

## BRIEFS

## Notable Quotables

A Compilation of the Register's 'Quote of the Week' for 2016



"Where God is born, mercy flourishes. Mercy is the most precious gift that God gives us." — Pope Francis' address on Christmas Day 2015

"The Church does not exist to condemn people, but to bring about an encounter with the visceral love of God's mercy." — Pope Francis about his book on mercy

"God's mercy transforms human hearts; it enables us, through the experience of a faithful love, to become merciful in turn." — Pope Francis' 2016 Lenten message

"Do not forget: In front of us, there is no sin, just the repentant sinner, a person who feels the desire to be accepted and forgiven." — Pope Francis to the 'missionaries of mercy'

"May Mary, Mother of Guadalupe, continue to visit you, continue to walk on your lands, helping you to be missionaries and witnesses of mercy and reconciliation." — Pope Francis at conclusion of Mexico trip

"Light, not darkness, has definitively triumphed in the Paschal mystery of Christ's saving passion, death and resurrection." — Benedictine Father Kurt Belsole, director of liturgical formation at the Pontifical North American College in Rome

Mother Teresa will inspire "many to give their hearts to love and their hands to serve, starting with those closest to them." — Father Brian Kolodiejchuk, postulator of Mother Teresa's cause for canonization

"There is so much confusion in the world regarding marriage and family, and the apostolic exhortation is a good way for us to see what the universal Church is doing to address these problems. It helps us appreciate the beauty of the faith and the challenges of the modern world." — Father Ernesto Reynoso, adjunct judicial vicar of the Diocese of Phoenix

"I think God gave me the grace to be a firefighter, and I did the best I could. Now, he's giving me the grace to be a priest, and I'll do the best I can." — Father Thomas Colucci, fireman-turned-priest



DANIEL IBANEZ/CNA

"Mother Angelica's life has been a life of faith; her prayer life and obedience to God are worthy of our imitation. Everything she did was an act of faith."

EWTN CEO Michael Warsaw, on the occasion of her death Easter Sunday

"Millions of young people are on fire with the pro-life message, and more laws are being passed to limit abortion than ever before." — Richard Doerflinger, the associate director of the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops who retired in 2016

"The merciful love of Christ calls us to solidarity with the suffering and to ever greater resolve in protecting the life and dignity of every person." — Archbishop Joseph Kurtz, president of the U.S. bishops' conference, following the Orlando massacre

"Do not be afraid to proclaim the truth with love, especially about marriage according to God's plan." — Cardinal Robert Sarah at National Catholic Prayer Breakfast

"Jesus calls you by name. He loves all of us with a special love; for him, all of us are important: You are important! In his eyes, you are precious, and your value is inestimable." — Pope Francis to pilgrims at World Youth Day's closing Mass

"Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not come. We have only today to love Jesus." — St. Teresa of Calcutta



EWTN

"The decision erodes states' lawmaking authority to safeguard the health and safety of women and subjects more innocent life to being lost. Texas' goal is to protect innocent life, while ensuring the highest health and safety standards for women." — Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, regarding U.S. Supreme Court's overturning of 2013 Texas law that strengthened safety standards at abortion facilities

"We need to give witness to hope ... so that we can truly be 'one nation, under God.'" — U.S. papal nuncio Archbishop Christophe Pierre

"The Church doesn't retreat into privacy. It is meant to be light and salt, and so interrupt the works of a violent society. It is a voice of mercy in a merciless world." — Auxiliary Bishop Robert Barron of Los Angeles

"Carry the spark of mercy ... so that human hearts will beat to the rhythm of the Heart of Christ, which is 'a flaming fire of love.'" — Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz to World Youth Day pilgrims

"We have long taught that the one God, maker of heaven and earth, calls each and every individual into being, loves every individual and commands believers to love and show mercy to every individual. ... We respect those who disagree with what we teach. Can they respect us?" — Archbishop William Lori of Baltimore, the U.S. bishops' point man on religious freedom

"As a mother takes upon herself the burdens and weariness of her children, so, too, does God take upon himself our sins and troubles. ... He wants to take us in his arms, protect us and free us from harm and evil." — Pope Francis in Tbilisi, Georgia

"The saints are men and women who enter fully into the mystery of prayer." — Pope Francis

"If there is one thing typical of the saints, it is that they are genuinely happy. They found the secret of authentic happiness, which lies deep within the soul and has its source in the love of God. That is why we call the saints blessed." — Pope Francis, papal trip to Sweden

"Every aspect of the culture should be supporting life at every moment." — Rebecca Bratten Weiss of the New Pro-Life Movement



DANIEL IBANEZ/CNA

"Holiness is not the luxury of the few. It is a simple duty for each one of us." — St. Teresa of Calcutta

## Global Events

Pictorial highlights from around the world throughout 2016, including World Youth Day.

World, page 4



## Generational Bible Study

How one college student's efforts for faith and fellowship continue to enlighten elderly hearts and minds.

Education, page 7

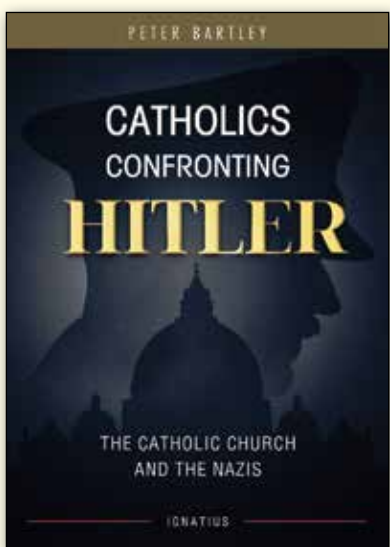


## Holy See Happenings

A look back at Francis' agenda over the past year, including the canonization of St. Teresa of Calcutta.

Vatican, page 9

# WWII STORIES OF HEROIC FAITH & COURAGE

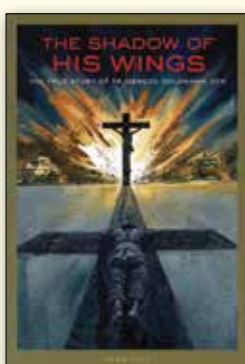


## ◆ CATHOLICS CONFRONTING HITLER

Peter Bartley

A comprehensive account of the heroic response to the Nazi tyranny by Pope Pius XII, his envoys, and many members of the Church in every country where Nazism existed. Using primary sources — letters, diaries, memoirs, official government reports — he also quotes the works of prominent Nazis, diplomats, churchmen, members of the Resistance, and ordinary Jews and gentiles who left eye-witness accounts of life under the Nazis. It reveals how resistance to Hitler and rescue work engaged many churchmen and laypeople at all levels, and the high price paid by many for that courageous resistance.

CHI-P . . . Sewn Softcover, \$17.95



## ◆ THE SHADOW OF HIS WINGS

Fr. Gereon Goldmann

The incredible true story of a young German seminarian drafted into Hitler's dreaded SS during WWII. Against all odds Goldmann was ordained and secretly ministered to countless German soldiers and civilian victims, often escaping sure death. *Illustrated.*

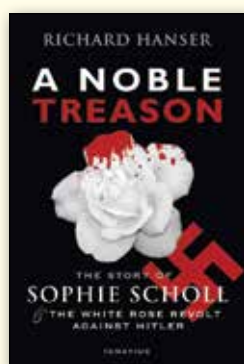
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## ◆ THE SCARLET AND THE BLACK

J.P. Gallagher

The heroic story of Msgr. Hugh O'Flaherty, dubbed "The Scarlet Pimpernel of the Vatican." When Rome came under the command of the dreaded SS, O'Flaherty, often in disguise, organized dangerous underground efforts to save many Jews and POWs. *Illustrated.*

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## ◆ A NOBLE TREASON

Richard Hanser

The moving true story of Sophie Scholl and the White Rose underground group that carried out the first overt resistance to Hitler's regime. Reveals the great courage of Scholl and White Rose members, and the terrible price they paid for their dissidence. *Illustrated.*

NOT-P . . . Sewn Softcover, \$17.95

## ◆ WHEN HITLER TOOK AUSTRIA

Kurt von Schuschnigg

After the Nazi takeover of his country, Chancellor von Schuschnigg was arrested and subsequently sent to a concentration camp. This is the gripping story of von Schuschnigg and his family as told by his son, recounting his many harrowing escapes, and the protection of Divine Providence. *Illustrated.*

WHTA-H . . . Hardcover, \$24.95



## Rest in Peace

Notable Departures  
Of 2016

### Catholic Clergy

Jan. 3 — Bishop Raymond Lessard of Savannah, Georgia, 85  
Jan. 10 — Archbishop Francis Hurlley of Anchorage, Alaska, 88  
Jan. 15 — Archbishop Daniel Bohan of Regina, Saskatchewan, 74  
Jan. 17 — Archbishop Francis Schulte of New Orleans, Louisiana, 89  
Feb. 23 — Father William Carmody of the Diocese of Colorado Springs, Colorado, 58  
March 9 — Bishop William Houck of Jackson, Mississippi, 89  
March 31 — Cardinal Georges Marie Martin Cottier, O.P., 93  
April 2 — Clandestine Bishop Thomas Zeng Jing-mu of Yujiang, China, 95  
May 8 — Clandestine Bishop Thomas Zhang Huai-xin of Jixian, China, 90  
May 16 — Cardinal Giovanni Coppa, apostolic nuncio, 90  
May 26 — Cardinal Loris Capovilla of Loreto, Italy, 100  
July 9 — Cardinal Silvano Piovonelli of Florence, Italy, 92  
July 12 — Archbishop Zygmunt Zimowski, president of the Pontifical Council for Pastoral Assistance to Health Care Workers, 67  
\*July 26 — Father Jacques Hamel of the Diocese of Saint-Etienne, France, 85  
Aug. 2 — Archbishop James Hayes of Halifax, Nova Scotia, 92  
Aug. 2 — Cardinal Franciszek Macharski of Krakow, Poland, 89  
Aug. 16 — Bishop Richard Semnack, bishop of St. Nicholas of Chicago (Ukrainian), 74  
Aug. 24 — Father Laurence Higgins of the Diocese of St. Petersburg, Florida, 87  
Sept. 1 — Bishop Thomas Doran of Rockford, Illinois, 80  
Sept. 16 — Father Gabriele Amorth, Italian exorcist, 91  
Sept. 20 — Archbishop Peter Leo Ge-

rety of Newark, New Jersey, world's oldest bishop, 104  
Oct. 2 — Hanna Zora, bishop emeritus of Mar Addai of Toronto (Chaldean), 77  
Oct. 4 — Bishop Kenneth Angell of Burlington, Vermont, 86  
Oct. 7 — Msgr. Vincent Topper of the Diocese of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, oldest priest in the U.S., 104  
Oct. 27 — Clandestine Bishop Francis Tong Hui of Yan'an, China, 83  
Nov. 13 — Abbot Edmund McCaffrey, abbot emeritus of Belmont-Mary Help of Christians, North Carolina, 83  
Nov. 17 — Bishop Joseph Khoury, bishop emeritus of Saint-Maron de Montréal (Maronite), Canada, 80  
Dec. 12 — Bishop Javier Echevarria Rodriguez, head of Opus Dei, 84  
\*Martyred

### Religious

March 27 — Mother Mary Angelica of the Annunciation, foundress of Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN), 92  
June 26 — Mother Rosemae Pender, foundress of the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist, 94

### Sports

Jan. 11 — Monte Irvin, Hall of Fame baseball player, 96  
March 23 — Joe Garagiola, baseball player and Hall of Fame sportscaster, 90  
July 3 — Muhammad Ali, U.S. boxer, Olympic gold medalist and heavyweight champion, 74  
June 10 — Gordie Howe, Hall of Fame hockey player, 88  
June 28 — Pat Summitt, Basketball Hall of Fame coach, 64  
Sept. 25 — Arnold Palmer, Hall of Fame professional golfer, 87  
Nov. 23 — Ralph Branca, U.S. baseball player, 90

### Culture & Entertainment

Jan. 10 — David Bowie, musician and actor, 69  
Jan. 14 — Alan Rickman, actor, 69  
Jan. 18 — Glenn Frey, musician, 67  
Jan. 26 — Abe Vigoda, actor, 94  
Feb. 19 — Umberto Eco, novelist, 84  
Feb. 19 — Harper Lee, author, 89

March 8 — Sir George Martin, music producer, 90  
March 11 — Keith Emerson, musician, 71  
March 24 — Earl Hamner Jr., television writer, 92  
March 24 — Garry Shandling, comedian, 66  
March 29 — Patty Duke, actress, 69  
April 6 — Merle Haggard, musician, 79  
April 21 — Prince, musician, 57  
May 3 — Frank Levingston, U.S.' oldest World War II veteran, 110  
May 19 — Morley Safer, journalist, 84  
June 27 — Alvin Toffler, author, 87  
July 2 — Michael Cimino, director, 77  
July 2 — Elie Wiesel, writer and Nobel Laureate, 87  
July 9 — Sydney Schanberg, journalist, 82  
July 19 — Garry Marshall, director and producer, 81  
Aug. 6 — Pete Fountain, clarinetist, 86  
Aug. 13 — Kenny Baker, actor, 81  
Aug. 29 — Gene Wilder, actor, 83  
Sept. 16 — Edward Albee, playwright, 88  
Sept. 17 — Charmian Carr, actress, 73  
Oct. 2 — Sir Neville Marriner, founder of the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields, 92  
Oct. 24 — Bobby Vee, musician, 73  
Nov. 7 — Leonard Cohen, musician and poet, 82  
Nov. 11 — Robert Vaughn, actor, 83  
Nov. 13 — Leon Russell, musician, 74  
Nov. 24 — Florence Henderson, actress, 82  
Dec. 7 — Greg Lake, musician, 69  
Dec. 17 — Dr. Henry Heimlich, surgeon, 96  
Dec. 18 — Zsa Zsa Gabor, actress, 99  
Dec. 25 — George Michael, singer, 53  
Dec. 27 — Carrie Fisher, actress, 60  
Dec. 28 — Debbie Reynolds, actress, 84

### Politics

Feb. 13 — Antonin Scalia, U.S. Supreme Court justice, 79  
Sept. 5 — Phyllis Schlafly, lawyer and activist, 92  
Sept. 28 — Shimon Peres, Israeli president, 93  
Nov. 7 — Janet Reno, U.S. attorney general, 78  
Nov. 25 — Fidel Castro, Cuba's dictator, 90  
Dec. 8 — John Glenn, astronaut and senator, 95

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**VICTORY FOR THE FIRST AMENDMENT.** Mother Loraine Marie Maguire (above center), of the Little Sisters of the Poor, walks up to speak to the media after arguing the order's case at the U.S. Supreme Court March 23 in Washington. On May 16, the court unanimously voted in favor of the religious order, which had asked for legal relief against the HHS mandate that would require religious groups to provide contraception, sterilization and abortion-inducing drugs as part of their health coverage. Mark Wilson/Getty Images **NEW USCCB PRESIDENT.** Cardinal Daniel DiNardo of Galveston-Houston (below) was elected to a three-year term as president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops at the bishops' November gathering in Baltimore. Archbishop José Gomez of Los Angeles was elected vice president. 2015 CNA photo



**FAREWELL.** Above, Archbishop Charles Chaput of Philadelphia incenses the casket of Mother Mary Angelica at her funeral Mass April 1 at the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Hanceville, Alabama. EWTN/Jeffrey Bruno

# 2016 in Review



## Trump Upsets Clinton, Little Sisters Win And Mother Angelica Says Goodbye

In one of the greatest upsets in presidential election history, Republican real estate mogul Donald Trump soundly defeated the heavily favored Democrat Hillary Clinton and was elected the 45th president of the United States. Trump won on a strong message to voters who felt left behind by the economy and who also were concerned about government overreach, including the Affordable Care Act, so-called Obamacare.

Catholic voters played an important role in Trump's election, voting for him 52%-45%.

Among the more important state ballot questions, assisted suicide gained further ground. The California Legislature passed a bill legalizing assisted suicide in September 2015, and the bill went into effect in June. Colorado voters approved Proposition 106, making assisted suicide legal for those with terminal illness. And in Washington, D.C., on Nov. 1, the D.C. Council voted to advance the Death With Dignity Act by an 11-2 vote.

On May 16, the U.S. Supreme Court, which was reduced to eight members with the February death of Catholic Justice Antonin Scalia, rendered a unanimous opinion in favor of the Little Sisters of the Poor, who had asked for legal relief against the so-called HHS mandate that would require religious groups to provide contraception, sterilization and abortion-inducing drugs as part of their health coverage. In a 5-3 decision, the Supreme Court June 27 struck down part of a Texas law that required that abortion businesses meet the same building standards as ambulatory surgical centers and that abortionists have admitting privileges at a nearby hospital for situations of medical emergencies. The majority opinion for the court argued that the regulations are medically unnecessary and unconstitutionally limit a woman's right to an abortion.

Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas celebrated the 25th anniversary of his appointment to the nation's highest court on Oct. 23.

On June 14, undercover investigator David Daleiden was cleared of misdemeanor charges brought against him by Texas' Harris County district attorney in the wake of the shocking revelations that Daleiden brought to light about Planned Parenthood. Daleiden and the Center for Medical Progress' undercover investigation revealed that Planned Parenthood was engaged in the practice of selling the parts of aborted fetuses.

Mother Mary Angelica, foundress of the Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN), died on March 27, Easter Sunday, at the age of 92. The beloved Poor Clare nun launched EWTN in 1981 out of a converted garage in Birmingham, Alabama, and dedicated the next decades to expanding the network into a multimedia global enterprise, reaching 264 million homes in 144 countries, as well as through radio, internet, Catholic News Agency and the Register. "Mother has always and will always personify EWTN, the network that God asked her to found," said EWTN Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Michael Warsaw. "Her accomplishments and legacies in evangelization throughout the world are nothing short of miraculous and can only be attributed to divine Providence and her unwavering faithfulness to Our Lord."

On Dec. 2, Pope Francis recognized the martyrdom of Venerable Stanley Rother, a priest of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City who was killed in Guatemala. The declaration made him the first martyr to have been born in the United States and cleared the way for his beatification. And Dec. 7 marked the 75th anniversary of the Japanese attack on the U.S. at Pearl Harbor, an act that brought America into World War II.



**PUBLIC SERVANTS.** Above left, police officers arrive at the funeral for slain Dallas police Sgt. Michael Smith at The Watermark Church on July 14 in Dallas, Texas. He was one of five Dallas police officers who were shot and killed by a sniper during a 'Black Lives Matter' march in Dallas.

Justin Sullivan/Getty Images Above right, a photo of Father Francis Stanley Rother (l), a Catholic missionary from the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City who was martyred in 1981 in Guatemala City. On Dec. 2, Pope Francis recognized the martyrdom of Father Rother, the first martyr to have been born in the United States, clearing the way for his beatification. AP photo/Moises Castillo

At right, Supreme Court Associate Justice Clarence Thomas and his wife, Ginni, arrive for the funeral Mass for fellow Justice Antonin Scalia, who died Feb. 13, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Feb. 20 in Washington. Thomas marked his 25th anniversary this year as a member of the highest court in the U.S. Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images



**YOU'RE HIRED!** At left, President-elect Donald Trump gives his victory speech at the New York Hilton Midtown on Nov. 8 in New York City. Neilson Barnard/WireImage

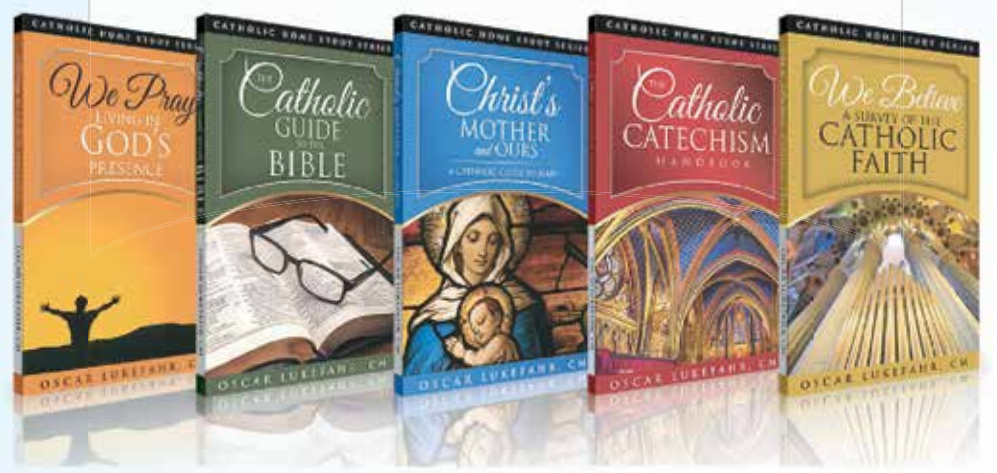
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**EXIT STRATEGY.** Pro-Brexit demonstrators protest outside of the Houses of Parliament on Nov. 23 in London. Voters earlier in the year voted for England to leave the European Union. Jack Taylor/Getty Images

# 2016 in Review

World Youth Day, a Priest's Martyrdom and the Passing of a Tyrant

In March, the Knights of Columbus and the organization In Defense of Christians submitted to the U.S. State Department a 300-page report demonstrating the ongoing genocide of the Christian community in Iraq and Syria under ISIS (the so-called Islamic State). The report included the names of more than 1,100 Christians confirmed to have been murdered by the Islamic State, as well as 125 destroyed Christian churches, schools and monasteries, evidence of the ISIS sex-slave trade and systematic rape, mass murder, beheadings and crucifixions of the Christian community. On March 14, Congress passed, by a unanimous 393-0 vote, House Continuing Resolution 75, recognizing the ongoing genocide of Christians, Yazidis and other religious minorities under ISIS. On March 21, Secretary of State John Kerry finally declared officially, "Daesh [another name for ISIS] is genocidal by self-proclamation, by ideology and by actions. We must recognize what Daesh is doing to its victims."

The crises in Syria, North Africa and beyond, which brought hundreds of thousands of refugees into Europe and North America, continued in 2016, with more arrivals in Western countries such as Germany, France and Italy. 2016 proved the deadliest year for refugees trying to reach Europe, with more than 3,000 deaths, most in the treacherous waters of the Mediterranean, as desperate families tried to escape economic, political and religious strife. The political fallout of the crisis also began to rise in 2016, as governments in Germany and France faced voter anger over their immigration policies and the steady rise in crime and terror threats in many European cities.

The bloody and catastrophic Syrian civil war raged on throughout 2016, with the total loss of life since 2010 climbing to more than 400,000. The year brought savage fighting among the forces of ISIS, rebels opposed to the regime of Bashar Assad and Assad's Russian-supported army. Even as ISIS lost territory in parts of Syria, the focus of the conflict shifted to Aleppo, once the largest city in the country and now nearly in ruins.

The world continued to grapple with terror attacks launched by members of radical Islamic causes, including ISIS, Boko Haram and al Qaeda. In all, the year saw dozens of deadly attacks, in Iraq, Afghanistan, France, Germany, Turkey, India, Pakistan, Indonesia, Belgium and the United States. Some of the worst events included: the January deaths of 20 in a hotel and restaurant in Ouagadougou, the capital of Burkina Faso; the March martyr-

dom of four members of the Missionaries of Charity in a hospital in Yemen, plus the bombing of the Brussels airport and metro that resulted in 35 deaths and more than 300 wounded; the June massacre in a nightclub in Orlando, Florida, that killed 49 and injured 53; the Bastille Day massacre of 86 people and injuries to 434 more, when a 19-ton cargo truck smashed into the crowd along the Promenade des Anglais in Nice, France; the July martyrdom of Father Jacques Hamel, a French priest, during Mass in Rouen; and the November Ohio State University attack that left 11 injured after a car rampage and stabbing spree.

More than 3 million young pilgrims made their way to Kraków, Poland, to take part in the international World Youth Day, held July 26 to 31. The third World Youth Day held in Central Europe and the second in Poland, after World Youth Day 1991 held in Czestochowa, the event was attended by Pope Francis and was noted especially for the devotion to Pope St. John Paul II, who started World Youth Day, and to St. Faustina Kowalska and the Divine Mercy devotion in the Jubilee Year of Mercy. The next World Youth Day will be held in Panama City, Panama, in 2019.

In June, the United Kingdom voted to withdraw from the European Union. The referendum to withdraw, called "Brexit" from "British exit," was unexpectedly approved by British voters, with a majority of 52%. The "Leave" vote won every region of the country save for the areas around London, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The political fallout of the vote ended the term of Prime Minister David Cameron. According to the procedure, Britain will be gone from the EU by March 2019.

Most of the leaders of the world's Orthodox Churches met for the first time in a millennium in Kolymvari, Crete, June 19-26. Officially called the "Holy and Great Council of the Orthodox Church," the Pan-Orthodox Council brought representatives from most of the autocephalous Churches of Eastern Orthodox Christianity. The gathering was still troubled by disunity, as several major Churches refused to attend.

Cuban dictator Fidel Castro died on Nov. 25. The communist ruler of the island-nation, from 1959 to 2008, was a longtime promoter of Marxist revolution around the world and an enemy of the United States. He was responsible for the brutal repression of political and religious freedoms. He met with three popes: Pope St. John Paul II in 1996 and 1998, Benedict XVI in 2012 and Pope Francis in 2015.



**FAITHFUL SERVANT.** A man outside of the Rouen cathedral holds a prayer card bearing the image of Father Jacques Hamel during the priest's funeral Mass Aug. 2. Father Hamel, 85, was killed by two Islamic extremists in late July in his church as he celebrated morning Mass. AP photo/Michel Euler

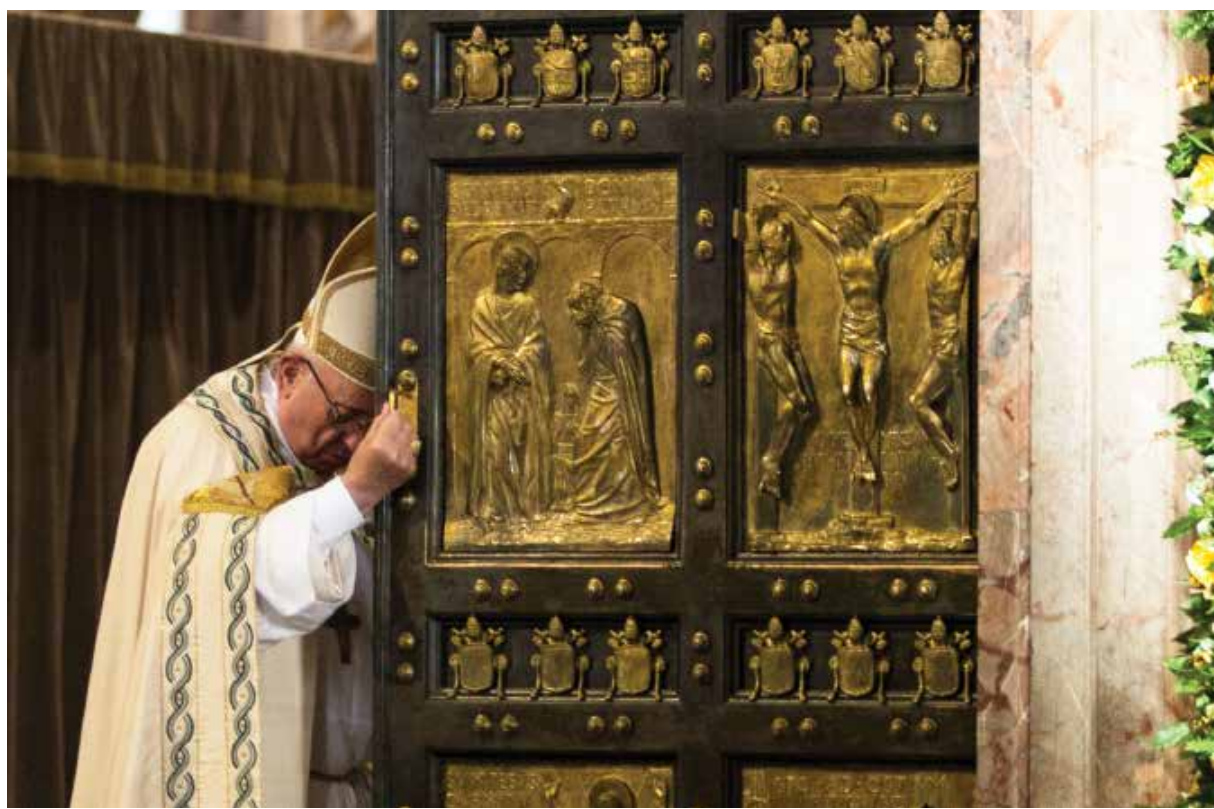


**TERRORISM'S COLLATERAL DAMAGE.** Marina Karlov lays her head on top of the flag-wrapped coffin of late Russian Ambassador to Turkey Andrei Karlov before it was carried to a plane by Turkish soldiers during a ceremony at Esenboga airport on Dec. 20 in Ankara, Turkey. Ambassador Karlov was shot dead by a Turkish policeman shouting, 'Don't forget Aleppo! Don't forget Syria' at an art exhibition in the Turkish capital of Ankara. Erhan Ortac/Getty Images



**KRAKOW, CASTRO AND CHRISTIAN UNITY.** Above, World Youth Day pilgrims await the arrival of Pope Francis at the Jasna Gora Monastery in Czestochowa, Poland, on July 28. More than 2 million pilgrims attended the festival of faith. L'Osservatore Romano Top right, Fidel Castro, leader of Cuba for more than 40 years, meets with Pope Francis in September 2015. Castro died Nov. 25, leaving a tattered legacy of human suffering and economic hardship. AP photo/Alex Castro Right, Patriarch Irinej of Serbia (second on the right) talks with senior clergy during a break at the Orthodox synod. Held in late June, the leaders of the world's Orthodox Christian Churches gathered for the first time since the Great Schism of 1054. Sadly, several Churches, including the Russian Orthodox Church (the largest), did not attend. Holy and Great Council via AP





**MERCIFUL YEAR.** Pope Francis closes the holy door at St. Peter's Basilica at the end of the Jubilee Year of Mercy on Nov. 20. Although the jubilee came to a close, the Holy Father indefinitely extended the special faculties for designated 'missionaries of mercy' and priests in the confessional. CNA/Daniel Ibanez



**CELEBRATION AND CONTEMPLATION.** Above, Pope Francis celebrates the canonization Mass of St. Teresa of Calcutta on Sept. 4 in St. Peter's Square. At left, the Holy Father prays July 29 in the cell where St. Maximilian Kolbe was martyred at the Nazis' Auschwitz concentration camp. L'Osservatore Romano

## 2016 in Review

### Mother Teresa, *Amoris Laetitia* and Mercy

Pope Francis began the Jubilee Year of Mercy on Dec. 8, 2015, and brought it to an end on Nov. 20, the Solemnity of Christ the King, with the closing of the holy door of St. Peter's Basilica. Given the official motto of "Merciful Like the Father," the year brought more than 16 million pilgrims to Rome, although the Pope allowed every diocese in the world to have its own holy door, in order to permit the greatest number of pilgrims to participate in God's loving mercy. Rome was host to a large number of events throughout the year, including sending forth the "missionaries of mercy" and jubilee events for teens, deacons, volunteers and workers of mercy, catechists, prisoners, the ill and those with disabilities, priests, those in consecrated life and the faithful departed.

Pope Francis issued his much-anticipated exhortation on the family in the modern world on April 17. His response to the work of the two synods of bishops on the family in 2014 and 2015, the exhortation — *Amoris Laetitia* (The Joy of Love) — was nine chapters and 325 paragraphs long. Most attention, however, focused on Chapter Eight, where the Holy Father discussed families in irregular and difficult situations, including cohabitation, the divorced and especially the civilly divorced and remarried.

Media reaction to *Amoris Laetitia* focused on Pope Francis' discussion of the issue of pastoral care for the divorced and civilly remarried and whether a door had been opened pastorally for them to receive Communion. Considerable attention also focused on the implementation of the exhortation in different dioceses. In October, four cardinals — the American Raymond Burke, the Germans Joachim Meisner and Joseph Brandmüller, and the Italian Carlo Caffarra — sent the Pope a set of *Dubia* (questions), seeking clarification on some of the most controversial paragraphs of the exhortation. The absence of a response from the Holy Father and the resulting discussions among cardinals, bishops and theologians ignited anew the controversy regarding the issue of Communion for the divorced and civilly remarried.

Pope Francis made six more journeys, including to Mexico (February), Greece (April), Armenia (June), Poland (July) for World Youth Day, Georgia and Azerbaijan (September) and Sweden (October). In Poland, he made a memorable visit to the Nazi concentration camp at Auschwitz, and in Sweden he began the commemoration of the Protestant Revolt (or Protestant Reformation) that will culminate in 2017 with the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's break with the Catholic Church.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI celebrated the 65th anniversary of his priestly ordination on June 29. He was ordained in the cathedral of Freising, Germany. The event was commemorated in the Vatican by Pope Francis.

On Sept. 4, Pope Francis presided over the canonization of St. Teresa of Calcutta, the beloved Mother Teresa who founded the Missionaries of Charity, during a Mass in St. Peter's Square. A crowd of more than 500,000 attended, with celebrations held around the globe. The cause of canonization for the new saint, who died in 1997, was one of the fastest in modern times.

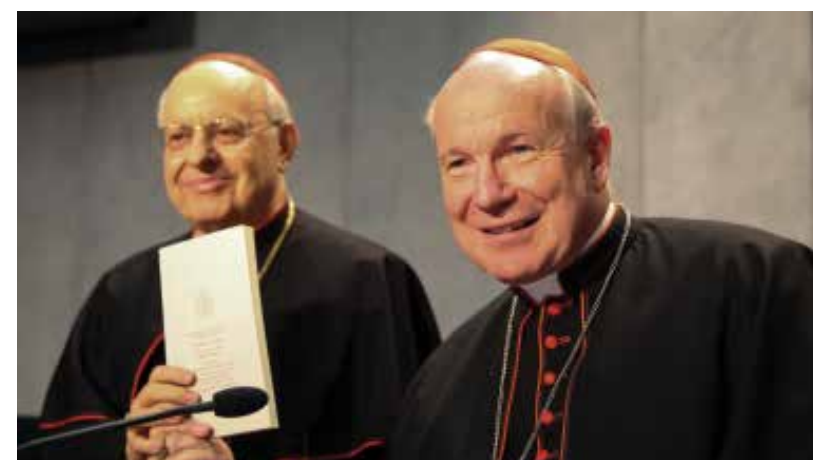
Pope Francis continued his reform of the Roman Curia — the central government of the Church — by establishing several new dicasteries or offices, including the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development (that merged four existing Vatican departments for justice and peace, migration, charity and health) and the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life. To head this new dicastery, Francis named an American bishop, the Irish-born Bishop Kevin Farrell of Dallas, who was subsequently named a cardinal. More changes are expected in 2017.

On Nov. 19, Pope Francis officially created 17 new members of the College of Cardinals, including 13 members under the age of 80, who are, therefore, eligible to vote in any conclave. The cardinals come from 13 countries, and several — such as those from Malaysia, Lesotho and New Guinea — are the first from their homelands to become members of the sacred college. Three Americans were appointed: Cardinals Blase Cupich, archbishop of Chicago; William Tobin, archbishop of Newark, New Jersey; and Kevin Farrell.

**NEW SPOKESMAN.** Former Fox TV correspondent Greg Burke (r) succeeded Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi (l) as the Vatican spokesman on Aug. 1. The U.S.-born Burke is a member of Opus Dei. 2012 AP photo/Gregorio Borgia



**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION**  
CHRISTIAN UNITY  
THAT ALL CHRISTIANS MAY BE FAITHFUL TO THE LORD'S TEACHING BY STRIVING WITH PRAYER AND FRATERNAL CHARITY TO RESTORE ECCLESIAL COMMUNION AND BY COLLABORATING TO MEET THE CHALLENGES FACING HUMANITY.



**CONCERN, AFFECTION AND CONGRATULATIONS.** Above, Cardinal Christoph Schönborn (r), archbishop of Vienna and the president of the Austrian bishops' conference, at a press conference on Pope Francis' post-synodal apostolic exhortation, *Amoris Laetitia* (The Joy of Love), at the Holy See Press Office in Vatican City on April 8. CNA/Daniel Ibanez Near left, hundreds of Mexican seminarians, priests and religious attend Mass celebrated by Pope Francis Feb. 16 at Venustiano Carranza Stadium in Morelia, Mexico. Far left, The Holy Father greets Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI at the Clementine Hall in Vatican City on June 28 as they celebrate the 65th anniversary of Benedict's priestly ordination. L'Osservatore Romano