

# On the MOVE

# Saints

Story by Mike Latona

Photos by Greg Francis

Statuettes courtesy of Logos Bookstore, & Hilltop Market

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St. Jude

Kevin Canavan has found prayers to St. Anthony of Padua — the patron saint of lost objects — to be quite worthwhile.

"Whenever we lose things, my mother's always praying to St. Anthony. And sure enough, they show up," said Kevin, 15.

John Niziurski, 16, said that he leans on the saints to help him through his daily activities. For instance, he said he had prayed to saints during

CYO basketball games.

"I was praying not just for a win, but for us to get close as a team. And we wound up getting a lot closer. We're still friends, even though we go to different schools," said John, a parishioner at St. Jude's Church in Gates.

And Patrick Wall, 15, seeks out St. Jude — the patron saint of desperate causes — when an accident occurs such as "breaking my glasses in the middle of school," he said with a laugh.

Kevin, also, prays to St. Jude — for much more serious reasons. The McQuaid Jesuit High School sophomore said his family prays regularly for the healing of Bob Schwartz, a McQuaid teacher who is battling cancer.

"We pray to God for him, and we pray to the saints. We ask them to pray to God as a connection (between God and us)," said Kevin, from St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Irondequoit.

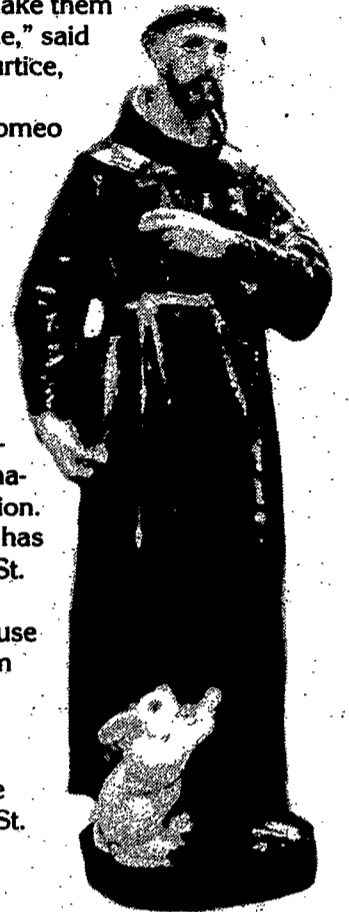
As we draw closer to All Saints Day on Nov. 1, diocesan teens interviewed for this story listed several reasons for their interest in saints: Many are named after saints; others pray to

saints who represent certain causes; and others are simply curious about the saints' life stories.

"I was interested in what they did to make them special people," said Stephanie Curtice, 14, from St. Charles Borromeo Church in Greece.

Stephanie, whose confirmation name is Teresa, said she studied the life of St. Teresa of Avila for confirmation preparation. She said she has also studied St. Francis of Assisi, "because I've heard him quoted so much."

Stephanie's favorite quote attributed to St. Francis is: "Preach the Gospel at all times. When necessary, use



St. Francis

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1 John 3:1

MEN FOR OTHERS.

MCQUAID HIGH JESUIT SCHOOL Grades 7-12

McQuaid alumnus Pete Radell, class of '77 took a year's leave from Georgetown University to go to El Salvador. A volunteer, he taught classes and coached basketball in a crowded elementary school. Friends at McQuaid learned of conditions at the school and raised funds for construction of two new classrooms. In gratitude, the artisans who built the classrooms used scraps of metal from the project to fashion this crucifix for McQuaid. Here it occupies a place of prominence, embodying the McQuaid pledge of service to God and humanity.

PHONE: 716-473-1130  
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Please come to OPEN 6-8pm