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# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Volume 92 No. 28

50¢

TODAYSCATHOLIC.org

## New Blessed Sacrament Church dedicated in Albion

BY DENISE FEDOROW



John Martin

Members of Blessed Sacrament Parish in Albion were overjoyed Saturday evening, Aug. 25, to welcome Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and celebrate a Mass of dedication of their new church building, which was 26 years in the making.

The recently refinished wood was gleaming, the smell of new paint lingered, and the mood was one of celebration and anticipation as the faithful of Albion awaited the dedication of the new Blessed Sacrament Church by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades on Saturday evening, Aug. 25.

Katie Glick grew up in Blessed Sacrament Parish and now lives in South Bend. "To me, church was always fluorescent lights," she laughed. The former Blessed Sacrament Church was once a grocery store that was supposed to be a temporary home.

"It's great to finally have a church that represents our parish better than a grocery store," she said.

Glick said her parents were involved in helping with the new church, including housing the new lights and organ pipes until they were ready to be installed. She said she thought it was nice that even though the church was new, there were still a lot of historic items in it.

The choir singing in the new

**BLESSED SACRAMENT, page 10**

## Pope: Abuse victims' outcry more powerful than efforts to silence them

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — "No effort must be spared" to prevent future cases of clerical sexual abuse and "to prevent the possibility of their being covered up," Pope Francis said in a letter addressed "to the people of God."

"I acknowledge once more the suffering endured by many minors due to sexual abuse, the abuse of power and the abuse of conscience perpetrated by a significant number of clerics and consecrated persons," the pope wrote in the letter dated and released Aug. 20.

The letter was published less than a week after the release of a Pennsylvania grand jury report on decades of clerical sexual abuse

and cover-ups in six dioceses. The report spoke of credible allegations against 301 priests in cases involving more than 1,000 children.

"The heart-wrenching pain of these victims, which cries out to heaven, was long ignored, kept quiet or silenced," Pope Francis said. "But their outcry was more powerful than all the measures meant to silence them."

"The pain of the victims and their families is also our pain," he said, "and so it is urgent that we once more reaffirm our commitment to ensure the protection of minors and of vulnerable adults."

In his letter, Pope Francis insisted all Catholics must be involved in the effort to accompany victims, to strengthen safeguarding mea-

asures and to end a culture where abuse is covered up.

While the letter called all Catholics to prayer and fasting, it does not change any current policies or offer specific new norms.

It did, however, insist that "clericalism" has been a key part of the problem and said the involvement of the laity will be crucial to addressing the crime and scandal.

Change, he said, will require "the active participation of all the members of God's people."

"Many communities where sexual abuse and the abuse of power and conscience have occurred," he said, are groups where there has been an effort to "reduce the people of God to small elites."

"Clericalism, whether fostered by priests themselves or by lay

persons, leads to a split in the ecclesial body that supports and helps to perpetuate many of the evils that we are condemning today," Pope Francis said. "To say 'no' to abuse is to say an emphatic 'no' to all forms of clericalism."

In his letter, Pope Francis acknowledged the Church's failure.

"With shame and repentance, we acknowledge as an ecclesial community that we were not where we should have been, that we did not act in a timely manner, realizing the magnitude and the gravity of the damage done to so many lives," he wrote.

"We showed no care for the little ones," Pope Francis said.

**OUTCRY, page 3**

## TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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**PUBLISHER:** Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

**Editorial Department**

**PUBLICATIONS MANAGER:** Jodi Marlin

**PAGE DESIGNER:** Francie Hogan

**BRAND SPECIALIST:** Molly Gettinger

**NEWS SPECIALIST:** Mark Weber

**Business Department**

**BUSINESS MANAGER:** Stephanie A. Patka

**BOOKKEEPING/CIRCULATION:** Geoff Frank  
circulation@diocesefwsb.org

**Advertising Sales**

Jackie Parker

jparker@diocesefwsb.org

**Website:** [www.todayscatholic.org](http://www.todayscatholic.org)

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**MAIN OFFICE:** 915 S. Clinton St., Fort  
Wayne, IN 46802. Telephone 260-456-  
2824. Fax: 260-744-1473.

**BUREAU OFFICE:** 1328 Dagoon Trail,  
Mishawaka, IN 46544. Telephone 260-  
456-2824. Fax 260-744-1473.

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# Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend to release names of priests who committed sexual abuse

FORT WAYNE — The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend, revealed Aug. 17 that in response to the Pennsylvania grand jury investigation into sexual misconduct by priests of six dioceses in that state, he will collect and release a list of the names of priests in his current diocese, the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, who committed similar offenses

During a news conference, Bishop Rhoades called the details of the grand jury report “equally appalling and heartbreaking.” He expressed sympathy and support to the victims and their families, adding, “The Church failed you. For that, I apologize.”

Emphasizing that during his tenure as bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend he has released the name of every priest removed from ministry as a result of a credible allegation of sexual abuse of a minor, Bishop Rhoades said he has learned, as a result of the grand jury, that it also important to victims to see the names of their abusers made public “for all to see. For everyone to know the pain caused by these priests.” “It is my hope,” he said, “that by releasing these names, the innocent victims of these horrific and heartbreaking crimes can finally begin the process of healing.”

The list will be compiled beginning immediately. In closing, Bishop Rhoades reiterated the diocese’s efforts to regain the trust of the those it serves, and indicated a renewed vigilance regarding its efforts to protect young people.

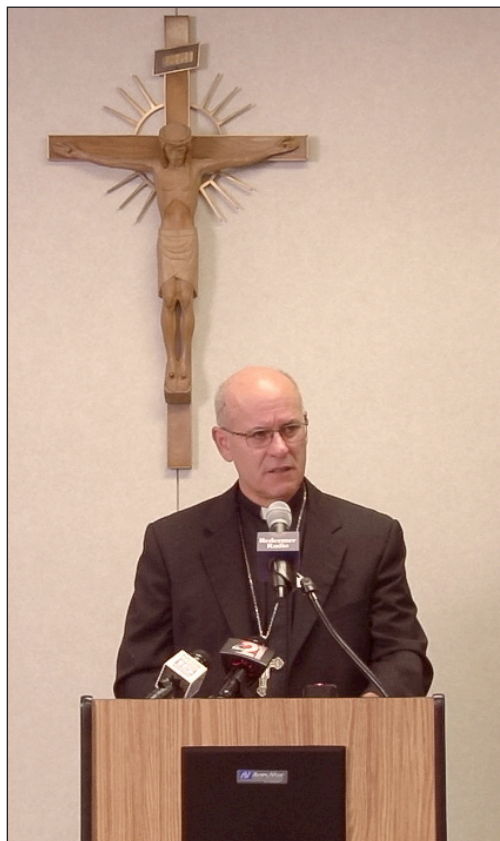
## Transcript from the press conference

Good afternoon. Thank you for being here. Earlier this week, a Grand Jury Report on sexual abuse in six Pennsylvania dioceses was shared publicly. The details revealed are equally appalling and heartbreaking. One can only imagine the pain and anguish inflicted by these abusive priests.

To the victims and their families, I offer my heartfelt sympathy and support. No words can return what was taken from you. The Church failed you. For that, I apologize.

The report looks back more than 70 years and, in mainly detailing abuse that occurred before 2002, it underscores the importance of the policies and procedures in place today that guide us in responding to allegations of abuse.

I fully enforced those policies during my



**Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades speaks during a press conference Aug. 17 at which he announced the pending release of names.**

five years as Bishop in Harrisburg.

The Grand Jury report mentions two cases of abuse that I was presented with during my time as Bishop of Harrisburg. In each of these instances, upon learning of the allegations, I notified law enforcement and punished each individual, even though both had already been removed from ministry after previous allegations.

I have upheld an unwavering commitment to child safety both in the Diocese of Harrisburg and now, right here, in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

We strictly adhere to a zero-tolerance policy on abuse. All allegations result in immediate notifications to local law enforcement or Indiana’s Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline. We remove any credibly accused priest who is serving in a ministry capacity and notify the parish and public.

To be clear, during my tenure as a Bishop, I have publicly released the name of every

priest that I have removed from ministry as a result of a credible allegation of sexual abuse of a minor.

As leaders, we have an obligation to protect the vulnerable who cannot protect themselves. As a Bishop, I have worked to expose and punish those responsible for abuse.

If the Pennsylvania Grand Jury report taught us anything, it’s that victims deserve to see the names of their abusers made public for all to see. For everyone to know the pain caused by these priests.

However, releasing the names of previous credibly accused abusers is not widely done. Only about one in four dioceses across the country have taken this step.

Today, I am announcing that the Diocese of Fort Wayne - South Bend will begin the process of collecting and releasing the names of all individuals who have been credibly accused of abuse. It is my hope, that by releasing these names, the innocent victims of these horrific and heartbreaking crimes can finally begin the process of healing.

As we’ve seen in Pennsylvania, this report and the listing of abusers has prompted new victims to come forward. Whether it’s now or following the posting of our list, I want the people of Fort Wayne and South Bend to know this... If you or someone you know is a victim of abuse, there are things you can do. Report it to the police. Call an abuse crisis hotline. Reach out to the victim assistance coordinator for the diocese.

In the shadow of this report, we must make an effort to regain the trust of our faithful and the communities we serve. We must be vigilant in our efforts to protect our youth. With the Lord’s guidance and love, we will do so.

**ORIGINAL STATEMENT REGARDING THE GRAND JURY REPORT:** Read the full statement at <http://www.diocesefwsb.org/Bishop-Statements>.

**BISHOP RHOADES’ RESPONSE CONTAINED WITHIN GRAND JURY REPORT:**

To view Bishop Rhoades’ response to excerpts of the Fortieth Statewide Investigating Grand Jury Report Number 1, visit: <http://www.diocesefwsb.org/Data/Accounts/Files/1/BishopRhoadesResponseinReport.pdf>.

Watch the broadcast of Bishop Rhoades’ statement at <https://youtu.be/QbOielYKpQU>.

# Father Leonard Banas, CSC, laid to rest

BY CHRISTOPHER LUSHIS

**H**oly Cross priest Father Leonard N. Banas, the oldest priest still active in ministry at the University of Notre Dame, passed away Aug. 22 at the age of 91.

Fondly remembered by peers and local parishioners for his wisdom and pastoral care, “Father Len” Banas offered over 60 years in the service of the Church, primarily as a professor and as parish assistant at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Elkhart.

Having joined the Congregation of Holy Cross after

high school, Father Banas graduated from Notre Dame with a philosophy degree in 1949 and professed final vows in August of the same year. He continued his theological studies at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, where he was ordained to the priesthood in 1952 at the church of San Marcello. Following an additional year of studies at the University of Rome, Father Banas served as chaplain at Notre Dame High School and taught at Holy Cross Seminary (1954-56) and Moreau Seminary (1956-57).

Returning to studies from 1957 to 1960, Father Banas earned a master’s degree in clas-

sics from Princeton in 1961. He was then assigned to St. Joseph Hall at Notre Dame, while continuing to teach at Moreau and Holy Cross Seminary from 1961 to 1962. He later served at St. Joseph Hall as assistant superior from 1962 to 1967 and superior from 1967 to 1973.

Father Banas taught at Notre Dame from 1973 to 1980, while serving as assistant rector of Pangborn Hall. During this time, he also was chairman of the classical languages department.

He was appointed superior of Corby Hall from 1980 to 1985 and continued as assistant rector, beginning in 1986. From 1997 to 2012, he maintained

this role while serving as an assistant dean in the College of Arts and Letters.

While much of his ministry centered on education, he also sought to offer assistance to local diocesan clergy and parishes.

Father Neil Wack, CSC, assistant provincial, U.S. Province, who presided at a vigil of prayer on Aug. 26, remarked, “Father Len loved being a priest and being with the people of God. He wanted to serve and to continue offering support. Based on his own estimation, throughout his ministry he had assisted at 25 different parishes.”

The majority of his more

than 30 years of parish ministry occurred at St. Thomas the Apostle, Elkhart.

"Father Len was a humble servant to our parish and would travel from Notre Dame to St. Thomas on icy roads and through stormy weather to celebrate Mass with us every weekend and hear confessions when needed," parishioner Laura Humphrey stated. "He taught us how to persevere through the tough times and to do it with a smile. He was dedicated to our parish and helped several pastors over the years. We will miss his smile, his quiet humor and his humble heart."

Offering the eulogy for the vigil, Holy Cross Father Nicholas Ayo exclaimed, "I think Father Len's heart was more devoted to the priestly ministry with folks of the parish than with academics."



FATHER LEONARD BANAS, CSC

Len had an extraordinary sensitivity for the predicaments of others who were vulnerable. He had big hands, which were filled with the people he befriended and protected with a big heart."

Father Banas shared his experience of religious life with his brother James, a Holy Cross priest who served as a missionary in Bangladesh for over 50 years, who passed away last year. Speaking further in his eulogy, Father Ayo shared, "We admired Father Len for so many reasons. In particular, his care for his younger brother in his last days at Holy Cross House spoke of Len and the bigheartedness we knew in so many other ways. We thank God for lending him to us, he was a good man, a good priest, a good brother in Holy Cross."

Father Banas' funeral Mass was celebrated in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on Aug. 27. Burial was in the Holy Cross community cemetery at Notre Dame.

**OUTCRY, from page 1**

"We abandoned them."

"Looking back to the past, no effort to beg pardon and to seek to repair the harm done will ever be sufficient," he said. "Looking ahead to the future, no effort must be spared to create a culture able to prevent such situations from happening, but also to prevent the possibility of their being covered up and perpetuated."

Recognizing the safeguarding policies that have been adopted in various parts of the world as well as pledges of "zero tolerance" for abusive clerics, Pope Francis also acknowledged that "we have delayed in applying these actions and sanctions that are so necessary, yet I am confident that they will help to guarantee a greater culture of care in the present and future."

As members of the church, he said, all Catholics should "beg forgiveness for our own sins and the sins of others."

Pope Francis also asked Catholics to pray and to fast so that they would be able to hear "the hushed pain" of abuse survivors.

He called for "a fasting that can make us hunger and thirst for justice and impel us to walk in the truth, supporting all the judicial measures that may be necessary. A fasting that shakes us up and leads us to be committed in truth and charity with all men and women of good will, and with society in general, to combating all forms of the abuse of power, sexual abuse and the abuse of conscience."

In Washington, the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said by opening his letter with these words of St. Paul, "If one part suffers, all parts suffer with it," Pope Francis "shows that he is writing to all of us as a pastor, a pastor who knows how deeply sin destroys lives."

In a statement issued late Aug. 20, Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston responded in particular to these words from the pope: "Penance and prayer will help us to open our eyes and our hearts to other people's sufferings



CNS photo/Stefano Rellandini, Reuters

**Pope Francis prays as he leads a Lenten penance service in early March in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican. "No effort must be spared" to prevent future cases of clerical sexual abuse and "to prevent the possibility of their being covered up," Pope Francis said in an Aug. 20 letter addressed "to the people of God."**

and to overcome the thirst for power and possessions that are so often the root of those evils."

"These words must provoke action — especially by the bishops," Cardinal DiNardo said. "We bishops need to — and we must — practice with all humility such prayer and penance."

The pope is inviting "all the faithful" to "join in prayer and fasting as a way to help foster conversion and genuine change of life wherever it is needed, even in the shepherds of the church." Cardinal DiNardo said he too, extends that invitation to all

Catholics.

Jesus' own words about the power of prayer and fasting, the cardinal said, is "a humble reminder that such acts of faith can move mountains and can even bring about true healing and conversion."

"On behalf of my brother bishops, I offer that only by confronting our own failure in the face of crimes against those we are charged to protect can the church resurrect a culture of life where the culture of death has prevailed," he added.



**Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades**

- Sunday, September 2: 9:30 a.m. — Mass, St. Therese, Little Flower Church, South Bend
- Tuesday, September 4: 6 p.m. — Annual Bishop's Appeal Parish Leadership Meeting, Holy Family Church, South Bend
- Wednesday, September 5: 12 p.m. — Meeting of Board of Directors of Catholic Community Foundation, St. Martin de Porres Church, Syracuse
- Friday, September 7: 10:30 a.m. — Mass for Catholic School Mission Day, Bishop Luers High School, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, September 8: 9:30 a.m. — Talk at St. Augustine Men's Group, St. Peter Church, Fort Wayne
- Sunday, September 9: 9:15 a.m. — Mass, St. Catherine of Alexandria Church, Nix Settlement
- Monday, September 10: 10 a.m. — Meeting of the Bishop's Cabinet, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne
- Tuesday, September 11: 12:30 p.m. — Meeting of Diocesan Finance Council, Holiday Inn Express, Warsaw
- Wednesday, September 12: 3 p.m. — Meeting with Catholic Relief Services U.S. Operations Committee, Baltimore, Maryland
- Thursday, September 13: 8 a.m. — Meeting of Board of Directors of Catholic Relief Services, Baltimore, Maryland
- Thursday, September 13: 10 a.m. — Meeting of United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Doctrine, Washington, D.C.
- Thursday-Friday, September 13-14: Conference for Untenured Theologians, Washington, D.C.
- Saturday, September 15: 9 a.m. — Mass for Diocesan Confirmation Rally, Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne

**Fall confirmation Mass schedule**

The following is a schedule of fall Masses at which

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will confer the sacrament of confirmation

PARISH (additional parishes included)	DATE	TIME
St. Patrick Church, Fort Wayne	Sept. 16	3 p.m.
St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend	Oct. 5	7 p.m.
<i>St. Anthony de Padua Parish, South Bend</i>		
<i>St. Jude Parish, South Bend</i>		
St. Joseph Church, South Bend	Oct. 11	7 p.m.
Christ the King Church, South Bend	Oct. 19	7 p.m.
Holy Cross Church, South Bend	Oct. 20	4 p.m.
Corpus Christi Church, South Bend	Oct. 25	7:30 p.m.
St. John the Evangelist Church, Goshen	Oct. 26	7 p.m.
St. John the Evangelist Church, Goshen	Oct. 27	10 a.m.
St. Jude Church, Fort Wayne	Oct. 28	3 p.m.
St. Mary of the Annunciation Church, Bristol	Nov. 3	10 a.m.
St. Monica Church, Mishawaka	Nov. 30	7 p.m.
<i>St. Joseph Parish, Mishawaka</i>		
<i>St. Bavo Parish, Mishawaka</i>		
Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Notre Dame	Dec. 2	11:45 a.m.
St. Charles Borromeo Church, Fort Wayne	Dec. 8	10:30 a.m.
St. Joseph Church, LaGrange	Dec. 16	10 a.m.

**Support group for divorced Catholics**

Monday evenings from 7-9 p.m.  
 Sept. 10 through Dec. 10  
 at the St. John Paul II Center,  
 Mishawaka



To register, contact TheaMarie Burns at [tmburns@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:tmburns@diocesefwsb.org) or by calling 574-234-0687.  
[www.diocesefwsb.org/Divorce-Ministry](http://www.diocesefwsb.org/Divorce-Ministry)

# Annual Bishop's Appeal, young adult ministry foster spiritual and personal growth

BY JANET PATTERSON

The scenario is familiar today: A young adult leaves home to pursue education or take a job in a place far from family and friends. Adapting to new surroundings, a new job and new people becomes overwhelming. He or she knows the Church is important, but how does one become part of a new faith community?

Aileen Hurd of Elkhart knows all too well the feelings of dislocation and disassociation that all of that newness can bring.

"I grew up Catholic in a very involved family. I was an altar server. I went to Catholic school. I really loved my faith," Hurd recalled.

After high school, she came to Indiana and studied for her undergraduate degree at Saint Mary's College.

"My life in college was very disintegrated" at that time, she admitted. She struggled with mental health issues that surfaced in high school, after her parents' divorce when she was in middle school.

Returning home to Connecticut after graduation, Hurd found herself trying to reconcile the disconnect between her life and the faith she had so loved.

She attended graduate school at Northeastern University in Boston, and there began a journey of healing that started her return to a deep faith. "I would



Janet Patterson

**Aileen Hurd is a young adult in the Elkhart area who credits the Young Adult Ministry of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend for helping her grow personally and spiritually as she finished college and began her career.**


go to St. Francis Chapel in downtown Boston for Mass and reconciliation and eucharistic adoration." She sensed a new relationship with God unfolding.

Hurd completed her master's degree in speech pathology and found a job back in Indiana with the Elkhart school district.

"I came here in 2014, and the first year was really difficult. My job was my whole life." Although she became a parishioner at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Hurd

wasn't aware of activities and programs specifically for Catholic young adults. "But I was really grateful for the churches that had eucharistic adoration."

When she finally came upon the programs offered in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, one of her first significant experiences was during the group's trip to Arise Encounter Milwaukee in November 2015. She remembers vividly the moment that she felt the urge to



**New Annual Bishop's Appeal website**

[www.diocesefwsb.org/ABA](http://www.diocesefwsb.org/ABA)

*Watch this year's Annual Bishop's Appeal video to find out*

- What the appeal funds benefit
- How to donate

ask one of the keynote speakers to pray with her.

"It was a really significant day for me," Hurd said. It not only was a landmark moment in her relationship with the Lord, it also brought her together with other young adults who valued their faith and were vibrant in their practice of it.

She also credits Sean Allen, diocesan director of Young Adult Ministry, with offering programs that help to enliven and nurture faith. Young adults are identified as men and women in their late teens, 20s and 30s, who are single, married, divorced or widowed. Some young adults have children; others do not. The young adult programs offered cover a broad range including service opportunities; Theology on Tap evenings; the Alpha program, which explores the Christian faith; a discipleship series; and retreats and pilgrimages such as the upcoming World Youth Day in Panama in January 2019. A group of diocesan young adults, including Hurd, also recently spent eight days walking the Camino de Santiago, a popular pilgrimage route in northern Spain.

"The Young Adult Ministry has been helpful to me in learning how to have relationships

as an adult. Many of us are not married. We're away from families," Hurd said. "There is real suffering with loneliness that can stunt our growth."

Not only do members of the young adult community help each other personally, but they help each other spiritually. "Our community is so big and so healthy," she said with a smile.

Young Adult Ministry is among the ministries funded by the Annual Bishop's Appeal. Thirty percent of the more than \$5 million projected as this year's goal goes toward evangelization efforts that include not only Young Adult Ministry but Hispanic Ministry, the Black Catholic Congress, diocesan retreats and conferences, ministries to married couples, families and separated and divorced people, pro-life activities and communication tools such as *Today's Catholic*, the diocesan news source.

**To learn more about** the activities and programs of Young Adult Ministry in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, go to [www.diocesefwsb.org/yam](http://www.diocesefwsb.org/yam).

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7:30 am: Confession, Holy Rosary, First Saturday Meditations  
9:00 am: Holy Mass

**Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne**  
Concelebrants: Fr. Glenn Kohrman & Fr. Robert Garrow

Holy Mass followed with Marian procession  
and breakfast at the Grand Wayne Center

**Guest speaker:**  
Fr. Joseph Mary Wolfe, M.F.V.A. of EWTN



Reservations - \$15  
See [www.FatimaFWSB.org](http://www.FatimaFWSB.org)  
for more information



# Twenty-three ordained by Bishop Rhoades in Nigeria



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, right, ordained 13 new priests and 10 new deacons in the Diocese of Nnewi, Nigeria, on Aug. 4. Pictured with him after the ordination Mass are at left, Father Greg Olikenyi, CSSp, provincial superior, Holy Spirit congregation; and Bishop Hilary Paul Odili Okeke, center.



Photos provided by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Bishop Rhoades lays hands on Congregation of the Holy Spirit candidates being ordained to the diaconate during the Mass of ordination.

More photos are available at [www.todayscatholic.org](http://www.todayscatholic.org)



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## Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land *Commissariat of the Holy Land*

Bishop Kevin Rhoades  
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend  
P.O. Box 390  
Fort Wayne, IN 46801

Dear Bishop Kevin:

On behalf of the Holy Land Christians and the pilgrims who benefit from the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, thank you for your support, as well as the generous support of your faithful parishioners.

A contribution in the amount of \$114,187.97 has been received for the 2018 Good Friday Collection on 7/6/2018.

Held at the direction of our Holy Father and administered in the United States by the Commissariat of the Holy Land, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection provides critical support for Christians in the Holy Land, including pastoral care, schools, housing, employment, refugee assistance and services for the vulnerable young and elderly. The funds also support the sacred shrines, visited by more than 1.5 million pilgrims annually and entrusted to the care of the Holy Land Franciscans for 800 years.

Please accept my gratitude for the generosity of your parishioners and for your own assistance with this collection.

Sincerely yours in Christ and St. Francis,

*Larry C. Dunham, OFM*

Larry C. Dunham, OFM Commissariat of the Holy Land USA

*John Sebastian, OFM*

John-Sebastian, OFM Secretariat & Vice Commissary

Saint Mary's College is pleased to announce  
The 2018 McMahon Aquinas Lecture

# "The Poor, the Vulnerable, and the Common Good"

**Cardinal Peter Turkson**  
Vatican, Dicastery for  
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7:00 p.m.  
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For more information call (574) 284-4534  
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Sponsored by the Edna and George McMahon Aquinas Chair in Philosophy

# NEWS BRIEFS

## Faith strengthens marriage, makes love grow, pope says

DUBLIN (CNS) — God wants every person to love and be loved, creating a family or community where love is nurtured and shared with all who are poor, lonely or in need, Pope Francis said. En route to joining thousands of people at the World Meeting of Families, the Vatican-sponsored event being hosted in Dublin, the pope met Aug. 25 with more than 350 recently married or soon-to-be married couples in the city's St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral. Looking at all the young couples in the pro-cathedral, Pope Francis told them he found it hard to believe how people say that young people don't want to get married anymore. "To marry and share your life is a beautiful thing," he said, thanking them for their witness. He also had some kind words for the babies whose cries rang out occasionally during the meeting. "It's beautiful to hear that music, the babies crying," he said. "It's the most beautiful music and the best preaching because it is a cry of hope." "Love is God's dream for us and for the whole human family," the pope told the couples. "Please, never forget this! God has a dream for us, and He asks us to make it our own."

## National pro-life conference calls leaders to be missionary disciples

PHOENIX (CNS) — More than 100 diocesan, state and national pro-life leaders from across the U.S. gathered for the annual Diocesan Pro-Life Leadership Conference to discuss how best to build a culture of life. The conference took place just days before Pope Francis revised the Catechism of the Catholic Church to say the death penalty is "inadmissible because it is an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person." The reinstatement of the death penalty in some states was just one of a host of life-related issues the pro-life leaders came together to discuss: Abortion, physician-assisted suicide, contraception and pornography all figured into the sessions, but the entire undertaking was seen through a spiritual lens. The theme of the July 29-Aug. 1 conference, "Missionary Disciples Building a Culture of Life," pointed to the reality of each person being created in the image and likeness of God and that in baptism, each Christian is called to be both a missionary and a disciple. Deacon Omar Gutierrez, director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith office for the Archdiocese of Omaha, Nebraska, attended the conference alongside three others from that state. Deacon Gutierrez referenced Gov. Pete Ricketts, a Catholic who has strongly opposed abortion but who recently spearheaded an effort to bring back the death penalty.

## Pope asks for forgiveness at Phoenix Park Mass in Ireland



CNS photo/Paul Haring

DUBLIN (CNS) — A boy dressed like Pope Francis waits for the pontiff to celebrate Mass at Phoenix Park in Dublin Aug. 26. Before celebrating the Mass, Pope Francis solemnly asked forgiveness for the thousands of cases of sexual and physical abuse perpetrated by Catholics in Ireland. "We ask forgiveness for the abuse in Ireland, abuse of power and of conscience, sexual abuse" by clergy and religious, he said. "In a special way, we ask forgiveness for all the abuse committed in the different institutions run by religious men and religious women and other members of the Church." The pope's penitential plea followed the introductory remarks of Archbishop Diarmuid Martin of Dublin, who told the pope, "The Church in Ireland has gone through challenging times. People have been wounded in the depth of their being by Church people; people's faith has been challenged and the Church of Jesus Christ has been wounded."

## Chicago Catholics see WYD cross, icon as symbols of church's universality

CHICAGO (CNS) — When more than 100,000 young people gather with Pope Francis in Panama this January for World Youth Day, on prominent display will be two symbols that visited the Archdiocese of Chicago Aug. 20. The World Youth Day Cross and the Icon of Our Lady Salus Populi Romani, entrusted to the youth and young adults of the world by St. John Paul II in 1984, were displayed in the sanctuary at Holy Name Cathedral from 6 a.m. until 7 p.m. They were venerated by the faithful who attended the many services held around the visit. It was the first time these symbols visited Chicago. Much like the Olympic torch, the symbols make

a pilgrimage to various countries leading up to World Youth Day. St. John Paul instituted the annual observance of World Youth Day after two successful international gatherings with young people in Rome in 1984 and 1985. It is a gathering of youth and young adults for prayer, worship and celebration of the Catholic faith. It is currently held every few years in different countries. In between the international gathering World Youth Day is held on the national level in several countries. The pilgrimage experience is aimed at those ages 16 to 35.

## Young adults pray for survivors of clergy abuse, wounded church

ST. PAUL, Minn. (CNS) — As the sun set Aug. 20, about 120 Catholics gathered on the steps of the Cathedral of St. Paul to

pray for survivors of clergy sexual abuse and for a cleansing of the Catholic Church. Among them was Pennsylvania native Corey Furdock, for whom the grand jury report issued Aug. 14 detailing clergy sexual abuse claims in that state hit especially close to home. "My childhood priest was on the list, and it (abuse) was speculated back when he was removed in 2006. He just kind of disappeared," said Furdock, 27, a parishioner of the Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis. "It's been really difficult," he added. "Here, it's a national headline that I think everyone can grieve (about), but being from there, having that relationship to the Church ... it's painful." The prayer vigil included evening prayer from the Church's Liturgy of the Hours and petitions related to abuse survivors and the scandal. Many attendees held candles. Most were in their 20s and 30s and came from parishes across the Twin Cities.

## USCCB president seeks papal audience, answers to former nuncio's questions

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said he was "eager for an audience" with Pope Francis to gain his support for the bishops' plan to respond to the clergy sexual abuse crisis. In an Aug. 27 statement, Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston also said that the questions raised by Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, former nuncio to the United States, in a letter published by two Catholic media outlets "deserve answers that are conclusive and based on evidence. Without those answers, innocent men may be tainted by false accusations and the guilty may be left to repeat the sins of the past," the cardinal said. In his 11-page letter, published Aug. 26, Archbishop Vigano accused Church officials, including Pope Francis, of failing to act on accusations of abuse of conscience and power by now-Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick. Archbishop Vigano claimed he told Pope Francis about Cardinal McCarrick in 2013. Archbishop Vigano, who served as nuncio to the United States from 2011 to 2016, wrote that he was compelled to write his knowledge of Archbishop McCarrick's misdeeds because "corruption has reached the very top of the church's hierarchy."

## Memorial Mass celebrates life of young Catholic woman found dead in Iowa

BROOKLYN, Iowa (CNS) — A mural of a grizzly bear breaking through a brick wall calls attention to visitors in the BGM High School gym. It seemed a fitting metaphor for the unstoppable spirit of Mollie Tibbetts, whose life was celebrated during a memorial Mass Aug. 26 in the gym. The 20-year college student, described as a bright light in this farming community of 1,500 people, was abducted and killed in July while jogging just outside of Brooklyn. Her disappearance led to a monthlong search that drew national attention and hundreds of volunteers determined to bring the young college student home. Farm worker Christian Rivera, 24, has been charged with first-degree murder. He entered the U.S. illegally seven years ago, a fact that further fueled the immigration debate dividing the nation. But it was Tibbetts' ability to bring out the best in others that brought 1,500 people to the memorial Mass, with Bishop Thomas R. Zinkula of Davenport, Iowa, presiding and five priests concelebrating. Adults and youths, Catholics and non-Catholics, sang in the choir. A section of seats was reserved for the Class of 2017, Tibbetts' class. Hugs were exchanged generously in that section and elsewhere in the packed gym.

## Support group for divorced Catholics

MISHAWAKA — The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will host a 12-week support group for divorced men and women at the St. John Paul II Center in Mishawaka. The group will meet on Monday evenings from 7-9 p.m. beginning Sept. 10 and continuing through Dec. 10.

The gatherings will feature Ascension Press' "Surviving Divorce" DVD series, which covers topics such as shock, grief, anger, forgiveness, money issues, helping children cope, and annulment and remarriage. It is based on the teachings of the Catholic Church and is open to anyone who needs comfort, counsel and clarity after divorce.

The cost to attend is \$20, which includes a personal guide. To register, contact TheaMarie Burns at [tmburns@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:tmburns@diocesefwsb.org) or by calling 574-234-0687.

More information on divorce support ministries is available at [www.diocesefwsb.org/Divorce-Ministry](http://www.diocesefwsb.org/Divorce-Ministry).

## Saint Mary's College to host Vatican official

NOTRE DAME

— Saint Mary's College has announced that Cardinal Peter Turkson of Ghana will offer the annual McMahon Aquinas Lecture. Cardinal Turkson will present, "The



**CARDINAL  
PETER  
TURKSON**

Poor, the Vulnerable, and the Common Good" on Tuesday, Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. in O'Laughlin Auditorium. The event is free, and members of the public and campus communities are encouraged to attend.

Pope Francis appointed Cardinal Turkson to lead the new Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. Working closely with the Pope, Cardinal Turkson leads the Vatican's teaching and advocacy on issues of justice and peace, economic inequality, and global solidarity. A dynamic, compassionate leader, Cardinal Turkson seeks to awaken the senses of all people to our common humanity and understanding that all God's children belong together.

The lecture is presented by the Edna and George McMahon Aquinas Chair in Philosophy, which sponsors an annual lecture on a topic related to the thought of Thomas Aquinas.

For more information about Cardinal Turkson's visit, go to [www.saintmarys.edu/turkson](http://www.saintmarys.edu/turkson).

## Rejoice Women's Retreat: Save the date

FORT WAYNE — The annual diocesan retreat for women of all ages will take place Nov. 30-Dec.

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## A 'super' principal



Provided by Sandra Weikel

Zac Coyle, who is in his second year as principal of St. John the Baptist School, New Haven, has committed to 180 days of wearing capes this school year as a fun tactic that helped him relate to the students. Recently he wore a yellow cape and was Captain Sunshine. Last school year Coyle also dressed up each day upon the students' arrival as a pirate, sheriff and frog, just to name a few costumes.

2 at Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center in Donaldson with Dr. Mary Healy, professor of sacred Scripture at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit and an international speaker on topics related to Scripture, evangelization, healing and the spiritual life as the presenter.

Healy is a general editor of the Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture series and author of two of its volumes, "The Gospel of Mark" and "Hebrews." Her other books include "Men and Women Are from Eden: A Study Guide

to John Paul II's Theology of the Body" and "Healing: Bringing the Gift of God's Mercy to the World." She is chairman of the Doctrinal Commission of International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services in Rome and serves the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian unity as a member of the Pentecostal-Catholic International Dialogue. In 2014, Pope Francis appointed her as one of the first three women ever to serve on the Pontifical Biblical Commission.

The cost of the retreat is \$130, or \$95 for college students.

Lodging is available onsite for an additional fee. Registration for Rejoice opens Sept. 17 and tends to fill quickly. To register, visit [www.diocesefwsb.org/rejoice](http://www.diocesefwsb.org/rejoice).

## Holy Cross Sister assumes LCWR presidency

NOTRE DAME

— Sister Sharlet Ann Wagner, CSC, first counselor of the Congregation of the Holy Cross, Notre Dame, inaugurated her presidency of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious on Aug. 10.

The LCWR, an association of leaders of women's Catholic congregations in the U.S., has 1,350 members who serve as representatives for nearly 80 percent of the approximately 48,500 women religious in the United States.

Sister Sharlet has served in ministry with the Sisters of the Holy Cross for 27 years, celebrating her silver jubilee in 2016. Born in Omaha, Nebraska, she later moved to Texas, where she earned her bachelor of journalism degree from the University of Texas, Austin. She taught high school in Utah and later served at a Holy Cross health clinic in Uganda.

Returning to the U.S., she earned her law degree from Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, California. As an immigration attorney, she served with Central American Resource Center, Los Angeles, and at Holy Cross Ministries in Salt Lake City, Utah, where she later worked as Immigration Department director.

She served as general secretary for the congregation's general leadership team prior to her position as first counselor, which she will retain during her LCWR tenure.

## Christ: Foundation and Centre of History Retreat

DONALDSON — Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center offers a day program, Christ: Foundation and Centre of History Retreat, Oct. 12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. ET.

This program gives an overview of salvation history and leads the participant on a prayerful journey through the Bible. The main story of salvation, which runs throughout Scripture, will



**SISTER  
SHARLET ANN  
WAGNER, CSC**

touch upon God's covenants with creation, Noah, Abraham, Moses and David, and the new covenant established by Jesus.

The cost is \$25, which includes lunch, refreshments and Scripture resources. Retreat leader is Christopher Thelen, director of Lindenwood.

For more information, email [lindenwood@poorhandmaids.org](mailto:lindenwood@poorhandmaids.org) or call 574-935-1780. Participants can also register online at [www.lindenwood.org](http://www.lindenwood.org).

A part of The Center at Donaldson, Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center is a ministry of The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ. The Poor Handmaids are celebrating the 150-year anniversary of their presence in America.

## Adrian Dominican sister marks jubilee

ADRIAN, Mich. — Adrian Dominican sisters from throughout the United States came home to their motherhouse in Adrian, Michigan, for a special week this summer to mark their jubilees, their years of service and dedication to the Church and the congregation. The 2018 jubilee class includes 19 sisters celebrating 70 years; 23 celebrating 60 years; seven celebrating 50 years; and one celebrating 25 years.

Sister Mary Anne (Anita) Yanz, OP, a native of Chicago, is marking 60 years of religious life. She graduated from Maria High School in Chicago and entered the Adrian Dominican Congregation in June 1958. She professed her first vows on Dec. 31, 1959, and her final vows on Dec. 31, 1964.

One of Sister Mary Anne's earliest assignments took her to elementary schools in Michigan. Sister Mary Anne later served as parish religious education coordinator at Christ the King Parish in South Bend from 1980 to 1986. She continued to direct parish religious education programs in Murray, Kentucky, and in Chicago. Currently retired, she volunteers at a Catholic hospital in the Chicago area and resides in Chicago Ridge, Illinois.



**SISTER MARY  
ANNE YANZ, OP**

## Copes open at Cathedral Museum

FORT WAYNE — An exhibit at Cathedral Museum, "A Festival of Copes, Part II," is now on display. The copes were fabricated and gifted from around the world, and include several that have not been viewed since the 1940s.

Cathedral Museum is open Tuesday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 915 S. Clinton St., in the lower level of the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center. There is no admission charge and free parking is available.

# Four ordained to the diaconate in Congregation of Holy Cross

NOTRE DAME — With joy and thanksgiving, the Congregation of Holy Cross celebrated the final profession of vows and ordination to the diaconate of five men last weekend.

Brian Kennedy, CSC; Karl Romkema Jr., CSC; Brogan Ryan, CSC; Michael Thomas, CSC; and Bryan Williams, CSC, professed final vows of chastity, poverty and obedience according to the Constitutions of the Congregation of Holy Cross and committed their lives and work to the communal life and ministry of Holy Cross at 10 a.m. Aug. 25 at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at the University of Notre Dame. Father William M. Lies, CSC, provincial superior of the Congregation of Holy Cross, U.S. Province of Priests and Brothers, presided at Mass and received the vows.

The next morning, Aug. 26, Kennedy, Romkema, Ryan and Williams were ordained to the Sacred Order of the Diaconate in the Moreau Seminary Chapel in the Moreau Seminary Chapel by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

In his homily at the ordination Mass, Bishop Rhoades said the service of the ordained deacon is threefold: the ministry of the word, of the altar and of charity. Regarding the ministry of charity, he said to the men:

"Brian, Karl, Brogan and Bryan, I pray that you will always make the poor and the suffering a priority in your ministry. Diaconal charity embraces especially those who are hurting, who are lonely, who are marginalized and forgotten. You are being ordained today especially to serve the poor and the suffering, to bring them the hope of the Gospel and the love of Jesus Christ.

"In fact," he said, "the service of charity is often considered the origin of the diaconate — in the election of the seven disciples in the Acts of the Apostles. They were men filled with the Holy Spirit and wisdom, who were chosen to assist the apostles in the daily ministry of charity, distributing food to the neglected



Provided by Congregation of Holy Cross

**Four newly ordained deacons of the Congregation of Holy Cross professed final vows at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Notre Dame, and were ordained to the diaconate Aug. 26 at Moreau Seminary Chapel. From left are Deacon Brogan Ryan, CSC; Deacon Brian Kennedy, CSC; Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades; Deacon Bryan Williams, CSC; and Deacon Karl Romkema, CSC.**

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**The candidates lie prostrate on the altar in an act of dying to self during the Mass of ordination.**

widows. The apostles prayed and laid hands on them, like I will do upon our four brothers in the rite of ordination today."

Those present were blessed to witness a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the men as they were ordained. Bishop Rhoades and the congregation prayed that the Holy Spirit would strengthen them with His sevenfold gifts, that they may be faithful servants of Christ and His Church; and they prayed for them through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints.

"An especially important title of Our Lady for those being ordained deacons is the title 'Handmaid of the Lord,' the bishop said. "This is the title Mary gave to herself at the Annunciation. She said to the

angel Gabriel: "I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." I pray these words are in the hearts of our four brothers today. ... My brothers, may Mary, the handmaid of the Lord, be ever at your side in your life and ministry! May you know her love for you and may she intercede for you always!"

Michael Thomas, CSC, will also be ordained to the Sacred Order of the Diaconate at San Francisco de Sales Parish near St. George's College in Santiago, Chile, on Sept. 15, the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows — the special patron of the Congregation of Holy Cross. The Most Reverend Arthur J. Colgan, CSC, auxiliary bishop of Chosica, Perú, will preside at that Mass.



**Bishop Rhoades lays hands on one of the candidates.**



# Diocesan confirmation retreat Sept. 15

BY BARB SIEMINSKI

**E**ighth-graders throughout the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend are preparing to meet with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at the Sealed by the Spirit diocesan confirmation retreat on Sept. 15 at Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne.

The event is for young people who are preparing to receive the sacrament of confirmation in the coming months. The retreat runs from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., and highlight of the day will be Mass with Bishop Rhoades at 9:30 a.m.

The day's events will include visits from diocesan priests, religious and adult leaders to help the young people on their faith journey. Music, games and activities will be sprinkled throughout the retreat day as students learn about the sacrament of confirmation and have an opportunity to pray and go to confession.

Candidates can register through their parish or school. If they belong to a parish that will not be attending a group, they

are welcome to attend with a parent who has completed safe-environment training and who has been placed on the diocesan chaperone list for the event. The cost of \$20 will cover lunch and a T-shirt.

Father Royce Gregerson is the pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Goshen. He will give a talk to the youth in the morning before attendees begin a period of eucharistic adoration.

Mary Jo Parrish, a faith-filled mother of 10 children from St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne, will give a teaching on the gifts of the Holy Spirit. According to Parrish, the students are being prepared to go out on mission after confirmation.

"My teaching focuses on the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit that strengthen and prepare us for our mission," she said. "I also incorporate seven saints who emulated those gifts in their lives. My hope is that our students can see these saints who are just regular people who, in the midst of their difficulties, rose in holiness and radiated Christ's light to the world."

"We are each called to be that

light. We are each called to be saints."

Father Jay Horning is co-chaplain at Bishop Dwenger High School and one of the diocese's five newly ordained priests of our diocese. He will speak to the soon-to-be-confirmed about the sacrament of confirmation itself, and how it shapes one's identity.

James Pratt, the Catholic campus minister at Culver Academies in Culver, will direct a youth choir during Mass and lead praise and worship throughout the day.

Students do not need to bring anything to the retreat, other than a willingness to let their lives be transformed by Christ. The diocesan confirmation retreat offers the candidates a chance to encounter Christ through the contagious joy of the Gospel and the power of the sacraments, as well as showing the engaging witness of Bishop Rhoades and the priests and laity of the diocese.

For more information or to register, visit [www.fwsbym.com/confirmation-retreat](http://www.fwsbym.com/confirmation-retreat).

Sealed by the Spirit  
CONFIRMATION RETREAT

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# Three sisters, three daughters, three baptisms together

BY JEANNIE EWING

Most people can identify an estrangement or tension in their families. It's a rarity to discover a family that epitomizes thriving, healthy and holy relationships with each other. For Rebecca Thomas, Ruthanne Keesler and Rose Thiel it's not so unusual, though — it's sisterhood.

The three girls, along with a fourth sister, Rachel Fox, who now lives in Ohio, grew up attending St. Michael the Archangel Church in Waterloo. The women agree that the rural environment shaped their worldview and values. But it was their parents who set an example of the importance of faith and family when they were young. They prayed as a family, sometimes rode their bikes to Mass, and while they passed what Thomas calls "God's country," they grew in greater appreciation and love for His creation.

"Our mom made it a point that sisters are in each other's lives forever, while friends come and go," Thomas said. "We spent so much time making memories and doing little things together." God was always woven into the fabric of their relationship — not compartmentalized, but instead always present.

Both Thomas and Thiel agree that without their faith in God, they wouldn't have been able to survive some of the heartaches



Provided by Rebecca Thomas

**Four babies were born to four St. Michael the Archangel, Waterloo, sisters earlier this year. Three of the babies were baptized together. From left are Rose Thiel, holding Nora; Ruthanne Keesler, holding Violet; and Rebecca Thomas, holding Penelope.**

and struggles they've experienced.

"The four of us had four girls around the same time, but before they were born, three of us had (experienced) miscarriages," explained Thiel. "We looked back and realized that if we hadn't miscarried, these daughters never would have been born."

BAPTISMS, page 13

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# 'May the Word of God alw

## BLESSED SACRAMENT, from page 1

choir loft — a new structural element for Blessed Sacrament — was joined by choir members from Kendallville and youth from Fort Wayne, according to Glick.

## Community support

Parish secretary Pam Edwards said that the new church has been exciting not only for the parish community, but for the entire Albion community as well.

"This is a big thing in our community — a lot of people are very excited for us," she said. On Friday evening the parish held a prayer service and open house for the Albion community, offering tours of the church and homemade ice cream and cookies.

## Dedication liturgy

At the start of the liturgy, Bishop Rhoades was presented with the plans for the church by Susan Curtis. The keys to the church were presented by John Schenkel, Shawnee Construction. Bishop Rhoades thanked him and said to the crowd: "What a joy it is to be here. I remember a year ago when we had the groundbreaking, and here we are in this beautiful church. Congratulations to you all."

He then blessed some water for sprinkling throughout the church with the words, "Let us ask the Lord our God to bless this water created by His hand ... a sign of repentance, a reminder of our baptism, and a symbol of the cleansing of these walls and this altar." A Lectionary with the Scripture readings was also presented to Bishop Rhoades, which he showed to the people, saying, "May the Word of God always be heard in this place."

Before the bishop gave his homily, he told the congregants, "The first Mass in a new church — what a joyful occasion! You've been saving money for this church for 26 years." He said he looked at the history of the parish and remembered, "The first Catholic Church here in Albion was dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus 143 years ago, in the year 1875.

"Today we celebrate the dedication of this beautiful new church, dedicated to the Most Blessed Sacrament, the fourth church of this Catholic parish community of Albion. We do so with joy and thanksgiving to God. We do so with firm faith in the real presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, the amazing gift and mystery Our Lord gave us on the night before He died."

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades spoke about Sunday's



Photos by John Martin

A prayer garden outside the new Blessed Sacrament Church in Albion is decorated with stones painted by parish children. The church was dedicated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades during a Mass on Saturday, Aug. 25.

Gospel, the end of Jesus' famous Bread of Life discourse.

"After Our Lord's words about His flesh being real food and His blood real drink, about His real presence in the Eucharist, many of His disciples left Him, "no longer accompanied Him." They found His teaching on the Eucharist too hard to accept. So Jesus turned to the Twelve Apostles and asked them: "Do you also want to leave?" Speaking for himself and the rest, Simon Peter answered Him: "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that You are the Holy One of God."

"For 143 years, at times in the face of anti-Catholic bigotry, Catholics of Albion have professed their faith in Jesus' real presence in the Eucharist. They continued to accompany Jesus with the faith of St. Peter, believing in Jesus' words about the Eucharist, believing that He has the words of eternal life. You also embrace this faith. That's why your relatively small parish community has made so many sacrifices to construct this new church, this dwelling place of God where the Eucharist will be celebrated, and the Blessed Sacrament adored and worshipped for generations to come."

Bishop Rhoades told them, "When a new church is dedicated, the Church also wants us to keep in mind that this building which becomes sacred today,

by the anointing of its altar and walls with holy chrism, is also a sign of the Church community, of all the baptized members of the household of God," he said. St. Paul reminds us that our Church is "built upon the foundation of the Apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the capstone." The Lord wants us to grow into His holy temple, a dwelling place of God in the Spirit." This material building is made sacred today. It is consecrated. But we, too, have been consecrated. The same holy chrism I will use to anoint this altar and these walls was used for our anointing at baptism and confirmation so that we might be made holy. And, of course, the grace we receive in the Eucharist helps us to grow in holiness. God comes to dwell in us by His grace. We are to be His living tabernacles in the world."

"My brothers and sisters, we rejoice today at the dedication of your new altar and church. I pray that this beautiful church where the word of God will be proclaimed, the sacraments celebrated, and the Blessed Sacrament reserved will truly be your spiritual home, a house of prayer. Here in this holy place, may you and generations after you be built up as the Body of Christ, God's holy people. And may the Blessed Virgin Mary, the most perfect tabernacle of the Lord, intercede for you always with her maternal love and protection!"

## Prayer of dedication and anointing

The congregation joined the choir in the Litany of the Saints while Bishop Rhoades was presented with a relic of St. Maria Goretti in a relicuary, which he kissed, blessed and inserted into the altar. He then offered the prayer of dedication, saying in part, "Today we come before You, to dedicate to Your lasting service this house of prayer, this temple of worship, this home in which we are nourished by Your word and Your sacraments. Here is reflected the mystery of the Church."

He said that the Church is fruitful, holy and favored, "the dwelling place of God on earth: a temple built of living stones, founded on the apostles with Jesus Christ its corner stone."

Anointing the altar, Bishop Rhoades spread the chrism oil from corner to corner as he prayed that God would make the altar and church holy, "visible signs of the mystery of Christ and His Church."



Above, Bishop Rhoades receives a gift of the building plans for the new church from parish Director of Religious Education Susan Curtis. Below, Chris Schenkel of Shawnee Construction gives the bishop the key to the church.

# Prayers be heard in this place'



In front from left, Deacon Stan LeMieux, Bishop Rhoades and Blessed Sacrament Parish pastor Father J. Steele, CSC, sing during the Mass.

He moved to the walls, anointing the walls under the candle sconces by making the sign of the cross with the chrism oil. The bishop then incensed the altar, afterwards praying, "May our prayers ascend as incense in Your sight. As this building is filled with fragrance so may Your world be filled with the fragrance of Christ." The pastor, Father J. Steele, CSC, then incensed the church walls and the people.

The ceremony continued with the lighting of the church. The candles on the altar were lit while the bishop prayed, "Light of Christ, shine forth in the Church and bring all nations to the fullness of truth." Every light in the church came on, and Deacon Stan LeMieux lit the candle sconces. Mass continued with the celebration of the Eucharist and finally, a procession of the Blessed Sacrament around the church before being reposed in the tabernacle.

## Conclusion and celebratory dinner

"What can you say in a few words at a time like this?" expressed pastor Father Steele. "Thank you, Bishop, you've been gracious and generous to us and we are all gratefully indebted to you for supporting our parish, especially in our weakness."

"When I assigned Father J. here six years ago, I didn't ask him to build a church, but I'm so glad you did," responded the bishop.

Father John Pearson, CSC, came back from Arizona for the

dedication. Having served as chaplain in the area, for the last two years he's come back to help with Holy Week since Father Steele has another parish to care for as well as Blessed Sacrament. He said the people of Blessed Sacrament meant a lot to him.

Bonnie and Geoff Brose have been parishioners for 30 years. They said the new church was "amazing." When asked if they

ever thought it would happen, Bonnie said yes and no. "You always had faith, but the groundbreaking made it real. I cried then and I cried tonight," she said.

As for their pastor, he was nearly speechless with emotion. "Over the moon," was how Father Steele described his feelings as he greeted parishioners after Mass and prior to joining them for dinner.



Bishop Rhoades begins the Rite of Consecration of the altar.



Below, the bishop prepares to place a relic in the altar of the new Blessed Sacrament Church.



# Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ celebrate 150 years of ministry in the US

BY CHRISTOPHER LUSHIS

Among the many religious communities established to help revitalize the Catholic faith in the wake of the French Revolution, the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ stand out with particular prominence for their profound legacy and influence, both locally and globally.

In 1868, only 17 years after their order's initial founding, eight Poor Handmaids courageously embarked on a missionary journey to the United States in response to an invitation from Fort Wayne Bishop John Henry Luers. Now, 150 years later, this community of sisters gathered for three days of celebrations to reflect upon their heritage of dedicated apostolic efforts, while also to look forward in hope for the future.

Culminating in Mass held in the Ancilla Domini Chapel at The Center at Donaldson, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades shared his admiration for the women who bravely responded to the request for assistance in spreading the Catholic faith in a foreign land. He remarked, "It's amazing to think that 245 of the 297 professed sisters of the community had volunteered for the difficult mission to America, evidence of the faith-filled and self-sacrificing spirit of the early Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ, a spirit that lives on today."

After acknowledging each of the first eight sisters by name, the bishop continued, "Within a couple weeks of their arrival, they were teaching at schools and nursing the sick in local homes of the area. Education, health care, the care of orphans, and other apostolate of service to the poor and needy – these are the works of the Poor

Handmaids which left such a great mark on the history of the Church in our diocese and beyond."

Providentially, the 150-year celebration also occurs only months before the founder of the Poor Handmaids, Blessed Mary Catherine Kasper, will be declared a saint by Pope Francis on Oct. 14. She will be canonized alongside Pope Paul VI, who beatified her in 1978.

Further reflecting upon the community's spirituality in light of Christ's Bread of Life discourse, Bishop Rhoades commented, "Mother Mary Catherine and the pioneer Poor Handmaids had a beautiful devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. Undoubtedly, it was the love of Christ and being nourished by the Eucharist that they were able to live such extraordinary and courageous lives of self-sacrificing love. We can call them 'women of the Eucharist' because there was no disconnect between their lives of prayer and of active service. They lived what they received in Holy Communion, the grace to love others as Jesus has loved us. They remind us of our calling to live what we receive – the self-giving love of Jesus Christ."

He concluded by recalling the last words of German Bishop Joseph Blum to Mother Mary Kasper before his death, "My wish for you and the whole congregation is that you and each individual sister may seek nothing but God alone in all things and in all places, and that you may always love and serve Him as His Poor Handmaids."

During the presentation of the gifts, additional symbolic items were brought forward which held special significance in the life and ministry of Mother Mary Catherine Kasper, including the shoes she wore for much of her life, a loaf of bread and a Bible.



Photos by Joe Raymond

**Sister Rosemary Snell of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ carries the shoes of the order's foundress, Blessed Catherine Kasper, during the "Coming Home" eucharistic liturgy Aug. 19 at Ancilla Domini Chapel, Donaldson, which celebrated 150 years of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ in America. The Poor Handmaids of today continue to walk in the footsteps of Blessed Catherine.**



**Posters describing the history of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ in America draw interest from visitors prior to a "Coming Home" eucharistic liturgy Aug. 19 at Ancilla Domini Chapel, Donaldson.**

Following Communion, a liturgical dance was performed by Margaret Liechty.

After Mass, a reception was held where community leaders from both the United States and Germany shared their gratitude and joy for the occasion. Sister Gonzalo Vakasseril, general superior of the Poor Handmaids, exclaimed "This is the time we come to know once more that it was Mary who first said 'Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.' This is the motto of the Poor Handmaids. Both Mother Mary Catherine and our name say it, we are Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ to love and serve all

people. Here together, let us have deep faith and thank God for our blessed past, be very hopeful in this present, and in the words of Mother Mary Catherine, let us face the future 'calmly, courageously, and with deep faith in God.'"

She further shared that her greatest wish "is for the community to grow more and more; that those who are associated with the Poor Handmaids, both as religious sisters and lay collaborators, will increase, so that Christ's mission will continue to come to life."

Planning for the 150<sup>th</sup> "Coming Home" anniversary,

which welcomed many Poor Handmaids from across the world as well as lay co-workers, family members, former sisters, and graduates of Ancilla Domini High School, began in 2016. The festivities included tours of the Donaldson campus, social activities, religious processions, a cemetery prayer service, displays indicating the many places Poor Handmaids have served throughout America, and more. It was only after preparations had been underway that the announcement was made concerning Mother Mary Catherine Kasper's canonization this fall.

Sister Judith Diltz, who serves as provincial for the Poor Handmaids in the United States, expressed her enthusiasm at learning of this providential news. "My greatest joy is the elevation of our foundress as a saint. She has been so special to each of us with her humble, caring way; reminding us to be who we are with simplicity and joy. When she was beatified there was a great grace, now that she will be canonized we know there's going to be new graces, especially of being able to share her with the whole Church."

She concluded, "We thank God for the graces and the wisdom of soon to be St. Mary Catherine Kasper, who said "all is great that is done in God's love, nothing done for God is small." We praise God for the energy to do all in God's name and we count on those graces to continue to move us forward."

The Poor Handmaids will honor Mother Mary Catherine Kasper's canonization with another celebration at The Center at Donaldson on Nov. 4. All are invited to attend and participate.



**Sister Judith Diltz, PHJC provincial, addresses those gathered at a reception in the Ancilla College auditorium Aug. 19 in celebration of 150 years of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ in America.**



Photos provided by Rebecca Thomas

**Four St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Waterloo, sisters were pregnant recently with baby girls born within a month of each other. Pictured from left, at their baby shower, are Ruthanne Keesler; Rebecca Thomas; their mother, Stephany Marquardt; Rachel Fox; and Rose Thiel.**

**BAPTISMS, from page 9**

The sisters felt God's mysterious plan as they shared their grief in losing the babies. Because they had such a solid foundation of friendship to begin with, they were already accustomed to leaning on each other, crying and sharing their fears and sorrows, as well as celebrating the joyous occasion of welcoming their babies into the world.

The experience of comparing bellies, feeling the kicks and going through the emotions of pregnancy together was a joy for the sisters to share. Keesler had Violet first, and the next day, Fox gave birth to Grace. A month later Thiel welcomed Nora, and two days later Thomas had Penelope.

The three local sisters decided that, since their shared experiences of pregnancy overlapped, they wanted to also have their newborn daughters share a baptism date. Because Father Ben Muhlenkamp had been friends with Thomas' husband, he was overjoyed to be the celebrant, although the baptisms took place at St. Michael and not at his assigned parish of St. Louis, Besancon, New Haven.

Thomas, Thiel and Keesler are witnessing the beautiful fruits of their sisterhood as they watch their children grow up together and remain closer than cousins. They're more like siblings. At the baptism, the women were all godparents to each other's new babies. It was a unique day, to be sure, but a day in which their daughters were welcomed into the Catholic family as new creations in Christ. To Thiel, the baptism brought their foundation of family and faith full circle.

Thomas and Thiel have incorporated daily prayer into their children's lives, and said their relationship with the Blessed Mother dramatically changed



**During a day at the lake are, from left, three of the newest members of the faith: Violet Keesler, Penelope Thomas and Nora Thiel.**

once they became mothers — specifically to daughters. Thiel said the most surprising thing about parenthood is that her relationship with God and Mary has changed significantly.

"I understand more about the struggles Mary went through as a mom," she elaborated. "I think about how much of a role model she was in everything. If she can get through something, I can, too." Thomas agreed, noting that once she became a mom, she called upon the Blessed Mother in desperate times, asking, "How did you do this?" In turn, she found herself meditating about her sacrifice and started praying the rosary more often.

Thomas described a specific example that illustrated the sisters' openness about their love for Mary. At one get-together, she heard Thiel say aloud, "Please, Mary, give me the strength I need and be with me now." One of Thiel's older daughters also overheard and

asked, "Mom, are we giving you a hard time again?" It was an occasion in which the sisters present realized they're all calling upon Mary more for grace and strength, to draw upon her goodness in their own journeys of motherhood.

Mary's influence and intercession has also encouraged Thomas to pray for her sisters' children as they grow up. She hopes that prayer and faith come naturally to them as they watch each other converse openly about God and pray as a family. She believes it's easy, in this culture, to take such gifts for granted. Yet, as the younger cousins look up to their older ones as they play, Thomas sees them draw strength and courage from each other's faith — much like she, Keesler, and Thiel have done.

"I pray they stay close and help each other through life as my sisters and I have done for each other all these years," she concluded.

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# Byzantine bishop calls attack on Indiana priest 'reprehensible'

BY LAURA IERACI

MERRILLVILLE (CNS) — The priest who was attacked by an unknown assailant in the sacristy of St. Michael Byzantine Catholic Parish in Merrillville Aug. 20 was admitted to the hospital two days later, where he continues to recover from the assault and resulting trauma.

Bishop Milan Lach of the Byzantine Ruthenian Eparchy of Parma in Ohio shared an update on Father Basil Hutsko in a letter read at all weekend services throughout the eparchy Aug. 25-26.

Bishop Lach read the letter personally to members of the northwest Indiana parish after the evening Divine Liturgy, Aug. 25.

Father Hutsko, 64, was assaulted as he prepared to celebrate morning Divine Liturgy. The assailant came up behind him, threw him to the ground and beat his head against the sacristy floor. The priest lost consciousness and never saw his assailant.

Father Hutsko told investigators his attacker said, "This is for all the kids," which they believe was a reference to the recent revelations in Pennsylvania of clergy sex abuse in the Catholic Church.



CNS photo/Laura Ieraci, Horizons

The Merrillville Police Department classified the attack as a hate crime and referred the case to the FBI, which is conducting the investigation. No suspects had been arrested as of Aug. 27.

Bishop Lach's letter described the sex abuse scandal as "devastating for all" in the church.

"Clergy conduct, including that of bishops, underlying the sex abuse scandal is inexcusable and, as a bishop of the Church, I do not condone the Church's failure to properly address and

respond to allegations of sexual abuse," he said.

"Nevertheless, neither the underlying immoral behavior nor the Church's inadequate response justifies the attack on Father Basil. The violence against Father Basil was reprehensible," he said.

The bishop also addressed inaccuracies in some reports that followed the attack including questions about Father Hutsko's history, "including whether he was ever accused of an abuse."

"In 2004, a woman accused

Parishioner Susan Schurg speaks with Bishop Milan Lach of the Byzantine Ruthenian Eparchy of Parma in Ohio outside St. Michael Byzantine Catholic Parish in Merrillville Aug. 25. Schurg said she appreciated the bishop's transparency and concern for parishioners after their pastor, Father Basil Hutsko, was assaulted Aug. 20.

Father Basil of abusing her when she was a child," the bishop's letter said. "This abuse allegedly occurred between 1979 and 1983. The eparchy, assisted by a retired FBI agent, promptly investigated the allegations."

He said the eparchy's independent review board concluded "on the basis of that investigation, that the allegations were not substantiated due to insufficient evidence."

"Father Basil, therefore, should not be deemed guilty of any allegations, and he remains a priest in good standing in the Eparchy of Parma," the bishop said.

Bishop Lach, who came from Slovakia to serve in the epar-

chy in June 2017, said he only learned of the allegation after the attack.

"I am deeply troubled by any allegation of clergy abuse and take very seriously my duty to create an environment in which every person is treated with dignity and respect," he said.

He asked the faithful to pray for Father Hutsko and said arrangements would be made for the pastoral care of the parish.

"No predictions can be made regarding the time needed for Father Basil's recovery or for his return to active ministry," he said, and updates would be provided when new information is available.

After liturgy, parishioners said they appreciated the bishop's message of transparency and concern.

Michael Hlebasko told *Horizons*, the newspaper of the Eparchy of Parma, that the bishop's initiative "to communicate and be transparent with all of us here in the parish is good."

"I've been Byzantine all my life. I've known Father Basil since we were little kids. It's tragic that someone would attack him in the manner that they attacked him for no reason whatsoever," he said. "We're a small parish here in this community and for something like this to happen, I was just shocked."

## St. Mary, Mother of God Church fire remembered



Francie Hogan

A Mass on Sept. 2 at 10:45 a.m. at St. Mary, Mother of God Church, Fort Wayne, will be followed by a special prayer composed to mark the fact that 25 years ago, on Sept. 2, 1993, the largest 19th century Gothic-style church structure in the area was destroyed by a lightning-induced fire. Smoke darkened the skyline for hours, and photographs of the flames made headlines across the country. Pictured are the gold-colored crosses from two of the old church's four steeples: They were salvaged from the ruins and placed at the entranceway to the current fourth church.

## Children's author visits students to inspire creativity



Provided by Eric Sheibley

Children's author J. Scott Savage visited Our Lady School in Fort Wayne on Monday, Aug. 20. Savage has visited over 1400 elementary schools talking about reading, writing, creativity and changing the world. Savage's presentation was called the "Power of Creativity." The inspiring message of his presentation was for students to be creative, use their imagination and be true to themselves. Savage had some of the students come forward and help him create a story on the spot to help illustrate his message.

# Dramatic statue depicts Jesus before His passion

BY MARIAM SCHMITZ

Upon entering Cathedral Museum, one immediately encounters an impressive, floor-to-ceiling statue depicting Christ praying in the Mount of Olives just before His arrest, passion and death. The statue is entitled “Jesus in the Garden,” and was made in the early 1920s by the Chicago-based Daprato Statuary Company. A placard next to the statue states it originally cost \$478, but today it would cost between \$12,000 and \$15,000. The statue is made of a special kind of plaster called Rigalico.

The work originally resided at St. Paul’s Parish in Fort Wayne until the building was demolished in 2003. It then was moved to Fort Wayne’s St. Patrick Parish. According to Cathedral Museum’s director and the pastor at St. Mary, Mother of God Parish, Father Phillip Widmann, the large statue was in the vestibule of St. Patrick, and when the door was opened, it would get wet from rain or snow. Upon his request, the parish agreed to donate the statue

to the museum in 2010. Moving it to the museum proved to be a challenge, though, due to its size. Luckily, the angel’s wings are removable and, as a result, it was brought over successfully.

“Jesus in the Garden” is based upon Chapter 22 of Luke’s Gospel in which Christ knelt and prayed: “Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; still, not my will but yours be done.” And to strengthen him an angel from heaven appeared to him.” The statue illustrates this verse by depicting Jesus looking up at an angel who is offering him a cup with one hand and pointing upwards with the other. In this moment of spiritual agony, Christ is obedient to God’s will much like His mother Mary at the Annunciation. It is indeed a moment to reflect upon during moments of suffering, and to remember when praying for God’s help to bring us through it.

All are welcome to visit Cathedral Museum, located in Fort Wayne’s Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, 915 S. Clinton St. It’s open Tuesdays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or by appointment. Admission and parking are free.



Photos by Nate Proulx



The moment an angel appeared to Christ, the night before His passion, is depicted in this statue at Cathedral Museum.

The “Jesus in the Garden” statue has been in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend for more than 90 years.



## When it is not easy

I graduated from college back in 1985. Reagan was president, and the economy was doing great. I had several job offers, which would tide me over for a couple years. But my real plan and heart's desire was to simply bide time earning money until David finished law school. Then we would get married and settle down, and I'd get to my life's work and a career I was really passionate about: being a full-time wife, homemaker and mother.

I envisioned busy days with my offspring, a simple life. Working around the house. Cooking. Making my husband happy. Welcoming bundle after bundle of baby joy into my arms and raising them. The summer before we got married, David and I bought a teeny little starter home, built just post-World War II, in a working-class neighborhood just south of the river. We tore down '40s wallpaper and David painted. We pulled gold-textured carpet from the floors and made them new again. After our jobs during the day we would meet at the house to work. David would get the weeds pulled and the yard mowed and trimmed. I would clean, clean, clean inside, old closets, kitchen cupboards. Previous owners had been smokers so we had to get the place bleached, top to bottom. Murphy's Oil Soap. Lemon Pledge. Man, the place smelled great. Then, we'd separate for the night, each going back to our parents' homes, looking forward to the day we would be married and move in together.

David and I couldn't afford much, so we bought second-

hand furniture from estate sales. I made the kitchen curtains by hand because I didn't know how to sew with a machine. I wanted, yearned for, and had a simple life. I didn't have dreams of the big city or a big career. I just wanted things calm and comfortable. And for a while, they were.

David and I married the September after he became an official Indiana attorney. We took a brief honeymoon to the East Coast: Hawaii was the first choice, but the price tag was out of our league. Then we settled into our little domicile. We went to church on Sundays. I started going to a Bible group.

Everything was as planned, until I had a miscarriage.

The thought of not being able to have children never had entered my mind, until I found myself in the hospital emergency room losing our first child on Christmas Day of 1986. I had come from a large family and I figured many children was just a given of fruitful married life. For the first time, I had to face that maybe my life wasn't just made-to-order. I think it was then, at the tender age of 23, that I realized life can be hard.

I'm jumping ahead decades, but eventually we had nine healthy children. I still never desired anything other than a simple life with a simple faith. Celebrations of the sacraments were a big deal. We home-schooled until high school. I loved taking the children to extra Mass on Fridays and listen to a great priest talk about catechism and living the faith. The kids grew up and started moving out. They went to Catholic colleges



### EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

THERESA A. THOMAS

and started setting up places of their own.

Flash forward: Who would have thought a bomb like the last weeks' news of abuses in the Church would have shattered the comfort my Catholic faith has afforded me since I was a little girl? I just wanted a simple life with an easy faith, raising my little (OK, not-so-little) family.

But our faith is not a faith of easiness. We are called to be ready to martyrdom. Physical or spiritual. Fast, or slow.

The events of the past week have been difficult to hear. They do not fit into my nicely planned out, simple, easy Catholic life. But they have to be dealt with, and here I shall.

What I can offer is the driving advice we all give our kids: Keep your eyes on the road. Don't watch the pedestrians. Don't check out the other cars. Hands on 10 and 2. You know where you're going. You have the directions. Just keep moving toward that goal. Don't take the detour on the road. Trust your instincts. Our Catholic faith is Truth. The doctrines come directly from Christ. The people in the institution are good and bad of varying degrees. They do not dilute the

THOMAS, page 17

## Random thoughts and caveats

Keeping up on what is new in health and medicine can be a challenge. I have recently read some interesting articles involving food and beverages that I thought I would share.

Other than water, coffee is the most consumed beverage in the world. Coffee consumption has been shown to reduce the incidence of diabetes, Alzheimer's disease, parkinsonism and even several types of cancer. It looks like two to three cups of coffee daily is the sweet spot. It is believed the magic of coffee is because of its rich phytochemistry that includes caffeine and polyphenols. The latter are a rich source of antioxidants that are also found in fruits, vegetables, tea and red wine. Studies have shown that light-to-moderate coffee consumption reduces all-cause mortality by 14 percent. In an ongoing prospective cohort study out of France, it was found that people who are infected with both hepatitis C virus and human immunodeficiency virus did better if they drank coffee. In fact, the researchers were surprised to see that 3 cups of coffee daily reduced the all-cause mortality by 50 percent in these coinfecting patients.

For all you insomniacs out there, here is an interesting caveat: If you eat oily fish, you will sleep better. Here's the deal. Fish that have at least 5 percent fat are considered oily fish. This type of fish has high levels of omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids and vitamin D. Both have been found to be favorable in

### THE CATHOLIC DOCTOR IS IN

DR. DAVID KAMINSKAS

controlling the sleep/wake regulation cycle. Several well-controlled studies indeed show that you improve your sleep time and quality with consumption of oily fish. Fish that are in this category include salmon, tuna, mackerel, sardines, and anchovies. So, if you are looking for a good night's sleep, next time you order a pizza as a late-night snack, maybe you shouldn't hold the anchovies!

Realizing that this topic has been talked about a lot, let's move on to the health advantages of dark chocolate. I think I can add to your knowledge base on this subject. Sorry to all you connoisseurs of milk chocolate and white chocolate out there, but you're not deriving much benefit. The higher the level of pure cocoa, the more health benefits. You want to have at least 70 percent cocoa in your dark chocolate. During my research of this subject, I learned that many of the most popular dark chocolate brands put their dark chocolate through an alkalization process that removes the natural bitter taste and gives it a smoother, mellow taste. This alkalization process is also referred to as

KAMINSKAS, page 17

## God strives to keep us from misfortune



### THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

### Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The Book of Deuteronomy is the source of this weekend's first reading. Deuteronomy is from the Pentateuch, the collection of five books that appears first in sequence in the present versions of the Bible.

The Pentateuch is special not because it is a grouping of several books, but because these books contain the law as given by God through Moses. They form, as it were, the constitution of Judaism.

In this reading, Moses

submits the law to the people. He tells them that they must obey this law when they enter into their land, without altering the law or picking or choosing from among its pronouncements. If the law carefully is followed, harmony and accord necessarily, inevitably, will follow. So will security. The nation will be great. And since God authors the law, nations observing the Hebrews will realize the awesomeness of the Hebrews' god.

The Epistle to James provides the second reading. James occurs only rarely among the readings at Mass. The author of this epistle is not known for certain, since four men with this name appear in the New Testament. Several would have had credentials in the early Church: James, the son of Zebedee and brother of John; James, the son of Alphaeus, "the Less"; and James, the kinsman of Jesus. Then, the father of Judas Iscariot was James.

Important in this reading is the revelation that God wills us to live. God never wills death and

disaster for us. In the broader Christian context, as, after all, this is from the New Testament, this means eternal life. Not only does God will that we live, but God has given us the way to life: not only in the earthly sense but, more importantly, in eternity. Also important is the epistle's reminder that by serving orphans and widows, we purify ourselves so that we can stand before God.

St. Mark's Gospel supplies the last reading. Jesus frequently debated the Pharisees and others familiar with the Law of Moses about particulars in this law. Often, details and specifics overtook the debate.

At times, people interpreted the Lord's responses in these discussions as demeaning, or even repudiating, the law of Moses. In reality, the words of Jesus reaffirmed the law. He did not dismiss the law but rather went to the kernel of the law. The essence of the law is wholeheartedly to love God, and in this love to trust and to obey God.

These exchanges revealed the identity of Jesus. Moses was

merely the human instrument by which God spoke, so the Law of Moses actually was the law of God. Jesus defined and applied the law because Jesus was God and spoke as the lawgiver.

The Pharisees and other religious scholars of the time hardly overlooked the fact that Jesus spoke and acted in the place of God. As time unfolded, this identification with God, by Jesus, would lead to the crucifixion.

### Reflection

The first reading contains a thought that humans invariably dismiss. The thought simply is that, because of human limitations and shortcomings, people often put themselves in unfortunate situations. They can doom themselves. Unwilling to accept this fact, humans make excuses and blame God for misfortunes.

God actually and lovingly rescues people, by drawing them from the quicksand but also by leading them away from the

quicksand. He leads us all away from the quicksand by giving us the law, or the roadmap to life.

God's law is precise but going through motions is not the idea. With our hearts, minds, and souls, we must wholeheartedly follow God, by following God's Son. It is as simple as that. We are true disciples by obeying God, indeed in every circumstance, but always with eagerness and love.

### READINGS

**Sunday:** Dt 4:1-2, 6-8 Ps 15:2-5 Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27 Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

**Monday:** 1 Cor 2:1-5 Ps 119:97-102 Lk 4:16-30

**Tuesday:** 1 Cor 2:10b-16 Ps 145:8-14 Lk 4:31-37

**Wednesday:** 1 Cor 3:109 Ps 33:12-15, 20-21 Lk 4:38-44

**Thursday:** 1 Cor 3:18-23 Ps 24:1-6 Lk 5:1-11

**Friday:** 1 Cor 4:1-5 Ps 37:3-6, 27-28, 39-40 Lk 5:33-39

**Saturday:** Mi 5:1-4a Ps 13:6 Mt 1:1-16, 18-23



# Letter to an angry friend

My friend, thank you for writing. You have every right to be angry. The recent revelations about sexual abuses and what Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo calls the "grave moral failures of judgment on the part of church leaders" are tremendously disheartening.

In terms of scale, the revelations about Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick, now resigned from the College of Cardinals, and the grand jury report on six dioceses in Pennsylvania are dwarfed by the revelations of sexual abuse by clergy that came out in 2002 and its aftermath.

But many people have said what you told me: This feels worse. The wounds from earlier scandals have not fully healed, and the recent revelations have a kind of multiplier effect: Our anger becomes cumulative. Our patience even shorter. Our sense of betrayal larger.

In many ways the "clergy sexual abuse" crisis has always been a "trust in leaders" crisis. Priests moved around. Cover-ups and lies. Now a shepherd who was a predator, and allegations that others knew and did nothing.

As one woman told me, "Cardinal McCarrick said all the right words. He was practically a poster boy for the bishops' 2002 charter and its aftermath. Yet all his words were lies. How are we to trust any of them now?"

I find it hopeful, however, that bishops are speaking out. Bishops from Albany, Fort Worth, Pensacola-Tallahassee, Oklahoma City and Anchorage are releasing their own statements expressing

shame and calling for investigations. Some call for a greater role for the laity. They have been plain in their criticism and their sorrow.

The president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Cardinal DiNardo, has committed himself and the church to "pursue the many questions surrounding Archbishop McCarrick's conduct to the full extent of its authority." Because the real authority to investigate and punish bishops resides in Rome, he adds that where the authority of the Catholic conference is limited, "the conference will advocate with those who do have the authority."

Bishops are speaking up, but I am not sure how many Catholics are hearing them. The secular press pays little attention, and there are fewer diocesan news outlets these days. Bishops are having a harder time getting their voices heard. One theologian went so far as to tell me that the bishops have lost the communications war.

Meanwhile, when the Boston scandals broke in 2002, social media was in its infancy. Today, social media is driving a great deal of the anger and frustration, and all sorts of accusations are floating about that confuse and dishearten people further.

You are right that we need a thorough cleansing of the church. My hope is that this is an opportunity for purification and renewal. This great institution we once called holy mother church cared for her children. She built parishes for the care of their souls, hospitals for their bodies, schools for their



## AMID THE FRAY

GREG ERLANDSON

minds. Today our mother is grievously weakened by self-inflicted wounds.

For purification to take place, we need saints, not programs. We need exemplars, not platitudes. We need leaders who model the faith, not just CEOs.

One thousand years ago, St. Peter Damian faced sexual abuses far worse than anything we have seen. He challenged both bishops and priests. He challenged popes. Pursuing transparency, reforming procedures, admitting painful truths -- these actions all carry risk. But to ignore the moment is far more dangerous. We need to pray for our church, pray for her purification, and our own.

I find these words of St. Bridget of Sweden particularly powerful: "Show me the way and make me ready to follow it. It is dangerous to delay, yet perilous to go forward. Answer my petition and show me the way. ... Give peace, O Lord, to my heart!"

**Greg Erlandson**, director and editor-in-chief of Catholic News Service, can be reached at [gerlandson@catholicnews.com](mailto:gerlandson@catholicnews.com).

### KAMINSKAS, from page 16

Dutch cocoa or Dutch chocolate. This actually removes the good, healthy stuff in dark chocolate. If you do not detect some bitterness in your dark chocolate, it probably has been alkalinized and the health benefits removed. It is the antioxidants, specifically flavonoids and polyphenols in the cocoa that make it so good for you. Scientific studies have shown that consuming 70-99 percent cocoa will relax your blood vessels and improve blood flow to your vital organs — like the brain and heart. It will also reduce platelet reactivity. This

means your platelets become more slippery, reducing the risk of clotting that can lead to stroke or heart attack. Dark chocolate also is favorable to your lipid profile. It raises the HDL (good cholesterol) and lowers the LDL (bad cholesterol).

Now for the bad news. As you would expect, cocoa is high in calories. One square of a dark chocolate bar is usually about one ounce, which depending on the blend of cocoa and other ingredients can have about 80-160 calories. Therefore, health experts recommend you limit yourself to 7 ounces a week. That still means you can enjoy little bit

### THOMAS, from page 16

truth of the faith.

Let me repeat. They do not dilute the truth of the tenets of our faith.

I am horrified at the allegations revealed in the official documents of last week. However, they are a failure and tragedy of individual people, not of a doctrine of faith.

Our faith is simple. We must live the Ten Commandments. Follow the precepts of the Church. Frequent the sacraments. Pray the rosary. Work on our own personal virtues.

Religions are full of fallible individuals, all in need of saving.

Sometimes very evil permeates, and this must be eradicated. However, those people are not the religion itself. Don't discard the baby with the bath water. Cling to the truth, the beauty, the goodness that is God in the faith of our fathers. And don't be distracted by what the world does or doesn't do.

We are walking through coals. But if we are walking with God, that is enough, and we and our families will emerge well.

We cannot have an easy faith. Our lives are not meant to be comfortable.

Turn over the rocks. Eradicate the evil.

But cling to the tenets of the

of bliss on a daily basis.

Our Creator has blessed us with many natural foods on this earth that can not only bring joy but even health benefits. Keep that in mind as you say your daily prayers of gratitude. And remember what it says in 1 Corinthians 10:31: "So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God."

**Dr. David Kaminskas** is a board certified cardiologist and member of The Dr. Jerome Lejeune Catholic Medical Guild of Northeast Indiana, [www.fortwayneccma.com](http://www.fortwayneccma.com).

faith itself. The one, holy catholic and apostolic church will prevail. Have faith and do not be afraid.

Life is not easy. It may not be what we planned. I imagined a simple and easy married life. Then reality hit. We may have thought our Catholic faith would be smooth sailing and now it is not. Stay strong. Stay the course. Choose Christ again and again. His Church has never been more true. Clean house, and let us make the Bride of Christ beautiful again.

Courage. Faith. Press on.

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

# SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for September 2, 2018

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: a lesson in true traditions and teachings. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

UNWASHED	HANDS	TRADITION
ELDERS	MARKETPLACE	CUPS
ISAIAH	PEOPLE	IN VAIN
WORSHIP	TEACHING	PRECEPTS
NOTHING	OUTSIDE	DEFILE
EVIL	THEFT	MURDER
DECEIT	ENVY	WITHIN

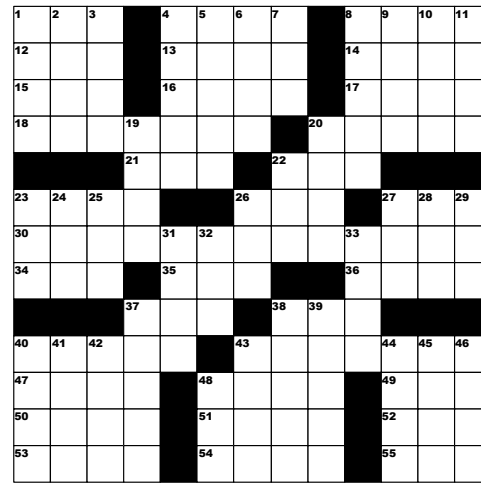
## UNWASHED

```

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

# The CrossWord

September 2, 9  
and 16, 2018



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**Readings:** Dt 4:1-2, 6-8; Ja 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 and Is 35:4-7a; Ja 2:1-5; Mk 7:31-37 and Is 50:5-9a; 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35

- ACROSS**
- 1 Carpenter's tool
  - 4 Reverent
  - 8 Walked
  - 12 Before VIII
  - 13 Tropical edible root
  - 14 Sharpen
  - 15 No room here
  - 16 "Leap like a \_\_\_"
  - 17 Merit
  - 18 "Statutes and \_\_\_"
  - 20 Highest male singer
  - 21 Serving of corn
  - 22 "An \_\_\_ for an \_\_\_"
  - 23 Against (slang)
  - 26 Teaspoon (abbr.)
  - 27 Sign language
  - 30 Chinese treat (2 wds.)
  - 34 Discs
  - 35 Not (prefix)
  - 36 "Take possession of the \_\_\_"
  - 37 TV network
  - 38 Maturity
  - 40 Cowboy show
  - 43 Brave actions
  - 47 Type of butter
  - 48 Dried up
  - 49 Winter malady
  - 50 Bottle

- 51 Canal  
52 Enjoyable  
53 Pea holders  
54 Sleep furniture (2 wds.)  
55 Mary's reply to angel
- DOWN**
- 1 Eager
  - 2 Eat
  - 3 Zn
  - 4 Afloat (2 wds.)
  - 5 "Springs of \_\_\_"
  - 6 Time periods
  - 7 Licked Lazarus' sores
  - 8 "Rise after \_\_\_ days"
  - 9 Horse with two colors
  - 10 Getting \_\_\_ a train
  - 11 16a is also one
  - 19 Tear in garment
  - 20 Mistake
  - 22 "Escape" key
  - 23 Football conference
  - 24 "Here is your \_\_\_"
  - 25 Tax agency
  - 26 Decapolis: '\_\_\_ cities'
  - 27 "Also known as"
  - 28 Offend God
  - 29 Took point position
  - 31 '\_\_\_ us a child is born'
  - 32 All Souls month
  - 33 Margarine
  - 37 Ate these with unclean hands
  - 38 Eagle's nest
  - 39 'Adultery, \_\_, malice'
  - 40 Please respond
  - 41 Buckeye state
  - 42 Faith without works
  - 43 Natural seasoning
  - 44 Uncertain
  - 45 What detective seeks
  - 46 Stars
  - 48 "\_\_\_ of Galilee"

Answer Key can be found on page 19

LITTLE FLOWER HOLY HOUR

Sept. 4  
7 p.m.

Fort Wayne, Indiana  
St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel  
with Father Jacob Runyon



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

# 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](http://www.todayscatholic.org/event). For additional listings of that event, please call the advertising sales staff at 260-399-1449 to purchase space.

**Holy Smokes for A Mother's Hope**  
NEW HAVEN — Holy Smokes for A Mother's Hope will be Thursday, Sept. 6, from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Tippmann Pavilion, 8605 North River Road. The event will include cigars, bourbon tasting, heavy hors d'oevres and guest speaker Joe Reitz, former Indianapolis Colts starter. Proceeds from this men's cigar night will raise funds for a new home for homeless, pregnant women in Allen County. Visit [www.aMothersHopeFW.org](http://www.aMothersHopeFW.org).

**Day of reflection**  
MISHAWAKA — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent Wednesday, Sept. 5, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is "Spiritual Growth." Bring a Bible. The cost of the day is \$20 and includes lunch. Register by Friday, Aug. 31, with Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at 574-259-5427.

**Cardinal Fest**  
FORT WAYNE — Cardinal Fest will be Saturday, Sept. 8, at St. Charles Parish, 4916 Trier Rd. Bring the family to the children's carnival, enjoy plenty of food and adults can stay late to enjoy the High Roller Band live. On Sunday, Sept. 9, at 1:30 p.m., will be the second annual Pastor vs. Principal Challenge at the 2018 Msgr. John Memorial 5K Walk/Run: Father Tom Shoemaker and Principal Rob Sordelet will race for the title.



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**Central Catholic 60th class reunion for class of 1958**

FORT WAYNE — The 60th class reunion of the 1958 class from Central Catholic High School will be Saturday, Sept. 9, from 6 p.m. to midnight at Hall's Guesthouse, 1313 Washington Center Rd. For more information and reservations contact: Judy Mattes at 260-749-5231, Robert Schlensker at 260-341-7482 or Carolyn (Relue) Reith @ 260-637-6042. Cost is \$35 per person.

**Hessen Cassel Hustle - 5K and 1 mile Fun Run/Walk**

FORT WAYNE — The Hessen Cassel Hustle will take place on Saturday, Sept. 15, at St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Church/school, 11337 U.S. 27 S. Both 5K and 1 mile events will start at 8 a.m. with registration at 7 a.m. A family friendly gathering event will follow the events.

**Ege chicken dinner**

EGE — Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 7046 E 400 S will have the 93rd annual chicken dinner Sunday, Sept. 9, and will offer a choice of chicken or ham, homemade mashed pota-

toes and noodles, gravy, salads, drinks and homemade pie for dessert. Handicap seating available. Bingo under the "big top" and other games for adults and children. Check out the country store for some goodies to take home. Visit [www.iccege.org](http://www.iccege.org).

**Young adult retreat planned in Ohio**

PAULDING — A young adult retreat will be led by Sister M. Anita Holzmer, OSF, from the University of Saint Francis on Saturday, Sept. 15, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Divine Mercy Church, 315 Main St. This retreat will instruct about the lives and writings of saints Francis and Clare of Assisi, in light of the 13th century need for religious renewal to discover how their legacy can inform 21st century eucharistic spirituality and practice. Snacks and lunch will be provided. Mass will follow this retreat at 6 p.m. Contact Christopher Bercaw at 419-769-2679 [chriskofc@gmail.com](mailto:chriskofc@gmail.com).

**Links Fore Life golf outing**

FORT WAYNE — Join Allen County Right to Life Monday, Sept. 17, at Coyote Creek Golf

Course, 4935 Hillegas Rd., for a beautiful day of golf from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and promote a culture of life with your registration fee. ACRL promotes the value of innocent human life from conception to natural death through education, community activism and awareness and providing life-affirming guidance in the public policy arena. For more information visit: [www.ichooselife.org/evnt/golf/](http://www.ichooselife.org/evnt/golf/).

**The CrossWord**  
September 2, 9 and 16, 2018

A	D	Z	A	W	E	D	T	R	O	D		
V	I	I	T	A	R	O	H	O	N	E		
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John David Frye, 70, St. Paul of the Cross

**Decatur**

Helen R. Darling, 96, St. Mary of the Assumption

**Elkhart**

Cherie G. Fish, 68, St. Vincent de Paul

**Fort Wayne**

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Josephine M Kesterke, 89, St. Henry

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Richard Eugene Zehr, 74, St. Henry

Diane Winn, St. Vincent de Paul

Patricia Kay Olson-Rivera, 53, St. Joseph

Keith W. Bisig, 70, St. Vincent de Paul

John E. Barchak, 76, St. Charles Borromeo

**Granger**

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Sandy Douglas-Ferro, 79, St. Pius X

Thomas Daniel Panting, 62, St. Pius X

Thomas J. Roggeman, 86, St. Pius X

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Mike E. Stoffel, 66, St. Mary

**Mishawaka**

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Ted E. Modlin, 76, St. Monica

Ann Elizabeth McCool, 17, St. Bavo

Father Robert Binta, 56, St. Bavo

Joseph A. Przybylski III, 32, St. Joseph

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**New Carlisle**

Dean Franklin Morehouse, 93, St. Stanislaus Kostka

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# Grant to help parish connect with millennials

BY JILL A. BOUGHTON

St. Monica Parish, Mishawaka, is already a vibrant community for members of all ages. But, spurred by a grant from Saint Meinrad Seminary & School of Theology, the parish is taking a fresh look at the needs, interests and contributions of its young adults.

Shortly before their wedding, Joshua and Mary Flynt were church-hopping in search of a community where they could sink roots and “find help making the tough decisions.” After a Sunday Mass at St. Monica, they looked at each other and said, “I think we’ve found our parish!” They loved the beautiful, traditional music and found the teaching in the homily straightforward. Many people also reached out to welcome them.

Before long Mary found herself in a diverse group of young adults whom Father Jacob Meyer had called together for some brainstorming, because St. Monica is one of 16 American parishes selected for a four-year-long Young Adult Initiative. Representatives from those 16 parishes will meet periodically to share “innovative strategies to better meet the spiritual needs of the young adults in their parishes.” The initiative is funded by a grant from Saint Meinrad. As these pioneers evaluate what is and isn’t working, all parishes can learn from their efforts.

“This is your group,” Father Meyer told the St. Monica young adults at the brainstorming meeting. Then he left so that they could discuss their own ideas. “They are such a blessing to me,” Father Jacob exclaimed. “They are low-maintenance and just plain fun.”

Mary recalled that the members of this core group were brutally honest with each other in responding to the question,



Photos provided by Mary Flynt

**Members of the St. Monica Parish, Mishawaka, young adult group visit St. Mary of the Angels Church during a pilgrimage to Chicago. St. Monica is one of 16 American parishes selected for a four-year Young Adult Initiative funded by Saint Meinrad Seminary & School of Theology, to share innovative strategies to better meet the spiritual needs of young adults.**

“What would you rearrange your schedule for?” They learned that many of them went out for brunch after Mass, so it made sense to have a “party at Padre’s” the first Sunday of every month. During the gather-

ings, there is a short presentation on a saint or spiritual topic so that they can grow together and not simply socialize.

On Aug. 11, 30 of the young adults made a pilgrimage to Chicago that included tours of

ethnic parishes and a nice meal at a Brazilian barbecue. Bowling and playing on the same softball team have also proven easy ways to build community.

Diocesan Director for Young Adult Ministry Sean Allen has been a wonderful resource for the group. However, this new initiative is deliberately parish-based rather than regional. Father Meyer said St. Monica was a logical choice to participate in the Saint Meinrad initiative because the parish is so welcoming, not “frozen in the past, how ‘we’ve always done it.’” Rather than forming an exclusive group, the young adults at St. Monica want to be part of the broader parish community.

On July 4, they joined other parishioners on the rectory lawn

to watch city fireworks. They staffed some of the stations at the parish picnic and will be involved in Octoberfest.

Father Meyer urges every parish activity and committee to take a fresh look at how to accommodate and incorporate millennials. Among the questions they should ask themselves, he said, are 1. How do young adults learn about activities that might interest them? 2. What will intrigue them enough to give something a try? 3. How do vocabulary and methodology need to be updated?

For example, he added, what can young adults — who tend to neither carry cash nor write checks — do when the collection basket is passed? An app on their smart phones might be a better way for them to contribute.



**St. Monica Parish, Mishawaka, young adults gaze at the artwork inside St. Mary of the Angels Church.**



**The members go bowling as a way to build community.**



**Baking Christmas cookies for a local nursing home.**