



Around the Parish

JULY NEWSLETTER

2024

Independence: Faithful Patriots Played Significant Roles

Many people know that Charles Carroll of Carrollton was the only Catholic who signed the Declaration of Independence, but many other Catholics contributed in a significant way to the fight for independence: John Barry, Stephen Moylan, Mary Waters and Thomas Fitzsimons, to name a few. There were significant contributions of so many courageous men and women, many of whom were Catholics, to what has been called “the great American experiment.”

Charles Carroll arguably took the biggest risk — and had the most to lose — since he was the wealthiest man in the colonies at the time, according to *New Advent's The Catholic Encyclopedia*. Born into a wealthy family in Annapolis, Maryland, he was sent to France and England for his education. He arrived back in Maryland at age 28, just in time for the intense reaction to the Stamp Act. At once, Carroll began to write against the unjust taxes. By 1774 Carroll was one of the citizens elected to represent both the local county and Annapolis, although Catholics were considered ineligible to hold such seats. At the time there were few Catholics in the country, and there was predominant prejudice against those who were here.

“These elections showed that, despite the anti-Catholicism of the colonial period, Revolutionary-era Americans did not see any incompatibility between Carroll’s Catholicism and America’s fledgling republic, which both shared Enlightenment ideals,” Andrew Salzmann, who teaches American Catholic history at Benedictine College, explained to the Register. As detailed by Matthew Bunson and Margaret Bunson in the *Encyclopedia of U.S. Catholic History*, “His appearance at the Continental Congress irritated some Protestants, but his wealth — estimated at about \$2 million — won the argument because the average American recognized that Charles was risking more than most in order to see America free.” Three months before Carroll was elected as one of Maryland’s four representatives to the Continental Congress for the fateful July 4, 1776, meeting, he was appointed with Benjamin Franklin and Samuel Chase to visit Canada to ask for their alliance in the fight for independence. Carroll’s cousin, Father John Carroll, was asked to join them.

During the American Revolutionary

War, Charles Carroll served on the Board of War, and after independence was won, he took his seat in 1788 as a senator in the first Federal Congress. When he died at age 95 in 1832, he was the last survivor of those who signed the Declaration of Independence.

Commodore John Barry was an Irish-born sea captain who emigrated as a youth to Philadelphia, which he called home for the rest of his life. He would earn the title “Father of the American Navy.” Indeed, Capt. Barry, already a seasoned skipper, had a remarkable war career. He would be such a proven commander that later President George Washington appointed Barry to be head of the Navy, stating he trusted in Barry’s “patriotism, valor, fidelity and abilities,” according to a U.S. Navy history online. Capt. — later Commodore — Barry, the first American to receive that title, was an “ardent Catholic,” the Bunsons noted in their book.

“Barry was a firm believer in Divine Providence and regularly opened his ship day with a Bible reading to his crew,” wrote John Barry Kelly in an article about the captain available through the U.S. Navy website. (No mention is made if the writer was descended from the captain.) Capt. Barry had no children from his first marriage nor, after his wife died, from his second marriage, although he and his wife raised his two nephews, sons of his late sister.

Both wives were Protestants, but converted to Catholicism, noted Kelly: “The Barry’s were regular parishioners at several Philadelphia Catholic churches: Old St. Joseph’s, Old St. Mary’s and, eventually, St. Augustine’s.” The naval hero and his wives are buried in St. Mary’s Church cemetery.

Successful Philadelphia merchant Stephen Moylan, who became quartermaster general of the Continental Army, volunteered for Washington’s Army at the start of the Revolutionary War. By June 1776, he was appointed commissary general of the Continental Army; and, before that, in 1775, he acted as Washington’s first secretary. After fighting in the Battle of Princeton, he formed a horse regiment at Washington’s request, suffered with the men at Valley Forge, and then engaged in other battles

through Yorktown. He left the Army a brigadier general. While Moylan’s brother Francis remained in Ireland because he was bishop of Cork, his brother John also joined the Continental Army and was appointed the clothier general.

After the war, the Catholic Church created a diocese in the new United States, naming Father Carroll the country’s first bishop. He tirelessly helped the Church in America grow and established colleges and monasteries, such as the Poor Clares in Fredericksburg, Maryland. He helped establish four other dioceses beside Baltimore, to which he was appointed the country’s first archbishop. And in 1792, as the new nation’s first bishop, he was the first to consecrate the country to our Blessed Mother under the title “Immaculate Conception.” “Of those things that give me most consolation at the present moment,” he said, “one is that I have always been attached to the practice of devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary; that I have established it among the people under my care, and placed my diocese under her protection.”

“Throughout the colonial period and into the late 1700s, Catholics were often discriminated against in both law and attitudes,” author Paul Kengor, professor of political science at Grove City College in Grove City, Pennsylvania, told the Register. “Fortunately, their zealous commitment to the cause of the American Revolution and independence helped change those attitudes and even those laws. Americans generally recognized and appreciated those Catholic contributions and that loyalty. Protestants learned that Catholics loved their country as much as they loved their pope. They were not only loyal to their Church but to their nation.”

The Revolutionary War pushed the formerly anti-Catholic colonies to be more accepting of American Catholics, Salzmann said. “There were different reasons for this change in attitude, such as Americans’ gratitude for the help of France’s Catholic king and the tiny size of the Catholic population. But the Carrolls show that an important part of this shift was the ability of Catholics to embrace shared American ideals during the heyday of the Catholic Enlightenment.”

(Continued on page 3)

SACRED HEART CHURCH



**Fast & Secure Donating/ Offering to
Sacred Heart Parish**

BRIGHTER DAYS BIGGER MISSION

Summer sunshine offers us time and opportunities for spiritual building. That is why our church offers Online Giving as an additional option to support our ongoing mission and ministries. Our church is a spiritual home for all of us which relies on our time, talent, and treasure to fulfill that mission.

Online Giving helps support our church by allowing you to make donations, payments, and pledges via your mobile phone, smart device, or computer to our church.



July 2024 LECTOR SCHEDULE

July 6/7 14th Sunday in OT
5:00 PM Dean Reber
7:30 AM JoAnn Schmura
9:30 AM Karen Piraino
11:15 AM Mary Ann Kelly

July 13/14 15th Sunday in OT
5:00 PM Steven Bell
7:30 AM Vince Moffitt
9:30 AM John Gleason
11:15 AM Bill Wellock

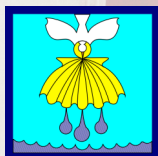
July 20/21 16th Sunday in OT
5:00 PM Ann Reber
7:30 AM Beth Tarp
9:30 AM Lori Anewalt
11:15 AM John Sylvester

July 27/28 17th Sunday in OT
5:00 PM Sandie Wrable
7:30 AM Kathy Nevel
9:30 AM Mary Ann Kase
11:15 AM Lou Sutherland

Homebound Parishioner's of Sacred Heart

If you know of a homebound parishioner that would benefit from communion being brought to them once a month as well as visits from our Friendly visitors, please have them call the office and be added to the Homebound list.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM



Clark Alan Restrepo

Born November 23, 2023

Son of James and Melissa
Restrepo, Jr.

WELCOME TO THE PARISH



Ethan Schmura



UPCOMING EVENTS

First Saturday Fellowship

Sacred Heart Church

Wachter Room

July 6th @ 8:45 a.m.

The Parishes Italian Picnic

@ Victor Emmanuel II

August 11th @ 12:00 P.M.—4:00 p.m.

Swing and a Prayer Golf Outing

Knights of Columbus

Reading Country Club

August 23rd @ 1:00 p.m.





SACRED HEART CHURCH

Thank you to everyone who participated in Vacation Bible School this year! It was a successful event with 32 children in attendance.

We played games, sang and danced, did fun experiments and learned interactive bible stories! Our teenage and adult volunteers were amazing and we couldn't have done this without them!

JOIN US!!! First Saturday Fellowship

Saturday, July 6th following 8:00 a.m. Mass



Faith, Food, & Fellowship in the Parish Center's Wackter Room

Italian Family Picnic

August 11th

@ Victor Emmanuel II

12:00 P.M.—4:00 P.M.

Please join Holy Rosary and
Sacred Heart Parishes!

\$20/ Person 12 & up

Call: 610-373-5579

See our website for more
details: shrcparish.org

(Continued from page 1)

The Revolutionary War and American founding included the aid of many patriots, including Catholics like (from left to right) Charles Carroll, John Barry and Father (later Bishop) John Carroll. (photo: public domain)



In March 1790 President George Washington recognized the contribution of Roman Catholics in a personal letter addressed explicitly to them, catalogued in the National Archives: "As mankind become more liberal they will be more apt to allow that all those who conduct themselves as worthy members of the community are equally entitled to the protection of civil government. I hope ever to see America among the foremost nations in examples of justice and liberality. And I presume that your fellow-citizens will not forget the patriotic part which you took in the accomplishment of their Revolution, and the establishment of their government; or the important assistance which they received from a nation in which the Roman Catholic faith is professed."

By: Joseph Proneche via nwww.ncregister.com



8TH ANNUAL SWING and A PRAYER GOLF OUTING

Registration/Sponsor/Donation Form

Online payments available at www.sacredheartreading.com/golf-outing

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Sponsor Name: _____

as it should appear in the program – email ad/logo to
bgasperack@sacredheartreading.org

☐ Please assign me a team, OR

☐ My team members are:

Friday,
August 23, 2024

NEW venue

Galen Hall Golf Club

Rain or Shine

Enclosed is:

Sponsorship _____ = \$ _____

SPONSORSHIP LEVEL

Golf Package - \$125 x _____ golfer(s) = \$ _____

Donation _____ = \$ _____

Total Enclosed = \$ _____

Make checks payable to:

Sacred Heart School

701 Franklin Street

West Reading, PA 19611

>>>>
Scan
QR
code



Online payments available at www.sacredheartreading.com/golf-outing

Golf Committee

Mark Merolla, Chair

Gerry Blaum

John Ciabattoni

Beth Gasperack

Charlie Polinko

Dr. Lou Sutherland

John B. Sylvester

Jim Tucker

NEW VENUE FOR 2024!

Galen Hall Golf Club

645 N Galen Hall Rd, Wernersville, PA 19565

The Sacred Heart School Board and the staff of Sacred Heart School in West Reading invite all alumni, parents, and friends to become a sponsor and/or a participant in our 8th Annual Golf Outing in support of Sacred Heart School. **Join us on Friday August 23rd for Pre-Golf lunch, a full day of golf activities, and Post Golf refreshments and awards.**

Sacred Heart School and the Sacred Heart School Board extend their sincere thanks to the event organizer the ***Knights of Columbus Monsignor Bornemann Council #16066*** West Reading PA and their members from Holy Rosary and Sacred Heart Parishes.



Join us for our 8th Annual Outing

18 Holes

Foursomes

Shotgun



Golf Schedule

Galen Hall Golf Club

11:00 a.m. – Registration
Lunch

*Under the Pavilion

1:00 p.m. – Shotgun Start

Post Golf – Food, Drinks,
& Awards

*Under the Pavilion

**Golf Package
\$125 per person**

Package includes lunch,
green fees, cart, gift bag,
refreshments on course,
and post golf food &
awards.

Sponsorship Package Opportunities

For more information on becoming a sponsor, please email Mark Merolla at mjm@bmfaw.com. **Sponsor deadline for inclusion in the program is August 4, 2024.**
Online payments available at www.sacredheartreading.com/golf-outing.

Tournament Sponsor – \$1200 and above

- 4 player package
- Signs throughout the course
- Sign at registration
- Full page ad in program

Albatross Sponsor – \$700 - \$1199

- Signs throughout the course
- Sign at registration
- Full page ad in program

Eagle Sponsor – \$400 - \$699

- Sign on 1 hole
- Sign at registration
- ½ page ad in program

Birdie Sponsor – \$150 - \$399

- Sign on 1 hole
- ¼ page ad in program

Patron – \$100

- Patron line in program

Cart Sponsor – \$50

- Sign on cart

Thanks to our event organizer



Proceeds benefit Sacred Heart School

