



The Florida Catholic

Feb. 5, 2004/Vol. 65/No. 7

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Compliments of Bishop Dorsey

This edition of *The Florida Catholic* has been sent to every registered Catholic home compliments of Bishop Dorsey.

MAILING LABEL BELOW

'Our Catholic Appeal' set for Feb. 14-15

Julie Greene

ORLANDO

Through its various ministries and departments the Orlando Diocese takes on a variety of tasks to assist with the physical, spiritual and emotional well-being of the estimated 350,000 Catholics in the diocese, as well as reach out to the wider community.

The diocese prepares young men for priesthood and provides training to teachers and reli-

gious educators who teach the faith to young people in area parishes and Catholic schools. It assists the poor, immigrants and refugees through Catholic Charities, the Office of Farmworker Ministry and the Mission Office; and promotes respect life initiatives in the areas of pro-life, aging, disabilities and social justice. Engaged couples prepare for marriage and lay ministers gain the necessary training they need to work in parishes and outreach agencies.

It also seeks to meet the spiritual needs of the homebound through the TV Mass and the Spanish-speaking public through Radio Paz Orlando.

Forty-eight diocesan agencies and departments in all,

both directly and indirectly assist the diocese's 83 parishes and missions by providing resources, training and pastoral support. Each of these departments and ministries receives some financial support to carry out its work through contributions made to "Our Catholic Appeal," the annual diocesan collection. This year's appeal weekend will take place Feb. 14-15.

The diocesan appeal, now in its 28th year, focuses on the theme of supporting its people, ministries and future "Based on Love." Bishop Norbert M. Dorsey, CP, and members of the Office for Stewardship and Development recently met with parish and re-

gional representatives to share information that allows Catholics to see how their contributions assist the diocese in carrying out its work on their behalf (see Page A8).

According to the Office of Stewardship and Development, "Our Catholic Appeal" provides the opportunity for each family in the diocese to contribute toward diocesan ministries and programs. Each parish is assessed an amount, that it must contribute to the diocese for ongoing support of the diocese's programs and ministries.

Contributions to the appeal also assist the diocese in planning for the future for new parishes, missions, schools

See APPEAL, Page A8



CNS PHOTO

March for Life participants rally outside Supreme Court

March for Life participants rally outside the U.S. Supreme Court building Jan. 22 in Washington. Catherine O'Brien, 12, perches on the shoulders of her sister, Christine, 15, at the end of the march. The girls from

Huntington, N.Y., were among thousands who joined in the annual demonstration against the Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion.

The Florida Catholic

Diocese of Orlando



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Leesburg parish remembers history and reflects on future during 50th anniversary

Julie Greene

LEESBURG

St. Paul Catholic Community kicked off its 50th anniversary as a parish Jan. 25 with a Mass and outdoor luncheon for close to 1,000 parishioners.

Coadjutor Bishop Thomas G. Wenski celebrated the opening Mass. He was joined by current and former pastors and priests of area parishes, including Father John Giel, current pastor; Father Anthony Palmese, former pastor at St. Paul and current pastor at St. Jude Parish in Ocala; and Father Peter Sagorski, pastor at St. Lawrence Parish in Bushnell, a former mission of the parish.

While the initial history of the parish community actually dates back to 1915 when Masses were celebrated in private homes in the Fruitland Park area, it took the community more than 35 years and a move to Leesburg before it was given parish status. Blessed Trinity in Ocala is credited with being the parish's mother church.

Msgr. George Cummings of Citrus County oversaw the mission from 1949 to 1952, assisting with its transition from a mission in Fruitland Park to the first and only Catholic mission in Leesburg. Barely two years after Msgr. Cummings left, the mission was elevated to parish status.

"I have fond memories of that time even though there were challenges," said the priest, who also was at the Mass as a concelebrant.

Among those challenges was convincing city officials to allow a Catholic church to be built in the area. According to parish history, there was a city ordinance at the time forbidding a Catholic church being built within city limits.

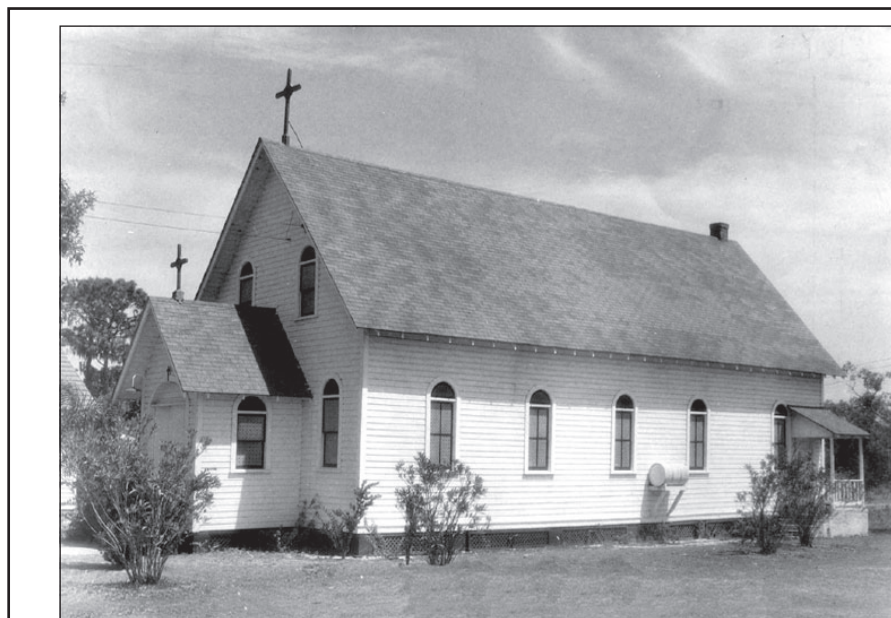
"The Catholic Church has an interesting history in this area," said Father Giel, prior to the Mass. "Our founding parishioners had to petition the city to allow a Catholic church here. Fifty years of growth and recognition is truly an historic happening."

During the Mass, Coadjutor Bishop Wenski acknowledged the day as a day of great joy.

"Today we celebrate how God has worked in the people here in Leesburg," he said. "We celebrate a Golden Jubilee – a milestone – one made possible through men and women of faith."

Bishop Wenski recalled some of the early pioneers of the parish, including the Martells who first offered their home for Mass and Father J.J. O'Riordan, a pastor at All Souls in Sanford, who made the journey each week to celebrate Mass for those early families.

"For 50 years and more you have given voice to their 'Amen's' and acknowledged God in your midst," he said. Those early priests and lay people



COURTESY PHOTO

Above, St. Paul Parish got its initial start in the Fruitland Park area before it found a home as a mission and eventually as a parish in 1954 in Leesburg.

Right, it took Anna Ceravola, a St. Paul's parishioner, six months to make the banner for the 50th anniversary celebration. The banner includes biblical symbols and screen-printed panels featuring photos of St. Paul's previous church buildings, as well as its mission parishes.



TFC PHOTO BY PETER KALETA

who served as builders of the faith community, he said, "couldn't have imagined what the future had in store."

"A quarter century before Pope John Paul II, pioneers showed they were not afraid nor were they ashamed to call themselves Catholic."

Over the years St. Paul Parish changed and expanded, opening and closing a school in the 1960s and reopening it again in the 1980s. The parish itself experienced much growth in the 1970s, increasing from 400 families to 1,100 families in 10 years. Church and ministry buildings have been added and renovated.

Today, St. Paul has a membership of 2,400 families and ministers to

approximately 5,500 parishioners through more than 56 ministries, including a national television/radio ministry – CCTN – the Catholic Community Television Network.

It has gained stature within the Leesburg community, helping to establish Christian Social Services of Lake and Sumter counties, sponsoring Shelter Project Hope, helping local individuals and families in need of temporary housing. The parish food pantry serves about 200 families each month.

The parish has plans to celebrate a number of anniversary-related activities over the next six months, including Holy Week services in April and closing with a special Mass June 29, the feast of Sts. Peter and Paul.

For details, call 352-787-6354.



Office of the Bishop
Feb. 5, 2004

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Perhaps like most of you, during the start of the new year, I try to spend some time in reflection on the past year, with its blessings and difficulties. I ask the Lord to give us new grace and wisdom as we try to put into practice what his son, Jesus, taught us.

One of the great sorrows of the past two years was the sex abuse scandals and our response to those painful situations. I have been bishop of the Diocese of Orlando for more than 13 years. My main concern has always been, and continues to be, safeguarding our vulnerable populations. Our policy has been clear: In the case of proven child sexual abuse, no one is restored to a position of ministry within the diocese. If the situation involves a priest, the individual is removed from active ministry and his faculties are taken away. He is no longer called "father" and is not allowed to wear clerical clothing.

Whenever possible, I have tried to meet with victims of abuse to apologize in my own name on behalf of all of us and to ask pardon for what they have suffered. I have also tried to be as upfront and honest with you about each situation or allegation, respecting as best as possible, the dignity of the victim and the person accused. To that end, a summary of our work to safeguard our vulnerable populations is printed in this issue of *The Florida Catholic*.

Moving forward from those situations, I write to tell you now about the release, at the end of February, of the results of a national study called the *John Jay Study*. This study is a tracking of all abuse cases perpetrated by clergy in the United States from 1950-2002. It was commissioned by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops to fulfill one of the requirements of the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People." The Diocese of Orlando participated in this study, as well as dioceses throughout the country. I do not know, at this writing, the specifics of what this study will reveal. However, I believe that the total results of this study could be difficult to hear and absorb and could cause a number of media stories in our country and throughout the world. I also believe that you and I may experience more sadness as we learn about this survey's results.

While being extremely sensitive to the suffering of the victims of abuse, we recognize the need to offer information regarding our own efforts. It is with much forethought and prayerful reflection that I share with you the following information:

Since the inception of the Diocese of Orlando in 1968 through June 2002, 36 victims courageously have come forward for help while 12 priests were credibly accused of some type of sexual misconduct with a minor and removed from ministry. This is approximately 2 percent of all of the priests that have served in our diocese during the past 36 years. A total of \$3,408,913 was paid in settlements in 1985. Since I became bishop of this diocese in 1990, \$293,022 was offered for victim assistance in the form of financial assistance, counseling and medications and \$566,291 was also paid in settlements. Our insurance program covers these expenses. Be assured that none of the donations you have contributed to charitable appeals has been used for these situations.

In these weeks before the release of this study, I ask that you pray for victims of abuse, for our priests and religious, the vast majority of whom serve the Lord with fidelity and integrity, and for each other that we may continue to find our trust and faith in the Lord.

My brothers and sisters, our Catholic faith is based in the Lord, and with His help we shall persevere. It is a privilege for me to serve you and I rejoice in our commitment to preach the Gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ. We reflect the goodness of God by our prayers and acts of charity. I am thankful that, in the Lord's name, we continue to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, house the homeless and teach our young.

+ Norbert M. Dorsey
+Norbert M. Dorsey
Bishop of Orlando



Diocese of Orlando Safeguarding our vulnerable populations

As Bishop Norbert M. Dorsey mentions in his letter, this is a summary of the work of the Diocese of Orlando to safeguard our vulnerable populations:

• Office of Child Protection compliance audit successfully completed

Last year, we participated in an audit through the Office of Child and Youth Protection. Two former FBI agents came to our diocese and reviewed our policies, as well as spoke with a number of individuals to determine that our diocese is in compliance with the requirements of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People was created by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in June 2002. We successfully passed the audit and received a commendation for our work in safeguarding our vulnerable populations.

• Diocesan policy complies with Florida law and charter

Some of you may be familiar with our diocesan policy, established in 1985 and revised as appropriate since then. It complies with Florida Law Reporting requirements and with the Charter for the Protection

of Children and Young People. As we ask our employees, priests, religious and teachers, we also ask you to be watchful and to abide by the reporting laws of our state, should you experience or witness a situation of abuse.

• Response team

Our volunteer response team was established in 1995. It is comprised of a law enforcement representative, a mental health counselor with experience in child sexual abuse, a victim, a parent and a priest.

The response team is consulted when an allegation of child sexual abuse occurs and offers counsel to Bishop Dorsey on these matters.

• Diocesan background check program

Many of you already have participated in our background check program, in which we have fingerprinted more than 43,600 clergy, religious, employees and volunteers through either the Florida Department of Law Enforcement or the FBI. The Diocese of Orlando was one of the first dioceses in the country to initiate a background

check program. This is an ongoing program with a seven-year recheck cycle.

• Prevention programs

We offer abuse prevention programs and brochures to our adults and students. We have a special section on our diocesan Web site with information regarding our policy, code of conduct and other material.

• Pastoral assistance for parishes/schools

When an allegation of sexual misconduct is made, crisis counselors reach out to parishioners, students, or staff to assist with any concerns they may have.

• Qualifications for seminarians

We established a process to better evaluate our seminar-

ians before they enter the priesthood through yearly evaluations, as well as psychological testing.

• Victim assistance

We meet with victims of abuse cases to help them in their healing. We try to address their emotional and financial needs. Equally important, they are always offered spiritual nourishment through counseling and the sacraments. We ask victims who may be struggling with such a situation to speak to someone, whether it is law enforcement, the bishop, or the victim assistance coordinator.

• Pastoral assistance for the accused

Through a licensed mental-health facility, we offer counseling for the accused priest, even if he has not been charged with a crime.

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St. Margaret Mary School marks 50th anniversary

Julie Greene

WINTER PARK

In 1954, gasoline cost 29 cents per gallon; a loaf of bread cost 17 cents; and a gallon of milk cost 45 cents.

RCA introduced the first color television set. The first successful open heart surgery was performed.

It also marked the opening of St. Margaret Mary School in Winter Park with the help of the Sisters of Christian Charity.

On Jan. 30, 450 alumni, administrators and even some former teachers attended a 50th anniversary celebration that included a rededication of the school. Sister Donna Brady, SCC, both attended and taught at the school as a member of the Sisters of Christian Charity. She was among two religious sisters who attended St. Margaret Mary's anniversary celebration in the parish's Family Life Center.

"Every time I come back here it's like coming home, said Sis-



PHOTO COURTESY OF TIMMES FAMILY

Bill Timmes, third from front (on right), celebrates his First Communion with his fellow classmates at St. Margaret Mary in the late 1960s. Timmes, now 43, is one of several alumni from St. Margaret Mary School who coordinated a 50th annual celebration for the school.

ter Brady, who is in her 20th year as principal at St. Joseph Regional Academy in Jim Thorpe, Pa. "I was in second grade when the school opened and I remember going to classes in these little houses across the street."

The school opened in the fall of 1954 in the wing of St. Margaret Mary's former church building, now the site of the parish's parking lot. Three Sisters of Christian Charity from

Mendham, N.J., started the school with 252 students. Groups of classes were divided into three separate homes along Park Avenue.

By 1960, a modern three-story school building was constructed and dedicated. While it has been renovated and added to, the primary structure continues to be used today.

Nancy Stringer, current principal, started as a teacher at the school in 1968.

"All five of my children attended school here and when my oldest started school in 1963, there were 50 students in each class," she said. "The desks were close together. They didn't move around and have a lot of educational manipulatives like we do today, but they did a wonderful job in teaching the children."

Stringer taught several different classes over a 13-year teaching career at the school before moving into administration. She served as assistant principal under two different principals from 1977 to 1981, and then was promoted to principal, a position she has held ever since.

"It's been a wonderful experience to have dreams for the school, both in the spiritual life and academic life of the school, and to see them come to fruition. It's been a dream of a lifetime," said Stringer, who is expected to retire at the end of this year.

Among those involved in planning the celebration was Bill Timmes, 43, who with his older brother, John, grew up in St. Margaret Mary Parish and graduated from the school. Today, both his children attend the school.

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See **SCHOOL**, Page A10

News briefs

Respect Life sponsors speakers, musicians in February

The Respect Life Office is sponsoring a series of talks in February at parishes across the Orlando Diocese.

On Feb. 15, Mary Ann Kuharski a founding member and president of Pro-life Across America, will speak at two different parishes in Winter Park. She will speak at 3 p.m. at St. Margaret Mary Parish, 526 N. Park Ave., in Winter Park. Later that evening, at 7:15 p.m., she will speak at Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, 5300 Old Howell Branch Road, Winter Park.

For information on these and future presentations, call 407-246-4819.

Faithful Citizenship seminar set for Feb. 14

The offices for Respect Life and Lay Ministry Development will sponsor a workshop on "Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility" seminar from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Feb. 14, at St. Margaret Mary Parish in Winter Park.

Presented by John Carr, director of the U.S. bishops' Department of Social Development and World Peace, the seminar will include discussion on Catholic response to the political challenges of the day.

Cost is \$10. For reservations, call 407-246-4819, respectlife@orlandodiocese.org; or 407-246-4880, gpagan@orlandodiocese.org. Reservations required by Feb. 6.

Rite of Election set for Feb. 29

The Office of Liturgy has announced that a single diocesan Rite of Election will take place Feb. 29, the first Sunday of Lent, at the Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe in Orlando. The Rite of Election, also known as the Enrollment of Names, will be celebrated at 3 p.m. for catechumens only – those who are not baptized. Candidates who have been baptized in other faiths and will be coming into full communion in the church during the Easter Vigil should be recognized in the parish with the Penitential Rite that is celebrated on the second Sunday of Advent, March 7.

During the ceremony, catechumens will sign the Book of Elect, accompanied by their sponsors.

For information on the Rite of Election, call 407-246-4860.

More than 300 attend pro-life rally at St. Timothy's

Chris Curry

LADY LAKE

More than 300 representatives from all faiths attended the Rally for Life at St. Timothy Parish on Jan. 22, the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court ruling. The event followed the 11 a.m. Mass for the Holy Innocents offered by Father Gerry

Shovelton, a visiting priest to the parish known for his pro-life advocacy.


In his opening remarks, Father Shovelton stated, "It's no wonder we have so much terrorism, war and crime in the world, because it begins with the greatest terrorism of all, that of the destruction of the most innocent of all ... the unborn child."

In his homily, Father Shovelton referred to the killing of all male children by King Herod, who was afraid for his own importance in the earthly kingdom. Father Shovelton re-

fers to himself as a "one issue priest" and that issue is the protection of the unborn ... "the sanctity of all life, from conception to natural death."


He urged all in attendance to "withhold our votes for those in government who do not stand for life," and to "vote for those with a pro-life record."





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— Psalm 116



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Bishops celebrate new year with Vietnamese Catholics

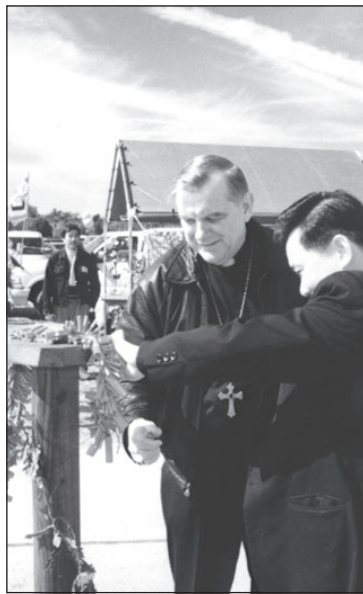
ORLANDO

Vietnamese Catholics in the Orlando Diocese came together Jan. 21-25 to usher in the Year of the Monkey in a variety of special liturgical and social celebrations.

Bishop Norbert M. Dorsey, CP, celebrated the Lunar New Year and Tet with 1,100 Vietnamese Catholics, including several from Holy Martyrs of Vietnam Catholic Community, at St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Orlando Jan. 21.

The Mass, conducted almost entirely in Vietnamese, opened with the alternate sounds of gong and drum, marking the beginning of a new year. Bishop Dorsey, holding incense sticks, bowed low in front of the altar as a blessing. Accompanying him as concelebrants for the Mass were Father Chau Nguyen, the community's pastor; Father Joseph Bui, associate pastor at Holy Name of Jesus in Indialantic; and Father Thomas Barrett, pastor at St. Charles Borromeo Parish.

"How happy I am to be with you," Bishop Dorsey said in En-



COURTESY PHOTO

Bishop Thomas G. Wenski helps Father Chau Nguyen light fireworks to begin the new year.

glish. "I pray with you that God will forgive us for any sins of the past and come quickly with new blessings for the new year."

As is customary at this time of year, the focus of the New Year Mass was to reflect on the past and look to the new year



TFC PHOTO BY PETER KALETA

Bishop Norbert M. Dorsey holds three sticks of incense as he bows at the altar, giving honor to God.

with hope.

In his homily, Father Nguyen encouraged the congregation to focus on the importance of the newness of the year, a year that will be filled with growth for the community, good health and prosperity for its members. "It is a new year,

a year of new beginnings," Father Nguyen explained at the end of Mass.

Along with music provided by the Vietnamese Choir, the Mass was rich with ritual and symbolism of the Vietnamese culture. Young girls from the community, dressed in colorful traditional

clothing, provided rhythmic movement as part of the presentation of gifts, some carrying paper flowers, while others processed with the gifts of bread and wine.

Following Mass, Father Nguyen expressed thanks and offered wishes for the bishop and priests for good health, longevity and prosperity. In a blend of the Vietnamese culture and Catholic tradition, adults from the community processed forward to receive scrolls marked with Scripture passages as a special prayer for the new year.

Bishop Dorsey presented the children under 15 and members of the community over 65 with red envelopes in which a monetary gift is presented for luck. The children refer to it as "lucky money."

Celebrations for the new year continued Jan. 24 and 25, with a community celebration at the Florida Fairgrounds on Jan. 24, featuring food, music, the dragon dance and other traditional rituals.

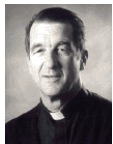
Coadjutor Bishop Thomas G. Wenski closed out the New Year festivities with Mass on Jan. 25 at St. Charles Borromeo Parish.

2004 Catholic Family Conference

Be Not Afraid

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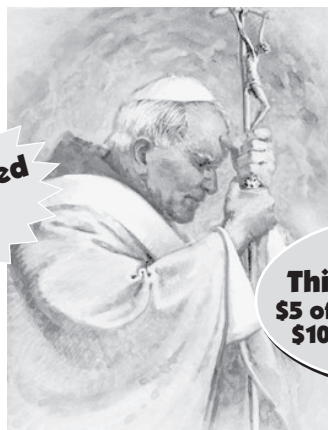
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Catholic Schools Week celebrations



TFC PHOTOS BY PETER KALETA

Showing your true colors

Left, students from Holy Redeemer School in Kissimmee, showed their patriotism during Catholic Schools Week by planning many of their events around the theme of being proud citizens.

Now hear this!

Right, Danielle Robinson, left, a third-grader who served as "principal" during Catholic Schools Week at St. James Cathedral School, addresses a classroom of students. Along with leading the "Parade of Hats" and acknowledging students' work, "Principal" Robinson also declared that the students observe National Hug Day.



TFC PHOTOS BY JULIE GREENE

Stewardship is a lifestyle for family of four

Julie Greene

PALM BAY

At the end of each year, Marta and Lynn Deffenbaugh calculate their earnings and, using the Old Testament Scripture on tithing as a guide, calculate the amount they will give to the diocese, local charities and their parish.

It's a process they have taken to heart for several years now and it is a philosophy they have shared with their children.

"When we were growing up we had three banks," said Paul, 15, the Deffenbaugh's older child. "One was for church, one was for savings and one was for spending. They paid us in coins so it made it very easy for us to separate what percentage amount went into each bank."

But while the concept of stewardship wasn't new to Lynn Deffenbaugh, a convert to the Catholic faith, he admits that putting the biblical sense of stewardship into practice took time and faith.

"(Stewardship) didn't happen overnight," he said. "Over the years we've been learning more and more. We came to realize that we don't have anything that belongs to us. It all belongs to God."

Members of Our Lady of Grace Parish since 1984, the couple joined the National Catholic Stewardship Council in the early 1990s at the urging of then-pastor, Father Jim Dore.

"The NCSC promoted the idea that out of your 10 percent tithe, 1 percent should go to the diocesan appeal, 4 percent to other charities and 5 percent to the parish," Lynn Deffenbaugh said. He admits that it was a little scary the first time he and his wife sat down to discuss their giving soon after their son was born.

"At that point, we weren't even giving quite 2 percent total," he said. "We decided to go to 2 percent. We didn't think we had enough money. But we gave it right off the top because we knew that was what we were called to do. In the end we didn't even miss it. We increased our giving each year after that."

Marta Deffenbaugh said delving into the concepts of stewardship has strengthened the marriage and the family.

"As husband and wife we used to believe it was our money, we earned it, and now we've traveled to the point where we believe everything is God's. We're just managing



COURTESY PHOTO

The Deffenbaughs, including their children, make "Our Catholic Appeal" part of the stewardship process.

it for him. It's a matter of showing gratitude," she said. "Our vehicle is not ours, it's his, so we use it to transport others. We open our home to visiting priests or speakers who visit our church. It's lifted a burden to realize we're simply managing it for him. It's all going back to God in the end."

So when February rolls around, the family members are ready when "Our Catholic Appeal," is announced. This year's appeal is scheduled for Feb. 14-15.

Deffenbaugh, who runs his own computer programming company, said his income varies from year to year but every December, the couple sets aside their tithing amount, including the 1 percent they contribute to "Our Catholic Appeal."

Their children do the same. Paul's three banks have been streamlined into a computerized balance sheet that automatically calculates the tithing percentage and places whatever amount he receives from a part-time electronics job and monetary gifts for birthdays and holidays into three accounts - church, savings and spending.

"I give a regular amount every Sunday but usually when the diocesan appeal comes around I bring the balance down to almost nothing and contribute that amount to the appeal," he said.

Rose, 14, still does it the old-fashioned way with separate banks for each account.

The Deffenbaughs said their philosophy about stew-

ardship is simple - to simply give.

"We don't stress over where the money goes," Lynn said. "God gives us what we have for a purpose and that's to give back. We're doing what we are supposed to do and he'll take care of the rest."

The couple has extended the process of stewardship beyond their household by helping others learn stewardship principles. They recently became involved as co-facilitators of a Crown Ministry study at their parish, where individuals and families learn how to incorporate biblical concepts of stewardship into their daily lives.

"Every decision we make is tempered by 'what would God have us to do there' and not just in terms of our family fi-

nances. It impacts everything we do," Lynn Deffenbaugh said. "It's a matter of taking care of what he's given us."

Marta Deffenbaugh said they hope to continue and expand the Crown Ministry program in their parish.

"It has not been a difficult journey to make the transition (from thinking it's all ours to all his). It's just a matter of realizing it and being willing to give it back to (God)," she said. "What we try to do actively with our children is not only show it by example but also by words. We do both. Most people think that it's enough to teach by example. When I was growing up, that's what I did. But as a literal person, I realized I also had to hear the words. It's been a rewarding journey."



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■ APPEAL

From Page A1

and programs that might be required based on parish need surveys.

In his appeal letter and video, which has been provided to parishes, Bishop Dorsey recognized the sacrifices that Catholics in the diocese have made and expresses his deep appreciation to all those who have contributed to the appeal in prior years.

"Some of you are part of what Tom Brokaw has called our 'greatest generation,'" his letter states. "You and your families struggled through the great economic depression in our country during the 30's, then came the second World War, later Vietnam and now our worries over Iraq and terrorism. Yet through all of this you have sacrificed to stay close to the Lord, to grow in your faith, to build new parishes, schools, nursing homes and charity centers and we are still building on those foundations today."

While most ministries raise

much of their own funds through fees, fundraising efforts and donations, "Our Catholic Appeal" seeks to fill the gaps and assist ministries that need to expand to meet the needs of the people based on parish and ministry surveys.

As an extra incentive, the diocese allows that those parishes that exceed their assessment goal through "Our Catholic Appeal," receive any extra money back to assist their own parish programs.

Marilyn Blanchette, director of stewardship, said "Our Catholic Appeal" is one way Catholics can express their gratitude to God for all the gifts they have been given by the Lord. "It's a response of our gratitude," she said.

Last year's appeal brought in more than \$8.5 million into diocese from 42,397 families, less than 30 percent of registered Catholics in the diocese. Still more than \$1 million was returned to parishes to benefit their own programs. Part of that support came from members of the Corpus Christi Society, made up of donors who contribute

\$10,000 or more to the appeal.

Through last year's appeal, 60 parishes met or exceeded their goal and another 13 contributed at least 90 percent of their goal amount. Parishes are still required to meet their assessment and sometimes must go into operating expenses if contributions cannot be secured to meet their parish assessment.

That is why the diocese is hoping the number of families contributing to "Our Catholic Appeal" increases.

This year's appeal goal is \$8,189,994 through which diocesan needs for the 2004-2005 fiscal year will be met (See "Needs Assessment" below).

People may contribute in a number of ways via check in one single or six-month payments, through stock gifts, matching gifts or credit card, including, for the first time, American Express.

The appeal involves countless volunteers who serve as parish and regional coordinators.

For additional information, contact your parish or call the Office of Stewardship and Development, 407-246-4840.

Job well done

Through diocesan programs and ministries the following accomplishments were met:

- Catholic Charities distributed 3.5 million pounds of food.
- Radio Paz Orlando offers programs in many languages on 1220 AM.
- Diocese resettled 180 refugees, counseled more than 3,400 immigrants for assistance and helped 452 people find employment.
- The diocesan TV Mass reaches thousands of homebound each Sunday.
- Welcomed 1,000 new Catholics last Easter.
- Think Smart abstinence education program is now in

12 public schools and has prevented teen pregnancies.

- Diocese hosted the Freedom Ride, an organization connecting the voice of migrant workers to lawmakers.
- Offered spiritual programs and renewal to more than 22,000 people through San Pedro Retreat Center.
- Trained 4,000 teachers, directors of religious education and catechists to educate 40,000 students in the faith.
- Child safety programs are now offered in all parishes and 38,000 employees, clergy, religious and volunteers have been fingerprinted through the Florida Department of Law Enforcement or the FBI.
- Developing partnerships with area businesses to offer

farmworkers better working conditions as they labor to supply food to our tables.

- Twenty men are preparing to become priests, with six scheduled to be ordained in May.
- Trained pastoral ministers who work in areas of bereavement and ministry to the sick.
- Assisted parents of exceptional children and provide help to victims of crime.
- Reached out to special needs children and adults through Morning Star School and the newly opened Bishop Grady Villas.
- Returned \$1,085,695 from appeal to individual parishes and mission ministries.

Needs assessment

The following are the 2004-2005 budget needs that "Our Catholic Appeal" will support

Christian Life — \$1,968,940

Ministries include: Family Life, Office of Schools, High School Funding, Religious Education, Media Center, Campus Ministries, LIMEX, San Pedro Center

Social Development — \$1,649,051

Ministries include: Catholic Charities, Sister Diocese, Criminal Justice Office, Immigration and Refugee Services, AIDS Ministry, Respect Life, Bishop Grady Villas, Farmworker Ministry

Administration — \$991,019

Offices include: Fiscal Management, Facilities, Cemeteries, Human Resources, Parish Financing, Accounting Services

Stewardship and Development — \$538,028

Ministries include: Charitable Estate Planning, Stewardship Education, Parish/School Development, Endowments, Appeal Management

Clergy Formation — \$697,512

Pastoral Ministries — \$685,614

Ministries include: Permanent Diaconate, Lay Ministry Development, Vocations and Seminary

Education, Priests Placement and Continuing Education, Ethnic Ministries

Worship — \$153,383

Ministries include: Liturgy, Music, Ecumenism

Diocesan Curia — \$1,237,869

Offices include: Episcopal Offices, Tribunal, Fingerprinting, Communications, TV Mass, Archives and Historian

Diocesan Programs — \$89,819

Includes: Priests' Council, Sisters' Council, Pregnancy Centers, Pastoral Programs

Contingency and Unforeseen Needs — \$178,759

Total 2004-2005 Budget (Appeal Goal) — \$8,189,994



Statement of 2002-2003 financial report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2003

	Total 2003	Total 2002
Pastoral:		
Tribunal Office	\$ 296,774	\$ 330,444
Liturgical Commission	200,177	241,615
Ecumenical Commission	58,203	56,151
Communications Commission	138,130	152,069
TV Mass	169,112	164,745
Family Life	261,445	251,355
Pregnancy Centers	29,825	28,875
Sister Diocese	869,362	707,867
Diaconate	41,704	54,376
Lay Ministry	250,379	267,252
Archivist	35,696	-----
	2,350,807	2,250,749
Religious Personnel Development:		
Vocations Office	\$ 46,026	\$ 47,316
Vicar for the Priests	38,946	36,891
Seminarians Education	518,292	423,606
Priests Continuing Education	129,002	114,121
Vicar for the Religious	13,336	10,030
Clergy Benevolent	658,495	824,708
San Pedro Center	48,750	90,007
Sister/Priest Councils	11,472	9,928
	1,464,319	1,556,607
Education:		
Office of Education	\$ 531,248	\$ 400,563
Religious Education	369,375	326,863
Media Center	71,634	67,212
High Schools	926,589	1,029,991
Morning Star School	30,246	29,266
Campus Ministry	20,684	17,682
LIMEX	10,564	3,634
	1,960,340	1,875,211
Social Services:		
Catholic Charities of Orlando Inc:		
Administrative Office	\$ 188,781	\$ 162,173
Agencies	917,282	870,400
Farmworker Ministry	368,733	377,809
Hispanic Ministry	104,688	88,555
Radio Paz	368,084	280,727
Ethnic Ministry	46,681	40,674
Respect Life	338,721	231,651
Elderly Interfaith	24,358	14,869
AIDS Ministry	666	4,339
USCC Environmental Justice	34,686	7,519
Pierson Medical Clinic	49,691	26,794
	2,442,371	2,105,510
Diocesan Administration:		
Bishops' Offices	\$ 261,100	\$ 214,537
Bishops' Residences	125,969	99,837
Vicar General	9,120	9,601
Chancellor's Office	113,334	94,313
Fiscal Management Office	1,031,369	1,157,996
Chancery Building	571,331	304,823
Development	515,653	476,517
Building Commission	234,081	204,688
San Pedro Cemetery	41,009	30,566
Fingerprinting	124,617	83,671
	3,050,577	2,693,230
Total	11,268,414	10,485,307

AROUND THE Diocese

▼ Spiritual events

A Catholic Charismatic Renewal – "Healing and Mercy": Feb. 10 and 11 at St. Peter Parish in DeLand and Feb. 11 and 12 at Holy Name of Jesus in Indialantic. Presenter: Father Tom Di Lorenzo, administrator of Holy Rosary Church in Winthrop, Mass., and Catholic radio Bible preacher. Call 386-822-6000 (St. Peter's) and 321-773-2783; or check Web site: www.inseason.net/frtom.htm.

Annual Diocesan Anniversary Mass: 2 p.m., Feb. 8, at Holy Name of Jesus, Indialantic. Bishop Norbert M. Dorsey, CP, will celebrate Mass for all couples celebrating their 25th and 50th wedding anniversaries (or any special anniversary). This is also World Marriage Day. A reception will follow the Mass. No prior registration required. Call the Family Life Office at 407-246-4865.

Healing the Broken Heart retreat: Feb. 13-15, San Pedro Retreat Center, 2400 Dike Road, Winter Park. Focuses on opening to the healing of Christ. Conducted by the Franciscan Friars. Cost is \$125 for shared room, \$180 for single room or \$80 for commuters. Call 407-671-6322, ext. 224.

Biblical lecture series: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Feb. 19, 20 and 21, parish hall at St. Timothy Parish in Lady Lake. Topic: Gospel of St. John. Presenter: Sister Judith Schubert, RSM, Ph.D. Participants are requested to bring a Bible. Cost is \$10. Call 352-753-0989.

Lenten Day Of Prayer: 8:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Feb. 21, Fireplace Room, Annunciation Catholic Church, Altamonte Springs. Theme: "Are You Willing To Carry Your Cross For Jesus During Lent?" This is an interactive presentation based on the Enneagram (an ancient symbol of human personality). Donation \$10. Bring a bag lunch. To register, call 407-869-0781.

▼ Meetings, other events

Contemporary Father Seminar: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., March 8, St. Mary Magdalen Parish, Altamonte Springs. Come and find out how important your role as a father really is. Sharpen your fathering skills and become more effective in the most important ministry of your life. Open to husbands, fathers, grandfathers and prospective fathers. Breakfast and lunch included. Cost is \$10. Call Don at 407-339-2189 or Claire at the parish office at 407-831-2088.

Soup-and-Sandwich fund-raiser: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Feb. 12 in the red social hall at St. Lawrence Parish, located at the corner of Highway 301 and East Dade Avenue in Bushnell. The event is being sponsored by the St. Lawrence Women's Guild. Cost is \$3.50. Tickets can be purchased in advance at weekend Masses or at the door. Call 352-568-3365.

St. Timothy CCW craft festival: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Feb. 14, in parish hall at St. Timothy Parish, Lady Lake. Call 352-753-3029 or 352-753-0989.

Ethics in Ministry course: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Feb. 19 and 20, courtroom, second floor, Chancery Building, 50 E. Robinson St. in Orlando. Sponsored by the Office of Lay Ministry Development as part of its Advanced Pastoral Formation Program, the course focuses on naming virtues and building trust. Cost is \$99 per person or \$89 each for two or more from the same parish. Continuing Education Units are available for an additional \$50 from St. Mary's University. To register, call 407-246-4880 or e-mail:

ecarrasquillo@orlandodiocese.org.

St. James dinner and concert: 6:30 p.m., Feb. 12, St. James Catholic Cathedral, 215 N. Orange Ave., Orlando. Doors open at 6 p.m., with dinner at 6:30 p.m. in the social hall. A flute and harp concert, featuring The Glorian Duo – Wendy Kerner Lucas and Donna Milanovich – will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the church. Cost is \$15 per person for dinner and concert or \$8 for concert only. Dinner seating is limited. Tickets available in the parish office or call 407-422-2005.

Divine Mercy CCW card party/fashion show and luncheon: 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Feb. 13, in the parish dome, 1940 N. Courtenay Parkway, Merritt Island. Cost is \$15. Call 321-452-1555 before Feb. 8.

Mardi Gras family carnival: 5 to 10 p.m., Feb. 20; 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Feb. 21; noon to 5 p.m., Feb. 22, Resurrection Catholic Community, 3720 Old Road 37 in Lakeland. Dinners, baked goods, games, prizes, attic treasure sale and carnival rides. Presale ride passes \$7, or \$10 on the grounds. Call 863-646-3556.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Our Lady of Lourdes Conference: Feb. 12, following 11 a.m. Mass, church library at Our Lady of Lourdes, 201 University Blvd., Daytona Beach. Call 386-255-0433.

Holy Redeemer CCW card party social: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Feb. 21, social hall at Holy Redeemer Parish, Kissimmee. Lunch will be served. Tickets are \$7.50. Call 407-518-1388.

Polish dinner/dance fund-raiser: 1 p.m., Feb. 22, in the parish hall at Our Lady of the Springs Parish, 4047 N.E. 21st St., Ocala. Music by Joe Peltz and the Melotones. Tickets \$12 per person sold in advance only. Proceeds will go toward new church roof. Call 352-236-2230.

The Crosses of Lent: 9 to 11:30 a.m., Feb. 28. Art/Spirituality workshop in which participants create the three crosses of Lent. Led by Missy Kimsey-Hickman. Dress casual. Cost is \$30 per person. Advance payment and registration required. Call 407-671-6322, ext. 224.

Diocese of Orlando Choir Festival: Saturday, Feb. 21, Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine, Orlando. Concluding with 6 p.m. Mass. Dr. Ron Doiron, director. For details, call Bill Brislin, diocesan director of music at 407-246-4860 or e-mail: bbrislin@orlandodiocese.org

St. Anthony CCW fashion show: 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Feb. 26, St. Anthony Parish Center, 820 Marcum Road, Lakeland. Cost is \$5, door prizes, dessert and drinks. The public is invited. Call Beulah, 863-859-5012 for information.

Project Neighbor: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Feb. 26, Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Indialantic. Several offices from the Diocese of Orlando will meet with ministry and parish leaders from all Brevard County parishes for a lunch hour discussion. The purpose of the gathering is to share some of the services available through the diocesan offices, to meet and greet one another and to learn ways the diocese can better serve parish needs. Bring a bag lunch. Drinks and dessert will be provided. To RSVP call the Lay Ministry Office at 407-246-4880.

Pilgrimage Mass: The Respect Life Office invites all Catholics in the Orlando Diocese to Mary, Queen of

the Universe Shrine in Orlando to celebrate the Pilgrimage Mass in honor of the feast of the Annunciation of Our Lord, at 2 p.m., March 14. Celebrant: Coadjutor Bishop Thomas G. Wenski. Bus transportation is available at locations throughout the diocese. For more information, contact the Respect Life Office at 407.246.4819 and respectlife@orlandodiocese.org.

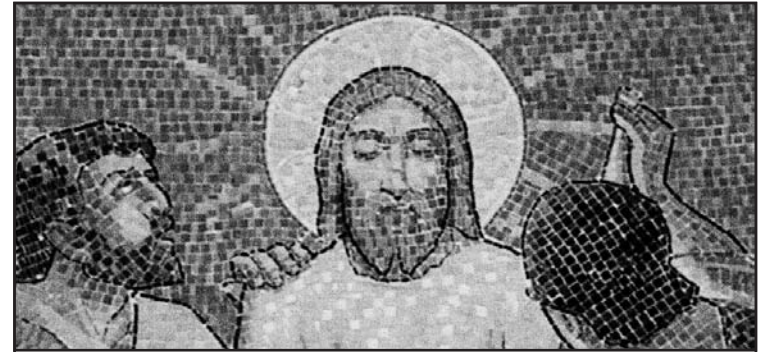
▼ Ministries, support groups and services

Spanish language Pre-Cana: The date has been changed to Feb. 28. It will be held at Homewood Suites in Lake Mary. For registration or information please call Tony or Emoy Torres 407-697-6519 or e-mail

Etorres99@hotmail.com.

Always Our Children – Gay and Lesbian Support Ministry:

7:30 p.m., Feb. 19, Our Saviour Parish in Cocoa Beach. This is a ministry for parents, families and friends at Ascension and Our Saviour parishes. Call Sandy Viner at 321-773-5258 or Marie Passarella 321-242-1951.



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TFC PHOTO BY PETER KALETA

Astronauts remembered

Emily Beardall, a fourth-grader at Divine Mercy School in Merritt Island, joins Winston Scott, left, and Jim Kennedy, right, in placing a wreath at the foot of a cross in memory of astronauts who have died. Members of the Young Astronaut Club from the school joined in the memorial.



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SCHOOL

FROM PAGE A4

Timmes' parents, Deacon Jack Timmes, who died in 2001, and Miriam, moved to Winter Park in the early 1950s and were married in the parish. The younger Timmes recalled his days in the school in the 1960s and 1970s with the Sisters of Christian Charity who taught at the school.

Back then, classes were not air-conditioned and computers were not the staple they are today.

Faith, he said, was incorporated into everything; and a strong discipline was instilled in students. Students who forgot their lunch often were sent to the convent to receive a bologna sandwich. Along with Boy Scouts and being an altar server, Timmes said he still has a pin from something called the Mother Pauline Club the sisters promoted.

Some things over the years have changed. While individual class sizes have decreased from 50 to 35 or less, school facilities have increased. In Timmes' day, part of the current parking lot was a basketball court and playground area. In the

late 1990s, the former parish hall across Swoope Street was converted into a middle school and gym. Land purchased adjacent to the middle school was converted into a playing field. Most recently, the new Family Life Center was opened in 2002 and features a cafeteria for the school.

A state-of-the-art computer lab also has been added, keeping the school current with the latest educational technology.



Stringer said high academic standards and religious traditions have carried through the school's 50-year history.

Like the Timmeses, other families have had multiple generations attend the school. The school also had an impact on future vocations.

Father Leo Hodges, pastor at Our Lady of Grace Parish in Palm Bay, attended St. Margaret Mary School with two of his three older brothers, graduating in 1973. His father continues to be an active parishioner in the parish.

"It gave me a good religious foundation and in a way planted and supported the values I grew up with in my household," he said. "It hooked me up with the youth group at St. Margaret Mary, which eventually helped me in choosing my vocation."

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT: St. James Cathedral at (407) 422-2005



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