

**SPECIAL
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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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Pastoral letter to the people of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

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Provided by Brian MacMichael

Mosaic, Shrine of the Sacred Heart, at the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis, St. Louis, Mo.

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The re-emergence of the clergy sex abuse crisis has affected us all — priests, deacons, religious, laity and me, as well as, and most importantly, the victims of sexual abuse. We all feel disgust, frustration and pain about this wound in the Body of Christ, the abuse of innocent children and young people and the often life-long suffering that results.

The present crisis in the Church was provoked by the report of the Pennsylvania grand jury and by the revelations about sexual misconduct and abuse by Archbishop McCarrick. We were pained about clergy sexual abuse in 2002. However, even though almost all the cases in the grand jury report were from the past, what provoked so much outrage and hurt from the recent report was the sheer number of cases (300 abusers and over 1,000 victims in six dioceses), the graphic and horrific details of the abuse described by the report, the often-callous treatment of victims by Church leaders and the negligence of bishops in not protecting children and young people from predators. Further, the thus-far inexplicable case of Archbishop McCarrick's conduct and how it was not dealt with by Church authorities have also provoked outrage.

During this time of trial, I invite all of us together to reflect on these words of St. Paul to the Romans: "Let love be sincere; hate what is evil, hold on to what is good." Love is our highest obligation and the greatest virtue. Christian living is faith working through love. The priesthood is an office of love. The abuse of a minor is a grave violation of that love, not only causing terrible emotional, psychological and physical harm, but also damaging the soul. It is evil. We must hate it and eradicate it from our Church and society. "Hate what is evil, hold on to what is good." There is so much good that our Church does, good that is often overshadowed by the evil of sexual abuse. We must not cease doing

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**LETTER, from page 1**

good as we fight to eradicate this evil.

In this situation, doing good includes helping victim-survivors of abuse to heal. Though this has been a priority for me and our diocese for years, I want it to be an even higher priority. For this reason, I recently released to the public the names of clergy of our diocese credibly accused of abuse. I did this as a way to help victims in the healing process. I have already received messages of thanks from victim-survivors who have told me that it has helped them to feel vindicated. I want to do all that is possible to bring the love of Christ and the love of the Church to these victim-survivors. I invite all the faithful to join me in offering prayers and sacrifices for our brothers and sisters who are victim-survivors of abuse.

We know that since 2002 and the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, the Church in our diocese and throughout the United States has instituted robust policies and procedures to keep children and young people safe. We know that the number of abuse cases has dramatically declined in the past few decades and that, even before 2002, our diocese has had zero tolerance for priests credibly accused of sexual abuse of minors. From the time I became Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend, all credible accusations have been reported to law enforcement, not only those that are required by law, as was the previous practice.

So what can we learn from the Pennsylvania grand jury report? We learn that we cannot grow slack in our youth protection efforts. We must stay the course. And we must continue to seek ways to strengthen our efforts and improve our policies. I mentioned the huge decline in cases of abuse by clergy in the past few decades, but we cannot be satisfied until there are zero cases of abuse.

Also, I wholeheartedly support the actions recently taken by the Administrative Committee of the USCCB to have a full investigation by lay experts regarding the Archbishop McCarrick case, to establish a third-party reporting system to receive complaints of sexual abuse or misconduct by bishops and to develop a process to hold bishops accountable for negligence in dealing with cases of sexual abuse.

Many people have asked me what they can do to help the Church in the midst of this crisis, in this time of shame and sorrow. Besides supporting the actions of reform mentioned above, I believe that all of us are called to recommit ourselves to the pursuit of holiness, to pray for the Church and for victim-survivors, and to do penance and reparation for the sins and crimes of those who have abused or have been negligent

in protecting minors or assisting victims. This is part of our Catholic faith — to do reparation not only for our own sins, but for sins of others in the Body of Christ. Jesus, though innocent, suffered for us sinners and redeemed us. We can unite our prayers and sufferings with Him for others and for the Church. Our Lady asked us to do so in her messages at Fatima. Our Lord asked us to do reparation to His Sacred Heart in His words to Saint Margaret Mary. Though this may be difficult to do, we are also called to pray for those who have committed these sins and crimes.

I have designated the First Friday of October (Oct. 5) as a Diocesan Day of Prayer and Penance. Traditionally, the first Friday of the month is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. I invite everyone and all our parishes, schools and institutions especially to observe this day of dedication to the Sacred Heart

of Jesus, praying and fasting for the victim-survivors of sexual abuse and for their healing, while asking for God's mercy on the whole Church and for the grace of purification and renewal during this difficult time. I suggest special Masses, Holy Hours, the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary, the Stations of the Cross, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, the praying of the Penitential Psalms, or other prayers, as well as fasting or other acts of penance for these intentions. I am hoping for a great outpouring of petition to the Sacred Heart of Our Lord, the heart of perfect love.

We must remember that the very core of our faith is not Church leaders, but Jesus Christ and the beautiful and powerful truth communicated by the Holy Spirit to St. John that "God is love." I recently read remarks by Bishop Robert Barron in which he addressed the question of

why remain Catholic in the face of this crisis in the Church. He wrote: "Keep in mind everybody, we are not Catholic because of the moral excellence of our leaders. I mean, God help us if we were. We want our leaders — indeed, we expect our leaders — to be morally excellent. But we are not Catholics because of that moral excellence. We're Catholics because of Jesus Christ, crucified and risen from the dead. We're Catholics because of the Trinitarian love of God. We're Catholics because of the Mystical Body of Christ. We're Catholics

because of the sacraments. We're Catholics especially because of the Eucharist. We're Catholics because of the Blessed Mother. We're Catholics because of the saints. Even as leaders in the Church fail morally, the Catholic Church remains the Mystical Body of Christ, the Bride of Christ. And she's worth fighting for."

Only love can triumph over the evils of our time. We turn to the Sacred Heart of Jesus for His merciful love upon us and upon His Church. The love of Jesus conquers the devil. And the love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the most beautiful reflection of Christ's love, is victorious over Satan's evil. I have heard that the Prayer of Saint Michael is being prayed at Mass in many of our parishes. I encourage priests in all our parishes to pray this prayer with their congregations immediately after the conclusion of every Mass since there is certainly a diabolical element in the crisis we face. It is good to ask St. Michael the Archangel to defend us in our battle against evil in the Church and society.

We can only overcome evil with good, St. Paul teaches us. The greatest good is the love of God represented by the Sacred Heart of Jesus and poured out into our hearts through the Holy

Spirit. This is the source of our hope. As St. Paul wrote to the Romans: "Nothing can separate us from the love of God that comes to us in Christ Jesus, our Lord." And let us trust in the teaching of St. Paul that "where sin abounds, grace abounds all the more."

I wish to thank all of you for all your love and prayers for me and our priests during the past several weeks. We have so many good and holy priests who are also feeling pain during this time. Also, please pray for our seminarians, faith-filled and courageous young men preparing for the priesthood during this challenging time. Let us remember our priests and seminarians also on Oct. 5, that they may be comforted by the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. And please continue to pray for me.

I feel incredibly blessed to be your bishop. Please know that I pray for you, the faithful of our diocese, every day. I am so grateful for your fidelity and perseverance during this difficult time, for your commitment to the Lord and His Church. I've been thinking of other times of terrible sin and corruption in the history of the Church. What happened during those times? Great saints arose and genuine reform took place. That is what we need most today — holy men and women who live faithful lives of discipleship. Besides prayer, it is our own witness of faith and love that is really important, as well as our commitment to overcome evil with good.

I would like to end this letter with words prayed by then-Cardinal Ratzinger on Good Friday at the Stations of the Cross at the Colosseum in Rome in 2005. I invite you to recite this prayer also:

"Through your passion, crucifixion, death, and resurrection, Jesus, you have brought us the gift of forgiveness of sins. Cleanse and purify the Church you love of the sins of abuse and misconduct which have seriously wounded the Church. Bring healing and love to victims. Help us all to rededicate ourselves to the pursuit of true holiness. Amen."

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Kevin C. Rhoades

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

We have so many good and holy priests who are also feeling pain during this time. Also, please pray for our seminarians, faith-filled and courageous young men preparing for the priesthood during this challenging time.

A Prayer for Healing and Purification of the Church

Prayed by then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger at the Stations of the Cross at the Colosseum in Rome on Good Friday, 2005.

Through your passion, crucifixion, death and resurrection, Jesus, you have brought us the gift of forgiveness of sins.

Cleanse and purify the Church you love of the sins of abuse and misconduct which have seriously wounded the Church.

Bring healing and love to victims.

Help us all to rededicate ourselves to the pursuit of true holiness.

Amen.

Deacon Emilio 'Guy' Gizzi dies at 85

FORT WAYNE — Deacon Emilio "Guy" Gizzi, who served the parish of St. Matthew Cathedral for 36 years, died Sept. 17 in Dujarie House, Notre Dame.

Deacon Gizzi was born Jan. 26, 1933. He was ordained June 11, 1983, and assigned to St. Matthew, where he served faithfully until his retirement earlier this year. He and his wife, Linda, had three children: Laura, Beth Ann and Timothy.

Before he discerned a vocation to the diaconate, Deacon Gizzi was a registered nurse. He worked as supervisor of surgery at an osteopathic hospital for many years; upon retirement, he taught nursing at Ivy Tech. He



EMILIO GIZZI

was also a veteran of the U.S. Air Force.

Visitation was Friday, Sept. 21, at Hahn Funeral Home, 505 W. 8th St., Mishawaka. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Saturday, Sept. 22, at 9:30 a.m. in St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery, Mishawaka.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Riley Hospital for Children, 6820 Parkdale Place #109, Indianapolis, IN 46254.

May God grant Deacon Gizzi eternal rest, and reward him for his faithful service of the Gospel.

Diocesan Review Board member comments on released list

FORT WAYNE — Donald Schmid, a member of the Review Board of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend since approximately 2006 and former federal prosecutor and Assistant United States Attorney in the Northern District of Indiana, said the following regarding the list released by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend of those credibly accused of a sexual abuse of a minor.

"The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend has, since 2002, instituted robust procedures and processes to keep children and vulnerable adults safe. More than 17,000 people who work or volunteer with children in the diocese or diocesan schools have received safe environment training and criminal background checks. The Catholic Church and its schools are safe places for children today.

"The Diocesan Review Board consists of talented laypersons with experience in law enforcement, prosecution, psychology, education, psychiatry and law, along with two well-respected priests. The Review Board has carefully advised first Bishop D'Arcy (prior to his retirement) and now for the last decade, Bishop Rhoades, on matters relating to accusations of sexual abuse within the diocese and the compassionate care of victims of sexual abuse.

"Bishop Rhoades has demonstrated great sensitivity and care for victims of sexual abuse, and has carried out a zero tolerance policy for priests credibly accused of sexual abuse of minors or vulnerable adults. In my experience, Bishop Rhoades has promptly



and in all cases removed from public ministry, and pursued canon law sanctions against, priests under his authority where the allegations and available evidence warrant such removal and sanctions.

"The release of the list of priests who have been credibly accused and in some cases found guilty of crimes sexual abuse of minors is an appropriate step and part of a commitment to openness and transparency by the Church in this area. I am hopeful that it will bring some solace and healing to the victims and their families.

"The published list involved priests who committed abuse prior to 2002, although victims continue to step forward courageously to report abuse from that era. The John Jay College studies, which were exhaustive research examinations into sexual abuse in the Church published in 2004 and 2011, demonstrate that the vast majority of sexual abuse by priests/deacons was committed in the 1960s through 1985, with its peak in the 1970s. Still, we will be ever on guard to prevent and forthrightly deal with any alleged current incidents of abuse.

"The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and the Catholic Church in the United States has implemented strong and effective policies and procedures to protect children and to report to law enforcement authorities any allegations of abuse. Simultaneously, the diocese and the Church has worked steadfastly to heal the wounds of sexual abuse victims."

Church plans third-party abuse reporting system, code of conduct

BY JULIE ASHER

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pledging to "heal and protect with every bit of the strength God provides us," the U.S. bishops' Administrative Committee on Sept. 19 outlined actions to address the abuse crisis, including approving the establishment of a third-party confidential reporting system for claims of any abuse by bishops.

It also instructed the U.S. bishops' canonical affairs committee to develop proposals for policies addressing restrictions on bishops who were removed or resigned because of allegations of abuse of minors or adults.

It initiated the process of developing a code of conduct for bishops regarding sexual misconduct with a minor or adult or "negligence in the exercise of his

office related to such cases."

The committee also said it supported "a full investigation into the situation" surrounding Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick, former cardinal-archbishop of Washington, "including his alleged assaults on minors, priests and seminarians, as well as any responses made to those allegations."

The statement, released by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, came out of the committee's semiannual meeting held Sept. 11-12 at USCCB headquarters in Washington.

The Administrative Committee consists of the officers, chairmen and regional representatives of the USCCB. The committee, which meets in March and September, is the highest authority of the USCCB outside of the full body of bishops when they meet for their fall and spring

general assemblies.

"This is only a beginning," the committee said in its Sept. 19 statement. "Consultation with a broad range of concerned parents, experts and other laity along with clergy and religious will yield additional, specific measures to be taken to repair the scandal and restore justice.

"We humbly welcome and are grateful for the assistance of the whole people of God in holding us accountable," the committee said.

The committee acknowledged its members had assembled for their meeting in Washington at a "time of shame and sorrow."

"Some bishops, by their actions or their failures to act, have caused great harm to both individuals and the church as

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The annulment process in practice: Mary's story

BY JODI MARLIN

Soul-searching.
Uncomfortable.
Difficult.

The words used to describe the annulment process, by people who have gone through it, are gloomy. How could they not be? The process of determining the validity or invalidity of a marriage inherently requires a sobering amount of reflection about an already-painful subject — an intimate relationship that has been, in some form, betrayed — as well as a profusion of humbling realizations regarding one's role in the failure, and the embarrassment of having to discuss those realizations with friends and family.

Mary was one of 15 children in a family that attended Mass regularly and sent their children to Catholic schools. Her mother and father were “these devout Catholics of the days of old — but they never talked about their faith at home,” she recalled. She attributes the several divorces that took place among herself and her siblings to that fact. “I think it's because that example, it was just never there. And truthfully, then, you start to look for love in all the wrong places, like that old song.”

In 1974, against her mother's wishes, Mary married a man with whom she had little in common. “I knew better,” she now admits. The couple had one son.

As their relationship deteriorated, she realized that she really hadn't taken any time to

discern their marriage before it took place. In 1981, they divorced.

First attempt

About nine months after the divorce, Mary began the annulment process. “In order to ever marry again, I had to do that, and I knew it. I hoped to someday meet a man who was on the same page I was about God and life.”

She went to the priest at her Fort Wayne parish, who gave her paperwork to fill out.

“It was extensive. It made me dig into me. I had to go back and search myself: What were my interests when I was young? What was my family background? What happened in my first marriage? I mean, it was intense. It took me probably six months to finish, because I had to do a lot of soul-searching ... but it was part of the healing process. Putting it on paper made it more real, what I had done — to my own self, basically.”

“That was back in the time when you had to write out the answers to all those questions ... It took me months. I used it as a tool to just lay it all down. The questions are pretty pointed, and I didn't treat them lightly. I remember putting my head down on the paperwork a couple of times and just crying my head off, because I got myself into that big, fat mess.”

Mary eventually turned in the paperwork, but more challenges were on the horizon. The head of the diocesan tribunal



Grant Whitty on Unsplash

at the time, Father Michael Rosswurm, was initiating a program to train lay advocates who would help guide petitioners through process: He asked if he could conduct Mary's annulment interview — normally a private part of the process — in front of the entire group, to aid in their understanding.

“I remember being scared to death,” she said. But seeing it as an opportunity to follow God's will for her life, she said, “Yes,” and relived the details of her personal life in front of a small audience.

The picture Mary had in her head of the annulment process was that of an old-fashioned apothecary, or library file-card cabinet, inside the tribunal. The cabinet had thousands of rows of drawers, each one just big enough to hold a few papers. “As I imagined it, my paperwork was going up and down the rows, up and down, for a year. And then, because I couldn't get anybody to participate as a witness, they stopped.”

ask to have her case reactivated. She did, and as she revisited parts of the process, she learned that the two friends whom she had originally asked to be witnesses, but who had refused, were now of a different mind.

Since the time Mary first approached them, they had participated in the annulment process of family members. “Now we understand why you needed us,” they told her.

About a year later, Mary's case was granted a decision by the tribunal. After evaluating all the evidence and the facts in the case, the judge was able to decree that there had been a problem in Mary's first marriage, which meant that it was actually invalid from the beginning. Similarly, Jeff's first marriage was investigated and found to be invalid as well. Therefore, both Mary and Jeff were found to be free to marry. On Dec. 8, 1990, Jeff and Mary Schafer were married at St. Vincent de Paul Church.

Memories of the emotional and procedural difficulties of the annulment process remain with her. They have also given her insight that she has constructively applied in her second marriage. “Jeff and I, we've had many very honest conversations with each other about how it was a lot up to us what happened in those first marriages — and how we should have given them better attention and grooming, and sought spiritual advisement. Because neither one of us did that.”

She considers her experience to have been appropriate and necessary. “I had to do that. God had a plan for me. Life isn't easy, and when you travel into the sinful things — and they are sinful — when you think you know better than anything, you have to pay the price,” she said. “You can't come out the other side if you don't. You just can't.”

Mary's friends didn't understand the annulment process, didn't want to get involved, or didn't think it was right; some of them held misconceptions about what happens to the children of an annulled marriage. “The tribunal office called and said, ‘It's kind of at a standstill.’ So that's where it sat for about three years.”

Second attempt

Despite Mary's civil divorce from her husband, her marriage was still sacramentally valid. She had not entered into another union, so she was free to continue to receive Christ in the sacrament of holy Communion — until, in 1983, Mary exchanged vows with Jeff Schafer, someone she had met at work. “I knew it was wrong,” she said. “When you fall in love, you do stupid things.”

The family continued to attend Mass every weekend, becoming involved in service to St. Vincent de Paul School, where her son received his early education. Mary desired to have their marriage blessed in the Catholic Church, though, so that she could return to the Eucharist.

She had resigned herself to the idea that her stalled petition meant there might never be annulment. But after a few years, a family friend suggested Mary

Congratulations!



Deacon Spenser St. Louis

Barrett McNagny congratulates Deacon Spenser St. Louis on his ordination to the Diaconate.

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a whole,” the committee said. “They have used their authority and power to manipulate and sexually abuse others.

“They have allowed the fear of scandal to replace genuine concern and care for those who have been victimized by abusers,” it continued. “For this, we again ask forgiveness from both the Lord and those who have been harmed. Turning to the Lord for strength, we must and will do better.”

Full descriptions of the actions the committee took are as follows:

— Approved the establishment of a third-party reporting system that will receive confidentially, by phone and online, complaints of sexual abuse of minors by a bishop and sexual harassment of or sexual misconduct with adults by a bishop. It will direct those complaints to the appropriate ecclesiastical authority and, as required by applicable law, to civil authorities.

— Instructed the USCCB Committee on Canonical Affairs and Church Governance to develop proposals for policies addressing restrictions on bishops who were removed or resigned because of allegations of sexual abuse of minors or sexual harassment of or misconduct with adults, including seminarians and priests.

— Initiated the process of developing a code of conduct for bishops regarding the sexual abuse of a minor; sexual harass-



Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles, vice president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, gives the opening prayer Nov. 13 at the bishops' fall general assembly in Baltimore. Also pictured are Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, USCCB president, and Msgr. J. Brian Bransfield, USCCB general secretary.

CNS photo/Bob Roller

ment of or sexual misconduct with an adult; or negligence in the exercise of his office related to such cases.

— Supported a full investigation into the situation surrounding Archbishop McCarrick, including his alleged assaults on minors, priests, and seminarians, as well any responses made to those allegations. “Such an investigation should rely upon

lay experts in relevant fields, such as law enforcement and social services.”

As the initiatives get underway, the Administrative Committee asked all U.S. bishops “to join us in acts of prayer and penance.”

“This is a time of deep examination of conscience for each bishop. We cannot content ourselves that our response to sexual assault within the church has

been sufficient. Scripture must be our guide forward. ‘Be doers of the word and not hearers only,’” it said, quoting the Letter of James.

“In all of this,” no one — including the bishops — can “lose sight of those who have suffered from those who have acted or failed to act as the Gospel demanded,” it said.

“For survivors of sexual abuse, these days may reopen

deep wounds. Support is available from the church and within the community,” it emphasized.

The committee reminded all in the Church that victims assistance coordinators are available in every diocese to help victim-survivors and their families find resources.

Since the bishops first adopted “the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People” in 2002, the committee said, “hundreds of dedicated people ... have been working with the church to support survivors and prevent future abuse.”

It said anyone who has been abused must “never hesitate to also contact local law enforcement.”

“If you don’t feel comfortable for any reason with the church providing help, your diocese can connect you with appropriate community services,” the committee said. “With compassion and without judgment, the bishops of the United States pledge to heal and protect with every bit of the strength God provides us.”

The committee concluded: “Acting in communion with the Holy Father, with whom we once again renew our love, obedience and loyalty, we make our own the prayer of Pope Francis in his Aug. 20 letter to the people of God, ‘May the Holy Spirit grant us the grace of conversion and the interior anointing needed to express before these crimes of abuse our compunction and our resolve courageously to combat them.’”

New partnership to help families reunite using donated airline miles

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (CNS) — Catholic Charities USA and Miles4Migrants have formed a new partnership to help members of immigrant and refugee families who have been separated be able to reunite. Through donated airline miles, the two organizations will work with local Catholic Charities agencies to identify those who need assistance with purchasing airfare to reunite with their families, said a Sept. 20 announcement on the partnership. “At the heart of the work of Catholic Charities is caring for the most vulnerable among us,” said Dominican Sister Donna Markham, president and CEO of Catholic Charities USA. Based in Alexandria, the national office represents 166 diocesan Catholic Charities agencies. “It is in that spirit that we support our agencies’ efforts to assist immigrants and refugees who arrive in this country,” she said in a statement. “We are excited for the increased opportunity this partnership provides to reunite families separated at our borders.” Miles4Migrants is a volunteer-driven, nonprofit charity that uses donated frequent flyer miles and money for the relocation of refugees and those seeking asylum “to start a new beginning in a new home,” said the announcement.

In letters to German cardinal, retired pope defends way he stepped down

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Retired Pope Benedict XVI expressed his displeasure with the way a German cardinal publicly criticized his stepping down as pontiff, and he defended taking the title “pope emeritus.” In two private letters from the retired pope to German Cardinal Walter Brandmuller, former president of the Pontifical Committee for Historical Sciences, the pope defended the way he handled his resignation and warned the cardinal of the negative impact his public comments could have. The German newspaper *Bild* obtained copies of the letters, written in November 2017, but blurred Cardinal Brandmuller’s name in photos. The *New York Times* named the cardinal and also published translated excerpts from the letters Sept. 20. The first letter from the retired pope was a response to a comment Cardinal Brandmuller, made in a lengthy interview with the German newspaper *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, published Oct. 28, 2017. The interviewer had asked what the cardinal thought about the “construction” of “pope emeritus” — the title the retired pope has taken on. The cardinal responded that the figure of a “pope

emeritus” had never existed in the Church’s history and having a pope “withdrawing now and overturning a 2,000-year tradition totally astounded not only us cardinals.”

Disney animator credits Catholic schools with foundation for success

SIoux CITY, Iowa (CNS) — Ron Clements is a renowned animator, screenwriter and producer-director of award-winning Disney films, including the 2017 blockbuster “Moana.” But at heart, he will always be a Midwesterner and grateful for his Catholic education, he told students at his alma mater. Clements, a 1971 alum of the Bishop Heelan High School in Sioux City, visited with students Sept. 13. He was in Sioux City as a major presenter at the Sioux City International Film Festival, held Sept. 12-16. As a Crusader, the school’s mascot, Clements was recognized for his artistic talent as the staff cartoonist at the Heelan student newspaper, Heelan Highline. Journalism teacher Mary Castle, who attended Clements’ video presentation, insisted she knew her student would flourish in his life’s work. “He was quiet, but clearly had tremendous gifts,” the former instructor, now 91, told *The Catholic Globe*, Sioux City’s diocesan newspaper.

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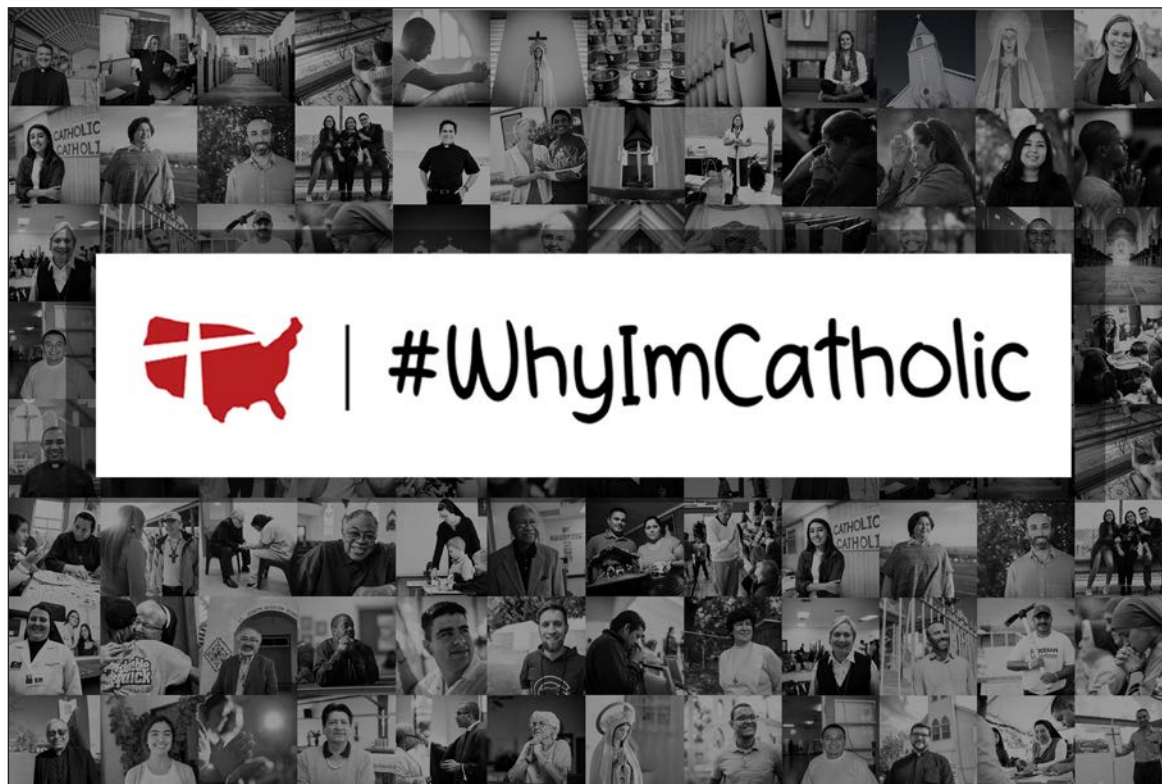
Detroit Archdiocese welcomes investigation into Michigan dioceses

DETROIT (CNS) — Michigan's attorney general has opened an investigation into the handling of sexual abuse by clergy in all of Michigan's seven Catholic dioceses, as well as any attempts to cover up those claims dating back to the 1950s. Attorney General Bill Schuette confirmed the investigation began in August, in response to an inquiry by Grand Rapids-based WOOD-TV8 Sept. 21. He said in a statement that his office has determined that a "full and complete investigation of what happened within the Catholic Church is required. This investigation is and will continue to be independent, thorough, transparent, and prompt. My department and this investigation will find out who knew what and when." Michigan's seven dioceses are Detroit, Lansing, Grand Rapids, Saginaw, Kalamazoo, Gaylord and Marquette. In addition to diocesan clergy, Schuette's office said it will investigate claims of abuse by religious order priests who have served in Michigan. The attorney general's office also established a telephone and email hotline for reporting abuse by clergy in Michigan. The Archdiocese of Detroit responded by saying it welcomed news of the investigation, pledging to cooperate fully in bringing to light all claims and helping victims of abuse receive justice and healing.

Be grateful to parents, never insult them, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Honoring mothers and fathers means being grateful for the gift of life and Christians should never insult anyone's parents, Pope Francis said. "Among us there is also the habit of saying awful things, even profanity. Please, never, never, never insult other people's parents. Never! Never insult a mother, never insult a father," the pope said Sept. 19 during his weekly general audience. "Make this decision: from today forward, 'I will never insult someone's mom or dad.' They gave life! They should not be insulted," he told those gathered in St. Peter's Square. Gray clouds forming above the square did little to dampen the spirits of thousands of pilgrims who cheered as they waited for the pope to pass by in his popemobile. As customary, the pope greeted them, blessed religious articles and kissed children who were brought up to him. During the general audience, the pope continued his series of talks on the Ten Commandments and reflected on the obligation to "honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you."

'Why I'm Catholic' social media campaign



CNS photo/courtesy Catholic Extension

Catholic Extension has launched #WhyImCatholic, a campaign that invites Catholics to share stories of hope as a way to support one another and walk together in faith through the challenging time facing the Church. Share stories, short videos, photos or a written post using the hashtag #WhyImCatholic, or submit them to www.catholicextension.org/whyimcatholic.

Young Catholics discuss way forward for Church in light of abuse crisis

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Francis' pontificate has been one of reform, but his response to the current abuse crisis is "a moment of make or break" for him, a speaker said Sept. 17 at a "Salt and Light Gathering" at Georgetown University in Washington. Joshua McElwee, a Vatican correspondent for the *National Catholic Reporter* and co-editor of "A Pope Francis Lexicon," said he believes the biggest issue at stake is the lack of transparency surrounding what happens to bishops, superiors or other people of power when they do not report people who are abusing others. "It is weird to me that the people of God would not be informed about issues like that," he said. "The pope has the opportunity to address this crisis, to do something new, take action, or leave many of us wondering, 'What has happened and why did we not address this head-on?'" McElwee was one of four young Catholic professionals who discussed the Church's abuse crisis and the way forward at the gathering hosted by the university's Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life. The other panelists were Elizabeth Bruenig,

a *Washington Post* opinion columnist and editor; Jonathan Lewis, assistant secretary for pastoral ministry for the Archdiocese of Washington and an auditor at the upcoming Vatican Synod on Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment; and Eve Tushnet, editor of "Christ's Body, Christ's Wounds: Staying Catholic When You've Been Hurt in the Church."

Catholics gather in Philadelphia and Indianapolis to pray for healing

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) — Several hundred participants gathered at the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul Sept. 14 for a prayer vigil organized by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia in response to the ongoing clerical sexual abuse crisis. The seven-hour event, titled "Have Mercy on Us, O Lord," centered on both communal and private prayer during an evening of eucharistic adoration. Father Dennis Gill, director of the archdiocesan Office for Divine Worship, presided over the vigil, which began at 5 p.m. and ended with benediction at midnight. Attendance averaged between 100 and 125 at the

beginning and end of the vigil and up to 400 from 7-9 p.m. The sacrament of reconciliation was available throughout the service, which was designed as "a prayer vigil of reparation and petition," according to Father Gill. "The members of the Church, the body of Christ, are in real pain from sexual abuse, the failure of leadership and the sense of betrayal," he said. "We need healing." A similar service was held Sept. 15 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis, called a "Holy Hour for Prayer, Penance and Healing." Archbishop Charles C. Thompson laid prostrate in prayer on the floor for several minutes on at the start of the service. During his homily, he said this was "an act of penance and a pledge of doing everything in my power to do what is right" in eradicating "great scourge of sexual abuse."

Irish singer Bono calls pope 'extraordinary man for extraordinary times'

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Bono, the lead singer of the Irish band U2, said he told Pope Francis that in Ireland "it looks as though the abusers are being more protected than the victims. And you could

see the pain in his face." Bono met the pope Sept. 19 to sign an agreement between his charity, ONE, and the Scholas Occurrentes educational charity supported by Pope Francis. During the half-hour meeting, Bono said, he brought up Pope Francis' recent trip to Ireland and the concerns there about the sexual abuse crisis. The pope was "aghast," Bono said. "I thought he was sincere." "I think he is an extraordinary man for extraordinary times," the singer added. ONE is a campaign and advocacy effort working to end extreme poverty, especially in Africa. One of its current focuses, Bono told reporters Sept. 19, is education for girls and young women. Some "130 million girls around the world do not go to school, because they are girls," he said. "Poverty is sexist" is the campaign slogan, he said.

Minnesota school's welcome of Karen children answers parents' prayers

MAPLEWOOD, Minn. (CNS) — It seems like a typical morning school scene: dozens of students pouring out of a bus, backpacks over shoulders, chatting with friends before the 9:30 a.m. bell. But at St. Jerome School in Maplewood, outside of St. Paul, the sight is nothing short of a miracle, Principal Anne Gattman told *The Catholic Spirit*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. It also is the answer to the fervent prayers of the students' parents. Most of the students are Karen, members of an ethnic community in Myanmar in southeast Asia. The families were displaced by civil unrest and lived in refugee camps in neighboring Thailand. Forty-six Karen children in kindergarten through eighth grade are enrolled at St. Jerome this year. In the last decade, Karen families — some of them Catholic — have immigrated to the United States. In 2011, Karen Catholics began arriving in St. Paul, where they started looking for a Catholic parish and school for their children. Enter Deacon Seraphim Wirth, then a brother with the Franciscan Brothers of Peace. His involvement began with a phone call in 2011 at the community's St. Paul friary. He answered the phone one late afternoon and tried to understand the caller's words. All he could decipher was "want to go to Catholic." He suggested that the caller come to the friary the next day. After hanging up the phone, Deacon Seraphim started thinking that "there was something" to the encounter. "I thought, if they come in tomorrow, well then, maybe it's something I'm supposed to do," he said.

USF to celebrate feast of St. Francis of Assisi

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis will celebrate the feast of its patron saint, Francis of Assisi, with three events on or near Oct. 4.

Born in 1182, St. Francis' dramatic reversion to the Christian faith, his poverty and his service to the needy in imitation of Christ sparked a spiritual movement that continues to the present in the three religious orders he founded. The events at the university, which will commemorate his impact on the world even today, are sponsored by the USF Office for Mission Integration and Spirituality, in conjunction with USF Campus Ministry.

A blessing of pets, led by university chaplain Father David Meinzen, will take place on Sunday, Sept. 30, at 7 p.m. in front of Brookside Mansion, near the St. Francis statue. Pets of all shapes, sizes and species are welcome, as are their owners.

The Transitus, a Franciscan prayer service commemorating St. Francis' passing into heaven, will be prayed on Wednesday, Oct. 3, at 7 p.m. in the new St. Francis Chapel on the east side of campus, next to the Pope John Paul II Center. Through readings, hymns and ritual, participants will relive the night of Francis' passage with "Sister Death" to eternal life. Fellowship and refreshments will follow nearby in the Doerner Family Center for Health Sciences Education, Room 156.

On Oct. 4 at 11:30 a.m. in the new St. Francis Chapel, a special Mass will celebrate St. Francis' "birth into heaven." The university's chaplain, Father David Meinzen, will officiate. People of all faiths and persuasions are invited to join in this celebration of St. Francis' life in word, song

AROUND THE DIOCESE

St. Matthew students visit Fort Wayne chancery



Provided by Matt Woods

Seventh-grade students from St. Matthew Cathedral School, South Bend, toured the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center in Fort Wayne Monday, Sept. 24. The students, their teachers, tour guides and Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades are pictured in the chancery offices.

and sacrament.

All events are open to the public and free of charge, but attendees are asked to bring personal care items to benefit Vincent Village. University students, employees, alumni, Secular Franciscans and those with a "Franciscan heart" are welcome to attend.

For more information, call Sister Anita Holzmer, assistant vice president for mission integration, at 260-399-7700, ext. 6705.

Summit Awakening fall retreat

FORT WAYNE — Summit Awakening is a student-led, Christian-based retreat ministry, sponsored by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and the University of Saint Francis. It seeks to kindle a personal love for God and His kingdom in the hearts of college students in

northeast Indiana, through personal testimonies, group reflection and immersion in the mystical body of Christ.

The next retreat is Summit Awakening 6, the theme of which is "Hail to the Cross, Our Only Hope!" It will take place Oct. 5-7 at the University of Saint Francis, downtown campus. At the retreat, students will spend the weekend listening to engaging talks and testimonies from their peers,

experiencing a personal encounter with Christ in prayer and the sacraments and learning what it means to live an authentic faith life as part of a community.

The purpose of Summit Awakening is to deepen faith and a relationship with God through a Catholic retreat ministry for college students. The three day retreat begins around 5 p.m. Friday and concludes around 4 p.m. Sunday. All college students, regardless of religion or university, are invited to attend.

South Bend-area parishes to participate in national rosary

FORT WAYNE — Inspired by the Rosary on the Border in Poland and the Rosary on the Coast in Ireland and in the United Kingdom, the Holy League plans a Rosary Coast to Coast event in the U.S. on Oct. 7. This living rosary will be prayed simultaneously by tens of thousands of people in cities across the United States from New York to San Francisco, and across the various time zones — from 4 p.m. in the Eastern time zone to 1 p.m. in the Pacific time zone. This will be a powerful prayer of reparation and a petition for Mary's intercession in this time of crisis for the Church and the nation.

In the South Bend area, the rosary will be prayed, rain or shine, from approximately 4 to 5 p.m. in Leighton Stadium at Saint Joseph High School, 800 E. LaSalle Ave. Families and individuals are welcome and encouraged to join Corpus Christi, St. Anthony of Padua and other South Bend-area parishes in this moment of prayer.

Eagle Scout project spruces up Ave Maria house exterior



Provided by Keith Lipke

FORT WAYNE — Landin Keiffer, a junior at Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, completed an extensive project Sept. 15. Keiffer is working toward his Eagle Scout rank, the highest rank in scouting. He led about 40 volunteers in installing a picnic table and bike rack, as well as a walkway for visitors, at the Ave Maria Hospitality House in Fort Wayne, a day respite location for the homeless near St. Mary, Mother of God Church.



Keiffer and his volunteers also fixed up the landscaping around the house. The son of Stacey and Heath Keiffer, Landin is a member of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish.

Continue to be an evangelizing Church,

BY NORMA MONTENEGRO FLYNN

GRAPEVINE, Texas (CNS) — Quoting from Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation "The Joy of the Gospel," Archbishop Christophe Pierre encouraged Hispanic Catholic leaders and bishops to continue working toward being an evangelizing Church by seeking an encounter with Christ and taking initiative while accompanying those on the peripheries.

"The Church which 'goes forth' is a community of missionary disciples who take the first step, who are involved and supportive, who bear fruit and rejoice," Archbishop Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States, said Sept. 20, the opening day of the Fifth National Encuentro.

Nearly 3,000 ministry leaders at the gathering in Grapevine were selected to represent 159 dioceses across the country.

During the Sept. 20-23 event, participants were taking part in listening and dialogue sessions to discuss a wide range of issues they consider to be priorities in Hispanic Catholic ministry for the Church in the United States.

The Fifth National Encuentro, also called V Encuentro, is a process of missionary work, consultation, leadership development and community building that seeks to develop better ways in which the Catholic Church can respond to Hispanic Catholics in parishes around the country. It also seeks to strengthen them as leaders and missionary disciples.

As in previous Encuentros, the goal is to develop a national pastoral plan for Hispanic ministry for the present and for years to come.

Archbishop Pierre, in his keynote address, praised the work done by Encuentro leaders to reach those on the peripheries as they answer the call to be missionary disciples.

In remarks delivered in both English and Spanish, the papal nuncio warned against judging and condemning the Church and considering it distant. "We are the Church, if there's need for a conversion it starts with us," he said.

He also challenged the leaders to seek new ways to reach out to those who are indifferent and to those who have abandoned the Church or are on existential and spiritual peripheries.

"What leads to a change of heart in Christians is precisely a missionary spirit," he said.

The archbishop described the characteristics of an evangelizing Church: getting involved, taking initiative, staying committed, accompanying others, bearing fruits and feeling joy.

He reminded participants that as Pope Francis said: "The Church in the United States, as in

other parts of the world, is called to 'go forth' out of its comfort zone and become leaven of communion."

The nuncio also urged everyone to get involved and not just remain as spectators, and invited bishops and clergy to keep their vocations alive.

"Accompaniment entails guiding, encouraging and supporting, and uniting. The Church that actively does this is a synodal Church — a Church that walks together. One speaks of synodality in the Church and synodality of the Church," he added.

He explained synodality "in" the Church as a Church that journeys together renewing the life and practice of faith through constant discernment and action involving many forms of participation and action. Synodality "of" the Church, he said, refers to the journey of the Church with humanity through history.

"The Encuentro process has shown the effectiveness of synodality 'in' the Church — listening, speaking, participating by asking critical questions and discerning the path forward. If communion is a sharing of the faithful in the mysteries of faith and mission of the Church, synodality is the sign and fulfillment of communion."

Bearing fruits requires discernment and patience, he stressed. "Patience in the art of discernment and accompaniment allows the whole Church to move forward."

Archbishop Pierre told participants not to forget about joy along the journey. "Joy is the greatest experience of the Church that goes forth. The Eucharist is the source and summit of all life in the Church. The Eucharist is the sacrament which nourishes Christian joy."

He concluded by inviting others to live the joy of the Gospel.

"It is my sincere hope that as we gather for these days, we may be the Church that Christ wants us to be — with him at the center of our lives, our conversations and our ministry, confident that with the Holy Virgin of Guadalupe to accompany us and to intercede for us, we may always move forward in hope, making known the joy of the Gospel."

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Ky., chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee for Religious Liberty, talks Sept. 20 with delegates prior to the start of the Fifth National Encuentro, or V Encuentro, in Grapevine, Texas. The four-day event was a gathering of more than 3,200 Hispanic Catholic leaders and about 125 bishops from across the country.

Joy, hope contagious for participants as they discern priorities

BY NORMA MONTENEGRO FLYNN

GRAPEVINE, Texas (CNS) — Joy, hope, energy and a spirit of continued collaboration are contagious among the participants of the Fifth National Encuentro, in Grapevine.

One of the attendees, a 22-year-old Mexican-American seminarian, said he feels enriched by the exchange of ideas on pastoral needs in areas such as vocations and young adults. He also feels his contributions will be of value to strengthen Catholic Hispanic ministry in the United States.

"In school we do a lot of theorizing and then you come here, and you come back to the reality to see what the needs of the Church are," the seminarian, who asked that his name not be used, told Catholic News Service.

"One thing that surprised me is the amount of youth, young leaders, young people working for different dioceses, it's something that I didn't expect to be a reality," he added.

The Encuentro participants, who totaled about 3,200 Hispanic ministry leaders, bishops and members of organizations and ecclesial movements, continued a full day of consultation and discernment Sept. 22 on 28 ministerial areas and 10 priorities which include evangelization and catechesis, family, immigration,

justice and peace, and Hispanic youth and young adults.

During an afternoon plenary session, regional representatives highlighted the contributions of "Dreamers," or Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals recipients. They were part of the Encuentro process but were unable to be present at this gathering in Texas for fear of being detained and deported due to the state's harsh immigration laws. It was a moving moment in which the audience cheered in solidarity with them.

"I'm very hopeful with the results of this Encuentro that we're going to go back home and really bring consciousness to the whole world, that we're going to make a difference in the lives of those who need us," Sister Norma Pimentel, an Encuentro delegate, told CNS. A member of the Missionaries of Jesus, Sister Pimentel is executive director of Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley in Texas.

Other recurring issues include supporting Hispanic women in leadership roles; the need to continue the role of a missionary Church that reaches out to others; more access to leadership positions at all levels; and to reach out to, mentor and guide young adults as ministry leaders.

Unlike previous Encuentros where a national pastoral plan was developed following the national gathering, the results

of the Fifth National Encuentro, or V Encuentro, will be compiled into a final document that will be shared with all dioceses, so parishes and dioceses can utilize it to reinforce and strengthen their Hispanic ministry groups.

The reason is that the Hispanic Catholic community in the Church has grown to be large and diverse in its needs and realities, and what makes sense for San Antonio would not make sense in other dioceses like Green Bay, Wisconsin, or Tulsa, Oklahoma, explained Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller of San Antonio in an interview with CNS. He chairs the Committee on Cultural Diversity in the Church of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

"Each diocese has been in a different process even in the V Encuentro," Archbishop Garcia-Siller said.

He also pointed out that the involvement of bishops from most dioceses and archdioceses shows their support for the Hispanic community and commitment to move forward.

"The main thing is that the bishops — and you see it with the presence of bishops (at this gathering) — we are assuming this walking together with the people of God in the Catholic Church in which many, many, many are Catholic for the sake of the whole Church," Archbishop Garcia-Siller said.



CNS photo/Tyler Orsburn

nuncio tells V Encuentro delegates



CNS photos/Tyler Orsburn

A delegate carries the Encuentro cross during the opening procession.



Aaron Benevides, a student at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, demonstrates a photo display Sept. 20 prior to the start of the Fifth National Encuentro, or V Encuentro, in Grapevine, Texas.

V Encuentro makes an impact on Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend delegates

Jose Ruiz, St. John the Evangelist, Goshen

— For Ruiz, the impact of V Encuentro has been a confirmation to work with *Movimiento Familiar* — a Catholic movement that aims to strengthen families and the youth. On a national level, he believes it served to encourage delegates to be bridges among the diverse cultures. “Simply put, we are all Catholics.”

Manuel Centeno, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Warsaw

— Centeno said participation in the V Encuentro process has encouraged him to make home visits for the purpose of evangelization and to help meet the needs of others. It is also helping him to avoid living only for himself.

Alicia Carrillo, St. Patrick, Ligonier

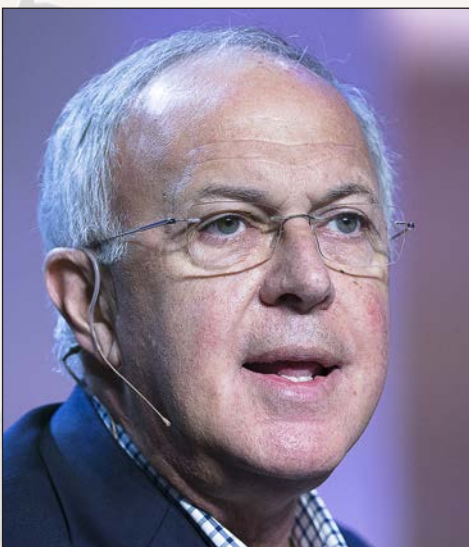
— Because of her involvement in V Encuentro, Carrillo plans to visit other parish groups in the hopes they will go out to the peripheries of the parish neighborhood. “We have to echo the Good News of Jesus Christ,” she said. “We are all sons and daughters of God in need of God.”

Lourdes Silva, associate coordinator of Hispanic Ministry

— “The impact of the V Encuentro has been to see over 2,550 delegates from the U.S. Catholic Church, over 130 Bishops and hundreds of priests, join their delegates to improve the life of our Church, especially for the poor and most vulnerable in our society. This gives me hope for my children, grandkids, friends, and I pray our Church will continue to heal and grow, persevering through the virtues of faith, hope and love,” Silva said.



Hosffman Ospino, associate professor of theology and religious education at Boston College, speaks to delegates Sept. 21 during the “Getting Involved” panel presentation.



Carl Anderson, CEO of the Knights of Columbus, speaks to Encuentro delegates Sept. 21.



Provided by Lourdes Silva

Pictured with the V Encuentro cross of Region 7, which includes the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, are, from left, delegates Lourdes Silva, associate director for Hispanic Ministry; Alicia Carrillo; Jose Ruiz; and Manuel Centeno.

World Youth Day pilgrims prepare for the journey

BY JOSHUA SCHIPPER

Less than four months remain until young people across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend embark on not only a physical pilgrimage to Panama, for World Youth Day, but a spiritual one.

On Sept. 18, the pilgrims gathered at St. Francis Xavier Church in Pierceton to discuss the means by which they must prepare themselves for the journey. While they discussed in detail the itinerary and the items they should bring, the meeting ultimately revolved around spiritual preparation.

Secretary of Catholic Education Carl Loesch stressed this aspect. While the plane can cut the distance between the pilgrims and Panama, he asked: "How can we cut down the distance between our heart and God's?" The pilgrims were then given concrete tips to do that. One tip was to read the first chapter of the Gospel of Luke at least once during each month leading up to their departure. This particular chapter includes the theme for the pilgrimage, "I am the servant of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word" (Lk 1:38).

This verse is relevant to young people discerning God's will for their lives. Although His



Joshua Schipper

World Youth Day pilgrims learn ways that they can prepare spiritually for their upcoming experience in Panama.

plan may be unclear at first, they are reminded to say "yes" to Him, as Mary did.

Next, it was recommended that the pilgrims participate in Mass frequently and partake in

the sacrament of reconciliation regularly. This will ensure that their souls are open to the graces that they will receive in Panama. Additionally, the young people were advised to ready themselves

for the plethora of hardships they will face during the trip. At times during the pilgrimage, they may be tired, hungry and spiritually exhausted; they were reminded to offer these hard-

ships up "for the sake of drawing close to Christ." Furthermore, the pilgrims were encouraged to "see Christ in the poor and suffering." By humbling themselves to see Christ in even the most seemingly hopeless places, they prepare their hearts to see Christ at work in their everyday lives.

Finally, the pilgrims were implored to pray for the youth of the world. With the Synod on Young People scheduled for October in Rome, prayer for a fruitful assembly is essential to deliver the Good News to a new generation of young Catholics growing up in an ever-changing society, they were told. These tips will most certainly ensure the pilgrims will be spiritually satisfied in Panama.

The pilgrims said they were excited to represent the diocese in front of not only young Catholics from around the world, but also the Holy Father, Pope Francis. After about one year of preparation, the time draws near for them to depart not only by plane, but through spirit. As they continue to prepare themselves for their journey, both physically and spiritually, the faithful throughout the diocese are encouraged to pray to Our Lady of Antigua, patroness of Panama, for their safety and that they may be filled with the grace of God throughout their journey.

Maryknoll priest promotes clean water and organic farming in Guatemala

BY SEAN SPRAGUE

Maryknoll Father Edward Custer drives a dozen youth from San Juan Apostol parish in El Remate, Petén, Guatemala, in his pick-up truck and heads to nearby Lake Macanche. Parishioner Alejandro Córdova drives another group of volunteers in his pick-up. Their mission: to clean the garbage from the lake that is suffering the effects of years of human abuse and neglect from the surrounding communities.

This effort is part of a Maryknoll project that supports El Remate Vicariate to encourage local residents to change their habits to achieve more sustainable management of the area's natural ecosystem. That includes reducing the production of solid waste, eliminating the accumulation of garbage at lakes Macanche and Petén Itzá, and channeling household sewage into septic tanks in the local communities.

It's not an easy task. At Lake Macanche, Córdova shakes his head in dismay as he points out a dump truck being washed on the edge of the lake. The vehicle's grease and oil threaten the fish, but there is no control to prevent such practices.

Nearby, women stand waist-

deep in the lake washing clothes with detergent and rinsing them in the lake water. "We hope to install traditional concrete washing stands close to but not actually in the lake," Córdova says. "Water could be piped there, and the run-off rinse water absorbed into the ground and not directly into the lake."

The litter collectors fill large bags with discarded bottles, detergent packets, oil cans, pesticide containers, dead cell phones, batteries and various other items of trash that they find along the shore. Later they will take the refuse to a recycling center, leaving the lake a little healthier.

When Father Custer arrived in Guatemala in 2008, the first sign of ecological damage he noticed was that the trees in the jungle of the Petén were being cut down to make room for cattle farming. This raised his concerns about pollution in an area he calls one of the lungs of Latin America. "I started making noise at the vicariate meetings in the Petén," he says, "but not that many priests seem interested in this issue, even now, in spite of Pope Francis' call for the care of creation."

He began working to build awareness among students and the general public about how to reduce and properly dispose of waste. He spoke to community



S. Sprague/Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers

Father Custer directs clean-up of the shore of Lake Macanche in Guatemala's Petén region, where Maryknoll supports sustainable management of the natural ecosystem.

authorities to promote a change in attitudes and to get them to provide trash bins near the shores of the lakes and lagoons.

Father Custer's project is one of many initiatives by groups and individuals struggling to prevent a looming water crisis in this Central American country. A recent report in Guatemala's *Prensa Libre* newspaper quoted environmental experts saying that without an integrated plan and a policy to manage the country's water, 100 percent of its water sources will be contaminated in about 10 years. Current studies indicate that 95 percent of the rivers are already contaminated.

"I have hopes people will wake up, but it's a slow process," Father Custer says. "There's some concern about this problem, because if our lakes and rivers are contaminated, tourism will be affected. At least something is being done now. The local schools, the municipalities and the local church are getting involved."

The missionary from South Bend, Ind., who was ordained in 1972, spent much of his mission career in Nicaragua, where he made an impact on youth, especially boys who loved baseball. His encouragement of the sport led to the building of a stadium named after him. Yet, he says his



S. Sprague/Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers

Youths from San Juan Apostol Parish in El Remate, Petén, pick up litter, particularly plastic, from nearby Lake Macanche.

greatest achievement is in the field of environmental protection not on a baseball diamond.

In Nicaragua he served in a rural area called Rancho Grande, where, he recalls, the air and water were pure, and the people healthy and still riding on horseback. Then, he says, a gold mining company arrived and was about to pollute the groundwater with cyanide to extract the precious metal. Father Custer led a resistance movement that eventually resulted in a government ban on mining in Rancho Grande. "I think that was the greatest thing I have done in my life!" he says.

In Guatemala, Escolástico and Bertha Pérez, a farming couple in their early 60s, are seeing the results of another environmental effort led by Father Custer, along with the Church's Ecological Land Commission: organic farming.

The couple, who left the Guatemalan highlands to settle in the steamy, tropical lowlands of the Petén 25 years ago, have

a six-acre plot of flat land with a stream running through it. "This is our paradise!" says Escolástico.

Shunning chemical agriculture, the couple refuse to use artificial fertilizers or insecticides. Compost piles litter their plot, which is covered in shade-giving fruit trees that they lovingly planted. "I have 27 different varieties of fruit, some of which are not native to this continent but are doing well," says Escolástico. With rich soil, abundant rainfall and strong sun, he and his wife do indeed seem to have a corner of paradise.

Eager to share their knowledge, the couple host workshops sponsored by the local church and overseen by Father Custer. Recently, a dozen farmers and Father Custer sat in the shade of Escolástico's trees as an organic farming expert demonstrated how to graft avocado trees.

The farmers watched intently as Cesar Cacao explained the process. "There are so many

advantages to organic farming," says Cacao, who works for the local municipality. "Not only can the yield be greater, but the fruit is much tastier and healthier, and the plants are happier too, having a greater natural resistance to pests, drought or too much rain — and you don't have to waste money on expensive chemicals."

The workshop participants in turn will reach out to their own communities to share the techniques they have learned.

Norilda Marina, a woman in her 20s, receives a small salary

to coordinate such activities. One of her concerns is the tendency of farmers during the last 70 years to use commercially produced seeds that need chemicals to grow.

"We want farmers to continue having access to the traditional creole seeds, which they have always used since the time of the Mayans," she says. "To this end we want to start a seed bank. Otherwise some varieties will just disappear forever."

With a seed bank, farmers would be able to borrow seeds, and then return a similar

amount of the same type of seeds after the harvest. Progress for them will mean going back to chemical-free basics, but with the advantage of appropriate science and technology on their side.

Thanks to expert promoters and support from the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers through Father Custer, it may be possible to restore and preserve the paradise of Guatemala's Petén.

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The Catholic Church in the European Project
Archbishop Paul Richard Gallagher
Secretary for Relations with States

THE KEELEY VATICAN LECTURE

Tuesday, October 2 at 5:30 p.m.

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KEOUGH SCHOOL OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS
 UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME



*Deacon Spenser St. Louis
 will be ordained
 to the diaconate Sept. 27, 2018*

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

-St. Vincent de Paul

A parish son who make
 us proud and for whom we wish a
 diaconate filled with much joy and peace.

FATHER DANIEL SCHEIDT

FATHER JAY HORNING

FATHER POLYCARP FERNANDO

AND THE ENTIRE

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FORT WAYNE PARISH FAMILY

Praying with children

Next month, Pope Francis will host a synod of bishops on the theme of “Young people, faith and vocational discernment.”

This may seem uncomfortable, even incongruous, given the crisis the Church faces today. Some have asked the Holy Father to put off this synod and concentrate instead on the meeting he has convened for next February to discuss the crisis.

For my own part, I think there’s a strong argument for going ahead with the synod on youth right now. The faith of the world’s young people is precisely what the present crisis is destroying. It will not be enough, though it is certainly necessary, for the Church to root out the evil in her midst and bring about some semblance of justice. She also needs to tend to the generation whose faith in God has been impaired by these depraved shepherds.

Here at the university, we are giving a lot of attention to the role of the laity in the Church and what they can do to right the ark in these rough seas. Theologians are looking at “Lumen Gentium,” the Second Vatican Council’s Dogmatic Constitution on the Church.

It is not an accident that that document speaks first about the people of God, before going on to discuss the roles of the hierarchy and the laity; “Each of them in its own special way is a participation in the one priesthood of Christ.” Out of this crisis may come a new understanding of that prophetic observation.

This is an important inquiry. But let us not overlook the fact that the most important thing the laity can do to rebuild the Church is to raise their children in the faith. This isn’t a novel observation. “Lumen Gentium” itself observes that “the family is, so to speak, the domestic church. In it parents should, by their word and example, be the first preachers of faith to their children.”

A child may see her bishop only at confirmation, her parish priest only once a week. Until she goes to school, her parents are with her day and night. Before she begins to speak, they teach her how to pray. They bring her to Mass when she is more interested in Cheerios than in the sacrament.

Elizabeth Anscombe, the great analytic philosopher and mother of seven, has a wonderful essay about teaching children the doctrine of transubstantiation. It’s best done at Mass, she says, when a child is just learning to speak. At the moment of consecration, the child can connect the thought and the action: This is Jesus now before us. And implicit in the lesson is our belief in the divinity and the resurrection of the Lord.

No one but a parent can do this. The priest can’t interrupt his own celebration of the Mass to offer the explanation. The teacher in a classroom has missed the moment; the lesson becomes abstract.

And none of them has the massive reserve of trust a parent draws upon in teaching lessons



INTELLECT AND VIRTUE

JOHN GARVEY

of faith. I’m a grandfather, and I still find myself invoking my mother’s axioms about putting silver knives in the dishwasher and handling colicky babies.

This may be the most important advantage parents have in handing on the faith at the present moment. Catholics are experiencing a crisis of confidence in the hierarchy. The loss of trust does not go all the way down. If we earn our children’s faith in us, we can still be heralds of the faith. My sense is that this extends to our parishes as well, the communities where Christian families live their liturgical life.

Let’s make sure we are worthy of the trust reposed in us. There’s a lot riding on it right now.

The truth that set him free

“I believe the Lord has put me here for this very moment. Throughout all of the pain, the Lord has never left me alone. He has continued to love me, heal me and still calls me to serve Him.”

Those are the words of a victim of sexual abuse. Those are the words of a priest.

Father Brendan McGuire spoke those words in a homily it took him 35 years to write. It was his story of being abused by a priest as a young man. The priest was ostensibly helping him discern a vocation, but in fact was grooming young Brendan for four years in preparation for a sexual assault.

Words fail to adequately describe the blasphemy of such a plot. What seems remarkable is that Father McGuire could still respond to God’s call, angry as he was at what happened.

“After the original offense 35 years ago, the Lord still asked me to be (a) priest,” Father McGuire recalled in a homily he preached in early September and that was reprinted by Catholic News Service. “I told the Lord to go away many times!”

Much to Father McGuire’s surprise, the Lord won out: “I love my priesthood and love my ministry, here in the parish and at the diocese and I fully intend to stay in ministry as a priest.”

For all those years, Father McGuire never told anyone what happened. But inspired by the latest surge of publicity about clergy sexual abuse, he recently told his family and friends. Then he told his parish about his expe-



AMID THE FRAY

GREG ERLANDSON

rience, inviting other victims to contact him, and advocating for change. So far, 45 victims have contacted him, five of whom are fellow priests.

In his homily, Father McGuire asked his parishioners to “please remember the victims. Advocate for them that they may receive justice.”

He also asked Catholics to encourage their bishops “to be forthright in telling the full truth of the past.”

I’ve been thinking a lot about Father McGuire and his remarkable story in the context of the great anger welling up in the Church right now. Those who have been victimized, like Father McGuire, are understandably angry for all they have experienced at the hands of those they trusted.

But there is anger among ordinary Catholics who have been shamed by their Church once again. There is anger among priests, who often felt abandoned by their leaders and unfairly tarnished for the sins of the few. There is anger among the bishops who feel attacked and on the defensive, often for

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Only that which is of the Holy Spirit endures



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

The Book of Numbers, the source of the first reading for this weekend, is one of the first five books of the Bible. The ancient Hebrews, and Jews today, attribute these five books, collectively called the Pentateuch, to Moses. Always, however, Moses has only been seen as the human instrument through whom God spoke to the people.

Thus, these five books, in Jewish theology, and in Catholic teaching, are the very words of God. So, the Pentateuch, or the Torah, is the basis of all Jewish belief and religious practice. Even historical events,

such as the ones mentioned in this weekend’s reading, are interpreted in the light of this fundamental understanding.

This reading’s message is that God’s inspiration does not necessarily follow the route that humans may suppose or prefer. Moses made this clear. The men discussed in the reading did not appear to be worthy messengers of God. Moses warns his contemporaries that they should not judge these men. Mere humans cannot judge whether or not a person possesses God’s grace. God does not operate according to any human timetable or set of requirements.

For its second reading, the Church this weekend presents a section from the Epistle to James. All the epistles are interesting, since they reveal the circumstances of Christian life in the generations immediately after Jesus.

The Christians living in the last third of the first century saw some people in their midst, then as now a minority in the population, who were wealthy. This circumstance produced for

the rich not only ease, but a certain sense of security. This advantage of the rich tempted Christians, therefore, to assume that God especially blessed persons of wealth.

The epistle corrects this thinking. Wealth seems so desirable, but wealth is impermanent. It guarantees no ultimate security. Furthermore, it so often is a dangerous distraction. If nothing else, it obscures what truly matters in life: namely, being with God and building up storehouses of spiritual treasures. One day, when we die, earthly possessions will mean absolutely nothing.

St. Mark’s Gospel furnishes the last reading. John is troubled by the fact that a man uses the name of Jesus to drive away demons. How can this be? John does not know this man. The man is not within the circle of disciples. Therefore, the man cannot be authentic.

The Lord replies that obviously, no enemy of the Lord would or could invoke the name of Jesus to accomplish anything good. The Lord states that all

those of honest faith are of God.

The reading has a second part. It reminds us that the benefits, and indeed the needs, of this world may be fleeting when eternity and things of the spirit are considered.

Reflection

The story is told that when Cardinal Thomas Wolsey, Archbishop of York in the time immediately prior to King Henry VIII’s break with the Church, and chancellor, or prime minister, of England for many years, was dying, he said that if he had served God as diligently as he had served the king, he would not be afraid to die.

This worldly cardinal was hardly alone among humans who looked back upon life with regret when they were dying. Cardinal Wolsey was hardly the only human approaching death to realize that he squandered time on earth by running after material rainbows. He finally saw that only the spiritual endures.

The Church calls us to see

that earthly achievements one day will help us not at all. Only our nearness to God in this life will matter as we face the next life.

The readings remind us that we are humans. We can be tempted, and temptations can be strong. We are limited and nearsighted, our judgments imperfect. We need God.

READINGS

Sunday: Nm 11:25-29 Ps 198, 10, 12-14 Jas 5:1-6 Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Monday: Jb 1:6-22 Ps 17:1-3, 6-7 Lk 9:46-50

Tuesday: Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23 Ps 88:2-8 Mt 18:1-5, 10

Wednesday: Jb 9:1-12, 14-16 Ps 88:10-15 Lk 9:57-62

Thursday: Jb 19:21-27 Ps 27:7-9, 13-14 Lk 10:1-12

Friday: Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5 Ps 139:1-3, 7-10, 13-14 Lk 10:13-16

Saturday: Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17 Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130 Lk 10:17-24

Opioids, pain management and addiction: balancing ethical duties

Almost 2 million Americans are now addicted to opioids. The National Institute on Drug Abuse notes that more than 100 people die each day in the U.S. from opioid overdoses. This unprecedented level of abuse — which involves not only heroin, but also prescription pain relievers such as OxyContin, Percocet, morphine, codeine and fentanyl — has become a national crisis. Reportedly, about 80 percent of heroin addicts first misused prescription opioids. Yet for many patients, no pain relieving options more effective than opioids exist. Figuring out how to use these powerful pharmacological agents in an appropriate and ethical manner is urgent and imperative.

At a minimum, a three-pronged approach is required. One prong involves working with medical professionals to limit the use and availability of these drugs by modifying prescribing practices. A second involves making patients more aware of the risks of addiction and increasing their involvement in monitoring their medications and managing decisions about their care. A third involves making effective addiction treatment and outreach programs accessible to those caught in the throes of chemical dependency.

With regard to reducing opioid availability, in recent years medical professionals have been seeking to establish guidelines for prescribing opiates that take into account the number of pills typically needed to get through a surgery or treatment. For example, recovery from more complex stomach surgeries might require 60 opioid pills, while an appendectomy or hernia might only require 15-20.

Although prescription guidelines can be helpful, they clearly can't be fixed in stone, as individual patients will have varying pain management needs. Some nurses recall well the days when concerns about addiction could result in under-medicated patients watching the clock and writhing in pain until the time of the next dose. Unmanaged pain is a spiritual assault on the dignity of a person, and plays right

into the hands of assisted suicide advocates.

Careful titration of pain medications, whether for surgery or chronic pain, also helps to avoid overmedicating patients and rendering them lethargic or semi-comatose; in terminal situations, patients still have the right to prepare for their death while fully conscious, and they should not generally be deprived of consciousness or alertness except to mitigate excruciating or otherwise uncontrollable pain.

In certain cases, of course, it may not matter if a person becomes addicted to pain medications. If a patient has only a few weeks of life remaining, and he or she is experiencing intractable pain such that high doses of opioids are the most effective approach, addiction during his or her final days and hours would not generally raise ethical concerns.

There are alternatives to the use of opioids that may be suitable for some patients. These include the use of less-addictive or non-addictive drugs such as acetaminophen, ibuprofen, naproxen, or anesthetics and blockers at the pain site. Cognitive behavioral therapy, stress management and relaxation techniques can help patients learn how to modify triggers that increase pain. Specialists sometimes remind us that bringing pain down to a tolerable level should be the goal, rather than trying to eliminate it entirely, which in many cases may not even be possible. Some patients may require assistance to come to accept even a limited amount of pain.

A San Diego-based pilot program to reduce the over-prescription of opioids included the novel step of notifying physicians when one of their patients had died from an overdose. The San Diego medical examiner would send health care professionals a letter in this format: "This is a courtesy communication to inform you that your patient [Name, Date of Birth] died on [Date]. Prescription drug overdose was either the primary cause or contributed to the death." In follow up studies, physicians who received these



MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

letters were found to prescribe at significantly decreased levels, and they were also less likely to start new patients on opioids at all. Researchers speculated that, like everyone else, physicians tend to assess health and safety risks differently when bad outcomes spring readily to mind. At the same time, taking steps to restrict opioid availability can backfire, with devastating consequences for chronic pain patients who may now end up being refused opioid prescriptions they need and have relied on for years.

The proper use of pain medications, in the final analysis, requires a balanced approach, attending to objective indications from the patient, so clinicians can offer sufficient comfort and remediation of their pain. Patients must also take responsibility for their own pain management decisions, becoming informed about, and aware of, the challenges and risks. When the goal is to provide the lowest dose of opioids for the shortest amount of time, in direct response to the level and severity of the pain, patients are likely to have better treatment outcomes with diminished risks of addiction.

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. serves as the director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

ERLANDSON, from page 12

the actions of their predecessors.

Father McGuire finally faced his anger. Telling his story has led to his own healing. "The truth has set me free," he said.

For those who are victims, whether at the hands of Churchmen or others, Father McGuire's advice is to "ask the Lord to gently give you the strength to find your voice."

For the rest of us, we must find our voice as well. That may

mean communicating our own frustration and hurt to our pastors and our bishops, but to do so respectfully.

Many bishops, including Father McGuire's own, are listening to their people and discerning a path forward.

It is more important than ever to pray for our entire Catholic family as we advocate for reform and accountability. This is a moment of great pain, but as Father McGuire realized, God will not abandon us. "He has never

left us and He will never leave us alone. May we find our voices and advocate for the victims and change, and may the Church leaders open their ears."

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for September 30, 2018

Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: right actions and wrong actions. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

TEACHER FOR US	IN YOUR NAME WATER	SPEAK DRINK
REWARD	WHOEVER	CAUSES
LITTLE ONES	BELIEVE	TO SIN
BE BETTER	MILLSTONE	NECK
THROWN	ENTER	KINGDOM
ONE EYE	WORM	THE FIRE

WARNINGS

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

Saint of the Week



Michael, Gabriel and Raphael

c. 860-921
 Feast September 29

These archangels, messengers sent by God, are the only ones named in the Bible. In the Book of Daniel, Michael is called "the great prince"; in the Letter of Jude, he argues with the devil over Moses' body; and in the Book of Revelation, he leads the battle against Satan. He is patron of the sick, radiologists and mariners. Gabriel explains Daniel's visions to him in the Book of Daniel, and in the Gospel of Luke announces to Zechariah and Mary the births of their respective sons. He is the patron of messengers and telecommunications and postal workers. Raphael guides Tobiah in the Book of Tobit; he is patron of the blind, physicians and travelers. The Church created their joint feast after the Second Vatican Council.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

150th anniversary of St. Vincent de Paul Parish

ELKHART — St. Vincent de Paul Parish, 1108 S. Main St., will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the parish on Sunday, Sept. 30, and will offer a 3:30 p.m. bilingual Mass with Bishop Rhoades and a reception following. Former clergy, parishioners and school alumni are invited to attend.

The Spirituality of Padre Pio retreat

HUNTINGTON — Father Pio Mandato, FMHSJ, a Franciscan hermit from the Diocese of Scranton and a distant relative of St. Padre Pio, will be retreat master for the Spirituality of

Padre Pio Oct. 4-8 at St. Felix Catholic Retreat Center, 1280 Hitzfield St. Hosted by the Confraternity of Penitents, the retreat will feature daily Mass and divine office plus conferences, one night of all-night eucharistic adoration and a built-in six-hour hermitage experience. Commuters as well as overnight guests welcome. Contact Madeline Nugent at 260-739-6882 for information.

Disciples' Night for youth leaders

FORT WAYNE — Disciples' Night is a prayer and formation event for youth ministers, core team members and anyone else who has a heart

for leading young people in the faith. A Mass will be celebrated at 6 p.m. Mass at St. Jude Church, 2155 Randallia, on Thursday, Oct. 4. A light dinner and formation topic will follow and conclude by 8:30 p.m. Registration is free, but RSVP to jpratt@diocesefwsb.org or complete a registration on www.fwsbym.com.

Busy woman's Morning of Reflection

LAGRANGE — St. Joseph Parish will host a Morning of Reflection Saturday, Oct. 6, from 8 a.m. to noon for women. Start with a good cup of coffee or tea and something delicious, then dive into the

REST IN PEACE

Arcola

Phyllis Ann Doyle, 79, St. Patrick

Fort Wayne

Donna Wagner, Our Lady of Good Hope

John S. Gasper, St. Vincent de Paul

John M. Sauter, 75, Most Precious Blood

Robert C. Hinga, 64, St. Charles Borromeo

Rita Rose Berghoff, 88, St. Charles Borromeo

Mary Espinosa, 85, St. Joseph

Patricia A. Jordan, 85, Most Precious Blood

Raymond A. Minnick, 75, St. Joseph Hessen Cassel

Janet Marie Love, 76, St. Charles Borromeo

Mishawaka

James Kish, 83, St. Bavo

Margaret M Schaubert, 86, Queen of Peace

Notre Dame

Rev. Howard A. Kuhns, CSC, 100, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

Sherrill Friedman, 75, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

Plymouth

Nadine M. Zahm, 88, St. Michael

Michael J. Jeffirs, 84, St. Michael

South Bend

Deacon Emilio Gizzi, 85, St. Matthew Cathedral

Thomas E. Dodd, 89, Holy Family

Wabash

Earl Bussert, 83, St. Bernard

peace that only the Lord can give. "Living Peace" will be presented by Janet Patterson, who is a minister and educator from the University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, and a writer for *Today's Catholic*

and other publications. This short retreat will be a time of thought, conversation, prayer and food for the soul. To register visit <https://form.jotform.com/81694596165168> or call Anne Patka at 260-562-3061.

WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA FW-SB

ANNUAL HOLY MASS & BREAKFAST

OCTOBER 6, 2018

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 for more information



Monte Freeze

Stephanie Zelt

Bob Jesch

Our calling to serve keeps growing.

Divine Mercy Funeral Home is excited to announce the addition of Stephanie Zelt to our staff of experienced funeral directors. Stephanie will join Bob Jesch and Monte Freeze in their calling to serve local families with compassion, understanding and kindness.

With nearly 75 years of experience between them, our funeral directors serve all faiths and will thoughtfully guide you through our traditional and cremation funeral service options,

priced affordably to meet your budget. Also, if you've already pre-planned through another funeral home, you'll be pleased to know that you can quickly and easily transfer those arrangements.

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Marian High School Class of 2018

167 seniors

6,901 college credits*

32 Dual credit courses offered at Marian High School.

111 seniors earned 15 credits or more.

111 15+

85% of Marian seniors earned dual credits this year.

77 seniors earned 30 credits or more.

77 30+

60+ College credits earned by 5 seniors, that's 4 semesters of college.

*Total credits earned by all Marian students during the 2017-2018 school year.

WHAT DOES THE CHURCH MEAN BY REPARATION

In union with the perfect offering for sins made by Our Lord Jesus Christ, reparation (from the Latin “to repair or renew”) means making amends for our own sins and offenses or the sins and offenses of others in order to “repair” the injustice done to God and neighbor. Important acts of reparation include: the penances given at the end of reconciliation (CCC 1459) and the offering of the Eucharist for the sins of the living and the dead (CCC 1414). Reparation should be made to the victim of injustice by the offender and, especially if this is lacking, by those who love the victim as a brother or sister in Christ. In his pastoral letter, Bishop Rhoades has described how we might begin to make amends for the heinous sins of clerical offenders and promote the healing of victims.

Prayer for deliverance in time of tribulation

Almighty God,
do not disdain your people
who cry to you in their affliction,
but for the glory of your name
be pleased to help us who are
so sorely troubled.

Show us, O Lord, your inexpressible mercy,
blot out our transgressions,
and graciously deliver us
from the condemnation they
deserve.

We entreat you, Lord God,
grant us, your servants, the
enjoyment of lasting health of
body and mind;
and by the glorious intercession
of blessed Mary, ever a
Virgin,
free us from present sorrow
and give us everlasting joy.

Graciously hear us, O Lord, in
our tribulation,
and turn away the stripes of
your wrath which we justly
deserve.

God, our refuge and our
strength and source of all
goodness,
heed the holy prayers of your
Church,
and grant that we fully obtain
whatever we ask for in faith;
through Christ our Lord.

Amen.
*Taken from the Ritual
Romanum, 1964.*



Chaplet of reparation for priests

(To be prayed on the rosary)

Incline (+) unto my aid, O Lord, make haste to help me.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end.

(On each of the Our Father beads)

Eternal Father, I offer Thee
The Precious Blood of Thy Beloved Son,
Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lamb without blemish or spot,
in reparation for my sins
and for the sins of all Thy priests.

(On each of the Hail Mary beads):

By thy Precious Blood, O Jesus,
Purify and sanctify thy priests.

(In place of the Glory be to the Father):

O Father, from whom all fatherhood in heaven and on earth is named,

Have mercy on all thy priests, and wash them in the Blood of the Lamb.

*Adapted From In Sinu Jesu: When Heart Speaks to Heart,
Ignatius Press*



Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.
Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the Power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl through the world seeking the ruin of souls. *Amen.*

Prayer for Healing Victims of Abuse

God of endless love,
ever caring, ever strong,
always present, always just:
You gave your only Son
to save us by the blood of His cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace,
join to your own suffering
the pain of all who have been hurt
in body, mind and spirit
by those who betrayed the trust
placed in them.

Hear our cries as we agonize
over the harm done to our
brothers and sisters.

Breathe wisdom into our
prayers, soothe restless hearts
with hope, steady shaken
spirits with faith: Show us
the way to justice and wholeness,
enlightened by truth and
enfolded in your mercy.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts,
heal your people's wounds
and transform our brokenness.
Grant us courage and wisdom,
humility and grace, so that we
may act with justice and find
peace in you.

We ask this through Christ,
our Lord. Amen.

*Source: U.S. Conference of
Catholic Bishops*

For these and other prayers for personal devotion visit www.diocesefwsb.org/dpp

A NOVENA OF SAINTS FOR A CHURCH IN CRISIS

BY MEG HUNTER-KILMER

This novena is designed to begin on Thursday, Sept 27 and conclude on Friday, Oct 5. However, it can also be prayed, in part or in its entirety, on one's own schedule.

Day 1: Mary, Mother of priests, Mother of Sinners, Mother of All Believers

At the crucifixion of Jesus, his mother's heart was pierced by a sword, out of sorrow at His suffering and grief over her children, who caused His pain. Today we ask the intercession of Mary, Mother of the Church, who weeps for those who suffer and for those who sin.

Father, we come before you afraid and broken. We have sinned, our leaders have sinned, and so many have suffered. Forgive us, Lord. Heal those who have been abused. Bring conversion to the hearts of sinners. Comfort those who can see no truth, goodness or beauty in a Church that harbors such predators. Give us the grace to become saints in and through this crisis.

Lord, heal the survivors and protect the innocent.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.

Mary, Mother of Priests, pray for us.

Mary, Mother of Sinners, pray for us.

Mary, Mother of All Believers, pray for us.

Day 2: Blessed Laura Vicuña

Blessed Laura Vicuña suffered abuse at the hands of her mother's lover for years. From her childhood, he pawed at her and tried to force drunken kisses on her. When she was uncomfortable spending the night under the same roof as him, knowing what he would try to do to her, she ran away. He beat her so badly that she died a week later of her wounds, forgiving both him and her mother.

Father, we pray for all victims of sexual abuse, especially those wounded by priests, bishops and other representatives of your Church. Bring them healing, Lord, in mind, body, soul, emotions and memories. Give them the grace to forgive and to be made new. Send your spirit of peace on all who wrestle with guilt over abuse suffered by those in their care. May all who suffer surrender fear and shame and find rest in you.

Lord, heal the survivors and protect the innocent.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Blessed Laura Vicuña, pray for us.

Day 3: St. John of the Cross

St. John of the Cross was, along with St. Teresa of Avila, the great reformer of the

Carmelites in the 17th century, but his work made him enemies. A group of Carmelites who did not want to be reformed locked him in a tiny cell, nearly starved him to death and beat him so brutally that he was scarred for life. Still he saw Christ as his bridegroom and wrote some of the most beautiful spiritual poetry ever written.

Lord, there are so many in your Church who have been terribly wounded by those who claim to speak in your name. Bring comfort to their hearts and healing, Lord Jesus. Help them to know your love and to find safety in your arms once more.

Lord, heal the survivors and protect the innocent.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

St. John of the Cross, pray for us.

Day 4: St. Mary of Egypt and Blessed Anthony Neyrot

St. Mary of Egypt was a nymphomaniac and a rapist, herself likely a survivor of sexual abuse. She ran away from home at 12 and took up residence in the home of one of her father's friends, where she was instructed in the art she would practice on young men, willing and unwilling, for the next 17 years. She was converted at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and retreated to the desert to do penance for the rest of her life.

Blessed Anthony Neyrot was an arrogant Dominican priest who became no more humble when sold into slavery to Islamic captors. When he was put in prison and made to fast on bread and water, though, he denied the faith, became a Muslim, married a Muslim woman, and began to translate the Quran into Latin. After an apparition from his mentor St. Antoninus, he repented, did public penance and was martyred for leaving Islam.

Jesus, we beg for the conversion of all wolves in shepherds' clothing. Put the fear of hell into the hearts of every deacon, priest, bishop and lay minister who has harmed any of your people. Bring them to true repentance, Lord. Save their souls. We ask your mercy also, Lord, for all we have done to enable this sin, for our silence and complicity. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, heal the survivors and protect the innocent.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

St. Mary of Egypt, pray for us. Blessed Anthony Neyrot, pray for us.

Day 5: St. Raphael Kalinowski

St. Raphael Kalinowski was a brilliant young Pole who was disillusioned by the Church of his parents and fell away from the faith in his youth. After years of study, work as a railway engineer, and a career

as a revolutionary, he eventually returned to the Church and became a Carmelite priest and a personal hero of St. John Paul II.

Lord, as this scandal rocks our Church we know that many thousands will turn away from your Body here on Earth. Give them, Father, the grace to return. Divine Physician, heal their broken hearts and restore their faith in your Church.

Lord, heal the survivors and protect the innocent.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

St. Raphael Kalinowski, pray for us.

Day 6: St. Catherine of Siena, St. Catherine of Genoa, and St. Charles Lwanga

St. Catherine of Siena was an uneducated laywoman who followed the call of the Holy Spirit to challenge the pope himself. He had left Rome for Avignon and St. Catherine rebuked him with respect and fearlessness, demanding that he sacrifice his comfort to obey the Lord.

St. Catherine of Genoa lived a few centuries later, during a time of profound corruption in the Church. Weak bishops had refused to make the necessary sacrifices to implement the reforms of the Fourth Lateran Council, but this St. Catherine brought about reform through calling individuals to holiness rather than appealing to the hierarchy. A married woman whose husband was violent and unfaithful, Catherine had spent some years pursuing the things of the world before being converted and bringing her husband to Christ. The Oratory of Divine Love movement, which spread throughout Italy and involves small groups of the faithful seeking personal holiness through prayer, study and service, can be traced to her.

St. Charles Lwanga was a Ugandan layman who risked his life to protect teenage boys from the sexual predation of the king. His resistance to the king's depravity and refusal to allow him to abuse other young men led to his martyrdom alongside many other chaste Christians.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the countless laypeople who quietly pursue you in their daily lives. We pray that you would fill them with your Spirit to call your Church to greater holiness. Help us to fight for the protection of the innocent, whatever the cost. Give us the courage, wisdom, and humility to speak truth, demanding holiness from those who lead us while becoming saints ourselves.

Lord, heal the survivors and protect the innocent.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

St. Catherine of Siena, pray for us. St.

Catherine of Genoa, pray for us. St.

Charles Lwanga, pray for us.

Day 7: Blessed Thaddeus McCarthy, Blessed Oscar Romero and St. Francis de Sales

Blessed Thaddeus McCarthy was appointed bishop of an Irish diocese but discovered that his see had been usurped. In an attempt to serve his people he went from village to village and was rejected everywhere. He dressed as a peasant to avoid being captured by his enemies, never once giving up on his call to shepherd his people, even though it was so exhausting that it soon cost him his life.

Blessed Oscar Romero was a peaceful, bookish man, happy to fly under the radar in his native El Salvador, where the government was oppressing and murdering his people. He spent years as a bishop who refused to make waves until a priest friend of his was murdered. Looking on the corpse of this priest, he was changed. He began to fight injustice and to speak out against the abuse of the innocent. He knew that he was making enemies but refused to be silenced and was ultimately assassinated while celebrating Mass.

St. Francis de Sales was a wise and kind bishop who knew how to discipline his clergy when necessary. Once, having thrown a priest in jail, he appeared before the offending cleric in tears and spoke thus: "I conjure you, by the love and mercy of God, in which we all hope, to have pity on me, on the diocese, on the Church, and on the whole Order so much dishonored by the scandalous life you have hitherto led, which gives matter to our adversaries to blaspheme our holy Faith. I pray you to have pity on yourself, on your own soul, which you are sending to perdition for eternity; I exhort you in the name of Jesus Christ, on which you trample; by the goodness of the Saviour, Whom you crucify anew; and by that spirit of grace, whom you outrage!"

Lord, we are in desperate need of holy bishops. Give them wisdom and courage to speak and act against the evil within their ranks. Send your Spirit upon them, Lord, and empower them to root out this sin, to punish predators, and to repent for their own complicity, whatever the cost. We beg you to convict the hearts of bishops who ought to resign and to raise up men who are unconcerned with status and advancement but long only to serve the kingdom. Make decent men saints, Lord, and pastors in your image.

Lord, heal the survivors and protect the innocent.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Blessed Thaddeus McCarthy, pray for us. Blessed Oscar Romero, pray for us.

St. Francis de Sales, pray for us.

Day 8: St. Gerard Majella and St. Vitalis of Gaza

St. Gerard Majella was a lay Redemptorist brother when he was falsely accused of impregnating a woman. He refused to defend himself, preferring to suffer in silence as Christ had, but was ultimately vindicated.

St. Vitalis of Gaza was a hermit who returned to the city after decades in the desert and began visiting a different prostitute each night. The faithful were scandalized until he was killed in the street and hundreds of reformed prostitutes came to his funeral. He had given his reputation and ultimately his life for their salvation, for the souls of victimized women.

We pray, Lord, for all decent priests. Lord Jesus, you have called men to ordained ministry to be priest and victim; give those men who suffer unjustly the grace to unite their sacrifice to yours and to offer their pain in reparation for the sins of their brother priests. May they weep for the survivors of these crimes and not for their own suffering. Strengthen them to remain faithful, however heavy the Cross.

Lord, heal the survivors and protect the innocent.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

St. Gerard Majella, pray for us. St.

Vitalis of Gaza, pray for us.

Day 9: The Sacred Heart of Jesus

The risen Christ appeared to His followers with holes in His hands and feet and side, the scars of His horrific abuse glorified by His resurrection. When he appeared to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, he showed her His Sacred Heart still crowned with thorns, bleeding from the wounds He suffered for us but aflame with love for both perpetrator and victim. On this first Friday, dedicated to the Sacred Heart, we beg the Lord to cleanse us with His precious blood.

Lord Jesus, in your resurrection you show us your power to turn suffering to glory. We ask that as you heal victims of abuse you would transform them into witnesses to your goodness. May the abundant grace poured out from your Sacred Heart purify your Church, leading predators to conversion and emboldening those who were complicit in their crimes to be transparent about their failings and to accept the consequences. May your Church become more perfectly the image of your love, lavished on all mankind for healing and conversion.

Lord, heal the survivors and protect the innocent.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us.