

## Founder of Courage to speak at St. Julie's in North Dartmouth

By **KENNETH J. SOUZA**  
ANCHOR STAFF

NORTH DARTMOUTH — As founder of Courage, the only grassroots apostolate within the Catholic Church supporting adults with same-sex attractions, Oblate of St. Francis de Sales Father John F. Harvey began his lifelong ministry almost by default.

While teaching moral theology in seminary, he inadvertently omitted the section on homosexuality from the course due to time constraints. When his students failed questions on the topic in subsequent exams, Father Harvey spent the next several weeks researching the

subject which inspired him to write his first book, "The Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons," in March 1955.

"The first book I ever wrote," said

Father Harvey, who is also the author of "The Truth About Homosexuality: The Cry of the Faithful," published in 1996, and the recently-published "Homosexuality and the Catholic Church."

He describes all three books as attempts to present contemporary views on same-sex attractions as distilled through the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Father Harvey will be speaking in the hall of St. Julie Billiart Parish in North Dartmouth on Monday night at 7 o'clock.

"Any talk I ever give, I always speak in the now, incorporating the dogmatic teaching of the Catholic Church," Father Harvey said. "We start with objective truth and then we talk about the application of that truth — simply put, that people with

homosexual tendencies have to learn to live a chaste life. We are not psychologists, but I do counsel people that there are some very basic principles one follows to avoid the occasion of sin."

Founded by Father Harvey in 1980, Courage is loosely based on the 12-step support program devised by Alcoholics Anonymous and also incorporates its own five unique goals, which are:

— live chaste lives in accordance with the Roman Catholic Church's teaching on homosexuality;

— dedicate one's life to Christ through service to others, spiritual

reading, prayer, meditation, individual spiritual direction, frequent attendance at Mass, and the frequent reception of the sacraments of penance and

holy Eucharist;

— foster a spirit of fellowship in which all may share thoughts and experiences, and so ensure that no one will have to face the problems of homosexuality alone;

— be mindful of the truth that chaste friendships are not only possible but necessary in a chaste Christian life and in doing so provide encouragement to one another in forming and sustaining them; and

— live lives that may serve as good examples to others.

"The reason we use the 12 steps is I've learned if you want to keep people on topic, you need to use the 12 steps," Father Harvey said. "The five goals were written by the members themselves after we got started."

Turn to page 19 — *Courage*



**PEACEFUL SETTING** — The courtyard of the new St. Dominic's Apartments in Fall River offers a tranquil area for residents to relax. CommunityAction for Better Housing, an affiliate of Catholic Social Services, which is funded by the diocesan Catholic Charities Appeal, developed the conversion of the former St. Anne's Priory into 18 affordable rental units with supportive services for the elderly. This is just one of many services made possible by the generosity of diocesan faithful to the annual Catholic Charities Appeal. (Photo by Eric Rodrigues)

## Catholic Charities Appeal opens its campaign May 1

By **JOHN F. KEARNS JR.**,  
DIOCESAN DIRECTOR OF  
COMMUNICATIONS

FALL RIVER — The 67th annual Catholic Charities Appeal will begin May 1, and the Fall River Diocese is again asking parishioners and supporters for their help in responding to the thousands throughout the year who turn to the Church during a time of need.

Proceeds from the Appeal provide the financial backing for the numerous programs, services, and agencies sponsored by the diocese throughout southeastern Massachusetts, Cape Cod and the Islands.

The Appeal supports diocesan services such as food pantries and vouchers, emergency, transitional and long-term housing, counseling, pregnancy assistance, hospital

chaplains care, CYO, family programs, campus ministry at area colleges, the weekly Television Mass, and a network of offices of Catholic Social Services.

It also funds marriage preparation and enrichment opportunities, youth and young adult ministry, assistance to the developmentally disabled, HIV/AIDS ministry, summer camp for handicapped children, programs for English as a Second Language, G.E.D. assistance, citizenship preparation and many other supportive endeavors.

Bishop George W. Coleman explained that it is through the generosity of donors to the Appeal that the diocese is able to fund all of the many programs and services and continue providing the invaluable help they offer.

"Our immediate goal as a Church is to provide the food, clothing and housing that is needed by those who fall on hard times, or to provide the counseling, educational and advocacy services to those who seek to improve their lives," the bishop said in a message on the upcoming Appeal.

"But our ultimate goal is to offer them the gift of hope, the hope we share as Christians for the future, eternal life with God," Bishop Coleman added.

Diocesan Development Director Michael J. Donly points out "This springtime Charities Appeal is the one and only time during each year when the Fall River Diocese asks its parishioners and friends in the community to come together to

Turn to page 19 — *Appeal*

## Hundreds draw inspiration from men's/women's conferences

### Women hear of God's awesome powers

By **GAIL BESSE**  
ANCHOR CORRESPONDENT

CHESTNUT HILL, Mass. — By clinging to God through two tragedies, Stacey McGovern survived and grew stronger. She realized that God's timing is perfect.

The Holliston woman had become so profoundly deaf in her 20s that she could not hear her babies' cry. Then a train accident nearly killed her.

"But I wouldn't change my past if I could, because so many amazing blessings have come from it," she told a hushed crowd of 2,500 at the Boston Catholic Women's Conference held April 18 at Boston College.

Her story and those of two other speakers, Kimberly Hahn and Patti Gallagher Mansfield, illustrated the conference's theme, "The joy of the Lord is our strength" (Nehemiah 8-9). Just as the Israelites had discovered in this Old

Testament account, these women recognized through their own weakness that God is the source of our strength and our joy.

McGovern, 34, was a happy newlywed 10 years ago when her hearing began to deteriorate. The chatter of her third grade students dimmed; she had trouble following conversations. Doctors were mystified.

"My job, my marriage, all my friendships were built on the ability to hear. I felt like a dark oil spill was covering my life," she said. "I was being dropped into a strange, silent world. I told God, 'I can't handle this. Please spare me.'"

As the deafness worsened, her prayer changed. "In those moments that I felt I'd just crumble, I'd repeat four words: God, give me strength," McGovern said. "I'd ask God to help me accept this, but I'd also say, 'Please,

Turn to page 18 — *Women*

### Annual gathering changes men's lives

By **MATT McDONALD**  
ANCHOR STAFF

NEWTON — Joe Kane was leaning against going to the Boston Catholic Men's Conference two years ago, but that morning his son Patrick pressed to go. So Joe, Patrick and Patrick's brother Tim, made the trip

"That conference changed our lives," said Joe Kane — now Deacon Joe Kane — during a break in the action at the fourth annual Boston Catholic Men's Conference last Saturday. "Before that, they just showed up. Now they practice," he added.

Tim, now 24, and married, is fired up about Catholic apologetics, learning about the faith and imparting it to others.

Patrick, now 22, is discerning whether he is called to the priesthood.

Deacon Kane, 53, who since his ordination to the permanent diaconate last October

serves at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Wellfleet, was one of approximately 24,000 men who attended the conference for which the theme was "Put Out Into The Deep."

Speakers included Tarek Saab, author of "Gut Check," a book about how he turned from valuing television, sports, entertainment, and material success to putting his faith and future family first; Father Peter Grover, director of vocations for the Oblates of Virgin Mary and director of St. Clement Eucharistic Shrine in Boston; Bishop Robert Hennessey, an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Boston and former missionary in Bolivia; Peter Kreeft, a professor of philosophy at Boston College and a Catholic apologist; and Jack Shaughnessy Sr., retired executive at a crane and rigging company in Boston.

Participants also heard from Pope Benedict  
Turn to page 18 — *Men*



## National Shrine of Our Lady of La Salette

947 Park Street - Attleboro, MA 02703

### HEALING SERVICES WITH MASS

Sun. May 4 - 2:30 p.m. **Spanish Healing Service** Fr. Pedro Chingandu, M.S.  
Sun. May 18 - 2:00 p.m. **Portuguese Healing Service** Fr. Manuel Pereira, M.S.  
Sun. May 25 - 2:00 **English Healing Service** Fr. André Patenaude, M.S.

### MARY PRAYERS & THEOLOGY ON OUR KNEES

Thurs., May 1 - 7:15 p.m. Anna Rae-Kelly in the Resurrection Chapel

### WEDNESDAY'S HOLY HOUR

Eucharistic Holy Hour and devotions to Our Lady of La Salette and Divine Mercy at 7:15 p.m. in Church

### FIRST FRIDAY

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Fri. May 2 — 12:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. followed by 5:15 p.m. Mass  
(There will be no 6:30 p.m. Mass)

### FIRST FRIDAY - EXTREME EAST

### YOUTH PRAYER MEETING

May 2 - 6:30 p.m. in the Shrine Church

### LINDSEY WOOLSEY QUILT GUILD SHOW

Saturday, May 3 & Sunday, May 4 at 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
in the Welcome Center Hall

Tables may be rented - Contact - Dottie Blair at 508-761-6739

### SPECIAL MASS FOR PENTECOST & MOTHER'S DAY IN FRENCH

Sun., May 11 - 10:00 a.m. Main Celebrant and Homilist  
Fr. André A. Patenaude

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PRO-LIFE LIVING

### ROSARY AND MASS FOR THE UNBORN AND DEDICATION OF THE MONUMENT

Sat., May 17 - 2:00 p.m. Living Rosary in the Shrine Church followed  
by 4:30 p.m. Mass for the Unborn following Mass we will hold the  
Dedication of the Monument to the right of the Welcome Center.

### FILIPINO PILGRIMAGE

Sun. May 25 - 11:00 a.m. Rosary followed by 12:10 p.m. Mass  
Procession right after Mass - Food & Refreshments in the Shrine Cafeteria

### JOHN POLCE: BETHANY NIGHTS

Fri., May 30 - 7:30 p.m. Music - Healing ~ Church Good-will donation.

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Monday & Tuesday - Thursday & Friday 2:00-3:00 p.m.  
Wednesday 2:00-3:00 & 5:00-6:00 p.m.  
Saturday and Sunday 1:00-4:00 p.m.  
Hispanic Reconciliation Sunday, May 4 - 1:00-2:00 p.m.  
Portuguese Reconciliation Saturday, May 17 - 2:00-3:00 p.m.

### PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP

Mon., May 12 - 7:15 p.m. - Reconciliation Chapel

### PAX CHRISTI

Tue., May 13 - 7:15 p.m. - Reconciliation Chapel

### INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP

Thurs., May 15 - 7:15 p.m. - Reconciliation Chapel

### LIFE IN THE SPIRIT OF RECONCILIATION

Tues., May 27 - 7:15 p.m. - La Salette Ministry

### PRAYER GROUP & DISCUSSION

Cancel May Meetings - resume in June - per Dr. Ryan Welter

### RETREAT HOUSE/CENTER FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING INFORMATION

Call 508-222-8530 or FAX: 508-236-9089

### BISTRO

Open daily: Mon. - Sun. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tel. 508-222-5410 ext. 155

**Gift Shop** - Open every day from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tel. 508-236-9090

### Featuring Gifts For:

Confirmation Communion Baptism Weddings Anniversary Holidays  
Huge Selection of Bibles, Books, CDs, Videos & Children's items.  
For Online orders - Log on to our Website: [www.lasalette-shrine.org](http://www.lasalette-shrine.org)

### WELCOME CENTER & CAFETERIA

### RENTALS SPACE AVAILABLE

Programs Office - Tel: 508-236-9002 or FAX: 508-236-9096

947 Park Street · Attleboro, MA 02703 · 508-222-5410 · FAX 508-222-6770  
website - [www.lasalette-shrine.org](http://www.lasalette-shrine.org) · email - [programsoffice@lasalette-shrine.org](mailto:programsoffice@lasalette-shrine.org)

## Women

Continued from page 20

someday let me hear my children's voices."

After five years, she underwent cochlear implant surgery and could hear again. "That year, I was amazed by all the wonderful noises around me. I was overwhelmed by God's greatness," she said.

Then a train ride back from Boston brought disaster. She had exited the stairs, put her baby in a stroller and turned to help her three-year-old step down. To her horror, the train started moving with her son still on it.

She ran and jumped on the stairs, grabbed her child and jumped off. This left her with a fractured pelvis and paralyzed from the waist down. Her children were safe, but doctors said she could never carry another baby.

"At that point, I told God I wasn't even talking to him," McGovern said. "It took me nine months to learn to walk again, but I came to see it was a miracle we were all alive. And eventually, I had a beautiful baby girl.

"I realized that God was there with me through everything. He's working even when we don't see him. I needed to grow as a person, and he strengthened me. He timed things perfectly," she said.

Speaker Kimberly Hahn gave listeners a plethora of Scriptural passages that point out how we need to

humble ourselves and call upon the Lord for strength.

Hahn is an author, lecturer, home-schooling mother and Bible study leader. She and her husband Scott Hahn wrote "Rome Sweet-Home," the best-seller that chronicled their conversion into the Catholic faith.

"We're in the midst of spiritual warfare. We have to take on the whole armor of God," she said. "We need an offensive weapon — the sword of his Word. We need to know Scripture. Allow the Word of God to pierce your heart with truth."

Confession is important, Hahn said. "If we desire our families to be holy, we need to do it God's way. We need to repent, to understand that our sins damage the Body of Christ, and to seek the grace of confession."

Hundreds of attendees did just that, as priests were available for the sacrament all during the five-hour conference that drew women from throughout the state and beyond.

Speaker Patti Mansfield of New Orleans recounted how confession also preceded an incredible outpouring of the Holy Spirit during the 1967 "Duquesne Weekend."

As a 20-year-old college student, she participated in this event that marked the beginning of the Catholic charismatic renewal, with which she has worked for four decades.

"We were a totally ordinary group

of kids on retreat," she recalled, "but the Lord used our experience to affect the universal Church."

During the retreat, students held a penance service and then received the sacrament individually. "As Jesus said, 'When the Holy Spirit comes, He will convict the world of sin (John 16:8),'" Mansfield said. "I realized my sinfulness. I knew Jesus intellectually but not personally and I was hungry for that. I made an unconditional act of surrender to him."

She found herself prostrate on the floor before the tabernacle, as did the other students. "For the first time in my life, I knew experientially the true presence of Jesus in the Eucharist," she said. "We had an overwhelming sense of God's sweetness, mercy and tenderness."

Mansfield then invited conference participants to also invite the Holy Spirit into their lives by renewing their confirmation and baptismal vows.

The evening closed in prayer and eucharistic adoration.

The Catholic Lay Woman of the Year Award went to Patricia Marks, for her service to St. Michael Parish, Bedford. Sister Olga Yaqob received the Religious Sister of the Year Award. The Iraqi-born nun founded the Missionaries of the Virgin Mary in 1996 and works in campus ministry at Boston University.

## Men

Continued from page 20

XVI, whose sermon during Mass at Washington Nationals Stadium was televised April 17. Father Roger Landry, executive editor of *The Anchor*, offered an extended interpretation of the sermon.

Kreeft, speaking on how to win the culture wars, argued that the so-called culture of death is insanity, and that it's not possible to combat insanity with mere arguments and reason. He recommended prayer, suggesting that Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity are successful because they spend two hours each morning praying in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

"Give him just 15 minutes — just half a silly TV show — every day. I guarantee this will transform your life," Kreeft said.

"This will be a war," Kreeft said, explaining that Satan will do everything in his power to throw roadblocks in the way.

He also recommended detachment from the concerns of the world, even embracing death as the only means to eternal life.

In addition to the speakers, conference-goers participated in breakout sessions, or smaller groups.

Participants also saw television commercials produced by Catholics Come Home.org that make a pitch for returning to the Church.

About 100 priests were on hand to hear confessions.

While attendance at the men's

conference was a little down from some previous years, participants interviewed called it a success.

Jack Kelleher, 70, was one of 45 men who came from Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in Seekonk

"I think that there was a very nice tie between the pope visit and their messages today, tying the two together," said Kelleher, a retired CVS employee.

"It's a good shot in the arm for all of us," said John Talbot, 66, a retired elementary school principal who lives in Wellfleet. "It's a day of giving you a jolt of what you have as an ideal for the way you want to lead your life and live your faith."

"Being an orthodox Catholic, I

feel somewhat isolated, because I don't think that approach to the faith is shared by the majority of Catholics. And this is one place I can come and be surrounded by people who feel like I do," said Joe Snape, 70, a retired oil company executive who lives in Wellfleet, making his first trip to the men's conference.

Cardinal Sean O'Malley, archbishop of Boston and former bishop of Fall River, celebrated a 4 p.m. Mass to conclude the conference. Noting that many Catholics no longer go to Sunday Mass, he urged his listeners to reach out to them.

"You must be the witnesses in the world, and invite people home," Cardinal O'Malley said.

## Father George E. Harrison named Priest of the Year at convention

NEWTON — The Priest of the Year Award at the Boston Catholic Men's Conference this past Saturday went to Father George E. Harrison, pastor of Holy Name Parish in Fall River.

He led a group of about 28 men from his parish.

In an interview while he was vesting for the afternoon Mass, Father Harrison said he encourages men in his parish to come to the conference because it is a powerful experience. Many who come experience what he

called a "moment of recognition."

Father Harrison, 65, celebrates the 40th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on May 18.

Father Harrison said he didn't know he was receiving the award.

"I am just so glad I didn't know, because I wouldn't have wanted to come. I'm just a little guy who plugs along, doing what I hope I'm supposed to do. That's why I said I accepted it in the name of my brother priests, who are such an inspiration to me, working in the vineyard."