

Editor's Report...

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proud," he said. "We accomplished it."

Sanchez, 40, is now working for an architect in the mornings, and several afternoons a week he's doing construction work as a laborer with Local 79.

He said he hopes to be able to start studying toward a career as a youth counselor next year. "I've gotten a lot of support at Ignacio House," Sanchez said.

Father Presutti supervises parishioners from the archdiocese who are leading retreats at six correctional facilities using the spiritual exer-

cises of St. Ignatius of Loyola as their guiding measure. Thrive for Life pairs with a half dozen colleges and universities who offer scholarships that continue at Ignacio House where the men receive other supportive services.

Sanchez has come a long way from his first days on retreat with Thrive for Life when he was in jail. He remembers an early exercise asking him to list his accomplishments. "I started crying, because I didn't accomplish nothing," he said.

His perspective has changed quite a bit since

then. "I'm glad for all the blessings," Sanchez said. "God put me here for a reason."

"He passed me the torch, and I'm running with it. I'm not looking back."

For Father Presutti, his ministry "behind and beyond" the prison walls has been his only one as a Jesuit.

"The relationships I have formed behind the prison walls have given life to my own religious life," he said. "Through those relationships, this community of Thrive for Life has organically grown."

Midnight Mass...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

nese, Spanish and Tagalog.

Covid-19 was among the prayer intentions: "For all those suffering from the effects of the pandemic—that they may receive from God, who in Jesus became man for us, fortitude and serenity of heart."

Shea, speaking with CNY after the Mass, said, "It's just a great event to be here, and it's great to see my good friend, Cardinal Dolan."

A Catholic and alumnus of Xavier High School in Manhattan, Shea added Christmas is about "faith and hope. It's a great night for all Catholics."

Father Salvo spoke with CNY in the doorway of the cathedral after the Mass as he and congregants were wishing each other a Merry Christmas.

"It's been one of the best Christmases of my life," said Father Salvo, whose appointment as cathedral rector took effect Nov. 15.

"Not only tonight, but the whole season has been such a beautiful time of just welcoming so many people from throughout the world and excitement to see how beloved the cathedral is."

Sister Josephine Ortner Served as Principal and Teacher at Burke Catholic

Sister Josephine Ortner, P.B.V.M., who served as principal and teacher at John S. Burke Catholic in Goshen for 32 years, died Dec. 16 at Mount St. Joseph in New Windsor. She was 93.

Sister Josephine was at Burke Catholic as principal, 1983-1999, and as a teacher, 1967-1983. She retired in 1999 and served in retirement at the Burke Catholic Learning Center, and took up residence at Mount St. Joseph in 2009.

She taught at St. Michael's, Manhattan, 1954-1967, and was a teacher at Holy Rosary and St. Frances of Rome schools in the Bronx, and St. Paul's in Yonkers.

Born in New York City, she entered the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary of New Windsor in 1946.

She was educated at Manhattan College and Fordham University, both in the Bronx; St. John's University, Queens; and Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 20 at Mount St. Joseph. Burial was at Mount St. Joseph Cemetery, New Windsor.

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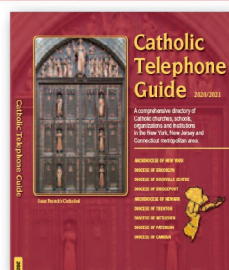
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