



Turn back time

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Sunday morning, Nov. 5

**Relief for persecuted
Middle East Christians**

Trump administration
to direct aid through
Knights of Columbus

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Finding grace in grief

Friendship, deeper faith
can be encountered
during dark days

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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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50¢

TODAYSCATHOLIC.org

'Spread the fire of God's love'

BY SARAH DUSTMAN



Joe Romie

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades interviews a group of fourth-grade students dressed as Franciscan saints during his homily for an All-Schools Mass at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne on Oct. 26.

Every year, students from Catholic schools in the Fort Wayne area come together to celebrate the All-Schools Mass with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and the priests from their schools. This year's Mass took place on Thursday, Oct. 26, at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum.

The risers in the room were filled with children in their uniform polos and khaki pants or school skirts, but the clothing of the fourth-grade students in the chairs in front of the altar varied. Some were dressed as martyrs, while others were dressed as religious brothers and sisters; all personified saints or those on their way to sainthood. The students had made ready for this day by choosing a saint and researching him or her, and shared the story of their saint with their classmates or their other schoolmates.

Melissa White, a fourth-grade teacher at St. Joseph Hessen Cassel School, Fort Wayne, shared how she and her students had delved into the study of some of the church's most holy figures. "We've been discussing how you become a saint," she said, and besides this, they researched and had a weekly assignment about their saints, which they shared with the class. The day of the All-Schools Mass, the students dressed like their saints and visited the younger grades, sharing information about them.

One of White's students, Mara Striker, explained that she dressed like St. Agatha because, "She's the patron saint of breast cancer." Another student, Malachi Blaumbo, said that he chose St. Padre Pio because he was interesting and "he loved helping other people."

ALL-SCHOOLS MASS, page 2

Amid hurricane's devastation, Puerto Ricans' spirit seen shining through

BY WALLICE J. DE LA VEGA

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (CNS) — Above all material and financial considerations after Hurricane Maria's severe damage in Puerto Rico, one must highlight the brotherly spirit shown by the island's people during the ongoing recovery period, said the island's top Catholic pastor.

Although the church's financial burden has obviously become heavier as it strives to meet the increased emergency material needs of the faithful, it is the people's "huge capability for solidarity" that shines through in

this disaster, Archbishop Roberto Gonzalez Nieves of San Juan told Catholic News Service Oct. 25.

"There are so many helping gestures, like people who don't know each other but share 'our daily bread,' and neighbors sitting down in the dark out on the street chatting," said Archbishop Gonzalez.

Due to slow government response to Hurricane Maria's victims in Puerto Rico, there has been an increase in church and neighborhood or town groups banding together to clear remote

HURRICANE, page 16



CNS photo/Bob Roller

A bent metal cross is seen on the roof of San Ignacio Catholic High School in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Oct. 25, more than one month after Hurricane Maria devastated the island. On Oct. 3, it was the first Catholic school on the island to reopen after the hurricane.

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PUBLISHER: Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Editorial Department

PUBLICATIONS MANAGER: Jodi Marlin

PAGE DESIGNER: Francie Hogan

BRAND SPECIALIST: Molly Gettinger

NEWS SPECIALIST: Mark Weber

Business Department

BUSINESS MANAGER: Stephanie A. Patka

BOOKKEEPING/CIRCULATION: Geoff Frank
circulation@diocesefwsb.org

Advertising Sales

Jackie Parker

jparker@diocesefwsb.org

(260) 399-1449

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MAIN OFFICE: 915 S. Clinton St., Fort
Wayne, IN 46802. Telephone (260)
456-2824. Fax: (260) 744-1473.
BUREAU OFFICE: 1328 Dagoon Trail,
Mishawaka, IN 46544. Telephone (260)
456-2824. Fax (260) 744-1473.

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**ALL-SCHOOLS MASS, from page 1**

Bishop Rhoades spoke with the students about the church's saints, but first addressed the Gospel reading of the day. The Gospel began with Jesus telling his disciples: "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!" (Luke 12:49). The bishop explained that Jesus was so eager to save us, to do His Father's will, to set the world on fire with God's love. He explained that this fire is very destructive, in that it destroys sin and evil. However, fire also gives light, like the flame of a candle in a dark room. The fire that Jesus sets gives light to the world.

The bishop explained that Jesus did not want the fire of his love to be extinguished in the world when he ascended into heaven. He sent the Holy Spirit, who descended as tongues of fire upon the disciples at Pentecost so that the fire of his love would spread throughout the world.

The bishop then addressed all the eighth-grade students, telling them that they too would receive the fire of the Holy Spirit in the sacrament of confirmation. The Holy Spirit would help them to spread the faith and the love of Christ.

"Every saint spread the fire of God's love in the world," Bishop Rhoades said. He explained that these holy men, women and children were on fire with God's love and spread his love through their words and heroic deeds.

After this, the bishop turned the focus of his homily onto the fourth-grade students. He told them that during the opening procession he had looked among them and tried to guess which saint they were dressed as. He joked that he "thought he was in a Franciscan monastery," as he had noticed many students dressed as Franciscan saints. Then he asked for all the children dressed as St. Francis, St. Anthony, St. Clare and other Franciscan saints to join him in front of the altar for a moment.

He talked to two students dressed as St. Anthony, asking them how the saint spread God's word. The students said that he spread love through giving to the poor. The bishop said he heard that many of the schools had recently held collections of food,



Photos by Joe Romie

Students from Bishop Luers High School, Fort Wayne, sing in the choir for the All-Schools Mass that was attended by hundreds of students from Catholic schools in the Fort Wayne area on Oct. 26.

money and other items for those affected by the hurricanes, and that this act was an example of spreading God's love; and that every school in the diocese tries to spread the fire of God's love through making sacrifices.

Bishop Rhoades also spoke to a student dressed as St. Clare. He explained that St. Clare was a contemplative nun, meaning that she spent much of her time in prayer. He told the children that prayer is another way to spread God's love. "Praying for others is an act of love," the bishop said.

"We can spread the fire of God's love in prayer and good deeds," he said. He asked some of the other students gathered with him how they could spread this fire at school. Their suggestions included spreading the Gospel, sharing the teachings of Jesus and spreading goodness.

"Our mission is to spread the fire of God's love on the earth," which Jesus came to earth to do, he said. He explained that there is so much hate, selfishness and violence in the world that the need to spread God's love is urgent. The bishop ended the homily with a line from the prayer "Come Holy Spirit," which he had the students repeat: "Come Holy Spirit, enkindle in us the fire of your love."



Dressed as saints, fourth-grade students bring baskets of food donations to Bishop Rhoades during the offertory of the All-Schools Mass celebrated at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum.



Bishop Rhoades distributes holy Communion to fourth-grade "saints" during the Mass. At left, students from St. Mary School in Avilla drop food donations into barrels before celebrating the Mass.

Pope asks U.S. to welcome migrants, urges them to respect laws

BY JUNNO AROCHO ESTEVES

ROME (CNS) — Pope Francis called on the people of the United States to welcome migrants and urged those who are welcomed to respect the laws of the country.

"To all people (of the U.S.) I ask: take care of the migrant, who is a promise of life for the future. To migrants: take care of the country that welcomes you; accept and respect its laws and walk together along that path of love," the pope said Oct. 26 during a live video conversation with teenagers from around the world.

Pope Francis was speaking with teens participating in a program of the international network of "Scholas Occurrentes."

At the event, broadcast by the U.S. Spanish-language network Telemundo, the host asked the pope for a message to immigrants in the United States.

Many face difficulties after the Trump administration's recent call to tighten immigration laws by raising the standard of proof for asylum seekers and limiting family members of current immigrants who can enter the country.

Other proposals include: constructing a wall on the southern border; cracking down on the entry of young Central

Americans; criminalizing the overstay of a visa as a misdemeanor; and restricting federal grants to so-called sanctuary cities.

Pope Francis said the U.S. bishops "have told me about what you suffer," and he is aware that "there are people that do not want you."

"I am a son of immigrants. And if there weren't people who helped my father when he arrived at 22 years old, I would not be here today," the pope said.

The call to welcome the migrant and the stranger, he added, is not a personal request he made as pope but a mandate given "by someone much more important than myself."

"God said it and the Bible is clear," the pope said. "Receive the migrant, receive the refugee, because you too were a migrant and refugee from Egypt. Jesus was also a refugee; they wanted to cut the little child's head off."

While video chatting with students from Houston, the pope also was asked by the host of the event if he had a message for immigrant youths in the United States known as "Dreamers."

Approximately 800,000 young men and women who have benefited from the Obama-era Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or DACA, are at

risk of losing their legal status.

President Donald Trump has said that in any bill to legalize DACA, Congress must include funding for a U.S.-Mexico border wall and more Border Patrol agents — as laid out in his policy proposals — or he won't sign such a measure.

The pope told the Dreamers, "The first thing I want to say is that I'm praying for you and I am close to you. Secondly, continue dreaming. And lastly, be close to people who can help you and defend you at this juncture. Do not hate anyone; look for help from those who can defend you. I am praying for you."

Pope Francis also urged Europeans to welcome migrants and refugees who arrive on the continent seeking a better life, and he reminded Europeans that they are also "mestizos" ("mixed race") from "the great migrations of the barbarians and the Vikings."

"This isn't the time to pretend this is sterilized laboratory," the pope said. "This is the moment to receive, to embrace and — to those who arrive — to respect the rules of the country that welcomes you."

"To the migrants who suffer," the pope added, "know that the pope is very close to you. I accompany you and I am praying for you."



Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Sunday, November 5: 11 a.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Anthony de Padua Church, South Bend

Sunday, November 5: 5 p.m. — Vespers and Dinner, Old College, Notre Dame

Monday, November 6: 10 a.m. — Meeting of the Bishop's Cabinet, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne

Monday, November 6: 4 p.m. — Meeting of Board of Directors of Catholic Charities, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne

Tuesday, November 7: 12 p.m. — Meeting of Deacon Formation Policy Board, Sacred Heart Rectory, Warsaw

Wednesday, November 8: 8 a.m. — Meeting of Board of Directors of Our Sunday Visitor, Huntington

Wednesday, November 8: 12 p.m. — Mass, Our Sunday Visitor, Huntington

Wednesday, November 8: 7 p.m. — Young Adult Holy Hour, Our Lady of Good Hope Church, Fort Wayne

Thursday, November 9: 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Mary of the Annunciation Church, Bristol

Friday, November 10: 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Christ the King Church, South Bend

Saturday, November 11: 10 a.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Joseph Church, Mishawaka



Report abuse

It remains important for our church to protect children and young persons from the evils of abuse. To abuse a child is a sin. The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend remains committed to upholding and following its guidelines, policies and procedures that were implemented for the protection of children and young people. These can be reviewed on the diocese's website, www.diocesefwsb.org, under "Safe Environment."

If you have reason to believe that a child may be a victim of child abuse or neglect, Indiana law requires that you report this to civil authorities. If you or someone you know was abused as a child or young person by an adult, you are encouraged to notify appropriate civil authorities of that abuse. In addition, if the alleged abuser is or was a priest or deacon of the Catholic Church, you are encouraged to contact Mary Glowaski, victim assistance coordinator, at 260-399-1458; or mglowaski@diocesefwsb.org; or Msgr. Robert Schulte, vicar general of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, at P.O. Box 390, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 46801, 260-399-1419; or mraatz@fw.diocesefwsb.org. The diocese is committed to helping prevent the abuse or neglect of children and young people and to assist those who claim to have suffered harm as a result of such abuse.

Es importante para nuestra iglesia proteger a los niños y jóvenes de los males del abuso. Abusar a un niño es pecado. La Diócesis de Fort Wayne-South Bend se compromete a mantener y seguir las reglas, pólizas y procedimientos que fueron implementados para la protección de niños/niñas y personas jóvenes. Estos pueden leerse en la página web de la diócesis, www.diocesefwsb.org, bajo la sección "Ambiente Seguro," o "Safe Environment."

Si usted tiene motivo de creer que un niño(a) es víctima de abuso o negligencia, la ley de Indiana requiere que usted reporte esto a las autoridades civiles. Si usted o alguien que usted conoce fue abusado, ya sea niño o persona joven, por un adulto, se le recomienda notificar a las autoridades civiles apropiadas de ese abuso. También, si el alegado abusador es o fue un sacerdote o diácono de la Iglesia Católica, le se le insta a comunicarse con Mary Glowaski, coordinadora de ayuda para víctimas, al 260-399-1458 o mglowaski@diocesefwsb.org; o con el Monseñor Robert Schulte, vicario general de la Diócesis de Fort Wayne-South Bend, al P.O. Box 390, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 46801; 260-399-1419; o mraatz@fw.diocesefwsb.org. La diócesis se compromete a ayudar a prevenir el abuso o negligencia de niños y personas jóvenes y dar ayuda a quienes reclaman haber sufrido daño como el resultado de tal abuso.



CNS photo/James Lawler Duggan, Reuters

International passengers arrive at Dulles International Airport in Dulles, Va., June 26. Pope Francis called on the people of the United States to welcome migrants, during a live video conversation Oct. 26 with teens from around the world.

Actor Mark Wahlberg's faith journey leaves impression on young adults

BY JOYCE DURIGA

CHICAGO (CNS) — Hearing the faith journey of Hollywood actor and businessman Mark Wahlberg left an impression on the hearts of many young adults at the Archdiocese of Chicago's first (re)Encounter event Oct. 20 at the UIC Pavilion.

"It's powerful for a celebrity to feel that way about religion," said Omar Lopez, 21, from St. Gall Parish. "For me, when I think about a celebrity, I think cockiness, selfishness, but to hear an artist say that he takes time to just pray, that's an incredible feeling."

Lopez rushed to the stage at the end of Wahlberg's segment and got to shake the actor's hand.

"I came to hear him because personally I feel lost myself," Lopez told the *Chicago Catholic*, the archdiocesan newspaper. "At first I was really skeptical about it. I came here to just to hear different stories and to hear different aspects of life."

About 2,000 young adults attended (re)Encounter — an evening of music, speakers, faith sharing and eucharistic adoration aimed at energizing the faith of young adult Catholics.

The highlight was a question-and-answer session with Wahlberg and Chicago Cardinal Blase J. Cupich.

Star of movies such as

"Transformers: Age of Extinction," "Ted" and "Deepwater Horizon," and producer of the popular HBO series "Entourage," Wahlberg takes his faith seriously, often attending daily Mass and making time for quiet prayer each morning. He emceed the Festival of Families with Pope Francis during the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia in 2015.

His faith wasn't always important to him. Youngest in a family of nine children, he dropped out of school at 13, and served prison time. At 16, he was charged with attempted murder but he pleaded guilty to assault.

Today, he said, he's committed to being a good father and husband and giving his children the Catholic education he didn't have.

"I'm a street kid from Dorchester, Massachusetts. Grew up in St. Greg's and St. William's parishes," he told the crowd.

Because his parents worked a lot, he was often unsupervised and took to running the streets.

"(I) Ended up getting into a lot of trouble, incarcerated, tried as an adult at 16, 17. That was a big wake-up call for me," he told Cardinal Cupich. "A lot of people go to God, especially when they get in trouble. When I heard the jail doors close behind me, I started praying right away."

It was then that he turned his life around.

"Still, every day it's a process.



CNS photo/Karen Callaway, Chicago Catholic

Actor Mark Wahlberg and Cardinal Blase J. Cupich of Chicago discuss faith and the life of young adults during a (re)Encounter event at the UIC Pavilion Oct. 20.

That's why I start my day, every day, by getting on my hands and my knees and starting a time of prayer and reading, reading Scripture. Then I feel like I can go out there and conquer the world, or at least do my job

and give back because I've been blessed so much," Wahlberg said.

He keeps in daily touch with his parish priest from when he was growing up, Father Ed Flavin, who married him and his wife and all of his siblings and baptized his four children. When Wahlberg decided to turn his life around, the priest was one of the people he looked up to.

Wahlberg, 46, said his biggest mistake was quitting school. Despite having a successful career as an entertainer and businessman, that haunted him, so he got his GED at age 42.

Responding to a young adult's question about making time for prayer and Mass in a busy life, the actor said it's a "must." He goes to bed early every night and wakes up before his family to pray in the chapel he built in his home.

Addressing another audience question about knowing when one has made the right decision in life according to God's will, Wahlberg shared how he felt God was calling him to more involvement with his faith leading up to the World Meeting of Families and his role as emcee at an event featuring the pope.

"Somebody came to speak at the church ... they were saying, 'Are you a participant in the church and the community, or are you a spectator?' And I was like, 'Whoa.' I felt like, yeah, I'm a bit of a spectator right now," Wahlberg said. "I'm coming and getting what I need, but I'm not really giving back, you know,

reciprocating the kind of love and support I'm getting."

That encounter resulted in him saying "yes" to ushering when asked a few days later, and subsequently saying "yes" to the event with Pope Francis when asked a few days after that.

Wahlberg's commitment to prayer inspired Yunuen Arroyo of St. Odillo Parish in Berwyn.

"I can't even explain the motivation he has," she said. "The whole event is awesome. I love it. I really enjoyed the questions because I've asked those questions, like, 'How do you forgive yourself?'" said Arroyo. "You just have to keep going every day. You just have to keep trying."

Mary Kando of the Assyrian Church of the East, Mar Gewargis Cathedral, also connected to the actor's faith story.

"Not that my life has been anywhere near his life, but sometimes I feel like, 'How can I pull myself together?'" Kando said.

A friend invited Kando to (re) Encounter, and she was glad she accepted.

"I heard about it but I wasn't really motivated to go because I didn't want to go by myself," she said. "I was looking for something to pull me back in. Not that I was away, but I was just kind of sick of the mundane, 'It's just Sunday Mass.' I wanted to get rejuvenated."

Joyce Duriga is editor of the *Chicago Catholic*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Chicago.



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Fort Wayne man finds possible relic of soon-to-be saint

BY RON BUSCH

Just about everyone has found something of unusual value while walking along a beach, strolling along a well-traveled road or perhaps while digging in the backyard or in the garden. Perhaps the find was a beautiful stone or seashell, an unusual coin or piece of jewelry; maybe it was a piece of pottery or an old penny.

Fort the past seven years, Fort Wayne resident George Kessen has been spending his winters in St. Petersburg, Florida. He has a dog named "Casey" with whom he has long enjoyed taking walks, whether at home in the Midwest or during the moderate Florida winters. While in St. Petersburg and walking down a street one night with Casey, Kessen noticed something unusual on the pavement. It appeared to be a scapula: He picked it up. A small piece of cloth was affixed to it that bore a reference to Father Solanus Casey.

Kessen, a practicing Catholic, had not heard of Father Casey, but felt that something of this value should be returned to its owner. He attempted to locate him through the Diocese of St. Petersburg; the attempt proved futile, but served to apprise him of the priest and his legacy. He researched "Solanus Casey" and found out much about the interesting life that Father Casey had lived in the Midwest, including the Detroit area and even his stay in Huntington. Since the discovery, Kessen has begun

praying for the intercession of Father Casey often, and today feels a special spiritual bond with him.

Several months ago, Kessen saw a reference in *Today's Catholic* about Father Casey's Nov. 18 beatification in Detroit. He has since turned the relic over to Father Jacob Runyon and the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend to continue the process of its authentication. Although how the piece of cloth came to be in Florida is not yet certain, it could have traveled there with someone who had possessed it or the entire garment.

Interestingly enough, the story does not end there. Four weeks ago, Kessen endured the pain of accidentally breaking his foot. His doctor anticipated an eight-week recuperation period with likely surgery. Kessen was determined to call upon the intercession of Father Casey during the lengthy recovery period. Father Casey regularly prayed for those with physical ailments during his life's journey. He was well-known for his willingness to help those in need, as well as a willingness to listen to the

cares and struggles of those around him, no matter the station in life. He often prayed for healing.

Kessen recently got some good news from the doctor. Strangely, or perhaps predictably, his eight-week recovery period has been shortened to four or five weeks. Understandably, he is quick to point out the many intercessory prayers to Father Solanus Casey and his premature healing. It's no wonder that he has a special place in his heart for Father Casey. Harkening back to that walk with his dog Casey and discovery of the relic ... Kessen has a special connection, a knowledge, and now perhaps a reason for his discovery on the walk.

He must still wear a fiberglass boot until Nov. 7, but with the swelling gone and surgery averted, Kessen has a special story about the relic he found that has literally changed his life, as well as enlightened his knowledge of Father Solanus Casey, to be beatified and pronounced "blessed" by the church this Nov. 18 in Detroit.

Knights CEO praises plan for U.S. aid to persecuted Christians

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Carl Anderson, CEO of the Knights of Columbus, praised the decision by the Trump administration to provide direct U.S. aid to persecuted Christians in the Middle East and route it through the U.S. Agency for International Development.

The aid will go to "faith-based and private organizations" to help those who are persecuted in the region, according to Vice President Mike Pence, who announced the move in a keynote address at the Oct. 25 Solidarity Dinner for the Washington-based group In Defense of Christians.

U.S. aid to the region had previously been given to the United Nations for distribution in the troubled region, but Pence criticized the U.N. efforts saying they had been ineffective in helping Christians who have suffered at the hands of Islamic State militants and other terrorist groups.

"A year ago, the United States used the right word to describe what was happening to Christians and other religious minorities in the Middle East. That word was genocide. Tonight, those words were put into action," Anderson said in a statement.

He introduced Pence at the dinner, saying that now was the time to "rededicate ourselves to the defense of our brothers and sisters in faith — and to defending them in a Christian way with the ethics of love."

"Despite the efforts of so many, the world witnesses again and again the crimes against humanity that we now describe as genocide," Anderson told an audience that included elected officials, bishops, priests and prelates from the U.S. and throughout the Middle East.

Pence singled out the Knights

of Columbus for "extraordinary work caring for the persecuted around the world."

"While faith-based groups with proven track records and deep roots in these communities are more than willing to assist, the United Nations too often denies their funding requests," Pence said. "My friends, those days are over."

Since 2014, the Knights of Columbus Christian Refugee Relief Fund has donated more than \$17 million for humanitarian assistance in Iraq, Syria and the surrounding region.

In August of this year, the Knights launched a drive to raise \$2 million to rebuild Karamles, a predominantly Christian town in Iraq that was destroyed by IS. A spokesman for the Knights told CNS Oct. 27 that all the money has been raised and it is committed to the project as announced.

A timeline for rebuilding the town is still to be determined, but the Knights said the project "will result in hundreds of families from Christian and other minority communities to move back to the homes they were evicted from by IS in 2014."

The Knights documentation of IS atrocities and its advocacy efforts were decisive in the 2016 decision by then-Secretary of State John Kerry to declare the treatment of Christians and other religious minorities in the region as genocide. Current Secretary of State Rex Tillerson reaffirmed that designation earlier this past July.

The Knights of Columbus also will join the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops for a "Week of Awareness" for persecuted Christians, which will begin Nov. 26, the feast of Christ the King, with a day of prayer for persecuted Christians.



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Assisting victims of war is a work of mercy, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Members of the military and of humanitarian agencies who risk their lives to save others or to alleviate their suffering are precisely those for whom Jesus will say, "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me," Pope Francis said. For decades, the Geneva Conventions have tried to establish rules to protect innocent civilians in times of war, yet "atrocious crimes" and shocking violations of human dignity continue to occur, the pope told participants at a conference on international humanitarian law. The conference was sponsored by the Italian Ministry of Defense and the Carabinieri, Italy's military police. Pope Francis met Oct. 28 with the 150 conference participants and with 100 officer candidates from the Carabinieri. Despite the ongoing, "praiseworthy attempt" to codify humanitarian law to protect noncombatants, religious and cultural monuments and the environment during periods of strife, the pope said, so many atrocities continue around the globe that it leads to "a certain saturation that anesthetizes and, to some degree, relativizes the seriousness of the problem."

On contraception, church must continue to defend life, cardinal says

ROME (CNS) — The acceptance of artificial contraception by some Christian churches and communities beginning in the 1930s has led "to the monstrosity of what is today known as procreative medicine," which includes abortion, said German Cardinal Walter Brandmüller. Inaugurating an Oct. 28 conference anticipating the 50th anniversary of Blessed Paul VI's encyclical "Humanae Vitae," Cardinal Brandmüller told participants that in ignoring traditional church teaching men and women today have seated themselves "on the throne of the Creator." In "Humanae Vitae," published in 1968, Pope Paul underlined the responsibility that goes with human sexuality and marriage. While he taught that couples can space the birth of their children for valid reasons, they must use only natural methods of avoiding fertility. Birth control, he said, causes an "artificial separation" of the unitive and procreative aspects of married love. In his speech at the Rome conference, Cardinal Brandmüller said that after the Second Vatican Council, the church faced significant pressure — including from within its own ranks — to endorse contraception as "morally justifiable" just as the Anglican Church had done at the 1930 Lambeth Conference and the U.S. Federal Council of Churches, the precursor of the National Council of Churches, did in 1961.

Compassion is contagious, says Pacem honoree



CNS photo/Anne Marie Amacher, The Catholic Messenger

Widad Akreyi speaks following her acceptance of the Pacem in Terris Peace and Freedom Award Oct. 22 in Davenport, Iowa. As a child living in the Kurdistan region of Iraq, Akreyi, during her first persecution, recalled hearing her mother cry for help as she ran with 5-year-old Widad to safety. Weakened by malnutrition, "my head was dangling from her right arm," she said. Six years later, war broke out between Iraq and Iran. "During that war, our homeland was attacked three times. By the grace of God, we survived." That and other experiences of persecution convinced her to commit her life to peace and justice. Bishop Thomas R. Zinkula of Davenport presented the award to Akreyi during a ceremony in Christ the King Chapel on the St. Ambrose University campus.

Reformation at 500: Christians see they are brothers, sisters, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The grace of God and decades of ecumenical dialogue have enabled Catholics and Protestants to mark the 500th anniversary of the Reformation together, emphasizing their shared baptism and faith in Jesus, Pope Francis said. Welcoming the moderator and a delegation from the Church of Scotland, a Presbyterian church, the pope said, "Let us thank the Lord for the great gift of being able to live this year in true fraternity, no longer as adversaries,

after long centuries of estrangement and conflict." The pope met the Church of Scotland delegation at the Vatican Oct. 26, just four days before Reformation Sunday, which was to mark the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther posting his 95 theses on the door of the Wittenberg Castle church. Posting the theses, formally called the "Disputation on the Power and Efficacy of Indulgences," sparked the Protestant Reformation. Marking the anniversary together, Pope Francis said, "has been possible, with God's grace, by the ecumenical journey that has enabled us to grow in mutual understanding, trust and cooperation."

Lebanese cardinal inaugurates New York chapel to St. Charbel

NEW YORK (CNS)— Cardinal Bechara Rai, patriarch of Maronite Catholics, inaugurated a chapel to Lebanon's St. Charbel in St. Patrick's Cathedral. The chapel is the first of its kind outside Lebanon. "St. Charbel is a sign of hope for Christianity and for all the people of the Middle East who suffer in difficult circumstances," Cardinal Rai said in his homily Oct. 28 at a Mass at the cathedral. New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan and Bishop Gregory J. Mansour of the Maronite Eparchy of St. Maron of Brooklyn concelebrated the Mass.

"We are here in New York and the United States to hear the voices that speak to us about the Middle East," said Cardinal Dolan. The artistic mosaic sanctuary depicts St. Charbel wrapped in a luminous halo in the Lebanese mountain, near the St. Maron monastery in Annaya, Lebanon, where his tomb is located. The saint is surrounded by flourishing cedars and crystalline waters of the Mediterranean, a symbol of spiritual life.

Spanish prelates urge unity; some Catalan Catholics advocate self-rule

BARCELONA, Spain (CNS) — Spanish church leaders reiterated support for their country's unity as the Madrid government imposed direct control over Catalonia. However, Catholic organizations in the breakaway region -- which declared independence Oct. 27 -- condemned the crackdown and warned government actions could have "incalculable consequences." Cardinal Ricardo Blazquez Perez of Valladolid, president of the Spanish bishops' conference, expressed sadness for the Catalan declaration of independence and reiterated support "for the constitutional order and ... its restoration, and I ask God for peaceful coexistence among all citizens." His statement, issued Oct. 28, came the day after the Spanish government announced it was dismissing Catalonia's president, Carles Puigdemont, and local officials, and ending the region's self-government under the terms of Spain's 1978 constitution. Spain called for regional elections Dec. 21. Other church leaders also urged unity.

Vatican Nativity scene to highlight works of mercy

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican's Christmas tree and Nativity scene will feature traditional designs and decorations centered on the theme of mercy. A towering 92-foot spruce tree will be the centerpiece of the Vatican's Christmas holidays, according to a note released Oct. 25 by the governing office of Vatican City. The tree, which measures nearly 33 feet in diameter, will be donated by the Archdiocese of Elk, Poland, and transported to the Vatican on a flat-bed truck traveling over 1,240 miles across central Europe, the Vatican said. The Nativity scene, instead, will be donated by the Benedictine Abbey of Montevergine, located in southern Italy, and created in an "18th century style according to the oldest Neapolitan tradition." Covering a surface of over 860 square feet, the Nativity scene will be "inspired by the works of mercy" and will feature 20 terracotta figures, some as tall as 6 feet, the governing office said.

Christ the King inducts National Junior Honor Society class

SOUTH BEND — Christ the King School recently welcomed 12 students to its newly formed National Junior Honor Society chapter during a ceremony at an all-school Mass.

This year's eighth-grade inductees are Seth Badics, Mackenzie Crane, Becca Dosch, Emily Fenske, Emmanuel Thomas and Kristi Tingwald. Seventh-grade inductees are Jennifer Danh, Ryan Goffinet, Alexis Maneld, Eleanor Munn, Sam Thomas and Aleksey Zielinski.

This is the school's second year participating in NJHS. Students are eligible for achievement at the end of their sixth- and seventh-grade years for induction the following fall. The adviser is Maureen Terry.

"We are proud to be able to recognize the outstanding scholarship, service, leadership and character of our seventh- and eighth-grade students this year," Terry said. "Our new members exemplify these pillars, and we know membership in the NJHS will help our already excellent students to strive to do wonderful things in and out of the classroom."

Students are eligible for NJHS membership based on scholarship, service, leadership and character, and must maintain a cumulative grade percentage of 96 out of 100 at the end of each trimester.

Agencies receive support for initiatives and programming

ELKHART — The board of directors of the Community Foundation of Elkhart County on Oct. 12 approved \$961,750 in new grants to nonprofits serving Elkhart County. Two Catholic entities were among those receiving a Community Investment, Good Neighbor or Rapid Response grant from the Fund for Elkhart County during the first quarter of fiscal year 2017-18.

The award recipients for Youth Development, a subgroup of Community Investment Grants category, included \$50,000 to Marian High School, Mishawaka, for an Elkhart bus; and \$60,250 to St. John the Evangelist School for a technology project that will put iPads in the hands of students.

Community Investment Grants address youth development, vibrant community or quality of life issues and respond to requests of \$10,000 to \$250,000. Submissions are reviewed by volunteer committees and are awarded twice a year. The committees are comprised of a diverse range of community members who are engaged with their respective sectors and work to be aware of emerging and ongoing initiatives.

"Our local nonprofit partners continue to develop programs and

AROUND THE DIOCESE

St. Joseph School Pumpkin Festival



Provided by Jill Hamblin

A Pumpkin Festival that took place at St. Joseph School in Garrett in late October offered fellowship for families and celebrated the fall season. The school's HASA organization hosted and coordinated the event. The children, some dressed in costume, played games, had their faces painted, ate treats and more; family members were offered a homemade meal of chicken and noodles, potatoes and pies. Cash, gift cards, toys and Notre Dame tickets were among the raffle prizes that were given away.

initiatives to build stronger communities within Elkhart County" said Jill Sigsbee, Community Foundation grant chairperson. "The Community Foundation is pleased to support these efforts that will positively impact our children and families for generations to come."

Gold Mass slated for Notre Dame

NOTRE DAME — The inaugural Gold Mass for scientists and engineers at the University of Notre Dame will be celebrated at 5:15 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 15, in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on the university campus.

Father Terrence Ehrman, CSC, assistant director of the Center for Theology, Science and Human Flourishing, will preside and preach.

Named for the color of the hoods worn by individuals graduating with a Ph.D. in science, the Gold Mass is also associated with St. Albert the Great, the patron saint of scientists.

While the Gold Mass is a new tradition at Notre Dame, the ini-

Student 'saints' share their faith



Provided by Karen Lohmuller

Fourth-grade students Claire Bloom and Felicity Barton, from left, dressed as St. Gianna Molla and St. Dorothy of Caesarea, attended the All-Schools Mass at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum in the morning of Oct. 26, then went live on Redeemer Radio's Sharathon in the afternoon with representatives of their parish. They attend Most Precious Blood School in Fort Wayne.

tial Gold Mass for scientists and engineers was celebrated on Nov. 15, 2016, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The tradition was established by the Society of Catholic Scientists, an idea that grew from a seed planted in a 1988 letter from St. John Paul II to Father George Coyne, SJ, director of the Vatican Observatory. In that letter, the pontiff wrote, "Science can purify religion from error and superstition; religion can purify science from idolatry and false absolutes. Each can draw the other into a wider world, a world in which both can flourish."

In addition to the Gold Mass, activities include a reception in the gallery of Jordan Hall of Science at 6:15 p.m., and an Edison Lecture at 7:15 p.m. in Jordan Hall of Science, Room 101. The lecture will address the question of the compatibility of faith and science. The featured speaker is Jonathan Lunine, the David C. Duncan Professor in the Physical Sciences at Cornell University and director of the Cornell Center for Astrophysics and Planetary Sciences. A member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, Lunine is also a founding member and current vice president of the Society of Catholic Scientists.

People of all denominations and faith traditions are welcome to participate.

Men's conference registration opens

FORT WAYNE — Become fully alive in Christ when by attending the eighth annual Rekindle the Fire Diocesan Men's Conference on Feb. 24 at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne. Registration is now open at www.rekindlethefire.net.

Conference speakers include world-renowned Theology of the Body expert Christopher West, inspirational storyteller Joe Farris and Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. The day includes opportunities for confession, eucharistic adoration, to visit Catholic vendors and celebrate Mass with Bishop Rhoades.

An early bird registration discount of \$40 is available through Dec. 31. After Jan. 1, registration is \$45. New this year is special pricing of \$25 for middle, high school and college students.

Handel's 'Messiah' to be presented

DONALDSON — The "Messiah," by George Frideric Handel, will be performed by the Ancilla Domini Community Choir and Orchestra in the Ancilla Domini Chapel at The Center at Donaldson at 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 18. This performance is presented by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ and the Mary Lou McCarthy-Artz Concert Series.

There is no admission fee, but a freewill offering will be accepted. A reception will follow the performance in Cana Hall, 9601 Union Rd. Visit www.theCenteratDonaldson.org for information.

Losses, grief test couple's vocation

BY JEANNIE EWING

Grief is multifaceted and often complex. The depth of suffering from loss ranges widely for everyone, but this deep-seated pain is often accompanied by difficult and intense emotions. One's spiritual experience of grief mingles intricately with the emotional and physiological aspects of moving from what once was to what is no more.

Miscarriage is one such subtype of grief that renders a couple full of emotions, few of which are easily articulated or shared with others. The loss incurred from miscarriage is often a hidden cross, because many times the children lost were so tiny that no body was recovered or buried for closure.

Men and women also process their grief pertaining to miscarriage quite differently, which can put an unwelcome strain on a marriage. But for both, there is a weight always dangling in the air,

never able to be grasped: the loss of that presence of a child or children who were never born to earth, who never could run through the home or giggle and play.

The mystery of this type of suffering has not been lost upon Noah and Ruth Smucker of St. John the Evangelist Parish, Goshen, who converted to Catholicism from the Mennonite faith in 2007. Only a couple of years after they were married, they experienced what they call an "unofficial" miscarriage, because it was too early to be certain that they had lost a baby. Yet throughout the subsequent 11 years, they lost a confirmed six babies to miscarriage, and possibly more.

The Smuckers soon learned that multiple miscarriages would yield unprecedented grief in their lives, grief at times too much to bear. "Truthfully, I didn't take the time to deal with the first miscarriage," Noah admits. "Emotionally and spiritually, I don't know how I was doing exactly, but I saw the trauma it



Provided by Smucker family

Noah and Ruth Smucker present their daughter, Regina, during her baptism at St. John the Evangelist Church, Goshen, on Sept. 2. From left are Noah; Ruth and Regina; Ruth's mother, Elena Wall; and Ruth's sister, Erica Blanco Machinea.

was causing Ruth and I was very concerned about that."

Ruth struggles with wondering about the children who might have been born to earth. "There's a certain emptiness," she shared, "because I don't know what happened in the beginning." She and Noah decided to quickly try for another baby, because then they wouldn't have to face the pain of their first loss.

After their second miscarriage — the one they call their first "official" miscarriage, because it was verified by a pregnancy test — Ruth said, "It changed everything. I knew nothing would ever be the same. It was a huge turning point in our lives."

The pattern continued after a rocky period of time in which Ruth tried to uncover her fertility issues by way of medical care. But the pattern of miscarriages continued. Over the course of five years, the Smuckers lost up to possibly seven more babies. "I was pretty hopeless," Ruth confessed. "My health deteriorated in all sorts of ways. But through the encouragement of good friends, I got help."

Ruth said her emotional and spiritual health also suffered tremendously during this time, because "the grief was unbearable." Noah added, "As we continued to have more mis-

carriages, I felt as though they turned into a sort of mystery that I would just never be able to understand. I was afraid of obsessing about them, but at the same time I didn't want to rush the grieving process."

Throughout their fertility journey, the Smuckers were also still transitioning from their Mennonite faith to Catholicism. They claim the Catholic Church's teaching against contraception and in favor of natural family planning was a refreshing and welcome insight into their recurrent losses of babies. "Our hope was restored," said Ruth.

The Smuckers said that opening themselves up to life time after time was an incredible difficulty. They didn't want to revert to the "contraceptive mentality" they had in the early years of their marriage, yet they couldn't face the possibility of losing even more children — especially without adequately managing their suffering and health.

"The grief was burning what we had grown in our marriage," Ruth explained. "It was putting to death what we had already begun. It was that all-consuming." Yet they courageously opened themselves up to the possibility of another pregnancy in 2016, discerning that God was asking them to trust him and

live in the state of their parental vocation.

After discovering that she was pregnant again, Ruth was terrified. "I truly felt I had post-traumatic stress disorder," she said. There were times when she would just wait to lose the baby.

Except this time, she didn't. "I was about 12 weeks along but hadn't yet taken a pregnancy test," she shares. "Once I took the test and saw a positive result, I couldn't believe it. Would we be looking at a later miscarriage, potential stillbirth, or a live baby? I'd never made it that far in any of my other pregnancies."

Around 16 weeks' gestation, Noah and Ruth saw their baby daughter on the ultrasound screen. It was then they realized the possibility of preparing for a live birth. "I was flabbergasted by what God was doing," Ruth said. Noah added, "I know that the Bible speaks of the Lord completing the good work that has begun in you. Having Regina was the next step — a continuation of the good work that had begun with the earlier children we'd conceived and lost."

This year the couple welcomed their first live baby, Regina Anne: but their family will also always consist of the children who have already gone home to heaven.

Today, Regina Anne is 5 months old. The Smuckers say their grief is not gone, just changed. "There's been a mingling of grief and joy with Regina's birth," Ruth explained. "This grief is different than with the miscarriages. Where there was darkness before, now there is this beautiful ray of light that coincides with the reality that Regina won't know her siblings this side of heaven. But that joy gives light to the darkness."

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St. Joseph - Hessen Cassel accompanies the grieving

BY BARB SIEMINSKI

Visitor on the third Wednesday of the month at St. Joseph - Hessen Cassel Church in Fort Wayne might be taken a little aback when hearing peals of laughter coming from the room where the Touchstone Grief Support Group meets.

"Often, we share special memories of our loved ones and those can certainly be humorous," said Donna Gleason, one of the three facilitators of the group. "Or maybe something special the bereaved misses about the loved one — those can be humorous, too. One minute we are all crying, and the next, we can be laughing. Both tears and laughter are healing for our souls. One lady told us that she told her friends, 'I never thought I'd be laughing in a grief group!' But we do."

The group had its beginnings in 2004, thanks to Carolyn Sorg and Father Ed Erpelding. "I had heard about a grief ministry from some Michigan friends who were very involved in theirs," said Sorg, a parishioner of the church. "When I came home I asked Father Ed if we had anything like that at our parish. He said no, but that I could start one, so I began gathering information from my friends at church as to who would be interested in helping me. As my Michigan friends said, 'You cannot do this by yourself.'

"Five people said 'yes' immediately, and I've been very blessed to have such wonderful people to help me. We all went to hear Dr. Alan Wolfelt speak and bought his book, 'Understanding Your Grief.' Then we had Dar Richardson come and speak at our parish and went from there. We've been meeting every month since then."

Though the group started out with six members, three have moved on. The original facilitators of what came to be called the Touchstone Grief Support Group have remained: Sorg, Gleason and Kathy Hartman.

Father William Kummer, the current pastor of St. Joseph - Hessen Cassel, has been appreciative of the group's impact.

"When a person is facing a heartfelt loss the sadness, sorrow and the sense of being



Photos by Barb Sieminski

From left, Donna Gleason, Kathy Hartman and Carolyn Sorg go over materials that would offer the most help for a bereaved person coming in for a meeting. The trio are the founders of the Touchstone Grief Support Group at St. Joseph - Hessen Cassel Parish, Fort Wayne.

'nowhere' is devastating," said Father Kummer. "The group does two things that affect the parish: No. 1, when we don't know how to share our compassion and cannot find the words, our support group does; and No. 2, the support group prevents our loved ones who are in emotional pain from falling through the cracks. Jesus Christ, who is the reason for our parish, who cares for the sorrowing, is made real."

"The reaction that I have gotten is minimal, for everything is private and confidential. Of course, we do hear 'Thank you' and occasionally hear a word of praise for those who lead the meetings. I am happy that we have this service available for the grieving families, especially those who have lost a child and for those who die too young."

Sorg receives immense satisfaction when people tell her that they really learn a lot at the meetings, and the friendships made enable others to also help

those who are grieving.

Gleason, who was new to the parish when the ministry began, emphasized a critical point.

"We are not counselors.

That's important. I have been a 'facilitator' at Erin's House (for grieving children and their families) for nine years. That's pretty much what we do at our grief group at St. Joe: We facilitate those in attendance to help each other. Everyone is at a different point in his or her journey.

"I have not lost a spouse or a child, but grief support is primarily listening to another's feelings and letting them tell you the 'story' about their loved one and their loss of the person. Dr. Wolfelt's philosophy is 'companioning' the grieving. We don't have answers, nor can we fix it, but we can accompany a mourner along their journey through their grief wilderness. He has many wonderful books on grief, and D.O. McComb and Sons Funeral Home has a lending library on Lake Avenue that is also helpful."

One of the group's participants began writing poetry to express his feelings, said Gleason, and he is extremely good.

"During our meetings, we will be discussing something, and someone will point to him and say, 'Can you write a poem about it for next month?' and he always does," said Gleason. "We're trying to encourage him to print them, so don't be surprised if you come across a compilation of 'Poems for the Bereaved' in the future."

The group's mission is to companion others in their walk through grief, to be a blessing to those who mourn, to give hope when all hope seems lost and to help heal the physical, emotional, cognitive, social and spiritual realms of suffering.

"We, as a team, encourage the bereaved to pray and never give up on God," concluded Sorg. "He is always there for us if we just ask for his help. We do not know why things happen the way they do. We have to trust God. Things do not change overnight, so you have to be patient and take one day at a time. Also, our team is always there for them for comfort and support."



As a way of grieving, a figure of the Blessed Virgin Mary was located at the church with the inscription "In memory of Joseph and Marie Wyss and family, 1988."



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In MY diocese

Holy Cross

St. Joseph County

Holy Cross Parish educates the mind and the heart

BY CLAIRE KENNEY

The Congregation of Holy Cross has very much impacted the South Bend community. Decades ago, the congregation, founded by Blessed Basil Anthony Moreau, came to America from France and began to establish roots in South Bend. Well-known for its emphasis on comprehensive education, that is, the formation of not only the intellectual, but also the conscience, the congregation founded various parish and school communities in the area, Holy Cross Parish and Holy Cross School among them.

Holy Cross is a tight-knit faith community located on the west side of South Bend. Founded in 1929, the parish continues to be overseen by priests of the Congregation of Holy Cross. Currently, Father Vincent Coppola, CSC, serves as the parish's pastor, supported by Father Michael Couhig, CSC, and Father Edmund Sylvia, CSC.

Though the school, once staffed by the Sisters of the Holy Cross, is now led by laity, the congregation's long-standing history of fusing faith and intellectual learning remains baked into the overarching community culture. As a result, the parish often collaborates with the school, and vice versa.

"There is a close relationship between the parish and our school, and our principal sits on several of our committees to keep everyone up to date," Father Sylvia said.

"Holy Cross Parish and School have a great collaborative spirit," concurred Principal Angela Budzinski. "Working together, parish and school, shows everyone that Holy Cross Parish is committed to the school."

Budzinski added that the par-

ish priests play a proactive role in maintaining a strong relationship between the two facets.

"All (of our) priests — Father Vince, Father Ed, and Father Mike — are involved in all aspects of the school, supporting teachers, students and parents to the fullest. As a matter of fact, every day, one of them is greeting the students by the front door as they arrive each morning at school."

Nancy Takach has a long-standing personal and professional history with the Holy Cross parish and school community. Currently serving as the parish administrative assistant, she said that Holy Cross has always been welcoming to her, even before she became Catholic.

"Though I was not raised Catholic and did not attend Holy Cross School, I have had a feeling of belonging because I grew up in the Holy Cross neighborhood," she said. "It's a great place to be. I even remember the school song!"

Ministering to both the Catholic and non-Catholic school families is an example of how the parish and school work together.

"The parish sees the school as a vital mission to evangelize parishioner children, as well as nonparishioners and non-Catholic families whose children attend our school," Budzinski said.

Holy Cross Parish initiates learning opportunities within the parish community.

"To foster education in the parish we have just become part of formed.org, put out by the Augustine Institute out of Denver, Colorado," Father Sylvia said. Parishes and individuals subscribe to the Formed website in order to gain access to tools to grow in faith by learning.

The parish also offers various opportunities for ministry



Joe Raymond

Founded in 1929, Holy Cross Parish and Holy Cross School in South Bend are ministries of the Congregation of the Holy Cross, Notre Dame. Here, the students sing for Archbishop José Gomez of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, during a recent visit to the school in support of its new dual-language program.

as a way to practice virtue. These ministries include giving back through music — such as participating as a member of the choir, as an instrumentalist, or as a cantor — altar serving, serving as an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, lecturing, volunteering at the Lenten Soup Supper, ministering to the surrounding local community

as a member of the Holy Cross Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and serving on the catechetical team.

"Throughout our history, our mission has been to share in the Church's mission by working as educators in the faith," says the Congregation of Holy Cross' website, "In all of our ministries, whether schools, parishes,

or other works of missionary outreach and social justice, we serve side-by-side with our collaborators through educating hearts and minds and building communities of the coming kingdom." It's evident that Holy Cross Parish and School live this mission of fostering comprehensive education in a collaborative manner.

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In MY diocese

Sacred Heart

St. Joseph County

Social justice is the heartbeat of Notre Dame parish

BY CLAIRE KENNEY

Well-known for its commitment to social justice and located on the campus of the University of Notre Dame, Sacred Heart Parish is steeped in history. In fact, the parish website notes, it “is the oldest continuous parish founded and staffed by the Congregation of Holy Cross.”

The parish church has been housed in various structures on Notre Dame’s campus since the parish’s founding. Today it rests underneath the university’s Basilica of the Sacred Heart, which was deemed a minor basilica by St. John Paul II in 1992, in a structure known as the “Crypt.” The Crypt is much simpler than the ornate and decorative basilica upstairs, and its smaller and simpler decor provides an intimate setting for prayer.

Father David Scheidler, CSC, is the current pastor of Sacred Heart Parish. Before the appointment, Father Scheidler worked in various other capacities for the university, including as associate rector of the basilica, chaplain for the university’s Folk Choir and its Alliance for Catholic Education, and as rector of one of the institution’s residence halls, St. Edward. He has also served elsewhere and in places such as Niles, Illinois; Goodyear, Arizona; and Monterrey, Mexico.

Due to the church’s location, Sacred Heart parishioners tend to be those associated with the university or the basilica itself. Father Scheidler said that as Notre Dame’s campus and surrounding area “grow and evolve, we seem to be attracting younger families.” He enjoys having these families included in the community, and also likes that Notre Dame students get involved in parish life as well.

“We have graduate students



FATHER DAVID SCHEIDLER, CSC



Photo provided by Sacred Heart Parish

The Crypt at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Notre Dame, is the worship area used by those who claim Sacred Heart Parish as their home parish. It is in this intimate space that parishioners discerned their mission to advocate for social justice in the South Bend area.

in the Sacred Music department who help out with our choir, which adds such a wonderful and professional element to our liturgical celebration,” he said. “We have Notre Dame students who volunteer with our religious education and who participate in our daily Masses.”

Father Scheidler collaborates with Sacred Heart’s Pastoral Council, which consists of 10 members and five committee and commission members. Paul Thornton

is the president of the Pastoral Council. For Thornton, his work on the council is an avenue for giving back.

“Being president of the Pastoral Council for me, is an act of love for our pastor and the parishioners of this great parish,” Thornton said.

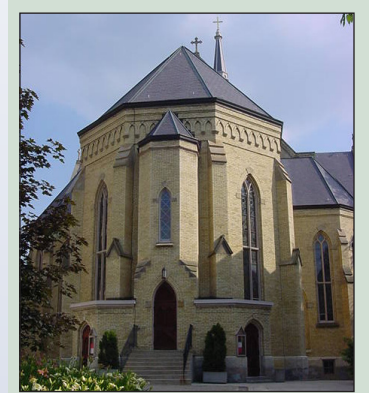
Parish members put their faith into action by serving the larger South Bend and surrounding community. The Social

Justice Ministry Commission offers many activities to give back, from adopting a family for Christmas to working at a local food pantry to the Dismas House ministry, which helps people who are returning to society from incarceration make positive contributions as citizens. “This parish is full of faithful Catholics with a passion for social justice and peace initiatives,” Father Scheidler said.

Steve Good, chairman of the Social Justice Ministry and a 1964 graduate of Notre Dame, says that the opportunities for volunteering through social justice activities are popular among a wide array of age groups. Some volunteer their time and talent, others choose to give to the parish’s social justice initiatives monetarily.

Thornton believes that the parish’s social justice work is important and that the space designated for the community’s prayer is integral to the work.

“From the Crypt church in the lower level of the basilica at Notre Dame, Sacred Heart parishioners get the spiritual strength to perform many of their services to the needy in our community,” he said. “Faithful service is what we’re all about.”



Sacred Heart

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Women's retreat seeks to deepen the gift of faith

BY JILL A. BOUGHTON

Catholic women in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will have the opportunity Dec. 1-3 to further explore the faith they received at baptism during the third Rejoice! Women's Retreat at Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center, Donaldson. The theme for the retreat, taken from 1 Peter 1:7, is "Faith, More Precious Than Gold."

Retreat leader and featured speaker Sister Ann Shields, SGL, is already praying that each retreatant's faith comes alive, so that what she affirms at Mass during the retreat can blossom in every aspect of the participant's daily life. "I don't think we fully grasp the power available to us in the Word of God and the sacraments," Sister Shields said.

The retreat begins at 6:45 p.m. Friday and ends at 2 p.m. Sunday. On Saturday evening, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will lead a guided meditation and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. There will be ample time during the retreat for corporate and personal prayer and adoration, but also relaxed time for fellowship with other retreatants. Vanessa Proulx and other young women from St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, will lead the music.

The beginning of Advent is a good time to come apart and set the right tone for the season and the new liturgical year. The busier a woman is, the more she needs a retreat like this. As Sister Shields told Redeemer Radio interviewer Kyle Heimann, "We're living in a world that's full of noise. But every human being needs quiet time. There's nothing selfish about giving God

his rightful place and the opportunity to speak to our hearts."

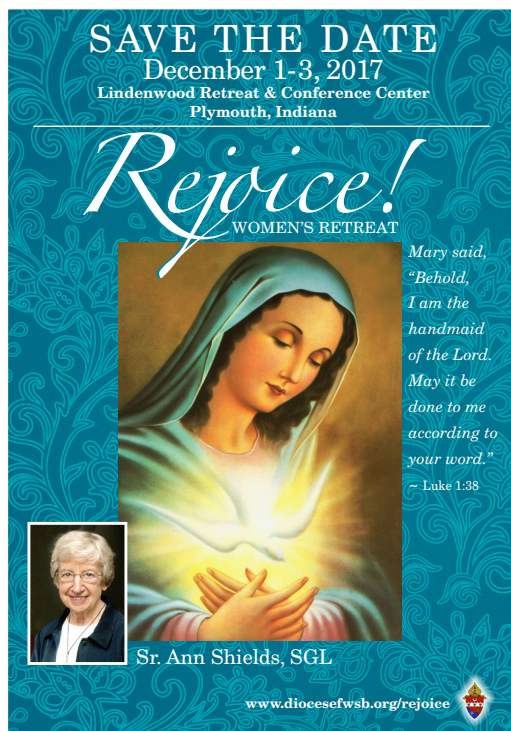
Sister Shields preached the first diocesan Rejoice! retreat in December 2015, with a Marian theme: "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior" (Luke 1:46-47). Reflecting on that experience, she said, "It was delightful being there. The women were eager and attentive, and I believe it bore good fruit in your diocese." Debbie Herbeck led the second retreat last year, with a theme drawn from Lamentations 3:22-23: "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end." However, new participants are welcomed every year.

St. Jude parishioner Jan Torma had the idea of planning a diocesan women's retreat as she was praying about Pope Francis' words to the 37th National Convention of Renewal in the Holy Spirit on June 3, 2014. The pope told participants, "This is your definition: a current of grace." He reminded them, "This is the foundation: to adore God. Seek sanctity in the new life of the Holy Spirit. Be dispensers of the grace of God." Torma had also been moved by Pope Benedict XVI's words in his apostolic letter "Ubicomque et Semper:" "At the root of all evangelization, there is not a human plan of expansion, but the desire to share the inestimable gift that God has willed to give us, making us sharers in his own life."

Sister Shields belongs to Servants of God's Love, a small, charismatic religious order in the diocese of Lansing, Michigan, founded to bring God's love where it is most needed in this particular time. Their current work includes teaching in four Catholic schools, caring for foster children and providing a home for the elderly who have no family and no financial means. In the early years of Emmanuel House, Sister Shields was sit-



SISTER ANN SHIELDS



ting beside a dying woman who had been unresponsive for some time. She said to her, "Helen,

when you see the Lord, remember us to him." Helen opened her eyes and answered, "Every day before the throne of God, I'll thank him for the Servants of God's Love."

Sister Shields led her first retreats at Franciscan University of Steubenville in 1975. She has preached all over the world as part of Renewal Ministries. She said it was very moving to meet believers in Eastern Europe who had suffered under communism, and inspiring to participate in the lively worship of African and Latin American

Catholics, who gave her much more than she brought them.

She has authored several books, including "Deeper Conversion," "To Be Like Jesus," and "More of the Holy Spirit." However, she said that her most satisfying ministry over the past 23 years has been a 15-minute radio program, "Food for the Journey," based on the Mass readings for each weekday. Broadcast worldwide, the program provides nourishment for people carrying heavy crosses. "I often read emails from listeners, on my knees," she said. "They have no idea how holy they are!"

Members of the planning team for the retreat are Torma; Carol Miller, St. Matthew Cathedral parishioner and retired pastoral minister at Marian High School; Mary Glowaski, director of the diocesan Office of Evangelization; and Cecilia Aguilar-Tussey, assistant in the Office of Evangelization. For more information visit www.diocesefwsb.org/rejoice.

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PRESIDER: Rev. Terrence P. Ehrman, C.S.C.
Assistant Director
Center for Theology, Science and Human Flourishing

Reception **Jordan Hall of Science, Atrium**
6:15 P.M.

Edison Lecture **Jordan Hall of Science, Room 101**
7:15 P.M.

Lemaître, Modern Cosmology and the Question of the Compatibility of Science and Faith

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Human formation: A fraternity, not a frat

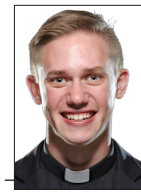
Human formation, one of the four dimensions of seminary life and the foundation for the other three, speaks to the reality that, within the seminary, we live as men in communion. In other words, we are fully initiated brothers in a great big fraternity. Not a frat, but a fraternity.

Before I entered the seminary, I spent a year in college where I was privileged to be part of a fraternity on campus. Like most other colleges and universities, there are positives and negatives to living in a fraternity. The most positive aspect of this type of fraternity that I can think of is its ability to draw a person outside of themselves and place them in relation to other people. Often times a person heads to college thinking that they are completely free and independent, which is not only wrong, but also harmful. Fraternities, sororities, groups and associations of the like remind us that we do not live for ourselves, but that we live with and for others, that we live in relation to one another. These relationships and friendships are beautiful things, and there are many people who can tell you just how important their college fraternity or sorority was in their growth as a person. On the flipside, we also hear of people who may speak of the negative things that are commonly found in a fraternity: excessive drinking, promiscuity, faithlessness among many, disparate relationships due to opposing thoughts, and unfortunately, many others. Relationships with others, whether stranger or best

friend, are at times difficult and can even be harmful. That is why we must be so conscious and intentional about the relationships we form and the friends we have.

I look back on that year in the fraternity before I entered the seminary, and I am overall thankful for the positive impact that it had on me. I do thank God it was a fraternity that, though certainly not perfect and faithful to the Catholic faith, nevertheless allowed me to practice and live my faith without critical judgment. Entering the fraternity within the seminary, however, helped me to realize just how important it is to have strong relationships with those who live with and around you. Not only that, but having a close fraternity within the seminary is crucial to the development and growth of men discerning to be priests.

The seminary, in its job to form men in the ways of Christ and the church, prioritizes the human dimension as the foundation for the rest of seminary life, and at the heart of this human formation are our relationships, first with Christ and second with others. Because our life is then centered on Christ, which means we share a common bond that runs deeper than our love of sports, food, or TV, our relationships with one another become strong and unbreakable. Fraternity becomes a solid rock on which these relationships are cultivated and a springboard for many other areas of growth and improvement. In fact, many priests will say that the best formation they received during their



DANIEL NIEZER

THE STRANGE AND JOYFUL LIFE

time in the seminary was from their own brother seminarians.

Living in close proximity with one another for a number of years, sharing pews in the church, taking classes together, praying together, playing sports together and eating together, among other things, allows us all to come to know one another as true brothers in Christ. That is the whole point I want to emphasize: When any relationship is founded and continually centered on Christ, that relationship is bound for success. This includes times of correction, as none of us are perfect and often times we need another person to tell us that. With an understanding of our common bond as brothers in Christ all working toward the same goal, no correction should be seen as judgmental or as a personal attack. Rather, correction within the seminary shows the love for a brother seminarian and a desire to see him strive in virtue and in relationship with Christ.

I pray that this fraternity, which is so coveted in the seminary, may not cease, but continue to flourish into the priesthood. Yet at the same time, I

NIEZER, page 14

Harvey Weinstein's not alone

Harvey Weinstein is a pig. It's not language I would normally use in a column, but the cascade of revelations about his treatment of women and men, most particularly his twisted and apparently constant sexual advances, demands a blunt assessment. The accusations that have topped this modern-day film mogul make for disturbing reading every morning at the breakfast table.

The exposure of his predatory bullying in this age of predatory bullies has had at least a few benefits, however.

First, it has ignited an explosion of confessions on the part of women in the entertainment as well as other professions. I might say all professions. The #MeToo hashtag makes for harrowing reading, a rolling tide of upsetting, at times horrifying, anecdotes that can easily fill the reader with a deep despair for man's inhumanity to woman.

While many of us, God willing, make our way through our days without harassing or being harassed, it is clear that many of our sisters (and some of our brothers) are not so fortunate. That so many have felt it necessary to remain silent for so long speaks not just to fear of the abuser's retaliation, but also to the fear that the rest of us will turn away.

As we Catholics have seen in the clergy sexual abuse crisis, this fear is not unfounded. Of course, we must be sensitive



GREG ERLANDSON

AMID THE FREY

to the risk of false allegations, which is why we need due process, but not no process or a sham process.

Second, the Weinstein scandal is a reminder that no party or ideology is somehow immune to such behavior. Weinstein was a great supporter of liberal causes and portrayed himself as feminism's friend.

We've seen hypocrisy among so-called pro-life politicians and so-called progressive politicians, among both blue and red. We as a nation even gave a pass to highly offensive "locker room talk" by a presidential candidate (though as an adult I have been in many locker rooms and not heard such language).

Third, one is left to marvel at all the self-righteous prattle and exaggerated breast-beating that is spilling out of Hollywood in the wake of Weinstein's rapid fall. This is an industry that has helped to hypersexualize our nation. The steady coarsening of humor, the increasingly graphic scenes, the relentless titillation embedded in everything from "family comedies" to historical

ERLANDSON, page 14

God calls us to greatness, through humility and service



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time Matthew 23:1-12

The Book of Malachi provides this weekend's first reading. The prophet's name, Malachi, reveals his role. In Hebrew it means "messenger of God." As a prophet, he brought God's message to the people.

Often in prophetic writings, as in this weekend's reading, the prophets wrote in a way in which God spoke in the first person. The prophets presented themselves merely as earthly instruments through whom God spoke, but the actual communicator was God.

Malachi did not write at a

time of crisis for God's people, as was the case for other prophets, or when life was filled with peril and destitution. Malachi, nevertheless, shared with all the prophets the opinion that when the people were sluggish in their religious observance, or when they altogether had rejected God, they risked their own well-being.

Lack of fervor, in the estimates of the prophets, was the height of ingratitude. By contrast, God always was merciful, always faithful to the Covenant.

This weekend's reading, again with God's words given in the first person, accuses the people of sin. God is the perfect and all-knowing judge. He is merciful, but God does not prevent people from sinning. It is their choice. He also does not interrupt the consequences of sinning.

St. Paul's First Epistle to the Thessalonians supplies the second reading. In this reading, Paul reassures the Christians of Thessalonica, to whom the letter is addressed, that he cares deeply for them and especially for their spiritual vitality.

Essential to these feelings of

care and love has been Paul's proclamation of the Gospel. He could do nothing greater for the Thessalonians than to share with them the saving story of Jesus.

For its third reading, the church presents St. Matthew's Gospel. This passage is the last in a series of stories in which Jesus discusses, or argues, with the Pharisees or with others. As often happens elsewhere in the Gospels, Jesus denounces the Pharisees' hypocrisy.

The Pharisees were learned in Jewish law and tradition, usually occupying central places in synagogues, regarded as persons very knowledgeable in religious matters, hence the Lord's reference to the "chair of Moses." Still, they were humans, subject to temptation. They were not perfect, and they knew it if they were intellectually honest.

Humans always are insecure and confused, burdened by their inadequacies. To compensate, to convince themselves or others of superiority, humans often seek places of privilege, or control over others.

Jesus tells the disciples to

serve others. He calls them to be bold. He encourages them. With God's grace, nothing needs to be feared.

Reflection

For weeks, in these biblical readings from St. Matthew's Gospel, Jesus has assumed the role of the final authority, of the ultimate judge. Jesus pronounces on the most supreme of all laws, the law of Moses.

For Matthew, Jesus judges as the Son of God, in a position to pronounce on anything and everything. Matthew depicts Jesus always presenting the wisest and most reasonable of judgments on matters that usually perplex others.

In this weekend's Gospel, Jesus directly addresses the most basic of human inadequacies: the deep fear within us all that we, even unwittingly, will make mistakes and pay the price.

Be strong, the Lord admonishes. There is nothing to fear. Be sincere. Follow the Lord in confidence.

Supporting this view

are the readings from First Thessalonians and from Malachi. God always is with us in mercy, love, guidance and protection. He sent to us the prophets, the Apostles, and of course Jesus.

Still, God does not overwhelm us. We voluntarily must turn to God. We must hear God. We must love God. Always crippling us will be our embedded fears and defenses, but in conquering self, we do not leave ourselves at risk. God strengthens us.

READINGS

Sunday: Mal 1:1-14b—2:2b, 8-10

Ps 131:1-3 1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13 Mt 23:1-12

Monday: Rom 11:29-36 Ps 69:30-31, 33-34, 36 Lk 14:12-14

Tuesday: Rom 12:5-16b Ps 131:1cde, 2-3 Lk 14:15-24

Wednesday: Rom 13:8-10 Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9 Lk 14:25-33

Thursday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12 Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17 Jn 2:13-22

Friday: Rom 15:14-21 Ps 98:1-4 Lk 16:1-8

Saturday: Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27 Ps 145:2-5, 10-11 Lk 16:9-15

Which reformation? What reform?

Despite the formulation you heard before and after the Oct. 31 quincentenary of Luther's 95 theses, there was no single "Reformation" to which the Catholic "Counter-Reformation" was the similarly univocal response. Rather, as Yale historian Carlos Eire shows in his eminently readable and magisterial work, "Reformations: The Early Modern World, 1450 – 1650," there were multiple, contending reformations in play in the first centuries of modernity.

There was the reformation of European intellectual life led by humanists steeped in the Greek and Roman classics: men like the Dutchman Erasmus (whose scholarship deeply influenced those who would become known as "Protestants" but who never broke with Rome) and Thomas More (who urged Erasmus to deepen his knowledge of Greek, the church fathers, and the New Testament in its original language). There were at least four major flavors of "Protestant" reformation — Lutheran, Zwinglian, Radical, and Calvinist — and plenty of subdivisions within those categories. There were impressive pre-Luther Catholic reformers like the archbishop of Toledo, Cardinal Francisco Jiménez de Cisneros. There were Catholic reformers who left a mixed legacy: The French educator Guillaume Budé, for example, influenced both the Protestant reformer John Calvin and the Catholic reformer Ignatius Loyola. There was the failed Catholic reform mandated by the Fifth Lateran Council but never implemented by Pope Leo X (the first and last pontiff to keep an albino elephant as a pet). And there were the Catholic reformers, of various theological and pastoral dispositions, who shaped the teaching of the Council of Trent and then vigorously implemented its reforms.

There were, in short, multiple

Reformations. Their sometimes-violent interaction created much of what became the modern world, for good and for ill.

The bad bits are the concern of Notre Dame's Brad Gregory in "The Unintended Reformation: How a Religious Revolution Secularized Society": a book aptly described by one reviewer as "brilliant, extraordinarily learned, eccentric, opinionated, variously wrong-headed, and utterly wonderful." On Gregory's argument, among the things "The Reformation" — in this case, the various Protestant reformations — bequeathed the modern world were hyper-individualism, suspicion of all authority, moral subjectivism and relativism, skepticism about the truth of anything, the banishment of religious thought from western academic life, and the reduction of all true knowledge to what we can know from science. That's a broad indictment, to be sure. But amidst Gregory's dense prose and complex presentation, serious readers will get a glimpse of how bad ideas — such as the mistaken notion of God as a willful (if infinite) being-among-other-beings — can play themselves out in history with devastating results.

The 500th anniversary of one of the emblematic acts in this cultural tsunami of reformations should lead to a deepening of ecumenical dialogue about what these many early modern reformers wrought — and not just for the world, but primarily for the church. That deepened conversation would do well to focus on what makes for authentic "reform" in the church. In the fall issue of *Plough*, the quarterly of the Bruderhof Community, I propose that all authentic reform in the church must begin from a recovery of some part of the church's essential "form" or constitution (in the British sense), which was given to the



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

GEORGE WEIGEL

church by Christ. True ecclesial reform is thus always re-form. It is not something we make up by our own cleverness. It does not mean surrender to the spirit of the age. It does not involve substituting our judgment for God's revelation. True Christian reform always involves bringing into the present something the church has laid aside or misplaced, and making that Christ-given something into an instrument of renewal. (The full article is available here: <https://www.plough.com/en/topics/faith/discipleship/re-forming-the-church>).

And how, on this quincentenary of the 95 theses, should we measure the authenticity of renewal? The evangelical criterion seems decisive here.

If the reform and renewal in question really does restore to the church something of its Christ-given "form," then the results will be evident evangelically — in an increased harvest of souls who have come to know the Lord Jesus, who walk in his Way, and who share the gift they have been given with others, thereby healing a broken and often death-dealing culture.

By the same criterion, empty churches, flaccid evangelization, and surrender to the prevailing cultural mores signal false reform and failed renewal, which can be dressed up in either romantic-nostalgic or progressive livery.

George Weigel is Distinguished Senior Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.

ERLANDSON, from page 13

epics, suggest that reality is a nonstop orgy.

Fantasy is increasingly portrayed as reality, and the impact on our culture has been predictably devastating — not just in the dens of the sophisticates, but in the suburbs and the small towns, in rural and urban areas. We are drowning in the fantasies of a thousand Harvey Weinsteins.

All of this is a reminder of our fallen nature. While "reality TV" is not real, sin is. The great insight of Christian realism is that we are all sinners. It is only the sin of pride that makes us think we are somehow immune to its corruption.

This realism is what undergirds the solid pastoral wisdom in the church about avoiding temptation — not putting our-

selves into situations of moral risk. We are all adults, it is true, but that makes it all the more important that we recognize the temptation to reduce others to our fantasies and needs.

For all of us, single or married, chastity is a virtue worth pursuing, even though that surest antidote to piggish behavior sounds terribly old-fashioned. Recognizing the God-given human dignity of all our sisters and brothers is what is demanded of men (and women also) if we are to take a stand against the further Weinsteining of America.

Greg Erlandson, director and editor-in-chief of Catholic News Service, can be reached at gerlandson@catholicnews.com.

NIEZER, from page 13

also pray for all people: that our relationships may be centered on Christ, and that together we may all lead each other to a conversion of heart and, most importantly, salvation in heaven.

Daniel Niezer is currently discerning the priesthood at Simon Brute College seminary and Marian University in Indianapolis.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for November 5, 2017

Matthew 23:1-12

Following is a word search based on the Gospel for 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A: a teaching about those who seek honor. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

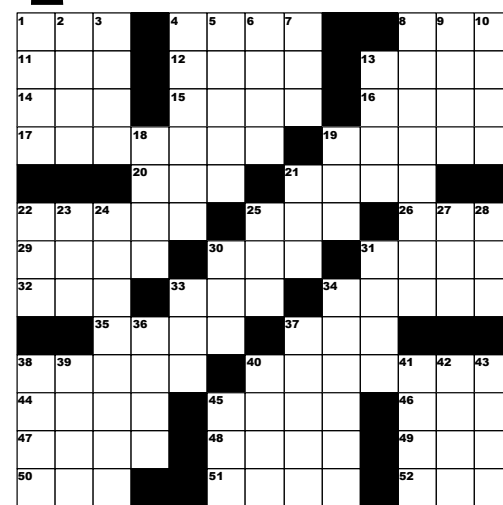
JESUS SAID	CROWDS	SCRIBES
MOSES	FOLLOW	PRACTICE
TIE UP	BURDENS	SHOULDERS
LIFT A FINGER	MOVE	HONOR
BANQUETS	RABBI	CALL NO ONE
FATHER	HEAVEN	GREATEST
SERVANT	EXALTS	HUMBLED

HONOR

S L I F T A F I N G E R
 E C I T C A R P E V O M
 R G R E A T E S T N J O
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 P D I A S S U S E J R A
 S H O U L D E R S H X C

The Cross Word

November 5 and 12, 2017



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Sunday readings: Mal 1:14b-2:2b, 8-10; 1Thes 2:7b-9,13; Mt 23:1-12 and 1Thess 4:13-18; Mt 25:1-13

ACROSS

- 1 Farming club (abr.)
- 4 Yawn
- 8 Outlaw
- 11 Sin
- 12 "___ the door"
- 13 Mary's color
- 14 "___ this bread"
- 15 Another word for The Cross
- 16 Temple veil was ___
- 17 Floor cleaner (2 wds.)
- 19 ___ of hosts
- 20 John did to tomb
- 21 Fail to reach
- 22 Chubby winged infant

25 Rosary month

- 26 Next Vatican Council
- 29 70s hairstyle
- 30 Leaf for garments
- 31 Cinchure tie
- 32 Constrictor
- 33 Moray
- 34 Miracles
- 35 Cat toenail
- 37 Trick someone
- 38 Serve
- 40 "Tie up heavy ___"
- 44 Tel ___
- 45 Skin sore
- 46 Leather worker's tool
- 47 Central points

- 48 Otherwise
- 49 South by east
- 50 Rachel means
- 51 Jesus did on Cross
- 52 Finish

DOWN

- 1 "___ my sheep"
- 2 Herr's wife
- 3 Branch of learning
- 4 Fumed (2 wds.)
- 5 Cook's garb
- 6 Chick sound
- 7 Vane direction
- 8 God imparts
- 9 Mom sister
- 10 Apostles cast into sea
- 13 Slang for "brothers"
- 18 Threesome
- 19 Top seller
- 21 Metric weight unit
- 22 Fare's ride
- 23 Flying saucer
- 24 Do not ___ what they preach
- 25 Virgins used in lamps
- 27 Charged particle
- 28 Possessive pronoun
- 30 "The laborers are ___"
- 31 Loving
- 33 Peter cut one off
- 34 Grouped
- 36 Jacob's son
- 37 Blessing becomes
- 38 Deli
- 39 Assert
- 40 Indonesian island
- 41 Comfort
- 42 Northwest by north
- 43 Sleigh
- 45 Marrv

Answer Key can be found on page 15

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

WHAT'S HAPPENING carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send announcements at least two weeks prior to the event. View more Catholic events and submit new ones at www.todayscatholic.org/event. Events that require an admission charge or payment to participate will receive one free listing. For additional listings of that event, please call the Today's Catholic advertising sales staff at 260-399-1449 to purchase space.

Craft show supports fine arts

FORT WAYNE — St. Charles Borromeo School Fine Arts Boosters will host a craft show Saturday, Nov. 4, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the school, 4910 Trier Rd. There will be crafts of all kinds as well as lunch available.

Craft show planned for fall

FORT WAYNE — Most Precious Blood will host a craft show Saturday, Nov. 4, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the school, 1529 Barthold St. There will be crafts, a bake sale, snack bar and more.

St Anthony de Padua holiday craft bazaar

SOUTH BEND — St. Anthony de Padua Parish is sponsoring a Holiday Craft Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the school auditorium, 2310 East Jefferson Blvd. Vendors from all over Michiana. Free parking and concessions will be available.

Annual Snowflake bazaar

HUNTINGTON — The St. Mary Church Rosary Sodality will hold a Snowflake Bazaar and Bake Sale on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and after all Masses on Sunday, Nov. 5, from 8:30 a.m. to noon. in the gymnasium, 903 N. Jefferson St. Crafts, bake sale and raffle with a soup, sandwich and apple dumpling lunch served on Saturday only at 11 a.m.

St. Mary Christmas bazaar

AVILLA — St. Mary Parish, 232 N. Main St., will have a Christmas bazaar on Sunday, Nov. 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Craft table and homemade sweets. Cookie decorating and door prizes.

Saint Joseph High School plans open house

SOUTH BEND — An open house will be Nov. 5, from 1-3 p.m. at Saint Joseph High School, 453 N. Notre Dame Ave. Tour the school,

visit with students and meet the faculty, administrators and coaches. Explore the academic programs and co-curricular, athletic, service and spiritual opportunities Saint Joseph offers. For information contact Sue Ushela, Director of Admissions, at sushela@saintjoehigh.com.

The Crossword

November 5 and 12, 2017

F	F	A	G	A	P	E	B	A	N		
E	R	R	O	P	E	N	B	L	U	E	
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			R	A	N	M	I	S	S		
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REST IN PEACE

Bremen

Jesse H. Keith, Jr., 90, St. Dominic

Decatur

Dolores A. Mendez, 85, St. Mary of the Assumption

Fort Wayne

Jesuita Guzman, 75, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Sylvia Margaret Fleck, 83, St. Charles Borromeo

Joan L. Krouse, 86, St. Jude

Shirley Anne Effinger, 83, Saint Anne Home Chapel

Mishawaka

Gerald Hallam, 71, St. Joseph

Notre Dame

William G. Schirano, 75, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

South Bend

Joseph A. Arch, Sr., DDS, 64, St. Hedwig

Florence M Wroblewski, 92, St. Jude

Gladys S. Wrobel, 89, Holy Family

Wabash

Ernest Mattox, 49, St. Bernard

Submit obituaries to mweber@diocesefwsb.org

Turkey bingo

FORT WAYNE — Turkey bingo will be Sunday, Nov. 5, at St. Peter's Parish Pavilion, 506 E. DeWald St. Doors open at 11:30 a.m., Bingo games start at noon. Snacks will be available.

Day of Reflection

MISHAWAKA — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent Wednesday, Nov. 8, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is "The Psalms." Bring a Bible. The cost of the day is \$20 and includes lunch. Register with Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at 574-259-5427.

NOW HIRING: Music Director

Saint Mary of the Annunciation Church in Bristol is looking for a part-time OR full-time Music Director. Applicant must be available to provide music for three Masses each weekend, as well as funerals, weddings, holidays and Holy Days. Applicant must be able to sing, cantor, and play the piano and organ and must also possess the skills necessary to develop and work with adult and young adult choirs. Salary negotiable. Interested persons should send a resume to Father Bob Van Kempen at annunciationchurch-bristol@hotmail.com or Saint Mary of the Annunciation, P.O. Box 245, Bristol, IN 46507



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HURRICANE, from page 1

unpaved roads, remove fallen trees and debris and provide material aid to the neediest.

"They are giving lessons of what is the essence of how to live," said the archbishop. "There's a very strong resiliency and spiritual capacity that we have seen in our people. College youngsters have taken to the streets to remove debris. ... These are touching and impressive moments we are living."

Some of those youngsters come from San Ignacio Catholic High School in San Juan. Father Andres Vall Serra, the Jesuit school's pastoral director, told CNS that the school has a special project to immerse students in providing aid to the poor. It is a class titled "Magis," which basically means universal good, or "what can one do to reach the good of all," based on the spiritual exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuits.

"Every Friday, all students from one grade's class are

sent out to distribute filtration systems and food to poor communities," said Father Vall. "It's a moment that allows them to encounter Christ, but in a way that helps transform them."

The charity project has a grade-specific mental health counseling component, aimed to help students cope with the stress brought on by Hurricane Maria's effects.

Alvaro Carrillo, a senior at San Ignacio, spoke about how a Catholic-oriented education has helped prepare him for disasters

such as hurricanes, noting "the emphasis on community impact and internal growth as a person. I mean being compassionate (in order) to recognize the world's needs and how to react to situations like this one."

"This school has focused us on its Jesuit motto, 'Men at the service of others,'" said senior Ricardo Sanchez. "It was here, in seventh grade, where I started going out to help communities in need."

San Ignacio reopened Oct. 3, the first Catholic school to do so

in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria, said Father Vall. It was moderately damaged, mostly by falling trees. Its basement amphitheater and several storage units underground were flooded.

"We are at time of national mourning, trauma, after the passing of two hurricanes ... the consequences on the mood, the spirit, the emotions (of the people) are deep," said Archbishop Gonzalez, adding that "another trauma is that of shared love and solidarity."

He agreed with several pastors who had told CNS that, after Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico, Mass attendance has risen sharply, although many still could not leave their homes because of the damage. "But yes, there's a spiritual rebirth," he said.

Church finances have been severely impacted in Puerto Rico by Hurricane Maria. As businesses and factories shut down, families' economic stability has been affected. Their financial demands have increased to cover repairs and replacement of lost property.

"We can neither ask nor expect that they continue the same level of support (to the church) when they themselves are barely surviving," said Archbishop Gonzalez. "In time, we have to see how we deal with sustaining parishes that can't sustain themselves, as well as our (television) Channel 13 and radio stations."

However, the archbishop stressed that "our focus now is direct assistance. Most people need water, food, clothing. That's our primary mission."

"The top challenge the church in Puerto Rico faces is to nurture the soul (of) our people with God's word, Jesus' presence through our works of charity, solidarity, celebrating the Eucharist and maintaining a perspective that keeps us anchored, in reality of these tragic events and full of hope for the strength that the Holy Spirit gives us," said Archbishop Gonzalez.



Dear Friends in Christ,

I am very happy to recommend and support the Divine Mercy Funeral Home which, together with our Catholic Cemetery, is a Catholic ministry and institution here in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

It was during the Jubilee Year of Mercy that I approved the establishment of this Catholic funeral home in Fort Wayne and decided to give it the name "Divine Mercy." Central to the Church's funeral rites is the commendation of the dead to God's merciful love and prayers for the forgiveness of their sins. We commend our deceased brothers and sisters to the Divine Mercy.

The Divine Mercy Funeral Home operates in accord with Catholic teaching and practice. The Church confidently proclaims that God has created each person for eternal life and that Jesus, the Son of God, by His death and resurrection, has conquered sin and death. The hope of the resurrection inspires the activity and services of the Divine Mercy Funeral Home where those who mourn are consoled in an atmosphere of faith and prayer.

The Divine Mercy Funeral Home observes the norms of the Catholic Church requiring respect and honor for the bodies of the dead. Since in Baptism the body was marked with the seal of the Trinity and became the temple of the Holy Spirit, the preparation and disposition of the body is marked with dignity and reverence.

The Divine Mercy Funeral Home is committed to the compassionate care of those who have suffered the loss of a loved one. Its ministry of consolation is aimed at comforting those who mourn, assisting them with planning the funeral rites as well as providing them with the comfort of prayer. The Divine Mercy Funeral Home promotes and facilitates the celebration of the Church's funeral rites, recognizing that the Mass, the memorial of Christ's death and resurrection, is the principal celebration of the Catholic funeral.

I pray that God will bless the ministry of the Divine Mercy Funeral Home and that He will bestow His grace and comfort upon all who are served there. May the faithful departed who are buried from this home, through the mercy of God, rest in peace!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Kevin C. Rhoades

Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades
Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend



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