

Walking The Way Of The Cross Today

Remembering Jesus' Sacrifice in These Extraordinary Times

Mary Ellen Kastenholz

STAFF WRITER

How quickly Jesus' jubilant and triumphal entrance with palm branches, welcoming his arrival to Jerusalem turned to his rejection, betrayal, and arrest. Walking in his

All of what he went through was to save each one of us; the impact of his final days is palpable over 2000 years later.

footsteps where he last prayed, ate and gathered with those he loved brings a deep sense of connection to Jesus and an understanding of what he clearly knew of the agony that was to come. It's as though we, too are one of his brokenhearted, fearful and lost disciples. All of what he went through was to save each one of us; the impact of his final days is palpable over 2000 years later.

Visiting the structure known as the Cenacle, meaning Upper Room on Mt. Zion and commemorating Holy Thursday's Last Supper, the feeling of spaciousness and camaraderie prevails. Envisioning where Jesus washed the apostles' feet (as a sign for generations to come of the importance of serving



Entrance to Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem.

others), and where he sat and ate with them, as depicted in so many famous portraits is very powerful. This is where he instituted the Eucharist, even while anticipating the betrayal of Judas and the denial by Peter and his closest friends. This is also the birthplace of the Christian Church with the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

Knowing that Judas would soon betray him, Jesus went to pray at the Garden of Gethsemane, asking Peter, James and John to accompany him. To see the olive trees today, some of which have roots over two thousand years old, is observing a paradox of strength and beauty, while contemplating that Jesus wept and sweat here. His plea, "Father, let this cup pass from me," evolves to acceptance as he concedes to His Father's will. His friends have fallen asleep,

Continued on p. 8

INSIDE FEATURES

Technology Ideas	4,6
Veterans Computer Project	10,11

APRIL

BIRTHSTONE: Diamond
FLOWER: Daisy

- 1 April Fool's Day
- 5 Palm Sunday
- 9-11 Easter Triduum
- 12 Easter Sunday
- 15 Taxes Due
- 19 Divine Mercy Sunday
- 22 Earth Day

CATHOLIC CHARITIES EVENTS

Please visit our website for additional events and updates:
www.catholiccharities.net.

Greetings from the Editor

Happy April Keenager Readers!,

These have been challenging weeks and we hope this issue of Keenager News finds you staying healthy, following all distancing protocols, and finding alternative ways to connect with friends and loved ones. We must take care of ourselves, and one another!

Catholic Charities continues to serve those most in need during this pandemic, especially seniors, while following all public health precautions. Safety, compassion, and service are the order of the day. We appreciate your prayers at this time and we continue to pray for all of you. Needs will grow significantly in the wake of this crisis and we will be here. If you're

able and would like to support our efforts, please visit www.catholiccharities.net/donate.

On to this issue! As Easter approaches, we are grateful to Mary Ellen Kastenholz for sharing insights with us from her trip to the sites where Jesus' Passion occurred. May Mary Ellen's article, and the accompanying reflection from Fr. Gerard Kelly, C.M. deepen your Holy Week experience this year. Due to the pandemic, the date of this year's Senior Unity Mass has not been determined. Hopefully, we will have more information in our May issue.

Happy Easter!

Katie McDonnell Bredemann

Keenager News

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Catholic Charities fulfills the Church's role in the mission of charity to anyone in need by providing compassionate, competent and professional services that strengthen and support individuals, families and communities based on the value and dignity of human life.



**YOUR COMMENTS
ARE APPRECIATED**

E-mail us at

keenager@catholiccharities.net

Why Did He Do it? What Can We Learn?

This year as I reflect on Holy Week, I find my thoughts turning to Judas and contemplating his choice to betray Jesus. Why did he do it? What can we learn from his choice?

At the Last Supper, Jesus gave his disciples and each one of us the mandate to "Love one another as I have loved you." Judas listened to this mandate and witnessed Jesus washing the feet of the disciples — including

Whether we realize it or not, every day we make choices to fulfill Jesus' mandate or walk away.

his own. Through this act, Jesus showed the full extent of His love and demonstrated how believers are to love one another through sacrificial humble service. Jesus made it clear what was expected and yet, Judas made the choice to walk away.

It occurred to me that we ourselves are constantly in Judas' situation. Whether we realize it or



Holy Week Reflection

Reverend Gerard Kelly, C.M.

Associate Administrator of Catholic Charities

not, every day we make choices to fulfill Jesus' mandate or walk away. Did we treat our coworker fairly? Did we spend time helping others? Did we show love to a neighbor in need? Were we welcoming to the stranger, the outcast, and all the least ones whom Jesus loved so dearly? We know what is expected of us and yet, with the many other voices in our lives, we can make the choice to walk away, or turn away, or look away.

As we celebrate the joy of Easter this year, let us remind ourselves that through the gift of the Holy Spirit, Jesus gives us the power to carry out his mandate to love and serve one another — to love and serve everyone. The other disciples will walk away as well, but they will return. Let's not walk away!

About Catholic Charities

Helping anyone in need since 1917, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago is one of the largest private, not-for-profit social service agencies in the Midwest. Catholic Charities fulfills the Church's role in the mission of charity by providing compassionate, competent, professional services that strengthen and support individuals, families and communities. Each year we assist anyone in need in Cook and Lake Counties without regard to religious, ethnic or economic background.



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Deepen Your Lenten Journey At Catholic Charities

Each year on Ash Wednesday, members of Catholic Charities Board of Advisors and Junior Board are invited to an “Evening of Reflection” in our St. Louise de Marillac Chapel at the St. Vincent Center on LaSalle Street. This year we collected socks and underwear for our Pope Francis Ministries, celebrated mass, distributed ashes, and shared a simple meal together. I am always amazed at how many of our busy board members make time to attend the event, and even more amazed at the number of young members of our Junior Board (typically age 25-40) who participate.

We started the “Evening of Reflection” to give Catholic Charities board members a special way to begin the Lenten journey of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. It has been enthusiastically embraced with attendance growing each year. For me, the event has become another encouraging sign that even today, when we are constantly tempted by indifference, our desire for love and solidarity with one another still reigns.

Each day I am humbled by our hundreds of board members and thousands of volunteers who choose to put their faith into action at Catholic Charities. In the words of Pope Francis, volunteers “are among the most precious things the Church has, who every day, often silently and unassumingly, give shape and visibility to mercy. [Volunteers] express one of the most noble desires of the human heart: making a suffering person feel loved.”

Indeed volunteers are the



The Voice of Catholic Charities

Kathleen Donahue-Coia
Acting Administrator, President, and CEO
of Catholic Charities

lifeblood of Catholic Charities, supplying the love and concern that fuel our services. There is truly a place for everyone who wants to lend a hand, and no act of kindness is too small.

We have volunteers who offer our guests a smile, warm welcome and a place to rest weary feet while waiting for services. We have scores of volunteers in our shower program who very literally remind me of Jesus washing the feet of the disciples when they lovingly scrub our showers after each and every guest. My heart swells at our various fundraising events when I watch our volunteer event committee members, who have already put in countless hours of work for months ahead of time, working like mad during an event to make sure every detail is just so.

I am overwhelmed by the generosity of so many people during our Celebration of Giving who make Christmas special for nearly 25,000 people each year — and I was even more overwhelmed once I learned that members of our Lake County Women’s Board hand-deliver gifts to hundreds of seniors so they can enjoy the one-on-one attention of someone bringing a gift especially for them! I am inspired by our youth mentors

If you are looking for a place to deepen your Lenten journey... please consider one of the many opportunities available at Catholic Charities (ccofchicagovolunteer.com).

who choose to spend their free time with teens and young adults in our mentoring programs, showing them that they matter and that people care about them and their futures.

I am grateful for hundreds of volunteers in our home-delivered meals programs that bring hot, nutritious meals and friendly visits to home-bound seniors. I am also grateful for the thousands of volunteers who daily help Catholic Charities with everything from stocking food pantry shelves, to serving dinners in our Evening Supper Programs, to caring for seniors at our adult day care sites, to stuffing envelopes for our annual appeals. Every single volunteer makes a difference and every single volunteer enables Catholic Charities to fulfill its mission of love and service to the poor.

If you are looking for a place to deepen your Lenten journey through volunteerism this year, please consider one of the many opportunities available at Catholic Charities (ccofchicagovolunteer.com). Volunteers truly are the hands of Christ held out to all — sharing His love and mercy and being a concrete sign of our solidarity with one another.



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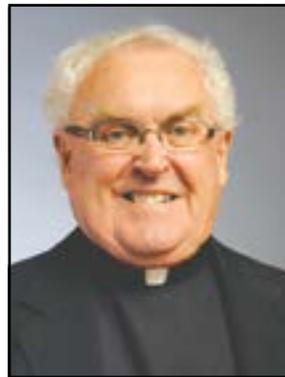


Computers Assist In Making Our Daily Tasks Easier

Recently I was in an Irish Pub, talking to one of the owners, who was from Ireland, about the pubs there. He mentioned a pub that he always took his dad to for a few pints when he visited Ireland. I told him about a pub in a village where my family lived. It was small and quaint and it was a scrubby old pub but it was one that I loved to go to, because it was very traditional. I told the owner the name of the pub and the village it was in and, before long he showed me a picture of the pub on his smart phone. There it was — Tom Frawley's pub. I've been going to Tom Frawley's for over forty years, and there it was on the smart phone. I was amazed that the smart phone could locate one of my favorite places in just a few minutes. That is one of the beauties of the age of the computer that we live in.

I am a great fan of the computer age and the way computers have revolutionized the way we do many tasks. Our work is done much faster, and the tasks are much easier to accomplish, right from the comfort of our homes. One of the benefits of the computer age is that it has made the world much smaller, too. Computers can locate and connect people all over the world.

People, especially seniors, can be frightened by the use of a computer. They do take some learning to get used to. When we get back to our post-COVID 19 lives, there are classes offered at many community colleges or at local senior centers that people can take advantage of. I am of the opinion that we are never too old to learn something new. Don't be afraid to want to learn some



Words for the Spirit

Father Charles T. Rubey

*Founder and Director of the LOSS Program
Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide*

of the basics of the computer. Believe me when I say that I am not a computer geek, but I have learned some of the values of using a computer, such as online banking and checking financial issues such as the stock market, and how investments are doing in the markets. Once we put the oars in the water it can be something that we quickly learn and discover that the use of the computer can simplify our lives.

I am awestruck when I see a child as young as three years old playing games on a computer. These small children can entertain themselves for hours playing with computers. It is a way of life for them. It is quite different for seniors who did not have such an upbringing. Some of their daily tasks were time-consuming and often very arduous. I have found the GPS in the car as a lifesaver when I am looking for some place. It is quite easy to punch in the address and let the GPS do the work of getting me to my destination. I can drive and just listen to the voice giving me the directions to my destination. It saves me from the frustration of getting lost and having to stop and ask for directions to where I want to go. To me this has been another wonderful use of the computer.

Once we put the oars in the water it can be something that we quickly learn and discover that the use of the computer can simplify our lives.

The use of websites also can be a very educational experience. I am amazed at what information is contained on the web. All one has to do is search and ask

the question and the answer is speedily provided. For example, if you have not visited the Centers for Disease Control, or CDC to learn about protecting yourself and others from the Coronavirus, you must (www.cdc.gov). I find the internet search capabilities to be fascinating, and invaluable. As I said, don't be afraid of the computer. Start at the bottom and learn the basics and grow into seeing the computer as a friend and not as some threatening entity. Humans make mistakes but computers are quite accurate and can assist everyone in their quest to make daily tasks easier.

I can assure you that the more you learn, you will never regret that you took the time to learn about the use of the computer. It will quickly become your pal and you'll see that computers are one of the greatest inventions.

Keep On Keepin' On,

St. Jude Novena



May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved, and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on us; St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us; St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us.

SPK LCK NB AMC KW MW TL PB MAM

The Novena is a nine day devotion. Say the prayer nine times a day. If you would like to acknowledge your gratitude for its influence in your request, please contact Keenager News at (312) 655-7425 and we will include your initials in the publication of this monthly novena. No payment required.

The Joyous Proclamation Of Easter Strengthens Our Hope

SPIRITUAL MATTERS

Anthony Spalla

SENIOR SERVICES STAFF

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we try to be responsible and strong, caring for one another amidst these uncertain days of the COVID-19 outbreak, we can draw great comfort from the seasons - both Spring and Easter. The word April comes from the Latin word "to open," and if you look closely you see trees budding and flowers starting to open.

The first eleven days of the month fall during the season of Lent, which liturgically is represented by the color purple, a symbol of penance, and the sorrow of a contrite heart. The first Sunday of April is called both "Palm Sunday" and "Passion Sunday" and it symbolizes the beginning of Holy Week. The first name commemorates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, when the crowd welcomed him with palm branches (John 12:13). The second name refers to the fact that the narrative of the Passion is read at all Masses on this day. I invite you to ask yourself, particularly when masses are cancelled and much of our religious and spiritual habits have had to change, "How can I best enter into Holy week?" Here is a very powerful reflection to

ponder and pray on from the online ministries at Creighton University: "We enter into a week made holy forever by the love of Jesus, given for us all. Whatever we do, no matter how busy or distracted we might be, we can let the power of this week be in the background of our daily reflections. He entered into our

I invite all of you to be witnesses for Christ... encourage others to do the same, and take moments to bask in the glow of this 50-day Easter Season, even during these challenging times.

lives -with its profound joys and its punishing evils - that we might never experience any struggles alone. From the humble, yet triumphant entry into Jerusalem, to our standing together at the foot of his cross, this can be a week which helps us bring all our experiences of sin and death, into the fount of his redeeming death and resurrection."

Alleluia! He is Risen! The joyous

proclamation of Easter strengthens our hope! The remainder of April falls during the Easter Season which is represented by the liturgical color white - the color of light, a symbol of joy, purity and innocence. Here is Franciscan Fr. Greg Friedman beautifully and powerfully reflecting on Easter: "Our faith, as St. Paul tells the Corinthians, rests on the reality of Jesus' Resurrection. We base everything on the truth of the story, but establishing that truth is not a matter of science, history or archaeology. It's a matter of faith. We must call upon the Holy Spirit, who is present in the Church, to assist us. In the Easter Gospels, we hear the witness of the first followers of Jesus. 'Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen.' (Lk 24:5-6) Our Easter Gospel is a story of living faith to which we are now witnesses."

I invite all of you to be witnesses for Christ to the best of your ability, encourage others to do the same, and take moments to bask in the glow of this 50-Day Easter Season, even during these challenging times.

In Our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

Anthony

"He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay."



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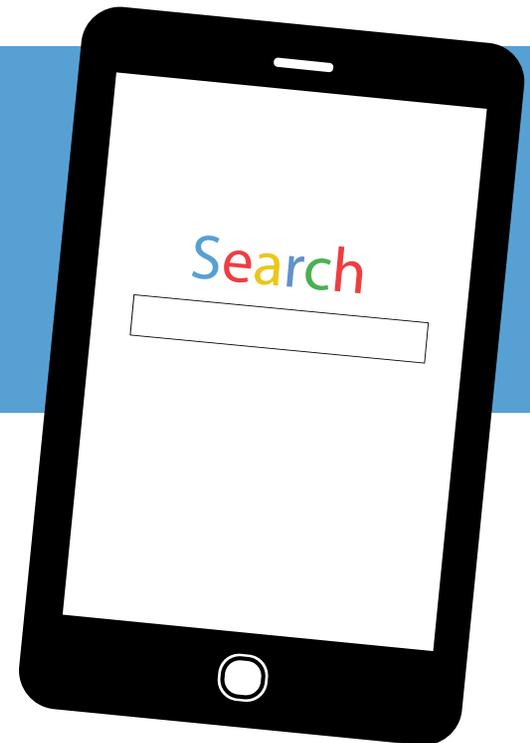


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Great Technology Ideas For Seniors



We are always keeping an eye out for great ideas to share with our readers. Here are some innovative items for seniors that we recently saw online. Many are reasonably priced, and many more ideas exist just by doing a SEARCH on your computer with the words in the headline of this article. We hope these ideas are helpful as you think through your own needs, and those of your loved ones.

- Non-Slip Utensil Handles
- Magnifying Glass With LED Booklight
- Big Button Cell Phones
- Sock Aid Kits
- Long-handled Shoe Horns
- Button Hooks & Zipper Pulls
- Indoor/Outdoor Risers
- Pick Up Grabbers
- Long-reach Hairbrushes and Combs
- Lamp Switch Turners
- Doorknob Grips
- Can & Jar Openers
- Large Print Digital Clocks
- Auto Canes (For Use Getting Out Of Your Car)
- Automotive Standing Aids
- Garden Kneeler and Seats
- Bed Assist Bars
- Hearing Aid Clips (Portable hang rope)
- Big Button TV Remotes
- Two-Handle Mugs

Catholic Charities Welcomes Your Clothing Donations

■ Gently-used clothing, in all sizes is appreciated for our Community Clothing Room.

■ Professional clothing items, for men and women are gratefully accepted for our Mary's Closet collection of dressier clothes, for clients preparing for job interviews.

■ NEW underwear and socks are needed for guests who come to use the shower facilities in our Pope Francis Ministries.

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or at any of our regional locations.**

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Chicago, Illinois 60629
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Hopeful Words To Remember



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“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid, for the Lord God is with you, wherever you may go, no matter what life brings.”
Joshua 1:9

“Be still and know that I am God.”
Psalm 46:10

“We know and rely on the love God has for us. Whoever lives in love, lives in God and God in them.” 1 John 4:16

“Love one another as I have loved you.”
John 13:34

“God is my strength.” 2 Samuel 22:33

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Romans 13:15

“Eye has not seen, ear has not heard what God has ready for those who love him.” 1 COR 2:9

“Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.” James 4:8

PRAYER & LENTEN RESOURCES

Archdiocese of Chicago:
www.archchicago.org

Catholic Conference of Illinois:
www.ilcatholic.org

Magnificat
www.us.magnificat.net

Dynamic Catholic
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Relevant Radio
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CATHOLIC CHARITIES

COVID-19 Community Response Fund

BEFORE + DURING + AFTER

Catholic Charities has suspended all senior group activities and adult day care amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Meals to go are available at Congregate Meal sites and Senior Centers.

HOME CARE SERVICES

Our home care services continue, and are following a more sophisticated protocol as there are seniors who have no one to drop off groceries and provide basic hygiene assistance.

FOOD PANTRIES EVENING MEALS

Food pantries and evening meal programs will continue to provide food as dictated by supplies and safe distribution protocols. Please check under Our Services/Emergency Services for locations and phone numbers.

COUNSELING CASE MANAGEMENT

Counseling, case management, and other services that can be provided remotely are being delivered accordingly. Please call your case worker or program contact if you need assistance.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

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JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH	JESUS CARRIES HIS CROSS	JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME	JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER	SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS JESUS TO CARRY HIS CROSS	VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS	JESUS FALLS THE SECOND TIME	JESUS MEETS THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM	JESUS FALLS A THIRD TIME	JESUS CLOTHES ARE TAKEN AWAY	JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS	JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS	THE BODY OF JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS	JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB



Notice in numerous languages outside of the Upper Room.



The Upper Room, where the Last Supper was held, and where the Holy Spirit came to the Apostles after Jesus' Ascension into heaven.



The spot where it is believed that Peter denied knowing Jesus for the third time.



Jesus' tomb, in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.



This photo was taken, looking up from the dungeon where Jesus is believed to have been held overnight, before his crucifixion.

and he is confronted by Judas with a kiss of betrayal in front of the Roman authorities who arrest him. (The Garden of Gethsemane is adjacent to the Church of All Nations which holds the Holy Stone where Jesus "sweated drops of blood.")

The complete isolation and loneliness that Jesus surely had to have felt is palpable in the walls of the structure where Jesus is believed to have been held overnight. He would have been lowered down into the 15' square and 20' deep prison in the dungeon of the High Priest Caiaphas' house by ropes around his chest. There

is no door, no window, and no light that comes through the bottleneck opening. No escape, no glimmer of hope; what must have been Jesus' thoughts on his final night? The desolation felt is best revealed in Psalm 88: "You have put me in the lowest pit, in the darkest depths." (The Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu where the rooster crowed is built over the site of the Palace of Caiaphas.)

The distress and grief that follow the horrendous treatment of Jesus, after several trials take place before Jewish and Roman authorities is unimaginably inhumane. Jesus is

found guilty, ridiculed, spat upon and beaten, scourged with 40 lashes, forced to carry a large cross, a crown of thorns imbedded around his head and humiliated in front of all who come to watch the spectacle. Watching in horror, Jesus' Mother, other women, John and some disciples and believers stay with him, hoping to help bear his pain. All this is felt walking the Via Dolorosa or Sorrowful Way, a half mile of narrow streets in Old Jerusalem, stopping at each of the Stations of the Cross that is believed to be the path taken by Jesus on his way to his Crucifixion. Nine are along the streets

and the final stations are within the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the historical site for the crucifixion, burial and resurrection of Jesus.

The reverence felt within the Church by the thousands of pilgrims who visit, is both seen and felt. Station 10 in which Jesus is stripped of his clothing, is located up the stairs in a chapel and can be reached from the courtyard. A Franciscan chapel is believed to be the location where Jesus was nailed to the cross (11th Station.) Station 12 is a Greek altar that has been placed over the site where Jesus' cross was affixed on the Rock of Calvary/Golgotha.

Visitors wait in line to touch the rock where the cross was positioned. Behind this is the image of Jesus hanging on the cross as Mary and John look on representing the 13th Station, where Jesus is then taken down off the cross and placed in Mary's arms.

The Stone of Anointing on which Jesus' body was placed is where many Christian pilgrims kneel on the marble slab to pray or wipe the stone commemorating Jesus' burial preparation. The 14th Station is the place of Jesus' burial and resurrection. The Holy Sepulchre was erected by Constantine in the fourth century

after his mother, St. Helena and others found the true cross. It is a large outer dome structure which protects the small shrine made of two chambers: the Chapel of the Angel and the Chapel of the Holy Sepulchre. The Chapel of the Angel is where the angel removed the tomb stone and appeared to Mary Magdalene, and Mary, the Mother of Jesus. The Chapel of the Holy Sepulchre is built within the second chamber where Jesus was laid to rest. It is empty now because of the Resurrection. This chapel is the most sacred site in Christianity, where all who believe are renewed with Hope.

Veterans Computer Project Provides "New Lease On Life"



Mitch Siegel (left) delivers a refurbished laptop to Veteran Angel G.



Veteran Charles S. displays the laptop he received from the Veterans Computer Project.



Veteran Anne H. receives a laptop from Mitch Siegel.

Throughout its history, Catholic Charities has been proud and grateful to work with talented corporate partners who believe in our mission and want to do what they can to support it. In the past several years, Mitch Siegel, Job Developer for Catholic Charities Veterans Employment Program in Lake County and Paul V. Gerdes, Owner and President of JetSpeed Technologies have taken this kind of partnership to a whole new, digital level.

Since March, 2014 Mitch has worked in Catholic Charities Lake County Regional Office to assist veterans who are looking for employment. Mitch works with the veterans on their job readiness skills and he has built a network of employers who welcome the opportunity to hire veterans, and appreciate the tax credits that come when they do. As a result of Mitch's efforts, hundreds of veterans have started new careers and found greater economic stability in their lives.

Paul began developing the concept, Free Computers 4 Veterans in 2016. He says, "I contacted Tom Gilder, President of the Lake Barrington Shores Veterans Association. Tom put me in touch with Bob Gorman and Paul Baffico at Lake County Veterans and Family Services. After a few meetings with them, I had the privilege of meeting Mitch Siegel. I told all of these men that my objective is to reach out to veterans who have served this great country, and give them a reliable, updated computer, so they can be in touch with their former fellow service members, families, and friends."

Paul continues, "I have great compassion for veterans who suffer each day from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (P.T.S.D.) and depression, and I wanted to work with veteran groups to develop a program through my business, and donate my computers and my time to help make a difference for the men and women who have sacrificed so much!"

Mitch welcomed Paul's offer of

assistance. Soon, Paul was donating computers to Mitch's program, and refurbishing them for needy veterans. As Paul explains, "I love our veterans! My wife and I have three generations of veterans in our families. They have all served and fought for our freedoms, and protected this great nation."

Paul adds, "From my perspective, the computer project complements every aspect of Mitch's program. Technology plays a large role with veterans, in writing resumes, searching for jobs, interviewing for a position and becoming employed. This successful process allows veterans to have a new lease on life, one that they truly deserve!"

With Paul's effort, Mitch has already been able to distribute over 40 refurbished computers to Catholic Charities veteran clients. These include desktop computers with keyboards and cables, monitors, laptops, printers, scanners and tablets. and tablets. As Mitch says, "Paul's generosity is amazing."

The process of refurbishing each computer is not a simple one. As Paul says, "The amount of time I spend on each computer varies. Sometimes it is only 1-2 days, sometimes more, depending on the condition of the PC, and the available parts in stock for that make and model."

Paul explains, "Each computer that I receive goes through an extensive testing process. The computers that fail either go for parts, and are used later, or they are recycled. Each PC gets analyzed from a visual perspective on the exterior, and then a visual check is done inside. Every computer gets sanitized outside, and then cleaned out inside, with compressed air, so the motherboard and the components look and operate almost like new. After a fresh install of Microsoft Windows operating systems 7, 8 or 10 (Apple O.S. too) new drivers are installed, plus all kinds of software so the PC's keep running smoothly. A new server is installed



Michelle, Mary Beth and Paul Gerdes, with their dog, Cubby.



Mary Beth and Gregory Gerdes on their Wedding Day.

through the network on the PC, to make internet use faster, safer, and more reliable. I also install security updates, to update the operating system and protect it against viruses."

Once the first six computers were refurbished, they were used to update the computer lab at Mitch's Job Training Program, which operates out of the James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center in North Chicago. There is a Homeless Veterans Residential Program there and Mitch co-founded and co-teaches the Employment Readiness Workshop for that population. The rest of the computers have been given directly to Catholic Charities veteran clients for their personal use. According to Mitch, the computers are having a very positive impact on the lives of the veterans. He says, "These refurbished computers help the training programs function more efficiently and more effectively. In addition, the vets that get these computers have an important tool to help find and keep jobs at their

homes rather than having to go to a Job Center or library to use a computer."

When asked if faith plays a role in his philanthropy, Paul replied, "Yes, I have always believed in giving, to help change the lives of others, especially when others are in need. I believe that anyone who gives with a pure heart will be greatly blessed! You must each decide in your heart how much to give, and don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. 'For God loves a person who gives cheerfully, and God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. 2 COR 9:7-8.'"

Paul continued, "I dedicate my work on the Veterans Computer Project in memory of my father, Gregory V. Gerdes Jr., (1926-2000). He was a veteran in the Air Force in WWII and a Chief Editor at the Chicago Tribune. I have so much gratitude towards my parents, Gregory and Mary Beth for all of the love, support and sacrifice they gave to me, and for their

"I hope to encourage everyone who reads this article to be inspired, and do something larger than life! There are many great benefits that I've reaped from giving!"

Paul Gerdes

great example of giving that has impacted my life!"

Paul adds, "Also, this project would not be possible if it wasn't for my wonderful wife, Michelle. Without her encouragement, support and prayers, this would not have happened. I hope to encourage everyone who reads this article to be inspired, and do something larger than life! There are many great benefits that I've reaped from giving! Take action and make a difference in someone's life! Leave a legacy!"

Mitch Siegel and Paul Gerdes

see a bright future for the Veterans Computer Project. They welcome additional donations of computer devices so more veterans can increase their computer skills. Paul also welcomes the opportunity to speak with any experienced computer technicians in the Northwest Suburbs who could assist in refurbishing PCs. To learn more, contact Mitch Siegel at msiegel@catholiccharities.net or Paul Gerdes at jstechproducts@mailfence.com.

Paul says, "I hope this article might encourage more people to participate and donate their used computers and support this important project. Our veterans have sacrificed so much. There should be no homeless or poverty-stricken veterans in America. We appreciate your generosity!"

Paul adds, "My ultimate goal and vision for our veterans is to help men and women who have served this great country find help, hope, employment and, most of all, purpose again! Thank you, veterans. May God bless you!"

READERS' CORNER

Could you please tell me the correct way to dispose of old missals, medals, statues, etc. I have a shoebox full from when my husband was an Altar Boy at Epiphany.

From: Lauretta Rybicki

EDITORS NOTE: In reply to this question, Rev. Gerard Kelly, C.M., Chaplain and Associate Administrator for Catholic Charities said, "First,

let me reassure you that it is not a sin to part with religious objects. There is no mention in Canon Law about disposing religious items, but it is generally accepted that, if the items have been blessed, it is best to burn or bury them. The underlying idea is that what has been dedicated to God should be returned to God (in the earth).

If the religious items have not been blessed, such as holy cards that come in the mail, it is acceptable to throw

these items away or share them with someone who would like to have them.

Finally, if you have palms in your home from the previous Palm Sunday, return these to your parish church in February of the following year. These are traditionally burned and the ashes are used to make the sign of the cross on the foreheads of the faithful on the next Ash Wednesday."

Easter Gift

How thankful we should really be,
On this blessed Easter Day.
For it's our chance to start anew
And to follow in God's way.

For after preaching to all men
and women
Of the great gift of His love,
He was crucified but yet He rose,
To prepare His heavenly home above.

We all should strive to do our best,
In our earthly life each day.
So we can live eternally,
With God in heaven, we pray.

On this Easter Day let's reaffirm,
Our love to God, up above,
To show Him we are glad to share
His wonderful gift of love.

From: Hazel Adelman
April 2000

Harry was walking along the Des Plaines river when all of a sudden, he heard, "Hey old man." He looked around and no one was there. He heard again, "Hey, old man down there" and Harry turned to see a frog. The frog said, "Pick me up and kiss me. I'll turn into a beautiful young blond." So Harry picked up the frog and put it into his shirt pocket. The frog said, "You're supposed to kiss me, so I can turn into a beautiful young blond." Harry said, "I'm 90 years old. I'd rather have a talking frog."

From: Frank Vlach

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CORRECTION: In the March issue of Keenager News, the article on Sr. Jean Delores stated that she was born in 1909. Her birthdate is actually August 21, 1919. We apologize for the error and wish Sr. Jean many more happy, healthy years as Chaplain of the Loyola University Basketball team!

From The Recipe Box

Lemon Slices For Easter From: Mae Peterson, 1985

CRUST

2 cups sifted flour
1 cup (1/2 lb.) margarine
1/2 cup sifted powdered sugar

PREPARATION

Sift together the flour and the powdered sugar. Cut in margarine until mixture clings together. Press into 13x9x2" pan and bake in 350 degree oven for 25 minutes or until lightly browned.

FILLING

2 cups sugar
4 medium eggs, beaten
1/3 cup lemon juice
1/2 tsp. baking powder
1/4 cup flour

PREPARATION

Beat eggs. Gradually add sugar, then lemon juice. Sift together the baking powder and flour. Stir into egg mixture and pour over baked crust. Bake in a 350 degree oven for 25 minutes. Sprinkle with additional powdered sugar. Cool, and cut into slices.

Basic Risotto From: joyofcooking.wordpress.com

4 cups reduced-sodium chicken broth
3 tablespoons butter
3/4 cup finely chopped onion
1 1/2 cups Arborio rice or medium-grain white rice

1/2 cup dry white wine
1/2 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

PREPARATION

In a medium saucepan, bring the broth to a simmer. Cover the broth and keep hot over low heat.

In a large, heavy saucepan, melt 2 tablespoons of the butter over medium heat. Add the onion and saute until tender but not brown, about 3 minutes. Add the rice and stir to coat with the butter. Add the wine and simmer until the wine has almost completely evaporated, about 3 minutes. Add 1/2 cup of simmering broth and stir until almost completely

absorbed, about 2 minutes. Continue cooking the rice, adding the broth 1/2 cup at a time, stirring constantly and allowing each addition of broth to absorb before adding the next, until the rice is tender but still firm to the bite and the mixture is creamy, about 20 minutes total. Remove from the heat. Stir in the Parmesan cheese, the remaining tablespoon of butter, and the salt and pepper. Transfer the risotto to a serving bowl and serve immediately.

Serves 6, as a side dish.

Add-in Ideas:

Prosciutto, vegetables such as peas, seafood such as shrimp, or herbs and other seasonings such as saffron. Don't cook these items with the rice or they will overcook with the long cooking time. Instead, cook them separately and add them in at the end.

Share your recipe with Keenagers. Submit recipes to:
The Recipe Box, Keenager News
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KA-PRE8



Rose's puzzle CORNER

Answers are found FORWARD
BACKWARD, UP, DOWN and DIAGONAL.

T K U Q D Z A K P L W O L Q Q B G T G E
 N I E I C M V O R V P S O G L A I J G F
 U B C E J R O T B P Y P U X H S C R Q A
 H E E E S H H T G T C A K Y T E B Q E F
 R S J A A D W Y W W E R Z O I B P S U J
 E F O L N I N K Y W Z U M M V A G N S L
 G B U C S B E A I Y O L Q N C L K D Y X
 N H U T C A A F E E N O J O N L R F D U
 E X E P J E F G P D A V S I R A U H K A
 V R S I T L R E S H I K Z S C C P J C Q
 A H L O E R Y W X Y E H S E E B S I R F
 C S Z B I K O N S E T I K Y G H W E A B
 S O A I Q D K M G O B Y G R K O C S A M
 L L A B Y E L L O V X I P A S V C O O U
 L O M J X K V W T R K E Y A E S S L N E
 T E N N I S B E K E V S C P L I L H J F
 C H E C K E R S L L D D W X B Z D L J V
 C A B J Z S J Q A A U M T C B D H K T N
 C U B L B F Z C H Y P P R T U K G T S S
 M Q G U G E M K C S A C O T B P J X V O

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Rose's puzzle CORNER

Answers are found FORWARD
BACKWARD, UP, DOWN and DIAGONAL.

E Q G V W B G H Z Q T E T A N I G I R O
 Y C Y E A K Q H U Z Z Q V N R X E V E F
 K A U C N J Y U O W I B S R W H C M J R
 U M T D C E V O S B E G I N N I N G S Q
 U V C U O O R N N F I B W Q Q E F M A H
 C P Q U M R I A F S I V M D V U Z I D K
 A X I I R Y T F T R E T D L K S J B F P
 Y R Y V O H O N T E I T E D C Q G K K H
 P B T A F K A H I C S G T R B Z S J S N
 B V G Y C H F I N I T I A T E W R I H U
 L W E I X Y X A L T A T E W N G L A J P
 H A K P L J C C M E S I R A Q B E F J K
 A N I G B T J O N K Q E C Z A X T K J H
 S Y V R I L I M D S T A R T Q T A Z K B
 H D K V B N L M Q K R P S Y W F G J L I
 E C A N W P E E O M H E F J Y N I S E R
 K T N A E Z A N O G V D O S A K T M C L
 E R D U F P B C N M X D U Y Z M S I B I
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Humor & Nostalgia

by Joe Eberhardt

Reprinted from the Joe Eberhardt archives.



Easter Egg Hunting With Harry

Here are a few Easter jokes to take to your Easter gathering – Enjoy!

What do bunnies order at Chinese Restaurants?
Hop Suey.

What do you call a rabbit with fleas?
Bugs Bunny.

What kind of jewelry does the Easter Bunny wear?
14 Carrot Gold.

What happened to the Easter Bunny when he misbehaved at school? He was egg-spelled!

How does the Easter Bunny stay healthy? Eggs-ercise, specifically hare-obics

Why did the Easter egg hide? Because he was a little chicken.

Why did the Easter Bunny have on a hat? Because he was having a bad hare day.

Where does the Easter Bunny like to eat breakfast?
IHOP!

What do you call a mischievous Easter egg?
A practical yolker.

What do you call a line of rabbits jumping backwards?
A receding hare-line.

How can you tell which rabbits are oldest in a group? Just look for the gray hares.

What day does an Easter egg hate the most? Fry-day.

What do you call an egg from outer space?
An "Egg-stra terrestrial."

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April, 2020

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Nancy Rossi	102	4/10
Nadzieja Zyro	107	4/14
Alvaro Ventimilla	100	4/25
Ruby Henderson	100	4/27
Nora Colussi	106	4/29

NIFTY NINETIES

Eleanor Pastorek	90	4/7
Dolores Lauer	90	4/9
Dean Schroeder	90	4/17
Geraldine Arpheedt	90	4/19
Charlie Grover	90	4/22
Eugene Kukla	90	4/23
Helen Dluzen	90	4/29

ANNIVERSARIES

James & Connie Hughes	55	4/3
Patrick & Margaret Boyle	56	4/4
Jack and Joan Orsi	64	4/7
Charlie & Joan Grover	67	4/11
Marion & Margaret Kowalski	54	4/23
Ed & Dorothy Panszczyk	61	4/25
Alvaro & Teresa Ventimilla	68	4/26

EXTRAORDINARY EIGHTIES

Virginia Hurtienne	80	4/1
Geraldine Puzneak	80	4/4
Carol Dudlack	80	4/28
John Judge	80	4/29

BELATED BIRTHDAYS

Carol Zimmerman	80	3/7
Yvonne Beaver	80	3/24
Florence Brzezinski	104	2/3

BELATED ANNIVERSARIES

Les & Marva Gilliams	57	3/9
Ed & Anne Minnich	69	3/24

SUBMISSIONS

Keenager is delighted to help celebrate your special birthday (80, 90, 100 years+) or anniversary (50+). Please mail or phone us your submission eight to 10 weeks in advance. **We regret that limited space does not allow us to publish birthdays in-between those decades. Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to all Keenagers celebrating their special days this month!**

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