be seated at CUA's University Mall adjoining the basilica.

- On May 24, 1888, the cornerstone for Caldwell Hall was laid with President Grover Cleveland as well as members of Congress and the U.S. Cabinet in attendance. On March 7, 1889, Pope Leo XIII formally established Catholic University with his apostolic letter Magni Nobis Gaudii.

- Bishop John J. Keane of Richmond, Va., was appointed rector of the fledgling institution, and when the University first opened for classes in November 1889, the curriculum consisted of lectures in mental and moral philosophy, English literature, Sacred Scripture, and the various branches of theology.

- Under the bylaws of the University's Board of Trustees, the archbishop of Washington (currently Cardinal Donald Wuerl) is ex officio the chancellor of the University. He serves as a liaison between the University and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, as well as between the University and the Holy See.

- The private and coeducational campus has approximately 3,600 undergraduate and 3,100 graduate students from all 50 states and 86 countries enrolled in 12 schools of architecture and planning, arts and sciences, business and

economics, canon law, engineering, law, music, nursing, philosophy, professional studies, social service, and theology and religious studies.

- It is the only American university with ecclesiastical faculties granting canonical degrees in canon law, philosophy, and theology.

- Eighty percent of undergraduates and 57% of graduate students are Catholic.

- The University motto is Deus Lux Mea Est — God is My Light.

- Catholic University is one of only three universities in the United States to have hosted the pope on its campus and it is the only one to have done so twice — Pope John Paul II in 1979 and Pope Benedict XVI in 2008. In both cases, the pontiff used the occasion of his visit to address educational leaders gathered from across the United States.

- Since its founding, the University has been led by 15 presidents (earlier known as rectors). The current president, John Garvey, has been at the helm of the university since July 1, 2010.

- To mark its 125th anniversary in 2012, Catholic University challenged its students to contribute 125,000 hours of volunteer service during the anniversary school year, and by year's end they had volunteered more than 350,000 hours.

The Catholic University of America is located at 620 Michigan Avenue, N.E., Washington, D.C. For more information on CUA, go to www.cua.edu.

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PAPAL VISIT

CUA begins to welcome Pope Francis at annual Mass of the Holy Spirit

By Zoey Di Mauro
Catholic Standard

The bags of the light blue “Walk with Francis” wristbands positioned at the each entrance of the church served as just one visible reminder of something the campus knew very well: the pope is coming to The Catholic University of America. At the university’s annual Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit, held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Sept. 3, CUA’s president John Garvey encouraged all the students to wear a light blue wristband, after making the Walk with Francis Pledge to pray, serve or act on behalf of those in need. A minute later from across the sanctuary, Cardinal Wuerl raised his arm to reveal he had been wearing his own Walk with Francis wristband. “I hope when Pope Francis comes,” the cardinal said, “he’ll see thousands of those bands when we wave to him.”

The Mass of the Holy Spirit was a chance for the community to pray together at the start of the school year, but also an opportunity for the students to learn about how to welcome the Holy Father to their school.

On Sept. 23, Pope Francis will celebrate a Mass of Canonization for Blessed Junípero Serra – the famous missionary of California – on the basilica’s east portico, and the congregation for the open air Mass will be seated on the university’s adjoining mall.

As they walked into the Mass of the Holy Spirit, students were offered pledge cards. During the homily Cardinal Wuerl encouraged them to listen to the message of Pope Francis: that all baptized men and women are called to be missionary disciples. Especially in this upcoming Year of Mercy, he said, “We’re challenged to take the mercy of God and share it with others.”

As Christians, he continued, “We’re not bystanders to the events going on, [but instead we must] begin to manifest the kingdom of God. One simple way to begin is to do the Walk with Francis Pledge, a simple commitment to pray: for the pope, for peace, for our neighbors. And to serve and act, not simply ignoring when we see things that aren’t right,” he said. The university is hosting many special opportunities for prayer before the papal visit, as well as a “Serve with Francis Day” on Sept. 13.

As they left the basilica, groups of student were selling commemorative T-shirts for the papal visit to benefit their



CS PHOTO BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

Cardinal Donald Wuerl distributes Communion during a Sept. 3 Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception to mark the opening of The Catholic University of America’s academic year.

International Mission Trip Program; others students took pictures with the several Pope Francis cutouts set up on the basilica steps. Workman immediately began to put up banners on lampposts welcoming Pope Francis, and for a moment even President Garvey hopped onto the cherry-picker to help.

For many of the incoming freshman, this visit made attending Catholic University even more attractive. “I was super excited,” said Catholic University freshman Leanne Robinson when she learned about the papal visit. “Who else

gets to see the pope?”

Freshman Jair Peltier also said he’s looking forward to the visit, and he has pledged to pray for the pope every day.

“He’s impacted my faith life by showing me how to be truly humble, and that one of the best ways to be Catholic is to extend your hand to those who are less fortunate or those who are outcasts in society. To be truly Catholic [is to be] truly universal,” he said. “It will be a really blessing to see a papal Mass and the real vicar of Christ on Earth.”



CS PHOTO BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

Catholic University of America president John Garvey rides a cherry-picker to get a close look at a banner welcoming Pope Francis to the campus. The banners hang near where the Holy Father will celebrate a Sept. 23 Mass canonizing Blessed Junípero Serra.

CUA’s Frank Persico preparing for his third papal visit

By Zoey Di Mauro
Catholic Standard

After graduating from The Catholic University of America in the spring of 1974, Frank Persico decided to stay. Hoping to be close to his girlfriend, who soon became his wife, Persico began to work at the university in the housing office, then for the student life office, then for the provost. Today he serves as vice president for university relations and chief of staff in the Office of the President where he will help prepare for the pope’s Sept. 23 visit. Luckily, it isn’t his first time witnessing a papal visit.

When St. (then Pope) John Paul II visited the campus in 1979, Persico served as a volunteer usher for the Holy Father’s address to Catholic educators. “The pope came to what was then our gym...[which] was transformed into this beautiful spot for the Holy Father to come,” he said. Persico, then dressed in a “green suit and gold sash,” seated the presidents of the colleges and universities as they came in. “The coolest thing was I got stand in the aisle where the pope came by. Security was certainly not as tight as it is these days, and I was able to put my hand out and brush against the pope that day. That was one of my claims to

fame,” he said.

By the time Pope Benedict XVI visited Catholic University in 2008, Persico had much more involvement in the papal visit. In coordination with the Secret Service and the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, he helped organize a large group of students to be on the lawn of the campus to greet Pope Benedict as he visited the basilica one day, and then Catholic University the next. “That was one of the highlights of my career at the university—to have the students there to greet the Holy Father the way they did,” he said.

But the 2008 papal visit just a dress rehearsal for this visit, he said, wherein he and others are charged with keeping a safe and enjoyable environment for the more than 25,000 people who will be gathered for the Mass. The planning, he said, “consumes your life for months and months, but when it’s all said and done, I had a hand in bringing these people closer to Jesus and the Holy Father. When those people are smiling and singing and happy, I can walk away and say, “We did our job the way we were supposed to.”



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May God continue to bless you!



PAPAL VISIT

The Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle

In its 175th year, cathedral to host Pope Francis at Sept. 23 midday prayer with nation's bishops

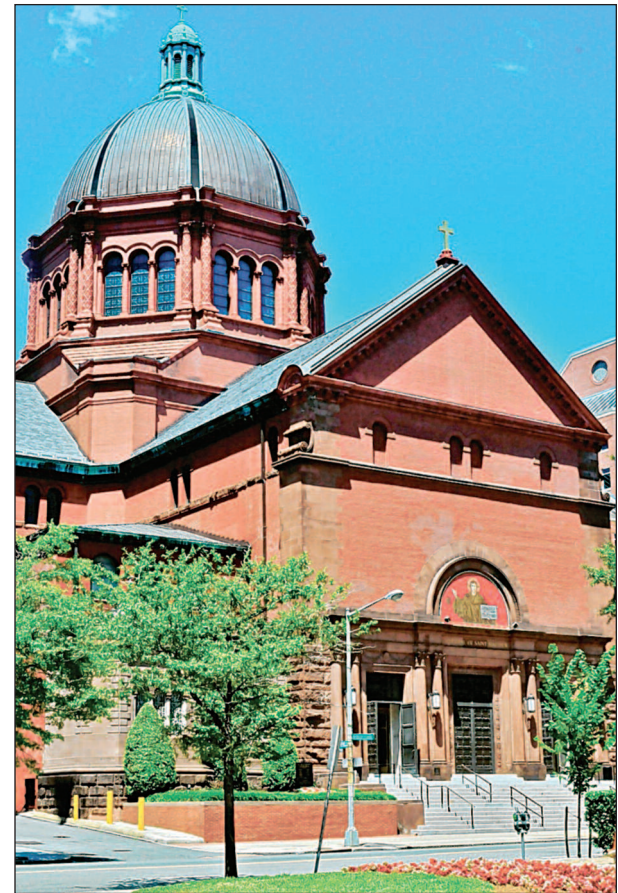
- In a city of monuments, the Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle located in downtown Washington, D.C., at 1725 Rhode Island Ave., NW, is a landmark of faith in the nation's capital. Its copper-plated dome, rising about 200 feet high, is a familiar part of the Washington skyline.

- The Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle is named for the patron saint of civil servants – Saint Matthew the tax collector who became one of Jesus's apostles – and those who worship there include workers from all three branches of the federal government, and city officials and employees. Every day, Catholics from all walks of life, from across the United States and from around the world, come to pray there.

- The parish was established in Washington, D.C., in 1840, and the present church structure was designed by the noted architect Christopher Grant La Farge, with its cornerstone blessed in 1893 and the first Mass celebrated there in 1895. Saint Matthew was named the cathedral church for the newly formed Archdiocese of Washington in 1939.

- As the cathedral church, it is the mother church for Catholics in the Archdiocese of Washington and the seat of the archbishop, Cardinal Donald Wuerl, who celebrates major Masses there. With its liturgies, educational programs and outreach to the poor, the Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle plays a major role in Catholic life in the nation's capital. This year, the cathedral is celebrating its 175th anniversary with a variety of programs.

- Over the years, the Cathedral of Saint Matthew



CS FILE PHOTO BY MICHAEL HOYT

the Apostle has been a witness to history. In 1945, after Germany and later Japan surrendered to mark the end of World War II, grateful crowds gathered at the cathedral to offer prayers of thanksgiving. On Nov. 25, 1963, the Funeral Mass for President John F. Kennedy, the nation's first Catholic president, was held at the Cathedral of Saint Matthew, three days after the president was assassinated. Crowds of people gathered in sorrow to pray at the cathedral after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States.

- During his first pastoral visit to the United States, Pope John Paul II celebrated Mass on Oct. 6, 1979 at the Cathedral of Saint Matthew. On Sept. 24, Pope Francis will join the nation's bishops

for midday prayer at the cathedral.

- Each year, the Cathedral of Saint Matthew hosts the Red Mass on the Sunday before the first Monday in October when the Supreme Court of the United States begins its regular term. At the Red Mass, prayers are invoked to seek the Holy Spirit's guidance and blessings on those who work in administering the law. The Mass is typically attended by justices of the Supreme Court, along with members of the president's cabinet, members of Congress, the diplomatic corps, local leaders, and sometimes the president or vice president.

- For more information on the Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle, go to stmatthewscathedral.org.



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PAPAL VISIT

Popes and presidents

Pope Francis's meeting with President Obama continues tradition of presidents meeting popes



ABOVE CS FILE PHOTO BY RAFAEL CRISOSTOMO; ALL OTHER PHOTOS CNS FILE PHOTOS

In this photo from 2008, Pope Benedict and President George Bush wave to well-wishers as the president hosted the pope at the White House on the pontiff's visit to the U.S.

At left, in this photo from 2014, President Barack Obama shakes hands with Pope Francis during a private audience at the Vatican on March 27 of that year. On Sept. 23, the White House will host a welcoming ceremony for Pope Francis followed by a private meeting between the pope and President Obama.



At right, President Ronald Reagan meets with Pope John Paul II at the Vatican in June, 1987.



President John F. Kennedy shakes hands with Pope Paul VI at the Vatican in 1963. The White House called Kennedy's meeting with Paul VI an "unofficial" visit, although the two spoke about many pressing issues.



In the photo at left, President Bill Clinton and Pope John Paul II meet Jan. 26, 1999, at Lambert-St. Louis International Airport.



In the photo at right from October, 2001, President George H.W. Bush greets Pope John Paul II at the Vatican.



Pope John Paul II addresses a press conference with President Jimmy Carter in the Rose Garden of the White House Oct. 6, 1979. He was the first pope to be received at the White House.



Above, President Gerald Ford meets with Pope Paul VI at the Vatican in this 1975 file photo. Also meeting the pope is first lady Betty Ford. In the photo at left, President Richard M. Nixon meets at the Vatican with Pope Paul VI in 1970.

PAPAL VISIT

House chaplain reflects on upcoming visit to Congress by fellow Jesuit – Pope Francis

By **Mary Schneidau Sullivan**
Special to the Standard

When Pope Francis arrives on Capitol Hill on Sept. 24, he will likely greet a brother he has never met.

A brother Jesuit, that is.

The Holy Father will make history as the first pope to address a joint meeting of Congress. He was invited by House Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio), who also appointed Jesuit Father Patrick Conroy to his post as House chaplain in 2011.

“When the pope comes they’re going to have to invite me to leave the room,” Father Conroy joked.

The Jesuit priest does not know details of the papal visit, but said he is often called on to greet heads of state or religious leaders who visit the Capitol. Such a role is in keeping with the two-fold mission of his chaplaincy: To lead or arrange for prayer on days the House is in session and at other ceremonial events, and to be a spiritual resource to members.

The pope’s congressional visit will be a signature event for him and for all who work on Capitol Hill.

“In a time of global upheaval, the Holy Father’s message of compassion and human dignity has moved people of all faiths and

backgrounds,” Speaker Boehner said in a statement released in February. “His teachings, prayers, and very example bring us back to the blessings of simple things and our obligations to one another.”

Pope Francis is the fourth pontiff to visit the United States. The last papal visit was by Pope Benedict XVI in 2008, when he celebrated Mass for nearly 50,000 faithful at Nationals Park.

Father Conroy said he expects the pope’s address to Congress to touch on a broad range of issues.

“I imagine he’ll talk about value of human life from conception to natural death,” he said. “You can guarantee he’s going to talk about the importance of asking how our economies and budgets affect the poor. He’s going to say something that’s uncomfortable for everybody.”

But Pope Francis will do it all with his warm and inviting style, Father Conroy said.

“I expect him to be rather pastoral,” he said. “He won’t come across as a stern schoolmarm, but a loveable and loving pastor. Most people will be charmed by his presence.”

Father Conroy’s chaplaincy is in many ways defined by his presence on Capitol Hill. The Jesuit understanding of “cura personalis” – care for the whole person – inspires his ministry. In particular, he said he tries to offer



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE HOUSE CHAPLAIN’S OFFICE
Jesuit Father Pat Conroy has served since 2011 as the chaplain to the U.S. House of Representatives.

a sense of normalcy and grounding for the many members of Congress who do not move their families to Washington, D.C. The goal for elected officials is to show that they have not become Beltway insiders, but Father Conroy said it can often have the opposite effect of leaving them alienated.

“They’re in that work environment which is highly stressful and highly contentious and they don’t have the comfort of home,” Father Conroy said. “My presence in that environment is as one of the only people they might conceivably talk to who’s not in the business of Washington.”

Father Conroy is the 60th chaplain of the House, and just the second Catholic priest to serve in that role. A native of Washington state, he was teaching high school theology in Oregon when his provincial asked him to apply, after hearing from the speaker’s office that he was interested in having a Jesuit serve.

The priest was no stranger to Washington, D.C. – he had twice been a chaplain at Georgetown University – or to the law. He discovered his priestly vocation after being “inspired” by Jesuits during his first year of law school at Gonzaga University. He left that summer to begin formation, but the order eventually sent him back to law school. Father Conroy practiced for a short time as a criminal defense lawyer for Native American tribes and also as an immigration attorney for Salvadoran refugees.

(This article originally appeared in the John Carroll Citizen, the newsletter of the John Carroll Society of the Archdiocese of Washington. Sullivan serves as the newsletter’s editor.)

Pope Francis, We Welcome You With Open Arms From The Upper Montgomery County East Deanery

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PAPAL VISIT

‘The Francis factor’ comes to Washington, as pope will visit Congress and homeless

By Mark Zimmermann
Catholic Standard

Two years ago, the Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life at Georgetown University launched with a panel discussion on “The Francis Factor.” The panel of journalists and lay Catholic leaders analyzed the worldwide popularity of Pope Francis in his first months of leading the Church, and what impact he could have on U.S. Catholics.

On the eve of Pope Francis’s first visit to the United States later this month, the initiative’s director, John Carr, was interviewed about “the Francis factor.”

Carr said those first panelists, and succeeding speakers, came to a consensus on what it is about Pope Francis that has captivated people of all faiths around the world.

“He walks and talks and acts like Jesus,” Carr said. “He is a walking, talking parable of God’s love. In a time of great fear, he talks about hope. In a time of great challenge, he talks about joy, and we need more of both.”

Beginning on Sept. 22 when the pope’s plane lands at Joint Base Andrews, the “Francis factor” will come to Washington, as the pope will meet with President Obama at

the White House on Sept. 23 and address a joint meeting of Congress on Sept. 24. Also during his visit to Washington, Pope Francis will meet with clients of Catholic Charities, and he will celebrate a canonization Mass for Blessed Junipero Serra – the famous 18th century Spanish Franciscan missionary of California – at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

“This is the ultimate Washington outsider,” said Carr. “He’s coming to a city that thinks it’s the center of the world, and it’s not. He would rather be in the slums of Buenos Aires than in the corridors of power. He looks at the world from the bottom up and from the outside in, and that’s not the way Washington looks at the world.”

Carr cautions people not to put Pope Francis or his message in political or ideological boxes, or “we’ll miss what he is, and what we can learn from him.”

The initiative’s director said it is significant that on Sept. 24, Pope Francis will go from addressing leaders on Capitol Hill, to greeting the homeless served by Catholic Charities. “He’s teaching us about what’s really important,” said Carr, who is also the Washington correspondent for *America* magazine. Carr earlier served for more than 20 years as the



CS PHOTO BY MICHAEL HOYT

director of the Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

An important lesson from the pope’s encounter with Washington’s poor will be that “power comes from service,” Carr said. “I hope he points politicians toward listening carefully to the pain of their people and not just polls or focus groups... He says we ought to put the poor and vulnerable first. Those are not the priorities of official Washington. He gives us a moral framework which offers a different way of looking at politics, the economy, the environment and the Church.”

Carr added, “That bottom up perspective – care for the weak and vulnerable – will be a profound challenge to business as usual in Washington. At a time when politicians are dehumanizing immigrants and ignoring the humanity of the unborn, Pope Francis brings an entirely different vision of respect for human life and dignity which crosses the ideological and political divide in Washington.”

Members of Congress reacted with a rare spirit of unanimity in their bipartisan support for Pope Francis’s address, Carr noted. “The only thing Democrats and Republicans agree on is they need advice from this pope,” he said, and then added jokingly, “Be careful what you wish for!”

“I think he’ll make all of them proud and affirmed on some points, and deeply challenged as well,” Carr said, adding that politicians aren’t the only ones who occasionally might feel uneasy because of the pope’s

words. “I love Pope Francis, and he makes me profoundly uncomfortable. When he talks about ‘couch potato Catholics’ and ‘good enough Catholics,’ he’s talking about me!”

During his visit to the United States, Pope Francis will garner many headlines for his visit to the White House and his address to Congress and the United Nations, but each stop will include papal encounters with the poor and forgotten – with the homeless helped by Catholic Charities in Washington, with children at an East Harlem school during his New York visit, and with inmates at a Philadelphia correctional facility.

“He says we have to encounter the poor personally, and he accepts no excuses,” Carr said. “In some ways, Pope Francis’s most powerful message will not be what he says, but what he does.”

In reaching out to the poor and sick at his papal audiences, and in talking about going out to the margins to bring Christ’s love to the forgotten and alienated, “what he’s saying is God’s love and mercy is available to all of us. Don’t judge each other. Help each other,” Carr said.

The Catholic initiative’s director said that while many might think Pope Francis is somehow trendy, he is actually underscoring traditional Catholic teaching, about the joy of the Gospel, God’s mercy, and the importance of caring for “the least of these.”

“The environmental encyclical didn’t begin with Earth Day. It began with Genesis,” Carr said.

Pope Francis’s visit will not only give Catholics in the United States an opportunity to see the pope, but it will give him the chance to see the nation’s Catholics, Carr added.

“I hope he’ll see the vitality, the diversity and the fidelity of the Church in the United States, with all our challenges and achievements,” Carr said. “We will see him, and he will meet us. Both of us will fall in love, we with him, and him with us.”

(*The Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life at Georgetown University will sponsor a Sept. 28 talk on “The ‘Francis Factor’ Revisited: Assessing Pope Francis’s visit to the U.S.” For information, go online to catholicsocialthought.georgetown.edu.)*



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THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

The amazing, and now Venerable, Father Al

By George Weigel

At an inch or so over five feet and weighing, I would guess, something on the underside of 100 pounds, Sister Winnie, a soft spoken Filipina, is not your typical dinner speaker. Yet a few weeks ago she held a room full of Washingtonians spellbound with her story – which is also the story of a largely unknown American of whom the Church in the United States should be very proud.

Sister Winnie was born, and lived the first years of her life, in a shanty built on an enormous trash dump (politely known as a “land-fill”) outside Manila. The locals called it “Smoky Mountain” because of the fires that spontaneously combusted from some two million metric tons of trash. Winnie was rescued from Smoky Mountain by the Sisters of Mary and, with the permission of her family, was raised in the sisters’ Girlstown, where she became a skilled accountant. She then took a job with a major German industrial firm, sending much of her salary back to her family to help her parents and siblings. But corporate accounting paled after awhile, and Winnie decided to put her professional skills at the service of the sisters who had given her a new life.

You can guess the rest: while working for the Sisters of Mary, Winnie discerned a vocation to religious life, joined the congregation that had done so much for her, and now works in one of the sisters’ missions in Mexico, doing for other waifs and abandoned children what the sisters had done for her: giving them a life.

I had never heard of the Sisters of Mary, or the Boystowns and Girlstowns in South Korea, the Philippines, and Latin America where

they now serve some 20,000 desperately impoverished children, or their parallel men’s order, the Brothers of Christ, which serves both children and people with disabilities, until earlier this year. Then, happily, my friends Tom and Glory Sullivan, Catholic philanthropists who’ve generously supported this work for years, began to tell me about the founder of the Sisters and the Brothers, Msgr. Aloysius Schwartz, whose heroic virtues were formally recognized by Pope Francis this past Jan. 22 – thus making him Venerable Aloysius Schwartz.

“Father Al,” as he was universally known, was born during the Great Depression in Washington, D.C., and grew up in Holy Name parish, near the Capitol and Union Station. As a boy living in tough economic times, he decided early on that he wanted to be a missionary priest among the poor. Ordained in Washington in 1957, he was incardinated into the Diocese of Pusan, South Korea, where he soon discovered a tremendous human problem: children living in the direst poverty, often without parents, because of the devastation caused by the Korean War.

And he decided to do something about it.

Fifty years later, the Girshtown and Boystown homes for indigent children that he founded have served some one hundred thousand youngsters: not only by feeding, clothing, and housing them and providing medical care, but by offering these youngsters an education that gives them the financial possibility of gainful employment, and the Christian and human formation that teaches them to give back to their parents and siblings. Sister Winnie is a spiritual daughter of Father Al; she is also a wonderful example of



PHOTO COURTESY ASIAN RELIEF

Venerable Aloysius Schwartz, who founded the Sisters of Mary and the Brothers of Christ, is shown in an undated photo with children at one of his outreach programs in South Korea. The missionary priest founded educational and vocational

programs for poor children in South Korea, the Philippines and Mexico before he died in 1992 of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. On Jan. 22, Pope Francis signed a decree recognizing that Msgr. Schwartz lived a life of “heroic virtue” and declaring him “venerable,” making him the first native Washingtonian to achieve that title.

what Aloysius Schwartz understood to be the fruits of a missionary vocation to the poorest of the poor – she is a fellow-disciple who, having received great gifts, gives them to others.

Watching him working the soda counter at a People’s Drug Store, few would have imagined that the youngster they knew as Al Schwartz would die in 1992 at age 61, after years of patiently bearing the cross of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, Lou Gehrig’s Disease. Perhaps even fewer would have imagined that young Al Schwartz was a nascent saint of the Church. Venerable Father Al’s life and accomplishments are a reminder that God really is profligate with gifts of grace, and that saints-in-the-making are all around us as companions on the way.



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(George Weigel is distinguished senior fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.)



PAPAL VISIT

Pope's visits to Cuba to highlight charity

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

In word and deed, Pope Francis will take his vision of a Catholic's approach to family life, parish life, charity, economics, immigration and good governance to Cuba and the United States during a Sept. 19-27 visit.

Visiting both Cuba and the United States on the same trip not only acknowledges his role in encouraging detente between them, but will give Pope Francis an opportunity to demonstrate that while different political and cultural challenges face Catholics in both countries, the Gospel and its values are the same.

The standard of living in the United States may be exponentially higher than in Cuba, but in Pope Francis' vision that only increases the responsibility of U.S. Catholics to reach out and to share.

The pope will spend three days in Cuba visiting three different cities, including the popular Shrine of Our Lady of Charity of El Cobre.

He will hold the usual meetings with President Raul Castro, young people, families and religious as well as



CNS PHOTO BY ALEJANDRO ERNESTO, EPA

A Cuban woman takes part in a pilgrimage in Havana in honor of Our Lady of Charity of El Cobre, Cuba's patroness. On Sept. 22, Pope Francis will celebrate Mass in the Minor Basilica of the Shrine of Our Lady of Charity of El Cobre.

celebrate Mass and vespers all three days. But he also will bless the cities of Holguin and Santiago de Cuba – blessing Holguin from a panoramic hilltop and pilgrimage site called Cross Hill.

It will be his third visit to the Americas after Brazil in 2013 and Ecuador, Bolivia and Paraguay in July, and his 10th trip abroad since his election in 2013.

Here is the schedule for Pope Francis's trip to Cuba

Saturday, Sept. 19 (Rome, Havana)

Arrival ceremony at Havana's Jose Marti International Airport.

Sunday, Sept. 20 (Havana)

Mass in Havana's Revolution Square. Recitation of the Angelus. Vist with Cuba's President Raul Castro in Havana's Palace of the Revolution.

Celebration of vespers with priests, religious and seminarians in Havana's cathedral.

Greeting to young people at the Father Felix Varela cultural center in Havana.

Monday, Sept. 21

(Havana, Holguin, Santiago de Cuba, El Cobre)

Depart Havan and arrival at Holguin's Frank Pais International Airport.

Mass in Holguin's Revolution Square.

Blessing of the city of Holguin from Cross Hill (Loma de la Cruz). Departure by air for Santiago de Cuba.

Arrival at Santiago de Cuba's Antonio Maceo International Airport.

Meeting with bishops at the seminary of St. Basil the Great in El Cobre.

Prayer to Our Lady of Charity with bishops and the papal entourage in the Minor Basilica of the Shrine of Our Lady of Charity of El Cobre.

Tuesday, Sept. 22

(El Cobre, Santiago de Cuba, Washington)

Mass in the Minor Basilica of the Shrine of Our Lady of Charity of El Cobre. Homily by pope.

Meeting with families in the Cathedral of Our Lady of Assumption in Santiago de Cuba. Speech by pope. Blessing of the city from the outside of the cathedral.

Farewell ceremony at Santiago de Cuba's International Airport. Departure for Washington.

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PAPAL VISIT

Papal trip began as World Meeting of Families, grew to be three-city tour

Catholic News Service

Last November, the Vatican officially confirmed Pope Francis would attend the Vatican-sponsored World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia. The pope's itinerary eventually expanded to include first a stop in Cuba, followed by Washington, New York City and finally Philadelphia.

The 30 hours or so Pope Francis will spend in New York in September will be relatively brief, but busy.

He will celebrate vespers with priests and men and women religious in St. Patrick's Cathedral and deliver the homily, visit the headquarters of the United Nations to greet officials and give a speech, participate in an interreligious meeting at the ground zero 9/11 Memorial and give a speech there. The rest of his itinerary includes a visit to Our Lady Queen of Angels Catholic Elementary School in East Harlem and a meeting with children and immigrant families. That evening he will celebrate Mass. Early on Sept. 26 he will depart for Philadelphia.

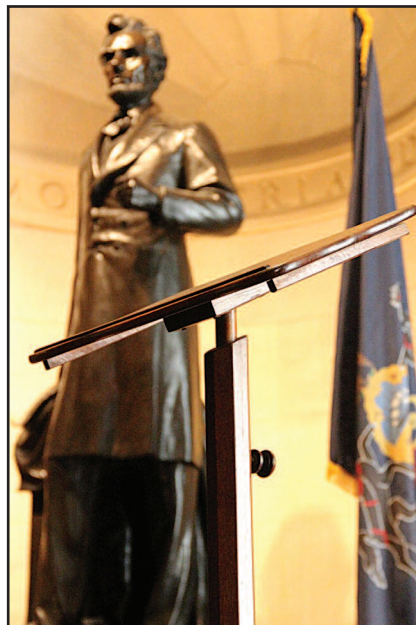
The first stop for Pope Francis

when he visits Philadelphia will be the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul to celebrate a special Mass for the people of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. He will also visit with prison inmates of Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility in northeast Philadelphia.

Another stop on the pope's visit to the city includes an afternoon address Sept. 26 at Independence Hall, birthplace of the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.

The Mass at the cathedral, the prison visit and the address at Independence Hall join other papal events already announced for Philadelphia, including his attendance at an evening Festival of Families cultural celebration Sept. 26 and the public Mass he will celebrate on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway the afternoon of Sept. 27.

The World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia, being held Sept. 22-25 in advance of the pope's visit, is expected to draw some 15,000 participants from 150 countries. Pope Francis has called the congress "the central reason" for his visit to the United States.



CNS PHOTO BY SARAH WEBB
The lectern that President Abraham Lincoln used to deliver the Gettysburg Address almost 152 years ago. Pope Francis will use same lectern when he speaks at Independence Hall Sept. 26 during his two-day visit to Philadelphia this fall.

Pope's schedule for New York and Philadelphia

Thursday, Sept. 24 (Washington, New York)

Depart Washington for New York. Celebration of vespers with priests, men and women religious in St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Friday, Sept. 25 (New York)

Speech at the headquarters of the United Nations. Interreligious meeting at the ground zero 9/11 Memorial. Visit to Our Lady Queen of Angels Catholic Elementary School in East Harlem and meeting with children and immigrant families.

Mass at Madison Square Garden. Homily by pope.

Saturday, Sept. 26 (New York, Philadelphia)

Departure New York for Philadelphia. Mass with Pennsylvania's bishops, priests, men and women religious at Philadelphia's Cathedral Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul.


Meeting for religious liberty with the Hispanic community and immigrants at Philadelphia's Independence Mall.

Festival of Families and prayer vigil at Philadelphia's Benjamin Franklin Parkway

Sunday, Sept. 27 (Philadelphia)


Meeting with bishops taking part in the World Meeting of Families at the St. Charles Borromeo Seminary. Visit with prisoners at the Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility.

Closing Mass of the VIII World Meeting of Families at the Benjamin Franklin Parkway
Farewell ceremony and departure for Rome.




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INSIGHT

A new school year begins at St. John Paul II Seminary in Washington

By Julian Ortiz
Special to the Standard

The time of year has come again for college students of all ages to leave summer jobs and family vacations to take up school again.

For my brother seminarians from the Archdiocese of Washington and me, it is no different. We pack up our clothes, purchase books, and depending on how far along we are in our formation to the priesthood, we continue in either philosophical or theological studies.

As we take up these important classes at our respective seminaries, we meet new seminarians, get a crash course on the rules and regulations of seminary life, and prepare for a new school year.

I will be entering my fourth and last year of philosophical studies at St. John Paul II Seminary,

but this year will be a bit different. This year I will be taking with me all of the experiences and lessons learned from my first pastoral assignment, which was at St. Martin of Tours Parish in Gaithersburg.

In this diverse and busy parish, I was blessed to be involved with various activities that are all important parts of parish life. My duties included working in the parish office, visiting sick parishioners in the hospital and in their homes, attending parish council meetings, fundraising with the youth group, and serving the Mass; all things that contribute to the spreading of the Gospel and the conversion of the world.

These experiences of parish life and service bring a refocusing of the purpose of seminary, namely to learn how to



CS PHOTO BY PAUL FETTERS

Cardinal Wuerl shares a laugh with seminarians at the St. John Paul II Seminary in Washington, before celebrating an Aug. 26 Mass there for the opening of the school year. The seminary, which is sponsored by the Archdiocese of Washington, has 49 seminarians for the 2015-16 year, including 27 seminarians from the Archdiocese of Washington and 22 seminarians from other dioceses.

serve the Church and to discern and prepare for the priesthood.

Saint John Paul II Seminary will once again be filled to capacity, with 49 young men from seven different dioceses from

around the nation. Our regional seminary has grown exponentially from when it began five years ago, and it is truly beautiful to see how the Holy Spirit has been calling so many young men to see if

is their calling to follow Jesus as his priest, I am anxious to meet the new seminarians as we continue to grow in our relationship with the Lord.

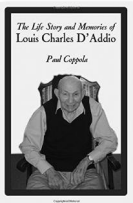
This upcoming school year is shaping up to be

another year of growth and joy in the path to holiness!

(Julian Ortiz is a seminarian for the Archdiocese of Washington studying at the St. John Paul II Seminary.)

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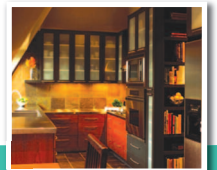
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PAPAL VISIT

Pope Francis has emphasized importance of marriage and family

By Maureen Boyle
Special to the Standard

Since his election as pope in 2013, Pope Francis's writings, homilies and addresses have often joyfully and powerfully emphasized the Church's profound and timeless truths on marriage and the family.

The Holy Father's final stop on this U.S. papal visit will be Philadelphia where he will address the World Meeting of Families, a large gathering of the world's Catholic families held every three years and begun in 1994 by Saint Pope John Paul II. The Vatican's Pontifical Council for the Family sponsors the event and for the first time the meeting is being hosted in the United States. The 2015 theme is: "Love Is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive."

Archdiocesan family life experts predict that the pontiff will bring to the United States a reaffirmation of the Church's doctrines and teachings and proclaim to the world the importance of marriage as sacrament and family as the fundamental building block of society.

"(His message) especially in these modern times is that marriage is meant to be a witness of God's love for humanity and that married couples can imitate the faithful love of God," said Susan Timoney, the Archdiocese of Washington's Secretary for Pastoral Ministry and Social Concerns.

Father Rick Kramer, director of the archdiocesan Office for Family Life, said from Pope Francis's inaugural address to his recent en-



CNS PHOTO BY PAUL HARING

Pope Francis greets a baby during a general audience at the Vatican.

cyclical, *Laudato Si'*, and many of his writings and talks in between, the Holy Father has repeatedly stressed the importance of the family in God's plan for creation.

"I think first and foremost of the stable union of man and woman in marriage. This union is born of their love, as a sign and presence of God's own love, and of the acknowledgement and acceptance of the goodness of

sexual differentiation, whereby spouses can become one flesh (*Genesis 2:24*) and are enabled to give birth to new life, a manifestation of the Creator's goodness, wisdom and loving plan," writes Pope Francis in his 2013 encyclical letter, *Lumen Fidei*, The Light of Faith.

"He sees humanity as part of God's creation. In caring for creation, we have to care for the family," Father Kramer said. "He doesn't separate the two. The family is to be protected as well."

Pope Francis, he said, is like his recent papal predecessors – a strong teacher of the faith who imparts the Church's message in a unique manner. "The Church is always responding the world's needs urgently," he said. "What we see with Pope Francis is that even though there is urgency, we are (responding to those needs) out of joy and with joy."

During his visit, Pope Francis will emphasize Church's teaching on marriage as sacrament in which couples married in the Church experience the great gift of grace, said Timoney. "It's not about flowers and parties, but about grace," she said.

"A healthy family life requires frequent use of three phrases: 'May I? Thank you, and I'm sorry and never, never end the day without making peace,'" Pope Francis said in a 2014 meeting with engaged couples.

Timoney said the Holy Father's knack for addressing everyday problems in married and family life is a tremendous gift to the Church. "He has a beautiful ability to be able to be so concrete. How many marriages can benefit from that," she said.

Recognizing that sacramental marriages may encounter difficulties, Father Kramer said the Church is able to offer healing and peace to those couples, too. "There can be new hope and new strength and joy in the Church's message," for separated and divorced Catholics as well, he said.

Pope Francis also strongly emphasizes the

conviction that children are the gift and priority of family life, said Timoney. In that principal setting, the pope often states that is where the faith is passed on and is the foundation for all of humanity.

In these tumultuous times when the Supreme Court has redefined marriage, the Church's teaching on the true meaning of marriage as an indissoluble union between one man and one woman who are open to life is often reaffirmed by Pope Francis. Both Father Kramer and Timoney said the pontiff will bring the same message to the World Meeting of Families.

"We don't define love or marriage as a feeling but rather as a sacrament of service. It is a sacrament for the other. While pleasurable and fruitful, it comes from God and reflects God's love," Timoney said. "The way we understand marriage is very different than the world. (The Church's) way is rooted in God."

Father Kramer said, "Because there has been a forgetfulness of what the truth of marriage and family is and the joyful heart and abundant life of that truth" the pope's words during his historic U.S. visit will renew the Church's message.

"Promising love for ever is possible when we perceive a plan bigger than our own ideas and undertakings, a plan which sustains us and enables us to surrender our future entirely to the one we love," writes Pope Francis in *Lumen Fidei*. "Faith also helps us grasp in all its depth and richness the begetting of children, as a sign of the love of the Creator who entrusts us with the mystery of a new person."

In the pope's writings, he stresses that every human being's existence is touched by a family, said Father Kramer, which is why Pope Francis "truly sees the family as the central image of God in the world."

He added that the Holy Father's South American background – with its emphasis on strong family bonds, traditions, celebrations and devotions – is also seen as a major influence on his writings.

"The family which experiences the joy of faith communicates it naturally. That family is the salt of the earth and the light of the world; it is the leaven of society," Pope Francis said on Oct. 28, 2013.

During his U.S. visit, through his presence and by his words, "(Pope Francis) will truly give us what Peter always gives us – our role in carrying out the ministry of the Church with leadership, clarity and joy," said Father Kramer.

More than ever, the Church and the world need Catholic families "to be a visible sign of the Gospel in our parishes, neighborhoods and communities," said Timoney. In the wake of the pope's visit, parishes and the Church must continue to help nourish and strengthen family life, she said.

The Holy Father's trip to the United States for the World Meeting of Families will ultimately recharge and strengthen Catholic families, Father Kramer said. In turn, they will be bold witnesses to building a culture of strong family life. "By being Catholic families, you can save the world," the priest said.

Pope Francis on marriage and family

"Peace is made each day in the family: Please, thank you, sorry! (...) Please, thank you and sorry. Let us say these words in our families! To forgive one another each day!"

Address to families, Oct. 28, 2013

"The family is the foundation of co-existence and a remedy against social fragmentation. Children have a right to grow up in a family with a father and a mother capable of creating a suitable environment for the child's development and emotional maturity."

Speech at Humanum Conference, Rome, Nov. 17, 2014

"The life of a family is filled with beautiful moments... But if love is missing, joy is missing, nothing is fun. Jesus gives always gives us that love: he is its endless source."

Address to families, Oct. 28, 2013

"Every threat to the family is a threat to society itself... Protect your families! See in them your country's greatest treasure and nourish them always by prayer and the grace of the sacraments."

Address to families, Manila, Philippines, January 16th, 2015

"The union of man and woman in marriage (is) a unique, natural, fundamental and beautiful good for persons, communities, and whole societies."

Speech at Humanum Conference, Rome, Nov. 17, 2014

"The complementarity of man and woman... is

the root of marriage and family."

Speech at Humanum Conference, Rome, Nov. 17, 2014

"Grandparents are like the wisdom of the family, they are the wisdom of a people. And a people that does not listen to grandparents is one that dies! Listen to your grandparents. Like the Holy Family, every family is part of the history of a people; it cannot exist without the generations who have gone before it."

Address to families, Oct. 28, 2013

"I think of Blessed Paul VI. At a time when the issue of population growth was being raised, he had the courage to defend openness to life in families."

Address to families, Manila, Philippines, Jan. 16, 2015

"Not only would I say that the family is important for the evangelization of the new world. The family is important, and it is necessary for the survival of humanity. Without the family, the cultural survival of the human race would be at risk. The family...is the foundation."

Radio interview, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, July 27, 2013

"Today, there are those who say that marriage is out of fashion... I am asking you to rebel against this culture that sees everything as temporary and that ultimately believes you are incapable of responsibility."

Address to World Youth Day volunteers, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, July 28, 2013

PAPAL VISIT

TV, radio stations to offer coverage of Pope Francis's visit

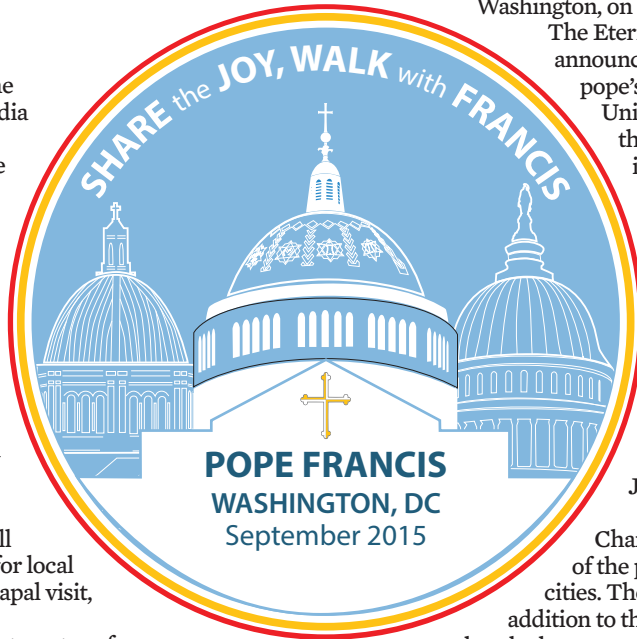
By Richard Szczepanowski
Catholic Standard

Journalists from around the world have requested media credentials to cover Pope Francis's Sept. 22-26 visit to the United States. The national media will cover the pope's public events in Washington, New York and Philadelphia.

In Washington, the local NBC, ABC, CBS, FOX and PBS affiliates have all announced that will broadcast live the pope's Sept. 24 address to a joint meeting of Congress and many of his other public events.

Several priests of the Archdiocese of Washington will serve as on-air commentators for local television stations during the papal visit, including:

- Msgr. J. Wilfrid (Bill) Parent, pastor of St. Peter Parish in Waldorf, on NBC Channel 4.
- Father William Byrne, pastor of Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Potomac, on FOX Channel 5.
- Father Lee Fangmeyer, pastor of Mother Seton Parish in Germantown, on ABC Channel 7 and on NewsChannel 8.
- Father Avelino Gonzalez, pastor of St. Gabriel Parish in



Washington, on CBS Channel 9.

The Eternal Word Television Network has announced that it will cover all of the pope's events in his three-city visit to the United States. EWTN announced that its Washington coverage will include the pope's Sept. 22 arrival at Joint Base Andrews, the Sept. 23 official welcoming ceremony at the White House and the Canonization Mass of Blessed Junipero Serra at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, and the Sept. 24 address to the joint meeting of Congress and the pope's departure for New York from Joint Base Andrews.

Sirius XM Radio's Catholic Channel 129 will also broadcast live all of the pope's public events in the three cities. The channel also announced that in addition to the live events, it will offer around-the-clock coverage each day that includes news, recaps and analysis.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops will provide live streaming coverage of all of Pope Francis's events in the United States. To access the streaming coverage, visit www.usccb.org/about/leadership/holy-see/francis/papal-visit-2015/papal-visit-2015-live-stream.cfm.

Schedule for pope's Washington visit

Here is the planned schedule of Pope Francis's public events in Washington. Check local television and radio listings for their scheduled live coverage of these events.

Tuesday, Sept. 22

4 p.m.: Pope Francis arrives at Joint Base Andrews.

Wednesday, Sept. 23

9:15 a.m.: White House welcoming ceremony followed by private meeting with President Obama.

11:30 a.m.: Midday Prayer with U.S. bishops at St. Matthew's Cathedral.

4:15 p.m.: Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception to canonize Blessed Junipero Serra.

Thursday, Sept. 24, 2015

9:20 a.m.: Speech to a joint meeting of Congress.

11:15 a.m.: Visit to St. Patrick Church in Washington and meeting with guests served by Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington.

4 p.m.: Departure for New York from Joint Base Andrews.

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PAPAL VISIT

With papal visit souvenirs, shrine pilgrims get Pope Francis keepsakes

By Richard Szczepanowski
Catholic Standard

Since the announcement that Pope Francis would make a Sept. 22-24 visit to Washington, the gift shop and the bookstore at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception has done a brisk business in papal souvenirs, and expect business to pick up even more as the visit draws nearer.

"We have been very busy every single day, and we will see more people as the date gets closer," said Amy Maloney, director of retail for the National Shrine. "People just want to be here and kind of bask in what will be."

While most days are busy, Maloney said, "Sunday is the busiest." She recommended shoppers avoid the crowds by visiting during week days or "early on Saturday, when it is quiet and you can very easily take a tour, get something to eat, do some shopping and attend Mass."

Pope Francis will celebrate a Sept. 23 Mass at the National Shrine's east portico during which he will canonize Blessed Junípero Serra.

Visitors to the National Shrine's gift shop will find a variety of Pope Francis and Blessed – soon to be Saint – Junípero Serra related merchandise including T-shirts, mugs, prayer cards, rosaries, statues, medals, key rings, magnets, rosary rings, commemorative coins, portraits and other items.

The shrine, Maloney said, is offering "pretty straight forward merchandise – no dolls, no bobbleheads. We really want to elevate this." Most items sold there are available in both English and Spanish. The most popular items, Maloney said, are T-shirts and mugs.



BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION GIFT SHOP /CS PHOTO BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

"One lady told me, as she was buying a T-shirt with the pope's picture on it, that wearing will make her feel close to Pope Francis," Maloney said.

Also available in English and Spanish is a holy card with a prayer to the Immaculate Conception that was composed by the Holy Father. Maloney said the National Shrine sells about the same amount of English-language items as it does Spanish-language items.

Maloney said that as the papal visit draws nearer, things will become even more hectic.

"People want to be a part of this historic event," she said. She said that the shrine has received on-line orders for papal merchandise from as far away as Texas, Oregon, Florida and even Singapore. "Business is very good, very strong," she said.

Interest in papal souvenirs and merchandise, she added, has come from "a total mix of customers – we have families, we have older people, just about everybody." The shrine also has a line of items for children including necklaces, bracelets and a model of the Popemobile.

She said that the retail staff "started preparing in March" for items related to the September visit because "a lot of the merchandise is coming from Italy, and we had to translate from English to Spanish."

In the bookstore, volumes by and about the pope are very popular. "Everything about Pope Francis is by and away our best sellers," Maloney said. "We have a strong, loyal group of people who still want to buy books."

However, she added, "biographies on Blessed Junípero Serra are also good sellers." The bookstore, she added, also sells a CD, titled *Te Deum*, by the shrine's music director, Peter Latona. The CD, Maloney said, "includes music that will be used at the pope's Masses here in Washington and Philadelphia."

On the day of the papal Mass the shrine bookstore will have three outdoor venues offering papal and canonization merchandise and souvenirs. The shops and the outdoor venues will be open prior to and immediately following the Liturgy. Maloney said 150 staff members and volunteers will be on hand to man the sales booths.

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(St. Elizabeth's Parishioner)

Charles A. Doring, D.D.S., F.A.G.D.

Clementina Perez-West, D.D.S.

(St. Raphael's Parishioner) (Fluent in Spanish)



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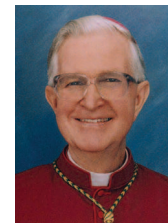
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Embassy of Italy 3000 Whitehaven Street, NW Washington, District of Columbia
Cocktail Reception: 6:30 PM
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For further information, please contact Sr. Kate Clancy 202.529.7627 or kclancy@soar-usa.org

All proceeds of this event will support the care of elderly Catholic sisters and brothers

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PAPAL VISIT

Jesuits excited one of their own – Pope Francis – is coming to Washington



By Maureen Boyle
Special to the Standard

When Pope Francis, the first pontiff from the Society of Jesus, visits the Archdiocese of Washington in less than two weeks, he will set foot on soil nourished by more than 375 years of distinguished Jesuit tradition and history.

In 1634, Jesuit Father Andrew White and other Jesuit priests from England arrived with Maryland's first settlers on the Ark and the Dove ships and celebrated the first Mass in the English-speaking colonies on the shores of St. Clement's Island. More than 100 years later, Jesuit John Carroll, a native Marylander, became the first Catholic bishop of the United States. The early Jesuit missionary priests were among the pioneer Catholics of the 13 original colonies, ministering on horseback and establishing parishes throughout the archdiocese. Archbishop Carroll went on to found Georgetown University in 1789.

Present-day Jesuits serve as pastors, school administrators, teachers, professors, chaplains and

spiritual directors throughout the Archdiocese of Washington. The Society of Jesus staffs St. Ignatius Parish in Chapel Point and Holy Trinity Parish in the Georgetown neighborhood of Washington. The order sponsors Washington Jesuit Academy, Gonzaga College High School and Georgetown University, all in Washington, D.C.; and Georgetown Preparatory School in North Bethesda, as well as Loyola Retreat House in Faulkner, in Charles County in Southern Maryland.

"Our presence in the Archdiocese of Washington is very close to what our presence is in Buenos Aires – as missionaries in the new world," said Jesuit Father Tom Clifford, pastor of St. Ignatius Church, Chapel Point, referring to his order's long history in the United States and in Argentina, the birthplace of Pope Francis.

Pope Francis, the former Jorge Mario Bergoglio, entered the novitiate of the Society of Jesus in 1958 and two years later took his first vows. He taught in Jesuit high schools in Argentina and was ordained a priest in 1969.

Father Clifford said his parishioners are looking forward with great anticipation to the pope's visit to the archdiocese. "There is a real sense of connectedness to him among our families because of the Jesuit tradition here that goes back more than 300 years," he said.

St. Ignatius Parish, which celebrates its 375th anniversary in 2016, is one of the oldest Catholic parishes in continuous service in the United States. The current church building was constructed in 1798 and blessed by Archbishop John Carroll.

"They feel very close to Pope Francis and speak of him as one of their own," said Jesuit Father Mark Horak, pastor of Holy Trinity Parish in Washington since 2008.

Holy Trinity Parish was

Continued on page 69

CS PHOTO

BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

A statue of Archbishop John Carroll – the nation's first Catholic bishop who founded Georgetown University, the nation's first Catholic college, in 1789 – stands near Healy Hall on campus.

2015 PONTIFICAL JOHN PAUL II INSTITUTE ESSAY CONTEST

All college juniors and seniors in the 2015-16 academic year are invited to write an original essay, drawing on *Fides et ratio* (especially n. 108), commenting on the significance of Mary for philosophy.

Entry Deadline: October 1, 2015

1ST PLACE: \$2,000

2ND PLACE: \$750

For official rules and detailed essay topic, visit

www.johnpaulii.edu



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PAPAL VISIT

Continued from 68

established in 1787 by Archbishop Carroll and is the oldest Catholic church in

Georgetown.

The Jesuit's Ignatian spirituality, said both priests, is seen throughout Pope



CS PHOTO BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

After celebrating a Sept. 1 Mass of the Holy Spirit at Georgetown University, Cardinal Donald Wuerl blesses Anastasia Schied (left) and Elizabeth Moroni (right), second-year medical school students who also work at the Hoya Clinic, a student-managed free medical clinic.

Francis's pontificate in his writings and talks. "Whether you are a scholastic, the pope or a novice, it is something that binds us and is stronger than blood," said Father Horak.

Father Clifford said he admires Pope Francis for his ability, in the Jesuit tradition, to encourage the faithful to always seek ways "to grow in understanding and knowledge of Christ in our present day and age."

Both priests said they hope to concelebrate the Mass with Pope Francis at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on the campus of The Catholic University of America on Wednesday, Sept. 23.

To prepare for his visit, the priests said their parishioners are praying for him and studying his writings, especially his recent encyclical, *Laudato Si'*. "They really want to honor him by taking what he has said to heart," said Father Horak.

Kennedy Center concert will honor visit of Pope Francis

By Richard Szczepanowski
Catholic Standard

In honor of Pope Francis's historic visit to Washington, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts will offer a free concert on Sept. 23 at 8 p.m. in the center's Concert Hall.

Mezzo-soprano Denyce Graves – who performed for Pope Benedict XVI when the pontiff visited Washington in 2008 – and the National Symphony Orchestra are among those scheduled to perform. Also on the line-

up are child prodigy pianist 10-year old José André Montañó, the National Youth Orchestra of Uruguay, soprano Ariana Wehr, and others.

The program will include works by Mozart, Holst, Franck, Britten and others. During the concert, a message from Pope Francis, who will not be in attendance, will be read.

Tickets for the concert, which is being offered in cooperation with the Archdiocese of Washington and supported by Georgetown University, will be distributed up to two per person in line on Sept. 23 at the entrance to the Hall of Nations, beginning at 6 p.m.

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Jesuits' historic presence in this archdiocese

Jesuit Father Andrew White was an English Jesuit missionary who sailed on the Ark and the Dove across the Atlantic Ocean with Maryland's early Catholic settlers, landing on the shores of St. Clement's Island on March 25, 1634, when he celebrated the first Catholic Mass in the English-speaking colonies. He is sometimes referred to as the "Apostle of Maryland."

Georgetown University was founded in 1789 by Bishop John Carroll. It was originally called Georgetown College and is the nation's first and oldest Catholic Jesuit institution of higher learning.

St. Ignatius Parish, Chapel Point was founded by the Jesuits in 1641 and continues to be staffed by the order. In the 18th and 19th centuries, priests ministered from there on horseback to all of Charles County, as well as parts of Prince George's and Calvert Counties in Maryland. The church is also home to what is believed to be a relic of the True Cross brought to the new world by Father Andrew White and used by him to heal an Indian boy. Today, there are 450 parish families.

Holy Trinity Parish, Washington, D.C., is located just a few blocks away from Georgetown University and was established in 1787 by Archbishop John Carroll. It is the oldest Catholic church in the Georgetown neighborhood of the District of Columbia and continues to be staffed by the Jesuits.

Gonzaga College High School, Washington, D.C., is an all-boys Jesuit high school founded in 1821 and named in honor of St. Aloysius Gonzaga, a 16th century Italian Jesuit saint.

Washington Jesuit Academy, Washington, D.C., is a middle school for boys in grades 5 through 8 from low-income communities. The school was founded by the Jesuit communities of Washington, D.C. in 2001 and provides a tuition-free education through its sponsors. In 2014, WJA graduated its 10th class.

Georgetown Preparatory School in North Bethesda, is a Jesuit high school for boys founded by Bishop John Carroll in 1789.

Loyola Retreat House, Faulkner, is a retreat house founded in 1958 by the Society of Jesus that sits on a bluff overlooking the Potomac River in Charles County, Maryland.

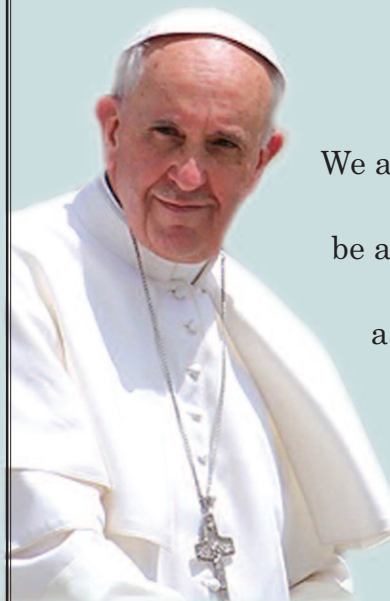
Ignatian Volunteer Corps, which was established in 1995 by two Jesuit priests, is a lay organization with a strong Ignatian spirituality and tradition that provides volunteer opportunities for people to serve area's needy at dozens of sites such as Catholic Charities and the Father McKenna Center.

The John Carroll Society
of the Archdiocese of Washington

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**His Holiness
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on his historic trip
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as we strive to walk with you
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Founded in 1951, the John Carroll Society of the Archdiocese of Washington is an organization of Catholic professionals united in seeking to enrich their faith and in service to the Archbishop of Washington. For more information about the Society's programs, which focus on spirituality, fellowship, and service, please visit johncarrollsociety.org.



THE JOHN CARROLL SOCIETY
Archdiocese of Washington

ARCHDIOCESE

Chapel of Our Lady of Hungary dedicated at National Shrine

By Mark Zimmermann
Catholic Standard

Acknowledging Mary as the “mother of all nations, but especially of us,” Cardinal Péter Erdő of Esztergom-Budapest joined Washington Cardinal Donald Wuerl in blessing and dedicating the new Chapel of Our Lady of Hungary at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Aug. 29.

In his homily at the Mass that preceded the chapel's dedication, Cardinal Erdő prayed that Our Lady as the patroness of Hungary, joined by the Hungarian saints, would intercede on behalf of Hungarians living in America and all over the world, and also intercede on behalf of the United States and its people.

“Our languages, traditions and community lives may be very different, but our Catholic faith is the same all over the world. The Church wants to speak to everyone so as to find the best way to one's heart,” the Hungarian cardinal said in his homily, encouraging people to find hope and meaning in their lives by meeting Jesus and forming a personal relationship with him. The cardinal concluded his homily by saying, “May God give us that this chapel strengthened the community of faith and love between us.”

The 1,000 pilgrims attending the Mass and dedication included a delegation from Hungary, and Hungarians from across the United States and Canada. Cardinal Wuerl, who as archbishop of Washington serves as the chairman of the National Shrine's Board of Trustees, was the principal celebrant of the Mass. The concelebrants included Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganó, the apostolic nuncio to the United States and personal representative of Pope Francis; Arlington Bishop Paul S. Loverde; and Bishop Kurt R. Burnette of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic, New Jersey.

After Communion, Msgr. Walter Rossi, the basilica's rector, expressed gratitude for the assistance provided by the Hungarian government to ensure that the chapel was built. “This is the 81st chapel to be added to the shrine, and only the second to be financially supported by a country,” he said. (The government of Austria provided funding for the shrine's Chapel of Our Lady of Mariazell, which was dedicated in 1992.)

In addition to the support from the government of Hungary and donations from Hungarians of American



NATIONAL SHRINE PHOTOS BY LESLIE KOSSOFF

During an Aug. 29 Mass preceding the dedication of the new Our Lady of Hungary Chapel at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington Cardinal Donald Wuerl receives the offertory gifts from Sylvia Földes-Berman (left) and her sister Andrea Berman. The young women wearing traditional Hungarian dress are members of St. Stephen Hungarian Roman Catholic Church in Passaic, New Jersey.

descent, the new Our Lady of Hungary Chapel was built with the support of the Hungarian Catholic Bishops' Conference, which is led by Cardinal Erdő.

In 2006 – the 50th anniversary the Hungarian revolution – the prelate petitioned that a chapel be established in the National Shrine to honor Our Lady of Hungary and St. Stephen, the first Christian king of Hungary. The chapel was completed this spring.

The dedication of the Chapel of Our Lady of Hungary, which is located in the basilica's Crypt level, began with a procession starting in the Great Upper Church, where the Mass was held. A first-class relic of St. Stephen – a gift of Cardinal Erdő and the Archdiocese of Esztergom-Budapest – was brought to the chapel and placed in a reliquary there.

The chapel features a large mosaic of Our Lady of Hungary, surrounded by Hungarian saints Emeric, Gerard, Ladislaus, Elizabeth, Gizela and Margaret. The altar, made of Hungarian Tardos marble, is modeled on the design of the altar at the Basilica of St. Stephen in Hungary. Marble reliefs depict the baptism of St. Stephen and his coronation as king of Hungary on Christmas Day, 1000, and St. Stephen giving his crown to the Blessed Virgin Mary on the day of his death in 1038. St. Stephen unified Hungary into a single kingdom and established Christianity as its religion.

Hungarian marble and stone were used to construct the walls, floor and altar of the chapel, which were fabricated in Hungary.

Hungarian Scouts, including boys and girls and young adults, handed out programs and helped serve as ushers for the Mass and ceremony. The Mass, with readings in English and Hungarian, opened with a prelude that included the *Ave Maria* by the famous Hungarian composer Franz Liszt, and music from other noted Hungarian composers, including Zoltán Kodály, was sung throughout the liturgy.

After Communion, Dr. Réka Szemerkenyi – the ambassador of Hungary to the United States – noted how Hungarian refugees fleeing Communist oppression in their country

found hope in the United States, and relied on their faith as they built new lives in this country. “Generations of Hungarians arrived in the United States with suitcases in their hands, and felt it was their first priority to build churches,” she said.

The new chapel, she said, is a source of great joy for Hungarians. “A chapel is not about the past. It is about our present values, and hope for the future,” the ambassador said.

Dr. László Kövér, the speaker of the Hungarian National Assembly, also spoke after Communion, noting, “We believe faith and morality will always remain the foundation of the future of mankind... This chapel will without doubt be a spiritual home for Hungarians and Hungarian Americans.”

Cardinal Wuerl in his closing remarks at the Mass said, “The chapel will be a visible, physical reminder to all of us of the bonds we share that unite us in faith and history.”

After the chapel was dedicated, the pilgrims lining up to see it included Maria Kauremszky, who lives in Niagara Falls, Ontario, and is a member of Our Lady of Hungary Church in Welland, Ontario. Following the 1956 revolution in Hungary, she and her parents and four siblings escaped to Canada, when she was 12, with “what we had on our backs. It was difficult,” she said, adding, “We always had our faith. That's the foundation of our lives.”

Robert Popper, who fled from Hungary as a young man in 1950 and is now retired and living in Washington, said with his Catholic faith, “I never felt alone.”

The gift bearers at the Mass included five young adults of Hungarian descent wearing native costumes. Sylvia Földes-Berman, 19, wore a deep green vest and skirt with ornate, hand-sewn embroidery, and her sister Andrea Berman, 17, wore a matching red outfit. Both are members of St. Stephen Hungarian Roman Catholic Church in Passaic, New Jersey. When asked about Hungarians' devotion to Our Lady, the older sister said, “She's our mother, socially and religiously.”



Washington Cardinal Donald Wuerl (at left) anoints the new altar of the Chapel of Our Lady of Hungary at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Aug. 29. At right is Cardinal Péter Erdő of Esztergom-Budapest, who led the effort to build the chapel and concelebrated the Mass preceding its blessing. Behind Cardinal Wuerl is Father Charles Cortinovis, the cardinal's priest secretary.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR AND MASS READINGS



<p>September 13 Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</p> <p>Readings: Isaiah 50:5-9 James 2:14-18 Mark 8:27-35</p>	<p>September 14 The Exaltation of the Holy Cross</p> <p>Readings: Numbers 21:4-9 Philippians 2:6-11 John 3:13-17</p>	<p>September 15 Our Lady of Sorrows</p> <p>Readings: 1 Timothy 3:1-13 John 19:25-27 or Luke 2:33-35</p>	<p>September 16 St. Cornelius, pope and martyr St. Cyprian, bishop and martyr</p> <p>Readings: 1 Timothy 3:14-16 Luke 7:31-35</p>	<p>September 17 Thursday of the 24th Week in Ordinary Time St. Robert Bellarmine, bishop and Doctor of the Church</p> <p>Readings: 1 Timothy 4:2-16 Luke 7:36-50</p>	<p>September 18 Friday of the 24th Week in Ordinary Time</p> <p>Readings: 1 Timothy 6:2-12 Luke 8:1-3</p>	<p>September 19 Saturday of the 24th Week in Ordinary Time St. Januarius, bishop and martyr Blessed Virgin Mary</p> <p>Readings: 1 Timothy 6:13-16 Luke 8:4-15</p>
<p>September 20 Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</p> <p>Readings: Wisdom 2:12, 17-20 James 3:16-4:3 Mark 9:30-37</p>	<p>September 21 St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist</p> <p>Readings: Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13 Matthew 9:9-13</p>	<p>September 22 Tuesday of the 25th Week in Ordinary Time</p> <p>Readings: Ezra 6:7-8, 12, 14-20 Luke 8:19-21</p>	<p>September 23 St. Peter Claver, priest</p> <p>Readings: Colossians 3:1-11 Luke 6:20-26</p>	<p>September 24 Padre Pio (St. Pius of Pietrelcina), priest</p> <p>Readings: Ezra 9:5-9 Tobit 13:2-4, 7-8 Luke 9:1-6</p>	<p>September 25 Friday of the 25th Week in Ordinary Time</p> <p>Readings: Haggai 2:1-9 Luke 9:18-22</p>	<p>September 26 Saturday of the 25th Week in Ordinary Time St. Cosmas, martyr St. Damian, martyr Blessed Virgin Mary</p> <p>Readings: Zechariah 8:1-8 Luke 9:46-50</p>

Papal intentions for September are as follows: the general intention is that opportunities for education and employment may increase for all young people. The mission intention is that catechists may give witness by living in a way consistent with the faith they proclaim.

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Sept. 14)



recalls the date that St. Helena discovered the true cross of Christ and also marks the anniversary of the construction of a church over the place of the crucifixion and His grave. The Church teaches that the Holy Cross of Jesus is the instrument of our redemption, and as believers in Christ we must take up His Cross and follow Him, being obedient until death. A parish in Garrett Park and a hospital in Silver Spring is named after the Holy Cross.

Our Lady of Sorrows (Sept. 15) is an ancient commemoration of: the prophecy of Simeon, the flight into Egypt, Jesus being lost for three days, Mary meeting Jesus on the way to Calvary, the crucifixion, removing Jesus's body from the cross, and the burial of Jesus. A parish in Takoma Park honors Our Lady under this title.

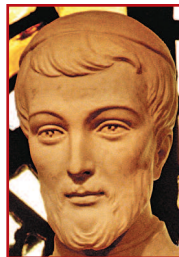


St. Cyprian (Sept. 16) was born in North Africa in the third century and taught rhetoric. After his conversion to Christianity, he was ordained a priest and later became bishop of Carthage in 248 and survived persecution by going into hiding. He backed Pope Cornelius during a schism and supported his decision to readmit apostates to the Church after a period of penance. St. Cyprian also organized care for plague victims. He was beheaded under Valerian's persecution. A parish in Washington is named in his honor.



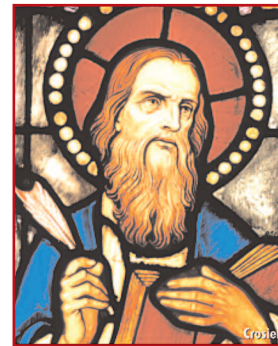
St. Cornelius (Sept. 16) was elected pope following the persecution of Emperor Decius. His opponents included Novatian, the first antipope. A church synod supported the pope and Novatian was excommunicated. He was martyred in 253 after being exiled to Civitavecchia.

St. Robert Bellarmine (Sept. 17) was a 17th century Jesuit cardinal who was known as a brilliant scholar, preacher, writer and apologist during the Counter Reformation. He wrote a catechism and was the one who informed Galileo that his defense of Copernicus was condemned by the Vatican. He was the former cardinal archbishop of Montepulciano, and died in Rome in 1621.



St. Januarius (Sept. 19) was a fourth century bishop in Italy. According to tradition, he was martyred under the persecution of Diocletian by being thrown to bears. He is the

patron saint of Naples, Italy, where the faithful gather three times a year to witness what appears to be the liquification of his blood that is kept in a glass ampoule.



St. Matthew (Sept. 21) was an Apostle to whom one of the four Gospels is attributed. His Gospel, written primarily for a Jewish-Christian audience, portrays Christianity as consistent with and a continuation of the Jewish tradition. St. Matthew is believed to have preached in Judea and Ethiopia where he was martyred. He is the patron saint of accountants and customs officers. The cathedral church of the Archdiocese of Washington is named after him.

Padre Pio (Sept. 23) is officially called St. Pio of Pietrelcina. He was a Capuchin priest who was known for his holiness and for suffering the stigmata. He died Sept. 23, 1968, was beatified in 1999 and canonized in 2002.

St. Cosmas and St. Damien (Sept. 26) were martyred about 300 in Syria. They were twin brothers and physicians. They were called the "moneyless ones" because of the free care they offered to the sick. After being tortured, they were beheaded when they would not recant their Christian faith. The brothers are the patron saints of physicians, surgeons, druggists, barbers and the blind.



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Bishop Ireton High School has an immediate opening for an experienced Communications & Marketing Manager. This is a 12-month, full-time administrative position that reports directly to the Head of School. We are seeking an experienced professional who can effectively steward the Catholic educational mission and identity of our School and strategically grow the Bishop Ireton brand.

In conjunction with the Head of School, the Communications & Marketing Manager will work closely with the Advancement and Admission Offices to develop and execute strategic communications and marketing plans that promote the short- and long-term goals for the School.

The Communications & Marketing Manager will organize, develop, implement, and oversee all internal and external communications and marketing endeavors for the school in order to inform, engage, and motivate the School's constituent groups. This individual will ensure that all correspondence (electronic and print publications, press releases, mailers, apparel, website, social media, etc.) is mission-driven, accurately branded, relevant, competitive, and ultimately supports the School's advancement and other initiatives.

Qualifications

The Communications & Marketing Manager must exhibit strong interpersonal skills, be detail-oriented, and have the ability to work independently and as part of a team and the greater Bishop Ireton community. Requirements for this position include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Minimum of a bachelor's degree in Communications, Marketing, Public Relations, or similar field
- Commitment to the Catholic educational mission
- Superb written and oral communication skills; exceptional editing skills essential
- Minimum three to five years' experience in the field of communications and marketing, preferably in an educational setting
- Strategic and creative mind; conscientious, forward-thinking, and self-motivated; flexibility essential
- Ability to manage several multifaceted projects simultaneously and independently while meeting aggressive deadlines

For a full job description and application instructions, please contact: Sandi Day, Executive Assistant to the Head of School
Bishop Ireton High School, days@bishpireton.org



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Bishop Ireton High School has an immediate opening for Dean of Academics. This is a 12-month, full-time administrative position that reports directly to the Director of Instruction (Principal/Chief Academic Officer). We are seeking an experienced professional who can effectively manage and coordinate faculty efforts to steward the Catholic educational mission of our School.

The DOA will chiefly be responsible for scheduling of all faculty and proctoring duties, including working with the IT department to establish to school master schedule and individual teacher and classroom assignments.

Qualifications


- Master's Degree in Education or Education Administration preferred
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- Experience with reaccreditation and self-study through AdvancEd or similar crediting organization preferred
- Minimum five years experience as a teacher
- Ability to lead and inspire a dedicated, professional faculty toward instructional excellence within a rigorous educational program
- An understanding of the mission of Bishop Ireton High School and the value of Catholic secondary education
- Ability to multi-task projects and duties in a collaborative working environment

For a full job description and application instructions, please contact:
Yuko Medvigy
Assistant to the Director
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SENIORS

Gonzaga's 'man for others'

On stage and in classroom, Dr. Warman left his mark on generations of Gonzaga College High School students



GONZAGA PHOTO BY CHRISTIAN FORTE

Dr. John Warman piloted more than 350 musical productions from the piano pit at the theater at Gonzaga College High School in his nearly 50 years teaching at the all-boys' Jesuit high school in Washington. He died at the desk in his classroom on Aug. 25.

By Mark Zimmermann
Catholic Standard

For nearly 50 years, the opening of each musical at Gonzaga College High School was itself a show-stopper. Suddenly a spotlight shined on the side of the darkened stage, and Dr. John C. Warman appeared from the wings, smiling and walking confidently past the curtain, dressed in a tuxedo or his ever-present suit and tie, and then settled in the piano pit. From that spot, the virtuoso pianist piloted more than 350 performances, playing entire Broadway musical scores without sheet music – by heart and with passion, the same way he was known to conduct Latin and Greek classes as chairman of the school's classics department. "I'm a teacher," Dr. Warman said in a 1993 interview, explaining his role in the classroom, and as the musical director, and often the producer and director, of Gonzaga's performances.

Each year, he made about four pilgrimages to Broadway, to scout out musicals for the generations of high school boys and girls who per-

formed in the Gonzaga Dramatic Association's productions at the all-boys Jesuit high school near Washington's Union Station. "I don't want it to be a high school play, I want it to be a Broadway show!" he said.

Gonzaga's Theatre, which opened in 1896 and is the oldest continually running theater in Washington was, in Dr. Warman's words, "sacred space" to him, and when it was renovated three years ago, the stage was named in his honor.

On Sept. 1, a standing-room crowd of the Gonzaga community – including graduates and current students who took his classes or performed in his musicals – gathered at St. Aloysius Gonzaga Catholic Church in Washington, for Dr. Warman's Mass of Christian Burial. The veteran of 48 years of teaching at Gonzaga – his alma mater – died on Aug. 25 of an apparent heart attack at the age of 75. He was found unresponsive at his desk in his classroom at the beginning of first period.

In a letter to the Gonzaga community, Jesuit Father Stephen Planning, Gonzaga's

Continued on page 76

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SENIORS

Continued from page 75

president, wrote, "Doc lived his whole life in service to Gonzaga and, especially, to its students. God also granted him the final grace of dying doing what he loved, seated at his desk, in a suit as always, ready to teach the students he cherished so deeply."

The honorary pallbearers at the Funeral Mass included Dr. Warman's classmates from Gonzaga's class of 1957, and the offertory gifts were brought to the altar by representatives of the Gonzaga Dramatic Association. Gonzaga's choral group, the Eye Street Boys, sang at the Mass.

In his homily, Father Planning noted that Dr. Warman epitomized the school's motto and its goal for the young men educated there. "Doc was indeed the consummate Gonzaga 'man for others,'" he said.

The Gospel at the Mass quoted Jesus describing the greatest love as being the willingness to lay down one's life for one's

friends. Such love does not always unfold in a single dramatic action, but sometimes "can be done slowly and steadily over the course of life," said Father Planning. That, he said, is what Dr. Warman did, sharing his musical and teaching gifts to help people become closer to God and each other, and helping "countless young men and women to be brave and bold. Doc did indeed lay down his life for his friends, and we were lucky enough to be his friends."

After Communion, tributes were offered to Dr. Warman, including by Ra'Mond Jamar Shephard Hines, a member of Gonzaga's class of 2014, who said his Latin and Greek teacher "changed my life forever," as a teacher and as a friend. "Latin and Greek flowed from his tongue like poetry," he said.

William J. Wilson Jr., a longtime Gonzaga faculty member who serves as a counselor at the school, praised Dr. Warman for his role in helping the Gonzaga musicals become one of the school's "crown jewels." Wilson said his fellow educator's spirit and faith played a pivotal role as Gonzaga endured a challenging period of declining enrollment in the late 1960s and early 1970s and continued in its location in Washington, where it is thriving today.

He also noted how his colleague became known for singing the National Anthem quickly and well before countless Gonzaga basketball games, and also for helping lead cheers at pep rallies against Gonzaga's archrival, St. John's College High School.

Wilson said Dr. Warman was a man who could be both

Continued on page 77

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Dr. Warman also known as longtime organist at three Washington churches

In addition to teaching at Gonzaga, Dr. Warman was also well known for serving as an organist at three Washington parishes for nearly five decades - as the director of music at Our Lady of Victory, and playing for the Sunday evening Mass at Immaculate Conception Church and for the Miraculous Medal Novena on Monday evenings at St. Mary, Mother of God Church.

Father Alfred Harris, the pastor of St. Mary, Mother of God Parish, praised Dr. Warman's "dedication and trustworthiness."

"You could count on him to be there to play," he said.

Msgr. James Watkins, the pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, noted that Dr. Warman served as the volunteer organist for the Sunday evening Masses there for 51 years, and only missed a handful of times, including for the "snowmageddon" blizzard. "He stayed faithful," said Msgr. Watkins. He noted that Dr. Warman had a "tremendous gift" and brought out the best, not only in the organ, but in the composer's music, always playing without sheet music.

To honor Dr. Warman and to celebrate the restoration of their church's historic 1879 Steer & Turner Tracker Organ, Immaculate Conception Parish will have an organ concert there on Oct. 17 at 7 p.m., featuring the music of Bach and other composers.

At Our Lady of Victory Parish, Dr. Warman served as the director of music, leading the adult choir and playing for three services every weekend, and he also played for countless weddings, funerals and school graduations.

"He was dedicated to the Church, and loved everything about it," said Father William Foley, a former pastor of Our Lady of Victory who now leads St. Patrick Parish in Rockville.

Ten years ago, Our Lady of Victory Parish established the John Warman Scholarship for Catholic high school students to honor their parish's longtime director of music.

Teresa Giral, the executive director of the scholarship fund, wrote in a tribute that Dr. Warman "was a superb organist who played with unfettered enjoyment and sentiment. And as an accompanist, John displayed the rare ability to simultaneously guide and follow his vocalists, seamlessly covering miscues... For 46 years, John Warman kept the music playing at OLV, charming generations with his gentlemanly manner, his indefatigable spirit, and his love of music."

In honor of Dr. Warman, memorial donations can be made to Gonzaga College High School (gonzaga.org) or to the John Warman Scholarship Fund (johnwarman.org).

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OBITUARY

Continued from page 76

reverent and irreverent, and classical and modern, and who over his nearly five decades of teaching at Gonzaga was known to have only missed a day of class – for his mother’s funeral. As Gonzaga’s classics teacher and as its drama program’s musical director, Dr. Warman was “an example of what’s possible when you put your whole heart into something you love,” Wilson said.

Dr. Francis Warman began his tribute to his older brother by playing the piano and leading in the congregation in singing “Amazing Grace.”

Noting his brother’s habit of stepping outside for a smoke before he playing the organ for Mass, Francis Warman joked, “John is not here for the moment. He stepped out for a cigarette.”

Speaking of his brother’s upbeat personality, Francis Warman said he was “genuinely happy from the moment he was born.”

John Warman, he added, started playing the piano when he was in diapers. “He sat down at the keyboards and owned them,” he said, noting that their mother sang his older brother Broadway show music for lullabies. “He was playing Bach and Beethoven by age 10.”

Dr. Francis Warman – who is a psychologist – also explained the origin of his brother’s love for Latin, noting that he began serving as an altar boy at the age of 7, when Masses were in Latin. “He was speaking Latin at age 7 and never stopped,” he said.

John Warman was born in Washington in 1939 – “a war baby who became a Warman,” his brother joked – and was valedictorian of his graduating classes at Sacred Heart School and then at Gonzaga, where he was also named as his class’s best musician. After earning a degree at Georgetown University, graduate studies in Toronto and working for a year at a piano bar in a Washington hotel, John Warman joined Gonzaga’s faculty in 1967 as a Latin and Greek teacher and became chairman of the school’s classics department three years later. In 1986, Georgetown presented him with an honorary doctorate in recognition of the impact he had on so



GONZAGA PHOTO
Dr. John Warman

many Gonzaga graduates, and from that point, he was known to the school community as “Dr. Warman” or just “Doc.” In 2013, he received the St. Aloysius Medal for dedication to Gonzaga.

After the Mass, Gonzaga students and faculty members reflected on Dr. Warman’s influence on their lives.

Devin Stanton, a member of Gonzaga’s class of 2017, said Dr. Warman not only taught him Latin, but taught him about “becoming a man,” and “to treat everyone with respect, and to love everybody.”

Several noted what a great storyteller that Dr. Warman was in the classroom. Another of his Latin students, Connor Joransen of the class of 2017, said, “He was passionate about everything he

did. He respected me as a man, not a kid. He showed everyone respect.”

Peter Marcou, a member of Gonzaga’s class of 2016, noted that as a young boy, he came to see his older brothers perform in Gonzaga’s musicals, and he even got Dr. Warman’s autograph after one performance, after watching him play in the piano pit. At Gonzaga, Marcou performed in “42nd Street” and “Fiddler on the Roof” under Dr. Warman’s musical direction. “He taught me how to be loud and to be myself on stage, and how to perform to the audience. I really am thankful for that,” Marcou said.

Like generations of Gonzaga graduates who performed on the stage or assisted in the crew, Dr. Warman’s name was painted in graffiti on the back wall, with his year of graduation. Some graduates became movie actors or stage performers, and while most went on to a variety of other professions, including doctors, engineers and lawyers, they all gained confidence from singing on Gonzaga’s stage. He once said, “There’s something very special about a high school play, the sheer enthusiasm of young people that I think can be even more exciting and entertaining than slick

professionalism.”

Before graduating from Gonzaga in 1986, Paul Buckley performed in several productions led by Dr. Warman, including “Damn Yankees” and “Annie.” Now Buckley teaches math at Gonzaga and runs the theater program there.

“He loved being here. He loved teaching here... He bled purple,” Buckley said of his friend and mentor. Under Dr. Warman’s direction, the musicals became “a centerpiece” of the school year. “They were such a spectacle... he was at the forefront of that... He loved to see them perform and get applause.”

Dr. Warman, he added, “was the heart of the theater.” This year, the show will go on there, as Gonzaga students perform “Arsenic and Old Lace” and “Godspell” this fall and “Hairspray” next spring on the Warman Stage. “It (our theater) has been around 120 years, and it’ll keep going,” said Buckley.

At the Funeral Mass, Father Planning noted that Dr. Warman never married or had children of his own, but “the Gonzaga community was his one true love,” and he added that St. Aloysius Church was filled on that day with the teacher’s “sons and daughters, and his brothers

and sisters.”

John Warman’s survivors include his brother; two nieces; the many Gonzaga students he taught in the classroom and on stage; the audiences who heard him play at Gonzaga’s productions; his fellow Gonzaga faculty and staff members; and the congregations at the three Washington Catholic churches for whom he faithfully played the organ at Masses and prayer services

for five decades (see sidebar story).

In a tribute to Dr. Warman on Gonzaga’s website, Father Planning expressed thanks to him “for teaching us, for entertaining us, and for loving us so well.”

Then the school’s president closed with a Latin phrase that the classics teacher would have appreciated – *Atque in perpetuum frater ave atque vale* – “And forever, brother, hail and farewell!”

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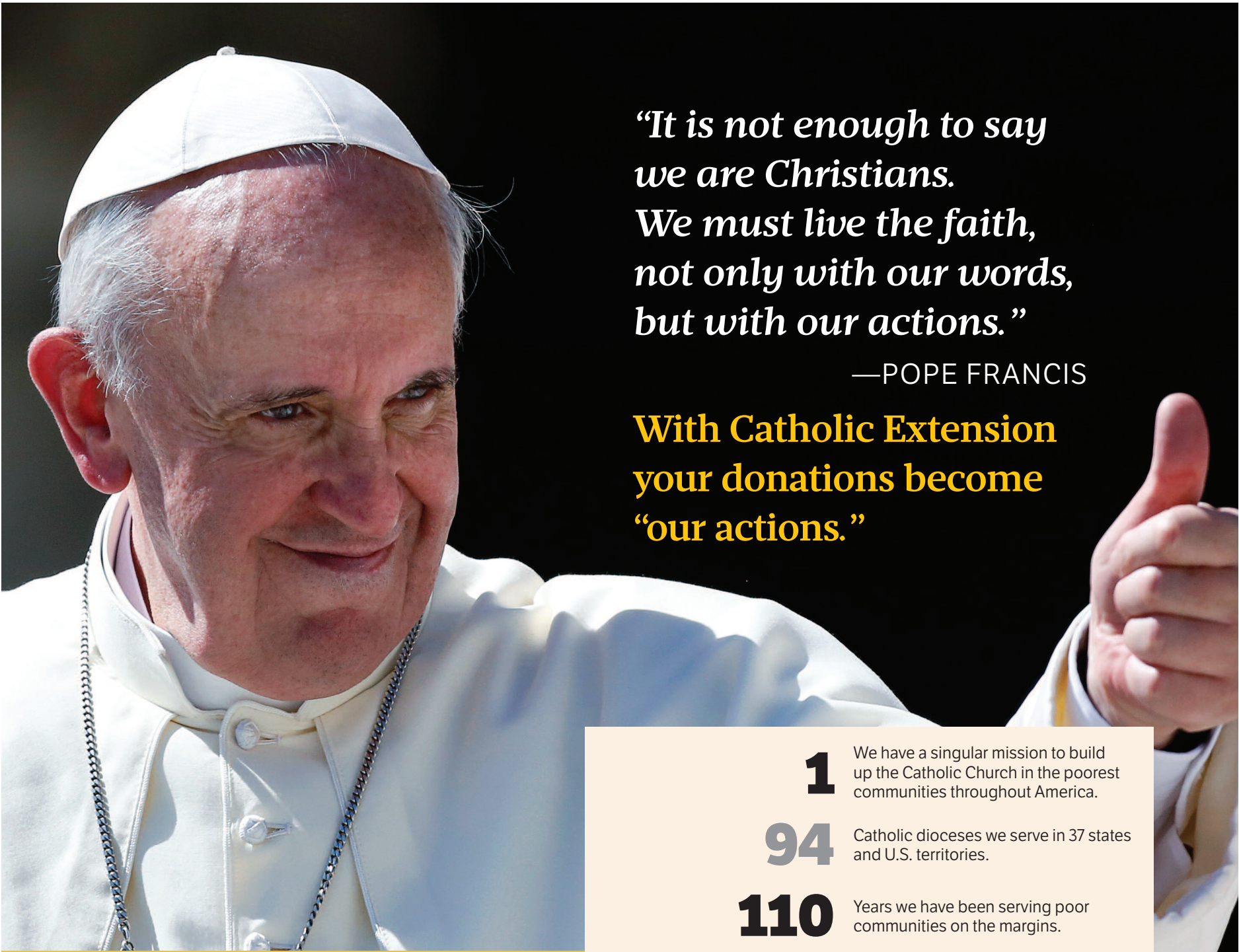
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