

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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Bishop Rhoades thanks Msgr. Schulte for outstanding service, appoints new Vicar General, Judicial Vicar



Jodi Marlin

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades has announced changes in the leadership of two diocesan offices. From left are Father Jacob Runyon, new Judicial Vicar and also Rector of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception; Father Mark Gurtner, new Vicar General, Chancellor and Moderator of the Curia; Bishop Rhoades; and Msgr. Robert Schulte, new pastor of St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne. Father Gurtner will continue as pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, Fort Wayne.

FORT WAYNE — In announcing the appointment of Msgr. Robert Schulte as pastor of St. Jude Parish in Fort Wayne, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades expressed deep gratitude for Msgr. Schulte's 18 years of "outstanding service to the diocese as Vicar General, and for the invaluable assistance he provided" to him and to Bishop John M. D'Arcy before him.

Bishop Rhoades remarked that the longevity of Msgr. Schulte's ministry as Vicar General is a testament to the high regard in which he and Bishop D'Arcy, priests of the diocese and the faithful have held Msgr. Schulte through the years, and that he also believes Msgr. Schulte deserves a break from diocesan administrative duties to become a full-time pastor again. The bishop has appointed him pastor of St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne, effective June 19.

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Was the Church right about contraception?

BY LISA EVERETT

A look at "Humanae Vitae" 50 years later

FIRST IN A SERIES ON THE ANNIVERSARY

It is probably safe to say that most people today consider contraception to be an indispensable modern convenience, and have a hard time imagining life without it. More than five decades ago, the proponents of the birth control pill promised that better marriages would result from fewer children and more satisfying sex lives, free from the fear of pregnancy. In stark contrast to this position stood the Catholic Church, whose leader, Pope Paul VI, after serious consultation, reflection and prayer, issued the encyclical "Humanae Vitae" on July 25, 1968.

In this landmark document,

Pope Paul VI reaffirmed the moral norm prohibiting contraception and instead recommended natural methods of fertility regulation as the path to happiness and holiness in marriage. Far from being a benefit to married couples, Pope Paul VI predicted that the use of contraception instead would lead to an increase in marital infidelity, a general lowering of morality in society, greater disrespect for women and coercive measures on the part of governments with respect to "population control."

So which of these competing claims is true? Has contraception facilitated better and happier marriages, or is there strong evidence that it damages the relationship between spouses? And what about the alternative? Does the Church's teaching somehow strengthen the love between spouses, or has the Church

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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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**TRANSITION, from page 1**

Bishop Rhoades also announced that effective the same date, Father Mark Gurtner will succeed Msgr. Schulte as Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia, while Father Jacob Runyon succeeds Father Gurtner as Judicial Vicar. Father Gurtner will continue as pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish in Fort Wayne.

The bishop expressed his confidence in making these new appointments, noting both priests' pastoral abilities and canonical expertise. "Father Gurtner has served the diocese very well as my Judicial Vicar and has been an excellent collaborator on the Bishop's Cabinet. Father Runyon also has served with great competence as Adjutant Judicial Vicar. Both priests are not only well-qualified for these positions, but also exhibit the pastoral charity that is an essential part of priestly ministry and assistance to the bishop in shepherding the diocese."

Many months ago, Msgr. Schulte said, he spoke with Bishop Rhoades about his desire to return to full-time priestly pastoral ministry in a parish.

"Since September 2000 I have served as Vicar General / Chancellor and Moderator of the Curia of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. This has been a joy and a challenge. I chair some committees, like the Parish-in-Need Grants and St. Mary Heritage Fund Grants, and serve on many others. Questions, observations and complaints come to my office regularly from all over the diocese and beyond. I work with diocesan staff and those with management responsibilities to help our central office run smoothly. This all involves a lot of administration and meetings. The workload has been

borne also by my longtime secretary, Mari Raatz, who fields and answers so many phone calls and emails.

"As Rector of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, I am blessed to have a dedicated and hard-working staff who helps handle all pastoral and administrative tasks. But because of time, I feel limited in what pastoral ministry I am able to give. I often wish I had more time to visit those who are ill and homebound, for instance. I will deeply miss the many members of the parish with whom I have journeyed in faith.

"After almost 18 years, I feel the Lord is telling me it is time for a change," he continued. "So I accept responsibility as pastor of St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne. This will provide its own new challenges and opportunities for priestly ministry. I hope my experience over the years will be a blessing and benefit to this strong and vibrant community of St. Jude Church. I pray that the Holy Spirit be my guide and counsel as I move into the future."

Father Runyon said he is thankful to Bishop Rhoades for the confidence expressed in him, and that he looks forward to his new ministry as Judicial Vicar and Rector of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. But leaving St. Jude will be tough, he admitted.

"The last five years has been a wonderful experience for me. St. Jude was kind enough to take me in as their pastor, even though I had never been a pastor before. I've gotten to know so many people there and I've been able to be a part of their lives. I'll remember countless Masses, weddings, funerals, baptisms. I'll remember watching young people as they grew up in the faith. I'll remember sharing dinner and laughter with people who have

become close friends," he said.

"From my first days in the seminary, I have always desired to do nothing else but God's will. So, I'm thankful that I had the opportunity to live and serve at such a wonderful parish. I'm also excited for the next chapter of my life to begin.

"As Judicial Vicar, my primary task is to manage and direct the tribunal for the diocese. It will be my job to ensure that marriage annulment cases are conducted in a professional, pastoral and sensitive manner. There is an excellent staff at the Tribunal and I have been working with them for three years in my role as a judge. I'm very pleased to have the opportunity to continue working with them."

Father Runyon said it's hard to describe his excitement for being the Rector of the cathedral.

"On Oct. 31, 2009, I laid on the floor of that cathedral while everyone in the church invoked the Litany of the Saints. On that day, I was ordained a priest. Every time I visit the cathedral I'm reminded of that amazing day. To become the Rector of the cathedral is hard to believe. I look forward to spending time there in prayer. I look forward to getting to know the parishioners, and I look forward to working with the staff and priests there."

I think it is safe to say that times of transition are complicated," he noted. "I'm saddened to be leaving behind St. Jude Parish. I'm excited to continue my work in the Tribunal, and for an opportunity for ministry. The coexistence of these disparate emotions can be quite taxing; but, that's the life of the priest. I ask the people of St. Jude and the cathedral to keep me in prayer during this time of change. May God continue to guide and bless us always."

Father Gurtner, who began as a judge in the Tribunal in 2003,

judging marriage nullity cases, said he is grateful to have served as Judicial Vicar for the diocese.

"I became Adjutant Judicial Vicar in 2009 with the responsibility of overseeing the South Bend Tribunal office, and in 2011 Bishop Rhoades appointed me Judicial Vicar with a move back to Fort Wayne to oversee the entirety of the operation of the Tribunal.

"Tribunal work is rewarding work, while at the same time it can be difficult work. Many people are helped by the work of the Tribunal which frees those who are bound by invalid marriages. At the same time, the work also implicitly upholds the dignity and indissolubility of marriage, which is by the Lord's design.

"I am humbled by my appointment by Bishop Rhoades as Vicar General," he said. "In this role, I will be directly assisting the bishop in the administration of the diocese. Also, this role encompasses support and assistance to all the priests of the diocese. As Moderator of the Curia, I will also serve to give support to and to coordinate the activity of the diocesan Curia — which is the diocesan staff assisting the bishop in his governance of the diocese. I very much look forward to this new work. At the same time, I will continue to serve as pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope. I would be grateful for many prayers as I begin this new assignment."

HUMANAE VITAE, from page 1

imposed on married couples a heavy burden that hinders their happiness? And have the dire predictions that the Holy Father made in "Humanae Vitae" come to pass, or did they amount to little more than papal "scare tactics"?

With the benefit of 50 years of experience to help us explore these questions, this series will attempt to do just that.

In 1988, 20 years after "Humanae Vitae" was issued, the journal *Research in Population Economics* published a fascinating article by Robert Michael titled "Why did the U.S. divorce rate double within a decade?" An economist from the University of Chicago, professor Michael noticed in the course of his research that the divorce rate in the U.S. literally doubled from 1965 to 1976. After analyzing multiple factors that might have contributed to such a rise, including changes in state laws that made it easier to obtain a divorce, Michael concluded that the most significant factor by far — accounting for more than 50

percent of this dramatic rise — was the diffusion of contraception in American society.

When the Food and Drug Administration approved the sale of Enovid as a birth control pill in May 1960, it was the first drug in human history to be given to a healthy person for long-term use — not for a medical, but for a social purpose. By 1965, more than 6.5 million American women were taking oral contraceptives. Michael discovered three reasons why the diffusion of contraception affected the divorce rate so dramatically. First, it is known that the presence of young children in the home exerts a protective effect on the marriage bond, and couples who used contraception had fewer children and those later in marriage. In fact, the total marital fertility rate in the United States fell from 3.42 children per married woman in 1961 to 1.63 children in 1974.

Second, women with fewer children entered the workplace in greater numbers, and their increased financial independence

made it easier for spouses to go their separate ways when their relationship became strained. Third, contraception facilitated much more adultery than before. (See "Why Did the U.S. Divorce Rate Double within a Decade?" Research in *Population Economics*, Volume 6; pp. 367-399, 1988).

Regarding this last reason, the late Dr. John Billings of Australia, who along with his physician-wife, Evelyn, pioneered one of the first methods of natural fertility regulation, once recounted that he saw firsthand as a young physician how contraception harmed marriages: "When we say, 'I do not want your fertility any more,' or 'I will not give you my fertility anymore,' we're damaging the marriage. The withdrawal of this gift tends to destroy marriages. I was shocked to notice, from the earliest days of my work, to see how marital infidelity in one — or both — of the spouses often followed the introduction of contraception or sterilization."

The central teaching of

"Humanae Vitae" is that the love-giving and life-giving purposes of sex are intimately entwined in the plan of God. What the Church teaches about these two meanings is what Jesus himself taught about the bond between husband and wife: We must not separate what God has joined. When we intentionally suppress the life-giving potential of sex through contraception and sterilization, we inadvertently damage its love-giving dimension as well.

Why are the love-giving and life-giving dimensions of sex so inseparably connected in God's design? Pope John Paul II developed his beautiful "theology of the body" largely to give an adequate answer to this question. We will explore his answer in the next article in this series.

Lisa Everett is the director for Marriage, Family and Pro-Life Ministry and the deputy secretary for Evangelization and Discipleship for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.



DIOCESE OF
FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

Dear Friends in Christ,

This coming Sunday we will celebrate the Solemnity of Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples in the upper room in Jerusalem. This feast marks the birth of the Church. The Holy Spirit descended and the apostles began to bear witness to Christ's paschal mystery. They were strengthened by the Holy Spirit to bring the Gospel of Jesus to the ends of the earth.

On the Solemnity of Pentecost each year, we take up a special collection to fund the education of our seminarians. With faith in the Holy Spirit, we continue to pray for priestly vocations in our diocese and throughout the world. We also make sacrifices so that our future priests, upon whom the Holy Spirit will descend at their ordination, will receive a good and strong formation for the priesthood.

I look forward to ordaining five of our seminarians to the priesthood on June 2nd. This is the largest ordination class in our diocese since the early 1970's. Thanks to your generosity in the annual Pentecost Collection, we have been able to fund their seminary education. I look forward to ordaining these five young men and ask you to pray for them, that they may be good and holy priests. We have many other young men in formation for the priesthood in our diocese, so I ask you to continue to be generous in your contributions to the Pentecost Collection.

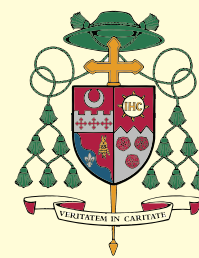
Please know of my prayers for you as we approach the Solemnity of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit, who gave birth to the Church and is the soul of the Church, guides us in truth and sanctifies us through the sacraments. The Holy Spirit unites us as brothers and sisters in the Body of Christ.

After Pentecost a climate of profound joy came to pass in the apostles. "The disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit" (Acts 13:52). May the Holy Spirit bless you with that joy and with strength to bear witness to Christ in the world! And may the Holy Spirit continue to bless the Church in our diocese with priests to lead, guide, and serve our parish communities on the path of holiness!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Kevin C. Rhoades

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



Public schedule of Bishop
Kevin C. Rhoades

Sunday, May 20: 9:30 a.m. — Commencement Ceremony for University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame Stadium, Notre Dame
Sunday, May 20: 5 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Adalbert Church, South Bend
Tuesday, May 22: 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Immaculate Conception Church, Auburn
Wednesday, May 23: 11 a.m. — Blessing and ribbon-cutting, St. Vincent de Paul Society Thrift Store, Fort Wayne
Wednesday, May 23: 5:30 p.m. — Baccalaureate Mass for Bishop Dwenger High School, St. Vincent de Paul Church, Fort Wayne
Thursday, May 24: 6:30 p.m. — Reception for Retirement of Susan Richter, Saint Joseph High School, South Bend
Friday, May 25: 10 a.m. — Baccalaureate Mass for Bishop Luers High School, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
Saturday, May 26: 5 p.m. — Adult Confirmation Mass, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne



Priest assignments

The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend, has made the following assignments of priests, effective June 19, 2018:

- Reverend Zachary Barry** from Parochial Vicar, St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Elkhart, to Pastor, Queen of Angels Parish, Fort Wayne.
- Reverend David Carkenord** from Pastor, St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Waterloo, to retirement status.
- Reverend Mark Gurtner, J.C.L.**, to Vicar General, Chancellor, and Moderator of the Curia of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.
- Reverend Jonathan Norton**, from Parochial Vicar, St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, to Pastor, Sacred Heart Parish, Warsaw.
- Reverend Vincent Joseph Rathappillil, V.C.**, from Administrator, Queen of Angels Parish, Fort Wayne, to Pastor, St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Waterloo.
- Reverend Jacob Runyon** from Pastor, St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne, to Rector, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, and Judicial Vicar of the Diocese.
- Reverend David Ruppert** from Administrator to Pastor, St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Decatur.
- Reverend Msgr. Robert C. Schulte** from Rector, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, to Pastor, St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne.
- Reverend David Violi** from Parochial Vicar, Holy Family Parish, South Bend, and St. John the Baptist Parish, South Bend, to Pastor, St. Joseph Parish, Bluffton, and Canon Law studies at Catholic University of America.

Volcano's lava flow displaces members of one Hawaii parish

BY PATRICK DOWNES

HONOLULU (CNS) — In addition to offering prayers, the Catholic Church is stepping into action on behalf of hundreds of residents displaced from a fierce and unpredictable volcanic eruption.

Members of Sacred Heart Parish in the town of Pahoa in the Puna District of the island of Hawaii -- known colloquially as the Big Island -- are opening their hearts, their homes and their parish hall to those forced to flee the lava flowing from cracks in the ground in their neighborhood.

Bishop Larry Silva of Honolulu has visited and offered his assistance.

Local Catholic service agencies are working with victims, coordinating aid efforts, and collecting and distributing funds.

About 1,700 people reside in Leilani Estates, a rural subdivision of acre-sized lots on a grid of about 22 miles of roads, where at least 15 fissures have opened up since May 3 spewing molten rock and poisonous sulfur dioxide gas. A Hawaii County evacuation order sent subdivision residents packing shortly after the eruption began.

According to Hawaii County Civil Defense, 36 structures, including 26 homes, already have been destroyed by lava from the 2.5-mile-long fissure system, the newest outflow from Kilauea Volcano, which has been erupting since 1983. Lava so far has covered more than 115 acres.

During pauses in the volcanic activity, residents have been allowed to return to their homes to retrieve belongings.

Some are staying at two county evacuation centers. Sacred Heart parishioners are being taken in by fellow parish members, according to parish administrator Father Ernesto Juarez.

"Parishioners are opening up their homes," he told the *Hawaii Catholic Herald*, Honolulu's diocesan newspaper.

Bishop Silva was at the parish May 5-6, the weekend the eruption started, for a previously arranged episcopal visitation and to administer the sacrament of confirmation.

With hundreds of small earthquakes predicting volcanic activity, the bishop had offered to reschedule his visit, but Father Juarez, after consulting with some of his parishioners, decided to proceed as planned.

"I was happy to be there with them during that time," the bishop said.

"I was actually surprised how normal life seemed in Pahoa, despite the eruption that was taking place in the parish boundaries," the bishop said. "I did not detect any panic or great anxiety."

He said he could see from the church the plume of smoke from the eruption site.

Several people told him that evacuees who were parish members did not have to use the county-run emergency shelters "because they were offered hospitality by fellow parishioners."

Bishop Silva said that the diocese's three social service agencies — Office of Social Ministries, HOPE Services Hawaii and Catholic Charities Hawaii — "have all been involved in the situation."

"I asked them to keep me informed to see if there was anything I could do or if there were any services of the diocese that needed to be mobilized," he said.

The bishop was told that immediate needs for shelter, food and clothing were being addressed locally, but that "long-term needs may require help

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**MAY 21,
THE FIRST
MONDAY AFTER
PENTECOST
IS THE NEW FEAST OF**

**MARY,
MOTHER OF
THE CHURCH**

Father Carkenord to enter into retirement

BY JANET PATTERSON

When Father David Carkenord considered what he might do in 2018, he thought about retirement. But a night late in February made that thought a reality.

"I really didn't think I was having a heart attack," he said.

The unusual feeling he had for two evenings led him to drive himself from the St. Michael the Archangel rectory in Waterloo to the hospital in Auburn "just to get checked out." After seeing a doctor and having his diagnosis confirmed, Father Carkenord thought he might just drive himself back home. He laughs now at the thought.

Instead of driving home, he underwent quintuple bypass surgery. He has spent the last few months recovering at Presence Sacred Heart Home in Avilla. And while he's ready to retire from parish ministry, Father Carkenord said he's hoping to find a new ministry right at Sacred Heart Home, ministering to the residents and families

alongside Tom Novy, director of Spiritual Services. "I still have some life left," he said with the hint of a grin.

The youngest of four children, Father Carkenord grew up in Fort Wayne and attended St. Jude School and Central Catholic High School for his freshman year. "My call to the priesthood was probably a little strange," he admitted. "I went to the seminary because my friend was going."

His sophomore year of high school, he transferred to Our Lady of the Lake Seminary in Syracuse. The five years he spent there sealed the call to his life's vocation.

"I joke that I almost got kicked out of CC. I got in trouble with every nun there." He added, "I was an ornery son of a gun."

But the seminary seemed to suit him.

"We had everything we needed at Our Lady of the Lake ... there was the lake and athletic fields and the Crosiers to teach us." After finishing his studies there, Father Carkenord continued his formation for priesthood in Cincinnati and was ordained



FATHER DAVID CARKENORD

in 1962.

His ordination class shares a distinction with this year's ordination class: "There were five of us ordained for the diocese ... we were the largest class until this year."

He looks back with great fondness on all of his assignments over his 56 years of priesthood. His first two years were spent at St. Henry Parish, followed by nine years at Queen of Angels, and then six at St. Andrew, his first pastorate.

He ministered for 10 years at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Elkhart and finally landed at St. Michael the Archangel in September 1989.

He said he fell in love with every parish he served. "The people became so important. You get to know the people and there is no end to the beauty."

During his nearly 30 years of pastoring at St. Michael, Father Carkenord was also given responsibility for St. Mary of the Angels Oratory, the mission church at Big Long Lake. "It's the easiest job I ever had," he joked about being made administrator of the tiny church that is run by volunteers.

His tenure at St. Michael the Archangel included a major renovation in 2010 of the country church that was built in 1921. Everything from the baptismal font to the floors and walls to

the heating and air conditioning was restored, refinished or replaced.

As the oldest priest in active ministry in the diocese, Father Carkenord continued his parish ministry well beyond the usual priest retirement age of 75.

He will complete his cardiac rehabilitation in the next couple of weeks and then hopes to stay at Sacred Heart Home in assisted living for a few months to finish his recovery. His years of helping with Masses at the senior community in Avilla are evident as he greets people passing along the hallways.

Never at a loss for visitors, Father Carkenord praised his friends and parishioners for their support. "When I first had the heart attack, having visitors was too hard. But people respected that."

When asked about his most special moment as a priest, Father Carkenord doesn't hesitate. "Oh, it had to be ordination." His advice to young men is to seriously pray and ask God about a vocation to the priesthood. "It's a life that can't be beat."

Diocese prepares for regional Encuentro

BY JODI MARLIN

Spanish-speaking Catholic faithful and diocesan representatives from three states will head to the University of Notre Dame next month to refine the singular voice with which they will speak at the V Encuentro national gathering this fall in Grapevine, Texas.

V Encuentro is the fifth national Encuentro process that has been undertaken in the U.S. Others happened in 1972, 1977, 1985 and 2000, in a similarly organized manner that begins with conversations at the parish level that grow into diocesan, then regional, then national conversations of the experiences and needs of the Hispanic Catholic faithful. A document created from the discussions will influence the development of guidelines for the future of Hispanic ministry in dioceses across the country.

Although all five Encuentro processes have hoped to encourage and prepare Hispanic Catholics for pastoral leadership, each has proceeded toward that goal via a different emphasis: V Encuentro has been convened in the context of the New Evangelization and emphasizes the importance of involving young, second- and third-generation Latinos in Pope Francis' missionary mandate.

Representatives from 11 Hispanic parishes in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend began



V ENCUESTRO

DISCÍPULOS MISIONEROS: TESTIGOS DEL AMOR DE DIOS
MISSIONARY DISCIPLES: WITNESSES OF GOD'S LOVE

the process over a year ago. In February they came together, to share their parish community's answers to questions such as, "What is our vision for the Church in our region?" "What is our common ground?" and "What things can we do to further our participation in the Church?"

At the Region 7 Encuentro gathering June 8-10, representatives from the diocesan-level Encuentros will dive deeper into the answers to those questions and form a consensus with representatives from the other four dioceses in Indiana — Lafayette-in-Indiana, Evansville, Gary and the Archdiocese of Indianapolis — as well as all the dioceses of Wisconsin and Illinois.

One topic Hispanic Catholics in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend brought up that may be pursued at the regional gathering is the concern that Christ's call to evangelization has fallen by the wayside in many Hispanic faith communities.

According to Enid Román de

Jesús, Hispanic Ministry coordinator for the diocese and the Region 7 Encuentro chairman, "the missionary aspect of our call to discipleship, Catholics, has been diluted — especially in the rural areas. People have turned more and more to secular beliefs. There's a lack of understanding about who we are as Catholics and where we are. We need to instill the idea that we are the Church Christ established, and that He charged us with going out as missionaries to build our communities in the faith. This is the message of Pope Francis: That we are to go out to the peripheries."

Among the testimonies on this topic was that of Esther Terry from St. Joseph Parish, South Bend: She spoke about how her small group went out and ministered to people in their homes and how that was impactful, and motivational to see.

At the diocesan gathering there was an overall consensus among participants, most of whom were age 30 or older, that the focus of Hispanic ministry should be placed on young peo-

ple: They are no longer only the future Church, it was noted, but the dominant body that makes up the Church. Another consensus emerged around the importance of family and maintaining a firm faith within the home, both of which participants said should be promoted within the context of the Catholic faith.

A third topic discussed at length and tagged as the primary area of pastoral concern was the need for assistance for undocumented immigrants and for those participating in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals federal program.

Although local Hispanic Catholics have embraced the Encuentro process with joy and commitment, in every Encuentro region this conviction is being greatly challenged, Román said, by an increased risk of deportation under the current presidential administration. As a result, many of the delegates who continue participating in V Encuentro gatherings do so with a far greater degree of faith

than those involved in previous Encuentros.

In addition to moments for prayer and small-group discussions, the agenda for regional gathering will be broken down into the same four "moments" that were deemed crucial to the process at the beginning and have been repeated at each stage.

Moment No. 1, "Taking the First Step," will be an opening Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at 6 p.m. Friday, June 8, in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, and to which members of the public are warmly invited. On Saturday, June 9, the diocesan representatives will be addressed on the topics of Moment No. 2 — Becoming Involved; No. 3 — Accompanying; and on Sunday, June 10, No. 4 — Bearing Fruit.

Group discussions will provide delegates with the opportunity to compare opinions and priorities on the opportunities and challenges available for Hispanics in the Church in light of the New Evangelization; establish regional and pastoral priorities for the national discussion; and outline and clarify national recommendations for direction and action.

Each region will also report on an assigned area of concern to the Catholic Church. Region 7 has been discussing how Catholic education might respond to the needs of Hispanic Catholics, and how Hispanic Catholics might receive the response and engage.

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from outside the community.”
 “We will continue to monitor the situation and will let people in the diocese know if there are any specific ways they can help,” he said.

Father Juarez volunteered the parish hall as a crisis information center.

At the center, which is open weekday, evacuees from the Leilani Estates and the smaller Lanipuna Gardens subdivision connect with personnel from Hawaii County and social service agencies for information or to apply for assistance. Participating organizations include Child and Family Services, The Food Basket, Catholic Charities Hawaii and HOPE Services Hawaii.

HOPE Services Hawaii, which deals primarily with homelessness on the Big Island, has deployed several staff members who, with others, are collecting data on evacuated households to determine their needs. As of May 10, the agency had gathered information on nearly 300 households.

“Quite a bit of people need everything,” said Brandee Menino, HOPE Services Hawaii chief executive officer, who is coordinating the data collection. “They are checking all the boxes — food, shelter, permanent housing, transportation.”

Other families have temporarily settled in with family and friends, but will have needs down the road, she said. Some hope to eventually go back home.

“We’re still only days in and it looks like this is going to be a long one,” Menino said.

She added some of the agencies involved cover financial assistance, food, shelter, counseling, case management, physical and mental health, clothing, legal assistance and animal care.

HOPE Services has already given out some rent assistance.

In a message to Big Island parishes, Catholic Charities



CNS photo/Handout via Reuters

Ash rises from the Overlook crater at the summit of Kilauea Volcano on the Big Island of Hawaii May 9.

Hawaii’s Hawaii Island Community Director Elizabeth Murph said housing needs are a looming concern, in particular for those with mortgages to pay on houses they no longer have access to.

She said besides stable housing, other immediate needs include counseling, clothing, and gift cards for groceries, household items and gas.

Catholic Charities Hawaii has asked the public for monetary donations to be used for direct housing assistance for the victims of both the Kilauea eruption and April’s historic flooding on Kauai.

Donations will go toward tem-

porary housing subsidies, emergency home repairs and other related needs.

“Funds will be immediately available” to victims, Murph said, compared to money from other organizations distributed through a lengthy grant process.

Father Juarez, who has been at the parish for less than a

year, visited the main evacuation shelter in Pahoia May 7. Several hundred people are being temporarily housed there.

He was joined by former pastor Jesuit Father Mike Scully, parish religious education director Maila Naiga and parishioners Liz Morgan and Roberta Vangoethem.

“We talked to them, shared stories, offering comfort, letting them know that there are people who have great concern about their plight,” Father Juarez said.

The parish is bringing back into action its Disaster Assistance Relief Team, which was mobilized when Tropical Storm Iselle ravaged the east side of the Big Island in 2014, and later that same year when a lava flow threatened Pahoia.

At an East Hawaii vicariate meeting May 8, Father Juarez said, some of his fellow Big Island priests offered their parishes for “refuge.” At the meeting the priest gathered rosaries, Bibles and holy water to be distributed at the evacuation center.

Father Juarez said his church, which is three-and-a-half miles from the eruption, is not in any immediate danger.

“We are safe in Pahoia as of now but we are always reminded to be vigilant,” he said.

“We still need prayers,” he added. “The eruption is unpredictable.”

Patrick Downes is editor of the *Hawaii Catholic Herald*, newspaper of the Diocese of Honolulu.

Mexico: Our Lady of Guadalupe



July 19 - 23

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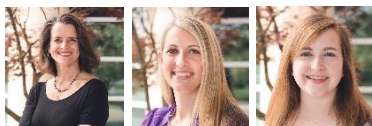
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Catholics get chance to celebrate, think about Mary with new feast day

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Catholic Church doesn't often add new celebrations to its pretty full liturgical calendar, but this year's new feast day, Mary, Mother of the Church on May 21, has Catholics gearing up to mark the day or at least think a little more about Mary. The new feast day, which will be celebrated annually the day after Pentecost, was announced in a March 3 decree by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments. The decree said the pope approved the celebration because he thought it might "encourage the growth of the maternal sense of the church in the pastors, religious and faithful, as well as a growth of genuine Marian piety." That line struck Father Chuck Barthel, pastor of Mary, Mother of the Church Parish in St. Louis, when he first read it and he has continued to go back to it as he considers the feast with particular significance for his parish. Gaining a renewed and deeper understanding of Mary's nurturing and caring side is something he said the church, especially in today's climate, could certainly use. His parish is one of a handful of churches in the U.S., along with a Benedictine Abbey in Richmond, Virginia, named Mary, Mother of the Church. For this year's celebration of the new feast day, the St. Louis church is not planning anything big, but plans to celebrate on the actual day — when he said parishioners can "enjoy each other's company" — not during Pentecost weekend when there is already a lot going on.

Caritas migrant shelter in Tijuana under police protection after attacks

MEXICO CITY (CNS) — A Catholic-run shelter for migrants in the border city of Tijuana has been put under police protection after a robbery and arson attack on consecutive days. At least six armed individuals entered the shelter in the early morning hours of May 6 and stole some of the migrants' meager possessions, including cash, cellphones and ID cards. On May 7, also in the early hours, the door to room where migrants were sleeping was blocked with a mattress and set on fire, said Veronica Zambrano, a spokeswoman for Caritas Tijuana, the archdiocesan charitable agency. Zambrano said staff suspect local individuals, who had previously used the shelter property for illegal activities, were responsible for the attacks. No arrests had been made by May 11. The attack on the Caritas shelter came after several hundred members of a caravan of Central American migrants, who caught the disapproving attention of U.S. President Donald Trump, arrived in Tijuana after traveling the length of Mexico. Many of the migrants participat-

Dozens killed as U.S. embassy inaugurated in Jerusalem



CNS photo/Ibraheem Abu Mustafa, Reuters

JERUSALEM (CNS) — Palestinians run for cover from Israeli fire and tear gas at the Israel-Gaza border during a protest against the U.S. embassy move to Jerusalem May 14. As the new United States embassy was inaugurated, violence broke out between Palestinian protesters and Israeli soldiers. International media reported that in Gaza, at least 55 people were killed, including five under the age of 18, and some 2,000 were injured. Palestinians claim Jerusalem as their capital and now feel that the U.S. cannot be a fair broker in the peace process with Israel. Many Israelis see opening the embassy as the long-awaited official recognition of Jerusalem as their capital.

ing in the caravan did not travel all the way to Tijuana; some applied for asylum in Mexico or hoped to have their immigration status regularized.

Cameroon archbishop survives gun attack after criticizing government

YAOUNDE, Cameroon (CNS) — The Catholic Church in Cameroon said shots were fired at the residence of Archbishop Samuel Kleda, bishops' conference president, after he criticized policies by the government of President Paul Biya. "Projectiles were shot at the Archdiocese of Douala headquarters, breaking its windows," the local vicar general, Msgr. Dieudonne Bayemeg, said in a statement. "There were no human injuries, and the police arrived immediately, accompanied by the archbishop, cathedral rector and household guards." The statement, issued after the late-evening May 3 attack, said the bullets hit the room of the archdiocesan finance officer, Msgr. Alan

Nibile, who threw himself on the floor. It added that inquiries were continuing and said Catholics in the central African state had been asked to "pray and remain calm." Meanwhile, the Actualite du Cameroun news agency described the attack May 7 as an "attempted assassination" and said it was widely believed linked to Archbishop Kleda's demands for a government dialogue with separatist groups and for Biya not to seek re-election.

Irish pro-life campaigners criticize Google decision to ban campaign ads

DUBLIN (CNS) — Irish pro-life campaigners have criticized a decision by tech giant Google to ban campaign advertisements before the May 25 referendum on whether the right to life of the unborn should continue to be enshrined in the constitution. The government wants voters to amend the constitution to repeal the Eighth Amendment, which currently guarantees the right to life of unborn children "with due regard to the equal right to life

of the mother." If removed, legislation will permit abortion on demand up to the 12th week of pregnancy and abortion in other specific circumstances up to 24 weeks. Google announced May 9 that it would ban all campaign ads from its search engine and the YouTube video-sharing website. The move was immediately welcomed by the leading pro-choice "Together for Yes" campaign. However, pro-life groups were sharply critical of the decision. John McGuirk, communications director for Save the Eighth, accused Google of trying to rig the referendum. "Online was the only platform available to the 'no' campaign to speak to voters directly. That platform is now being undermined, in order to prevent the public from hearing the message of one side," he said.

Catholic groups highlight plight of immigrant mothers on Mother's Day

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Days before the U.S. celebrated Mother's Day May 13, the national group Faith in Action urged others to

think about immigrant mothers who have been separated from their children or run the risk of never seeing them again. During a May 8 conference call, Faith in Action, a grass-roots faith-based network in the United States, featured three women from around the country currently seeking refuge from deportation in various properties affiliated with religious organizations. They also called attention to plans by the Trump administration to separate children from parents if they're caught trying to cross the border without legal permission. "Few things are as crystal clear in Scripture as the fact that we are to welcome the sojourner, to treat our neighbors as ourselves ... and our immigrant neighbors are indeed our neighbors," said the Rev. Julie Peoples, senior pastor at Congregational United Church of Christ, in Greensboro, North Carolina, during the call. She was one of two faith leaders who helped highlight the stories and plight of immigrant mothers such as Juana Ortega, a mother of four who is originally from Guatemala. Her husband is a U.S. citizen but because of a prior deportation order, she cannot stay in the country. When Immigration and Customs Enforcement gave her a month to leave, she couldn't handle the thought of leaving her children behind, she said, so she sought sanctuary at a local church, afraid that immigration agents would physically remove her from her home. She's been residing in a church in North Carolina for almost a year. "This situation has affected my family. My husband thinks my youngest son is falling into a depression," she said in tears.

Christian persecution urgently calls churches to seek unity, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Seeking Christian unity is more urgent than ever because of the ongoing persecution of Christians, Pope Francis told an Orthodox leader. Meeting with Metropolitan Rastislav, primate of the Orthodox Church in the Czech and Slovak Republics, the pope said the "suffering of many brothers and sisters persecuted because of the Gospel urgently calls us to act in seeking greater unity." The primate met with the pope at the Vatican May 11 as part of a May 9-12 pilgrimage to Rome; during his visit he also met with Cardinal Kurt Koch, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, and celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the tomb of St. Cyril in Rome's Basilica of St. Clement. Sts. Cyril and Methodius are honored by European Catholics and Orthodox. Known as the Apostles to the Slavs, the two brothers preached the Gospel throughout Central and Eastern Europe in the late ninth century when the churches of Rome and Constantinople were still united.

Saint Mary's senior receives Fulbright Award

NOTRE DAME — Saint Mary's College student Louise Chetcuti of Strasbourg, France has been selected to receive a prestigious Fulbright U.S. Student Program award for the 2018-19 academic year from the United States Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.

Chetcuti, who is a double major in global studies and Spanish with a minor in business administration, has been offered an English Teaching Assistantship award in Colombia. In addition to teaching English, Chetcuti will be working in impoverished neighborhoods, specifically with children, to help break the cycle of poverty.

Chetcuti will be among the 1,900 participants who will study, conduct research, and teach abroad next academic year through the program. The Fulbright U.S. Student Program operates in more than 160 countries and recipients of Fulbright grants are selected for academic or professional achievement and demonstrated leadership potential in their fields.

A double major in Spanish and global studies, Chetcuti also has a concentration in international development and a minor in business administration. She studied abroad in Argentina spring 2017.

Mini-retreats for parish ministers offered

FORT WAYNE — The Office of Worship of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will host "Mornings of Reflection" at each

AROUND THE DIOCESE

end of the diocese for liturgical ministers on Saturday, June 9, from 10 a.m. to noon.

In the Fort Wayne area, the morning of reflection will take place at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 10700 Aboite Center Rd., Fort Wayne.

At the same time, in the South Bend area, the morning of reflection will take place at St. Anthony de Padua Church, 2114 E. Jefferson Blvd., South Bend.

Led by diocesan seminararians, these events can serve as an annual retreat for diocesan extraordinary ministers and lectors, although everyone is welcome to attend. They are free of charge, but pre-registration through the diocese is necessary. A registration form can be downloaded at www.diocesefwsb.org/Trainings-And-Retreats.

Compassionate St. Joseph Award honors 20th anniversary

FORT WAYNE — In honor of its 20th anniversary, the St. Joseph Community Health Foundation has announced a special \$100,000 grant opportunity, the Compassionate St. Joseph Award. The award will be given to plant the seeds for a new ministry or new role, or an expansion of an existing ministry or program to serve the poor for many years into the future.

According to Meg Distler, executive director, "One program will be selected to reflect and continue the values of the foundation and our sponsor, the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ. Like the compassionate St. Joseph, who supported and comforted his pregnant wife, Mary, on their challenging journey to Bethlehem for Jesus' birth, the applicant programs should have the ability to reach out and support those in our community who can find life's journey difficult."

Only past grantees of the foundation in 2016, 2017 and 2018 are eligible to apply. Deadline for applications will be Sept. 1. Details are on the foundation's website, www.SJCHF.org.

Education for Ministry unit on catechesis

FORT WAYNE — The Education for Ministry Program began in 1991 and is the foundational catechetical training program for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. This program gives Catholic schoolteachers in kindergarten through grade eight the doctrinal background to prepare students for living a life in Christ as they grow and mature. Parish directors of religious education, catechists, those involved in parish ministry, parents and the laity are also highly encouraged to complete basic certification in the Education for Ministry program

to grow in a deeper knowledge and love of the Catholic faith.

This unit of the Education for Ministry Certification Program will introduce the Catholic understanding of sacraments and the Scriptural basis, theology and effects of each of the seven sacraments. The sacramental economy as an interaction between God and the truth that sacraments are moments of grace leading toward God are the foundations of this course.

Class will be held on Thursday evenings. For course times and to register visit www.diocesefwsb.org/Education-for-Ministry-Program. Registration closes on Friday, June 22, or at the first 40 registered participants.

For more information, contact Janice Martin at jmartin@diocesefwsb.org or call 260-399-1411.

Lindenwood offers Our Lady of Guadalupe day program

DONALDSON — Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center will offer an Our Lady of Guadalupe day program July 28 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. EDT. This program will be in Spanish. The cost is \$15, which includes materials, holy Mass and food.

Join in a day of retreat and reflection that will answer such questions as why Our Lady of

Guadalupe continues to be such an inspirational figure in so many people's lives. "La Virgen Morena," a mother, both meek and strong-willed, both assertive and shy, speaks to her children today as much as she did at Tepeyac. Her message is as relevant now as it was nearly 500 years ago.

The retreat will be presented by Sister Deborah Davis, a member of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ and a missionary in Mexico for 17 years. She has a great love for Our Lady of Guadalupe.

For more information, email lindenwood@poorhandmaids.org or call 574-935-1780. Participants can also register online at www.lindenwood.org.

Sing with the Notre Dame Summer Community Choir

NOTRE DAME — The Notre Dame Community Choir serves the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at the University of Notre Dame. The choir is comprised of men and women of all ages from the greater South Bend community as well as students, faculty and staff from the university. This choir provides music for the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass in the basilica during the summer from May 27 through July 29.

Weekly rehearsals are held Thursdays from 6-7:30 p.m. beginning May 24. Anyone who is interested in lending their voice is encouraged to attend.

For more information visit campusministry.nd.edu/community-choir or contact Dr. Patrick Kronner at pkronner@nd.edu or (574) 631-7779.

A mission-critical strategy for summer evangelization

BY JANET PATTERSON

Remember the first time you heard a priest or religious say, "Just because it's summer vacation, don't take time off from God"? You probably said to yourself, "Sure, I go to Mass."

But Father Jonathan Norton of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne teamed up with diocesan seminarian Stephen Felicichia last year to take summer to a new level by creating "The Summer Evangelization Kit."

The idea came out of a project at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland, where young men from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend are formed for the priesthood. "They have created a sidewalk evangelization ministry," explained Father Norton, who coordinated the project at the seminary before his ordination in 2015.

During each fall and spring break, seminarians travel to a college or university, where they engage students on walkways

and in gathering spaces in conversations about faith and religion. In preparation for the trip, the young men train each other in how to tell their own story of faith and what God has done in each of their lives.

Father Dan Scheidt, pastor at St. Vincent, thought that Father Norton and Felicichia should pass the knowledge gained from that experience to the parishioners. "There are people who can't talk about their faith because they've never been taught how to do it," said Father Norton.

Both men have had military training, so they decided to cre-

ate the three-page "kit" in military style, using military terminology. "Stephen was really the genius behind it," Father Norton added.

"Evangelization can feel a little like a battle," he continued. The kit gives people the tools to "not only survive and thrive in such an environment, but also to take the fight to the Enemy: disrupt his plans and bring aid, support and hope to all you encounter."

The two set up the program in three tiers, just as the U.S. military uses a three-tiered system for occupation of contested

territory.

The first tier is the Forward Operating Base, or FOB. "That's the parish. That's where resources are kept to aid in moving out into the world," Father Norton said.

The second tier is the Combat Outpost, or COP. In the spiritual sense, he continued, this is the home and the family. The COP looks after itself, growing in faith and using the resources available to help and care for each other physically and spiritually.

Finally, the Patrol is one's daily life which includes job, leisure and the everyday activi-

ties that take a person out into the world beyond their home. "This is where we often encounter opportunities to evangelize," Father Norton said.

Although the Summer Evangelization kit was created in 2017 and appeared last June in the St. Vincent parish bulletin, Father Norton said it will make another appearance this year. In fact, parishioners embraced the idea so much that some actually assembled bags and boxes for keeping the more tangible pieces suggested for evangelization readily available. One parishioner, he said, made a bag for him as well.

Among the suggestions available from the FOB (one's parish church) are websites such as WordonFire.org, FORMED.org and Catholic Education Resource Center (catholiceducation.org). Of course, the holy Bible made the list, as well as books available at local Catholic bookstores and compact discs such as

MEET YOUR VALS AND SALS

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

Heritage Jr./Sr. High School: Monroeville

Valedictorian Abram Beard

Catholic school or public school? The choices one makes in life sometimes bring unexpected outcomes, as did one made by Heritage Jr./Sr. High School valedictorian Abram Beard.



ABRAM BEARD

"When I decided to attend a public school, I was nervous that I might lose touch with my faith to some degree. To my delight, it was quite the opposite. Without having the conventional religion classes I was accustomed to, I decided to learn on my own time," said Abram, explaining further what he meant. "By holding myself accountable for my faith, I was able to truly grow as an individual. My faith has allowed me to become a person who is confident, generous and willing to make a difference. Furthermore, my high school did not prevent me from spreading these beliefs; I was encouraged to share what I believed. My faith was strengthened because I was able to spread God's love to everyone I met. It feels amazing when I can share my faith with others and give them that same sense of belonging," he said.

Abram also took part in various clubs while at Heritage. "I was honored to be named a captain of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, a program that was brought to Heritage my

sophomore year." He served as a volunteer for Cornerstone Youth Center and Pack Away Hunger, where he and his family packaged meals for struggling families throughout the community.

He played sports as well. "Basketball has always been one of my favorite ways to give praise. Every day at practice and in games, I tried to do my best and put my heart on the line for God and my team," he said. He was chosen to be a captain of the varsity basketball team for three years.

Other outside interests include spending time with family, swimming and teaching. "I'm interested in mathematics, chemistry, helping others and making a difference in the world."

His most treasured high school memory is taking part in a Special Olympics basketball game. "In this game, students in grades 9-12 were able to form basketball teams that included two or three disabled individuals. The look on the faces of the special needs players was something that I will never forget. It felt amazing to see their pure excitement and joy. The best part was no one stood out; they felt like they were genuinely a part of the team," said Abram.

He plans to attend Purdue University Fort Wayne, where he will major in chemistry with the intent to go to medical school and become a pediatrician.

Bishop Luers High School: Fort Wayne

Valedictorian Margaret Cicchiello

Attending a Catholic high school offers more than an academic education in Catholic doctrine: Just ask the valedictorian of the Class of 2018 from Bishop Luers High School, Fort Wayne.



MARGARET CICCHELLO

"Being with people who were also celebrating and living our Catholic or Christian faith at Bishop Luers has helped me to view important aspects of faith from different perspectives. This

has challenged me to reflect on different opinions and traditions to better understand the doctrines that I believe," said Margaret Cicchiello.

Margaret went on to explain that while she and her classmates discussed "challenges such as current events and government policies through a religious lens, I learned that all facets of my life are connected to what I believe."

That faith has helped her appreciate and cope with the ups and downs of her life.

"My faith has definitely helped me to keep things in perspective.

When I earned a good grade or when one of my teams did well, I had to remember that I was working with abilities that had been given to me by God. When I forgot something, or did not score as well as I wanted to, I needed to remember that I am human. I trusted that everything would work out, and it always did."

The valedictorian was a busy young woman both inside and outside the classroom. She was secretary of the National Honor Society in the 11th and 12th grades, captain of the Academic Super Bowl Team, business manager of the high school newspaper and yearbook and a photographer and writer for the newspaper her junior and senior years.

Margaret was named Outstanding Sodalities Group Leader in 2017. In the role of Student Ambassador, she was selected to represent Luers at diocesan eighth-grade recruitment events from sophomore to senior years. She assisted the school chaplain as a sacristan, altar server and lector and assisted in planning high school Masses and spiritual retreats.

She was a member of Key Club, co-captain of the cross-country team and a member of the track team. At St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, she was a member of the adult choir and an altar server. Margaret also volunteered regularly at Science Central Museum.

Her dearest memories "have to be lunchtime discussions with my friends, competing at the state-level competition for Academic Super Bowl, my last cross country race my senior year, and being able to serve at a school Mass for the first time."

Margaret will attend Saint Mary's College to pursue a degree in biology. She plans to attend medical school.

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Marian High School: Mishawaka

Attending World Youth Day and hearing the Pope speak in person gave Marian High School valedictorian Alyssa Grzesiowski inspiration for her future and words to live by that she will forever hold in her heart.

"I traveled to World Youth Day in Krakow with the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. At the closing ceremony, Pope Francis urged the pilgrims that



ALYSSA GRZESIOWSKI

"unless you offer the best of yourselves, the world will never be different." These words and the faith instilled in me while at Marian have inspired me to give the best of myself to the world around me, in an effort to transform it into the 'more human and more fraternal' world of St. Pope John Paul II's vision."

For the young woman, faith "has infused and informed every part" of her high school career.

"I've been involved in various youth groups since my freshman year. The theology classes at Marian have established a strong foundation by which I can view

my education in light of Catholic teaching. As Marian's head sacristan, I've also been blessed to be able to serve as an integral part of our liturgical celebrations and outreach."

Frequently serving as an advocate for others, Alyssa believes in providing an accessible education to all children that caters to the types of learning best for each student — part of the reason why she began a chemistry tutoring program at Marian.

She enjoys many activities and hobbies including playing piano, reading Hemingway nov-

els and watching crime shows. She has a passion for Egyptian history, shopping at Bath & Body Works and solving just about any puzzle, be it jigsaw, Sudoku or a mystery novel.

Her most treasured memory of high school is "cutting down the nets when our girls basketball team won the school's first sectional championship. I will never forget my teammates who pushed through numerous obstacles, including injuries, constant changes in coaching staff, and a very small roster, to make history," she said.

Alyssa also said she enjoyed

every time she had been in the student section during Holy War games, "especially given the fact that our football team has beaten Saint Joe every year that I have been at Marian."

She also thinks that her time spent abroad in Costa Rica constituted "some of the most adventurous and interesting days I've had as a Marian student."

The soon-to-be graduate plans to attend Syracuse University in Syracuse, New York, as a Coronet Scholar, studying chemistry and forensic science and studying abroad in Spain. She hopes to go on to graduate school.

Marian High School: Mishawaka

High school would not have been the same, said Katherine Henry, Marian High School salutatorian, without the full embracement of her deeply seated religious beliefs.

"My faith has allowed me to embrace everything about high school. I know that I can trust in God and be thankful to Him for everything that I have," she said, noting how faith works in her life every day. "My faith helps me to look for and see the good in everyone, and that has helped to make some unforgettable relationships."

Katherine said that at Marian High School, faculty and staff



KATHERINE HENRY

members remind students that their primary purpose in life is to "help each other get to heaven."

In fact, she said, being afforded opportunities to do selfless acts as a community was one of her favorite things about Marian, where she felt she and others could be "putting our faith into action together" as a group.

She played soccer for four years — two on junior varsity, two on varsity — serving as captain of the JV team her sophomore year. She ran track for three years. Special memories remain from the soccer games and track meets, when she rode home with the team, singing the Marian fight song as they traveled.

Katherine was part of the Right to Life Club, serving as secretary as a junior and presi-

dent as a senior. She was on the Science Olympiad and served as captain as a senior. In the French Club she was vice president her senior year, and she was inducted in the National Honor Society her junior and senior years and was in Campus Ministry her junior and senior years.

She has been part of the St. Jude youth group since seventh grade, where she helped to create and lead retreats for incoming freshmen. The group also raised money for the Women's Care Center on Mother's Day and helped the parish in other ways.

She takes time to play the piano in between practices for soccer and track. When she has spare time, she loves to read, bake, shop and hang out with her friends and family.

Valedictorian Alyssa Grzesiowski

Salutatorian Katherine Henry

Her "absolute favorite memory of high school" is the March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Katherine plans to attend Purdue University, majoring in engineering, and study abroad in France and possibly Italy or

Ireland, pursuing French as a minor to work globally.

"I don't know precisely what the future holds. Although I am ecstatic about my plans as they currently stand, I'll go wherever God's plan takes me," she said.



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Saint Joseph High School: South Bend

Co-salutatorian Martin Kennedy

While one might not want to think about the many terrible, tragic headlines in the news during the past year, Martin Kennedy, Saint Joseph High School co-salutatorian, gave examples of how his education has helped him and others to try to make good come from tragedy.

"In October, we held a prayer vigil for those killed in the mass shooting in Las Vegas. Later that year, we were able to organize a student walkout on March 17 in solidarity with the students of Parkland High School as well as out of respect for human life," he said.

"In accordance with Pope Francis' teaching that, 'Responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation,' a schoolwide voter registration was conducted to engage the



MARTIN KENNEDY

youth in the democratic system of the United States, registering 167 students as a result." He explained that he felt all these events "were able to be conducted because of their deep tie to Catholic social teaching."

Martin served as a member of the Vacant Lot Optimization Team, which analyzed and presented the optimal use of vacant lots in South Bend using ArcGIS technology. He was an intern at Bowman Creek Educational Ecosystems for a year and helped create and plan the Bowman Creek Academy, a high school summer camp promoting environmental sustainability and youth empowerment.

He was also a fall/spring writer at Bowman Creek this year. As head writer, he worked on an academic paper to be published in the peer-reviewed journal, "American Society for Engineering Education."

High school activities he was a part of for multiple years include Student Government, Fed Challenge, Mock Trial and the

Indiana Economics Challenge. He was a Youth Senate Program semifinalist in September. The arts also were a part of his high school career as well.

Martin was a part of the South Bend Youth Task Force during his junior and senior years, "a group of high school students who help to fix the issue of youth-on-youth violence in the community."

A musician, he taught private piano lessons during high school. Athletic involvement included being part of the basketball team. He served as a SOUL Team Leader and a Corpus Christi Parish altar server.

Martin's hobbies include reading, hiking, meditation, walking, being outdoors, chatting over coffee, spending time with friends and thoughtful discussion.

The 4.51 GPA graduate will attend either Brown University or the University of Notre Dame, "somewhere in the field of social sciences."

Heritage Jr./Sr. High School: Monroeville

Salutatorian Jerome Lechleitner

During high school, Heritage Jr./Sr. High School salutatorian Jerome Lechleitner said he felt he "had the privilege of being able to participate in many extra-curricular activities" including serving as a staff writer for the student newspaper, *The Structure*. He served as the editor-in-chief during his junior and senior years. He also played on the junior varsity soccer team during his freshman year and on the varsity team from sophomore to senior years, as well as on the junior varsity baseball team during his freshman year.

"Being raised Catholic has offered me invaluable guidance throughout my high school career" said Jerome, who is from Hoagland. "I think that



JEROME LECHLEITNER

the Catholic faith's emphasis on empathy and kindness helped me connect with an incredible number of my classmates."

He thinks his beliefs propelled him to have "the motivation to initiate conversation and create friendships with people whom I may have otherwise never connected." Jerome believes this extended his high school experience beyond what it may have otherwise been.

"It was incredible to have such an expansive network of peers with whom I could converse and ask for help. It made me feel like I was more deeply connected to the Heritage community and made me feel comfortable and at home in my school. Best of all, I maintained the friendships I had created in middle school with classmates I had at St. Joseph - Hessen Cassel," he said.

Jerome was a member of the History Club as a junior and

senior, as well as being a member of Drama Club those same years — starring in two productions. The 4.35 GPA student was a National Honor Society member both junior and senior years and a team member for Heritage's NEITC Tech Fest team during his sophomore and junior years.

"My hobbies include reading, watching movies, writing, playing video games, listening to music, taking photos, and traveling with my family," he said.

While Jerome has "many awesome memories from high school," one of his fondest is from the time his soccer team advanced to regionals during his sophomore year. Another memory he cherishes is from Drama Club, when he played the lead role in "And Then There Were None" with an outstanding cast.

He plans to attend Indiana University as a media major.

Saint Joseph High School: South Bend

Co-salutatorian Meagan Luck

Advanced Placement biology was the favorite class of Saint Joseph High School co-salutatorian Meagan Luck because, she said, "I learned not only how the human circulatory system functions, but also I discovered God's hand in the beauty and precision of this process."

Attending Catholic school allowed Meagan to grow in her faith through learning and service. The integration of faith into the classrooms creates "an atmosphere of respect, love and passion that has made my high school experience integral in shaping the person I am today."

The Saint Joseph High School 4.51 GPA student said that her knowledge of the faith was also greatly broadened



MEAGAN LUCK

through each semester's theology class.

"These varied classes gave me the opportunity to deepen my understanding of the Church, its beliefs, and Catholic social teaching. Theology at Saint Joe gives you plenty of opportunity to ponder what God has planned for you."

Service to others was encouraged, and helped her learn the value of living out her faith. She took part in the school's Thanksgiving food drive, Work for St. Joe event and Together for the Long Run.

"All of these promote communitywide service to others and are really fun to participate in with friends. Saint Joe is a place where faith is put into action, where we are taught to see the needs in our community, and where we are encouraged to answer God's call to reach out and help others."

Meagan acted as a Mock Trial lawyer and was a Euro Challenge presenting member, placing at regional and national competitions. One of her favorite memories is from when her Euro Challenge team won regionals in Chicago and advanced to nationals in New York City. "It was an incredible experience to see the city with my teammates and to make a presentation at the New York Federal Reserve Bank," she said.


She was part of the musical chorus for two years and a member of Helping Other People Endure service club for four. Meagan was a Student Ambassador in 11th and 12th grades, during which time she also served as National Honor Society vice president and was in the Spanish Honors Society.

She helped raise funds and awareness for a local disability center, was a St. Joseph hospital volunteer for two years and a food bank volunteer for four. At church, she served as an extraordinary minister of holy Communion.

Meagan's hobbies include reading, baking, skiing, dancing, bowling, riding rollercoasters. She plans to attend the University of Notre Dame and is undecided on her major.

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CATHOLIC SCHOOL
AND PARISHIONERS OF
SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL
CATHOLIC CHURCH



**SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL
CATHOLIC PARISH**
FORT WAYNE

BISHOP DWENGER VALEDICTORIAN
LIZ ROY

BISHOP DWENGER SALUTATORIAN
RYAN MCARDLE

BISHOP DWENGER - 3RD IN SENIOR CLASS
NICOLE GLOUDEMANS

BISHOP DWENGER - 4TH IN SENIOR CLASS
BENJAMIN OTTO



ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON
Catholic Church

is pleased to recognize


Margaret Mary Cicchiello

2018 Valedictorian
Bishop Luers High School

We congratulate you
and wish you every blessing!

**"Be strong and courageous!
Do not be afraid or discouraged.
For the Lord your God is with
you wherever you go."**

~Joshua 1:9



*Saint Pius X Parish
congratulates all of this year's
high school valedictorians,
salutatorians, and graduates!*

Bishop Dwenger High School: Fort Wayne

Salutatorian Ryan McArdle

Having strong faith helped Bishop Dwenger salutatorian Ryan McArdle in many ways, especially in finding his college major.



RYAN MCARDLE

“My faith has truly allowed me to put everything else in my life into context. Especially in today’s day and age, career goals can easily become the primary focus in one’s life,” said the 4.609 GPA student.

Ryan noted that before he truly found faith and service, his personal goals “got in the way.”

“This was an issue from which I personally suffered early on in my high school career, with all of my effort going toward getting into the best schools so that I could graduate and be the best professional. However, having faith integrated into my school curriculum quickly changed that,” explained Ryan. “It was only by going out into the community and doing service work for those in need that I was able to realize that they are my true motivation in life.”

He said he wants to “enter

medicine not for myself, but for the people whom I may one day be able to help. It was this realization, guided by faith, that had allowed me to truly thrive throughout high school.”

Ryan was a four-year student council member, serving as freshman and sophomore class officer; the student body activities director from 2016 to 2018, and a member of the Key Club, Science Olympiad and wrestling team. He took a beat on the school newspaper this past year as a reporter.

Outside of academics he enjoys playing music on the guitar, piano, harmonica or banjo or any other instruments he can get a hold of. He also likes reading, writing, snow skiing and spending time outdoors.

He said he will cherish the memories of Bishop Dwenger football games, the all-school Masses, and “spending time in the classroom with wonderful friends and teachers.”

He hopes to “one day get my M.D. and do service work overseas, possibly for an organization such as Doctors Without Borders. After returning I hope to specialize — perhaps in pediatrics or oncology,” said McArdle. He plans to attend the University of Notre Dame.

Bishop Dwenger High School: Fort Wayne

Valedictorian Elizabeth Roy

Looking back on the past four years, Bishop Dwenger High School valedictorian Elizabeth Roy said she is fortunate to have been involved in many different extracurricular activities.



ELIZABETH ROY

She ran cross country every year, serving as team captain her senior year. She worked on the school newspaper all four years, working her way up to co-editor-in-chief. In her junior year, Elizabeth was invited to join National Honor Society, where she served as a board member. She also participated on Academic Team, and for three years she was part of the Science Olympiad team: “an activity that cultivated my love of the sciences.” Her favorite service opportunity was volunteering with the Indiana Special Olympics.

Outside of these activities,

Elizabeth loves to travel and to read. “Since I can remember I have always been an avid reader, so much so that I used to hide during chore time at home so I could read. I even wrote my college essay about the female literary characters that had an impact on my growth as a young woman.”

Her Catholic education “went above and beyond” what she dreamed it would be.

“My teachers have been dedicated to incorporating Catholicism into each and every subject, and the conversations I’ve had with my chemistry and calculus teachers about the correlation between science and faith are something I truly value as I enter such fields in college. However, it was the unabashed conviction of my fellow students for sharing their faith that has allowed my own to strengthen all the more.”

One of her favorite memories of high school was the bus ride back from the March for Life in

Washington, D.C. “After spending two days together, marching for our future generations, the bond between my fellow BD marchers and myself did not disappear during our 12-hour drive home. I talked with many other sleep-deprived students that I had yet to get to know during my four years, sharing differing opinions, relating funny stories, and discussing our shared beliefs. It gave me a sense both of what I loved so much about high school, as well as what I look forward to in college.”

She plans to take part in undergraduate research while at Duke University majoring in chemistry and psychology-research science.

“My biggest hope is to be able to utilize the skills and opportunities I have been blessed with by my family and my Catholic education to not only thrive in my field of choice, but to more importantly lead others to flourish in their own lives.”

Westview Jr.-Sr. High School: Topeka

Valedictorian Margaret McCoy

Margaret McCoy, valedictorian of Westview Jr.-Sr. High School in Topeka, is looking forward to seeing more of her country whenever she is able. She already appreci-



MARGARET MCCOY

ates and treasures the beauty of God’s creation in the states she has already visited.

“Having been to 17 different national parks and two national lakeshores, I love to see the vast beauty that our country has to offer, and enjoy exploring the natural entities that have been protected because of their content,” said Margaret.

Her decision to explore the countryside of the U.S. was taken after looking heavenward. “My faith leads the way in my life and is the major influence in my actions and decision-making in and outside of high school,” she noted.

During her four years of high school, Margaret was a three-sport athlete, playing golf, basketball and running track. During her junior and senior years of golf, she was a captain,

and she was also a captain during her junior year of track. Her junior and senior years of high school she was the yearbook editor, after serving as a staff member her freshman and sophomore years. Margaret was also a member of the National Honor Society and National Art Honor Society, the latter of which she was treasurer her senior year.

“All through high school I was a member of LIFE, a community foundation youth pod focused on philanthropy,” she said, adding that she also served on the Boomerang Backpack student committee her junior and senior years.

She loves being outdoors whenever she can. “My hobbies include athletics. I enjoy running and playing golf in my free time.” She also likes spending her free time reading.

Fond memories that she has of high school are winning sectionals with the basketball team and spending time with her friends and family.

The 4.078 GPA graduate plans to attend Purdue University, majoring in chemical engineering.

Congratulations!



ABRAM BEARD
2018 VALEDICTORIAN
HERITAGE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



JEROME LECHLEITNER
2018 SALUTATORIAN
HERITAGE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Offering Congratulations to
Abram and Jerome
from all of us at
Saint Joseph's Hessen Cassel.
Best Wishes, Father Kummer

Congratulations!

to all the graduates

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Saint Joseph High School: South Bend

Valedictorian Anna Staud

Granger resident Anna Staud plans to attend the University of Notre Dame, majoring in economics, possibly with a double major in English or history. "While I'm still open to different careers, I could see myself pursuing a graduate degree and teaching in some form. At Notre Dame, I also want to get involved in research and data analysis for the Lab for Economic Opportunity," she said.

Anna took part in drama as a student, one of her top school interests – along with art and music. She was a member of Drama Club for four years participating in all of the musical productions and transferring those talents to Christ the King Parish's liturgical choir and as a cantor.

In soccer, she played for four years with three years on varsity during which time her team advanced to the 2A State Finals her senior season and she was named Academic All-State.

She was part of a Euro Challenge team that won the Midwest competition and qualified for nationals in New York; during her junior and senior years, she was a member of the Fed Challenge team that placed second at the Midwest Regionals her junior year and



ANNA STAUD

first the next. She participated in Econ Challenge, sponsored by the Council for Economic Education, when the team placed second at regionals, and acted as a witness on the Mock Trial team.

In addition, she was a class representative for Student Council for three years, and a member of Spanish Honor Society, National Honor Society and Tri-M Music Honor Society. She was named an AP Scholar with Distinction.

"I have been truly blessed with remarkable teachers and inspiring friends at Saint Joe that all challenge me, not just academically, but also spiritually. What I love about Catholic education is that many of the traditions at school are centered on the faith. Yes, we pray before each class and there is a crucifix in every room. But it goes beyond that as well. We have prayers we say in the team huddle before soccer games, and before every performance, the entire cast holds hands in prayer before shouting, 'Break a leg!' At Mass, the entire student body sings 'We Are Called,' and the choir holds hands during the Our Father," said Anna. "It is in these moments I am reminded of how truly blessed I am to be a part of such a loving and faithful community."

Bishop Luers High School: Fort Wayne

Salutatorian Adam Veldman

Adam Veldman said he will continue his walk of faith as a Catholic during college: In fact, he is moving on to attendance at a Catholic college, Georgetown University.

The 4.39 GPA Bishop Luers salutatorian said he has loved his time at Catholic schools. He explained that he felt first going to a Catholic grade school and then a Catholic high school meant he has always had good models of faith and character. "My school has allowed me many opportunities to serve others through different clubs like Student Council and National Honor Society, as well as by the Bishop Luers service project, Sodalitas," he said.

While at Bishop Luers, Adam was Student Council



ADAM VELDMAN

president, vice president and treasurer, and was also the treasurer for the National Honor Society and World Culture Club. He played sports as well, serving as varsity soccer captain this past year, and was part of the swim team for three years. Adam was on the Student Leadership Board from 2016 to 2018 and was Academic Super Bowl captain from 2015 to 2018.

His hobbies include soccer and swimming as well as reading and studying history. He also enjoys spending time with friends and at the lake with his family.

His most treasured moments in high school are "all the new friends I made, my last swim meet senior year, and my last soccer game senior year."

At Georgetown Adam plans to major in international relations, which he hopes will be the springboard to a career in the intelligence community.

Priestly ordination

Deacon Patrick Hake

BY JEANNIE EWING

A pretty typical Catholic family was the setting in which Deacon Patrick Hake grew up. He attended St. Vincent de Paul School in Fort Wayne during his formative years, then Bishop Dwenger High School during his adolescence. Prayer was integral to his faith journey, yet it didn't become a powerful and life-changing connection with a person until he was well into high school.

Always part of the St. Vincent's youth group, he decided to participate in one of the dynamic retreats offered throughout the year for teens. On Saturday evenings during Life Teen retreats, participants have an opportunity for eucharistic adoration. For Deacon Hake, the experience was incredibly transformative.

"As a child, I didn't really know what was going on in adoration. But at the Life Teen retreat I experienced Jesus in a very personal way for the first time. I was open and ready to receive Christ," he offered. Still, he said he wasn't ready to discern a call to the priesthood because he wanted to have a typical, lay life.

God was laying the foundation for Deacon Hake to respond to the call, however, and growing up in a dynamic and thriving parish and surrounded by priests who were genuinely happy had made a major impact on him. "I grew up with Father Mark [Gurtner], Father Jason [Freiburger] and Father Andrew [Budzinski]. But we also had Msgr. John Kuzmich, an older priest who was happy. I saw that priests, whether young or old, were not burdened by their vocation but were truly happy living in this life," Deacon Hake added.

It helped that he came from a family where religious vocations were not uncommon. He had two great uncles who were priests, although they passed away before he was able to meet them. It also helped that he knew his parents would be open and supportive if he chose to enter seminary.

In college, Deacon Hake decided to study chemistry. He did all the normal activities young adults do, like hang out with friends and have fun. Even so, he had a nagging feeling that he was missing something. "I had moments where I was thinking



DEACON PATRICK HAKE

about my future, and I couldn't see myself in the role of a teacher or researcher," he mused. "I had friends, but no inner peace. I felt like I was spinning my wheels."

He decided he would take the discernment process slowly. At the end of each semester in college, he would tell himself he needed to decide whether or not he was going into seminary. But then he'd convince himself to stay in college and see if things improved. "I did this four times," he admitted. "Finally, I realized I was avoiding God."

He was still hesitant to take the full leap. Each semester in seminary, he would re-evaluate whether he was happier there than when he was in college. "At the end of the first year, I felt so fulfilled," he said. "I decided to continue this journey year by year."

In seminary, Deacon Hake

felt supported by like-minded young men. He realized that during his college years he had felt very awkward and out of place when he wanted to pray or attend Mass: There wasn't much encouragement from other young adults at the public university he attended. But at seminary it wasn't "weird" to see someone praying. "Being surrounded by men who are all striving for the same thing is energizing to me," he continued.

Now Deacon Hake is coming to the end of his journey as a transitional deacon and preparing for ordination to the priesthood in early June. "I'm excited to be on the front lines of grace," he said. For him, the priesthood is about that constant witness of being God's image in the world. "When people see a priest in his collar, they don't see the person. They see God."

He sees his vocation in light of eternity. He will be able to be in the midst of where God is at work on a daily basis: funerals, weddings, baptisms, Mass, confessions and so on. But he also believes he will be an "instrument of God's mercy and love" everywhere he goes, "even to the grocery store," he said.

"Some people may have lost sight of God. They got caught up in this world and forget about the next. But as a priest, I'll be a reminder that God is present and loves them and is calling them back to a relationship with Him," he reflected. "That witness makes people start to think about their lives, the condition of their souls, and what's eternal."

CONGRATULATIONS

NATHAN MASKAL

AS WELL AS

PATRICK HAKE
JAY HORNING
DAVID HUNECK
THOMAS ZEHR



ON YOUR ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

FROM FATHER TOM SHOEMAKER AND
SAINT CHARLES BORROMEIO CHURCH

Deacon David Huneck

BY JENNIFER MILLER

Anative of Fort Wayne and lifelong parishioner of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Deacon David Huneck is “excited for his upcoming ordination and looking forward to start being at a parish,” he said. He has moved around every three months for nine years, and is hoping to find stability and to learning to love God’s people in parish life.

Deacon Huneck is the son of John and Becky Huneck of Fort Wayne. He has two siblings: an older sister, Amanda, and a younger brother, Phillip. He just graduated with his master of divinity degree from Mount St. Mary’s University in Emmitsburg, Maryland, and said that his past year there, since his diaconate ordination, has been good: He has been enjoying his new role in the Church, baptizing, giving homilies at Mass and preaching.

Deacon Huneck’s pastoral ministry was with college students in Campus Ministry at “the Mount,” where he led the RCIA as well as retreats. He also preached on a weekly basis during the campus Masses. A highlight of the year was traveling to the Holy Land over Christmas break with his other seminarian brothers. “We visited every holy site in the mysteries of the rosary, except one.” With a smile, he explained that he was looking forward to the coronation of Mary in heaven one day.

His final year of seminary education focused on many of the upcoming priestly roles he will be offering. He and his fellow deacons studied a variety of sacramental theologies and the celebration of the Mass. One of his favorite classes was “Pastoral Integration” taught at the Mount by Msgr. Michael Heintz of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. A seminar-based course, they discussed many of the



DEACON DAVID HUNEK

important real-life, pastoral issues that a new priest might encounter in his ministry.

Deacon Huneck’s everyday prayer life focuses on Jesus, especially by praying in front of the Blessed Sacrament — “our fuel, so we can be sent back

out” to minister, he said. Deacon Huneck attends daily Mass as well, to deepen his relationship with God. The saints for which he has a special devotion are St. Joseph, St. Sylvester and St. Januarius, with whose relics he prayed devoutly one time.

His call to the priesthood began with the positive example of other priests as he was growing up. Especially as they administered the sacraments, he appreciated “the witness of many joyous priests, especially Father Jason Freiburger at Bishop Dwenger High School, Father Mark Gurtner and Msgr. John Kuzmich at St. Vincent. Even though it was a large parish, he knew the families and loved everybody. He was a shepherd for everyone.”

As a senior in high school in 2008-09, Deacon Huneck started first seriously considering the priesthood. He studied broadcast journalism for two years at Ball State University, then

chose to answer God’s call and enter the seminary. Laughing, he explained how he didn’t get to always play organized team sports but loved announcing them, something he still enjoys and does once a year at the Cupertino Classic basketball rivalry game played between the seminarians and priests of the diocese.

His greatest love will be found in his future service to God, he said, as he ministers to God’s people. He is looking forward to meeting families and “having dinner at parishioners’ homes and being able to enter into their lives.”

An extrovert by nature, he said he feels refreshed by spending time with his brother seminarians, family and friends. He is open to God’s will and to wherever he is placed, as he learns to love in greater and greater ways every day.

CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

We rejoice with

“DEACON” PATRICK HAKE

as he is ordained to the priesthood of Jesus Christ.

He has served us often and well this past year at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Parish, and we are grateful.




Saint Matthew Cathedral congratulates Deacon Zehr and all of the newly ordained priests.



Deacon Thomas Zehr

Deacon Patrick Hake
Deacon Jay Horning
Deacon David Huneck
Deacon Nathan Maskal

 **Saint Matthew**
Cathedral Parish and School

Deacon Jay Horning

BY DEB WAGNER

God has paved a path for Deacon Jay Horning that is perhaps a little nontraditional or unique. He did not grow up dreaming of becoming a priest, nor did he grow up in an environment that might have cultivated the possibility. What he did have, once he began a relationship with God, was a deep desire to follow where God was leading him.

Deacon Horning grew up in South Bend and graduated from Clay High School before enrolling in the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne. While in South Bend, church was not something he attended. In fact, he was not baptized until he was 22. His involvement with the Church started much later in life than most, and the first time he participated in Mass was in college.

Even though the University of Saint Francis is a Catholic institution, that particular element did not influence his decision to attend — although it did impact him in the near future. He attended college to study

nursing, but changed his major to psychology after two years and graduated with a bachelor's degree. He was then in pursuit of post-graduate employment.

He was hired as the high school youth director at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne, where he worked for two years prior to entering seminary. "Father Jim Shafer was a big influence," he said. "Working with the high school students also made me more aware of a greater calling that God was asking from me."

"I think I first recognized a call to the priesthood, or at least to go to seminary and discern more, about a year after becoming Catholic — when I was 23," Deacon Horning said. "Having an opportunity to go to World Youth Day in Madrid, Spain, with the diocese in 2011 was also helpful for me to see and discern the priesthood. Working with the high school students was helpful too."

Deacon Horning encouraged the age group that has greatly influenced his journey thus far by saying, "If you think God is asking you to do something



DEACON JAY HORNING

great with your life, whether that be a call to the priesthood, to married life or to the single life, please, remember that you are first called to holiness. If you don't know what that means or how to do that, then go to your parish priest and talk to him or to a seminarian, or to someone that you find holy whose life you desire to copy.

"I would also want you to recognize that God calls us to vocations in which we will find total

happiness, and that even though the priesthood may be somewhat mysterious, it is an amazing life. I'm really excited about it and looking forward to a long priesthood.

"As you grow in holiness, keep praying and asking questions. Share this with people you trust and ask them to pray for you. I'm praying for you, even if you don't know who I am and I don't know who you are. People are praying for you to answer your vocation."

To the parents of a young adult, he offered: "Your child is called to holiness, and you are the example of that holiness for them. Encourage them to grow their relationship with God. Go to Mass, talk about faith at home, do Bible studies, have them engage and be engaged yourself in the Church and the community. From that relationship, they will better be able to discern if call is being given to them.

"Pray for them, and speak about the good that you see in the priesthood and religious life as well as the good you see in marriage. It is up to them to say 'yes' because it is their vocation,

but you can greatly encourage them while they are in pursuit of that 'yes.'"

God has worked very quickly in Deacon Horning's journey to the priesthood. He said, "How fortunate I have been while saying 'yes' to Him. I've been very blessed while being in the seminary, and opportunities have been afforded me thanks to the people of our diocese and other generous benefactors."

He hopes that his priesthood "brings people closer to Jesus Christ, and in the end, brings them to heaven. I hope that they encounter a loving God in the sacraments, the Mass and Eucharist, the confessional, the baptisms of their children, the anointing of the sick for those suffering and marriages of couples, and that they are able to grow closer to God."

When asked what he hopes his vocation will bring to his own life, Deacon Horning replied, "My vocation is not necessarily for me, but for the people of our diocese and the people of God. But I know that my priesthood will bring me great joy and fulfillment."

Glory and Praise Forever

With God's help, you will continue to succeed in your leadership and in your duties, because Our Lord's work is accomplished not so much by the multitude of workers as by the fidelity of the small number whom He calls.

-St. Vincent de Paul

Two parish sons who have made us proud and for whom we wish a priesthood filled with much joy and peace.

FATHER DANIEL SCHEIDT
FATHER JONATHAN NORTON
FATHER POLYCARP FERNANDO
AND THE ENTIRE

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FORT WAYNE PARISH FAMILY



Deacons David Huneck and Patrick Hake will be ordained to the holy priesthood June 2, 2018

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Deacon Nathan Maskal

BY EMILY DIEHM

The tumultuous years of high school are also when Deacon Nathan Maskal heard a calling to the priesthood. He feels that the older he became, the stronger and more direct the call was. During that time, he began to attend Mass during the week more frequently, and he became more active in both his parish and high school as a server, sacristan, lector and in various other roles.

"I also carefully considered God's will for me, especially in regard to holiness," he said. "Through much prayer and discernment, I realized that God's call for me to be holy corresponded with priestly ministry."

Although Deacon Maskal does not know the parish he will be assigned, he is confident that he is prepared.

"My seminary formation has done well to form me for priestly ministry. It has given me many, many opportunities to experience and learn different ministries, including health care, visiting residents in nursing homes and the homebound, Catholic education and prison ministry."

His classes, this past year especially, have focused on various practicums, including practicing the administration of sacraments. He has been practicing the celebration of Mass every week, in preparation for celebrating Mass every day.

"This has been a special time for me to become more familiar with each of the parts of the

Mass in a much different way than before," he said. "I have attended daily Mass regularly since my junior year of high school, but this year especially has shown me how I always have something to learn."

He feels that the time he has spent in parishes has been very rewarding, but he knows that more is coming. He is excited to be "in persona Christi," or more closely imitating the person of Christ, to everyone. He credits this desire to the priests of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and the examples they have set.

"I spent a year in a parish with Father Dave Voors. Father Dave was an excellent example to me of compassion and faithfulness," said Deacon Maskal. "He reminded me of the importance of being solidly rooted in my prayer life and allowing Jesus' example to guide all my decisions."

Growing up, there were also three priests who inspired Deacon Maskal at his home parish of St. Charles Borromeo in Fort Wayne.

"Msgr. Ed Hession, founding pastor of St. Charles, had a commitment and fervor that were outstanding to witness. He had a love and strength of the faith. He was never afraid to preach the truth, and people firmly knew that he deeply loved and cared for them."

Deacon Maskal said that Msgr. Hession asked him if he would ever want to be a priest. Ironically, he answered "no."

Msgr. Hession very much



DEACON NATHAN MASKAL

wanted many vocations to come from the St. Charles Parish, and continually asked the question, he remembered.

Msgr. John Suelzer, who followed Msgr. Hession as pastor of St. Charles, provided the firm foundation of Deacon Maskal's childhood faith. Msgr. Suelzer's deep love of the liturgy was ultimately the root of Deacon Maskal's vocation. He felt that Msgr. Suelzer was a continual supporter and encourager.

"Msgr. Suelzer would constantly point out ways in our lives that still needed conversion. He offered practical ways to follow Christ, and especially stressed in the Golden Rule — encouraging us to have a Christ-like attitude to everyone we meet," he said. "Msgr. Suelzer would always return to prayer as something that guides and directs our lives."

He fondly remembers Msgr.

Suelzer concluding his homilies with the phrase, "May we continue to pray." Deacon Maskal now uses this phrase in his own homilies as well.

Another priest he credits for having an impact on his faith is Msgr. Michael Heintz, who was assigned to St. Charles as an associate pastor when Deacon Maskal was a young boy. He has been an encouraging presence for Deacon Maskal at the seminary, and a priest he has always looked up to.

"I have had the privilege of having Msgr. Heintz as one of my professors and formators at

Mount St. Mary's Seminary for the past two years," he said. "He has also provided lots of practical advice for sacramental ministry and pastoral work."

Deacon Maskal will be ordained into the priesthood by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades on Saturday, June 2, at 11 a.m. at the Cathedral of Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne. He encourages young men to think about all the different aspects of priestly ministry from their parish priests and to "carefully discern God's will in prayer."



ATTEND THE ORDINATION

Saturday, June 2 at 11 a.m.
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Live Streaming will also be offered through social media channels.



ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON Catholic Church

The prayers and joy of everyone at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parish are with **Deacon Jay Horning and Deacon Thomas Zehr** their classmates, **Deacon Patrick Hake, Deacon David Huneck, Deacon Nathan Maskal** and their families, on the occasion of their ordination to the priesthood of Jesus Christ.

God bless you!



For the flock he is a shepherd...he devotes himself to the mission not fifty or sixty percent, but with all he has.

Pope Francis

Deacon Thomas Zehr

BY EMILY DIEHM

On Saturday, June 2, Deacon Thomas Zehr's title will change to Father Thomas Zehr as he makes his final commitment to the Catholic faith. His ordination signifies a completion to a decision that he feels started when he was a 12-year-old boy attending a grade-school Mass. Deacon Zehr said that his calling to the priesthood became stronger as time passed.

"I started thinking seriously about it my junior year, but I was in my senior year of high school when I decided that I wanted to make the commitment to join the seminary right after graduation," he said.

This decision was no surprise to those who were closest to him, in fact, his parents said it "made sense" for him.

Deacon Zehr is the second oldest of eight children. His family lives in Fort Wayne and are members of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, although they often attend St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church on days he is giving the homily. Deacon Zehr was asked to serve at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton on May 20, 2017, and he will continue serving the parish until June.

"I've been lucky," he said. "My family and friends have backed me since the beginning. They've all been with me and helped in various ways. I know that they have supported me with their prayers, for sure."

Deacon Zehr also credits Father Dave Voors, Father Mark Gurtner and Msgr. Michael Heintz for their guidance about making his commitment to the priesthood.

"These three men have been very influential, and have each

played a large roll in my decision. They have set a strong example of what it means to live in God's love."

This support has helped his feelings about his ordination day grow from being a plan to something more.

"Recently, I've become excited. It's real now," he said. "It's almost here, and I can't wait."

Deacon Zehr said he is most looking forward to hearing confessions and granting penance.

"I've received so much healing from confession. I'm excited to give that to others."

Despite all the excitement, Deacon Zehr recognizes there will be challenges he will face as well. He has prayed about his shortcomings and believes that recognizing them will make him a better priest for his congregation.

"I need to encourage people to challenge themselves and their faith," he said. "I need to show by example and recognize that I'm called for more. We all are."

His biggest fear is that he will accidentally say something that will turn someone away from their faith.

"I'm human. I'm normal," said Deacon Zehr. "I'll make mistakes, but I pray that I will handle each situation the way God has intended."

Being 'normal' is an aspect of life that he wants others to recognize about all priests, deacons, seminarians or anyone who has chosen the religious life. He wants to be approachable: He wants to be invited to dinners, as he feels that eating with people is "the best way to get to know them."

"When I was younger, my parents always invited priests to our house for dinner. I learned at an early age that priests are joy-



DEACON THOMAS ZEHR

ful guys."

He credits his parents for creating a strong, loving, Catholic culture for him and his siblings to grow up in.

"We knew to trust in God, and that we were loved very much. My parents encouraged us to make and carry out decisions that would lead us closer to Him."

Trusting in God is needed for this next step in Deacon Zehr's journey.

"He wanted me to be a priest. It may not have been my first choice; I had other plans. Having a good, wholesome family would have been nice, It's just not what God had planned."

He believes that he will be happiest listening to God's plan for him, and that he will be a father in a different way.

"It's important to always be open to His voice," Deacon Zehr said. "He might be calling you. Just do it: Learn to be better, and pray better."

Father Thomas Zehr will celebrate his first Mass at Our Lady of Good Hope Church on Sunday, June 3.

SUMMER, from page 7

Lighthouse Media, available in the St. Vincent de Paul Parish gathering space.

Father Norton and Felicichia also created suggestions for families to use at the COP (home). These include having dinner together with each person at the table sharing a grace of the day, studying the lives of the saints, decorating the home with religious artwork to express their family prayer and blessing the children each evening before bed.

Finally, for the Patrols, assemble care packages for people who are homeless. Small bags containing non-perishable food, snacks, and winter items such as gloves and hats, can be tucked in with a prayer card and information about how to contact area agencies that can provide aid.

Other suggestions are carrying a small pocket Bible or rosary to read and pray while waiting in a line at the store or a doctor's office. These can also be shared with people who might be open to a conversation. Simple actions such as praying for other drivers on the road, saying grace in restaurants and making the sign of the cross when passing a Catholic church also made the list.

Father Norton and Felicichia added to the list what they called "neutral" events at the parish. These are activities that might

engage a person in the community such as a music festival, the parish's annual VincentFest, Tenebrae service during Holy Week, and Advent Lessons and Carols during December.

The suggestions in the kit are designed to help people feel more confident in talking about their faith. "Christianity is really an encounter," Father Norton added. "We've provided tools for telling that story. Simple creative ways to engage others."

"We hope that other parishes will use the materials that we assembled," he said. Parishes can personalize and add to the what is presented so that the Summer Evangelization Kit will suit their community.

View the complete Summer Evangelization Kit at <https://www.saintv.org/documents/pentecost-sunday>. For more information, contact St. Vincent de Paul Parish at church@stv.org.



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Parkinson's affects 1 million people in North America

Although you can't describe it to your family or friends, there is a feeling that there is something inside of you that is not quite right. It is a weird sensation of internal shaking. Months later, while you are sitting quietly, you notice a slight tremor in one of your hands. During a visit from a grandson you go outside to throw the football around, and you notice some stiffness in your movement. Uncharacteristically, you are dropping more passes than usual. Then weeks later your spouse tells you that you look a little different and asks if you feel OK. A trip to your family physician leads to a referral to a neurologist. After a thorough neurological exam, she tells you that there are signs of Parkinson's disease. Your mind races as you try to understand what all this means.

You would not be alone. One million people in North America are affected by Parkinson's disease, one of the most common neurological diseases that affects mankind. Muhammad Ali died from complications of parkinsonism. Two celebrities currently battling this affliction are Michael J. Fox and Linda Ronstadt.

The pathophysiology is quite complicated. It is well-known that there is a loss of neurons in the basal ganglia of the brain with depletion of dopamine — a key player in brain function. There are three key manifestations of Parkinson's disease,

which are tremor, rigidity and bradykinesia, or slowing of movement. The tremor is just about always described as a "pill rolling tremor": Place a pill between your thumb and first and second finger and roll it back and forth. The tremor is typically more prominent at rest.

Tremors in other conditions usually get worse during purposeful activities, where in Parkinson's they get better. Rigidity is best defined by increased resistance to passive movement. Very commonly it is described as cogwheel rigidity: Taking the flexed arm of a Parkinson's patient and trying to straighten it out is manifested by a ratchety pattern of resistance.

Bradykinesia is like moving in slow motion. It is described by those afflicted as incoordination, weakness or tiredness. Simple tasks such as tying shoes or buttoning clothes becomes challenging.

Walking is eventually affected, and is best described as a shuffling gait. There is a feeling of unsteadiness and a high risk of falling, with injury. James Parkinson, who first described the disease that bears his name in 1817, wrote a famous medical monograph, "An Essay on the Shaking Palsy," and defined a new medical term called "festination." It is "an irresistible impulse to take quicker steps, and thereby to adopt unwillingly a running pace." Flashback to Tim Conway on the Carol Burnett Show. (Sorry millennials, way

THE CATHOLIC DOCTOR IS IN

DR. DAVID KAMINSKAS

before your time.)

Other features of parkinsonism include hypomimia, or reduced facial expression), speech impairment, stooped posture and many different other movement disorders. Unfortunately, this complex disorder may include neuropsychiatric manifestations such as hallucinations, psychosis, depression and sleep disturbances. After years of battling this disease some people will go on to develop dementia.

The mainstay of treatment remains a medicine called levodopa, and this has not changed for years. There is no cure currently, but there is great hope for new treatment modalities that may be curative. Adult stem cell research, the type blessed by the Catholic Church, is a very exciting area of investigation that may pay huge dividends in the future. Please do not despair if you or a loved one has recently been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. You can still live an active, productive life for many years. Exercise is proving to be very valuable in slowing

KAMINSKAS, page 18

The 'dark stuff' of grief

I recently overheard a woman say she had finally aired the "dark stuff" of her grief over losing her best friend to death after childbirth. It made wonder: Why do we associate grief with darkness? Is it because grief is a deep-seated sorrow? Is it because we are often rendered vulnerable, which makes us uncomfortable?

In John 11:35 we read that "Jesus wept" after learning of his close friend Lazarus' death. Surely this was grief. But something happened that we, as Catholics, cannot forget: The raising of Lazarus from the dead is a certain sign that suffering and death lead to resurrection for the faithful.

Grief feels dark because we don't always see the beauty or meaning of our suffering when we are in the midst of it. We often don't like to admit to having strong negative emotions such as anger, shame, guilt, or fear when we are lamenting loss. Even when we don't feel joy or hope, we must — by way of obscure faith — trust that God will do something beautiful with our sorrow when we hand it to Him.

All of life is bittersweet, I have come to understand.

Almost 10 years ago, my grandfather died. I was grateful to be at his bedside during his



GUEST COMMENTARY

JEANNIE EWING

last days on earth. Watching him struggle not only physically but also spiritually was incredibly painful, likely for my mom — an only child — more so than for me. But something happened when my grandpa finally expired. I gave him a kiss on his cheek and said through tears,

"I'll see you again someday, Grandpa."

At his funeral, I was perplexed to find that my heart was full of joy and song. It seemed as if his funeral Mass were a celebration of life — eternal life — rather than a ritual meant to suggest sorrow.

It wasn't as if I didn't miss my grandfather. It's just that I knew, by way of obscure faith, that he was at least in purgatory and would one day see the beatific vision in heaven.

Grandpa's life wasn't all

Grief feels dark because we don't

always see the beauty or

meaning of our suffering

when we are in the midst of it.

EWING, page 18

'As the Father has sent me, so I send you'



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Pentecost John 20:19-23

This weekend the Church celebrates the feast of Pentecost. The Acts of the Apostles provides the first reading, the dramatic story of the first Pentecost. In this passage, the imagery is very important, since these images spoke volumes to those persons in the first century A.D. in Palestine who heard the story.

For example, the story tells that suddenly, as the Apostles and the community of Christians were gathered in a secluded place in Jerusalem, a strong, loud wind was heard and felt. In the Old Testament, God often appeared with, or in the midst of,

a strong, loud wind.

God came in the form of fire on several occasions in the Old Testament, as when He spoke to Moses from a burning bush. Small flames, or tongues of fire, appeared and settled above the Apostles.

As would be the case today, communication among people then was burdened by the differences among the many languages.

Another image is here: In the view of pious Jews, multiple human languages did not just evolve but were the direct result of efforts to avoid God's justice and to outmaneuver God. But God produced the many human languages to punish the people for their defiance long ago.

After being empowered by the Holy Spirit, the Apostles were understood in all languages. The people saw in this a sign that God willed the Gospel to be heard by all, and further, that through Christ sins were forgiven.

The reading lists the nationalities represented in Jerusalem on this important

Jewish feast day. It actually notes almost every major area of the Roman Empire. All nations therefore were eligible to hear the Gospel of Christ.

St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians supplies the second reading. Paul declared that no human conclusion, in and of itself, can truly impel a person to turn to Christ. Secondly, the very life of Jesus, given in the Holy Spirit, dwells within each Christian, uniting Christians in a very basic bond. When persons open themselves fully and humbly to God, the Spirit comes to them. They recognize the Lord. They no longer are blind.

St. John's Gospel supplies the last reading. It recalls the visit by Jesus, crucified but risen, to the Apostles who are afraid, anxiously huddled together. Jesus, undeterred by locked doors, appears in their midst, bringing peace and confidence. He is the only source of true insight and of strength.

The Lord commissions the Apostles to continue the work of salvation. He bestows the Holy Spirit on them, conferring powers

far above all human power by empowering them to forgive sins, a divine power, and giving them the right to judge the goodness, or otherwise, of the actions of others.

Reflection

For weeks the Church joyfully has proclaimed the glory and divinity of Jesus, victorious over death. Throughout the process, the Church has been careful to say that Jesus did not come into, and then depart, human history. He still lives. In remembering Pentecost, the Church tells us how the Lord is with us. He now lives, through the Holy Spirit, in the community of the Church, guided by the Apostles.

Pentecost already was a feast for the Jews. It was the day when they acknowledged, and rejoiced in, their national identity and ethnic cohesiveness, and specifically in the vital link between their nation and God.

For Christians, the new Pentecost celebrates their own cohesiveness, created by their common realization of life in

God. No mere earthly differences matter. God offers salvation to all humanity. The Holy Spirit creates and refreshes this union.

Signs make abundantly clear that God is within us in Christ, offering us peace at present and joy in eternity.

Nothing can deny us this access to God, except our own sin.

READINGS

Sunday: Acts 2:1-11 Ps 104:1ab, 24ac, 29bc-30, 31, 34 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13

Monday: Jas 3:13-18 Ps 19:8-10, 15 Mk 9:14-29

Tuesday: Jas 4:1-10 Ps 55:7-11, 23 Mk 9:30-37

Wednesday: Jas 4:13-17 Ps 49:2-3, 6-11 Mk 9:38-40

Thursday: Jas 5:1-6 Ps 49:14-20 Mk 9:41-50

Friday: Jas 5:9-12 Ps 103:1-4, 8-9, 11-12 Mk 10:1-12

Saturday: Jas 5:13-20 Ps 141:1-3, 8 Mk 10:13-16

Baseball and life

The high school girls ran out the door a few minutes ago, reminding me of their plans to attend the boys baseball game tonight. As often happens my mind wandered, this time to baseball in general and then to something I once saw on TV. You've probably seen something similar to what I am about to describe.

A guy is in an area designated for practicing. An automatic pitching machine is tossing baseballs at various speeds to him. Suddenly, something goes awry and the machine goes crazy. The man is pummeled with balls, here, there, curve, straight, fast, slow, all at once. He tries to swing the bat to get as many balls in the air as he can, but it's impossible. He finally dodges the spray of balls coming at him and gets to the machine to turn it off. He adjusts it, fixes it, to slow it down. Then he picks up the bat to try again.

That reminded me of motherhood.

Sometimes, so many things are coming at us at once. This child's last-minute-because-the-coach-changed-it schedule; that child's milestone and development affecting him not just physically, but emotionally, too; a doctor or dentist appointment here; a form or fundraiser there; a performance, game, event, move; a note needing attention ... a sudden case of the flu; "Oops, sorry Mom, I forgot I need this or that by 3 p.m.;" a sudden injustice that must be handled, but not by you, by the child, a teaching moment that takes far longer than it would if you just handled the thing alone, but then your kid wouldn't learn and grow; a circumstance that comes up at practice, rehearsal, school, whatever. Just like the errant baseballs from the pitching machine described above. These things come fast and furious. It takes grit to handle them, and it takes wisdom to figure out the only way to get the flurry to stop is to get to the machine and adjust. Slow down. Then take

KAMINSKAS, from page 17

the progression. Specific protocols using a stationary bike have been shown to be very helpful. Physical therapists recommend a type of treatment that is called LSVT Big, which involves practicing large, repetitive movements.

There are many very interesting observations when looking at risk and prevention in Parkinson's disease. Maybe the most surprising is the fact that smokers have a very low incidence of this affliction. Studies support that it is the nicotine that seems to be the protective chemical. Even those that have had significant exposure to second-hand smoke have a statistically lower incidence of parkinsonism. Millions of people die each year from complications

each pitch calmly, one at a time.

The baseballs of life can get out of hand easily. Sometimes, through no one's fault really, there are conflicting schedules. A game here at the exact time of a concert there, or whatever. Obviously, this happens more often the more children you have. One solution is to encourage the kids to take up similar interests. Put all the boys on the same sports team or all the girls into the same studio for dance. This may work for a while, but it doesn't solve the problem permanently. When the conflicts arise, Mom and Dad split their attendances, tag team or even sometimes miss something. This is just life.

While it is important to support our children in all their endeavors and interests, it is very important we not slide into putting our children's requests and even sometimes whims ahead of our spouse's needs, desires or even simple preferences. Sacrifice is part of parenthood, of course, but we can easily raise selfish "snowflakes" if the kids don't occasionally have to bend and adjust as well. As rocker Mick Jagger has so succinctly said, "You can't always get what you want."

It's good for our children to see Dad showing deference to Mom's preferences, or Mom asking and accommodating Dad's proclivity to a schedule or way of doing things. This demonstrates right order to the children, that marriage and family is a ballet of give-and-take. But the children, while loved and treasured and sacrificed for, don't get to run the show themselves.

Mom and Dad have the financial, spiritual and physical responsibility so they also have the privilege and power to direct the family, no matter how old the "kids" become. Once kids understand that, they suddenly become very motivated to become financially, spiritually and physically responsible for themselves. It's a great motivator for young adults to spread their

from smoking, so no one would promote tobacco use to prevent this disease. But, what can we potentially learn from all this?

Some healthy foods have small amounts of nicotine in them. The winner is bell peppers, but there is also some natural nicotine in tomatoes too. It has yet to be proven to be an effective treatment plan, but I can't see any harm in eating these healthy foods.

There is actually proof that regular coffee drinkers have a lower incidence of Parkinson's disease — one more reason I will continue to enjoy my morning cup of joe. Finally, there is quite a bit of information that indicates blueberries may be the super fruit for the brain. In a Harvard study published in



Theresa A. Thomas

EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

wings and "step up to the plate" in the game of their own lives, knowing they can fully direct their lives when they fully take responsibility. But I digress ...

My April and May calendars have been full and complicated. It seems like every day there is another conflict to work out or change to contend with. But that's life. We can pause momentarily to catch our breath and adjust the master machine, but then we have to get back into the batting cage and into the game.

Some people will point out that our crazy schedule and life is the result of our choice to have so many children. Touché. This is true.

But my response to that is in a world and culture where so many people work furiously so they can reproduce and raise money, we've chosen to focus more to reproduce and raise souls. It's hard work. It's messy and not always easy. But frankly, I think it's a better investment.

As I turn today to the work ahead of me, my rambling thoughts close. OK, day, it's time for more. Go ahead, turn on the baseball pitching machine. I'm going to trust God and move forward. My bat is poised.

I'm ready. :)

Theresa Thomas is the wife of David and the mother of nine children.

the major journal of neurology, it was reported that researchers found that eating blueberries, strawberries and apples are probably protective. Blueberries seem to be the winner of that one.

My personal plan is to continue to exercise and begin to eat more stuffed peppers drenched in tomato sauce, followed by a bowl of blueberries for desert. Live life and enjoy the fruits of the earth given to you by your heavenly Father.

Dr. David Kaminskas is a board certified cardiologist and member of The Dr. Jerome Lejeune Catholic Medical Guild of Northeast Indiana, www.fortwaynecma.com.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for May 20, 2018

John 15:26-27; 16:12-15

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for Pentecost Sunday: the arrival of the Holy Spirit on the Church. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

PENTECOST	ADVOCATE	COMES
FATHER	SPIRIT	TRUTH
TESTIFY	YOU ALSO	BECAUSE
WITH ME	BEGINNING	CANNOT
GUIDE	SPEAK	HIS OWN
HE HEARS	DECLARE	THINGS
GLORIFY ME	MINE	REASON

WHAT HE HEARS

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

EWING, from page 17

roses. He certainly had many faults, like we all do. But his death was a profound example of God's incredible mercy for those of us who turn to Him, day after day — through our sobs and desperation and fear — knowing that this "handing over" of our wounds to Him actually heals.

"By His stripes you are healed." See Isaiah 53:5 and 1 Peter 2:24.

Like most mysteries in our Catholic faith, this concept of wounds healing and joy mingling with sorrow is foreign to us — contradictory even. But faith does not rely upon what it sees, only what it knows to be true, and upon the incredible gift that God is God and we are not. His thoughts are above ours and His ways are beyond ours (Is 55:8-9).

Grief is not dark when it is transformed by love; that is, by God, who is love. It is in the act of our will, our decision to hand over each and every aspect of our cross so that the suffering becomes changed into the yoke that it is easy and the burden that is light (Mt 11:30). It's not necessarily that the cross will be eliminated: but that the very act of transferring our pain to God's divine providence becomes a form of courage, of true charity.

A few years ago I was meditating on the verse from Song of Songs that says, "I am dark but lovely" (1:5). Perhaps grief

does feel like the night, as it must have to Jesus when He was tormented in the Garden of Gethsemane — alone, asking that His Father would let the cup pass from Him. Though the Father didn't grant Him this prayer, He did send an angel that would strengthen and console Him, says author Gary Zimak in "From Fear to Faith."

This is an example of the seeming contradiction of blessings amid immense burdens. We may not always receive what we ask for, but God always grants us what we do need to strengthen our faith and help keep us on the path toward heaven.

Perhaps grief feels dark because it is so vast. We will not be granted all the answers to our questions in this life, because we are asked to trust and walk by faith. No matter how black your grief may seem now, there are snippets and snapshots of beauty and blessings every day. You just have to believe that in the midst of what you don't understand and may never know, this side of heaven is precisely the gift that will strengthen and console you.

Jeannie Ewing is a Catholic spirituality writer who focuses on the topics of grief, redemptive suffering and waiting. Visit her website at jeannieewing.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.

Mother and daughter tea

FORT WAYNE — Young women entering grades 9-12 and their mothers are invited to an afternoon tea Sunday, June 10, from 1:30-4:45 p.m. at St. Charles Parish, 4916 Trier Rd. Featuring guest speaker Dr. Kathleen Heimann, as well as a talk on Theology of the Body and witness talks from young women. The cost of the event is \$15 per family. To register, email Kelly Coyle at coyle.kellym@gmail.com by June 1.

Knights host breakfast at Queen of Angels
 FORT WAYNE — St. Gaspar del Bufalo Council No. 11043 will

be serving breakfast Sunday, May 20, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the activities center at Queen of Angels Parish, 1500 W. State Boulevard. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$4 for children 6-12 and \$20 per family. \$5 carry-out packs will also be available. Proceeds this month will benefit the parish.

Career Ministry: job seekers

FORT WAYNE — St. Vincent de Paul Parish's Career Ministry will meet on Monday, May 21 at the St. Vincent's Spiritual Center, 1502 E Wallen Rd. Lisa Mungovan will present Strategic Job Search. Learn how applicant-

tracking systems work so you can improve your chances of being selected for an interview. Dress is casual; all are welcome. Please bring a copy of your resume by 6:15 p.m. for 1-on-1 coaching. Presentation at 7 p.m.

Bus trip to Cubs/Reds game

FORT WAYNE — The St. Therese Knights of Columbus Council No. 9460 is sponsoring a bus trip to Cincinnati on Saturday, June 23, for a game between the Chicago Cubs and the Cincinnati Reds. The \$80 cost includes game ticket and Excursions Trailways coach bus. Contact Jim Conroy at 260-638-4189 or jconroykofc@yahoo.com for information.

REST IN PEACE

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Peter Eugene Rutsey, 85, St. Vincent de Paul

Granger

Louis J. Behre, 89, St. Pius X

Albert B.

Vanderheyden, 80, St. Jude

Eldon Charles Weikart, 103, St. Charles Borromeo

Jack L. Yarbrough, 76, St. Pius X

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The ministry of Servant of God Mother Mary Teresa Tallon

BY DENISE FEDOROW

Servant of God Mother Mary Teresa Tallon once taught and lived in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, before founding a new order, the Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate. Today, progress is being made for her cause for sainthood. One of the members of her order, Sister Theresa Marie Moore, spoke at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Elkhart on May 7 about her foundress.

Sister Theresa Marie and Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate superior Sister Mary Catherine, who both spoke to *Today's Catholic* by phone, said the "positio," or collection of documents used to determine if a Servant of God may proceed to the next step of canonization and be called "venerable," is being rewritten. Plans are to have it completed and sent to Rome this month.

Julia Teresa Tallon was born May 6, 1867, to Irish immigrant parents in upstate New York. She was the seventh of eight children. Even as a child, Tallon had a strong faith and would help catechize the children of the migrant workers who helped pick hops on her family's farm. She would also assist the priest who came to celebrate Mass and hear confessions. It is said that she was 12 when she decided to enter religious life, "even though she'd never met a sister," Sister Theresa said, and it was a decision from which her family at first tried to dissuade her.

Tallon told her mother about her decision when she was 16. Her father was deceased, and her mother concocted a plan to distract her. She was sent to live in a larger city with relatives: Her mother bought her expensive clothes — including an ostrich-feather hat — and she was lined up to attend several parties. At the first party, the host's cat destroyed the hat, which she took as a sign not to care about worldly things. She instead began attending two parish mission talks per day at a nearby parish, where the priest encouraged her to persevere in her calling.

Sister Theresa said that in those days, a girl had to have a dowry to enter a religious community, and Tallon's mother wasn't about to offer one. So the young woman took a job — another distraction, her mother hoped — but Tallon was saving the money she earned to have a dowry. Finally, at 19, she convinced her mother and entered religious life as a Daughter of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul. Then, three months later, under the advice of her spiritual director, she entered the Holy Cross Sisters of Notre Dame in South Bend on Aug. 15.

Sister Theresa said the order is not a teaching order, other than catechetics; but two

weeks after entering, Sister Mary Berchmans, as she was then known, was teaching at St. Mary's High School. Sister Theresa shared a bit from Sister Mary's journal, where she wrote on Jan. 14, 1894, that she was given "an opportunity for living martyrdom, and I accepted." The "living martyrdom" was being assigned to St. Michael Parish in Plymouth, Indiana, and the phrase was one she heard from the sister she would be replacing there. But Sister Mary trusted in God and was pleasantly surprised upon her arrival to find "the best children I ever taught" and a pastor who was kind to her.

From there she was assigned to San Francisco, where a diphtheria epidemic broke out. While caring for the ill, she contracted the disease. She went home to New York, and while in the hospital there she visited and consoled other patients. The effects of the disease remained with her throughout her life, but she eventually resumed teaching at St. Paul Parish in Manhattan.

It was while in New York in 1908 that she received her calling to begin a new religious congregation of women whose mission would be to "go wherever souls could be found" and to bring the lost sheep back into the fold. Shortly after receiving this inspiration, however, Sister Mary was sent back to the Midwest — to Elkhart this time, and to St. Vincent de Paul Parish.

Sister Theresa shared from Sister Mary's writings about her time spent in Elkhart, saying that her reputation for catechizing must have proceeded her because the pastor — Father Francis Jansen — gave her a list of families who were not practicing their faith and the green light to start an apostolate.

Sister Theresa read from Sister Mary's note: "I'm in Elkhart, Indiana — a center for



Provided by Sister Theresa Marie Moore, PVM

Servant of God Mother Mary Teresa Tallon photos were on display, along with other items and prayer cards, at a talk given on May 7 at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Elkhart.

railroads and there are about 20,000 inhabitants but the spiritual needs are just as great as in New York."

She began dividing the young people into different groups — one in charge of new parishioners and strangers, another in charge of religious drama and religious reading and another in charge of the neglected. Sister Mary said of children not attending religious instruction, "A special appeal must be made not to say they're delinquent but rather that they are our special friends and we are concerned about why

they're not attending. Religion must be made very attractive — let Christ be first."

Father Jansen had a great influence on Sister Mary. He wrote her a note once, telling her he believed she had a special calling for the redemption of fallen-away Catholics and that she should leave the Holy Cross sisters. He didn't know that Sister Mary felt she had received the same calling, so his note was confirmation and inspiration for her. In 1920, after she had been called back to New York, she founded the Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate.

Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate

The order's main mission is to visit everyone in the parish door to door and to provide religious instruction.

"We go to every door to evangelize and especially to bring people back to the faith," Mother Mary Catherine said. "We ask if there are any baptized Catholics in the home, but even if there are not we let people know we are there in the name of the parish priest and ask if there is anything we can do for them," she explained. "If they have no church affiliation we share Jesus with them. If they do but are not practicing we offer what the Catholic Church has to offer them."

There are 60 sisters in the community worldwide — in the Bronx and Monroe, New York, where the motherhouse

is; in Arizona, Nigeria and the Philippines. Three sisters will be sent to Philadelphia this summer to start a new mission there.

Mother Mary Catherine shared that she and a few other sisters had the opportunity to visit Notre Dame awhile back and to visit St. Vincent de Paul and were thrilled to be able to walk through the convent where their foundress lived; although no longer a convent, they were excited that it was still much the same as it was when Mother Mary Teresa lived there.

Canonization Process

Mother Mary Catherine is the vice postulator for Mother Mary Teresa's cause for sainthood, which was opened in the Archdiocese of New York in 2012. Cardinal Timothy Dolan was "enthusiastic" and supportive of the cause and the diocesan tribunal of inquiry began, she said.

There are two sisters still living who knew Mother Mary Teresa and could give testimony, as well as others who knew her. In January 2015, then-General Superior Mother Carole Marie and Sister Mary Catherine brought the 8,000 pages of documents to Rome. The Roman Phase of the cause was opened Jan. 22, 2015.

Mother Mary Teresa's body was exhumed as part of the process and she was well-preserved, considering the flooding of their cemetery. Her body needed to have a sarcophagus, not the small box they thought would be needed for her relics. She is now interred in the motherhouse chapel.

Mother Mary Catherine said of the reason for Mother Mary Teresa's cause for sainthood, "It is important for the Church today to know of Mother's witness to the love and mercy of God for all of His children, especially the most spiritually impoverished; to know the voice of the Holy Spirit is consistent in His movement in the Church and through the members of the Church ... it is important for all of us in the Church to see God's marvels at work in humble, obedient souls who trust in His divine providence, such as Mother Mary Tallon."

Intercession

Sister Theresa Marie suggested when asking for intercession from Mother Mary Teresa Tallon, to think of those who need miracles, those not practicing faith, those who have serious illnesses or some trial holding them back from answering God's call.



Denise Fedorow

Sister Theresa Marie Moore of the Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate order gives a presentation in Elkhart about the life and cause for sainthood of the foundress of her order, Servant of God Mother Mary Teresa Tallon, who once lived and taught in Elkhart.

For more information about Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate, visit their website at www.parishvisitorsisters.org.