

Along the way

"Were not our hearts burning within us as he opened the Scriptures for us along the way." — Luke 24:32

A publication of **sabbath retreats** the preaching ministry of Father Lou Papes

Sacramental ministry expands...



The contemporary and prayerful worship space of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

Since retiring a year and a half ago, I have been ministering to four religious communities: the Sisters of St. Joseph in Cleveland, the Ursuline Sisters in Pepper Pike, the Carmel of the Holy Family in Cleveland Heights, and the Regina Health Center in Richfield.

In June the schedule of Eucharistic celebrations became a bit more structured. The Sisters of St. Joseph had asked me to take most of their liturgies, so every Sunday (except the third Sunday of the month) I now celebrate the 10:00 Mass at the Sisters' Worship Space on Rocky River Drive. I continue to celebrate their Friday Liturgy at 11:00, but now also celebrate with them on Mondays and Wednesdays at 9:30.

I continue to celebrate with the Regina Health Center residents on the third Sunday of each month at 11:00, as well as their daily Mass on Wednesdays at 11:00. *(Continued on page 3)*

25th jubilee celebration....great fun...but painful!

Friends and family gathered on Saturday evening, May 25, to celebrate 25 years of priestly ministry with a Eucharistic Liturgy of Thanksgiving in the Worship Space of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Cleveland. Joining my twin sister and our cousins were a number of childhood friends, college classmates and past and present colleagues in ministry.

The only drawback, was that I had suffered a rather biking accident three days before the celebration. The festivities proceeded, but the following week, I had surgery to remove the golf-ball sized hematoma on my right leg. The rather painful healing process now proceeds with daily visits from a health care nurse. It looks like a few more weeks of healing before I get back to normal — except for biking!

Nonetheless, the music and the homily of the Mass of Thanksgiving echoed the theme of the feast of the Holy Trinity. Stressing the aspect of unity in diversity within the community, the homily stressed the need for inclusivity and mutuality as well as dialog and cooperation if a community is to be real communion.

Through the generosity of those gathered, a donation of eight hundred dollars was made to my brother priests in Guyana with specific instructions that they have a party!



From the past, friends Frank & Monica Martines with twin Maryann joined the festivities.



In Memoriam: Sister Donna Emerson, CSJ

Sister of St. Joseph Donna Emerson a longtime friend and mentor passed into eternal life on March 21 at the Regina Health Center. I had the honor of presiding at her Eucharistic Liturgy of Christian Burial.

Donna and I were in graduate school together back in the early sixties, struggling through some intense research during what some thought was summer "vacation" for teachers! Though we became fast friends, I was always a bit miffed at how the grading curve at John Carroll University virtually collapsed for those of us without vows during those "summers of the sisters."

After graduating from JCU with our M.A.s in 1964, Donna continued her teaching career at Nazareth Academy and St. Joseph Academy. We stayed in touch until I went off to the State Department of Education in Columbus and then later into public school teaching in Chagrin Falls.

As I finished my seminary training, I was received into the CSJ Community as an associate. Donna was one of my mentors and sponsors in that process. When I began publishing my homilies, Donna became one of my editors, using her keen eye to point out weaknesses in the text and offering suggestions for greater clarity. She was also a proofreader of these very newsletters. (*How am I doing, Donna?*)

Until her health began to deteriorate, Donna frequently accompanied me to the theatre and was frequent lunch partner at the St. Joseph Center. Along with her family, community and friends, I will miss her engaging personality and her generous spirit.

Homily board revived

For a few years after ordination, a number of my classmates began to meet weekly to go over ideas on how to approach preaching our Sunday homilies. We would have breakfast at Denny's (later we moved to St. Leo's for a brown bag lunch) and would share ideas for bringing the Sacred Scriptures to life for the people in our parishes.

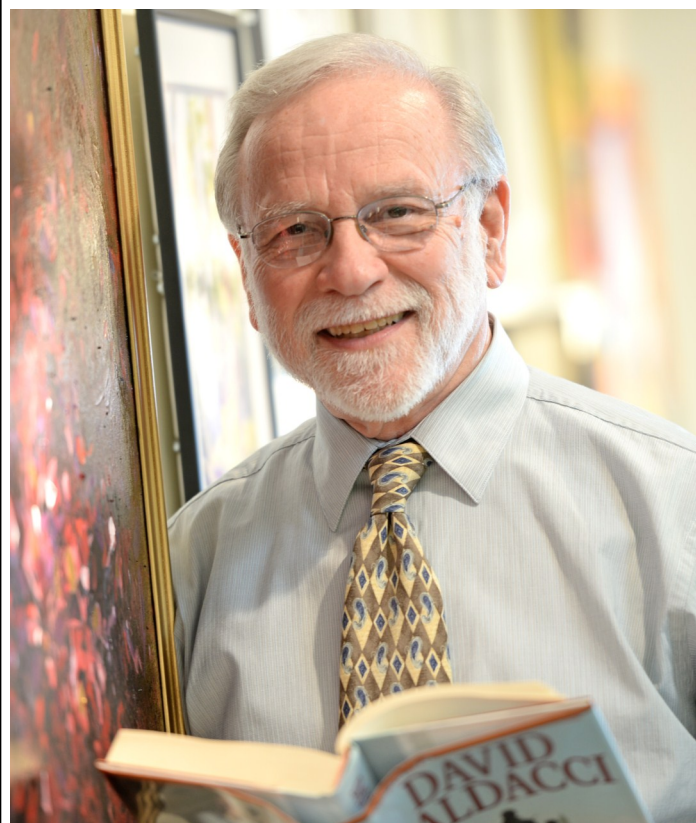
This process lasted until two of the architects of the process joined the Diocesan Mission team in El Salvador.

At the same time, I also began a homily board at my first assignment at St. Peter in Lorain. Once a month a randomly selected but representative group of parishioners would meet with me after one of the Masses and react and respond to the homily I had just delivered. The session would end with a brief brainstorming on the Scriptures for the next Sunday.

It is clearly those sessions that have made me the preacher I am today. So now that I have a primary venue for preaching, I intend to revive the homily board as part of my preaching ministry.

Beginning in July, those attending the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass at the Sisters of St. Joseph will be invited to participate in the homily boards.

It is hoped that those receiving homilies over the Internet would also periodically comment on the homilies.



The Western Campus of Cuyahoga Community College has begun a campaign encouraging reading for enjoyment and had enlisted some faculty to promote that message. So if you're on the campus, you may see this guy staring you down and encouraging you to pick up a good read for the fun of it!



Association of U.S. Catholic Priests Resolutions To Be Voted on in Seattle June 24-27

*The following are some of the resolutions to be voted on at the Second Annual AUSCP Conference.
Please pray for the success of that important meeting.*

That the AUSCP share with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops its pastoral concern about the precipitous decline of active priests available to serve the People of God [so that the Bishops] employ the power and authority of their office to work to resolve the challenges resulting from an expanding Church and a declining priesthood.

Be it resolved that the AUSCP promote among its members and all priests in the USA who are in positions of authority (e.g. pastors, chancery officials, directors of social service agencies, etc.) the exercise of that authority in a collegial manner, i.e. through a consensus decision-making process, with any councils, boards, ministry or other groups through which the priest is to carry out his ministry.

Be it resolved that the AUSCP ask the Holy Father to grant permission to use the 1974 edition of the sacramentary in the United States where desired, [and minimally] that the presidential prayers of the 1974 Sacramentary including the optional opening collect, written by the USCCB, prayer over the gifts and Communion prayer be allowed to be used at all Masses.

Be it resolved that the AUSCP support Pope Francis in the need to reform the Church and restore credibility especially by opening the selection of bishops to the participation of the laity and clergy.

The Association of US Catholic Priests supports the ordination of women to the permanent diaconate and recommends A) that the ongoing discussion of the ordination of women to the diaconate continue B) that the US. Catholic bishops publicly support the restoration of the ancient practice of ordaining deaconesses, C) That the USCCB request amendment of canon 1024 which restricts valid sacred ordination to baptized males alone.

That the AUSCP urge the USCCB to encourage the re-introduction of general absolution in U.S. parishes.

Be it resolved that the AUSCP, in order to promote a constructive and fruitful dialogue between priests and bishops, invite the USCCB to appoint a bishop to serve as its liaison to the AUSCP and that the AUSCP also ask the USCCB to include an official delegate from the AUSCP among the auditors at its November meeting.

Be it resolved that the AUSCP newly inspired by the words and example of Pope Francis and faithful to the dynamics and teaching of Vatican II, establish a working group to find concrete ways to promoting inclusive dialogue and collaborative practices in the U.S. Church by endorsing and applying the approach of Cardinal Bernardin's Common Ground initiative.

Be it resolved that the AUSCP promote, that on occasion of a bishop's (ordinary's) age-related resignation or retirement, a sufficient time period be allowed for his diocese, through its officials, to discern and determine from its own presbyterate, an interim leader to govern the diocese as "apostolic administrator."

Ministry expands *(continued from page 1)*

This new schedule allows for the celebration of the Eucharist with the Ursuline Sisters on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 and the Carmelites on Thursday mornings, also at 7:30. I now also celebrate the Sunday Eucharist at the Carmel on the third Sunday at 9:00. To accommodate this schedule, the Ursuline Sisters have scheduled a Vigil Mass at 4:00 the Saturday before the second Sunday of the month. My full presiding schedule can be found on page 4 of this newsletter.

At the same time, this more settled routine clearly identifies my ministry with the Sisters of St. Joseph who have long been champions of the poor and marginalized in the Cleveland area as well as providing the region with a place for reflection and action through the ministry of River's Edge. The following link will tell you why River's Edge is a place that you will want to visit: www.riversedgecleveland.com

Lou's *NEW* Presiding Schedule

A special celebration on a weekend or a funeral on a weekday may alter this schedule.

You are most welcome at any of these.

First Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sisters of St. Joseph	Cleveland
Second Sunday	4:00 Vigil 10:00 a.m.	Ursuline Sisters Sisters of St. Joseph	Pepper Pike Cleveland
Third Sunday	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Carmel of the Holy Family Regina Health Center	Cleveland Hts. Richfield
Fourth Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sisters of St. Joseph	Cleveland
Fifth Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sisters of St. Joseph	Cleveland
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Mondays	9:30 a.m.	Sisters of St. Joseph	Cleveland
Tuesdays	7:30 a.m.	Ursuline Sisters	Pepper Pike
Wednesdays	9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Sisters of St. Joseph Regina Health Center	Cleveland Richfield
Thursdays	7:30 a.m.	Carmel of the Holy Family	Cleveland Hts.
Fridays	11:00 a.m.	Sisters of St. Joseph	Cleveland

A new bishop of Rome ~ A Jesuit named Francis

After the resignation of Benedict, my sister called excited by the prospect of perhaps "turning the page" on what has not been a particularly inspiring few years for the institutional church. The cynic in me simply replied, "nothing will change."

Though it's been barely four months and nothing of substance is in evidence, it is often true that style may very well presage substance.

From the moment that Francis deferred to the crowds in St. Peter's Square to first bless him before he blessed them, to his simple and moving homily on Palm Sunday in the little church of St. Anne in Rome, to bypassing his cathedral on Holy Thursday to wash the feet of youthful prisoners, including two women, one has to agree that these were not altogether trivial signals.

His choice of a more simple vesture and lifestyle cannot be ignored in light of his very public criticism of clericalism in the church. And his call for a Church that is itself poor and focused on the poor in the spirit of Francis of Assisi will have a dramatic effect on how we Catholics look at ourselves, to say nothing of how the world will begin to look at us if and when we really follow his lead.

Even those not of our faith have responded warmly toward Francis when they read: *"We are all children of God -- all of us. And God loves us -- all of us," the pope said in his homily during an early morning Mass (May 22) in the chapel of the Domus Sanctae Marthae.* And to that, let the Church say, **"AMEN!"**