

EVANGELIZATION ON WHEELS

Seminarians' "Seek Holiness" Bike Tour in the Columbus Diocese May 14-17

Seminarians and priests of the Diocese of Columbus will be riding their bikes in the Columbus metropolitan area from Monday to Thursday, May 14 to 17, ending the tour in Marion. The seminarians and priests will meet with young people in schools and talk about vocations, personal holiness, and discerning God's call in their lives.

This is the fourth annual Seek Holiness Bike Tour sponsored by the diocesan Vocations Office, The Catholic Foundation, and Face Forward Connecting Catholic Youth on Facebook. The seminarians riding bikes will be joined by Father David Sizemore, pastor of Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, and Father Jim Klima, pastor of Pickerington St. Elizabeth

Seton Parish.

The seminarians look forward to fellowship, evangelization, the challenge of cycling, and the opportunity to spend time talking about vocations with youth, pastors, and parishioners after finishing their school year at the Pontifical College Josephinum. The bike tour team will cycle about 30 miles a day.

The tour schedule is:

Monday, May 14 – Columbus Bishop Ready High School, Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, Columbus St. Cecilia School, and Columbus Trinity Elementary School.

Tuesday, May 15 – Columbus St. Andrew, St. Agatha, and St. Timothy, and Worthington St.



Michael schools.

Wednesday, May 16 – Columbus Bishop Watterson High School and Columbus

Our Lady of Peace School.

Thursday, May 17 – Delaware St. Mary and Marion St. Mary schools.

More information is available from www.seekholiness.com or by emailing lori@seekholiness.com.

Michael Gentry and Matthew Morris will be ordained as transitional deacons on May 5

Two seminarians from the Diocese of Columbus – Michael Gentry of Columbus St. Catharine Church and Matthew Morris of Lancaster St. Mary Church – will be ordained as transitional deacons by Bishop Frederick Campbell on Friday, May 5. The ordination ceremony will be at 7 p.m. at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St.

The ordination of transitional deacons through the laying-on of hands by the bishop is a time when men are consecrated to be sacred ministers for the worship of God and for the sanctification of all people.

The ceremony consists of several parts and is similar to the ceremony for ordination of priests. It includes the calling of the candidates, election by the bishop, consent of the people, commitment to celibacy, examination of candidates, a

promise of obedience, the Litany of the Saints, the laying-on of hands, a prayer of consecration, investiture with a stole and dalmatic, presentation of the Book of Gospels, and the sign of peace.

Deacons are ordained to a ministry of service. They assist the bishop and priests by baptizing, proclaiming God's word to the faithful, preaching, distributing Communion, celebrating Eucharistic Benediction, acting as official witnesses for couples in the Sacrament of Matrimony, presiding over burial services, and performing a variety of works of service.

Ordination to the transitional diaconate is one the final steps in the process before ordination to the priesthood. Gentry and Morris will continue their seminary studies in anticipation of being ordained to the priesthood in about a year.



CRISTO REY ORIGINATOR VISITS COLUMBUS

Father John P. Foley, SJ (pictured), came up with a revolutionary concept in 1995. The idea was to

create a high school in Chicago with the academic excellence and spiritual values found in Catholic education and make it available to at-risk students in the inner city. The problem was how to fund it. Good Catholic schools are expensive.

He went to the Chicago business community looking for funding, but came away with a new concept of school-business partnership that not only finances the school, but gives students real-world business experience alongside their academic training.

Every student at Cristo Rey is assigned a real job in a downtown Chicago corporation and goes to work in an office one day each week.

Students who think they have no future but the mean streets of the inner city suddenly can see a future for themselves in mainstream America through Cristo Rey. The first Cristo Rey high school opened in Chicago in 1996. It has been an overwhelming success, with virtually every student not only graduating, but being accepted to a university. "We wanted an exclusive school," Father Foley

said last week in Columbus. "Our student body was to be exclusively needy kids. If your family could afford to send you to Catholic school, you should attend a regular Catholic school."

It was a real challenge. "Our students are not exceptional. They are average kids who have been left behind by society. Ordinary education has failed them," Father Foley said.

"On average, our students start out two grade-levels behind where they should be. But over the course of their studies and with the motivation seeing their future from behind a desk with their name on it in a downtown office tower, they catch up and excel."

Today, there are 24 Cristo Rey high schools operating around the nation. In September 2013, a new Cristo Rey high school will open in Columbus. The school will be in the Franklinton section on the near west side of Columbus, next door to Mount Carmel Medical Center.

Work is under way to prepare the building, hire staff, and line up corporate partners. Before long, they will begin the process of recruiting the first class of students. To learn more about Cristo Rey Columbus, visit the school's website at www.cristoreycolumbus.org.