

The Citizen

ADVENT 2018

A P U B L I C A T I O N O F T H E J O H N C A R R O L L S O C I E T Y

JANUARY BRUNCH

President of Georgetown Prep to Address Society

The president of Georgetown Preparatory School is scheduled to deliver the keynote address at the John Carroll Society's annual January Brunch to be held on January 13, 2019. Effective July 1, 2018, Jesuit Father James R. Van Dyke became the 55th president of the North Bethesda boys' high school and the 17th since its separate incorporation.



Jesuit Father James R. Van Dyke, President of Georgetown Prep

Before being named president of Georgetown Prep in September 2017, Father Van Dyke served as the founding principal at Cristo Rey Atlanta Jesuit High School. Father Van Dyke's presentation will be delivered at the gathering following Mass for the Baptism of Our Lord at St. Patrick's Church

in Washington. The annual lecture traditionally focuses on members of the academic community.

In his presentation, "The Crying Need for Catholic Imagination," Father Van Dyke plans to highlight Catholic primary and secondary education where he has served for over 25 years.

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66TH ANNUAL RED MASS

Society Chaplain Calls on Healing Power of Holy Spirit

On Sunday Sept. 30 participants of the Society's 66th annual Red Mass invoked God's blessing on all those involved in government positions, the law profession, and the administration of justice. "I think the Holy Spirit was in the church – in fact, I know the Holy Spirit was in the church," said Msgr. Peter J. Vaghi, chaplain of the John Carroll Society following the Mass at St. Matthew's Cathedral, N.W.

Earlier in his homily, Msgr. Vaghi said the Holy Spirit could assist in helping those distraught over the political and spiritual challenges of the times. "Could there not be a better time, both in our Church and nation, to benefit from the healing power of the Holy Spirit," asked Msgr. Vaghi during his homily. "It is a power that treats the anger and divisions that so need the healing touch of our God if we are to continue our respective missions with love – a genuine love for each other – with effectiveness."

Washington Auxiliary Bishop Mario Dorsonville was principal celebrant at the Mass. The Mass is held each year on the eve of the opening of the Supreme Court's new term. Bishop Dorsonville called on all participants to search out truth, unity, and prayer in "times of turbulence" in order for all to achieve justice.

The annual celebration blesses those involved in the administration of justice as well as all public officials. "The Spirit comes – if you will – with the tenderness of a true friend and protector, to save, to teach, to counsel, to strengthen, to console, to renew, to heal," Msgr. Vaghi said. Now in his 32nd year as chaplain of the Society, Msgr. Vaghi invited the Holy Spirit to move the faithful into being "men and women of justice, compassion, boundless mercy and joy in our respective vocations."

The priest prayed for the Holy Spirit to guide the faithful in their vocation as



Photo by Christopher Newkumet

Then Attorney General of the United States Jeff Sessions greets Washington Auxiliary Bishop Mario Dorsonville outside of St. Matthew's Cathedral, following the Society's 66th Annual Red Mass.

members of the legal profession and government service including Mass attendees: John Roberts, chief justice of the United States; Clarence Thomas and Stephen Breyer, associate justices; and Anthony Kennedy, retired associate justice. Other officials in attendance included: Jeff Sessions, Then U.S. Attorney General; Alexander Acosta, U.S. Secretary of Labor; Noel Francisco, U.S. Solicitor General, members of Congress; John DeGioia; president of Georgetown University; John Garvey, president of The Catholic University of America; and deans and students from area law schools.

Archbishop Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States, joined Bishop Dorsonville, Bishop Roy Campbell, and Bishop Michael Fisher, auxiliary bishops of Washington, Arlington Bishop Michael Burbidge, and Bishop Paul Loverde, retired Bishop of Arlington and 17 concelebrating priests at the Mass.

Speaking of the rights outlined in this country's Declaration of Independence, Msgr. Vaghi said, "Life is God's first gift to us. And I speak of life in every circumstance and condition, and especially the

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UPCOMING EVENTS 2018-19

December 1, 2018

ST. NICHOLAS MASS & GIFT DRIVE

The Church of the Little Flower, Bethesda, 5 p.m. Mass.

Principal Celebrant and Homilist: Bishop Mario Dorsonville. Reception and visit with St. Nick to follow in Parish Hall.

January 13, 2019

JANUARY MASS AND BRUNCH ON THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Mass at St. Patrick's Church, Washington, DC 10 a.m. Principal Celebrant and Homilist: Msgr. Peter Vaghi.

Brunch to follow at the Grand Hyatt, Washington 1000 H Street, NW.

Brunch speaker: Father James R. Van Dyke, S.J., President, Georgetown Preparatory School.

February 23, 2019

PRE-LENTEN DAY OF RECOLLECTION

Saturday, February 23, 8:30 a.m. Washington Retreat Center

Retreat Director: Father Mark Ivany, Director of Spiritual Formation, Saint John Paul II Seminary

March 31, 2019

28TH ANNUAL ROSE MASS

Church of the Little Flower, Bethesda, 10:30 a.m. Mass.

Homilist: Most Rev. Frank J. Caggiano, Bishop of Bridgeport.

Luncheon to follow in the Parish Hall with the JCS Pro Bono Health Care Service Awards.

April 27, 2019

33RD ANNUAL DINNER

The Four Seasons Hotel, Washington, DC, 6:30 p.m.

December 2018 through June 2019

FIRST THURSDAY AND THIRD THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP

Speaker: Rev. Msgr. Peter J. Vaghi

Series Topic: *The Devout Life: An Ongoing Gift*

Every *First Thursday* at the Church of the Little Flower in Bethesda. Theological Reflection at 7:00 a.m. (following 6:30 a.m. Mass) in the Rectory Meeting Room.

In addition, the same talk will be given every *Second or Third Thursday* at the law firm of Cozen O'Connor, P.C., Washington, DC, at 12 p.m. Lunch provided.

JCS Fall Retreat

On a rainy Saturday, October 27, members of the John Carroll Society gathered at lovely Mount St. Mary's Seminary for this year's fall retreat, whose theme was "Living as Sons and Daughters of the Light."

The rain did not, however, dampen spirits, or the Spirit, as retreatants reflected upon the talks given by Msgr. Michael Heintz. Heintz, who serves as academic dean and spiritual



director of the seminary, provided JCS members with many helpful insights, such as, for instance, the notion that their first vocation was being called into very existence by the Lord. Heintz also generously answered questions from members, including those about the current challenges faced by the Church.

After a morning of talks and reflection, mass was celebrated by JCS's chaplain, Msgr. Peter Vaghi, in the beautiful seminary chapel, with Msgr. Heintz providing the homily. Members then



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NEW JCS MEMBERS

As of November 1, 2018

Mary Devlin Capizzi
Dr. Philip Cardinale
Matthew Carroccio
Thomas W. Hague
Holly McMahon
Patrick McMahon
Michael New
Stephen Raiola
Nicholas Sawicki
Nicholas Serenyi
Sponsor:
Msgr. Peter J. Vaghi

Kevin Dorn
Joe Maida IV
Victoria Mariconti
John Morgan
Sponsor:
Daniel Hardwick

Msgr. Anthony R. Frontiero
James M. Gannon
Mariana Mihalchik
Patricia Ryan
Roy Ryan
Sarah Sallis
Danielle Thumann
Renee Trotter
Sponsor:
Elizabeth Meers

Gail Battle
Annie DuCote
Sponsor:
Carol Bates

Gabriela Weigel
Sponsor:
Ryan Blaney

Tara Dwyer-Arras
Robert Smith
Sponsor:
James D. Bishop

Gerard Murphy
Jacqueline Murphy
Sponsor:
Betty Brown

Donna Pennington
Walter C. Pennington
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Mark Daniel Hopson

Erick Mullen
Thomas P. Swanton
Sponsor:
Edward O'Connell

Jennifer Pohl
Sponsor:
Mary Ellen Bork

Michele C. Farquhar
Sponsor:
Ari Fitzgerald

Fernando Munoz
Sponsor:
David Florenzo

Thomas Southard
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Susan Gibbs

Matthew H. Brown
Sponsor:
Mark Holmes

Joseph Moreno
Sponsor: Joseph Jay

Sean Cooksey
Sponsor:
Tom Johnson

Michael Sweeney
Sponsor:
James Kahrs

Katharine Losoney
Sponsor:
Maya Noronha and Preeya Pinto

Veronica Leach
Sponsor:
Maya Noronha

Liam Miniter
Sponsor:
Raj Noronha

Colin Dunn
Sponsor:
Dennis Potts

Jonathan Amgott
Sponsor:
Nick Reeves

Thomas P. Joyce, Jr.
Sponsor:
Steve Urbanczyk

My dear John Carroll Society members,

In a few short weeks, after the completion of our 23 days of Advent, we will sing that beloved Christmas hymn, Joy to the World. Joy was born in a manger and that same Joy instituted a meal in the upper room.

Out of love, that same Joy was nailed to a cross which became for us the tree of life. The risen Christ is a Christ who gives Himself in joy and should be received in joy. He is the Mystery of our lives. That Mystery is the Mystery of love, a Mystery born in the wood of a manger at Bethlehem over 2000 years ago, a Mystery reborn, yes, the Mystery of Love incarnate, the Mystery which lives forever in the Eucharist, our food of life.

I truly hope that these 23 days of Advent, this time of waiting, will be a wonderful time to prepare spiritually for Christmas this year, for the Joy born that we might forever have and enjoy life forever. This is a time for family and an important time to concentrate on the supreme Mystery of our faith.

I wish to propose for you and your families a few concrete spiritual suggestions for this season. These suggestions are meant to assist you in making a truly spiritual Advent in this season of expectant joy as we await the coming of the Christmas Jesus this year.

The first suggestion is to consider attending an extra daily Mass each week during Advent. The Eucharist is a truly wonderful way of keeping the focus on the fundamental spiritual dimension of this season before Christmas.

Second, I would suggest the making of an Advent confession. It might just be the best preparation for Christmas in your spiritual life this year. All parishes have extra opportunities for confession during Advent. At Little Flower, we celebrate "Come Home for Christmas," a full day of confessions, on Saturday December 15. Advent confessions can be a wonderful time to come as a family.

Finally, Advent is a time of giving to those in need. There are so many opportunities to share with those in need this Advent. For many years, we have had a rich John Carroll tradition of collecting toys for the needy in this season which continues this year. Where charity is, after all, there God is. Generosity, moreover, can be the face of God for so many in need of love and compassion.

To keep Christ in Christmas means having Him the center of our lives during these 23 days of Advent. Wishing you and your family a beautiful and prayerful Advent season and a joyous Christmas and blessed new year, I remain,



Prayerfully in the Lord,

Monsignor Peter J. Vaghi

Chaplain, the John Carroll Society

President of Georgetown Prep to Address Society

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"In my own role as a Jesuit priest and Catholic educator for more than a quarter of a century, I have come to believe that a huge problem facing the Church, our nation, and the world in the post-modern era is not merely a lack of catechesis, but more importantly a reduction of education to the absorption of content and mastery skills and the point of education to future productivity – life 'in a world of three dimensions - with the aid of (our) five senses,'" Father Van Dyke said quoting Evelyn Waugh.

"But," he added, "that is a sad and hopeless world, and so many of our current crises are the fruit of the radical reduction of the human spirit bereft of imagination."

Father Van Dyke received his Final Vows in 2005 and has served as the rector of the Jesuit Community at St. Ignatius in New York City as well as the Director of Ignatian Programs and Faculty and Staff Faith Formation at Xavier High School in New York City. He currently serves as the Director of Ignatian Programs and Faculty Formation at Canisius High School in Buffalo, New York.

Additionally, Father Van Dyke has taught English at several high schools in New York including Canisius, Xavier, Fordham Prep, McQuaid Jesuit High School and Regis High School. At Regis, he also served as the school's chaplain. The priest has served on the Board of Trustees at Fordham Prep and Regis High School.

A graduate of Canisius High School, Father Van Dyke received a Bachelor's of Arts degree in English from the University of Virginia. He received M.Div. and Th.M. degrees from the Weston School of Theology and a MALA degree from St. John's College in Annapolis, Maryland.

The Mass for the Baptism of Our Lord will be celebrated at St. Patrick's Church at 10 a.m. on Sunday, January 13, 2019. Msgr. Peter Vaghi, John Carroll Society chaplain, will be the principal celebrant and homilist. Immediately following Mass members will gather at the Grand Hyatt in northwest Washington for a brunch featuring Father Van Dyke's address.

By Lynnea Mumola

MEMBER NEWS



■ The Honorable James A. Belson, society member and graduate of Gonzaga College High School's Class of 1949 received the school's St. Aloysius Medal last October for exemplary service, commitment and dedication to the community. The medal was bestowed at the annual St. Aloysius Dinner.

■ The John Carroll Society partners with Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. to serve hot meals to homeless men and women through the dinner van program. Members of the John Carroll Society volunteer certain evenings to serve food and beverages to about two hundred of the hungry in downtown D.C. outside of Catholic Charities. Last July the members of the John Carroll Society pictured at right participated in the program.

■ Members Jack and Marie Murphy renewed their wedding vows on their 50th wedding anniversary during the Society's summer pilgrimage.



Pictured from left to right: Carol Bates, Elizabeth Meers, Judge Margaret Sweeney, Judge Brett Kavanaugh, Michael Huston, Roberta Spees, Edward O'Connell, Dan Matthews and Msgr. John Enzler, president and CEO of Catholic Charities.

■ Proud parents Brian and Elizabeth Young announce the arrival of Peter Reese on July 16, 2018, at 3:25 p.m. at Georgetown University Hospital. Shown here at two months old, Peter Reese measured 19.5 inches long and weighed 7 lbs., 7.5 oz. at birth. He joins big sister Harriet.



DECEASED MEMBERS

Please pray for the repose of the soul of the following members and friends of the John Carroll Society:

Eleanor Depenbrock	Philip Bates
John Brazil	William Golden
Mary Creedon	Anna Rynn
Adoreen McCormack	Susan O'Donnell
Albert Fleury Jr.	

MEMBER PROFILE

John Carroll Society Continues Legacy of Faith for Longtime Member

Although Judge John H. Bayly places all the credit for membership in the John Carroll Society with Msgr. Peter Vaghi, the organization's chaplain, the longtime member and John Carroll Society Medal recipient can remember attending a handful of events with his father, Dr. John H. Bayly Sr. during the early days of the society in the late 1950s. "I went with him to a breakfast or two following society-sponsored Masses," Bayly recalled recently.

Judge Bayly would eventually follow in his father's footsteps and officially joined the John Carroll Society in 1985 during his career as an attorney and five years prior to accepting President George H. W. Bush's 1990 appointment as Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. He retired from that position in 2011 but still serves throughout the year as a Senior Judge.

In the society, Judge Bayly reconnected with old friends, such as high

school classmate Gerry Mitchell, and made new friends and associates. According to Judge Bayly, who served on many committees and the Board of Governors, the Society "strengthens my faith – the opportunities help you." At the Annual Dinner in 2018, Judge Bayly received the John Carroll Society Medal for his example of faith.

A lifelong Catholic, Judge Bayly attended the now-closed Campus School operated by The Catholic University of America and graduated from Gonzaga High School. He received degrees from Fordham University and Harvard Law School. He and his wife, Katharine Kenny Bayly, attend his neighborhood parish, Blessed Sacrament, and have 3 children and 7 grandchildren.

Last September during the brunch following the 66th annual Red Mass, Judge Bayly presented a talk on the history of the John Carroll Society. In "A Return to our Roots: The Mayflower Hotel and the Beginning of our Beloved Society," he



Judge John H. Bayly pictured at the 2018 Annual Awards Dinner

was able to highlight the very first gathering of the John Carroll Society – a communion breakfast held at the same hotel.

In his address, Judge Bayly drew connections from Archbishop Patrick O'Boyle, the first Archbishop of Washington, to Archbishop John Carroll, the first Bishop in the United States and the society's namesake. "Archbishop O'Boyle agreed that the society should maintain the religious and patriotic ideals of Archbishop John Carroll who had encouraged the laity to remain

steadfast in their faith and to embrace their non-Catholic neighbors with warm charity and forbearance."

For Judge Bayly the John Carroll Society has always been true to both Archbishop Carroll and Archbishop O'Boyle, who encouraged the original founders of the organization "to stand fast in the faith."

By Lynnea Mumola

Society Chaplain Calls on Healing Power of Holy Spirit

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lives of those on the periphery of society, the poor and needy. Only through constant prayerful study, vigilance, and personal and collective effort will the magnificent vision of our forebears remain a reality today and endure in the years to come."

Later at a brunch honoring lawyers for their volunteer service, Msgr. Vaghi elaborated on the faithful's call to holiness and their role as lay leaders. "Crisis management and best business practices have their uses, but they cannot replace true Catholic leadership – which is grounded in personal holiness," he said in closing remarks. "When intentionally lived, the Christian way of life is a way of living that is different than other ways of life. It is a walk with Jesus."

The priest said building a relationship with Christ through prayer, sacraments and compassionate outreach "results in sharing this life with others and not being afraid."

Andrew Cook, chair of the Red Mass Committee for the John Carroll Society



Msgr. Peter Vaghi, society chaplain and pastor of Little Flower Parish in Bethesda delivered the homily at the 66th annual Red Mass on September 30.



Photo by Christopher Newkumet

Following the Red Mass, the John Carroll Society honored two law firms and two individuals for their dedication to pro-bono legal work through the Catholic Charities Legal Network. From left to right: Carol Grefenstette Bates, society president; Fernand A. Lavallee, accepting the award for the firm of Jones Day; Ari Fitzgerald, a partner in the Washington DC office of Hogan Lovells; Gerard Mitchell, a partner at Stein Mitchell Cipollone Beato & Missner; Krissa L. Webb and Thomas J. Kelly, accepting the award for the firm of Drinker Biddle & Reath; Washington Auxiliary Bishop Mario Dorsonville, recipient of the John Carroll Society Medal and Msgr. Peter Vaghi, chaplain and Red Mass homilist. Not pictured was Msgr. Ronald Jameson, rector of St. Matthew's Cathedral who was also presented with the John Carroll Society Medal during the Mass.

described the Mass as wonderful. "It was a time to reflect and to pause and appreciate the blessings we have in our legal system and our Church."

As part of the event the John Carroll Society honored two individual lawyers and two firms for their commitment to the Catholic Charities Legal Network.

Established in 1989, the Catholic Charities Legal Network has provided pro bono legal assistance to 90,000 individuals who otherwise would not have access to representation. James Bishop, director of the network said it would not be possible without the dedication of many lawyers, including retired attorneys who are able to give of their time, as well as law students and new lawyers – several of whom are on loan from firms for up to three months. He credited the Red Mass and John Carroll Society awards as ways of "encouraging other lawyers to volunteer."

The John Carroll Society 2018 Pro Bono Legal Service Awards were presented to: Ari Fitzgerald, a partner in the Washington DC office of Hogan Lovells; Gerard Mitchell, a partner at Stein Mitchell Cipollone Beato & Missner; and the firms of Drinker Biddle & Reath and Jones Day. The John Carroll Society Medal was presented to Bishop Mario Dorsonville and Msgr. Ronald Jameson, rector of St. Matthew's Cathedral.

About 450 members of the John Carroll Society attended the brunch at the Mayflower Hotel, site of the organization's first meeting in 1951. In a brief talk, "A Return to Our Roots: The Mayflower Hotel and the Beginning of Our Beloved Society", Judge John Bayly described the original founders of the organization who wanted to stand fast in faith, the same motto of the Archbishop of the time, Cardinal Patrick O'Boyle.

By Lynnea Mumola

TOP OF THE TOWN RECEPTION

Catholic Athletes for Christ Founder Models Faith in Ministry and at Home

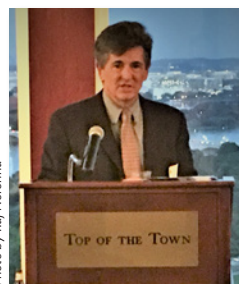


Photo by Raj Noronha

The John Carroll Society gathered on September 19 for the annual Top of the Town reception, which marks the kickoff of the Society's programming year. Nearly 75 John Carroll Society members and guests took in spectacular views of Washington, D.C. and enjoyed conversation with friends. His Excellency Mario Dorsonville, Auxiliary Bishop of Washington, welcomed everyone and encouraged us to take advantage of the John Carroll Society's many opportunities for service and spiritual growth this year.

For the event's main program, we heard from longtime JCS member Ray McKenna, the President of Catholic Athletes for Christ. Ray talked about hearing the Holy Spirit's call to move

beyond his career in the law and start a ministry to athletes looking to grow their faith. He discussed the extraordinary success of Catholic Athletes for Christ, which now ministers to hundreds of players, coaches, and administrators across dozens of professional teams. The organization provides opportunities for athletes both to practice their faith and to spread it in the world, especially through service and connections with young people. Ray also discussed how he and his wife balance his work at CAC with bringing up their children in the Church. Ray's talk, and his example of living out his Catholic faith, are inspiring.

The Younger Member Fellowship wishes to thank Ray McKenna for speaking to us this year, and to thank the Byrne family for once again inviting us to Top of the Town.

By Michael R. Huston

JCS Pilgrims Walk with the Saints in France and Switzerland



This past July and August, more than thirty John Carroll Society members, friends, and family ventured to Switzerland and France to “walk with the saints.” Led by trip chairs Carol and David Bates, with the spiritual guidance of Msgr. Peter Vaghi (JCS Chaplain) and Msgr. Anthony Frontiero (Vice Rector and Director of Human Formation at Mount St. Mary’s Seminary), the pilgrims shared a journey that centered around the lives of St. Francis de Sales, St. Jane Frances de Chantal, St. John Vianney, and St. Margaret Mary Alacoque. The pilgrims enjoyed daily Mass in some of the world’s most historic and beautiful churches, learning about the political and social climates that shaped the lives of numerous saints. Along the way, the pilgrims sampled local cuisine, embraced new cultures, and developed lasting bonds with one another.

The pilgrimage began in Geneva, where St. Francis served as Bishop for twenty years. Surrounded by the beauty of God’s creation and near some of the most magnificent churches ever constructed, Msgr. Vaghi delivered the lecture, “Holiness is Possible,” reminding the pilgrims of our limitless potential for good when we keep God as the center of our lives.

The pilgrims made their way to Annecy, where St. Francis lived for many years. There, the pilgrims attended Mass at St. Francis de Sales Parish, where the remains of St. Francis and St. Jane rested for 200 years until they were removed during the French Revolution. Msgr. Vaghi provided a further look into their lives with his lecture, “St. Francis de Sales: Holy Bishop, Wise Teacher and Spiritual Director of Souls.”

The next stop was Thoren Glières, for a visit to the family home of the de Sales family, and the nearby De Sales Chapel, built on the spot where St. Francis was born. The pilgrims celebrated Mass in the church where St. Francis was baptized in 1567 and where he was ordained a Bishop in 1602. They even



JCS members and pilgrims Jack and Marie Murphy pose for a photo.



Pictured from left to right on the pilgrimage are Carol Bates (JCS President), James Bishop (JCS Board member), Msgr. Peter Vaghi (JCS Chaplain) and MaryAnn Fiorita Adelfio (JCS member).

got to see the first printed version of St. Francis’ classic, “Introduction to the Devout Life”

While in Annecy, past JCS President Elizabeth Meers presented the lecture, “St. Jane de Chantal: A Spiritual Life Revisited.” The pilgrims attended Mass at the Basilica of the Visitation in Annecy, where the remains of St. Francis de Sales and St. Jane de Chantal now rest. St. Jane spent much time in Annecy under the tutelage of St. Francis, and together they co-founded the Visitation Order.

A highlight of the pilgrimage was Mass on the Solemnity of St. John Vianney, Patron of Parish Priests, in the Crypt Church in Ars, where St. John spent much of his ministry as a devoted parish priest. The Mass included an inspiring procession of priests, including Msgrs. Vaghi and Frontiero, and the principal celebrant was Cardinal Schoenborn, a JCS Medal recipient. The pilgrims also visited the house where St. John lived and the basilica where his body, found to be incorrupt, is entombed.

The pilgrims next visited Paray le Monial and the Shrine of the Sacre Coeur, where Mass was celebrated in honor of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, a devotee to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The main pilgrimage concluded with a farewell dinner in Lyon, where Msgr. Frontiero was awarded the JCS Medal.

The remaining pilgrims boarded the Croisieurope Camargue for a Rhone river cruise that would make stops in Arles, Avignon, Châteauneuf du Pape, Viviers, La Voulte, and Tain l’Hermitage, before



Enjoying a cruise on Lake Annecy aboard the Libellule during the pilgrimage are JCS members (l-r) Gerry Murphy, Sarah Brown, Jackie Murphy, Jack Murphy, Regina McGranery, Marie Murphy, and Bernadette Budde.

returning to Lyon. In Arles, the pilgrims visited the Roman Theater, the beautiful waterfront, and the famous bridge painted by Van Gogh. Offering a preview of the days ahead, Msgr. Frontiero presented the lecture, "The Babylonian Captivity of the Popes: The Avignon Papacy (1309-1376)." In Avignon, pilgrims visited the Palais des Papes (Palace of Popes), Avignon Cathedral, Pont d'Avignon (the bridge remembered in the well-known song), Pont du Gard, and Roman Aqueducts.

Upon the ship's return to Lyon, the pilgrims celebrated Mass at Paroisse Catholique Saint Irenaeus Saint Just, where it believed that the bodies of St. Irenaeus and other distinguished religious were once buried. After visiting the historic city of Beaune and exploring Burgundy wine country, the pilgrims joined together for a farewell meal before returning to Geneva for the flight home.

The pilgrimage was enjoyed by all. Bookended by Msgr. Vaghi's series of talks back home, last year's "The Devout Life: A Snapshot" and this year's "The Devout Life: An Ongoing Gift", the pilgrimage provided a wonderful "field trip" to France and Switzerland for those interested in learning more about St. Francis and his religious protégée, St. Jane, as well as many other saints of the region. The journey was filled with great food, fantastic sites, and inspiring stories of faith. Most importantly, it helped to forge many new friendships among the pilgrims. As St. Francis de Sales reminds us: "[F]or those who live in the midst of the world and yet strive for true virtue, it is necessary to ally themselves to one another by a holy

and sacred friendship through which they stimulate, assist and encourage each other toward good." The pilgrimage and membership in the John Carroll Society itself have done just that.

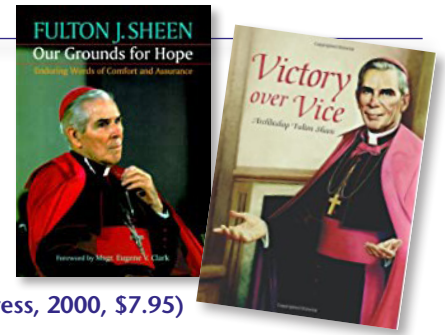
by Raj Noronha



Msgr. Anthony Frontiero poses with the newly-awarded JCS Medal during the farewell dinner of the JCS pilgrimage.

Archbishop Sheen- A Steady Light During Dark Periods

Victory over Vice (Sophia Institute Press, 2004, \$9.95), and *Our Grounds for Hope, Enduring Words of Comfort and Assurance* (Resurrection Press, 2000, \$7.95) by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen.



The late Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen (1895-1979) is known to several generations of Americans because of his prolific religious writings and his TV series "Life is Worth Living" that was broadcast on the ABC network from 1952-1957. He served as Bishop of Rochester, NY from 1966-69 and as Auxiliary Bishop of New York from 1951-1966. The cause for his canonization has proceeded to the stage that he is referred to as Venerable. I review here two of his shorter works; each would be a fine gift.

In *Victory over Vice*, Archbishop Sheen offers spiritual meditations on the seven capital or "deadly" sins, and how the sins can be overcome. Addressing the sin of sloth, Archbishop Sheen explains that our vocation is not only to work on the Earth; it also is to improve our spiritual lives – "Heaven is a city on a hill. Hence, we cannot coast into it; we have to climb." His message on the temptation of sin, such as gluttony, rings as true today as it did many decades ago. He observes that if there is any indication of the "present degeneration of society better than another, it is the excess of luxury in the modern world." Archbishop Sheen asks us to examine our lives and our attitudes because "[i]gnorance of ourselves is another reason for forgiving others. Unfortunately, it is ourselves we know least." We know our neighbor's sins "a thousand times better than our own." In passages such as this, Archbishop Sheen combines down-to-earth observations about contemporary life and our daily struggles with the world's temptations with his practical, religiously-inspired admonitions on how to live a more religious life.

Our Grounds for Hope is also a short book that collects brief meditations - usually one or two pages - of the late Archbishop's contemplations, taken from two of his earlier books. With titles ranging from "When We Cannot Pray" and "The Worst Thing Evil Can Do" to "Cross Asks Questions, Easter Answers Them" and "Enlarging Our Power To Be Joyful," the meditations speak to the reader simply, yet convey both wisdom and the message to embrace Jesus Christ in everyday life. And, although many of the book's excerpts center on Biblical passages from Holy Week or the Easter season, each can be read and appreciated during the rest of the liturgical year.

These short works by Archbishop Sheen exemplify his ultimate message of hope. As he observes in "Enlarging Our Power To Be Joyful," one of our challenges is how to endure sorrow and to see it transformed into joy. Archbishop Sheen explains that, in suffering, "Christ takes you into His Hands as a poor, dull block of marble, but with His chisel He shapes His purpose in you."

JCS Fall Retreat

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had time for private reflection before gathering for the Penance service, after which they had the opportunity for confession and absolution. The day concluded with a deeply moving Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction.

On a day of light rain with low clouds providing a gentle, illuminating glow, members reflected upon the love of God and their particular vocations. One of the JCS attendees, Kathleen Keenan, noted: "The day's tone was both welcoming and reverential insur-

ing everyone had an opportunity for engagement, reflection and a celebration of the sacredness of the sacraments...Getting away from this retreat brought me back in tune with what really matters and helped harmonize the hardships of daily living."

We hope you will take the time from your own busy schedule to join us for the fall retreat next year. It offers an opportunity, as Kathleen notes, to refresh your soul. You will gain strength for the challenge of living your Catholic vocation in the work-a-day world. Mark your calendars now for the JCS Fall Spiritual Retreat on Saturday, October 26, 2019.



John Carroll Society
P.O. Box 454
Glen Echo, MD 20812

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Lynnea Mumola, Editor | Raj Noronha, Chair, The Carroll Citizen | Chris Newkumet, Photographer | Andy Eng, Designer

For more information on the programs and services sponsored by the Society, contact: Colleen Mudlaff, Executive Director, by phone at (301) 654-4399.



Members Treated to Witness of Faith and Win for the Home Team

On June 5, the John Carroll Society made its fourth annual outing to a Washington Nationals game, this time for an interleague matchup against the Tampa Bay Rays. Member Ray McKenna once again helped organize our group of 35 society members and guests to the event which included pregame talks by Nats personnel.



Photo courtesy John Carroll Society

Take me out to the Ballgame! Society members cheer on the home team on June 5. The Washington Nationals defeated the Tampa Bay Rays 4-2 behind pitching ace Max Scherzer's 10th win of the season.

First we heard Nats relief pitcher Ryan Madson describe his experience as a convert to Catholicism in 2015. After suffering a devastating elbow injury in 2012, Madson struggled for three years to rejoin any major-league roster. These difficulties drew him to the Church, and shortly after his Baptism the Kansas City Royals gave him a chance on their way to winning the 2015 World Series. The pitcher credited his newfound faith for his comeback at age 35, saying that he finally learned the importance of doing things to please God rather than merely other people.

Next, Ted Towne, Nats Vice President of Finance and Assistant General Manager, described his unexpected journey from small-town Maine to accounting work for a Maryland construction company, then getting hired as a Nats accountant, and recently joining the Nats' Baseball Operations staff. A parishioner at St. Bernadette's in Silver Spring, Ted stressed the joy derived from his parish activities as an offset to the demands of his work and travel schedule.



Photo courtesy John Carroll Society

Members of the John Carroll Society and their families gather for a presentation at Nationals Park before the home team takes to the field against the Tampa Bay Rays. This is the fourth annual trip to the ballpark for the society.

At game time our group took its block of seats beside shallow right field to see Nats ace Max Scherzer notch his league-leading 10th win. "Mad Max" struck out 13 batters, including three in the 6th inning on a total of 9 pitches to accomplish the rare feat of an "immaculate inning." Our group was joined in the stands by Nats Chaplain Msgr. Stephen Rossetti (subbing for Msgr. Vaghi), as well as JCS President Carol Bates. All enjoyed an evening of great fellowship in the pleasantly cool weather. The JCS anticipates putting a third straight curly W into the books at Nats Park next season.

By Christopher H. Mitchell