

Archbishop to Haitians: Your suffering is not in vain

Temporary protected status has been granted and “finally, finally” the focus of the world is on Haiti

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
Florida Catholic staff

MIAMI — Temporary protected status: Granted.

Donations: in the millions of dollars and counting.

Aid: Flowing slowly but surely into Port-au-Prince from every corner of the world.

Amid the devastation, amid the thousands dead and hundreds of thousands unaccounted for, some good news came for south Florida’s grieving Haitians, still trying to make contact with missing relatives, still reeling from the worst earthquake to strike their homeland in 200 years.

As they gathered at Notre Dame d’Haiti for Sunday Mass Jan. 17, Archbishop John C. Favalora assured them that their suffering was not in vain, and that the earthquake was not a punishment from God.

“The Lord Jesus himself was a suffering son of the Father and that was not for punishment. That was to bring about new life,” an emotional archbishop said during Mass Jan. 17 at the church in the middle of Little Haiti.

“We Catholics believe in miracles. And we look for a miracle in this situation. Finally, finally, the focus of the world is on Haiti. Finally,” the archbishop repeated, as Father Reginald Jean-Mary, pastor of Notre Dame d’Haiti, translated his words into Creole.

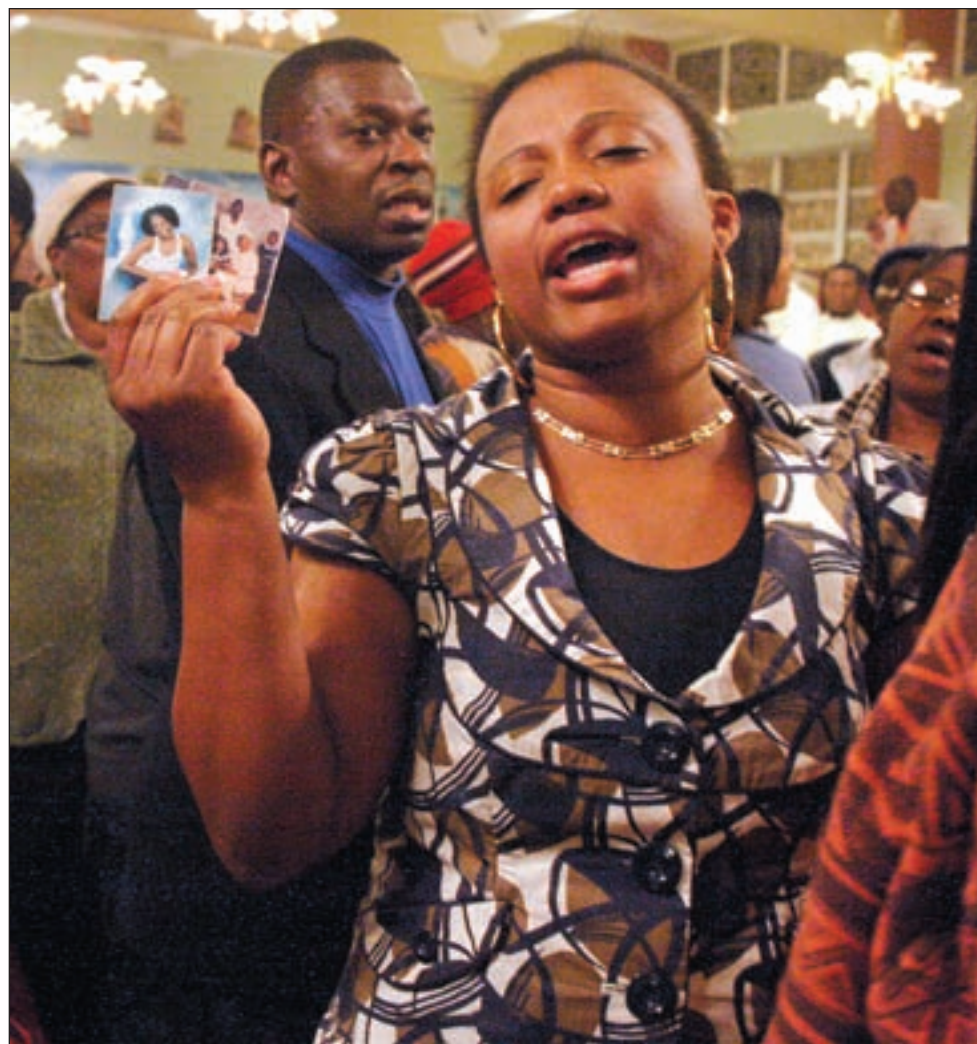
“It was a natural disaster that brought them there. But finally the focus of the world is on Haiti. And it should be on Haiti. New life, I hope and I pray, will come because of the suffering of the Haitian people. Jesus was innocent and he suffered. I believe that your people are innocent and have been suffering and the Lord will reward that,” Archbishop Favalora said.

He pointed out the great number of nations, governments and businesses that have pledged to help Haiti.

“That, itself, is a sign of God’s being with us and of the consolation of God being with us. We must see the hand of God in all of this,” Arch-



Stephanie Dervil holds a candle for victims of the earthquake in Haiti.



PHOTOS BY MARLENE QUARONI | FC

Haitians gather at Notre Dame d’Haiti in Miami the evening of Jan. 13 to mourn and pray for victims of the earthquake in their homeland.

bishop Favalora said. “Good Friday was not the end of the story. Easter Sunday was the end of the story. People of faith believe that. And that’s what gives us life.”

A few days earlier, Archbishop Favalora had led a chorus of activists and community leaders in urging the Obama administration to grant the Haitians temporary protected status — a legal distinction that gives undocumented immigrants from affected nations the right to stay and work legally in this country without fear of deportation.

It is a humanitarian gesture that has been invoked in the past when immigrants’ country of origin has been beset by a natural disaster, such as an earthquake or a hurricane.

“It’s not about telling your people to come to

the U.S.,” Father Jean-Mary told his congregation Sunday. “Don’t encourage your friends or your family members to take to sea to come to the U.S. We don’t want any more tragedy.”

Instead, work and “save your money to help the children in Haiti. You’ve got to sacrifice for Haiti,” Father Jean-Mary said.

The archdiocese also asked federal officials to grant humanitarian parole to orphaned Haitian children.

Deacon Richard Turcotte, chief executive officer of Catholic Charities, said at a press conference Jan. 13 that the Church is ready to house them and find permanent homes for them in the U.S., either with their own relatives

MORE NEWS ONLINE

Here are more news stories you can read in the News Center at www.miamiarch.org:

- March for Life: Local high school students post pictures, blog about their experiences in Washington, D.C.
- Pope John Paul II’s biographer, George Weigel, speaks at Belen Jesuit Prep.
- St. Hugh students visit, share kosher lunch at Aventura synagogue.
- Updates on the situation in Haiti.
- News about parishes and schools in the archdiocese.
- News about the Church in the United States and the world.

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Immaculate Conception’s principal ‘walks the walk’

Eddy Garcia, an advocate of special-needs education, is the archdiocese’s principal of the year for 2010

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PLEASE SEE HAITI, A14

ABCD: Blessings and dollars

Why Catholics should give to the annual appeal which kicks off this month

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
Florida Catholic staff

MIAMI — It's a question of blessings and dollars.

That is how Catholics should view ABCD, the annual Archbishop's Charities and Development appeal which will take place in all archdiocesan parishes at the end of January or beginning of February.

Blessings because everything we have comes from God, and the Bible tells us we have a duty to share that bounty with the less fortunate.

Dollars because ABCD is one of three sources of funding for the central offices of the archdiocese, and bills have to get paid.

Emilio Alonso-Mendoza, president of the Catholic Community Foundation and the archdiocese's Development Corporation, spoke about ABCD with Archbishop John C. Favalora during the "Conversations with the Archbishop" that were taped Jan. 11 and can be

heard online at the archdiocesan Web site, www.miamiarch.org.

"All my life, I've been a firm believer that the more you give, the more you get back," Alonso-Mendoza said. "What I would ask ... is that when you make the pledge you consider the blessings you have been granted not only this year, but throughout your life."

Archbishop Favalora explained that the archdiocese's central offices rely on three sources of income: an assessment, similar to a tax that is collected annually from every parish; income from an investment portfolio; and ABCD.

Although the interest from the investment portfolio rebounded a bit in 2009, it was not enough to keep up with the costs of running the archdiocese. In fact, for several years now the archdiocese has been unable to fund its operations without borrowing money.

"And that's why we're getting to the end of our ability to borrow," Archbishop Favalora said.

That dwindling ability to borrow is what led to the drastic measures and difficult decisions he had to make in 2009: eliminating archdiocesan subsidies for financially struggling parishes and schools; laying off staff and eliminating ministries at the Pastoral Center; merging parishes.

"We've had to cut back on some of these services, there's no question about it, just to keep the basic operations going," Archbishop Favalora said.

He noted that when he arrived

in the archdiocese, the subsidy to struggling schools was about \$1 million. By the time it ended last year, it had risen to \$5 million.

ABCD has never raised more than \$9 million.

"The fact is, at the end of the year, in order to balance the books, we had to borrow \$3 million, \$4 million, \$5 million," Archbishop Favalora said.

Among the archdiocese's "must pay" bills, he cited the "outrageous" cost of property and liability insurance in hurricane-prone south Florida and the escalating costs of health care for employees.

Every parish in south Florida is struggling with those same costs.

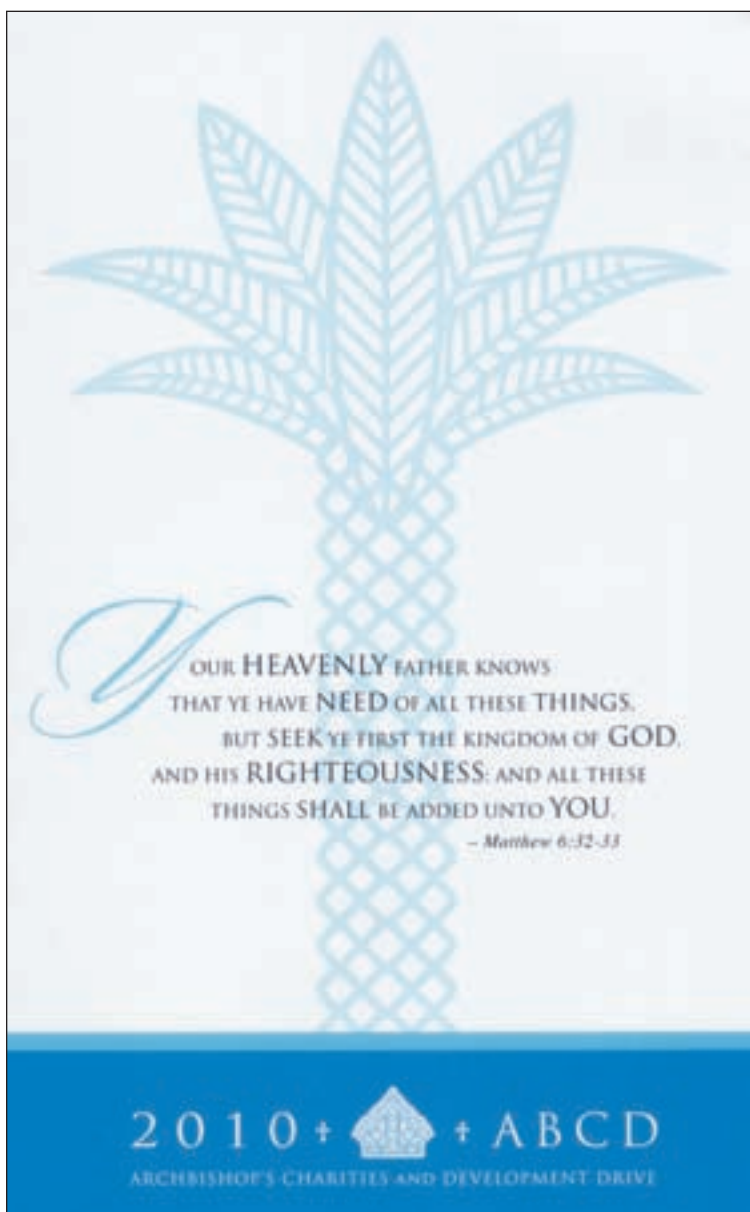
"One of our pastors said recently he has to pay over \$400,000 a year just for insurance, just for insurance on the buildings," Archbishop Favalora said. "So that's part of the problem. You do have to pay the bills because, if not, who's going to pay the bills?"

The ABCD video that many will see in their parishes — and which also can be seen online at isupportabcd.org — touches on that subject.

"The archbishop and I had long discussions about how we were going to communicate the problems that ... we have had throughout the year in the archdiocese," Alonso-Mendoza said. "Sometimes being a good steward entails making some tough decisions."

In the video, "the archbishop

PLEASE SEE **ABCD, A5**



COURTESY

A poster from the 2010 ABCD appeal, which starts this month.


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\$ 35,000	\$ 350	\$ 35
\$ 45,000	\$ 450	\$ 45
\$ 50,000	\$ 500	\$ 50
\$ 60,000	\$ 600	\$ 60
\$ 70,000	\$ 700	\$ 70
\$ 80,000	\$ 800	\$ 80
\$ 90,000	\$ 900	\$ 90
\$100,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 100
\$120,000	\$ 1,200	\$ 120
\$150,000	\$ 1,500	\$ 150
\$200,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 200
\$250,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 250
\$500,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 500

Four women, two men mark anniversaries as religious

Public is welcome to attend Mass in their honor Jan. 31

Florida Catholic staff

MIAMI — The annual celebration for men and women religious who are marking 25, 50 or 60 years of profession will take place Sunday, Jan. 31, 4:30 p.m., at St. Mary Cathedral, 7525 N.W. Second Ave., Miami.

The Mass will be celebrated by Auxiliary Bishop John Noonan. The public is welcome. Following are brief biographies of those marking anniversaries this year.

DIAMOND JUBILARIAN — 60 YEARS

Sister Francisca Jauregui, Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul



Sister Francisca Jauregui

Sister Jauregui was born in Santiago de Cuba, Province of Oriente, Cuba. She entered the Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul on Aug. 5, 1950. After completing her education and taking vows, she was assigned to La Santa Infancia School in San Antonio de los Baños, Havana, where she served until August 1957, when she was transferred to La Milagrosa School in Guanabacoa, also in Havana. In 1961, she was forced to leave Cuba for political reasons. She arrived in Puerto Rico with other members of her congregation and served from 1961 to 1963 at St. Vincent de Paul School, Santurce. She then was assigned to La Sagrada Familia School in Ponce and Residencia Santa Luisa, Caimito, Rio Piedras, a home for sick and elderly sisters.

In 1970, she was transferred to Miami and assigned to serve at Gesu Parish and Centro Hispano Católico (Catholic Hispanic Center). After serving at St. John Bosco Parish, she was moved in 1975 to the Shrine of Our Lady of Charity. In June 2007 she was transferred to the Mission of St. Vincent de Paul in Miami.

Sister Jauregui says she is very grateful to God for these 60 years of service to the Church and the community, and for the opportunity to serve the poor everywhere she has been.

“God is generous when he calls a person to follow him and leave ev-

erything to serve others,” she said. “For me, it is a special grace to celebrate this anniversary in the year of the jubilee of the 350th anniversary of the deaths of St. Vincent de Paul and St. Louise de Marillac, founders of the Daughters of Charity.”

GOLDEN JUBILARIANS — 50 YEARS

Sister Helen Faiver, Order of Preachers, Dominican

Sister Faiver was born in Lansing, Mich., the youngest of five children. She attended elementary and high school at Resurrection School in



Sister Helen Faiver

Lansing, conducted by the Adrian Dominican Sisters. Following graduation in 1950, she entered the Dominican Order. After formation in Adrian, her ministry took her to schools in Clawson, Greenville and Detroit, Mich., where she taught elementary and junior high school. She then worked in the

order’s central information office, and at their then-motherhouse and the Immaculate Conception Provincial Office in Detroit. She then went to the rural area of Santa Cruz Parish in Trujillo Alto, Puerto Rico, for three years, and spent 19 years serving the needs of the sugarcane workers of San Jose Obrero Parish in Guaymate, Dominican Republic.

In 2003, Sister Faiver moved to Miami, where she is currently doing volunteer ministry, helping with the needs of those in the Miami area.

Brother Richard DeMaria, Congregation of Christian Brothers

Brother DeMaria holds degrees in science and in religious studies, including a doctorate in theology from St. Michael’s in the University of Toronto. He was a faculty member at Iona College in New Rochelle, N.Y., for 18 years, holding various positions including chairman of the department, dean of students,



Brother Richard DeMaria

provost, and chief operating officer of the university. He has published many articles on spirituality.

Beginning in 1989, he worked as an educator with the Hispanic migrant people on the west coast of Florida. He then served as principal of Archbishop Curley-Notre Dame High School in Miami from 1993 to 1998. Beginning in 1998, he served as superintendent of schools for the Archdiocese of Miami and now holds the position of executive director of Christian formation and superintendent of schools. He entered the juniorate of the Christian Brothers in 1958. This year marks the 50th anniversary of his entrance in the novitiate.

Brother Patrick Sean Moffett, Congregation of Christian Brothers, Ph.D.

Brother Moffett was born into a close-knit family grounded in faith. He attended parochial schools conducted by the Sisters of Charity in New York City and New Jersey, and met the Christian Brothers at Bergen Catholic High

School in New Jersey. “Their joy-filled engagement in the process of opening to us a greater world helped consolidate my vocation,” he said.

His assignments have included seven years as a teacher and counselor in high schools in Chicago and New York, 15 years as a professor of psychology, pastoral counselor and administrator at Iona College, New Rochelle, N.Y., followed by 15 years as president of Boys’ Towns of Italy Inc. and administrator of the Girls’ and Boys’ Towns of Rome.

He is currently in his sixth year as principal of Archbishop Curley Notre Dame High School in Miami.

“It has been a rich journey with

PLEASE SEE JUBILARIANS, A11

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Our faith sustains us; let us sustain it: ABCD

My dear friends,

Jesus Christ himself tells us of the many trials his disciples must endure and promises us treasure in heaven in the end. Even though these times are trying for us and for our Church, it is not the first time, nor will it be the last. Our Savior reminds us that we need not worry in the meantime; our heavenly Father knows what we need even before we do, and if we are righteous in his sight, all our needs will be provided for.

This has been the belief that guides my service to you and what I have hoped to help you un-

derstand: God, as a loving Father, will always provide for us if only we believe.

In this year of countless concerns and pressures, it is to God that we must turn. With love and perseverance, with utter trust in the Lord, we will find our way again. Remember that our Father's love is boundless, and our Savior calls us time and again to love others as he has loved us, with tolerance, forgiveness, generosity and care.

It has been my duty and my honor to serve the people of God in the Archdiocese of Miami for 15 years. In that



FROM THE
ARCHBISHOP

*John C.
Favalora*

time, I have met people whose faith has inspired me, whose generosity has overwhelmed me, and whose prayers have enabled me to be your shepherd, following humbly in the path the Wise Counselor set before us.

This Church — founded on the death and resurrection of our Most Holy Savior who laid down his life so that we may live with him eternally — this faith sustains us and we in turn must sustain it.

Reflect on the many wonderful advances of mankind made possible through the grace of God through his Church — scientific discoveries, educational systems, hospitals and charities that care for people in need. Find hope in know-

ing that Our Lord has done all this to provide for us, and return to him a sacrificial gift that will enable his work to continue.

Only you can make this possible. Please accept my grateful thanks for your generosity in supporting the Church in the Archdiocese of Miami. There is no greater feeling of satisfaction than when we open our hearts generously to serve one another.

It should be our goal as Catholics to make that generosity of spirit a daily experience. I know that I can count on you as I invite you to take on this charitable responsibility.

May the Lord continue to bless you and your loved ones abundantly. ■

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NEWSbriefs

Dinner, run raise funds for life

While some will "run for life" beginning Feb. 13 — a nine-day, 350-mile trek from Homestead to St. Augustine — others can join the cause by attending a fundraising dinner Friday, Feb. 5, 7 p.m., at the Royal Palace Banquet Hall in Homestead.

Tickets for the dinner are \$25 and must be reserved in advance. The money raised by both the dinner and the run will benefit the Knights of Columbus Florida State Charities, a group of more than 200 Knights' councils working together to support between 30 and 40 maternity homes, emergency shelters and crisis pregnancy centers statewide.

The Run for Life has been an annual event since February 1989, when Mike Sapp, a local Knight and Homestead resident, ran from the Cathedral of St. Mary in Miami to the Great Cross in St. Augustine, covering about 40 miles each day and raising \$12,000 in the process.

A year later, he began the run at Sacred Heart Parish in Homestead, and three years later he was joined by several other runners who take turns each day. This year's relay team consists of five runners who will set out Feb. 13 at around 8:30 a.m. from Sacred Heart, proceeding north on Krome Avenue, then east on Campbell Drive to U.S. 1.

The runners will stop each day at churches along Florida's east coast, including St. Martha in Miami Shores and St. James in North Miami, where they will celebrate Mass the first day.

This will mark the fourth year that a similar Run for Life will take place on the west coast of Florida,

from Marco Island to Zephyrhills; and the first year that a run will take place in Florida's Panhandle, starting in Pensacola and ending in Fort Walton Beach. All three runs will start Feb. 13.

Last year, the east and west coast runs raised a total of \$32,000. The runs have raised more than \$260,000 over the past 21 years.

For tickets to the dinner and more information on the run, go to www.kcrunforlife.com, call 305-245-5685 or e-mail angelovrus@aol.com.

Rekindle romance with Marriage Encounter

For more than 40 years, Worldwide Marriage Encounter has been offering a Catholic enrichment experience that teaches couples the skills they need to renew their commitment and rekindle their romance.

The movement invites couples to attend one of the four encounter weekends, which will be held in the archdiocese this year. The first will take place the weekend of Feb. 19-21 in Fort Lauderdale. The others will take place April 16-18, Sept. 10-12 and Nov. 12-14.

For information and reservations, call Fred and Laurie Martin at 561-963-1170. Additional information and materials are available at www.wmme.org.

Symposium focuses on matrimony

"The Liturgical Spirituality of

Matrimony" will be the subject of a symposium to be held Saturday, Feb. 6, 8:30 a.m.-noon, at St. Thomas University, 16401 N.W. 37 Ave., Miami Gardens.

The symposium is sponsored by the university in conjunction with Rome's Pontifical Institute of Liturgy. Keynote speakers will be Benedictine Father Juan Javier Flores, president of the Pontifical Institute of Liturgy, who will speak in Spanish, and Benedictine Father Ephrem Carr, professor at the institute.

This symposium is open to priests, deacons and laity involved in marriage preparation as well as married and engaged couples themselves. For information call 305-756-2755 or e-mail cors@cathedralofsaintmary.com.

'Schott Saturdays' aimed at adults with special needs

Schott Communities for the Deaf or Disabled has launched a Saturday program for adults with special needs.

The program is held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Saturday and features life skills, exercise, light academics, fun time and weekly specials such as dancing, yoga, crafting or art classes.

"We have been working diligently with members of our program committee to find ways to expand programs for the special-needs population in western Broward County," said Liz Disney, program director. "The Saturday program is just the beginning. We are growing and adding more pro-

grams to help fill that critical need of where do our special-needs children go when they age out of the school system."

Schott Saturdays are open to all individuals with special needs who are 18 and older. Participants can sign up for all Saturdays or just one. Fees are based on the number of Saturdays for which participants enroll. Space is limited. For information, call 954-434-3306.

Catholics to lobby in Tallahassee

Catholics in south Florida are invited to join their counterparts throughout the state for the Catholic Days at the Capitol lobbying trip to Tallahassee.

The annual event takes place March 8-10 under the auspices of the Florida Catholic Conference. Participants will lobby their legislators and celebrate the 35th annual Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit (Red Mass) with Florida's bishops and Catholic elected officials. Archbishop John C. Favalora will be the homilist at this year's Mass.

To learn more, contact Joan Crown, archdiocesan director of respect life, at 954-981-2922 or go to www.flacathconf.org.

CORRECTION

The artist who painted the cover for the December 2009 edition was properly identified in the story, but his name was wrong in the art and photo captions. He is Diego Zorrilla, a volunteer at Schott Communities for the Deaf and Disabled in Cooper City.

ABCD

FROM A2

explains very clearly the process he went through and then reminds us a little bit what it is that being Catholic is about."

ABCD receives contributions each year from between 23,000 and 26,000 Catholic families. There are an estimated 1 million Catholics in the archdiocese, which comprises Miami-Dade, Broward and Monroe counties.

Rather than a one-time donation, ABCD asks Catholics to commit themselves to giving a portion of their income throughout the year.

"It's a sharing," Archbishop Favalora said. "One of the characteristics of the Church always has been to share what you have. That was from the early Acts of the Apostles and it still is today, to share so that others who have less can have a little bit more.

"It reflects a theology that says that whatever you have comes from God," he continued. "St. Paul tells us that everything that we have is a gift. So whatever we have, no matter how much we've worked for it, that's all because of the grace of God. We have an obligation to share that."

Both the ABCD brochure and the video feature testimonies from people whose lives have been touched or changed by the Church.

"They explain what the Church has meant to them and I'm sure all of (you) have had similar experiences," Alonso-Mendoza said.

He urged Catholics to "consider those things before you make a commitment to the ABCD, and I think the commitment will be easier to make and the pledge easier to fulfill."

ABCD donations may be made via check, Visa, MasterCard or American Express, on-line bank transfer or the transfer of appreciated stocks and securities. For more information, call your parish or the development office at 305-762-1243 or go to isupportabcd.org.

For more information about the Catholic Community Foundation, go to www.theccf.org. ■

Never miss Mass again

Traveling is no excuse, as Web site offers Mass, confession schedules for nearly half the churches in the world



DANIEL SOÑE | FC

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
Florida Catholic staff

MIAMI — Traveling to Yellowstone National Park and wondering if you will be able to attend Sunday Mass while visiting Old Faithful?

As the commercial says, "There's an app for that."

Actually, it's an Internet site — www.masstimes.org — where you can search for the Mass times at 117,337 Catholic churches, chapels and missions in 205 countries around the world.

The site lists Mass times, confessions and devotional services, as well as linking to maps that tell visitors where the church is located. Visitors can search by diocese, city and state or country. They can search in different languages and search for Masses celebrated in a particular language.

For those who own iPhones, there is an "app" as well that uses GPS technology to find you and locate the nearest church.

The Web site grew out of Bob Hummel and his wife's desire to attend daily Mass.

"We were going to daily Mass and we couldn't find Masses when we were traveling," said the retired businessman and Pensacola resident.

The search for Mass times and locations led him to create a Web site that welcomed nearly 4 million unique visitors last year. Those visitors, in turn, conducted about 57 million church searches, according to statistics shown on the site itself.

"We have approximately one-half of all the Mass times of the world on our Web site," said Jim Adair, president of the Catholic Tour Company, who houses the site in his Ohio offices as a favor to Hummel, a longtime friend.

The site began in 1994 as a toll-free 800-number that provided Mass times for Catholic parishes in the United States. It moved to the Internet in 1998 and began publishing Mass times of churches worldwide in 2002.

Initially, the toll-free number received between 200,000 and 300,000 calls a year. "That's kind of what told me that there is quite a pent-up demand for that type of information," said Hummel.

Almost 25,000 calls still come into the phone line, even though it is no longer toll free.

"The volume got to the point where it was costing about \$18,000 a month for the phone bill and I just couldn't afford that anymore. That caused me to get serious about the Internet," said Hummel, who personally pays for about two-thirds of the Web site's annual \$300,000 cost. The other third is raised by ads and donations.

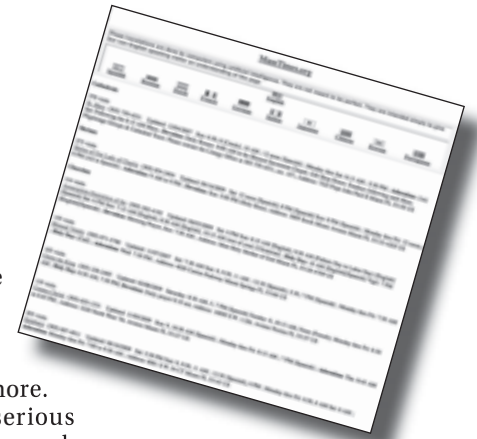
Hummel began amassing the names, locations and Mass times of churches by requesting the printed directories of every diocese in the U.S. The first year, he received 150 of 176 diocesan directories.

"I just hired people to start en-

tering them into the database. That took another year or so," he said.

He still brings in seminarians once a year to help keep the listings current, and said he has about 1,000 volunteers who help out during the year. But what is really helpful is when parishes

PLEASE SEE **MASS**, A11



MASS OBLIGATION

The Catholic Catechism states:

- No. 2185: On Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are to refrain from engaging in work or activities that hinder the worship owed to God, the joy proper to the Lord's Day, the performance of the works of mercy, and the appropriate relaxation of mind and body. Family needs or important social service can legitimately excuse from the obligation of Sunday rest. The faithful should see to it that legitimate excuses do not lead to habits prejudicial to religion, family life and health.

Canon law says:

- No. 1247: On Sundays and other holy days of obligation the faithful are bound to participate in the Mass; they are also to abstain from those labors and business concerns which impede the worship to be rendered to God, the joy which is proper to the Lord's Day, or the proper relaxation of mind and body.

- No. 1248:

1. The precept of participating in the Mass is satisfied by assistance at a Mass which is celebrated anywhere in a Catholic rite either on the holy day or on the evening of the preceding day.

2. If because of lack of a sacred minister or for other grave cause participation in the celebration of the Eucharist is impossible, it is specially recommended that the faithful take part in the Liturgy of the Word if it is celebrated in the parish church or in another sacred place according to the prescriptions of the diocesan bishop, or engage in prayer for an appropriate amount of time personally or in a family or, as occasion offers, in groups of families.

Excursiones 2010

Marzo 26 - Semana Santa en España
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Junio 25 - CHINA

Dirigida por Ofelia Dominguez
Visitando: Beijing - Xian - Shanghai - Hong Kong

Agosto 12 - ALASKA, Crucero 7 noches

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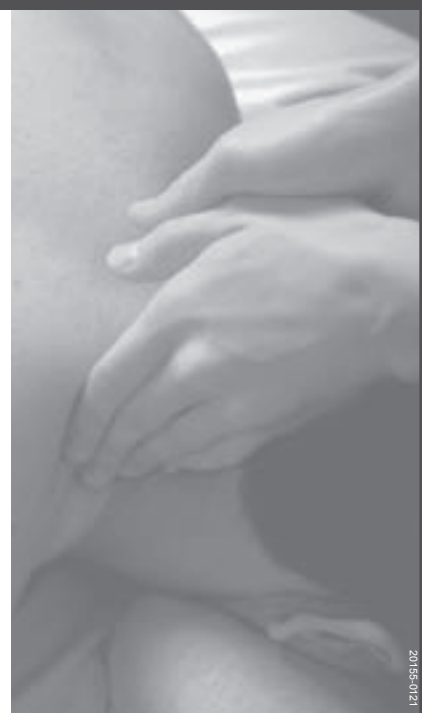
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Jesus on your laptop

Pax Catholic Communications' virtual adoration chapel enables people to pray before the Blessed Sacrament by simply going online

BLANCA MORALES

Florida Catholic correspondent

MIAMI — All those who “labor and are burdened” now have a place to pray no matter where they are, thanks to the virtual Blessed Sacrament chapel available on the archdiocesan radio station's Web site 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Jesus' words from Matthew 11:29 greet all who visit the online site at www.paxcc.org/adoration/adoration01.html, which welcomes all to post their prayer intentions as they pray before the Blessed Sacrament.

The virtual adoration chapel allows homebound individuals, those who are sick in hospitals, or anyone constrained by distance or time to pray before the Blessed Sacrament and place their petitions from anywhere at any time.

Necessity is the mother of invention, and in this case it combined

with divine inspiration to give birth to the idea for this online service.

At 3 a.m. one day, struggling with a difficult situation, Gonzalo Penagos felt the need to visit the Blessed Sacrament. Penagos is director of operations for PaxNet, a satellite programming service that comes under the umbrella of Pax Catholic Communications, whose flagship station is Radio Paz 830 AM.

Penagos remembers searching the Web hoping to find a 24-hour broadcast of the Blessed Sacrament.

“All I found were photos, but nothing live,” he said.

He felt that there should be a place on the World Wide Web that allowed individuals in need of prayer to speak to Jesus face to face, if only in cyberspace.

He shared his idea with Isaúl Gonzalez, chief operations officer for Pax Catholic Communications, and they both approached Father

Jaime Acevedo, pastor of Mother of Our Redeemer Parish in Miami.

Father Acevedo was more than willing to help out by setting up a camera and Internet connection in Mother of Our Redeemer's Holy Family Chapel, where the Blessed Sacrament is reserved.

The chapel lent itself perfectly for the project, Penagos said. It is visually appealing yet simple, and has excellent lighting for recording.

The tabernacle in which the Eucharist is reserved is also perfect: Nontraditional in design, it has two little windows, or flaps, which can be opened up to reveal the Eucharist. This keeps the Blessed Sacrament visible yet protected, since it cannot be unattended while it is exposed.

The design allows it to be visible to the camera even when it is not exposed, said Penagos, who set up the equipment and continues to oversee its operation.



IMAGE COURTESY OF PAX CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS

This is what visitors see when they go to the virtual Blessed Sacrament chapel available 24/7 online at Pax Catholic Communication's Web site, www.paxcc.org.

The Web site features a virtual wall on which prayer requests can be posted. Radio Paz's intercession ministry, along with the Servants of the Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary, an archdiocesan religious community, pray for the posted intentions.

Approximately 1,000 prayer re-

quests are e-mailed to the site on a daily basis. Visitors come from all over Latin America, Spain and the U.S.

The service, which was first announced on Radio Paz, drew an even larger number of visitors after Gonzalez mentioned it on EWTN, the Catholic television network. ■

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Schools finding friends on Facebook

Several archdiocesan high schools have official sites for keeping in touch with alumni, promoting activities

MELODY REGALADO
Florida Catholic correspondent

MIAMI — The Internet is changing the way Catholic schools keep in touch with their alumni. Many are turning to social networking sites to expand their reach.

"It's incredible to me how I can post something on Facebook and within three minutes, I have an answer from somebody," said Martica Castellanos, alumnae director at Our Lady of Lourdes Academy in Miami, who manages the Facebook page for the school. "This technology, when used correctly, is beneficial to any institution."

In some cases, such as that of Sts. Peter and Paul School in Miami, alumni have beaten administrators to the punch, creating Facebook pages where they can keep in touch and reminisce with other alumni.

But some school administrators have put aside misgivings and have begun to use the technology of Facebook, a social networking site where people can form groups and add each other as friends.

With this tool, former classmates are able to reconnect and find each other more easily, and faculty can post pictures of reunions and events while promoting information about the school.

Through Facebook, school administrators can reach out to former students and current parents to disseminate information about school happenings, promote events and market alumni merchandise.

"Our Christmas outreach with Sacred Heart (Outreach Center) helped more than 75 families this year," said Castellanos. "We promoted it on Facebook and had an overwhelming response, including from friends of friends and even from people who aren't alumni of Lourdes."

The alumni and development office at Chaminade-Madonna College Preparatory in Hollywood also uses Facebook to reconnect with alumni, post upcoming events, athletic activities, major headlines, and reunion information and photos.

"We've noticed that Facebook is also a great way to not only share information with alumni, but to find out more information about alumni — sort of a 'where are they now' function," said Julie Rentz, communications coordinator at the school. "In less than a year, we've gained 750 alumni friends through our page, and have seen multiple

ALSO ON FACEBOOK

Following are other archdiocesan groups that have pages on Facebook:

- *Amor en Accion*, a lay missionary group that ministers to people in the Dominican Republic and Haiti.
- *Encuentros Juveniles*, a retreat movement for 13- to 19-year-olds.
- Daughters of St. Paul, who use it to promote vocations and their monthly coffeehouse.
- Sacred Heart Outreach Center, which helps farmworkers in Homestead.

other."

Some faculty members admit they were hesitant to start a Facebook page at first because of the responsibility of having to monitor, control and update the site.

Katherine Doble, public relations and special-events coordinator at Archbishop Curley Notre Dame College Preparatory in Miami, is the creator and manager of the school's fan page. She has Facebook connected to her cell phone, so she is able to monitor the page at all times to ensure and control the content.

The school uses the site to promote events, and attendees can R.S.V.P. right from Facebook. Once a week, she posts a question for alumni to respond to about their memories of the high school. She said that one she recently posted about Christmas received 20 replies.

"We organized a soccer tourna-

class-year and class-reunion specific pages spring up as alumni take the initiative to reconnect with each



ment in April of (last) year and promoted it solely through Facebook," she said. "We had about 300 spectators turn out to watch the teams play."

Schools also have seen an increase in attendance at events and reunions after launching their Facebook sites.

Melinda Miel, alumni coordinator at Msgr. Edward Pace High

School in Miami Gardens, said she was able to notify the majority of the class of 2000 about their upcoming 10-year reunion.

Because a lot of alumni information is missing from the school's database, Miel uses Facebook as a tool for getting in touch with former students and encouraging them

PLEASE SEE **FACEBOOK, A11**

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Immaculate Conception's principal 'walks the walk'

Eddy Garcia, an advocate of special-needs education, is the archdiocese's principal of the year for 2010

MARLENE QUARONI
Florida Catholic correspondent

HIALEAH — As Eddy Garcia, 47, walked along the breezeway at Immaculate Conception School, he came across Kathy Callow, his seventh-grade teacher.

"He was polite and a pleasure to have as a student," said Callow. "His three kids, also my students, were just like their dad."

Further along the breezeway, third-grader Emily Matias, 8, remarks that she likes Garcia's tie. At the bottom of the black-patterned tie are the words, "Mr. Garcia, 2009 Principal of the Year."

"A parent gave this tie to me after the Archdiocese of Miami named me principal of the year," said Garcia, principal of Immaculate Conception School, which he attended as a child.

Garcia was selected for the honor from among 50 other archdiocesan school principals. His selection puts him in the running for the National Catholic Educational Association's Distinguished Principal of the Year award, which is given to 12 principals from across the nation at the group's annual convention in April.

On the lapel of his jacket, Garcia wears a silver cross, a reminder of

his faith.

Although the Sisters of Mercy, who staffed the Hialeah school since it opened in 1954, are long gone, the lay staff, led by Garcia, maintains Catholicism by setting an example for their student body of about 800.

"You walk the walk," Garcia said.

Garcia and his family are active at Immaculate Conception Parish. Family members sing in the choir, have been altar servers and have been involved in various other church activities. Garcia includes Father Francisco Hernandez, Immaculate Conception's pastor, in the school's administration.

"We work as a team," said Father Hernandez. "Every week we have a meeting and discuss what's happening in the school and he asks for my input."

Garcia's daughter, Jenice, 24, is in the middle of teaching a class for seventh-grade students with special needs as Garcia pays her a visit. She is getting married this year. Her brother, Bryan, 21, will graduate from St. John Vianney College Seminary in Miami. Another brother, Steven, 17, will graduate from Msgr. Edward Pace High School in Miami Gardens, where his mother, Ana, is



MARLENE QUARONI | FC

Immaculate Conception Principal Eddy Garcia talks to Emma Maria Torres, 6, as she does artwork in kindergarten class.

principal.

"The Christmas cards we sent out this year had a photo of my three children, with Jenice in the


middle wearing a veil, and Bryan and Steven wearing mortar boards on their head," Garcia said. "This is a momentous year for my family."

Garcia and his wife met at Pace High and share a love of teaching. They married in 1984 after he graduated from Miami-Dade Community College with a business degree. Garcia worked full time in public relations for Southern Bell, helping with charitable organizations. He took advantage of a company program that paid 80 percent of college tuition and earned a bachelor's degree in specific learning disabilities and a master's in educational leadership. He left Southern Bell in 1992 to teach special-education students at Glades Middle School. In 1999, Garcia became principal of Immaculate Conception.

"Sister Teresita O'Sullivan, the principal, was retiring," said Garcia. "The pastor asked Sister Teresita to make a list of people who she recommended to be the new principal. The only name the pastor and Sister Teresita agreed on was my name."

Teaching students with learning disabilities is a special concern for both Garcia and his wife.

"My wife and I are sounding boards for each other," he said. "She is my mentor. The cookie-cutter




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PLEASE SEE PRINCIPAL, A10

Schools schedule open houses, exams

Catholic schools throughout the archdiocese will be hosting open houses and administering entrance exams in the next few weeks. Following is a schedule. More up-to-date information also is available at www.miamiarch.org, by clicking on "Things to Do" under the News Center tab.

OPEN HOUSES

Elementary schools

- All Saints, 10900 W. Oakland Park Blvd., Sunrise: Sunday, Jan. 24, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Applications available beginning Feb. 1; \$25 nonrefundable fee required. 954-742-4842.
- Mother of Our Redeemer, 8445 N.W. 186 St., Miami: Sunday, Jan. 31, 2 p.m. esalinas@moorsch.org.
- Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, 18455 Franjo Road, Miami: Monday, Jan. 25, 7:30 p.m. 305-235-5442.
- Our Lady of the Lakes, 6600 Miami Lakeway North, Miami Lakes: Saturday, Jan. 23, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
- St. Agnes Academy, 122 Harbor Drive, Key Biscayne: Tours given Tuesdays, 10-11 a.m., by appointment. Applications for new students available until Jan. 31. Call 305-361-3245, ext. 203.
- St. Andrew, 9990 N.W. 29 St., Coral Springs: Wednesday, Jan. 27, 8-11 a.m. 954-753-1280.
- St. Anthony, 820 N.E. Third St., Fort Lauderdale: Sunday, Jan. 31, 2 p.m. 954-467-7747.
- St. Elizabeth-St. Joseph, 901 N.E. 33 St., Pompano Beach: Sunday, Jan. 24, 9 a.m.-noon. 954-942-2161 or mousseau@seohcyclones.org.
- St. Helen, 3340 W. Oakland Park Blvd., Fort Lauderdale: Sunday,

Jan. 31, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.; Monday, Feb. 1, 6-7:30 p.m.; Thursday, Feb. 4, 8-11:30 a.m. 954 739-7094 or mwillis@sainthelen.net.

- St. Jerome, 2601 S.W. Ninth Ave., Fort Lauderdale: Sunday, Jan. 24, 11 a.m. 954-524-1990.
- St. John Neumann, 12115 S.W. 107 Ave., Miami: Monday, Jan. 25, 7:30-11 a.m.; Wednesday, Jan. 27, 6-8:30 p.m. 305-255-7315 or sfraginals@sjncs.org.
- St. Michael, 300 N.W. 28 Ave., Miami: Sunday, Jan. 31, after 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Masses; Thursday, Feb. 18, 8-11 a.m. 305-642-6732.
- St. Patrick, 3700 Garden Ave., Miami Beach: Wednesday, Jan. 27, 9-11 a.m. 305-534-4614.

High schools

- Archbishop Coleman Carroll, 10300 S.W. 167 Ave., Miami: Saturday, Jan. 23, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Enrollment open for grades nine, 10 and 11. 305-388-6700.

ENTRANCE EXAMS

High schools

- Archbishop Curley Notre Dame, 4949 N.E. Second Ave., Miami: Jan. 30, 8 a.m. Please register at www.acnd.net/Admissions/EntranceExamApplication.htm.
- Archbishop Edward McCarthy, 5451 S. Flamingo Road, Southwest Ranches: Saturday, Jan. 30, 7:30 a.m.
- Cardinal Gibbons, 2900 N.E. 47 St., Fort Lauderdale: Saturday, Jan. 30, 8 a.m. All freshman applicants are required to take the test. Applications at www.cghsfl.org or by calling 954-491-2900, ext. 108.

• Chaminade-Madonna College Preparatory, 500 Chaminade Drive, Hollywood: Saturday, Jan. 30, 7:45 a.m. Prospective students must pre-register at www.cmlions.org under "Admissions."

• Christopher Columbus, 3000 S.W. 87 Ave., Miami: Saturday, Jan. 30, 8 a.m. Required for all incoming ninth-graders. Register by Jan. 25 at www.columbushs.com/reg/entrance_exam.aspx or call 305-223-5650, ext. 2217.

• Immaculata LaSalle, 3601 S. Miami Ave., Miami: Saturday, Jan. 30. Contact admissions@lasalle-highschool.com.

• Msgr. Edward Pace, 15600 N.W. 32 Ave., Miami: Saturday, Jan. 30, 7:30 a.m. Fill out an application at www.pacehs.com by clicking on "Admissions" or call 305-623-PACE, ext. 342.

• Our Lady of Lourdes Academy, 5525 S.W. 84 St., Miami: Saturday, Jan. 30, 8:30 a.m.

• St. Thomas Aquinas, 2801 S.W. 12 St., Fort Lauderdale: Saturday, Jan. 30, 7:45 a.m. For eighth-graders only. Appropriate dress required, consisting of khakis, dress pants and a skirt or dress (no T-shirts, jeans or tennis shoes). Registration forms accepted until Jan. 27. Fee is \$50. Go to www.aquinas-sta.org to download form or call 954-327-2180.

Elementary schools

- Good Shepherd, 14187 S.W. 72 St., Miami: Saturday, Feb. 6, 9 a.m. 305-385-7002.
- St. John Neumann, 12115 S.W. 107 Ave., Miami: Wednesday, Feb. 17, 2 p.m. 305-255-7315 or sfraginals@sjncs.org.

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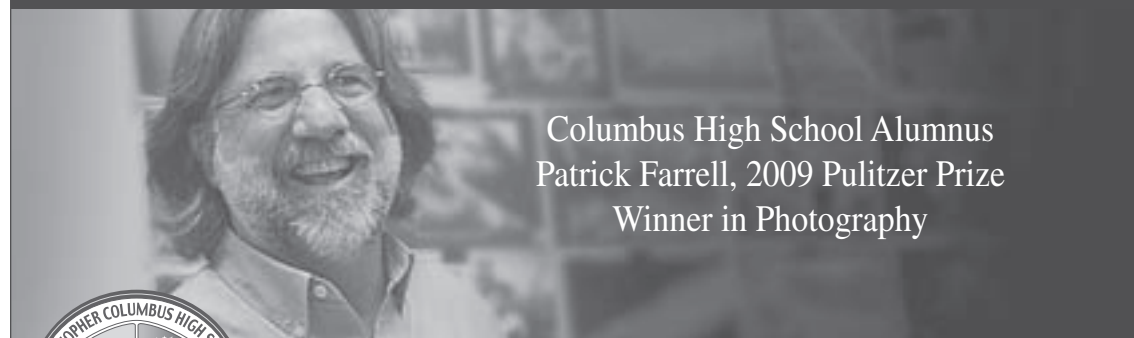
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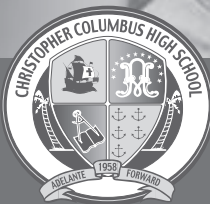
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PRINCIPAL

FROM A8

education of Catholic schools in the past had to undergo curriculum changes to accommodate gifted and special-needs students," he said. "I feel confident that I can send graduates to Catholic high schools such as Msgr. Pace, Columbus and St. Brendan."

Brother Richard DeMaria, a member of the Christian Brothers who serves as superintendent of schools and director of Christian formation for the archdiocese, praised Garcia's leadership in the area of special education.

"He has demonstrated leadership over the years in the way that he has prepared his faculty to welcome and educate special-education children," Brother DeMaria said. "There are 44 students (at Immaculate) who

participate in the John McKay program, which allows parents of children with an individualized education plan to move their children to a nonpublic school."

Brother DeMaria added that Garcia is a model of service for his willingness to accept appointments to committees in the archdiocese.

"Eddy serves as a wonderful role model for young Catholic men," he said. Garcia has served on the Catholic school principals' advisory council and has mentored school principals.

"Being a school principal is more than a job," he said. "It's a vocation. It's not about money, it's about the children."

Immaculate Conception's assistant principal, Victoria Leon, said Garcia's award is well-deserved. "He's very supportive of the school staff," she said. "He helps us advance in our careers." ■

FOLLOW MARCH FOR LIFE WITH STUDENT BLOGGERS



DANIEL SONE | FC

St. Brendan student Katie Dugard, 17, prays after receiving Communion during the opening Mass of the Archdiocese of Miami's pilgrimage to the March for Life last year. The pilgrimage was renamed Father Kidwell's March for Life to honor the Jesuit priest who had brought teens to Washington for the Jan. 22 event since the mid-1980s. Father Kidwell died two years ago. In 2009, the largest delegation of high school students — 130 students from 10 Catholic schools from around the Archdiocese of Miami — descended upon the nation's capital for the annual March for Life. Follow this year's March for Life with high school bloggers at www.miamiarch.org

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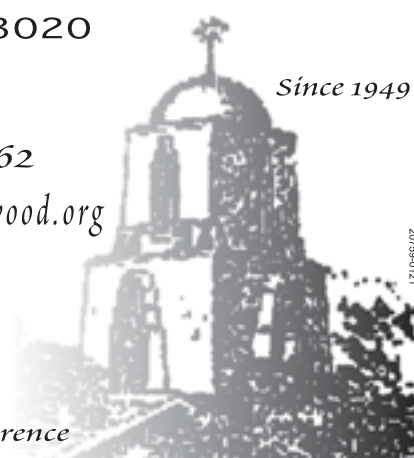
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JUBILARIANS

FROM A3

many side trips," he said. "I have worked with challenged students in Harlem, with our young brothers in formation, with our brothers in West Africa, and with religious congregations in the U.S., England, Ireland, Italy, India and Australia. The brothers have afforded me time to chronicle these adventures in the popular and professional press. The story that emerges is one of Christ being present to me and to all of us in the children we are privileged to serve."

Sister Helene Kloss, Order of Preachers, Dominican

Sister Kloss is a native of Detroit. She attended Edwin Denby High School and began her studies in music education at Wayne State University before entering the

Adrian Dominican Congregation in Michigan. She has taught school in Ohio, New York, Miami (St. Rose of Lima) and Puerto Rico.



Sister Helene Kloss

The love of people, music and pastoral work has made liturgical music the ideal ministry for her. She has been director of music at Visitation Parish in North Miami, St. Patrick in Miami Beach, and presently at Our Lady of the Lakes in Miami Lakes.

SILVER JUBILARIAN — 25 YEARS

Sister Immaculata Hanisch, Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles
Sister Hanisch was born and

raised in Tulsa, Okla., the second of eight children in a loving Catholic family. When she was 23 years old, being drawn to a deeper prayer life, she entered the Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of



Sister Immaculata Hanisch

Los Angeles. For 14 years she worked as a clinical dietitian at Santa Teresita Hospital and Manor, while at the same time teaching religious education. In August 2002, she was assigned to Miami's Archbishop Coleman F. Carroll High School, where she currently chairs the theology department and teaches sacred Scripture to sophomore students. ■

MASS

FROM A5

update their own information on the Web site itself.

That is always the most difficult part, said Adair. "We even have a contest each year. We have a drawing of everyone who has done their own updates and give them a trip for two to Rome."

Hummel said he is retooling his database so that it can be shared with companies that provide services to parishes.

"We're all trying to join together. I think we'll have about 14,000 of the churches covered by people who do bulletins and software like ParishSoft. That way the information will be kept current," Hummel said.

He estimated that Mass times lists information for nearly 22,000

'The most loyal users are really daily Mass people. It's much easier to find weekend Masses than it is daily Mass.'

Bob Hummel

U.S. parishes, missions and chapels, as well as nearly 100,000 churches in about 3,300 dioceses around the world.

"Fourteen percent of people in the U.S. are actually looking for churches outside the U.S.," Hummel said. "The most loyal users are really daily Mass people. It's much easier to find weekend Masses than it is daily Mass."

Masstimes.org also lists the times for confession and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

"We do get a good number of inquiries about that. But clearly, Mass times is where most of the action is. It goes up around Thanksgiving and Easter and Christmas, and in the summers and on weekends," Hummel said.

A running counter allows parishes to view the number of people who have searched for their church, and the site allows people to search for Masses in specific languages.

Hummel admits he was not the first to come up with the idea, and other Web sites, such as CatholicWeb and CatholicOnline, also list Mass times.

But "none of them take the time and effort and investment to keep it as current as we do. That's what makes our site more used than the other people's," he said.

The bottom line, said Adair: "There's no reason to miss Mass." ■

FACEBOOK

FROM A7

to update their information on the school's Web site.

She also uses it to notify them of special events the school hosts, such as open houses and the annual golf and domino tournaments.

Miel monitors the site daily, and checks school records and yearbooks to get in touch with missing students and confirm that any friend requests are from actual alumni.

"It doesn't feel too impersonal because there's a lot of interaction," said Miel. "Alumni even organize their own little reunions and get-togethers through the Facebook page."

The idea to create the page came from Laura Basulto, a 2007 Pace graduate. But although this social networking tool may seem like something for younger generations, Miel said students from the 1960s and 1970s have also been joining the alumni group.

"Facebook has been a very positive tool for us," she said.

Although most schools use Facebook to keep in touch with alumni,

some also use it to spread the word about their schools.

"We serve children and adults with developmental disabilities, and we use our Facebook fan page to facilitate communication with parents and post what goes on around campus," said Melanie Gomez, director of development at the Marian Center School and Services in Opa Locka.

Parents who serve on the board of the school created the page a couple of months ago and sent notices to their friends and family to join the group.

"The purpose is to increase awareness of what the Marian Center does and is, and to get more people to become fans, be involved, donate or volunteer," Gomez said.

Through the Facebook page, people are able to make donations to the school and learn about what goes on.

Although Facebook sites need to be monitored constantly to ensure that the content is appropriate, none of the schools have reported any drawbacks so far.

"Overall, Facebook has been an amazing tool to help us stay connected with alumni from all class years," said Rentz. ■

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68	6.3%	75	7.0%	82	8.3%	89	10.0%
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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Archbishop Curley Notre Dame Art Gallery, 4949 N.E. Second Ave., Miami, "Young Artists" opens Tuesday, Jan. 26, 7 p.m., featuring selected works from student artists in neighboring Catholic middle schools. 305-751-8367, ext. 29; www.acnd.net, or news@acnd.net.

St. Andrew family carnival, Jan. 28-31, 9950 N.W. 29 St., Coral Springs. Rides, games, food, cakewalks, raffles, vendors, performances by local talent. 954-258-8023.

Lebanese festival, Friday, Jan. 29, 5 p.m.-1 a.m.; Saturday, Jan. 30, 5 p.m.-2 a.m.; Sunday, Jan. 31, noon-midnight, Our Lady of Lebanon Banquet Hall, 2055 Coral Way, Miami. Live entertainment, homemade Lebanese food, raffle, Lebanese arts and crafts. 305-856-7449.

St. Bartholomew carnival, Feb. 4-7, 8005 Miramar Parkway, Miramar. Modern rides, games, international food court, discount advance ride tickets. 954-431-3600.

Run For Life fundraiser dinner, Saturday, Feb. 5, 7 p.m., Royal Palace Banquet Hall, 1825 N.E. Eighth St., Homestead. Tickets: \$25, presale only. All proceeds go to help emergency shelters, crisis pregnancy centers, maternity homes for unwed mothers throughout Florida. 305-248-3396, 305-257-4106 or www.kcrunforlife.com.

Mardi Gras, Feb. 11-14,

St. Stephen, 6044 S.W. 19 St., Miramar. Annual event features rides, international foods, games, nightly New Orleans-style parade. 954-987-1100.

"Coffeehouse," Friday, Feb. 12, 7:30 p.m., St. Bonaventure, 1301 S.W. 136 Ave., Davie. Sing along with a cup of joe to songs of the '60s and '70s with St. Bonaventure's folk group. Donation: \$10, adults; \$5, children. 954-478-7523 or pnfranzese@aol.com.

Fashion show and lunch, Saturday, Feb. 13, 11:30 a.m., Fort Lauderdale Country Club, 415 Country Club Circle, Plantation. Hosted by St. Sebastian Council of Catholic Women. Tickets: \$40, prepaid reservations only. 954-764-4113.

Nativity carnival, Thursday, Feb. 18, and Friday, Feb. 19, 5-11 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 20, and Sunday, Feb. 21, 1-11 p.m., 5220 Johnson St., Hollywood. Rides, games, food, family fun. 954-987-3300, ext. 205.

Mother of Our Redeemer festival, Feb. 18-19, 6-11 p.m.; Feb. 20-21, noon-11 p.m., 8445 N.W. 186 St., Miami. Music, international food kiosks, rides, games, fun for the whole family. 305-829-6141 or www.motherofourredeemer.org.

"Spring Fling" fashion show and luncheon, Saturday, Feb. 20, 11:30 a.m., Lighthouse Point Yacht Club, 2701 N.E. 42 St., Lighthouse Point. Sponsored by St. Gabriel Council of Catholic Women. Donation: \$35. Reservations required. 954-946-2551.

Scholarship luncheon and gala, Saturday, Feb. 20, 11:30 a.m., Rusty Pelican Restaurant, 3201 Rickenbacker Causeway, Key Biscayne. Hosted by Miami Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women. Table sponsors: \$100 each. galagirlb@aol.com or 954-437-6805.

Parish festival, Feb. 25-28, St. John the Apostle, 479 E. Fourth St., Hialeah. Four days of fabulous fun and food; proceeds benefit parish and school. 305-888-6819 or 305-888-9769.

CONCERTS

St. Martha-Yamaha Concert Series, 9301 Biscayne Blvd., Miami Shores. Tickets include after-concert reception with artists. \$10 general admission; \$20 Blue Circle. www.saintmartha.tix.com or 305-751-0005: Sunday, Feb. 21, 3 p.m., New York's Metropolitan Klezmer performs Yiddish musical themes.

Miami International Organ Competition, Friday, Feb. 26, 7:30 p.m., Epiphany Parish, 8235 S.W. 57 Ave., Miami. Three distinguished finalists from around the world compete on Epiphany's Ruffatti pipe organ; audience votes for their favorite. Event also will be broadcast live on "Pipedreams," heard on Classical South Florida 89.7. Free. 305-667-4911.

Cathedral concert series, St. Mary Cathedral, 7525 N.W. Second Ave., Miami. Free. 305-759-4531 or www.cathedralofstmary.com: Sunday, Feb. 28, 4 p.m., Greater Miami Youth Symphony, comprised of musicians ages 5-18, led by music director Huifang Chen.

St. Pius X concert series, 2511 N. Ocean Blvd. (A1A), Fort

Lauderdale. Tickets: \$10; free for children under 8. 954-565-9935: Sunday, Feb. 28, 4 p.m., Kristen DiNonno performs music from her new CD, "If I Only Knew." Songs range from intensely spiritual to classical.

FAITH EDUCATION

St. Thomas University Biblical Scholar Series: Friday, Jan. 29, 7 p.m., 16401 N.W. 37 Ave., Miami Gardens, featuring Franciscan Father Richard Rohr, founding president, Center for Action and Contemplation, Albuquerque, N.M. 954-434-7676 or reisinger@mindspring.com.

Religious education classes, sponsored by archdiocesan religious education department, 305-762-1107 or religedu@theadom.org: Christology, Saturdays, Jan. 30-Feb. 20, 9-11:45 a.m., St. Agnes, 100 Harbor Drive, Key Biscayne. Taught by Martin Madar. Registration: \$35; textbook, "Christology: True God, True Man," Loyola Press. R.S.V.P.: 305-361-1378.

Life issues workshop, Saturday, Feb. 6, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., St. Andrew, 9950 N.W. 29 St., Coral Springs. Lunch will be served. R.S.V.P.: 954-981-2922.

SEPI (Southeast Pastoral Institute), formation in faith for Catholic laity, 7700 S.W. 56 St., Miami. 305-279-2333 or sepimiami@aol.com: Historia de la Iglesia Universal, 15 de febrero-17 de marzo, lunes y miércoles, 7:30-10:30, profesor Guillermo Fernández.

"The Sources of Christian Ethics" Thursdays, Feb. 18-March 25, 7-8:30 p.m., St. Gregory, music room, 200 N. University Drive, Plantation. Studying "The Sources of Christian Morality" by Belgian theologian, Dominican Father Servais Pinckaers. Led by Father Roberto Cid in English; questions and answers in Spanish. javerell@cherubim.org or 954-473-6261, ext. 167.

"Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation," Tuesdays, 7-8:30 p.m., St. Ambrose Parish hall, 380 S. Federal Highway, Deerfield Beach. Video and group study makes Bible and Mass readings come alive like never before. \$45 for study materials. 561-368-6531.

Seminario de Mayordomía, sábado, 22 de febrero, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., salon parroquial St. Michael the Archangel, 2987 W. Flagler St., Miami. Les invita el grupo Por Amor a Cristo. Desayuno y almuerzo gratis. 786-704-1694 o denisjgomez@gmail.com.

MASSES /PRAYER SESSIONS

Wedding Anniversary Mass, for couples celebrating 25, 50 and each year over 50, Saturday, Feb. 13, 10 a.m., St. Mary Cathedral, 7525 N.W. Second Ave., Miami. Organized by the archdiocesan Family Life department. Call your parish before Feb. 8 to register. 305-762-1140/1148/1157.

PRAYER GROUPS

Cursillo Ultreya, in English, Friday, Jan. 29, 7 p.m., St. John Neumann, 12125 S.W. 107 Ave., Miami. Monthly renewal of faith

MIAMI ARCHDIOCESE COMMUNITY PAGE SUBMISSION DEADLINES

The Florida Catholic welcomes calendar items of parish/organization events that are open to the whole archdiocese. There is no charge but items must be in the Miami office at least six weeks before the event. To list an event both on the Web site and in the newspaper, go to www.miamiarch.org, click on the banner "announce your event for free" and follow the instructions. Notices may be sent by e-mail: arsoto@theadom.org; fax: 305-762-1132; mail: The Florida Catholic, 9401 Biscayne Blvd., Miami, FL 33138.

through prayer, sharing, song. www.cursillomiami.org or 305-710-0121 or clarinda@miamirelocation.com.

Songs and prayer in the spirit of Taizé, Tuesday, Feb. 9, 7:30 p.m., Barry University, Cor Jesu Chapel, 11300 N.E. Second Ave., Miami Shores. Chant, Scripture, silent reflection, intercessory prayer. 305-899-3650 or 305-458-9919.

RETREATS /DAYS OF REFLECTION

"Conversion: Making Jesus the Center of Our Lives," series of talks in preparation for Lent, St. Gregory Parish, 200 N. University Drive, Plantation. Talks by Franciscan Father Jude L. Winkler after the 8:30 a.m. daily Mass and evenings at 7 p.m.: Monday, Jan. 25: "The Lord Healing Our Brokenness"; Tuesday, Jan. 26: "The Lord Forgiving Our Sinfulness"; Wednesday, Jan. 27: "The Lord Calling Us to Service." 954-473-6261, ext. 167; or javerell@cherubim.org.

Marriage covenant retreat, Feb. 5-7, Church of the Little Flower, 2711 Indian Mound Trail, Coral Gables. Renew, revitalize your marriage by pausing to reflect on its importance, the role God plays in our lives. Begins with Friday dinner, candlelight dinner on Saturday, Mass and family potluck breakfast on Sunday morning; couples return home each night. Donation: \$99 per couple. 305-446-9950.

Engaged Encounter, Feb. 26-27, St. Louis, 7270 S.W. 120 St., Pinecrest. Weekend program for couples younger than 45 years of age getting married for the first time. \$125 per couple. Offered by the Family Enrichment Center, 305-762-1140.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Virtus workshops: To help parents, teachers and anyone who works with children recognize signs of sexual abuse and spot abusers. Free. 305-762-1250 or jrayburn@theadom.org:

- Saturday, Feb. 6, 9 a.m., St. Louis, Pinecrest.
- Wednesday, Feb. 24, 6 p.m., Archbishop McCarthy High School, Southwest Ranches.

SCHOOL EVENTS

Chaminade-Madonna College Preparatory's 34th Founders' Dinner Dance, Saturday, Jan. 30, 7 p.m., Signature Grand, 6900 State Road 84, Davie. Honorees are

Archbishop John C. Favalora, William "Pops" and Rose Stierele, and Nancy Sullivan. Information, reservations: www.cmlionsden.org/founders, 954-989-5150, ext. 140.

College of Mount St. Vincent alumni gathering, Sunday, Feb. 7, 12:30 p.m., BT's Oceanfront, Embassy Suites Resort and Spa, 950 S. Ocean Drive, Deerfield Beach. Join alums for lunch; hear the latest news and developments from President Flynn and members of the college community. Family and friends are welcome. 561-964-8031.

St. James School seeks alumni from class of 1978 for reunion in March. marzayas@bellsouth.net.

SUPPORT MINISTRIES/ PEER GROUPS

"A Time to Share," Monday, Feb. 8, 7 p.m., 6591 S. Flamingo Road, Cooper City, Schott Communities support group for parents of children with special needs. Topic: the many services offered by Broward County Family Success Administration. Free, but please R.S.V.P. to 954-434-3306, ext. 102.

Separated and divorced support groups meet in various locations in Miami-Dade and Broward counties. Go to www.miamicatholicfamily.org.

VOCATIONS

Discerning a vocation to the priesthood? Meeting Monday, Jan. 25, in English and Spanish, Pastoral Center, 9401 Biscayne Blvd., Miami. 305-762-1137 or vocations@theadom.org.

Sisters of St. Joseph vocational retreat, Friday, Jan. 29-Saturday, Jan. 30, St. Joseph Motherhouse, St. Augustine. Daily Mass, eucharistic adoration, prayer in community, optional individual meetings for spiritual direction. Retreat fee: \$10, includes all meals and overnight accommodations at the convent. 904-610-9228 or ssjflvocations@bellsouth.net.

YOUNG ADULTS

Catholic "speed date," Sunday, Feb. 14, 3-6 p.m., Living Room Restaurant, 1709 N. Congress Ave., Boynton Beach, for Catholic singles in their 30s and 40s. Appetizers, chocolates and a drink provided. \$25 in advance; \$30 at the door. 954-270-9447 or lionjames1@yahoo.com.

YOUR MARKETPLACE

RETREATS

WORLD MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: PARENTS IN LOVE = FAMILIES IN LOVE - Your family deserves the parents' love that a Marriage Encounter weekend can bring. A weekend is a 44-hour program where couples are in a nice environment, without kids and distractions or duties. It is a weekend to enjoy with your life partner. You will focus on your relationship and learn communications techniques that help you grow closer together. For further information on our next weekend in English, please contact Fred and Laurie at 561-963-1170; e-mail auntlauriem@aol.com or visit our Web site, www.wmesefla.com.

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Need a Prayer?

Send in your prayer requests and we will include your needs in our prayers. Mail to: Florida Catholic, P.O. Box 4993, Orlando, FL 32802-4993 or visit our Web site at www.thefloridacatholic.org. Please send no money.

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HAITI
FROM A1

or adoptive parents.

This would be similar to the Pedro Pan program which brought 14,000 unaccompanied children to the U.S. in the early 1960s, and some in the Haitian community are already referring to it as Pierre Pan.

"This is going to be a very special, focused program," said Randy

McGrorty, chief executive officer of Catholic Legal Services.

He said he already has received hundreds of e-mails from people interested in serving as foster parents or adoptive parents for the children. But it is too early to make those requests.

The first step, he said, is to work with the U.S. government "to create an orderly program to bring those kids (here) legally."

Vice President Joe Biden and Homeland Security Director Janet Napolitano met with Archbishop Favalora, Father Jean-Mary and other archdiocesan officials Jan. 16. "They've indicated they're receptive," McGrorty said.

He explained that the second step is to work with child care agencies in Haiti "who are the experts" to identify the children in need.

But that will happen only after the initial search and rescue work is completed. "Right now, everyone's priority is to rescue people from the rubble," McGrorty said.

Many of those present at Notre Dame d'Haiti Jan. 17 had relatives in Haiti.

"I lost my cousins with their two kids and I can't find two of my sis-

ters," said Patricia Charles, who made a point of kneeling at the altar after Mass and saying a special prayer.

Next to her was Marie Balthazar, also kneeling, also praying with hands outstretched, but in thanksgiving because her sister, brother and father were OK.

"My sister was at church. The church broke and then she's saved," Balthazar said.

Outside, at an earlier Mass, Natacha Louis wept and prayed.

"My family is alive. But the problem is they don't find food," she said.

Her brother and his children lived in Village Solidarité, about 35 to 40 minutes outside Port-au-Prince. She said they lived in an apartment building whose walls cracked during the quake, so they could not go back

inside.

The village was "very affected and nobody came to help them" because everyone is so focused on the capital.

"The kids survive with water and salt," Louis said. But the stench of the dead is starting to make them sick. "Last night they sleep by the sea because the sea, there's not too much smell."

Among those killed in the earthquake was Archbishop Joseph Serge Miot of Port-au-Prince. His vicar general is missing and feared dead, as are many of the country's seminarians.

"The center of government, as well as the center of the Church in Haiti, both in Port-au-Prince, have been completely destroyed," Archbishop Favalora said at the press conference Jan. 13.

At the Mass Jan. 17, he expressed his condolences to the Haitian people.

"Words really do not carry the full meaning of what is in our hearts," he said.

He then praised the "beautiful faith" of long-suffering Haitians and added: "The saddest people in this world are not the people who suffer. The saddest people in this world are the people who have no faith. They have no hope. They don't believe that life comes from death. But that's what we believe. That's why the crucifix for us is a sign of hope, not a sign of death."

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Country Inn & Suites and Best Western Hotels are offering a **special room rate** until Feb. 1st for those attending.

For hotel reservations call:
305-270-0359 for Country Inn & Suites
305-271-4848 for Best Western.

Pre-registration:
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For further information, please call
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Kerwins Mathurin, an eighth-grader at St. Mary Cathedral School, prays during the Mass Jan. 13 for victims of the earthquake in Haiti.

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO | FC

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‘Nobody foresaw this’

Grieving Haitians mourn for dead, pray for missing relatives

MARLENE QUARONI
Florida Catholic correspondent

MIAMI — Martine Jeudi held photos of her aunt and other relatives in her hand as she prayed during a memorial service for victims of the earthquake which struck Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on Jan. 12.

“My aunt was killed,” said Jeudi, 36, who came to the Jan. 13 service at Notre Dame d’Haiti Parish in Miami from her home in Hollywood. “My other relatives are missing. They lived at Delmas 68. The building was destroyed.”

She was one of hundreds of Haitian-Americans whose relatives were killed or are missing in Haiti.

Father Reginald Jean-Mary, pastor of Notre Dame d’Haiti, called the earthquake the darkest moment in the history of Haiti.

“Nobody foresaw this,” he said in an impassioned address. “God and nature surprised us. God reminded us that something must be done. Haiti needs more than food and water. We need substantial change in Haiti.”

Father Jean-Mary told those at the memorial service to make a commitment to Haiti, the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere.

“I don’t want you to come to church and cry,” he said. “I want



ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO | FC

Carmen Pierre, right, and Sandrine Basquin, seventh-graders at St. Mary Cathedral School, pray the Our Father during the Mass for victims of the earthquake in Haiti. The student body of St. Mary Cathedral School gathered for Mass the morning after a 7.0 magnitude quake devastated Port-au-Prince, Haiti’s capital. Most of the school’s 380 students are of Haitian descent.

you to make a commitment so that Haiti can stand on its feet. Today, many of you are wondering where your loved ones are in Haiti. But how many times did you contact them? You know how hard life is in Haiti.”

Father Jean-Mary said that the death of their fellow brothers and sisters was not a defeat.

“The light of God will continue to shine on Haiti,” he said. “We are here to show our solidarity

and our commitment to Haiti. We are here to be a light in the darkness.” ■



MARLENE QUARONI | FC

Noel Augustin holds a photo of relatives during a memorial service for Haitian earthquake victims held Jan. 13 at Notre Dame d’Haiti Parish in Miami.

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MARLENE QUARONI | FC

Vanessa Achille cries for victims of the earthquake in Haiti during a memorial service Jan. 13 at Notre Dame d'Haiti Parish in Miami. Haitians gathered there to mourn and pray for victims of the earthquake in their homeland.

HOW TO HELP

- Catholic Charities is collecting only monetary donations for the earthquake relief effort. Checks should be made out to: Catholic Charities, Attn: Earthquake Victims, 1505 N.E. 26 St., Wilton Manors, FL 33305. Donations also may be made online at www.catholiccharitiesadm.org.
- The lay missionary group *Amor en Accion* (Love in Action), which has worked for decades in the archdiocese's sister Diocese of Port-de-Paix, is accepting monetary donations via the link at the bottom of its Web site, www.amorenaccion.com or at P.O. Box 141523, Coral Gables, FL 33114.
- The Shrine of Our Lady of Charity in Miami was accepting donations of nonperishable food, evaporated and powdered milk, and medicines ONLY from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at 3609 S. Miami Ave.
- The archdiocese's St. Vincent de Paul Society joined efforts with the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, whose community has worked for decades in Haiti, to fill a relief plane bound for Haiti. The Daughters of Charity working in Haiti would distribute the aid themselves. They asked that donations of rice, black beans, lentils, powdered milk and cooking oil be delivered to the Daughters' convent at 500 N.W. 63 Ave., Miami.

Archdiocese, Catholic Charities already helping in Haiti

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
Florida Catholic staff

MIAMI — Even before an archdiocesewide collection set for the weekend of Jan. 16-17, the Archdiocese of Miami committed \$100,000 from its disaster relief fund to aid Haiti.

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Miami also opened an online site Jan. 13 for people to donate to the relief effort.

The archdiocesan money would go “for the initial rescue and recovery efforts,” Archbishop John C. Falalora said in a letter read at all the parishes the weekend of the collection.

“I urge your generous support which will go directly to assist our brothers and sisters in Haiti,” the archbishop said.

He noted that Catholic Charities also was collecting money “with which we will purchase the needed items and get them to the area as soon as possible.”

Archdiocesan officials also emphasized that all of the money collected — 100 percent — would

go directly toward relief efforts in Haiti.

Deacon Richard Turcotte, chief executive officer of Catholic Charities, said the agency had relief supplies “already positioned (in Haiti) in a warehouse” when the tremor struck. The relief supplies had been stored in Haiti since four hurricanes hit the northern part of the country in 2008.

He said his agency would partner with agencies such as Catholic Relief Services, which is sponsored by the U.S. bishops, and Caritas International, the Vatican agency which has long experience in the country, to provide and distribute whatever aid was required by the Haitian people.

The American Institute of Philanthropy gave Catholic Relief Services a grade of A and listed it among the top-rated charities working in Haiti.

“And we may eventually have to partner with Food for the Poor,” a Deerfield Beach-based Christian relief agency, Deacon Turcotte said.

Much of the difficulty faced by first-responders involved the level

of devastation in a nation that already was the poorest in the Western Hemisphere.

“From all reports, it’s total. The infrastructure is completely destroyed,” Deacon Turcotte said.

Pictures coming out of Haiti revealed a surreal landscape of dust-covered bodies lying in the streets as shocked survivors roamed through the rubble and others tried desperately to save people who remained trapped underneath.

“This is a disaster that none of us were prepared for,” Deacon Turcotte said. “None of us know the magnitude of what it’s going to take” to rebuild. The only thing for sure is that “it’s going to be a long, long relief effort.”

Also complicating the situation: Some of those who would take the lead in providing help, such as Church workers, were among those affected by the tragedy.

Port-au-Prince’s Archbishop Joseph Serge Miot was among the first to be identified as a casualty of the quake. His vicar general and chancellor also were missing as of the end of the week. The seminary

was reportedly heavily damaged, and many seminarians were unaccounted for.

Salesian Missions said their offices and schools in Port-au-Prince were damaged or destroyed and the whereabouts of aid workers was not known.

They also reported that Brother Hubert Sanon, 85, the first Haitian to become a Salesian, was killed in the quake, and at least 200 students were believed to be buried in the rubble of the National School of Arts and Trades operated by Salesian Missions.

“We have been hit very hard,” said Father Ducange Sylvain, superior of the Vice Province of Haiti.

Archdiocesan schools were doing their part to help. Many held bake sales and dress-down days, where students and faculty paid \$1 or \$5 for the privilege of not wearing uniforms.

The dress-down day at Immaculate Conception School in Hialeah raised \$5,400. Two students at St. Anthony School in Fort Lauderdale raised \$114 in a bake sale and the fifth-grade class raised \$70 by sell-

ing doughnuts — even before the school announced its official dress-down day.

Carlota Morales, principal of Sts. Peter and Paul School in Miami, had not tallied the funds raised by a schoolwide collection Jan. 15, but said she had received a donation of \$1,000 from a single family.

St. Andrew School in Coral Springs scheduled a walkathon for the afternoon of Monday, Jan. 25. Mother of Our Redeemer School in Miami asked students to bring an empty can to school and challenged them to fill it with money for Haiti.

Also in Miami, Immaculata La Salle High School’s student clubs said they would turn over all the money from planned fundraisers to the Haiti relief effort.

“We expect to have collected up to \$10,000 by the end of next week,” said Juan Carlos Moya, a faculty member at the school.

“We are very concerned about Haiti, in part because we have a sister school there and a Salesian mission that was completely destroyed,” said Moya, noting that Immaculata La Salle’s principal is a Salesian. ■