

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Volume 92 No. 13

50¢

TODAYSCATHOLIC.org



**Meditate on
Christ's wounds**

*Pope recommends revisiting
traditional devotion*

Page 3

Palm Sunday

Parishes usher in holiest
week of the Church year

Page 2

Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month

*Join in a rosary for healing
and protection*

Page 7

St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

*Feast day observed
at parishes, schools*

Pages 8, 9, 16

'We need a church that is welcoming and merciful'

Hear us, speak to us, say youth

Page 14

'I HAVE RISEN, AND I AM WITH YOU STILL, ALLELUIA'



CNS/Bridgeman Images

The risen Christ is depicted in this 16th-century painting titled "The Resurrection of Christ, from the right wing of the Isenheim Altarpiece" by Matthias Grunewald.

A Happy and Blessed Easter!

Dear Friends in Christ,

During this Holy Week, we celebrate the mystery of our salvation that was accomplished by Christ in the last days of His life on earth. We celebrate during the Sacred Triduum the Paschal Mystery, the passing of the Lord from this world to the Father, His blessed Passion, Death and Resurrection.

You are remembered in my prayers as we celebrate the glorious feast of Easter. As Jesus liberated us from sin by His death, He opens for us the way to a new life by His resurrection. As St. Paul wrote: "We were indeed buried with Him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life" (Romans 6:4).

We rejoice at Easter with all the men, women and children who received the gift of new life in Christ through the sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil. We welcome them to the Church as our brothers and sisters in Christ.

In the resurrection of Jesus, love has been shown to be stronger than evil and stronger than death. May the Holy Spirit help us to bear witness to this love! May the Risen Lord bless you with joy at Easter and throughout the Easter season!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

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

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Official newspaper of the
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
P.O. Box 11169
Fort Wayne, IN 46856

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

Website: www.todayscatholic.org

260-456-2824

Published weekly except second Sunday of January; and every other week from the third Sunday in June through the second Sunday of September by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, 915 S. Clinton St., P.O. Box 390, Fort Wayne, IN 46801. Periodicals postage paid at Fort Wayne, IN, and additional mailing office.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN 46856-1169 or email: circulation@diocesefwsb.org

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.

News deadline is 10 days prior to publication date. Advertising deadline is nine days before publication date.

Today's Catholic may be reached at:
Today's Catholic,
P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN
46856-1169; or email:
editor@diocesefwsb.org

(ISSN 0891-1533)
(USPS 403630)

**Find us on Facebook**

www.facebook.com/todayscatholicFWSB

Follow us on Twitter

@diocesefwsb

Follow us on Instagram

@diocesefwsb

Download the app

App Store or Google Play: Today's Catholic



Joyous faithful celebrate Palm Sunday

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Fort Wayne was filled to overflowing Sunday, March 25, for a Palm Sunday Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and concelebrated by Father Peter Dee De. Assisting with the Mass were deacons Jay Horning, Patrick Hake and David Huneck, and seated in the nave were members of the Equestrian Order of the Knights of the Holy Sepulcher.

Bishop Rhoades initiated the entrance procession by saying: "Since the beginning of Lent we have prepared our hearts ..." for Holy Week. The cathedral choir was in full voice as the procession began near the baptismal font at the rear of the church. Bishop blessed the palm fronds held by members of the congregation, then led them up the center aisle, as they took their seats for Mass.

"Today, Palm Sunday, we begin Holy Week with our minds and our hearts lifted up to the Lord, focusing on the great event of our salvation: the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus," Bishop Rhoades said to his listeners. "I encourage you to take advantage of all the graces of this week, to live these days with special reverence and devotion through prayer and participation in the beautiful liturgies of this week.

"Today we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Jesus entered Jerusalem to undergo His Passion. He was very purposeful about this. He started the procession to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, the place where King David had mounted a donkey when he was fleeing Jerusalem in exile. When David left Jerusalem and went to the Mount of Olives, there were cries of lamentation," the bishop continued. "Now, on Palm Sunday, we have the king's return. The new king, the Son of David, the Lord Jesus, also mounts a donkey on the Mount of Olives, not to flee Jerusalem, but to enter Jerusalem. There are no songs of lamentation, rather, there are shouts of jubilation: 'Hosanna to the Son of David ... Hosanna in the highest.'"

Jesus entering Jerusalem mounted on a donkey was a bold announcement that He was the Messiah, the new king Jerusalem had been waiting for, Bishop Rhoades continued. "He was the king who entered the city not on a horse or chariot and not carrying any weapons. He entered meek and riding on a donkey. This was His kingship. He is the new king who will bring peace, not war. This went against the popular view that the Messiah King would be a warrior who would overthrow the Romans and establish a powerful restoration of David's kingdom. Jesus did, in fact, establish a kingdom, but a kingdom not of this world. He inaugurated the Kingdom of God, a kingdom of justice, love and peace."

Bishop Rhoades made reference to the day's Gospel reading. "In the Passion account from St. Mark's Gospel today, we heard that five days after entering Jerusalem in triumph, Jesus was put on trial before Pontius Pilate. Pilate asked Jesus about His kingship: 'Are you the king of the Jews?' the Roman procurator asked Him. Jesus answered affirmatively. Pontius Pilate did not understand the kingship of Jesus. Later, in the praetorium, the soldiers dressed Jesus in a mock royal robe, a scarlet cloak worn by Roman military and high officials like the emperor. They put a crown of thorns on His head and a reed as a royal scepter in His hand. They knelt down as if paying homage to a king and they mocked Jesus, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews.' They spat on Him and they beat Him, a fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy of the Suffering Servant



Joe Romie

We are the disciples of Jesus and we seek to love Him in return, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades told Palm Sunday worshippers at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne.



Jennifer Kedik

An outdoor procession begins the Mass at Corpus Christi Parish, South Bend.



Jennifer Miller

Father Kevin Russeau and altar servers recess after Palm Sunday Mass at St. Joseph Church, South Bend.

in today's first reading. He said, 'I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did

not shield from buffets and spitting.'

"At this Mass and at every Mass, we worship Christ our King. We sing the same words sung by the people on that first Palm Sunday: 'Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.' During this Holy Week, may we give honor and praise to our King who reigns from the throne of the cross. His royal throne is the wood of the cross. Jesus is our King and our Shepherd, the shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep. He is the Son of God who loved us to the end. We are His disciples and we seek to love Him in return. We strive to follow Him along the way of the cross, the path of love. We strive to serve Him in our brothers and sisters, especially in the poor and the needy, the sick and the suffering. The Lord our King says to us: 'Love one another as I have loved you.'"

The bishop said in conclusion, "This week I pray we experience anew this love that reached its climax on Mount Calvary. I hope and pray that the days of Holy Week, especially the Sacred Triduum, will be a time of grace for all of us, a time in which we enter more deeply into the Passion of Our Lord and King. Then next Sunday we will experience in a deeper way the joy of His victory, the triumph of His love, in the celebration of His resurrection."

The red vestments of Palm Sunday vividly illustrated the redemption in blood that Christ paid for the world. On Easter Sunday, the colors gold and white will symbolize the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the salvation of the world.

Five wounds of Christ: Pope urges recovery of traditional devotion

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis seems to be fixated on the wounds of Christ. And he has suggested that other Catholics might want to be as well.

He has offered meditations on Jesus' pierced hands, feet and side throughout his pontificate, but since January, his references in impromptu speeches and homilies have been so frequent that it seems to be a major focus of his own prayer life.

In his homily at morning Mass on March 20, he shared the advice of a spiritual director: "Look. Look at the wounds. Enter in to the wounds. By those wounds we were healed. Do you feel bitter, feel sad, feel life just isn't going the right way and you're also ill? Look there. In silence."

Sometimes, the pope said, artists want to focus more on Jesus' post-resurrection glory, so they will make a crucifix of gold and adorn it with jewels. But when one is feeling lost or frightened or in pain, he said, look at a crucifix "before the glory" and recognize how Jesus "annihilated Himself" to defeat evil and death.

Reciting the Angelus prayer March 18, Pope Francis recommended a centuries-old devotion in which a person contemplates one of the five wounds of Christ and recites an Our Father before moving to the next wound.

"When we pray that Our Father, let's try to enter through Jesus' wounds and arrive deeper and deeper, to His heart," the pope said. "Enter into His wounds and contemplate the love in His heart for you, and you, and you, and me, for everyone," the pope told thousands of people in St. Peter's Square.

The wounds of Christ were a natural topic of reflection during Pope Francis' meeting Feb. 10 with members of the Stigmatine order; after all, their spirituality is inspired by devotion to the passion of Christ, vividly shown in the wounds He endured for the salvation of the world.

A devotion to Christ's wounds "may sound a bit medieval," the pope told the priests. In fact, meditating on "the five sacred wounds" became popular in the 12th and 13th centuries, but it also enjoyed a resurgence in the 20th century with the growing attention to the Divine Mercy devotions of St. Faustina Kowalska. The Polish nun wrote in her diary that Jesus told her, "When it seems to you that your suffering exceeds your strength, contemplate my wounds."

Luminaries from St. Clare of Assisi to St. Alphonsus Liguori have guided the faithful in prayers focusing on each wound — left foot, right foot, left hand, right hand and side — and simi-



CNS/Paul Haring

Pope Francis holds a crucifix during the Good Friday service in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican in this April 14, 2017, file photo. The pope has been meditating on the wounds of Christ this Lent.

lar devotions are widely available online.

But Pope Francis' remarks seem to have more in common with the meditations of St. Bernard of Clairvaux and, perhaps naturally, with the popular prayer, "Anima Christi" or "Soul of Christ." The prayer often is attributed to St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the pope's Jesuit order, and is included in the saint's Spiritual Exercises.

Mercy, the central theme of Pope Francis' pontificate, and "the gift of shame," something he mentions often, intersect in the two treatments of Christ's wounds.

St. Bernard's reflection includes the line: "Where have your love, your mercy, your compassion shone out more luminously than in your wounds, sweet, gentle Lord of mercy?"

And the "Anima Christi" includes the plea to Jesus: "Within your wounds hide me." Talking to the Stigmatines, the pope adapted the prayer: "Within Your wounds hide me. Hide me from my shame. Hide me from the wrath of the Father. Hide me from my misery. But in Your wounds."

At a morning Mass in mid-December, Pope Francis was talking about the tenderness of God and mentioned how when a child gets hurt, his or her dad or mom asks to see the scratch or the bruise, kisses it and says, "all better." Pope Francis said he imagines God doing the same; God wants to see the wounds of His children, to touch them, ban-

dage them and heal them.

"There, in the encounter of our wounds with the wounds of the Lord, which was the price of our salvation, there is the tenderness of God," he said.

And, he told priests and religious in Chile in January, wounds are not something we should hide from God or from others. In fact, recognizing one's own wounds, and the woundedness of the Church, is the first step to being able to see and treat the wounds of others.

After the resurrection, "Jesus Christ does not appear to His disciples without His wounds; those very wounds enabled Thomas to profess his faith" after he expressed doubts that the Risen Lord was really Jesus, the pope said in Santiago, Chile.

"We are not asked to ignore or hide our wounds," he said. "A Church with wounds can understand the wounds of today's world and make them her own, suffering with them, accompanying them and seeking to heal them. A wounded Church does not make herself the center of things, does not believe that she is perfect, but puts at the center the one who can heal those wounds, whose name is Jesus Christ."

"In Jesus, our wounds are risen," Pope Francis continued. "They inspire solidarity; they help us to tear down the walls that enclose us in elitism and they impel us to build bridges and to encounter all those yearning for that merciful love which Christ alone can give."



Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

- Sunday, April 1: 3 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Patrick Church, Ligonier
- Tuesday, April 3: 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Mary of the Assumption Church, Decatur
- Thursday, April 5: 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Anthony of Padua Church, Angola
- Friday, April 6: 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Vincent de Paul Church, Elkhart
- Saturday, April 7: 10 a.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Vincent de Paul Church, Elkhart
- Saturday, April 7: 4:30 p.m. — Mass, St. Anthony de Padua Church, South Bend

Easter Sunday TV Masses

10:30 a.m.

Fort Wayne area:
WFFT-TV • Channel 55
Father Robert D'Souza
St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne

South Bend area:
WNDU • Channel 16
Father Christopher Rehagen, CSC

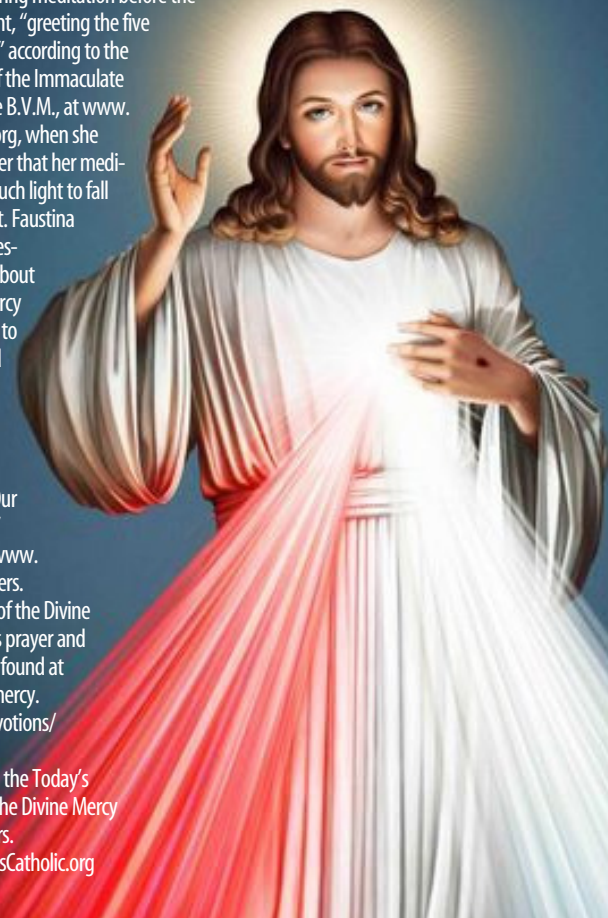
The Divine Mercy novena is a prayer prayed for nine days, beginning on Good Friday. It may be sung or recited.

The Divine Mercy message, and devotion to Jesus as The Divine Mercy, are based on the writings of Polish nun St. Faustina Kowalska. Her published diary includes an experience during meditation before the Blessed Sacrament, "greeting the five wounds of Jesus," according to the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception of the B.V.M., at www.thedivinemercy.org, when she heard Jesus tell her that her meditation "caused much light to fall upon her soul." St. Faustina began to hear messages from God about His abundant mercy and His promises to those who would implore His mercy.

"A Prayer in Honour of the Five Wounds of Our Lord Jesus Christ" can be found at www.catholic.org/prayers.

An example of the Divine Mercy Chaplet, as prayer and as a song, can be found at www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/chaplet.php.

Or download the Today's Catholic App for the Divine Mercy prayers and others. Visit www.TodaysCatholic.org



'Cry out,' pope tells young people at Palm Sunday Mass

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Celebrating Palm Sunday Mass with thousands of young people, Pope Francis urged them to continue singing and shouting "hosanna" in the world, proclaiming the lordship of Jesus and following His example of outreach to the poor and suffering.

The crowd that shouted "hosanna" as Jesus entered Jerusalem included all those for whom Jesus was a source of joy, those He healed and forgave, and those He welcomed after they had been excluded from society, the pope said in his homily March 25.

But others were irritated by Jesus and tried to silence His followers, the pope said. In the same way, people today will try to silence young people who continue to follow Jesus, because "a joyful young person is hard to manipulate."

"There are many ways to silence young people and make them invisible," the pope said. There are "many ways to anesthetize them, to make them keep quiet, ask nothing, question nothing. There are many ways to sedate them, to keep them from getting involved, to make their dreams flat and dreary, petty and plaintive."

Pope Francis asked the young people "not to keep quiet. Even if others keep quiet, if we older people and leaders keep quiet, if the whole world keeps quiet and loses its joy, I ask you: Will you cry out?"



CNS photo/Paul Haring

Nick Lopez, a youth delegate from the United States participating in the Vatican's pre-synod meeting, walks in procession at the start of Palm Sunday Mass celebrated by Pope Francis in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican on March 25.

Gabriella Zuniga, 16, and her sister Valentina Zuniga, 15, were among the thousands in St. Peter's Square. The sisters, students at Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, had participated March 24 in the local Rome "March for Our Lives," calling for gun control.

The Palm Sunday Mass marked the local celebration of World Youth Day and included the more than 300 young adults who, at the Vatican's invitation, had spent a week discussing the

hopes, desires and challenges facing the world's young people and ways the Catholic Church should respond.

At the end of the Mass, they formally presented their final document to the pope; it will be used, along with input from the world's bishops' conferences, in drafting the working document for the Synod of Bishops in October, which will focus on young people, faith and vocational discernment.

Holding 5-foot-tall palm

branches, the young adults led the procession to the obelisk in the center of St. Peter's Square. They were joined by others carrying olive branches and by bishops and cardinals holding "palmurelli," which are intricately woven palm fronds.

In his homily, Pope Francis said that the Palm Sunday Mass, which begins with the singing of "hosanna" and then moves to the reading of Jesus' passion, combines "stories of joy and suffering, mistakes and successes, which are part of our daily lives as disciples."

The acclamation of the crowd praising Jesus as He enters Jerusalem gives way to the shouts of "crucify Him" as Jesus' suffering and death draw near, the pope noted. "It somehow expresses the contradictory feelings that we too, the men and women of today, experience: the capacity for great love, but also for great hatred; the capacity for courageous self-sacrifice, but also the ability to 'wash our hands.'"

The Gospel also demonstrates

how the joy Jesus awakened in some is "a source of anger and irritation for others," Pope Francis said, and the same is true today.

Joy is seen in all those "who had followed Jesus because they felt His compassion for their pain and misery," the pope said. "How could they not praise the One who had restored their dignity and hope? Theirs is the joy of so many forgiven sinners who are able to trust and hope once again."

But others in Jerusalem, "those who consider themselves righteous and 'faithful' to the law and its ritual precepts" and "those who have forgotten the many chances they themselves had been given" find such joy intolerable, the pope said.

"How hard it is for the comfortable and the self-righteous to understand the joy and the celebration of God's mercy," he said. "How hard it is for those who trust only in themselves, and look down on others, to share in this joy."

The shouts of "crucify Him" did not begin spontaneously, the pope said, but were incited by those who slandered and gave false witness against Jesus, "spinning" facts and painting them such that they disfigure the face of Jesus and turn Him into a "criminal."

Theirs, he said, was "the voice of those who twist reality and invent stories for their own benefit, without concern for the good name of others" and "the cry of those who have no problem in seeking ways to gain power and to silence dissonant voices."

Pope Francis told the young people gathered in the square that in the face of such attempts to demolish hope, kill dreams and suppress joy, Christians must look to Christ's cross and "let ourselves be challenged by His final cry. He died crying out His love for each of us: young and old, saints and sinners, the people of His times and of our own."

"We have been saved by His cross, and no one can repress the joy of the Gospel," he said. "No one, in any situation whatsoever, is far from the Father's merciful gaze."



Tired of your for-profit bank? Partner with Notre Dame FCU!

Catholic Nonprofits Checklist	Notre Dame FCU	For-Profit Banks
Business Checking Pays YOU Interest	✓	?
Cash Back on Corporate Credit Cards	✓	?
Convenient ATMs & Shared Branches	✓	?
Free Check Scanner	✓	?
Embodies Catholic Social Teachings	✓	?
Member-Owned	✓	?
Supports Pro-Life, Immigrants & the Poor	✓	?

For more info, please contact Matt Kaiser at
(574) 400-4919 or **MKaiser@NotreDameFCU.com**



NOTRE DAME
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
Federally insured by the NCUA.



CCUA
CATHOLIC CREDIT UNIONS OF AMERICA



Wygant Floral Co. inc.

327 Lincolnway West - South Bend
574-232-3354 800-994-2687
Monday-Friday: 8 AM-5 PM Saturday: 8 AM - 1 PM

Flowers

and gifts for all occasions

Mary Green (Wasoski) Owner
AREA-WIDE DELIVERY

wygantfloral.com

Dolan: Democratic Party abandons Catholics, favors abortion agenda

NEW YORK (CNS) — The once “big tent” of the Democratic Party “now seems a pup tent” as a party that Catholics once embraced has abandoned so many issues Catholics cherish, such as the sanctity of human life and religious education, said New York’s cardinal.

He pointed to the party favoring a radical abortion agenda over protecting the human rights of unborn children and all-out efforts to block education credits to help poor and low-income families access Catholic and other nonpublic schools.

“The Democrats Abandon Catholics” reads the headline on a March 23 op-ed by Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan in *The Wall Street Journal*.

“I’m a pastor, not a politician, and I’ve certainly had spats and disappointments with politicians from both of America’s leading parties,” he wrote. “But it saddens me, and weakens the democracy millions of Americans cherish, when the party that once embraced Catholics now slams the door on us.”

“The dignity and sanctity of human life, the importance of Catholic schools, the defense of a baby’s civil rights” are “widely embraced by Catholics,” he said. “This often led Catholics to become loyal Democrats. I remember my own grandmother whispering to me, ‘We Catholics don’t trust those Republicans.’”

“A cause of sadness to him,” Cardinal Dolan said, is that “the needs of poor and middle-class children in Catholic schools, and the right to life of the baby in the



CNS photo/Jeenah Moon, Reuters

New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan attends the St. Patrick’s Day parade in New York City on March 17.

womb have largely been rejected by the party of our youth.”

A couple of recent events, the cardinal said, brought to mind “two towering people who had a tremendous effect on the Archdiocese of New York and the U.S. more broadly” — Archbishop John Hughes, the first archbishop of New York (1842-64) and the funeral of “a great African-American woman, Dolores Grier,” a convert to Catholicism, who became vice chancellor of the archdiocese.

“Their witness is worth remembering, especially in this political moment,” he said.

For the cardinal, the March 17 feast day of St. Patrick — patron saint of St. Patrick’s Cathedral and the archdiocese — recalled Archbishop Hughes’ “dramatic reverence for the dignity of Irish immigrants.”

“Thousands arrived daily in New York — penniless, starving and sometimes ill — only to be met with hostility, bigotry and injustice.” The archbishop,

himself an immigrant, “defended their dignity.”

“Because the schools at the time were hostile to these immigrants, he initiated Catholic schools” to give the children a good education “sensitive to their religion” and to prepare them to be “responsible, patriotic citizens.” The mission of today’s Catholic schools remains “unchanged.”

Grier, the first woman to be archdiocesan vice chancellor, was “passionate about civil

rights, especially the right of babies in the womb.” She always noted “abortionaries,” he said, “were clustered in poor black and brown neighborhoods.”

The values espoused by these two prominent Catholic figures were — and still are — widely embraced by Catholics, Cardinal Dolan wrote.

He also noted that last year “an esteemed pro-life Democrat in Illinois, Rep. Dan Lipinski, effectively was blacklisted by his own party” when Democratic National Committee Chairman Tom Perez “insisted that pro-life candidates have no place in the modern Democratic Party.”

He said that in the state of New York in particular, these issues important to Catholics have been hit hard as “in recent years, some Democrats in the New York state Assembly repeatedly blocked education tax credit legislation, which would have helped middle-class and low-income families make the choice to select Catholic or other non-public schools for their children.”

“Opposing the bill reduces the ability of fine Catholic schools across the state to continue their mission of serving the poor, many of them immigrants,” Cardinal Dolan said.

In closing, Cardinal Dolan said that it was difficult to have to write about the Democratic Party abandoning Catholics: “To Archbishop Hughes, Dolores Grier and Grandma Dolan, I’m sorry to have to write this. But not as sad as you are to know it is true.”

COME CELEBRATE
God's Infinite Mercy

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



APRIL 8, 2018

CONFESSION
1:00 TO 3:00

ADORATION
1:00 TO 3:00

CHAPLET
2:30 TO 3:00

NOVENA CLOSING MASS
3:00

ST. ANTHONY DE PADUA
CATHOLIC CHURCH
2114 E. JEFFERSON BLVD.
SOUTH BEND, IN 46617

Join Us



What it takes to become a Saint.

Canonization
Process of Blessed
Catherine Kasper
Foundress of the Poor Handmaids
of Jesus Christ

1 – 4 p.m. EDT, Saturday, April 21
Cana Hall, The Center at Donaldson
GPS: 9601 Union Road, Plymouth, Indiana



www.poorhandmaids.org

EVERYONE WELCOME

BIENVENIDOS A TODOS

Nigerians demand release of Dapchi student who refused to renounce faith

LAGOS, Nigeria (CNS) — While Catholic and Muslim leaders welcomed the release of 104 schoolgirls captured by Boko Haram, they urged the government to work for the release of the remaining girl, a Christian who reportedly refused to denounce her faith. The schoolgirls, kidnapped Feb. 19, were released March 21. Five of them were killed during captivity. But a March 22 statement from Muslim Rights Concern, a nongovernmental organization, quoted one of the freed girls as saying that the lone remaining captive, Leah Sharibu, was not released because she is a Christian and she refused to put on hijab or convert. “We reiterate for the umpteenth time that Boko Haram’s doctrine is heretical, and its methods stand in contradistinction to those of pristine Islam,” Muslim Rights Concern said of the extremist group. “Once again, we reject Boko Haram as an Islamic group. We urge the leadership and members of the group to re-examine its ideological base.” Bishop Emmanuel Badejo of Oyo praised the government for ensuring the release of 104 of the girls from a science and technical school in Dapchi, but said the litmus test would be the release of Sharibu. He described the death of five of the girls in captivity as evoking “more than a touch of lament and sadness.”

China’s Communist Party overhaul includes religious affairs control

HONG KONG (CNS) — China’s ruling Communist Party has further stepped up control over all religions, dissolving its long-standing State Administration for Religious Affairs bureau and handing its functions to the party’s United Front Work Department. Ucanews.com reported the move was announced on the closing day of the annual “two meetings” in Beijing and comes as part of a comprehensive bureaucratic overhaul of the entire Chinese bureaucracy and only seven weeks after stricter new rules on religion were introduced on Feb. 1. The official line from the state-run Xinhua News Agency ran like this: “The CPC (Communist Party of China) exercises overall leadership over all areas of endeavor in the country, and the reform is meant to strengthen the party’s leadership in all areas and improve the structure of the party organization, according to the plan. The plan says that some state institutions previously under the leadership of the State Council have been dissolved or integrated into a new agency under the leadership of the CPC Central Committee, such as the State Administration for Religious Affairs, Overseas

Catholic students join Washington gun control rally, march



CNS photo/Jadyn Lippelmann, Catholic Standard

Francesca Kern, a senior at Mercyhurst Preparatory School in Erie, Pa., holds a sign following a Mass at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Washington. The Mass, sponsored by Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, was celebrated to give students an opportunity to pray before participating in the March for Our Lives.

Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council, and Ministry of Supervision and National Bureau of Corruption Prevention.”

Latin American bishops call for ‘ecological conversion’

LIMA, Peru (CNS) — Less than two months after Pope Francis spoke out about environmental destruction in the Amazon basin during a visit to Peru, bishops from Latin America and the Caribbean have issued a pastoral letter calling the region’s Catholics to an “integral ecological conversion.” The letter, published in early March, reflects on environmental issues in Latin America in light of “Laudato Si’,” on Care for Our Common Home,”

Pope Francis’ 2015 encyclical. The Latin American bishops’ council, CELAM, spent seven years drafting the pastoral letter, which will serve as input for the commission planning the Synod of Bishops for the Amazon, to be held at the Vatican in 2019. The letter highlights “the serious consequences of the unbridled exploitation of natural resources and awareness that we must care for our common home,” said Archbishop Pedro Barreto Jimeno of Huancayo, Peru, who oversaw much of its drafting. The economies of many Latin American countries depend largely on exports of raw materials, especially minerals, the bishops note. Those countries experienced an economic boom over the past decade and a half because of high

prices for oil, minerals and other commodities.

Bishops disappointed with Congress’ inaction on Conscience Protection Act

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The chairmen of the U.S. bishops’ pro-life and religious freedom committees said it was “deeply disappointing” that Congress omitted the Conscience Protection Act from the congressional funding bill for fiscal year 2018. “We call on Congress not to give up until this critical legislation is enacted,” said a March 22 joint statement from Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, chairman of the bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities, and Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, chair of the Committee for Religious Liberty. The church leaders said the legislation is “an extraordinarily modest bill that proposes almost no change to existing conscience protection laws on abortion laws that receive wide public and bipartisan support.” They also said it aims to “provide victims of discrimination with the ability to defend their rights in court to help ensure that no one is forced to participate in abortion.” The statement added that those “inside and outside of Congress who worked to defeat” this legislation “have aplaced themselves squarely into the category of extremists who insist that all Americans must be forced to participate in the violent act of abortion.”

At global forums, church leaders advocate for safe water for all

BRASILIA, Brazil (CNS) -- Erileid Domingues said most of her indigenous village has, at one time or another, fallen ill due to contaminated water. Domingues said her village in the state of Mato Grosso do Sul is surrounded by large soybean and corn plantations that use agro-toxins in their crops, which eventually seep into the soil and make their way into the waterbeds, contaminating rivers and wells used by her Guarani-Kaiowa tribe. “Our fish have become contaminated; we can’t grow a vegetable garden because the water is also bad,” she told Catholic News Service. “Days after small planes spray the plantations, water from our wells turns milky white and remains that way for several weeks. Many of us suffer from chronic stomach pains and allergies.” To tackle the question of global access to clean

water, hundreds of experts, policy-makers, nongovernmental groups and members of civil society came together for two water forums held in mid-March in Brazil’s capital, Brasilia. Access to clean water is a fundamental right must be a global priority, said Catholic leaders present at the 8th World Water Forum and the Alternative World Water Forum. Catholic representatives spoke about the need to find ways to create a sustainable supply of fresh drinking water for all, especially the poorer populations around the world.

English bishop urges Guernsey Catholics to reject assisted suicide

MANCHESTER, England (CNS) -- An English bishop is urging people living on an island in the English Channel to resist an attempt to allow assisted suicide. Bishop Philip Egan of Portsmouth criticized proposals to decriminalize assisted suicide on the island of Guernsey, part of his diocese. In a letter due to be read out loud in Guernsey parishes March 25, Bishop Egan said he wished to appeal to all people of goodwill “to overturn this grim proposal. Let there be no death clinics in Guernsey,” Bishop Egan said. “I appeal to Catholics to mobilize. Speak out against this proposal. It is never permissible to do good by an evil means.” The bill scheduled to be considered by legislators in May is “fundamentally subversive, horrific and dangerous, however well-intentioned,” he said in his letter, which he emailed to Catholic News Service March 23.

No Holy Week observance planned in war-torn Philippine city

MANILA, Philippines (CNS) -- There will be no Holy Week observance this year in Marawi almost a year after extremist gunmen occupied the southern Philippine city. The Catholic cathedral remains closed. It was desecrated and burned at the height of the five-month conflict that ended in October. It was to be the first time that Holy Week has not been celebrated in the predominantly Muslim city, where more than 300,000 people remain in temporary shelters, ucanews.com reported. Priests from nearby dioceses have volunteered to celebrate Masses on a university campus in the city. Bishop Edwin de la Pena of Marawi assured Catholics in the region that other parishes not affected by the fighting will continue their ministries. St. Mary’s Cathedral in Marawi was destroyed when Islamic State-inspired gunmen entered in May. Even the vicar-general of the Marawi prelature will not be returning to the city soon. Father Teresito Soganub said he was still in “the healing stage” after his abduction by gunmen. “I won’t be able to go back to my regular ministry yet,” he said.

Ann Coakley, keynote speaker at Right to Life dinner

SOUTH BEND — St. Joseph County Right to Life will host the 11th annual Respect Life Prayer Dinner from 6:30-8:30 p.m. April 12 at the Kroc Corps Community Center Chapel, 900 W. Western Ave., South Bend.

St. Joseph County Right to Life hosts the dinner each spring to unite hundreds of faithful Christians for an evening of prayer and testimonies about life issues. This year's keynote speaker will be Ann Coakley, whose husband, Paul, continued to live and die with a spirit of hopeful joy and immense faith after he was diagnosed with cancer in 2015.

Registration is limited. To make a reservation, visit www.prolifemichiana.org/prayerdinner or call 574-232-5433. Standard registration is \$20 per person.

Three to be ordained Holy Cross priests

NOTRE DAME — The United States Province of the Congregation of Holy Cross announces the ordination of three new priests on Saturday, April 7, at 2 p.m. at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, located on the campus of the University of Notre Dame. The Most Reverend Daniel Robert Jenky, CSC, Bishop of Peoria, Illinois, will confer the sacrament of holy orders on Deacon Christopher William Brennan, CSC; Deacon Brendan Joseph McAleer, CSC; and Deacon

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Science Olympiad Team competes in state finals



John Lamaster

The Science Olympiad team from Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, participated in state finals competition on Saturday, March 17. Among the winners from Bishop Dwenger were seniors, from left, Nicole Gloudemans and Chino Eke, taking second place in the hovercraft event; freshman Eli Hilger and junior Matthias Post took second place in towers.

Timothy Robert Weed, CSC. The ordination Mass will be streamed live on the internet as it happens at Ordination-live.holycrossvocations.org.

On Sept. 15, deacons Brennan, McAleer and Weed professed perpetual vows of poverty, chastity and obedience and committed themselves to the common life and apostolic work of the

Congregation of Holy Cross.

Deacon Brennan is the youngest of four sons of Michael and Dorothy Brennan of Granger. He entered formation with the congregation in 2008 as an Old Collegian and professed First Vows on Aug. 3, 2013.

Deacon McAleer is the fifth of 10 children of Michael and Patricia McAleer of Mount

Prospect, Illinois. He graduated with a bachelor's degree from Holy Cross College, Notre Dame, in 2011 and earned his M.Div. from the University of Notre Dame in 2017. He entered Holy Cross in 2009 as an Old Collegian, and made his First Profession of Vows on Aug. 3, 2013.

Deacon Weed is the eldest of three children of Robert Weed

and the late Mary Weed, and stepmother DeAnna Pierce, of Grand Rapids, Michigan. He earned a bachelor's degree from Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in 2007, and his M.Div. from the University of Notre Dame in 2017. He entered Holy Cross in August 2011 as a postulant, after employment. He made his First Profession of Vows on Aug. 3, 2013.

Catholic health care providers invited to MedCon

INDIANAPOLIS — Current and future physicians, nurses and other health care workers are invited to attend MedCon 2018 at Marian University, Indianapolis, April 13-14.

Sponsored by the Indiana Catholic Medical Association and Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine, highlights of the conference will include a keynote presentation on addiction, genesis and treatment by Dr. Jeffrey Berger; student-focused presentations such as "How to Stay Catholic During Medical School and Training." Other topics include physician-assisted suicide; sharing the faith at work; treating undocumented immigrants; Catholic healing for burnout; NFP, contraception and Plan B; and more.

Admission is \$20 for students, \$40 for health professionals and \$60 for DOs and physicians. Limited housing is available for out-of-town students.

For information or to RSVP, visit medcon2018.splashthat.com.

April is Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month

"We pledge most solemnly to one another and to you, God's people; that we will work to our utmost for the protection of children and youth. We pledge that we will devote to this goal the resources and personnel necessary to accomplish it."

— *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People: Statement of Episcopal Commitment, USCCB, June 2002*

April is recognized as National Child Abuse Awareness month. Over the next five issues, Today's Catholic will take a look at how the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend implements the tenets of child protection in our parishes, schools and Catholic organizations, and publish a series of related articles, notices and prayers.

Here at *Today's Catholic* we recognize that the topic of child abuse is a sensitive one, and that even printing stories about it might evoke emotional responses. Some might even prefer for us to remain silent on the issue, simply because it's uncomfortable to talk about abuse that happens to children. However, when it comes to cases of abuse of children, silence is no longer the policy of the Catholic Church. We believe that these stories need to be handled with dignity, but even more, they need to be told.

I personally encourage you to take the time to read through our special features over the next five issues. Share what you learn with your family and loved ones, and help them become empowered to help build an environment of safety within our parishes, schools and organizations. Beyond that, join us in prayer for the victims of abuse, and for our Church — that we continue to promise to protect our youth.

You can help prevent the abuse of children. Know the warning signs of offenders. They prefer to be with children over adults. They go overboard touching or tickling children, or wrestling with them. They may give minors alcohol or drugs, or show them pornography. They allow children to break the rules. Offenders act as if the rules do not apply to them.

If you observe an adult who is not behaving appropriately with children, speak up. Let someone



know what you saw. You are not accusing anyone of anything. You are letting someone know you care, are watching, and are concerned that no harm is done to a child.

Abuse is never the fault of the victim. It is always the responsibility of the offender. The reality is that most victims of abuse know their abuser. One in four females and one in six males report being abused as a minor.

If you or someone you know is a victim of abuse there are things you can do even if the abuse hap-

pened years ago. Call the police to report the abuse. If the abuser was in a position of authority in an organization, report the abuse to that organization. Call an abuse crisis hotline.

If it happened in a Catholic church or school, contact Mary Glowaski, victim assistance coordinator for the diocese at 260-399-1458.

— *Stephanie A. Patka, Director of Communications for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.*

Rosary for healing and protection

Every April, Child Abuse Prevention Month is commemorated to highlight the importance of protecting minors from abuse.

On **Friday, April 6 at 2 p.m. ET**, the staff of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops will gather to pray a rosary to Our Lady with special intentions for victims and survivors of abuse and the defense of the vulnerable. The rosary will be streamed live on the USCCB Facebook and Twitter pages to encourage public participation.

For more information visit <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/child-and-youth-protection/index.cfm>.

St. Joseph, protector and provider for the Holy Family

BY CHRISTOPHER LUSHIS

In celebration of their patronal feast on March 19, members of St. Joseph Parish in South Bend gathered for Mass and a special reflection recounting the legacy of St. Joseph on salvation history and within the Church today.

Father Kevin Russeau, CSC, pastor of St. Joseph Church, reminded in his homily: "All of the saints have something to teach us. With St. Joseph we have no recorded words, but his actions speak volumes about his character; his obedience to God's will." He continued, "I cannot help but think that Jesus came to understand the words, 'Thy will be done,' from the way His own parents acted in their home. Joseph not only taught Jesus, but is here to teach us as well."

Following Mass, the "Evening with St. Joseph" continued with dinner and remarks by Andrew Polaniecki, director of Campus Ministry at Holy Cross College. Polaniecki built upon the remarks of Father Russeau and reflected on the life and work of one of the saints most dedicated to St. Joseph, Brother André Bessette.

"Joseph did not live a hidden life for the sake of never being known to us," Polaniecki began. "Joseph lived a hidden life for the sake of being discovered by us." He recalled the parallels between the Josephs of the Old and New Testaments, which reveal "men who served as providers for their families, were great models of chastity, and were chosen by God's providence for the salvation of mankind."

Speaking about infancy narratives of the Gospel of Matthew, Polaniecki invited those present to remember the personal trials Joseph would have endured. "If St. Joseph knew Mary was pregnant, did the town gossip circle also notice? One can



Christopher Lushis

Andrew Polaniecki, director of Campus Ministry at Holy Cross College and a parishioner of St. Joseph Parish, South Bend, speaks on March 19 about St. Joseph and St. André Bessette — men of profound humility, obedience and trust in God's divine providence.

only wonder what shame and hurt he must have felt. How his heart must have been broken. Then there was the flight into Egypt, a dangerous, weeklong trip through harsh conditions into a foreign and pagan land.

The Greek biographer Plutarch tells us that in 55 B.C. the same crossing was made by Roman officers, and that these soldiers feared the trip more than the war that awaited them in Egypt. These years were certainly not a

vacation."

He also called to mind the importance of Joseph's response to these struggles. "Through all this, Joseph fulfilled his obligations courageously. He was just and righteous. His pure love for Mary as his spouse, although virginal, was complete and real, and their union is the most perfect realization of earthly love. He was the head of the Holy Family and protected and provided for them. It should not be surprising, therefore, that he is venerated as patron and protector of the universal Church; having adequately defended the head of the Church, he can also be entrusted with the body."

Packy Lyden, managing director for the University of Notre Dame's Institute for Educational Initiatives, later shared his appreciation for the presentation, commenting, "There are many aspects to St. Joseph's life that I had not considered; as a father and a husband there is a lot there for me to model."

Polaniecki then shifted focus to the life of St. André Bessette, a man of deep devotion to St. Joseph, who sought to follow in his example of humility and service to God. As a Holy Cross brother who served as the porter, or doorkeeper, for much of his religious life, "he welcomed thousands of people, he talked to everyone, he entered the intimacy of their illnesses, their quarrels, their poverty and pain, their joys and sorrows. He was a man of humble faith, of strong hope and honest love."

Orphaned at the age of 16 and initially refused by the Congregation of Holy Cross because of his frail health, Brother André could have driven inward, but instead he would look beyond himself and situated his life within the workings of Divine Providence, Polaniecki said. In this outward movement, Brother André found that his life had purpose and fulfillment at

the feet of St. Joseph. "St. Joseph would be his foster father, his adopted friend, his all."

He explained that St. André, perhaps best known for his efforts to have the St. Joseph Oratory constructed as a pilgrimage site in Montreal, which now stands as the largest church in Canada, "considered his relationship with St. Joseph in very simple fashion. When asked how he talked to St. Joseph or how he should be invoked, he often repeated, 'You don't have to speak much. You know your Father in heaven knows what you need; well, so does His friend St. Joseph.' André's teaching on St. Joseph can be summed up with his famous charge 'Ite Ad Joseph' (Go to Joseph), and it is these three words that continue to greet the millions of people who visit the oratory each year."

The oratory, to which Polaniecki has led Holy Cross and Notre Dame students on pilgrimages the last eight years, "is the testimony of a life lived completely as a gift to others, a life dedicated to making God known, loved and served in order to bring knowledge of salvation to others." He also reminded listeners of the possibility to encounter St. André locally; a statue of him stands at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. "If you see this statue, your attention will be drawn to the welcoming posture of his hands, which are held out so tenderly and gently and seem to say, 'I know you are in need and I know that you suffer.'" Those gentle open hands invite you to the care and openness of St. Joseph and to God's divine providence." Polaniecki concluded by saying that "Brother André continues to call to each of us to humble ourselves before the Lord, to gather up all our suffering and vulnerability and place them in acts of faith, hope and trust at the foot of the cross."

CREDO
FAMILY MEDICINE
Private • Independent • Pro-Life

Serving your whole family

(260) 4-FAMILY
credofamilymedicine.com

Dr. Andrew J. Mullally, MD

Mexico:
Our Lady of Guadalupe

July 19 - 23

View St. Juan Diego's Tilma, visit St. Dominic's Church, and the Chapel of Our Lady of the Rosary all while celebrating Mass daily.

Find all Odyssey information:
RedeemerRadio.com/Travel

Redeemer Radio
95.7 FM | 106.3 FM | App

Contact or provide financial support at info@RedeemerRadio.com
4618 E. State Blvd., Suite 200 Fort Wayne, IN 46815 260.436.9598

Get more
at
**Today's
Catholic.org**

Bishop Rhoades leads vespers service on feast day of St. Joseph



Photos by Jennifer Kedik

A member of the Knights of Columbus receives a St. Joseph Scapular from Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades March 19 at Our Lady of Hungary Church, South Bend, during a vespers service. The scapulars were blessed and presented to the Knights in attendance, in honor of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, on his feast day.



Bishop Rhoades prepares to make a presentation to Knights of Columbus representatives from St. Pius X Parish, Granger, during the service. Brothers of the Franciscan Friars Minor, and Father Kevin Bauman, assisted.

Holiest of relics on display at Cathedral Museum

BY MARIAM SCHMITZ

Tucked away in Cathedral Museum is an ornate reliquary containing two small slivers of wood from the True Cross of Christ, found in Jerusalem by St. Helena in 326 A.D. and later recovered from the Persians in 629 AD.

The slivers are arranged in the shape of a cross and carefully stored in a sealed container, which is beautifully displayed in the reliquary. According to a placard located next to them, some people are skeptical of St.



Helena's discovery; however, the Church has dedicated a special feast day, the Triumph of the Holy Cross — celebrated each year on Sept. 14 — to its discovery and recovery.

Father Phillip Widmann, museum director and pastor of Fort Wayne's St. Mary, Mother of God, Parish, said the relics came from the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. He remembers that, as he was growing up, cathedral rector Msgr. Thomas L. Durkin would bless people on Good Friday with the relics.

Holy Week is a time of wait-

ing with joyful anticipation for the Easter Triduum; a visit to the Cathedral Museum to see relics of the true cross may be a helpful visual reminder of the Lord's Passion. As is traditionally sung on Good Friday, "Behold, behold the wood of the Cross."

The museum is in the lower level of the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, at 915 S. Clinton St. in Fort Wayne. Admission and parking are free. The museum is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., or anytime by appointment. For more information call 260-422-4611.



Nate Proulx

Left, above and right: Two small slivers of the True Cross are arranged in the shape of a cross in this reliquary located at Cathedral Museum.



Still going to Mass at 109, Indiana Catholic is the 'joy of the parish'

BY NATALIE HOEFER

FORTVILLE, Ind. (CNS) — When her granddaughter asks her if she remembers the sinking of the Titanic, Mary Weir scoffs just a bit.

"No, that was April 1912," she said before adding, "I was too young."

But she does remember staying safe in her family's home on a hill during the Great Flood of 1913 — she was, after all, 4 years old by that time.

At 109, Mary Weir of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Fortville may well be the oldest Catholic who attends Mass in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Her eyesight and hearing have known better days, she admits, and she uses a walker and wheelchair for mobility. But clearly her memory is still sharp. And with the help of her family and a bit of nursing support, the centenarian still lives at home — a home she'll proudly tell you



CNS photo/Natalie Hoefler, The Criterion

Just days after her 109th birthday, Mary Weir, center, of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Fortville, Ind., poses in her home with granddaughter Paige Hunt and daughter Peggy Hunt, who both help care for Weir. The centenarian proudly displays a photo of her meeting in 2016 with then-Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin, who was Indianapolis' archbishop.

she bought April 4, 1981 — and takes part in Mass and parish

functions as often as possible.

While Weir's overall health and mental acuity are remarkable for her age, most impressive to her family and others who know her is the type of person she is and the Catholic faith she has devoutly lived for nearly 11 decades.

Weir, born Feb. 16, 1909, on her parents' farm in Franklin County, has four children, nine grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and nine — soon to be 10 — great-great-grandchildren. Life for Weir was much dif-

ferent before those nearly 39 descendants came along.

"We rode in a horse and buggy for a long while," she recalled of her youth. "I think I was probably 5 years old the first time I rode in a car. ... I did laundry on a washboard. ... We used oil lamps inside and lanterns outside. We never did have electricity at home, but (my husband, Lawrence, and I) did when we moved to Indianapolis" for two years after marrying in 1928.

When the Great Depression began in 1929, Weir said, she was blessed.

"It didn't affect me too much because my parents lived on a farm, and my husband had just started his (auto body repair) business in Greenfield, and it went well," she told *The Criterion*, the Indianapolis archdiocesan newspaper.

The Weirs had their four children between 1936 and 1946. In 1940, they moved from Greenfield to Fortville, where St. Thomas the Apostle Parish enters Mary's story, creating a chapter that has continued for 78 years.

Weir's ties to the parish are deep. She is its oldest member and has been a parishioner there longer than anyone, followed by her oldest son, David, now 81.

Her youngest child, Peggy Hunt, 71, helps care for Weir seven days a week. She recalls the importance her mother placed on faith while raising her

children.

"She always made sure we went to church every Sunday," Peggy said. "If you didn't go to church, you didn't go anywhere else that Sunday. And she made sure we got our catechism."

Weir taught catechism at the parish. She chauffeured religious sisters from St. Michael Parish in Greenfield to teach catechism at St. Thomas, helped clean the church, served dinners at parish functions and was part of a St. Thomas women's euchre club.

"I used to sing in the choir, too, but I'm not sure how good I sounded," she quipped.

When Weir refers to her parish home, the term takes on a dual meaning. When she and her family moved to Ingalls a few miles north of Fortville in 1948, they sold their home to the parish for use as a rectory. It's still the parish rectory.

Her days of volunteering at the parish may be over, but she stays connected to the faith community.

As long as the weather permits, Weir still worships at Saturday evening Mass and joins in parish functions. Driving and accompanying her is either Peggy or Peggy's daughter, Paige Hunt, who helps care for Weir five days a week.

"I just don't know how anybody can get by without faith," said Weir, who still prays the rosary daily. "I think how fortunate we are to have God in our lives."

The members of St. Thomas feel fortunate to have Weir in their lives, said Father George Nangachiveettil, pastor for the past four years.

"They know her very well," he said. "Her birthday was Feb. 16. I was making announcements at the end of Mass, and someone stood up and said, 'Don't forget today is Mary Weir's birthday!'"

The parish didn't forget — Weir received 47 cards for her 109th birthday, many of them from St. Thomas parishioners.

Paige, 52, sees the attention from the parish as her grandmother simply reaping what she has sown.

"She's just positive and happy," Paige said. "She's not pretentious. She's not judgmental or prejudiced. ... She never spoke ill of anyone, which is wrapped up in her faith. 'Be good to everyone' — that's kind of her persona. And she doesn't just believe it, she lives it."

She inspires a lot of people, Paige added. Father Nangachiveettil is one of them. He's especially inspired by Weir's witness.

"She is an evangelizer," he said. She is a good example to all (Catholics) who abandoned the church. ... Mary is simply a young girl coming to church. She is the joy of the parish."

Hoefler is a reporter at The Criterion, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

PAUL
APOSTLE OF CHRIST
 WHERE SIN ABOUNDS... GRACE ABOUNDS MORE.

COMING TO ABCINEMA IN DECATUR, IN

SPECIAL VIEWING EVENTS

HOSTED BY
ST. MARY'S CHURCH
 IN DECATUR:

APRIL 15 @ 4:30 PM
 APRIL 24 @ 6:30 PM

WHERE: ABCINEMA IN DECATUR
 SPECIAL TICKET PRICING \$2.00!

CONTACT THE CHURCH FOR TICKETS
 (260) 724-9159

THEIR FAITH CHALLENGED AN EMPIRE.

Fertility & Midwifery Care Center

- Creighton Model FertilityCare™/NaProTECHNOLOGY
- Comprehensive infertility care
- Recurrent miscarriages
- Routine and high risk pregnancy care
- VBAC
- Routine gynecology care
- daVinci® Robotic surgery care

Our Providers

Christopher Stroud, M.D.
 Angela Beale Martin, M.D.
 Marianne Stroud, CNM
 Lindsay Davidson, CNM
 Rebecca Cronin, CNM

www.fertilityandmidwifery.com **260-222-7401**

Parishioner, St. Aloysius

BKM REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

Sam Haiflich
 260-824-3982
 260-740-7299

1085 N. Main St., Bluffton
 bkmrealestate.com
 bkmauction.com

Let my 18 years of experience work for you!
 Realtor | Appraisals | Auctioneer
 sam@bkmauction.com

Residential Farm Commercial

'Created in His Image': a call to beauty, hope and evangelization

BY MEGAN GETTINGER

When communicating the truth, lead with beauty: This is the simple yet powerful approach, suggested by Bishop Robert Barron, that Cory Heimann, founder of Likable Art, takes in his understanding of the Christian call to evangelize — and consequently, in his work. “Leading with beauty speaks to people’s hearts in a way that throwing out facts just can’t,” said Heimann. “True conversion means moving knowledge of God from the head to the heart, and beauty makes that movement possible.” Leading with beauty was one of the central points of Heimann’s recent presentation, “Created: Bridging the Gap Between Your Art & Your Creator” at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne.

Though the call to create may seem obvious for those with artistic gifts, it is truly a universal Christian call. We are all called to lead others to Christ by our witness, our story, Heimann said. We are all called to be story “givers.” He encouraged those at the presentation to ask themselves, “What is my story? How am I communicating it to others?”

He noted that hope must be a central and perceptible part of our story, referencing 1 Peter 3:15: “Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope.” The beauty of a life lived with hope is attractive to others and invites them to pursue the truth. Witnessing to beauty and hope in the current culture can be difficult, Heimann said, but it is vital for authentic evangelization.

Heimann and the team at Likable Art work with ministries and organizations to help them be more effective witnesses of beauty and hope. Clients often come to Likable Art with a specific project or campaign in mind, “but we want to help them rethink how they use media, from simply promoting their mission to actually furthering their mission,” Heimann clarified. Likable Art’s clients include organizations such as the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, LifeTeen International, Steubenville Conferences, Lighthouse Catholic Media and Dynamic Catholic.

In 2017 the Likable Art team undertook a particularly unique project: creating and publishing a book. “Created: Bridging the Gap Between Your Art & Your Creator,” was inspired by the very first words of Genesis: “In the beginning God created.” Heimann was struck by these five words, and the realization that each time an artist begins to make something he or she is participating in a small way in the original action of God. “As I was reflecting on all of this,” he



Provided by Likable Art

The visually appealing layout of the newly released book “Created: Bridging the Gap Between Your Art & Your Creator,” designed and published by Likable Art, demonstrates the concept of engaging others through beauty.

“Created: Bridging the Gap Between Your Art & Your Creator,” shown below, offers a unique collaborative project between Likable Art and 62 “Catholic creatives. It was released in January.



CORY HEIMANN

recounted, “I began to wonder about the insights of my mentors and peers. What would their first five words to artists be? So I reached out and asked them. As I began to receive the contributions for this project I felt a deep sense of their importance, and the responsibility I had to share them in a meaningful way”.

What began as a relatively small project soon grew into a collaborative collection of visual art and wisdom from 62 Catholic creatives from a wide array of disciplines. The book itself is a work of art, intentionally crafted to manifest the overarching theme: “We are artists because God is.” Each piece of visual art included is captivating in a singular way, and the written pieces are beautifully composed, full of theological truths that resonate in both the mind and the heart.

Heimann commented that he is already hearing about the many fruits of the project, “It has been affirming for people who struggle with finding their role as Catholic artists and has created a sense of community for artists. I have also heard a lot of stories about people giving the book as a gift to friends or family with whom they had been wanting to share the beauty of the faith but did not know how. It seems to be meeting a different need, since it strikes a different chord than a typical theological work might.”

How can all the faithful, support initiatives like “Created” and the artists behind them?

“If you see something beautiful that moves you, reach out and thank the artist,” suggested Heimann, “Expressions of genuine appreciation help keep creatives going and build a sense of community.” When one contemplates art he or she encounters God in a real way, he said, for God is beauty in its fullest expression; and expressing appreciation for art gives Him glory as the ultimate creator.

Cory Heimann will speak at the Catholic Business Network breakfast Friday, April 6, at 8 a.m. at the Cathedral Parish Center in Fort Wayne. Visit www.today-scatholic.org/event for details.

To find out more about Likable Art visit www.likableart.com.

A crisis of authority: 'Humanae Vitae' 50 years later

In the spring of 1968, almost three years after the Second Vatican Council closed, hope was still high that artificial contraception would no longer be considered a mortal sin. Rumors circulated that the committee studying the matter would advise the pope to lift the prohibition. Reputable moral theologians were also purporting a lifting of the ban. Certainly, some confessors were advising couples based on these expectations, influencing some to contracept. Then on July 29, 1968, a veritable bombshell was dropped from the Vatican: In his encyclical "Humanae Vitae," Pope Paul VI retained the prohibition against artificial contraception.

The following day, Catholic theologians, in a political act, publicly rejected the encyclical, running an unprecedented advertisement in the *New York Times*. The ad proposed at least three things, according to Ralph McInerney's "What Went Wrong With Vatican II: The Catholic Crisis Explained": 1) Pope Paul VI had "flunked theology" 2) The pope had no right to "dissent" from his own commission or their opinions, and that his function was to go with the vote — the "witnesses" 3) For the encyclical to be infallible, it must be specifically declared as infallible.

Crisis of authority

Since the time of the council and "Humanae Vitae," there has been a mass exodus from the Church, continuing today with 76 percent of baptized Catholics not attending Sunday Mass regularly. The council was supposed to spur the greatest renewal the Church has ever seen — so McInerney rightly asks, "What went wrong?" He answers that in telling "the faithful that, according to Vatican II, they may safely ignore the pope as moral teacher and may follow their own consciences, formed according to advice the dissenters are giving ... the dissenting theologians have ... whipsawed ordinary Catholics between competing authorities and have done untold damage to the Church."

In short, the dissenting theologians set up the laity to believe they are choosing between arguments, when in fact they are choosing between authorities.

Over 200 theologians signed the advertisement, setting up a highly successful model of an alternate magisterium that still creates confusion among Catholic laity on many matters of faith. In a 1999 *Time/CNN* poll, 86 percent of Catholics "found it possible to disagree with the Pope on an article of faith and still be a good Catholic" According to a Pew Research poll from 2013, a majority of Catholics think



DAVE McCLOW

THE ULTIMATE CHALLENGE

the Church should change its teachings on birth control (76 percent), priests should be allowed to marry (64 percent) and women should be allowed to be priests (59 percent). The dissenters come from both the conservative and liberal factions of the Church.

Did anyone read the documents of Vatican II?

It becomes apparent, however, that liberal dissenters advocating the "spirit of Vatican II" could not read. What the bishops finally voted on, and the pope promulgated, did not, in fact, set up a democratic church. Even if they could, Church democracies don't work, as the exponentially fragmenting Protestant churches display. Yes, the Bible is infallible, but interpretations are not.

The Vatican II documents are clear on the issue of papal authority: "The college or body of bishops has for all that no authority unless united with the Roman Pontiff ... For the Roman Pontiff, ... has full, supreme, and

McCLOW, page 13

The art of slow living:

When calligraphy becomes prayer

Erica Tighe was 26 when she made the leap: She would set out on her own to be a calligrapher. Full time, in order to pay her \$800 rent, cellphone bill and \$1,000 college-loan payment — and also hopefully afford some food.

She had a sociology degree and lingering burnout from teaching in Brooklyn, her latest stint. She'd recently moved to Los Angeles, but after a few months of looking for a nonprofit job, she couldn't find one that would cover her rent and college debt.

Several people who had seen Erica's work online had asked her to make their wedding invitations. She thought maybe that could suffice. She planned to refine her self-taught method, which was eliciting periodic orders for \$20 commissions via Etsy.

"I got on my knees and asked God for work," Erica told me. "I was in complete fear. My spiritual director said to me: 'God is your boss, so ask for work!'" Eventually, a \$100 gig came in.

She reached out to a fellow Phoenix native who had launched an online ministry for Catholic women called Blessed Is She, offering to make one Instagram quote. The two 20-somethings forged a close partnership on a shoe-string budget, granting Erica



CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

TWENTY SOMETHING

total creative license to design products — posters, prints, journals, mugs.

The first journal sold 700. The latest one sold 9,000.

Their hunch proved right: If they poured in the effort and supplied something that was beautiful and original, demand would follow.

Today — three years later — Erica makes "a really nice living" running her design business called Be A Heart, which employs two women. She built off the random commissions for website logos and expanded her wheelhouse, learning to paint watercolor, digitize prints and design books. Blessed Is She occupies half her time, allowing her to pursue other projects, including celebrity weddings, calligraphy workshops, a Catholic journaling Bible published last year by Our Sunday Visitor and a lettering book called "Written By Hand," published last year by Rock Point Press. Barnes & Noble

CAPECCHI, page 13

'Everyone who believes in Him will receive forgiveness'



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Easter John 20:1-9

A variety of biblical readings occur in the course of liturgical celebrations for Easter. For instance, the Liturgy of the Word for the Easter Vigil is unsurpassed among all the feasts of the year. These reflections center upon the readings for the Eucharist, celebrated during the day on Easter itself.

The first reading is from the Acts of the Apostles. As this season continues, most often the Church will draw from Acts its first scriptural reading. In this reading, Peter addresses a crowd. His sermon, one of several in the early chapters of Acts, capsulized

the Gospel message. Jesus is Lord. John the Baptist foretold the coming of Jesus. Jesus was the gift and representative of God. Jesus died on Calvary for the sins of all humanity.

After dying on Calvary, Jesus rose and was seen by witnesses. The Lord sent the surviving Apostles to proclaim the Gospel as they went into places far and near.

The reading, while crisp and not too long, focuses attention upon the Lord. The Crucifixion redeemed the world. Then, Jesus rose from the dead. The Resurrection is more than a pious assertion of some vague, unearthly way to say that the Lord's power endures from age to age through Christianity and its adherents.

Jesus rose from the dead in time and space. Witnesses actually saw the risen Lord.

St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians provides the second reading. Paul calls the Corinthian Christians to turn to Jesus. They are with the Lord. The Lord is with them. Such is the effect of the Incarnation, of the

Redemption, and of the personal decision to turn to God.

The Gospel of John furnishes the last reading. It is a triumphant story, revealing the excitement in which it was written. Mary Magdalene, forever faithful, discovered that the tomb is empty. She immediately alerted Peter and the other Apostles to her discovery.

Peter and the beloved disciple hurried to see for themselves. The beloved disciple saw the empty tomb and remembered the Lord's prophecy of rising from the dead.

Reflection

The Gospel catches it all. The resurrection of Jesus, of course, was an event utterly unique in earthly history, but for the first Christians the Lord's rising had a deeply important meaning for them. They themselves had no cause to fear. In Jesus, they would live forever, come what may on earth.

This weekend, in celebrating Easter, the Church stands with Mary of Magdala, Peter and the

Beloved Disciple. He lives! Death has been defeated. We can live eternally. The key to life eternal is in our love for God.

The second reading, from Paul's first letter to Corinth, reinforces the notion that the Lord's resurrection has profound implications for each human being anywhere and at any time.

St. Paul was justifiably, and totally, overtaken by the realization that through the Incarnation, the fact that in the one person of Jesus the nature of God and human nature coexist, all we humans commune with God — if we turn ourselves to God willingly and truly.

These readings instruct us. Jesus, of course, is central. He is Lord. He conquered pain and death. His wondrous resurrection is our guarantee of salvation and everlasting peace.

Human beings also enter the story. Today, these human beings are seen in retrospective. Most are saints, highly venerated persons. In their humanity, however, they were as we are.

We benefit from noting their great faith and of hope. Are we

able to manifest the same? Do we hold dear in our hearts the trust in Christ that was so vivid among them?

Only if we are of the same strong faith can we, too, know the thrill of declaring, "He lives!"

READINGS

Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 Col 3:1-4 Jn 20:1-9 Mk 16:1-7

Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33 Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11 Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41 Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22 Jn 20:11-18

Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10 Ps 105:1-4, 6-9 Lk 24:13-35

Thursday: Acts 3:11-26 Ps 8:2a, 5-9 Lk 24:35-48

Friday: Acts 4:1-12 Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-27a Jn 21:1-14

Saturday: Acts 4:13-21 Ps 118:1, 14-15, 16ab-21 Mk 16:9-15

The wrong-headedness of ‘wrongful birth’ lawsuits

At its core, the idea of a “wrongful birth” claim is unreasonable and ethically incoherent. Parents who bring these lawsuits against obstetricians and hospitals claim that medical professionals should have detected a particular disease or defect in their unborn baby through prenatal testing and informed them about it. Had they been given this information, their argument continues, they would have chosen to abort their baby, rather than spending years of their lives caring for a less-than-perfect, possibly infirm child. Wrongful birth lawsuits enable the parents to seek legal redress, often in the form of multi-million dollar settlements.

In 2013, for example, a jury in Washington state awarded a \$50 million payout to a couple who claimed they would have aborted their five-year-old son Oliver if they had known he had an “unbalanced chromosomal translocation.” Because of the mismatched chromosomes he received from his parents, he has an IQ of less than 70 and is unable to walk.

Rachelle Harz, a malpractice lawyer who spearheaded one of these lawsuits in New Jersey in 1999, expressed some of the tortuous thinking that goes into these cases during an interview for “60 Minutes.” She noted that although the physician in this case, “didn’t cause the child’s retardation, what he caused was not giving the proper information to the parents to allow them the choice to abort the child.” She concluded that the doctor “caused the birth of this very, very neurologically impaired child.”

The fundamental flaw in her argument, of course, is the claim that the doctor “caused the birth” of the baby, when, in fact, the birth was caused by an activity that took place nine months prior between the husband and wife. That action of the mom and

dad, not an action by the doctor, resulted in the birth.

What the doctor actually “caused” by not discovering and sharing specific medical information with the parents was the preservation of the child’s life. These lawsuits rely on fundamentally flawed logic: first, that it is wrong and illegal for a doctor not to know or to withhold medical information such that a life that would have been ended is saved; second, that a doctor is somehow obligated to facilitate or cooperate in harmful or lethal actions that parents intend to carry out against their own offspring. The medical profession, however, has long professed allegiance to the creed of “do no harm,” so that doctors can serve uniquely as healers, not killers. For obstetricians in particular, the unborn children they track and follow during pregnancy count as that doctor’s patients in the same way that the mothers do.

Whenever a couple sets out with the intention of aborting an imperfect child and requests that prenatal testing be performed for this purpose, the process of testing itself becomes immoral. In the same way, any physician or health care professional who arranges for such tests, if they have prudential certainty that a couple intends to abort an imperfect child, would be guilty of cooperating in evil when that abortion takes place.

To consider a parallel example, if a physician believed that a child arriving to the hospital emergency room had been physically abused or severely beaten by his parents, he would be duty-bound, not to mention legally obligated, to report that abuse to authorities. He would not be permitted to turn a blind eye, or otherwise cooperate in the ongoing harm to that child by his or her parents. Similarly, obstetricians who work with pregnant couples should not be expected to turn a



FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

blind eye and provide diagnostic information to parents that will encourage them fatally to assault their unborn child.

None of us is perfect. None of us is born into this world completely free of defects, whether physical or psychological. Those limitations, however, never entitle others to place our lives in the crosshairs and pull the trigger — especially our own parents. In sum, these wrongful birth cases promote catastrophic misunderstandings about parental duties and about the physician’s obligations towards mothers and their children in pre-natal care settings.

Recognizing that some parents will face considerable expense, labor and difficulty in raising a child who requires special care and attention due to disabilities, it seems reasonable to promote a pro-life and supportive response on behalf of these families, rather than encouraging the corrosive practice of wrongful birth lawsuits. That supportive response should include the expectation of everyone chipping in and helping out, whether through insurance, taxes or crowd-funding, or through other forms of civic, societal or ecclesial outreach.

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serves as the director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

McCLOW, from page 12

universal power over the whole Church, a power which he can always exercise unhindered” (“Lumen Gentium,” No. 22).

Further, the dissenting assertion that Catholics can ignore the Church’s teaching unless the Pope speaks “ex cathedra,” or infallibly, is also clearly refuted by “Lumen Gentium” (25): The submission of our intellects and wills [as an exercise of our free will], must be given to the bishops and especially the pope “even when he does not speak ex cathedra.”

It is clear the dissenting theologians have either not read the actual passages from Vatican II, or they are willfully opposing Church teaching. In the end, the laity suffers the most.

The Vatican’s response to the dissent

The dissent has become institutionalized, infecting the entire Catholic educational system. Almost every papal document since 1968 has been judged, criticized and marginalized. And though the Vatican has responded patiently and clearly, all its efforts have been dismissed.

Conclusion

It is inconsistent for Catholics to reject the pope’s/Church’s teaching yet consider themselves Catholic. The Catholic Church is not a democracy. In my opinion, the authority of the pope and the magisterium function as

the immune system of the body of Christ — and a healthy immune system must reject what threatens the body.

In the name of the spirit of Vatican II, the apparently illiterate dissenting theologians have set themselves up as an alternate authority/immune system. But confusion has reigned long enough. Don’t be illiterate. Read McInery’s “What Went Wrong with Vatican II,” or better, “Humanae Vitae” and “Documents of the Second Vatican Council.” Freely submit your intellect and will to the Church’s 2000-year-old, Christ-instituted authority.

Dave McCLOW, M.Div., is a counselor with the Pastoral Solutions Institute Tele-Counseling Services. Read more at CatholicExchange.com.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for April 1, 2018

Mark 16:1-7

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Easter Vigil, Cycle B: an angelic message at the tomb. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

SABBATH	MAGDALENE	MARY
SALOME	ANOINT HIM	VERY EARLY
FIRST	TOMB	SAYING
ROLL	ENTRANCE	BACK
YOUNG MAN	ROBE	NAZARETH
CRUCIFIED	RAISED	NOT HERE
LAI D HIM	PETER	WILL SEE HIM

ROLL THE STONE AWAY

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



Saint of the Week Isidore of Seville

c. 565-636
Feast April 4

This bishop’s extensive writings influenced Church thinking for a millennium. As bishop of Seville, Spain, from about 600 until his death, he presided over two councils, promoted acceptance of the “filioque” clause of the Creed, and battled the Arian heresy. Nearing death, he gave away everything he had, confessed his faults to his people in Church, and received Communion. A doctor of the Church, Isidore is the patron saint of computer users.

CAPECCHI, from page 12

picked it up this spring, and it is being translated into four other languages.

Erica invited her 13,000 Instagram followers to work through the book together as a nine-week project, using the hashtag “writtenbyhandchallenge.” Participants shared snapshots of their slow-but-steady progress: addressing Christmas cards, making pretty gift tags, working alongside their children.

Calligraphy invites you to use your hands, which young adults are itching to do in response to the iPhone era of thumb tapping, Erica says. It helps explain the resurgence of the antiquated art.

Calligraphy also forces you to slow down, dipping the nib of the pen into ink – the old-school method Erica espouses – with every word. That’s what

can make it prayerful, she says. “I pretty much do everything fast in my life. This is likely the only thing I do slow. I like how it becomes a meditation for stillness. Little moments can reflect the relief that we experience in prayer.”

Erica’s Catholic faith pulses with each stroke, especially the belief in the dignity of each person. Hand lettering makes that visible, Erica points out. “To have your name written on a piece of paper that someone has taken the time to slow down and write, to connect the letters that make up your name, which is your identity, to be known and seen – that’s what we are called to do daily. Can we see the cashier? Can I slow down enough to see my significant other sitting across from me? How do we slow down enough to see the divine in our everyday life?”

Young adults ask Church to welcome, listen, involve them

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Young people want to know they are valued members of the Catholic Church and that their questions and struggles are taken seriously enough that someone will spend time with them discussing issues rather than simply repeating “prefabricated” responses, said delegates to a meeting in Rome.

“We need a church that is welcoming and merciful, which appreciates its roots and patrimony and which loves everyone, even those who are not following the perceived standards,” said the final document of a pre-synod gathering organized by the Vatican March 19-25.

The document reflects the input of 305 young adults attending the meeting in Rome and some 15,000 young people who participated through Facebook groups online.

Released March 24, it was to be presented to Pope Francis at the end of Palm Sunday Mass the next day and was to be used in drafting the working document for the Synod of Bishops on young people, faith and vocational discernment in October, said Cardinal Lorenzo Baldisseri, secretary general of the synod.

With a frantic pace of life, thousands of life choices and proponents of different ideas and

ideals battling for their attention, young people said what they want most from the church is “attractive, coherent and authentic models,” who will accompany them in their search for meaning and fulfillment.

But, they warned, “we need rational and critical explanations to complex issues — simplistic answers do not suffice.”

Most of the young people meeting in Rome are very active in the Church and were named delegates to the meeting by their national bishops’ conference or by the Catholic movements to which they belong.

But the young adults in Rome and those in the Facebook groups recognized that like in society at large, they have different opinions on a variety of issues, including “contraception, abortion, homosexuality, cohabitation, marriage and how the priesthood is perceived in different realities in the church.”

Some, the document said, “may want the church to change her teaching” or, at least, they would like “access to a better

explanation and to more formation on these questions.”

However, they said, even “young Catholics whose convictions are in conflict with official teaching still desire to be part of the church.”

Of course, the document said, one cannot ignore the fact that “many young Catholics accept these teachings and find in them a source of joy. They desire the church to not only hold fast to them amid unpopularity but to also proclaim them with greater depth of teaching.”

The role of women in society and in the Church was another lively topic of discussion at the meeting, said Laphidil Twumasi, an immigrant from Ghana to Italy who helped present the document to the press March 24.

For many young people today, the document said, the church’s treatment of women is an obstacle to their deciding to remain part of the Catholic community.

“The church can play a vital role in ensuring that these young

people are not marginalized but feel accepted,” the document said. “This can happen when we seek to promote the dignity of women, both in the church and in wider society.”

“One key question arises from these reflections: What are the places where women can flourish within the church and society?” it said. The young people suggested, “The church can approach these problems with real discussion and open-mindedness to different ideas and experiences.”

In their specific discussion of “vocation,” the young adults insisted that the approach must be a holistic one of God’s call to each individual to follow him, rather than being read as a discussion of a call to priesthood or religious life.

And while the document made no mention of the ordination of women and did not clarify further, the delegates said, “We recognize in particular the unique challenges faced by young women as they discern their vocation and place in the church.”

“Just as Mary’s ‘yes’ to God’s call is fundamental to the Christian experience, young women today need space to give their own ‘yes’ to their vocation,” it said. “We encourage the church to deepen its understanding of the role of women and to empower young women, both lay and consecrated, in the spirit of

the church’s love for Mary, the mother of Jesus.”

The young adults said in the document that it does little good when Church leaders dance around topics or show they are embarrassed by them. “We, the young church, ask that our leaders speak in practical terms about controversial subjects such as homosexuality and gender issues, about which young people are already freely discussing without taboo.”

But the key questions for the young adults was what do young Catholics need from their elders in the church and why are so many young people in so many countries leaving the Church in droves?

“Young people who are disconnected from or who leave the church do so after experiencing indifference, judgment and rejection,” the delegates wrote.

In the document, the young adults asked the Church to be more credible, more honest, more transparent and to continue to admit its failures and express sorrow for the way it has dealt with clerical sexual abuse and the misuse of wealth.

The humility of the Church, it said, “will undoubtedly raise its credibility among the world’s young people. If the church acts in this way, then it will differentiate itself from other institutions and authorities which young people, for the most part, already mistrust.”


‘We, the young church, ask that our leaders speak in practical terms about controversial subjects ...’



Peerless CLEANERS
SINCE 1915

10 Locations
Fort Wayne, Angola, Auburn and Warsaw

4121 Hillegas Rd. Ft. Wayne, IN 46808
260.422.9374 / Toll Free 1.800.514.9689
www.peerless-cleaners.com

PLUMBING
HEATING
AIR CONDITIONING
ELECTRICAL

www.borcheltheating.com | 260-485-3412
6332 Maplecrest Rd., Fort Wayne, IN 46835

SERVICE DIRECTORY



Call 260-399-1449
to be included in print or online.

Expertise you can rely on.

Michael Kendzicky
Glen Lothary
James Lothary
Michael Marien

Private Wealth Management
4220 Edison Lakes Parkway, Suite 100
Mishawaka, IN 46545
574-247-6830 . 800-866-9022
rwbaird.com



©2015 Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated. MC-46527.

MORKEN, inc.

Commercial & Industrial
ROOFING



3303 Freeman Street • Fort Wayne
432-2885



Visiting Nurse

HOSPICE HOME HOSPICE CARE PALLIATIVE CARE GRIEF SUPPORT

Caring for the Community Since 1888

5910 Homestead Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46814
260-435-3222 • www.vnfw.org



LEGACY LENDING GROUP, INC.
The LOGICAL Choice

•FREE PRE APPROVALS!
Cell: 260-440-4181
kari@legacylend.com

Parishioner:
Immaculate Conception, Ege

CONV - FHA - VA - USDA

“If you are what you should be, you will set the whole world on fire.”
-St. Catherine of Siena

PNC Bank Building



LEONARD J. Andorfer & Co., LLP
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

110 W. Berry Street, STE 2202
Fort Wayne 46802
(260) 423-9405
Fax: (260) 422-9206

•Tax Planning and Preparation
Corporations, Individuals and Partnerships
• Estates and Trusts •Auditing Services

Visit us at www.ljandorfer.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

WHAT'S HAPPENING carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. View more Catholic events and submit new ones at www.todayscatholic.org/event. For additional listings of that event, please call the advertising sales staff at 260-399-1449 to purchase space.

Catholic Business Network to meet

FORT WAYNE — The April Catholic Business Network First Friday Breakfast will be Friday, April 6, at the St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel (by the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception). Mass at 7 a.m. is followed by networking, breakfast and the featured speaker at 8 a.m. in the Cathedral Center. This month's guest speaker is Cory Heimann, creative director of Likeable Art.

First Friday Mass and activity

FORT WAYNE — A First Friday Mass and activity will be held at Our Lady of Good Hope Church, 7215 St Joe Rd., Friday, April 6, at 9 a.m. with a free field trip afterwards to Summit Gymnastics, 17505 Coverdale Rd. All ages are invited. Contact: Janet Schipper at schipperdj@gmail.com or 260-627-2848 for information about Summit Gymnastics. For questions about the Mass please contact Jan Arbogast at 260-749-5646 or arbogast1@frontier.com.

Taste of Life

ANGOLA — Women's Care Center of Northeast Indiana will have a Taste of Life Saturday, April 7, from 6-9 p.m. at the Steuben County Event Center, 100 LN 101B Crooked Lake. Taste the region's finest wines and craft beers, enjoy a delicious dinner, maybe to win "A Few of My Favorite Things" from local celebrities and test your baby knowledge to collect a \$500 grand prize. To purchase tickets, visit wcc2018.eventbrite.com

or call Sarah Speer at 260-333-7117 for details.

Rosary Sodality bake sale planned

MONROEVILLE — The St. Rose Altar and Rosary Sodality will have a bake sale Saturday, March 31, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Monroeville Fire Station, 205 W. South St.

Day of Reflection

MISHAWAKA — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent, 1515 W. Dragoon Tr., Wednesday, April 4, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is "God's Holy Mountains." Bring a Bible. The cost of the day is \$20 and includes lunch. Register to 574-259-5427 by Friday, March 30.

Spring Rummage Sale

KENDALLVILLE — The Immaculate Conception Rosary Sodality Spring Rummage Sale will be held in the church hall, 301 E. Diamond St., Friday, April 6, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturday April 7, from 9-11:30 a.m. \$2.50 a bag on Saturday.

Interpreter to be at Mass

FORT WAYNE — An interpreter from DeafLink, a service of The League for the Blind and Disabled Inc., will be present for the 11:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, April 8, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, 1122 S. Clinton St. An interpreter will sign in American Sign Language every second Sunday of the month. An interpreter from Community Services All Deaf (CSAD) will sign in American Sign Language.

at 11 a.m. at the St. Matthew Cathedral, 1701 Miami St. South. Bend, IN 46613. Contact Allison Sturm in the Secretariat for Evangelization at asturm@diocesefwsb.org or 260-399-1452.

Tenebrae

FORT WAYNE — "Tenebrae" — a musical meditation on the seven "last words" of Christ on the Cross — will be on Good Friday, March 30, at 9 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 1502 E Wallen Rd. Tenebrae is the Latin word for "darkness." The gradual extinguishing of all candles in the church symbolizes the temporary triumph of the prince of darkness over the Light of the World.

REST IN PEACE

Arcola

Rosemarie C. Mannes, 86, St. Patrick

Fort Wayne

Eugenio S. Torres, Jr., 80, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Noah Joseph Coonan, 21, St. Vincent de Paul

Alice J. Donnelly, 69, Most Precious Blood

Mary O. Martinez-Roman, 82, St. Peter

Jeannine R. DiFilippo, 89, Our Lady of Good Hope

Sam A. Funich, 82, Our Lady of Good Hope

Mishawaka

Theodore F. Fenimore, Jr., 82, St. Monica

New Carlisle

Joseph J. Grohowski, 97, St. Stanislaus Kostka

South Bend

Joseph P. Tomkiewicz, 79, Christ the King

Patricia VanDePutte, 63, St. Anthony de Padua

Patricia J. Bloom, 77, St. Anthony de Padua

Natalie Vanderheyden, 86, Corpus Christi

Wabash

Rudolph M. Florek, 86, St. Bernard

Yoder

Marian A. Christman, 87, St. Aloysius

Submit obituaries to mweber@diocesefwsb.org



Download the **Today's Catholic App** for easy access to the calendar with more events across the diocese.

Download on **Google Play** or in the **App Store**
Visit www.todayscatholic.org.



Monte Freeze

Bob Jesch

Service to others is their calling.

Divine Mercy Funeral Home is honored to introduce our Funeral Directors, Bob Jesch and Monte Freeze. But for many in the Fort Wayne community, Bob and Monte need no introduction.

Bob is a Bishop Dwenger graduate and former hockey coach who has served as a Funeral Director for over 35 years. Originally from South Bend, Monte has served as a Funeral Director for over 20 years in Fort Wayne, where he lives with his wife of 17 years and two sons. Bob and Monte are well known

and respected for their experience, compassion, and dedication to the families they serve. Their patience and understanding puts families at ease. Just when they need it most.

We invite you to call Bob or Monte at 260.426.2044 for an appointment or visit the office at 3500 Lake Ave., 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.



LITTLE FLOWER HOLY HOUR

April 3
7 p.m.

Fort Wayne, Indiana
St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel
with Deacon Jim Tighe

Please, come and pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life.

The 'savior of the Savior,' St. Joseph

Pastoral visit to Saint Joseph High School includes confirmations

BY LISA KOCHANOWSKI

"This high school is blessed to have as its patron saint the patron saint of the Catholic Church, the man to whom God the Father entrusted His only begotten Son as His earthly father, St. Joseph," said Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades to the students, faculty, staff and visitors at Mass in Alumni Gymnasium during his annual pastoral visit to Saint Joseph High School. "With the exception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph stands above all the saints."

Bishop continued: "Today, March 19, the Church throughout the world honors St. Joseph. We honor the chaste spouse of Mary. Sometimes, in religious art, Joseph is depicted as an old man. They did so out of a desire to emphasize the perpetual virginity of Mary, depicting her husband as an elderly man with little vital energy. I see him as a strong young man, perhaps a few years older than Our Lady, but in the prime of his life and work. He wasn't pure and chaste because of his age, but because of his virtue, because of his faith in God, and his love for Mary and Jesus," he said.

"St. Joseph was Mary's faithful, chaste and virtuous husband. He protected her virginity and holiness. With her, he cooperated in the Incarnation. Joseph listened to the angel of the Lord and responded to God's call to care for Jesus and Mary. What an amazing vocation! He played his part in God's plan for the salvation of humanity. He was a great father. He protected Jesus. He saved Jesus by taking Him to Egypt when Herod wanted to murder the newborn King. That's why St. Joseph is the only human person who has been given the title of 'savior of the Savior.'"

Bishop Rhoades explained to the community of students and staff how St. Joseph is described in Scripture as a "just" man. In Hebrew, a "just" man means a good and faithful servant of God, someone who fulfills the divine will or who is honorable and charitable toward his neighbor. He noted St. Joseph is a model of justice for everyone who wants to be a good and faithful servant of God and do God's will. St. Joseph demonstrates the path of virtue, of love and humility. He was a man of silence and strength, the bishop said. With Mary, he raised Jesus. He fed Him; clothed Him; educated Him in the faith of Israel, in the law; and educated Jesus in the trade of carpentry.



Photos by Derby Photography

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades addresses the students of Saint Joseph High School, South Bend, during a pastoral visit that included an all-school Mass on March 19, the feast day of St. Joseph.



Tami Goy, director of Pastoral Ministry, left, and Principal Susan Richter stand with three students who were brought into full communion with the Catholic Church during the Mass, and their sponsor or godparent.

"These were the duties of a father, and St. Joseph fulfilled these duties faithfully. Jesus loved him and admired him. And even now, in heaven, Jesus loves him. St. Joseph truly is the man closest to Christ. Even in eternity, Our Lord shines on St. Joseph and responds to his every request and desire. So St. Joseph is a most powerful intercession for us. We can and should ask St. Joseph to intercede for us. St. André Bessette had a great devotion to St. Joseph, and there were many miracles that took place through Brother André asking for St. Joseph's help and intercession," said Bishop.

He told everyone how Pope



Father Terrence Coonan shows off student artwork during the bishop's visit.

Francis keeps an image on his table of St. Joseph sleeping. The pope says that even when St. Joseph is sleeping, he is taking care of the Church. When faced with a difficult dilemma, the pope is known to write his distress on a piece of paper and place that paper under the image of St. Joseph sleeping, asking for his powerful intercession.

"I pray that St. Joseph will guard and protect this high school, and every one of you. May he intercede for you, especially for any of you who are dealing with difficult problems, maybe in your families or in other relationships, maybe health problems, or academic challenges, whatever difficulties and challenges you may be facing or will face in the future. I encourage you to go to Joseph, like so many of the saints did," he said. "May he guard all of us, protect us from evil, and keep us close to Jesus and Mary. May St. Joseph obtain for the Church and for all the world, for this high school and for all of us, the blessing of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit."

During Mass, students Skylar Burdue, Hannah Horvath and Sophia Matzinger were presented to Bishop Rhoades. All three

were confirmed, and two received their first Eucharist from Bishop during the Mass. Burdue was received into full communion with the Church.

Principal Susan Richter also took a moment during Mass to recognize longtime volunteer and Saint Joseph High School alumna Sister Carmel Marie Sallows, CSC. Sister Carmel is the recipient of the Helping Hands Award from the Center for Hospice Care. To honor the life and work of Sister Carmel, a special fund called the Sister Carmel Helping Hands Fund collects donations to directly support charity care for those in need. The SJHS family held a dress-down day to honor her as well, raising \$3,000 for the special outreach fund.

Each year during Bishop's visit, the names of the Saint Joe Scholars — those students who maintained a GPA of 4.0 or higher during their high school career are announced.

The names of this year's valedictorian and salutatorians were also revealed during the Mass. Martin Kennedy and Meagan Luck will be co-salutatorians, and Anna Staud will be the valedictorian.

Before and after the Mass, Bishop Rhoades sat in on several classes and spoke with groups of students and staff. The day was filled with conversations about his recent trip to Ethiopia, and after Mass students had the chance to hear more details about the Catholic Relief Services programs he visited there. The SJHS family also presented him with the gift of two community watering stations for Catholic Relief Services, purchased in his honor.

"Our students and staff are always excited to have Bishop Rhoades visit and celebrate Mass with the Saint Joe family," said Richter. "He is truly our shepherd and supports Catholic education with such passion. Our students enjoy listening to the incredible experiences Bishop shares after his trips abroad. Bishop's pastoral visit is always one of the best days of the academic year."



Bishop Rhoades speaks with students in Kristie Alter's social studies classroom.