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Hand in Hand

Newsletters

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Fall 9-1-2020

### Hand in Hand, Autumn 2020

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#### Repository Citation

"Hand in Hand, Autumn 2020" (2020). *Hand in Hand*. 68.

<https://crossworks.holycross.edu/dca001-hand-wi-1991/68>

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## FR. CK'S CORNER



By Fr. Christopher Klusman

Welcome to the Autumn 2020 Hand in Hand Newsletter! I hope you were able to enjoy the beautiful autumn atmosphere with its

colorful leaves that leave us (pun intended) with a reminder that God remains the undisputed and greatest artist. What a contrast to last year when we

had an unexpected major snowfall which was an unusual sight to



see: snowcapped trees with autumn leaves. The snowfall also led to cancellations for Trick-or-Treaters. So bizarre that this year, cancellations are happening again, not due to snow, but the COVID-19 pandemic.

Whenever difficult times like this happens, it should remind us of our anchor, our rock, and our fortress: God. And when we go to God, prayer is a must. I love St. Teresa of Avila's famous definition of prayer:

*"Prayer is nothing more than spending a long time alone with the one I know loves me."*

During prayer, I'm reminded by three people who lived through difficult times. The three people are Job, Anne Frank, and Immaculée Ilibagiza. They showed me great examples of

► **FR. CK'S CORNER - Continued on Page 2.**



## Prayer to St. Francis de Sales

O great St. Francis de Sales, who in your zeal for souls did teach your deaf servant, Martin, a deep and abiding love for God, come and be my protector.

Teach me that sanctity lies in doing to the best of my ability the work I have to do today.

Help me to think of each duty I perform as another bead, so that at the end of this day, I may offer this Rosary of love to Jesus my God, and Mary my Mother.

O gentle de Sales, Bishop and Holy Doctor, teach me to become a saint.

*Nihil Obstat*  
John Tracy Ellis  
Censor Librorum

*Imprimatur*  
✠ Patrick A. O'Boyle  
Archbishop of Washington  
September 21, 1954

*I had found this beautiful prayer in St. John's School for the Deaf's publication of "Our Young People" (January 1956 edition). St. Francis de Sales is a patron saint for the Deaf. The events of his experiences with Martin, a Deaf man, is inspiring and reassuring. Please pray this lovely prayer daily to ask for St. Francis de Sales' powerful intercessions for all of us.*

## MISSION STATEMENT - DEAF APOSTOLATE

The Deaf Apostolate in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee exists to enable all Catholic Deaf and Hard of Hearing people to participate fully in the liturgical, educational, pastoral, spiritual, and human concerns ministries in the Church.

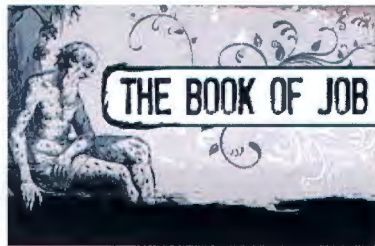
► FR. CK'S CORNER - Continued from Page 1.

how to live during this COVID crisis.

Job came into mind from the first reading at Mass on September 28. The Book of Job, which is in the Old Testament, continues to be one of the most powerful and beloved figures and books in all of Sacred Scripture. The reading began in a truly unforgettable scene:

*One day, when the angels of God came to present themselves before the LORD, Satan also came among them. And the LORD said to Satan, "Whence do you come?" Then Satan answered the LORD and said, "From roaming the earth and patrolling it." And the LORD said to Satan, "Have you noticed my servant Job, and that there*

*is no one on earth like him, blameless and upright, fearing God and avoiding evil?" But Satan answered the LORD and said, "Is it for nothing that Job is God-fearing? Have you not surrounded him*



*and his family and all that he has with your protection? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his livestock are spread over the land. But now put forth your hand and touch anything that he has, and surely he will blaspheme you to your face." And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand upon his person." So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD...*

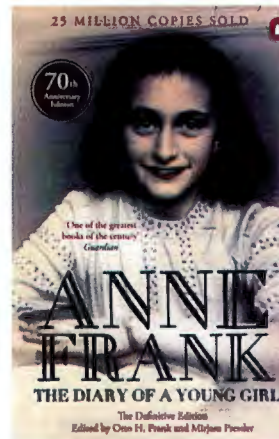
What happens is that, because of Satan, Job lost **all** his family and property, except his faith.

*... Then Job began to tear his cloak and cut off his hair. He cast himself prostrate upon the ground, and said, "Naked I came forth from my mother's womb, and naked shall I go back again. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD!" In all this Job did not sin, nor did he say anything disrespectful of God.*

Job is truly a man of faith. Whenever a difficult situation comes, would you say, "During a joyful time when I received gifts, and even during times of great suffering where I lost things precious to me, the Lord's name is Blessed!?" Easier to do during joyful times. But to lose a loved one to death, a cancer diagnosis, etc., to still praise the Lord truly requires faith, humility, hope, and love! While our lives have drastically changed since the



beginning of the COVID crisis, how have we been different or similar to Job? Do we still trust in God that He is still in control? Do we show unwavering hope, faith, and love? Job proved to everyone, even to Satan, that he still loves God and has faith in Him. Satan lost that battle. Job reminds us that it is only with God as our Rock that we can stay strong whatever trials we experience individually and as a community.



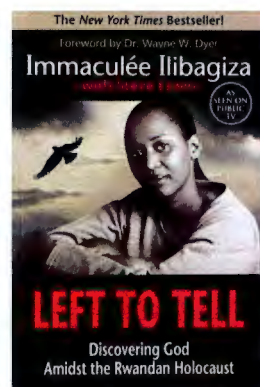
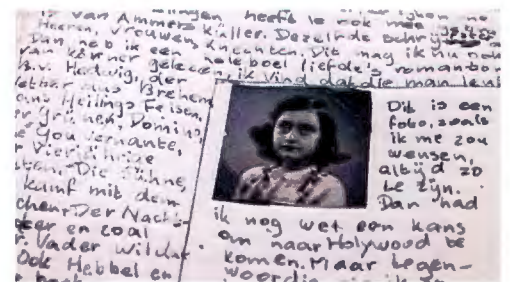
Anne Frank is another person to consider because of what she went through during World War II. Reading her famous diary, it was a scary and humbling realization of how she, her family, and others had to live hidden and secretly in a cramped attic. She wrote in her diary several heart-breaking words about how she wished she could do something so simple (and what we take for granted), such as to go outside even for a few minutes. There were times when they couldn't move

because there were people downstairs that if they made a noise, they may be discovered. The reason why I was so humbled by what Anne Frank went through was that it was nothing in comparison to what we are going through during this COVID crisis since we

are still able to do more things, such as open the windows, go outside with masks, etc. Whenever I felt tempted to complain, I think of Anne Frank and

how lucky I was to still be able to still do a lot more things than she and her family and neighbors could do.

Last but not least, I hope you read Immaculée Ilibagiza's shocking book, *Left to Tell*. During the horrible Rwandan genocide, she was locked up in a tiny bathroom (three feet by four feet) for 91 days with seven other women so that she could live. This meant many things, such as not flushing the toilet for a long time for fear of being discovered (like Anne Frank). It was a transformative experience for her



► FR. CK'S CORNER - Continued on Page 11.



## St. Andrew Parish DEAF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MINISTRY SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

### FROM THE DELAVAN CORNER: “COVID-19 IS THE MOTHER OF ADJUSTMENT”



**By Jennifer Paul, Coordinator  
Deaf Religious Education & Deaf Ministry  
St. Andrew Parish, Delavan**

You know a well-known saying, “Necessity is the mother of invention.” I was going to go with a twist on the quote and say, “Necessity is the mother of adjustment”, changing only

the word INVENTION. But, then I realized that the pandemic is not just a need, that once dissolved, the adjustment we had done would rollback. Its impact is far-reaching and has challenged our worldview for the rest of our lives. I do not believe that we would unlearn everything we did during the pandemic and go back to how things always had been pre-pandemic. With the tools we learned to deal with the pandemic, we will change how we do business. It has redefined our idea of efficiency and it most definitely reprioritizes things in life. With that line of thinking, I decided to go with a different twist on the quote and say, “COVID-19 is the mother of adjustment”, changing both NECESSITY and INVENTION.

Because of COVID-19, we are forced to learn different ways of getting what we need, i.e. groceries and essentials for the duration of the pandemic. For example, some of us may have already used delivery services for our groceries but many of us were forced to learn how to use these services – and I hope you remember to say a prayer of gratitude and protection for people working in these delivery services – to minimize our risk of exposure. In the process, we break free of our initial hesitation and become

confident with the services. Once the pandemic is over, we may consider continuing the services, finding it very efficient. It would free up our time to take care of other things.

Secondly, many people are working remotely, and that challenges the idea of commuting and having a workplace that requires overhead costs. We even have people working fewer hours, and thus earning less money, so they adjust to make it work. In the

process, people might have learned that more money is just more stress. Once the pandemic is over, they may like the adjustments and keep them, prioritizing what little time there is for more meaningful things in life.

Right in the palm of my hand ANYWHERE, I Google up for verses to read for specific situations.

For example, for times I feel anxious, I am told to go to Matthew 6:34. I then go to [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)'s Books of Bible and in Matthew, chapter 6, verse 34, I see “Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself. Sufficient for a day is its own evil.”

I did the same thing about changes and accepting them

with grace and humility. I was told to go to these verses and below are from the same website:

1. “At the time, all discipline seems a cause not for joy but for pain, yet later it brings the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who are trained by it” (Hebrews 12:11).

► FROM THE DELAVAN CORNER - Continued on Page 19.



*“You [Deaf community] are not only recipients of the proclaiming of the message of the Gospel but you are also, to the full, those who proclaim it because of your baptism.”*  
— Pope Benedict XVI, Nov. '09



# DEAF APOSTOLATE

## *Pastoral Plan*

*“[Jesus said,] I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing.” — John 15:5*



# PASTORAL PLAN 2020-2023

## MISSION STATEMENT

*The Deaf Apostolate in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee exist to enable all Catholic Deaf and Hard of Hearing people to participate fully in the liturgical, educational, pastoral, spiritual, & human concerns ministries in the Church.*

## | PASTORAL PRIORITIES |

### **Pastoral Plan Effectiveness and Ministry Organization**

- Share the Pastoral Plan with parishes, archdiocesan offices, and organizations in the archdiocese.
- Reassess whether parishes in the archdiocese are available for the Deaf community within reasonable driving distances in deaneries.

### **Centralization of Catholic Deaf in Milwaukee to a Parish Center**

- Decide on a location for which parish or parish center can be at a centralized location where the Deaf community can worship and assume full participation through ministerial roles and committees.

### **Policies and Intradiocesan/Interdiocesan Relationships**

- Consistently collaborate with archdiocesan offices/parishes to ensure they have the basic knowledge to serve effectively the Catholic Deaf community (i.e., interpreter guidelines, captioning, etc.).
- Collaborate with neighboring dioceses of Green Bay and Madison for at least one shared event annually.

### **Religious Vocations**

- Meet at least once annually with the Vocations Offices for Priesthood and Diaconate Ministry on finding ways to explore, promote, and support Deaf vocations.
- Be a resource for Placement Boards on important considerations for placements with the Deaf.

## | CATHOLIC IDENTITY |

### **Liturgy (Worship & Prayer)**

- Ensure that the Sacramental needs of the Deaf community are provided.
- Ensure opportunities to worship and pray in an atmosphere in which ASL is the primary language, such as the Deaf Mass.

### **Cultural Diversity**

- Host events for Deaf History Month (March) and Deaf Awareness Week (September).
- Provide an annual Catholic Deaf Hispanic Mass and social to allow families to meet, learn and support each other.

## | EVANGELIZATION |

### **Evangelization**

- Since only 1% of the Deaf community attends Mass, create a missionary initiative of reaching out to bring “Catholic Deaf community members” back home.
- Have a Deaf user-friendly website for Deaf Apostolate.

## | FORMATION |

### **Formation**

- Educate the Deaf about Deaf Apostolate resources available in our archdiocese.
- Maintain Deaf religious education classes for students at Wisconsin School for the Deaf (WSD).

### **Catholic Social Teaching**

- Provide Deaf people with more opportunities to be involved in social justice issues.
- Collaborate with organizations specializing in ministry to Deaf people with mental illnesses, as well as with addiction struggles, etc.



Wood carvings on the pews by students at St. John's School for the Deaf circa the late 19th century.



Research found that all butterflies are deaf, making it a beautiful symbol of the Deaf community and the Resurrection.



| MARRIAGE AND FAMILY |

**Marriage and Family**

- Ensure accessible and inclusive opportunities to strengthen new and ongoing marriages.

| STEWARDSHIP |

**Stewardship**

- Educate and recognize the broader definition of the theology and practice of stewardship with the "3 T's" (time, talent, and treasure) at parochial and archdiocesan offices.

| LEADERSHIP |

**Leadership**

- Workshops on how the Deaf can be effective servant leaders.
- Representatives of DAAC and Ephpheta Sodality of St. John the Baptist/ICDA Chapter #7 collaborate in fulfilling goals to support and empower the Catholic Deaf community.

| "NON-SYNODAL" PASTORAL PRIORITIES |

**Child and Young Adult Ministry**

- Provide appropriate child-centered workshops annually on the Catholic Faith.
- Maintain the annual Catholic Deaf Young Adult weekend retreat.
- Host workshops on training our young adults to find, invite and empower other young adults who left or never attend Catholic Masses and services.

**Ministry with Senior Citizens**

- Provide at least once a month Mass at Water Tower View (WTV) Deaf Apartments in Greenfield, WI, as well as weekly Communion services.

**Ministry of Healing**

- Collaborate with the Safe Environment Office to ensure services and support are accessible to the Deaf community.

**Services in Catholic Settings**

- Provide continuing education so interpreters develop and maintain skills to perform necessary duties in all settings (including, but not limited to, theology, Deaf Plus (such as Deaf-Blind), religious signs, funerals, weddings, etc.).
- Provide at least an annual workshop on working with sign language interpreters and assistive technologies for archdiocesan offices and parishes.



## YOUTH MINISTRY – RENEWING THE VISION

*From the July/August 2003 Hand in Hand Newsletter. With our article about Blessed Carlo Acutis as the 1st Millennial to be beatified, this selection seems to be a good choice. Pam was one of our former Coordinators.*



**By Pamela Sue Sommers**

“Kids are not a problem to be solved but a gift to be unleashed” were the words I remember most from the youth ministry presentation at the Cousins Center in May. I attended that day seeking direction for youth ministry and hoping to apply that

knowledge to Deaf/Hard of Hearing Ministry. How can Deaf/Hard of Hearing Ministry become a youth-responsive community? I would like to share with you some of the information I gleaned from that presentation I hope it will provide insights about what we, as adults, need to be aware of with the youth of today:



### **The Territory:**

### **Millennial Generation (1981 to 1996)**

#### **Characteristics of a New Generation**

- Truth is confirmed through personal experience (they must experience it personally to believe it).
- Instant communication and access for constant connection are important. There are more of a variety of things to say about any topic.
- Technologically and multimedia savvy is commonplace,

with emphasis on visual images vs. verbal or reading.

- Youth are interactive with knowledge and information; they are intellectually open.
- They are service-oriented with a strong desire to do something for the common good – incredible generosity.
- Entertainment is ever present via music, videos, movies, theatre, arts. “Entertailing” combines entertainment and retailing.
- Access to Excess – option overload; they face the challenge of assigning meaning to experiences and integrating them into life vs. adding more disconnected experiences.
- They are more accepting and tolerant of diversity than their elders.
- They delay life commitments, looking for stability.

### **The Spirituality of a New Generation**

**Youth are believers, but not necessarily belongers.**

- They emphasize on the spiritual journey versus organized religion.
- Their “experience” of Church is critical.
- They have a different way of understanding Jesus – suffering.
- They focus on their individual relationship with Jesus.
- They value discipleship versus membership.
- They desire to know the transcendence/power of God.
- They are looking for a real and personal experience of faith.
- They use all the arts and nature to discover God.

► **YOUTH MINISTRY - Continued on Page 10.**



## INTERPRETER ONLINE REQUEST FORM

By Fr. Christopher Klusman



Last year, we launched a new online Sign Language Interpreter Request

Form. A friendly reminder that this is standard protocol. In case you don't know how to do this: when you first open the [www.archmil.org](http://www.archmil.org) website, you will see near the top of the Archdiocesan logo a tan-colored stripe. Click on "Ministries & Offices" to automatically open up a list in which you go and click on "Deaf Apostolate." Scroll down until you see "Links." Below that, you will see first: "Interpreter Request Form" and click on it. Please type in/fill out the boxes provided. Once you are finished, you can click on the orange "Submit" button to send it to us and then I will try our best to find the appropriate sign language interpreter(s) that will fit according to the needs of the request. The sooner you can inform me the request, the better the chances of finding the interpreter(s).

Again, this is the standard and required way of requesting sign language interpreter(s) for any Catholic Deaf events, such as funerals, workshops, etc. Emails will no longer be accepted.

Here is the link that goes directly to this online form:

<https://www.archmil.org/deaf-apostolate/InterpreterRequest-Form.htm>

Suzann Johnson, a second grader, made a wonderful discovery on a small map of the U.S. For her own amusement, Suzann was looking for places familiar to her. Suddenly, she ran to Sister Mary Claude and said she had found Heaven. Suzann might have bought a one-way ticket except that Sister pointed out the fact that the word was New Haven. –March '54

This month we feature the 2A and 2B pupils: Roy Duket never tires of telling about his baby brother. His favorite boast is, "Baby Philip can hear!" . . . Bob Kamasky, with his love of being "first" in everything, helps to create a healthy competition in grade 2A. . . . Douglas Brockman is the chatterbox who doesn't leave an incident untold. . . . Bobby Cave is the philosopher of the group, who figures things out for himself. . . . Joey Daniels is rarely seen without a merry smile on his lips, or a mischievous look in his eye. . . . Karen Hansen has admirably clear speech, and uses it to the best advantage. She loves to teach her little brother many things she learns in school. . . . Didi Lara doesn't believe in secrets. She sees all, knows all and tells all. . . . John Hobert is little, but oh my! He likes his talents appreciated, and we don't blame him. . . . Clayton Ferris may appear casual and nonchalant, but he often amazes us with his quickness of perception. . . . Kathy Thompson's two-year-old brother receives a great deal of attention from Kathy both at home and when he accom-

*In St. John's School for the Deaf's publications of the "Our Young People," there is a section that has their current news. I hope you will enjoy these various news clippings:*

News  
of  
St.  
John's



panies Kathy to school. . . . John Murphy, with his merry laugh and twinkling eyes, is always found where there is action. . . . Linda Chasser enjoys displaying her skill at working with her spool knitting set. And we think she does very well.



We welcome another new pupil, Charles Jones, to St. John's.



Sister Lucy, who dedicated sixty-one years of her life to the service of the deaf, is now bedridden in St. Ann's Infirmary at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Francis.



ICDA  
**Boston 2021**  
Biennial Conference



# POSTPONED

Due to COVID-19,  
this conference has been delayed to 2023.

See you then!



## K.C. ANNUAL HARVEST PICNIC A GREAT SUCCESS

*This was taken from St. John's Newsletter, Vol. 8, No. 4, Fall 1969.*

Last January the K.C.'s voted once again to support Saint John's with the proceeds from their Annual Harvest Picnic. To the casual observer there was not much activity as the months passed, but in reality the efficient planning of the Chairman, Co-chairman and steering committees made the final days of preparation a wonder to behold.

Some gave their week's vacation to get things ready. Precious ladies cheerfully peeled mounds of potatoes, carrots and beets, while others prepared onions, cabbage and peppers. (These products are donated by a farmer.)

Cakes, pillow cases, aprons, parcel post packages, handicraft items, prizes, an afghan etc. poured in. Helpers were here to unpack and prewash dishes, set up the dining areas, help with booths, wire the yard for electricity, set up tents, the band stand and put up signs. Food stuffs were delivered, two golf carts whizzed back and forth carrying supplies, rides for kiddies were assembled. Chairs and tables were lugged into place. Everyone knew just about where to go and what to do. Everyone was proud to be playing a vital role in making the picnic, "A GO". From early in the morning till late at night



*Crowd at annual Fall Festival sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Chapter 4614.*

for two days things hummed. A sense of total dedication radiated from each and every worker. Charming waitresses served delicious, hot meals. Stacks of dishes went through the dish washer. Booths were manned, the band played on, Chico Holiday performed, policemen walked their beat, money was counted and finally all was still. Loose ends of the picnic were no more than tied when these loyal men began planning a bigger and better picnic for next year.

## LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT IN THE PRE-PRIMARY CLASSES

*Since our Summer 2019 Special 175th Anniversary Commemorative Newsletter, we are proud to continue the tradition of including here articles related to the history of St. John's School for the Deaf. I hope you will enjoy this article as it fits with our Autumn theme. While Jesus said that the children are blessed (Matthew 18:17), we can't forget to see the beautiful world through the awe and wonder of a child's eyes. This was taken from St. John's Newsletter, Vol. 8, No. 4, Fall 1969.*

School is an exciting adventure to the nursery and kindergarten child who learns his language through situational experiences. A walk in the woods allows the Pre-Primary I class to observe nature in its changing glory. The leaves crunch beneath little feet, seeds can be blown in the wind, chestnuts are carried and treasured in their pockets. And on the way children learn the words, red, yellow, green, brown – as they run with each new leaf to Sister Bertrand who exclaims appropriate little phrases – That's a pretty one, or See this yellow leaf. Returning to school the experience is reinforced by pictures and experience stories that are written or drawn.



*"Did you break off this branch" Sandra Surprenant asks Beth Weis.*



*Sister Cecilia Diny*



*Sister Bertrand*



*Jerry Glenn and Pat O'Brien learn the hunt n peck method.*

► YOUTH MINISTRY - Continued from Page 7.

- They want to grow in faith together and share their spiritual journey with others.

**So what does all this mean for us – a Deaf/Hard of Hearing Catholic Community?**

I ask all of us to be cognizant of the characteristics and needs of this generation and to view them as blessings and gifts, not as problems. We as role models must tap into that immense potential to create youth ministry in ways we have never imagined. I look to you members of the community to help Deaf Ministry find ways to:

- Empower young Deaf people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today.
- Draw young Deaf people to responsible participation in the life, mission and work of the Catholic faith community.
- Foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each young Deaf person.
- Respond to the needs of young Deaf people and the sharing of the unique gifts of Deaf youth with the larger community.
- See the Deaf youth as gifted and growing.
- Partner with parents in developing the faith life of their Deaf adolescent children.

Whether you choose to volunteer or if you are members of a parish, are you open and welcoming to the youth in our community? How can you, on a personal level, reach out to a Deaf youth and invite him/her into the Deaf/Hard of Hearing Catholic community? Deaf Youth Ministry cannot grow and develop without the involvement of Deaf adults. Please consider getting involved on some level to foster this area of Deaf Ministry.

A farmer was losing his temper trying to drive two mules into a field when the minister came by. "Say, Reverend," the farmer said, "you're just the man I want to see. Tell me, how did Noah get these two into the ark?" –From Jan. '56



## CATHOLIC THAT!

We had begun our *Catholic That!* series last September. Fr. Christopher Klusman had posted on



YouTube (with pre-registration required) on "How to Vote as Catholics?" in preparation for the upcoming vote in early November. Fr. Christopher gave the presentation in early September because some people were getting absentee ballots early.

Due to complications with the COVID pandemic, Deacon David's talk on "Why We're Catholic?" is postponed to a later date.

For November and December, Tom Meitner will offer a series of talks on "How to Prepare for Advent during the Pandemic." Please email by mid-November if you are interested to receive more information at [deafapostolate@archmil.org](mailto:deafapostolate@archmil.org).

Several years ago, the Catholic That! series was founded by the Deaf Apostolate Office to fulfill the goals of the Pastoral Plan to provide accessible faith formation presentations in American Sign Language (ASL).

## LENT 2021 VIRTUAL RETREAT

One of the nice traditions of the Deaf Apostolate is the annual Lenten Retreat.

LENTEN  
RETREAT

Sadly, due to the COVID-19 crisis, we will not have in-person Lenten weekend retreat. But, the good news is that we will have a virtual Lenten Retreat. Plans are currently being finalized. Expect our virtual retreat to happen through Zoom which may take about two hours on Friday evening, three hours on Saturday (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.), and three hours on Sunday (10 a.m. to 1 p.m.). Stay tuned for our upcoming Winter Newsletter for our flyer about this unique retreat experience. Keep the retreat planning process in your prayers that the details come together nicely.



## ► FR. CK'S CORNER - Continued from Page 2.

and praying the rosary every day was what gave her strength through grace to persevere with Christ and His Mother, Mary. People may scream that they couldn't go to a movie, football game, a festival, or out of state for a vacation, so it always puts to perspective (again) what Immaculée went through. During this COVID crisis, are you depending and praying to Jesus and with Our Lady for grace and strength?

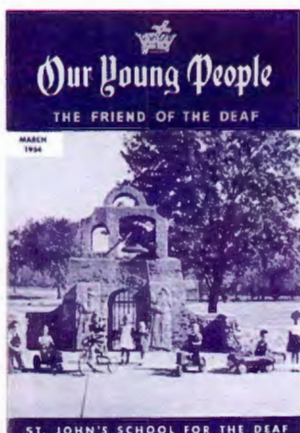
May Job, Anne Frank, and Immaculée Ilibagiza be an inspiration and shining example for all of us during this ongoing pandemic and to remember not to take for granted what we have, as well as to trust God for strength to be able to put things that we have and want to do on hold. Sacrifice, sacrifice, sacrifice!

With thanksgiving to God, this Newsletter contains many wonderful features for you to enjoy. And that I hope this provides you with a distraction from this pandemic, even for a short time.

Don't miss the publication of the Deaf Apostolate's Pastoral Plan. This has been the fruit of many years of work, feedback, and prayer. Archbishop Jerome ListECKi has given us the blessing for its official implementation. The Office of the Deaf Apostolate will continue to fulfill these goals in every way possible in the next few years until 2023.

Check out Jennifer Paul's article about her lessons from the COVID pandemic, as well as how the Catholic Deaf Religious Education Program has begun most uniquely: virtually! Hope you didn't miss out on her wonderful vlog series on the Apostles (12 + 2). A nice distant memory was shared in an article about our return to Signed Masses during the weekend of September 18 and 19. It was a blessing to pray together the rosary at the annual *America Needs Fatima* Rosary Rally hosted by Todd Zoellick at St. Roman Parish in Milwaukee. While traveling down memory lane, reading Pamela Sue Sommers' (now Pam Conine) article in an older

*Hand in Hand Newsletter* is a must before reading our article on newly Blessed Carlo Acutis. While carrying on the tradition of publishing an article about the many positive memories at St. John's School for the Deaf, you will want to read about their Primary Grades experiences during the Autumn season of leaves and popcorn. Also, scattered throughout this newsletter is something from a publication



from St. John's School for the Deaf called "Our Young People." I have included an article about the rosary and how that is perfect for the upcoming All Souls Day on November 2 and why we pray the rosary. Also, they have sections that I'm including here called "News of St. John's" in which you will see some news of our former St. John's students, as well as the "Pleasantries" section including random jokes. Lord knows we could use humor during this time. Also, I had discovered a beautiful prayer from this issue to St. Francis de Sales that I hope you will use often. There are so many other things in this issue that you will enjoy!

Since the *Summer 2020 Hand in Hand newsletter*, I still have been praying for you every day. Every time I offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, I remember you.

The Immaculate Conception, patroness of our country, pray for us! St. John the Evangelist, patron of our archdiocese, pray for us! St. Francis de Sales, patron saint of the Deaf, pray for us! St. René Goupil, our Deaf saint, pray for us! May God bless you and keep you. Enjoy the Newsletter!

## CATHOLIC QUIZ

### 1. Who led Israel in the battle against Jericho?

- (a) David (b) Joshua  
(c) Aaron (d) Saul

### 2. Who is the youngest non-martyr to be canonized a saint?

- (a) Dominic Savio  
(b) Maria Goretti  
(c) Therese of the Little Flower  
(d) Aloysius Gonzaga

### 3. Jesus is from which Tribe of Israel?

- (a) Asher (b) Joseph (c) Benjamin (d) Judah

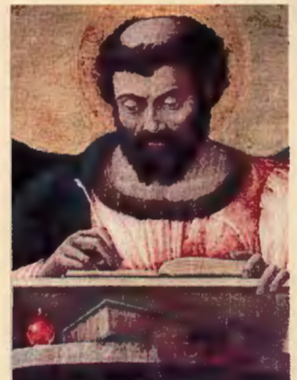
### 4. In the parable of the Unmerciful Servant, how much did he owe to the master?

- (a) 10,000 talents (b) 100,000 denarii  
(c) 5,000 talents (d) 100 denarii

### 5. A novena of prayer lasts for \_\_\_ consecutive days or one day for \_\_\_ weeks?

- (a) 7 (b) 9 (c) 14 (d) 21

(Answers on page 14.)



## SAINT STORIES IN ASL

Here is an excerpt taken from the website: <https://vimeopro.com/cancanpro/saint-stories>

“A few years ago, the National Catholic Office for the Deaf ([ncod.org/](http://ncod.org/)), produced a video series for those preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation, *Strengthened in Faith: Confirmation*, which included the stories of the saints told by Deaf performers, voiced and captioned so all can learn from these stories. These stories are wonderful ways for adults and young people to learn and be inspired by the lives of the saints. We are making them available now on line during this time of “at home” learning and working.

You can access them at: <https://vimeopro.com/cancanpro/saint-stories>

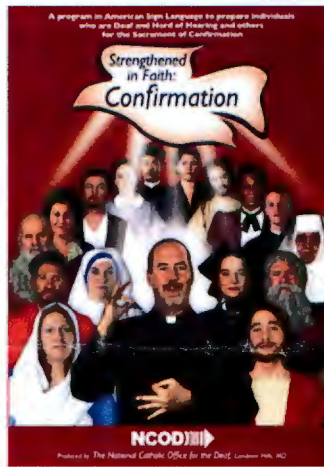
The first video is Jesus teaching the Beatitudes, which are the model for living as the saints lived. Then there are 17 stories of saints who are: men and woman, young and old, from different countries, modern day saints and saints from of old. Each has a “charism” or special way of following the Beatitudes, Jesus’ teaching, that is a gift to us today in our times. The last two videos are the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. These are a vital reminder of how we can live the Beatitudes in our time and especially during this time of uncertainty.

After watching each video there are suggestions to help teens and adults to ponder and pray. There are also a listing of discussions and activities for children.”

Another wonderful thing is that the website is also available in Spanish:

“Unos años atrás la Oficina Católica Nacional para Sordos ([ncod.org](http://ncod.org/)) produjo una serie de vídeos para los que se están preparando para el Sacramento de Confirmación, *Fortalecidos en la fe: Confirmación*, la cual incluía historias de santos con actores sordos, habladas y con subtítulos. Estas historias son formas maravillosas para que adultos y jóvenes aprendan y sean inspirados por las vidas de los santos. Las estamos haciendo disponibles en línea durante este tiempo de aprendizaje y trabajo “en el hogar”.

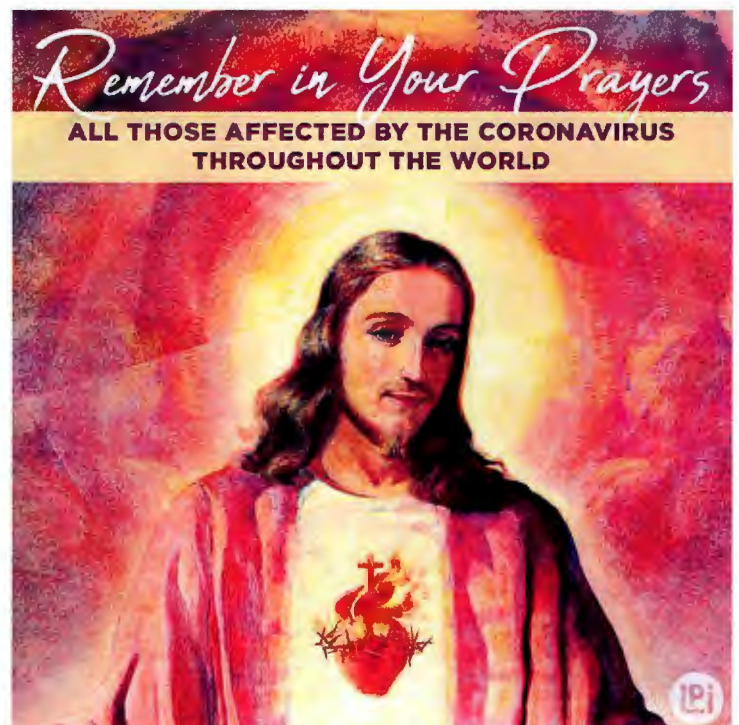
El primer vídeo es Jesús enseñando las Bienaventuranzas, que



son el modelo para vivir como vivieron los santos. Después hay 17 historias de santos: hombres y mujeres, jóvenes y viejos, de diferentes países, santos de hoy día y santos de antaño. Cada una tiene un “carisma” o forma especial de seguir las Bienaventuranzas, la enseñanza de Jesús, que es un don para nosotros hoy en nuestros tiempos. Los dos últimos vídeos son las Obras Corporales Espirituales y de Misericordia. Estas son recordatorios vitales de cómo debemos de vivir las Bienaventuranzas en nuestro tiempo y especialmente en estos momentos de incertidumbre.

Después de mirar cada vídeo hay sugerencias para ayudar a los adolescentes y a los adultos a reflexionar y orar. También hay una lista para hablar sobre los temas y actividades para los niños.”

Historias de santos en lenguaje de señas – haga clic: [vimeopro.com/cancanpro/saint-stories-spanish](https://vimeopro.com/cancanpro/saint-stories-spanish)



## RETURNING TO SIGNED MASS

When the dispensation ended on September 14 by Archbishop ListECKI, we had a return to public Signed Masses during the weekend of September 18/19 at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Milwaukee and St. Andrew in Delavan. Here are a few comments from various members whose names are kept anonymous:

"I LOVE IT!! It's so great to be back at Signed Mass with Fr. CK, because watching Mass online since March still was Mass with biblical writings



and homilies to ponder. But, going to Sacred Heart Church, I felt a LOT BETTER, more at peace, and I know this will make things a lot better, getting Holy Communion...getting more graces and blessings... and we can ask God and Jesus for more help, better help, such as asking God to make the pandemic go away completely, and for more people to go back to Mass, including hearing people who have stopped going to Mass for years and other deaf people to come back to church. Thanks again to Fr. CK and the Archdiocese of Milwaukee to let us to have Deaf Mass again since March!"

"Something is missing in my life if I do not go to Mass and receive Holy Communion at least once per week. In 'normal' times I like to attend a Mass at least twice per week."

"I was so happy that I could really go to Mass now... the loneliness went away and to receive the Eucharist is so... much joy..."

"THE EUCHARIST!!! Watching Mass at home, we didn't



realize how much we missed the Eucharist. We cried at being able to physically receive the Eucharist again. What an immeasurable blessing!!

The threat of COVID is scary, but there is comfort being back in worship with the Deaf Community, Fr. Christopher, and Deacon David. With masks, we can't see each other's smiles, but the hugs are virtual and the love is real."

"It was great to be back together again and the joy of being able to receive the Eucharist together!"

### ► LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT - Continued from Page 9.

In Pre-Primary II popping corn centers around a discussion of Who will perform the actions, then the dramatization of verbs – a dry run – the real performance and enjoyment of the experience. Finally a follow up through lipreading, speech, and written sentences.

Deaf children, like any children, have an innate curiosity and the desire to explore and discover. With these characteristics the children in Sister Cecilia Diny's class eagerly sought the opportunity to learn to type. Sisters' only instruction was a demonstration on how to insert paper, how to use the shift

key and how to work the space bar. At first, the children began hunting and typing out the letters of their name. They checked each letter symbol for accuracy. It was cause for a satisfied smile. Now, one month later, they copy experience stories, related language work and sentences. All this will give them a feel for language. The typewriter has a fascination that makes the children ready and eager to approach it. It can be a useful tool to the deaf child in learning to read, spell, write and talk.

Using a multi-media approach to teaching adjectives the children in Primary II observe and compare objects that are rough and smooth. They then wrote simple sentences as: This rock is smooth, that rock is rough etc.

## Fall 2020 Webinar Series

### FALL 2020 WEBINAR SERIES

The previous two Fall Webinar series have been amazing and helpful! Fr. Shawn Carey and Sr. Kathleen Schipani, IHM, gave a wonderful presentation on “Cyber Catechesis: Using Virtual Formats with Deaf/Hard of Hearing Youth” on September 16. Recently, on October 14, Lauren Lynch-Ryan gave another wonderful presentation on “Managing Anxiety and Stress during a Pandemic: Support Your Flock.”

To register for the Fall Webinar series below, you will need to be a current NCOD member.



You can join or renew your NCOD membership from October 1, 2020, to September 30, 2021. You can go online at [www.ncod.org](http://www.ncod.org) for the NCOD membership form.



**Tuesday, November 17, 2020**  
5:30 p.m. Central Time Zone

#### “The Coming of the Holy Spirit”

Presented by: Deacon Patrick Graybill  
*Diocesan Liaison for Deaf Ministry, Diocese of Rochester, NY*

Deacon Patrick Graybill will compare our current circumstances and emotions with those of Jesus’ disciples who had just experienced Jesus’ ascension. He will also talk about the gift of the Holy Spirit, and our daily responsibilities as Jesus’ disciples. Last, but not least, the annual NCOD Pastoral Week Conference will be Virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It will take place from January 8 to 10, 2021, and its theme is “Workers for the Harvest.” NCOD members will be able to watch and participate in this Virtual Conference.

**\*\*NOTE - The schedule for Virtual Pastoral Week 2021 will be limited, unlike what we experienced in the previous annual Pastoral Week conferences. The reason for this limited schedule is not to have our dear participants spend long hours in front of their computers, laptops, or even smartphones. The schedule will be released shortly.**

## PATTY KOSTECKKA IS MOVING!

By Fr. Christopher Klusman



While Patty Kostechka had retired from her jobs at St. Andrew Parish and Wisconsin School for the Deaf (WSD), we received surprising news that Patty, along with her husband Greg, are moving back to their hometown of Manitowoc after living in Delavan for 45 years!

Last Sunday, September 27, Patty had interpreted at the 9 a.m.

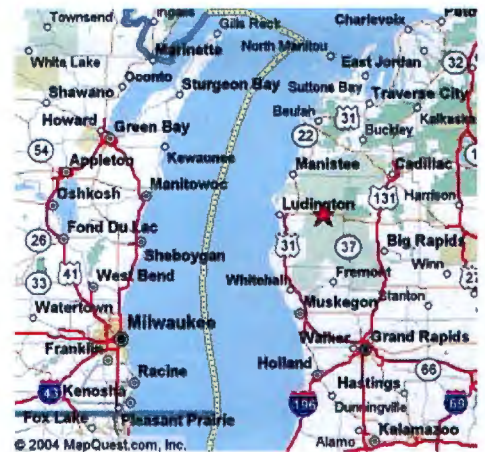
Mass at St. Andrew for the last time before the move. The Deaf community was there at the Mass to be part of this bittersweet occasion. She said that she and Greg always call Delavan and St. Andrew Parish part of their home, so they will definitely return back for many more visits in the future.

At Manitowoc, which is within the Diocese of Green Bay, Patty is open to God’s call (if and wherever that happens) to the possibility of

interpreting at a Catholic Church in Manitowoc. Her reason: to continue her passion to make the beautiful gift of the Mass open and accessible to the Deaf community.

Please keep Patty (and Greg) in your prayers during her time of transition

to Manitowoc and that God continues to shower her and Greg with many blessings. St. Christopher, patron saint of travelers, pray for them!



**New Neighbor:** “You say your son is only four, and he can spell his name backwards? What’s his name?”

**Proud Parent:** “Otto.” –March ‘54



Quiz Answers: 1b; 2a; 3d; 4a; 5b



Make sure you watch the introduction video first before watching many videos ready on YouTube!

## ASL YOUCAT SERIES

By Fr. Christopher Klusman

I hope you are not missing out on our wonderful ASL YOUCAT series that is on Youtube. If you are not sure where to find it, it is really simple. Go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)



and type in the Search Box: "ASL YOUCAT." You should be able to find the videos. Make sure you find and watch the "Introduction to the ASL YOUCAT" video first before watching the other videos.

The YOUCAT is basically the Catechism of the Catholic Church that includes all the teachings of our Faith, from Scripture and Tradition. It was a book adapted for Young Adults from the regular Catechism of the Catholic Church book. It has been translated into so many languages, such as English, French, German, and more. But, finally, it is also translated into our language: American Sign Language (ASL)!

This resource is very important for us because we almost have no resources available in our language by Catholic Deaf religious and laypeople about our Creed and Faith. This ASL YOUCAT is so easily accessed through YouTube. It can also be used for a wide variety of ways, such as using it for sacramental preparation (preparing for a Baptism,

Confirmation, First Holy Communion, and other sacraments), religious education, Bible studies, prayer groups, personal or community prayer time, and more.

Since the YOUCAT book is thick, with 527 Questions, videos will be posted continually for many more years. These videos are carefully done and approved, as they do not contradict with the teachings of the Church.

Please share this with your friends. You can easily post them on your Facebook pages, sent through texts, etc. This is a great way to evangelize and to ensure learning the right information about our amazing God and the beautiful Catholic Faith.



Edgar Vizcarra, one of our Catholic Deaf Young Adults, signed several questions for our videos.



Fr. Christopher Klusman, Deaf priest for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, is also one of the priests featured answering several questions.



## ROSARY RALLY



By **Todd Zoellick**

On Saturday, October 10, 2020, I hosted the America Needs Fatima (ANF) Rosary Rally at St. Roman Parish at noon in front of the electronic sign on the corner of Bolivar and 20th Street. ANF hosts Rosary Rallies at noon local time on the Saturdays closest to

the 13th day of the month. For this year, Saturday, October 10 was the closest day to the 13th. The reason for this is because Our Lady appeared to the three children on the 13th day every month from May 1917 to October 1917, except for August when Our Lady appeared on a different day because the 3 children were in prison. The October 13th event included the Miracle of the Sun! Our Lady's message is that she wants us to pray the rosary daily. It is amazing how many people do not pray the Rosary every day. Look at what she said:

*May 13, 1917: Pray the Rosary every day in order to obtain peace for the world and the end of the war.*

*June 13: Pray the Rosary every day*

*July 13: Continue to pray the Rosary every day in honor of Our Lady of the Rosary, in order to obtain peace through the world and the end of the war, because only She can help you.*

*August 19: Continue praying the Rosary every day.*

*September 13: Continue to pray the Rosary in order to obtain the end of the war.*

*October 13: I am the Lady of the Rosary. Continue to always to pray the Rosary every day.*



It looks like Our Lady wants every person in the world to pray the Rosary every day!

There are so many unfortunate things occurring all around the world, which is

why it was really important that we all come together to pray the rosary. We make sacrifices for the conversion of sinners to God.

It makes a big difference to pray the rosary together in Sign Language. It is also powerful to pray in public to show the importance of the rosary.

I hope to host this again next year and that you can join us. And don't forget Our Lady's request to pray the rosary every day.



## JENNIFER PAUL'S NEW VLOGS ON THE APOSTLES (12 + 2)

Jennifer Paul had completed three Vlogs so far (Introduction, Vlog #1 on St. Peter, Vlog #2 on St. Andrew). If you missed them, make sure you go online to watch them. Go on the website and type in "www.youtube.com." Then, type in the Search Box these words: "Deaf Ministry St. Andrew Parish (Delavan)." There you should find the vlogs of the Apostles that have been completed so far.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, her plan (due to the long hours of research, filming, and editing for each vlog) will be two vlogs on the 2 Apostles will be released per month during Fall 2020, Winter 2020/21, and Spring 2021 seasons. We will keep you posted on when these videos will be released and never be afraid to pray with them during these times. We



can't wait for these vlogs. Please keep Jennifer Paul in your prayers that the Holy Spirit and the Apostles will help her during this process.

The 12 Apostles (plus 2 more), pray for us!

## BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS, MODEL FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO PUT GOD FIRST

By Fr. Christopher Klusman

Blessed Carlo Acutis is the first millennial to be beatified by the Catholic Church. He is also the first “Blessed” who loved Super Mario and Pokémon video games, but he loved the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist the MOST. When you see pictures of his body at Assisi (from October 1 to 19, 2020), he is wearing jeans, a sweatshirt, and Nike shoes! This proves that it is not impossible for anyone to be a saint!

Blessed Carlo Acutis was born May 3, 1991, in London, England. A few months after his birth, his family moved to Milan, Italy. He was confirmed at the age of seven. He never missed daily Mass as his mother, Antonia Acutis recalls. “As a little boy, especially after his First Communion, he never missed his daily appointment with the Holy Mass and the Rosary, followed by a moment of Eucharistic adoration,” his mom said. Blessed Carlo had a great devotion and love for the Blessed Mother. What is even more amazing is that his parents weren’t especially devout. Before Blessed Carlo was born, his mom only went to Mass for her First Holy Communion, Confirmation, and wedding?! It was Blessed Carlo who dragged his relatives and his parents to Mass daily! He said, “the more often we receive the Eucharist, the more we will become like Jesus, so that on this earth we will have a foretaste of heaven.”

And get this, Blessed Carlo went to the Sacrament of Confession weekly!

Another amazing thing about him, an avid enthusiast of technology, was also a gamer and computer programmer! His console of choice was a Playstation, or possibly a PS2, which was released in 2000 when Carlo was nine. We know he only allowed himself to play games for an hour a week, as a penance and a spiritual discipline, but he wanted to play much more. Isn’t that amazing?!

Blessed Carlo wanted to utilize technology and his website to evangelize. He was inspired by Blessed Giacomo Alberione’s initiatives to use the media to proclaim the Gospel. He used his tech-savvy skillset to build an entire website catalog of Eucharistic miracles around the world. Get this, he started the years-long project when he was 11 years old! So, he was able to use current technology for holy purposes rather than wicked ones. At a time when all teenagers are seemingly corrupted — ranging from exposure to addiction — by online gossip, slander, vanity, bullying, rudeness, consumerism and pornography, Carlo’s use of the internet to promote Eucharistic devotion makes him an urgently needed model and intercessor. Many consider him a suitable patron for the use of the internet.

A huge turning point happened when Blessed Carlo contracted leukemia as a teenager. While we would think he would be angry, that is not how he felt. It only increased his faith! His faith was not shaken by the terminal illness; rather, he looked forward to



meeting Jesus at his death. He said, “I offer all the suffering I will have to suffer for the Lord, for the Pope, and the Church.” During his battle with leukemia, his doctor asked him if he was suffering much pain and he responded that “there are people who suffer much more than me.”

With his love for the Eucharist, Blessed Carlo had asked his parents to take him on pilgrimages to the sites of all the known Eucharistic miracles in the world but his illness prevented this from happening.

Another amazing characteristic about Blessed Carlo was that he had a great concern for his friends. He often invited those being treated poorly or going through difficult situations to his home for support. Some were dealing with divorce at home or being bullied due to disabilities.

He died at the age of 15 from leukemia. He is buried in Assisi, Italy since it was his wish to be buried there due to his love of St. Francis of Assisi.

It doesn’t end with his death for there is more. After Blessed Carlo’s death, a traveling exhibition of the teen’s Eucharistic miracles began. Monsignor Raffaello Martinelli and Cardinal Angelo Comastri, who at the time was head of the Catechetical Office of the Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith, helped organize the photo exhibition in his honor. It has now traveled to dozens of countries across five continents.

Francesca Consolini, a postulator in the Archdiocese of Milan, believed there was reason to open Carlo’s cause of beatification when the required wait of five years after his death has been met. Speaking of the young teen, Consolini said: “His faith, which was unique in such a young person, was pure and certain. It made him always be sincere with himself and with others. He showed extraordinary care for others; he was sensitive to the problems and situations of his friends and those who lived close to him and were with him day to day.” Blessed Carlo’s cause for canonization

► BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS- Continued on Page 18.

► **BLESSED CARLO ACUTUS - Continued from Page 17.**

began in 2013. He was designated “Venerable” in 2018.

Blessed Carlo was beatified last Oct. 10, 2020, in Assisi, Italy. What was the miracle required for his beatification? I will quote in its entirety as the whole section is an amazing story in itself (from <https://www.ncregister.com/news/the-miracle-attributed-to-carlo-acutis-prayers>)

The beatification of Carlo Acutis took place Oct. 10 after a miracle attributed to his prayers and the grace of God. In Brazil, a boy named Mattheus was healed from a serious birth defect called an annular pancreas after he and his mother asked Acutis to pray for his healing.

Mattheus was born in 2009 with a serious condition that caused him difficulty eating and serious abdominal pain. He was unable to keep any food in his stomach, and vomited constantly.

By the time Mattheus was nearly four years old, he weighed only 20 pounds, and lived on a vitamin and protein shake, one of the few things his body could tolerate. He was not expected to live long.

His mother, Luciana Vianna, had spent years praying for his healing.

At the same time, a priest friend of the family, Fr. Marcelo Tenorio, learned online about the life of Carlo Acutis, and began praying for his beatification. In 2013 he obtained a relic from Carlo’s mother, and he invited Catholics to a Mass and prayer service in his parish, encouraging them to ask Acutis’ intercession for whatever healing they might need.

Mattheus’ mother heard about the prayer service. She decided she would ask Acutis to intercede for her son. In fact, in the days before the prayer service, Vianna made a novena for Acutis’ intercession and explained to her son that they could ask Acutis to pray for his healing.

On the day of the prayer service, she took Mattheus and other family members to the parish.

Fr. Nicola Gori, the priest responsible for promoting Acutis’ sainthood cause, told Italian media what happened next:

“On October 12, 2013, seven years after Carlo’s death, a child, affected by a congenital malformation (annular pancreas), when it was his turn to touch the picture of the future blessed, expressed a singular wish, like a prayer: ‘I wish I could stop vomiting so much.’ Healing began immediately, to the point that the physiology of the organ in question changed,” Fr. Gori said.

On the way home from the Mass, Mattheus told his



mother that he was already cured. At home, he asked for French fries, rice, beans, and steak - the favorite foods of his brothers.

He ate everything on his plate. He didn’t vomit. He ate normally the next day, and the next. Vianna took Mattheus to physicians, who were mystified by Mattheus’ healing.

Mattheus’ mother told Brazilian media she sees in the miracle an opportunity to evangelize.

“Before, I didn’t even use my cell phone, I was averse to technology. Carlo changed my way of thinking, he was known for talking about Jesus on the Internet, and I realized that my testimony would be a way to evangelize and give hope to other families. Today I understand that everything new can be good, if we use it for good,” she told reporters.

Wasn’t that amazing? Now, another question was asked: Was his body incorrupt? According to Catholic News Agency, a spokeswoman for Acutis’ beatification told CNA that the entire body was present when it was exhumed, but “not incorrupt.” “Today we ... see him again in his mortal body. A body that has passed, in the years of burial in Assisi, through the normal process of decay, which is the legacy of the human condition after sin has removed it from God, the source of life. But this mortal body is destined for resurrection,” Archbishop Domenico Sorrentino of Assisi said at a Mass at the opening of the tomb Oct. 1. Blessed Carlo’s body was arranged with dignity for its display for public veneration and a silicone reconstruction of his face used.

Blessed Carlo’s heart, which can now be considered a relic, is displayed in a reliquary in the Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi. His mother said that his family had wanted to donate his organs when he died, but were unable to do so because of the leukemia.

Since he was beatified, his feast day will be October 12, which is the date of his death in 2006. The public veneration of Blessed Carlo’s tomb was originally scheduled to end with a Mass on the morning of Saturday, Oct. 17. But it had been extended until Oct. 19 to accommodate groups who wish to visit over the weekend. People visited Blessed Carlo at the Sanctuary of Spoliation in the

► **BLESSED CARLO ACUTUS- Continued on Page 19.**

► **BLESSED CARLO ACUTUS - Continued from Page 18.**

Church of St. Mary Major in Assisi.

Since October 19 had passed, his tomb is now closed. Though covered, his tomb will still be at the same church for others to go to ask for his prayerful intercession. If another miracle occurs, he can be moved up towards being a canonized saint!

A book was created containing the Eucharistic miracles he had fleshed out on his website, containing nearly 100 accounts of miracles from 17 different countries, all verified and approved by the Church.

Millions around the world have been following his path to sainthood. Just by typing his name into a search engine, more than 2,500 websites and blogs emerge detailing his life and story.

As we witness his beatification and see a young boy wearing jeans, a sweatshirt and sneakers, may we all remember we are called to be saints and strive to live like Carlo with whatever time we are given. As a young Acutis once said: "The more Eucharist we receive, the more we will become like Jesus, so that on this earth we will have a foretaste of Heaven."

Since Blessed Carlo was an ardent pilgrim, visiting Assisi so often with his family that he asked to be buried there. Given the importance of pilgrimages to youth ministry – local, but also national (March for Life) and global (World Youth Days) – Blessed Carlo lived his life of discipleship like many of his contemporaries. Expect to see Blessed Carlo as a patron of the next World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal in 2023.

Blessed Carlo Acutis, pray for us!

Blessed Carlo Acutis said many powerful quotes that are rich for prayer. I hope you can pray with one quote per day. They are rich for great and fruitful meditation with Our Lord. They were taken from <https://www.ncregister.com/blog/17-inspiring-quotes-from-carlo-acutis>

1. "The Virgin Mary is the only woman in my life."
2. "The more Eucharist we receive, the more we will become

like Jesus, so that on earth we will have a foretaste of heaven."

3. "By standing before the Eucharistic Christ, we become holy."
4. "There are people who suffer much more than me."
5. "Continuously ask your guardian angel for help. Your guardian angel has to become your best friend."
6. "Do not be afraid because with the Incarnation of Jesus, death becomes life, and there's no need to escape: in eternal life, something extraordinary awaits us."
7. "Jerusalem is right on our doorstep."
8. All people are born as originals but many die as photocopies"
9. To always be close to Jesus, that's my life plan"
10. "Sadness is looking at ourselves, happiness is looking towards God."
11. "Not me, but God."
12. "The more Eucharist we receive, the more we will become like Jesus, so that on this earth we will have a foretaste of heaven".
13. "The only thing we have to ask God for, in prayer, is the desire to be holy."
14. "Our soul is like a hot air balloon. If by chance there is a mortal sin, the soul falls to the ground. Confession is like the fire underneath the balloon enabling the soul to rise again. . . It is important to go to confession often."
15. "I am happy to die because I have lived my life without wasting a minute on those things which do not please God."
16. "Our goal must be infinite, not the finite. The infinite is our homeland. Heaven has been waiting for us forever."
17. "The Eucharist is the highway to heaven."

► **FROM THE DELAVAN CORNER - Continued from Page 3.**

2. "For this momentary light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison" (2 Corinthians 4:17).

How true! As painful as it was, we rose to COVID-19 and made use of video-conferencing apps to continue teaching our Religious Education students and to maintain fellowship i.e. Bible Study. We even managed to deliver online Masses during the official dispensation in the Summer months. In many dioceses, we also make use of YouTube.com (for example) to post vlogs on different topics. With these new skills – and "trained by it" – we are exploring ideas to reach out (READ: evangelize!) to more deaf people and especially deaf children in school settings other than

State schools for the deaf. As more and more deaf children are placed in mainstream settings, we need to think of ways to reach out to the families of these children; using video technologies is one strategy.

Granted, it would be but one strategy, but the pandemic has pushed us outside of our comfort zone. From the pandemic experience, we are learning what works and what does not work. We are learning how the adjustments help and hinder us. We are learning to appreciate what we had before, i.e. in-person gatherings and to expand or improve on what adjustments we do like. With Holy Spirit and God-given patience and discipline – trained by COVID-19 – only God knows how it would bring us "an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison"!

## DANNY'S ROSARY

*With October being a Month of the Rosary, as well as November 2nd being All Souls' Day, this article is a perfect reminder of the power of the Rosary and why Our Lady wants us to pray this most powerful devotion every day. This is from St. John's School for the Deaf's "Our Young People" issue, Jan. 1956.*

"DANNY, what brings you here?" asked big, stout Police Sergeant Pat Maloney.

The boy looked calmly into his friend's face. Before he could reply the officer who had him by the arm, spoke: "He's detained for breaking into a building and starting a fire, sergeant. They think he stole something but I couldn't find a thing on him except these."

He handed a rosary across the desk.

"These are serious charges, Smith," said Sergeant Maloney. "What have you to say for yourself, my boy?"

"I was walking down Graham Avenue, sir," replied Danny. "I heard a sound like a shot and over in the Barnes chemical laboratory I saw a light. As I started to run towards it, this policeman rushed up and grabbed me. I was going to warn Mr. Barnes when he came out and said I must be the culprit. It's all a mistake."

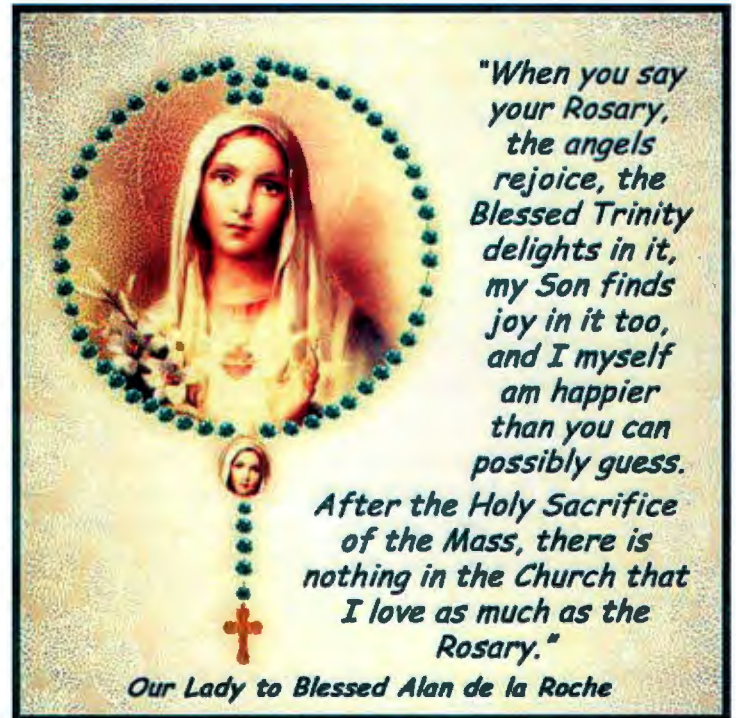
"Don't believe him, sergeant," said the policeman. "Look at the blood on his sleeve."

"I must have cut my hand on a thorn when I went through the hedge. I'm sure you will all find out in the morning that I'm not guilty."

"Here's your rosary back, Danny," said Sergeant Maloney. "These charges are really grave, breaking into a building with intent to steal and set fire to it. As young as you are, that means a severe punishment. But I know you're innocent. I could never believe a boy like you would commit a crime. You're in a bad spot. You will have to face these charges. I don't want to detain you if I can help it. Can you think of anything to save yourself?"

"I'm afraid not, sir," said the boy. "I was only trying to be helpful. Perhaps you might find the place where I pushed through the hedge. That's all I can think of."

The sergeant did not reply. His head was sunk in his hands. He was thinking of Danny's dead father, John O'Connor, one of the finest men he had known. The strange thing about the case was the fact that John O'Connor had worked for the Barnes firm many years before his death. Maloney did not like



Mr. Barnes but he decided to talk to him in the morning and get him to drop the charges.

He hated to lock Danny up. It would break Mrs. O'Connor's heart. The hour was late but perhaps he might reach Charles Carton on the telephone. Mr. Carton was president of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and quite influential. Too bad Barnes was so difficult. Danny waited until the sergeant called on the phone.

"You can go home now, my boy. Mr. Carton is making certain arrangements for you. Be down here at eight in the morning. Did Barnes say anything to the newspaper reporters?"

"I think he did, sergeant," answered the constable. "It looks bad for the boy. He has one thing in his favor, though."

"What's that, Smith?" asked Maloney.

"He had nothing in his pockets except the rosary beads."

"That's right," nodded the sergeant. "If you knew the boy and his father before him, you'd believe in his innocence."

"It is possible I made a mistake," said the officer, "but I couldn't do other than I did."

"I'll take you home in my car, Danny," said Maloney. "I'd better have a talk with your mother, since she'll read about this in the newspapers. I want to break it to her gently. Just say your rosary and trust in Our Blessed Mother. Prayer is a great

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## ▶ DANNY'S ROSARY - Continued from Page 20.

thing.”

“I don't know how to thank you, Sergeant Maloney,” replied the boy. “I am innocent and that's the best of it. I am afraid Mother and my little brothers and sisters will be very upset.”

“I know, my boy,” said the sergeant in kindly tones. “Your father did me a favor I'll never forget when I was just a beginner on the police force. He was like that, always helping others, never seeking a reward. Sometimes when people wanted to show their gratitude, he'd tell them to say a decade of their beads for the holy souls; that's better than silver and gold. He's in heaven looking down on us, and I know he's smiling at me. I often wondered why old Barnes was so unreasonable to such a fine man. He's a miser with a heart of stone and cares for no one except his son.”

“Gregory's a good boy,” said Danny.

“A timid sort of lad,” replied the sergeant. “I think his life is far from happy.”

“He asked me about my rosary and seemed to be really interested. Perhaps he might become a Catholic.”

“Not while his father is alive. He's a fallen-away Catholic and bitter against the Church.”

The morning newspaper came out with headlines about Danny's arrest. Maloney was worried when the boy appeared at the police court.

“I fear you will be held on the charge,” said the sergeant.

“Even if the worst happened they could only send you to an approved school on account of your age.”

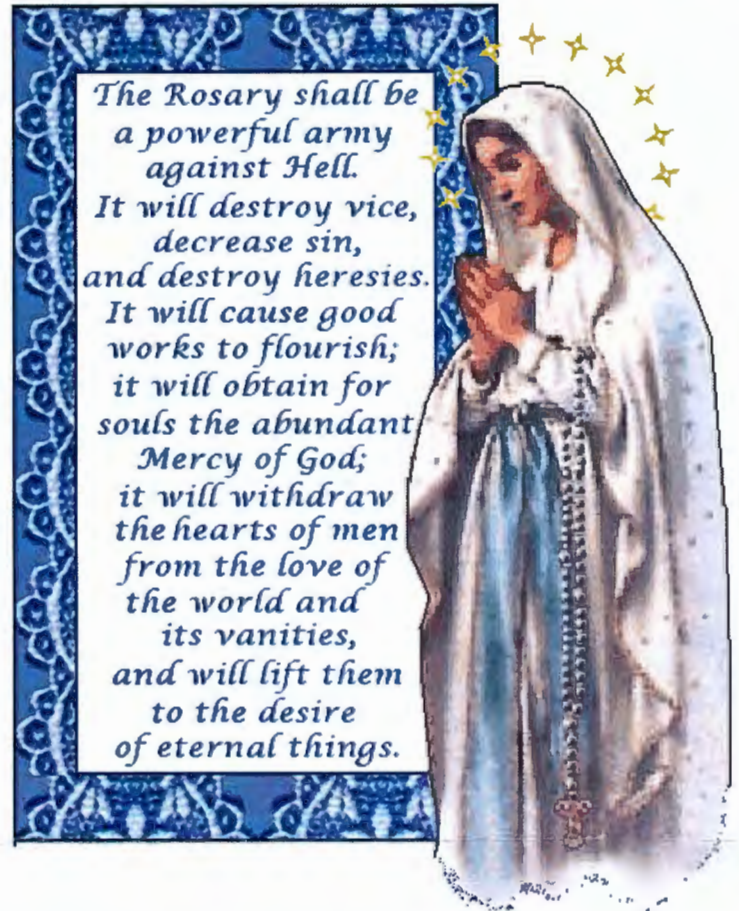
Danny's heart sank. An approved school! It would kill his mother. He fingered his rosary as he stood before the magistrate. Danny could never remember what happened. All he knew was that Sergeant Maloney's fears were realized. He was remanded for trial.

Suddenly a cry rang out through the crowded court room. A small figure pushed forward and stood before the magistrates' bench. It was Gregory Barnes.

“I did it,” gasped the boy in trembling tones, “I did it. I was experimenting with some chemicals and they blew up. I was afraid to tell. I knew how angry Father would be. Please, let Danny go. I am the guilty one.”

The court room was the scene of high excitement. Reporters hurried away with the story for the evening papers. Danny was being patted on the back by his friend, Sergeant Maloney.

“Twas the beads that saved you, Danny lad, thanks to Our Blessed Mother.”



*The Rosary shall be  
a powerful army  
against Hell.  
It will destroy vice,  
decrease sin,  
and destroy heresies.  
It will cause good  
works to flourish;  
it will obtain for  
souls the abundant  
Mercy of God;  
it will withdraw  
the hearts of men  
from the love of  
the world and  
its vanities,  
and will lift them  
to the desire  
of eternal things.*

The next day Mr. Barnes called on Mrs. O'Connor. He was a changed man.

“I have a confession to make,” he said. “Just before your husband died he made a valuable discovery in the field of chemistry. It has made a great deal of money for my company. The night of the fire I thought your son had some knowledge of this. I was afraid the truth would come out, so I accused the boy of wrongdoing in order to save myself from disgrace and ruin. I have been a hard, cruel sinner, but when Gregory rushed before the magistrate my heart melted. As Sergeant Maloney said, it was the blessed beads that changed me. Please don't tell the world the awful wrong I have done you. Only Father Patterson knows the truth. I have come from Confession to make amends to you. From now on reparation will be made to you and your family. Can you forgive me, Mrs. O'Connor?”

“Indeed I will and I shall never say one word that would harm you or yours. All I ask is what my dear husband used to ask: say a prayer for the holy souls, a whole rosary in honor of Our Lady.”

“Gladly,” agreed Gregory's father, tears of joy and contrition rolling down his cheeks. “I'll say it every day of my life.”

# INTERPRETED & ASL *Masses* THROUGHOUT THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE



- ASL WEEKEND MASS -

**Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish**

Time: 4 p.m. on Saturdays  
3635 S Kinnickinnic Ave.  
St Francis, WI 53235  
Email: deafapostolate@archmil.org  
Website: sacredheartofjesus.weconnect.com/

- INTERPRETED SUNDAY MASS -

*Please check online before attending Mass, such as pre-registration requirements, etc.*

**St. Andrew Parish**

714 E. Walworth Ave, Delavan, WI 53115  
Time: 9 a.m.  
Please request at least 5 days in advance to:  
E-Mail: deafministry@saspcatholics.org  
Website: standrews-delavan.org

**St. Joseph Parish**

1619 Washington St, Grafton, WI 53024  
1st & 4th Saturdays at 4:00 p.m. and 3rd Sunday at 10:30 a.m.  
E-Mail: parish@stjosephgrafton.org  
Website: stjosephgrafton.org

MASS REOPENING GUIDELINES

## CHANGES YOU'LL SEE

1. PHYSICAL DISTANCING

2. NO PROCESSIONS

3. NO PASSED BASKETS

4. NO HOLY WATER OR INCENSE

5. NO CUP

6. COMMUNION IN THE HAND AT THE END

7. DISMISSED ONE ROW AT A TIME

*"I pray that we see courage, kindness, and selfless acts of love that foster community, help the needy, and encourage everyone to grow stronger in their faith and relationship with Jesus Christ. This is what it means to be Catholic."*  
- Archbishop Paul D. Ellenre

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

**\*Times Listed Are Subject to Change due to the unpredictability of the Covid pandemic\*  
As of October 23, 2020**

**St. Mary's Immaculate Conception**  
1610 Monroe St, West Bend, WI 53090  
2nd Sundays at 9:30 a.m.  
Email: rprim@wbparishes.org  
Website: stmaryparishwb.org

**St. Paul the Apostle Parish**  
6400 Spring St, Racine, WI 53406  
Time: 10 a.m. (on certain Sundays)  
Please check with office prior to attending  
E-Mail: svrana@stpaulracine.org  
Website: stpaulracine.org

**St. Peter Parish**  
2224 30th Ave, Kenosha, WI 53144  
Time: 10:30 a.m.  
Please request at least 3 days in advance to:  
broadwayterp73@gmail.com.  
Website: stpeterskenosha.com

- CLOSED CAPTIONED MASS -

**St. Clare Parish**  
7616 Fritz St, Wind Lake, WI 53185  
2nd Saturdays at 4:00 p.m.  
E-Mail: bulletins@tds.net  
Website: stclarewindlake.org





## CONTACT INFORMATION

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(Fr. Christopher is off on Sunday early evenings & Mondays)

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**EMERGENCIES Only: Text Fr. Christopher at: (414) 793-1369**

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#### Two ways to get the Hand in Hand newsletters:

- (1) **E-mail:** Cost is FREE and will be emailed to you. Please fill out this online form to get your Newsletter at: <https://www.archmil.org/deaf-apostolate/offnav/Subscription-Form.htm>
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