News



Parishioners of Mary Help of Christians Church in Parkland, Florida, pray during an outdoor Stations of the Cross service Feb. 16 dedicated to the victims and survivors of the deadly mass shooting at nearby Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. (CNS/Tom Tracy)



by Dan Morris-Young

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Shawn Burns, father of four and a General Motors engineering exec, shares <u>thoughts</u> and observations from a graveyard shift at a homeless shelter.

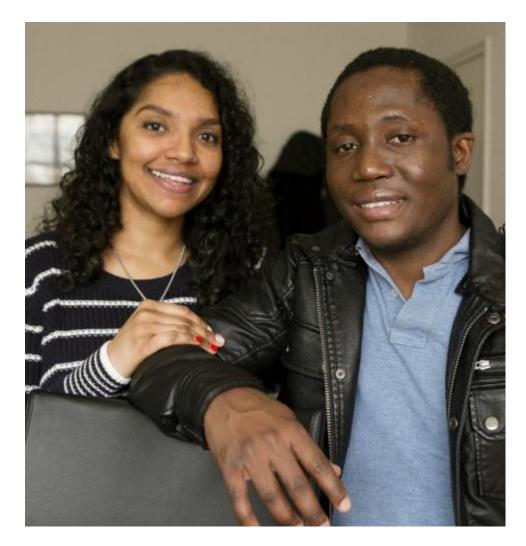
Recitation of the rosary took place every two hours starting at noon and continuing into the evening at <u>Mary Help of Christians Parish</u> in Parkland, Florida, on Feb. 15, the day after 17 students <u>were killed</u> at nearby Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. On Feb. 16, the parish <u>dedicated its Stations of the Cross</u> to the victims and survivors of the shooting. A funeral for one of the youths was held at the parish on Feb. 20.

Tapping the "innate abilities" of special needs clients of <u>Marian Center School</u> in Miami Gardens, Florida, board member <u>Dan Brandt</u> and his son, Charlie, employed the help of two Marian Center adult training students (Anthony and Eric) to assemble an antique billiards table. The table, in turn, now serves as a source of entertainment and education. The <u>Sisters of St. Joseph Benedict Cottolengo</u> oversee the facility, which currently serves more than 40 persons ages 6 to 22 and nearly 80 adults.

The <u>all-voices-are-welcome emphasis</u> of the <u>March 19-24 gathering</u> of more than 300 young people in Rome as a preparatory event for October's world <u>Synod of</u> <u>Bishops focusing on youth</u> was underscored again Feb. 16 <u>by Cardinal Lorenzo</u> <u>Baldisseri</u>, general secretary of the synod. Among participants will be young victims of human trafficking and persons of several religious traditions, including Native American <u>Cree</u>.

Three young adults will <u>represent the U.S.</u> at next month's meeting — a religious brother, a campus ministry director, and a youth minister who is a wife and new mother.

The pope has <u>asked the world's bishops</u> to respond to a questionnaire on how they minister to young people.



Sadhana Singh and My Ford Noel (CNS/Tyler Orsburn)

Love transcends U.S. immigration policy chaos. <u>So says a young couple</u> — the woman a "Dreamer" about to lose federal protection from deportation, and the man a native of Haiti whose <u>temporary protective status</u> ends next year. Sadhana Singh and My Ford Noel met last April via Facebook. They plan a future together, perhaps in Canada. Singh is <u>last September's recipient</u> of Trinity Washington University's St. Catherine Medal for leadership, activism and scholarship; she posted a 3.95 GPA. Before moving to Washington, D.C., to be with Singh, Noel taught at <u>Broward College</u> in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

A message in the Sunday bulletin of <u>St. Clare of Assisi Parish</u> in Coquitlam, British Columbia, 11 years ago saved the life of Olaf Sztaba. Then a young father in his 30s near death with kidney failure, Sztaba <u>received a donor kidney</u> from fellow parishioner Madeleine Mulaire, an elementary school teacher and perfect stranger. Sztaba's wife, Kasia, had persuaded Fr. Craig Scott, still pastor, to include an appeal in the Sunday bulletin.

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[Dan Morris-Young is NCR's West Coast correspondent. His email is dmyoung@ncronline.org.]

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