

# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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# Seek Jesus, adore Him, serve Him and others, pope says on Epiphany

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — People find Jesus only through humble love, and once they find Him, they are called to offer Him the gifts of their prayer, their adoration and their care of others, Pope Francis said.

Celebrating the feast of Epiphany on Jan. 6, the pope said Christians are called to imitate the Magi: "They do not debate; they set out. They do not stop to look, but enter the house of Jesus. They do not put themselves at the center, but bow down before the One who is the center. They do not remain glued to their plans, but are prepared to take other routes."

And they each bring gifts, he said during his homily at Mass in St. Peter's Basilica. "In this Christmas season now drawing to its close, let us not miss the opportunity to offer a precious gift to our King," especially by caring for those who cannot repay the gift.

Reciting the Angelus after

EPIPHANY, page 16



Jodi Marlin

Three members of St. Joseph Parish, Fort Wayne, dressed as the Magi, adore the child Jesus during Mass on Sunday, Jan. 6, the feast of the Epiphany. The elaborate costumes were sewn by a parishioner to visually emphasize our obligation to seek out the Lord, and accept Him as our Savior and the Savior of the world.

## Vatican publication looks at ways to raise profile of women in the Church

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Too often in the Catholic Church, "the sacrifices of women are used only to reinforce the power of those who already have it," wrote the editor of the Vatican newspaper's monthly section on women in the Church.

In the "Woman-Church-World" supplement to *L'Osservatore Romano* published Jan. 2, editor Lucetta Scaraffia wrote, "A revolution is not needed to give women the place they deserve in the church; it is not indispensable to admit them to the priesthood or even the longed-for, but at the same time feared, diaconate."

"In fact," she wrote, "all that

is needed is a bit of courage and the prophetic ability to look to the future with positive eyes, accepting changes that often are already written in the order of things."

The January issue of "Woman-Church-World" was dedicated to a series of articles looking at how, without changing Church law or discipline, more could be done within the Catholic Church to treat women as equals, value their contributions and talents and include them in leadership and decision-making at all levels of Church life.

A central concern of many of the articles was the lack of investment in educating women, including consecrated women, for leadership in the Church and simply not thinking about including

them in discussions and planning meetings from the parish level all the way to the Vatican.

The 1983 Code of Canon Law opened to all laypeople, including women, "many possibilities for institutional participation," but, Scaraffia wrote, "the impediments lie only in the refusal of many to make real an equality already recognized and accepted in theory."

No legal obstacle exists to women being consulted by the pope as part of his ongoing efforts to reform the Roman Curia, she said, and there is no reason a woman could not be among the people who speak at the pre-conclave meetings of cardinals about the needs of the Church before they process into the Sistine

Chapel to elect a new pope.

Scaraffia argued that the Vatican should rely on organizations like the women's International Union of Superiors General for advice and input rather than on "the current practice of the hierarchy selecting individual women. In that way, one could avoid a paternalistic relationship to religious women and a selection that risks rewarding not the most competent, but the most obedient."

"If one really wants to deal a blow to clericalism," she said, "one must start there, with the women religious."

She described as a "fig leaf" the approach of appointing a woman

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# Pope to U.S. bishops: Abuse crisis requires conversion, humility

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The clerical abuse crisis and the “crisis of credibility” it created for the U.S. bishops have led to serious divisions within the U.S. Church and to a temptation to look for administrative solutions to problems that go much deeper, Pope Francis told the U.S. bishops.

Without a clear and decisive focus on spiritual conversion and Gospel-inspired ways of responding to victims and exercising ministry, “everything we do risks being tainted by self-referentiality, self-preservation and defensiveness, and thus doomed from the start,” the pope wrote.

In a letter distributed to the bishops at the beginning of their Jan. 2-8 retreat, Pope Francis said he was convinced their response to the “sins and crimes” of abuse and “the efforts made to deny or conceal them” must be found through “heartfelt, prayerful and collective listening to the word of God and to the pain of our people.”

“As we know,” he said, “the mentality that would cover things up, far from helping to resolve conflicts, enabled them to fester and cause even greater harm to the network of relationships that today we are called to heal and restore.”

The “abuses of power and conscience and sexual abuse, and the poor way that they were handled” continue to harm the Church and its mission, he said, but so does “the pain of seeing an episcopate lacking in unity and concentrated more on pointing fingers than on seeking paths of reconciliation.”

Such a division, which goes well beyond a “healthy” diversity of opinions, is what caused him to recommend a retreat because, the pope said, “this situation forces us to look to what is essential and to rid ourselves of all that stands in the way of a clear witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”

The pope said he had hoped “to be physically present” with the bishops for the retreat, but since that was not possible, he was pleased they accepted his suggestion to have the gathering be led by Capuchin Father Raniero Cantalamessa, preacher of the papal household.

Pope Francis originally had suggested the bishops make a retreat in November instead of holding their annual general meeting. But the scope of the abuse crisis and the intense pressure the bishops’ felt to act led them to keep the November meeting and plan the retreat for January.

Plans for the November meeting and for the retreat came after a summer of shocking news: revelations of credible abuse



CNS photo/Bob Roller

**A bishop holds a prayer book during a service in the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception at Mundelein Seminary Jan. 2 at the University of St. Mary of the Lake in Illinois, near Chicago. The U.S. bishops began their Jan. 2-8 retreat at the seminary, suggested by Pope Francis in September, which comes as the bishops work to rebuild trust among the faithful as questions continue to revolve around their handling of clergy sex abuse.**

accusations against Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick, retired archbishop of Washington; the release of a Pennsylvania grand jury report accusing more than 300 priests in six dioceses of abusing more than 1,000 children in a period spanning 70 years; and accusations published by Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, former apostolic nuncio to the United States, that Pope Francis had known about and ignored allegations that Archbishop McCarrick had sexually harassed seminarians.

In his letter to the bishops, Pope Francis said he suggested the retreat “as a necessary step toward responding in the spirit of the Gospel to the crisis of credibility that you are experiencing as a church.”

“We know that, given the seriousness of the situation, no response or approach seems adequate,” the pope wrote. Still, pastors must have the wisdom to offer a response based on listening to God in prayer and to the suffering of the victims.

Pope Francis said Church leaders must “abandon a modus operandi of disparaging, discrediting, playing the victim or the scold in our relationships,” and instead listen to the “gentle breeze” of the Gospel message.

Encouraging the bishops to continue taking steps “to combat

the ‘culture of abuse’ and to deal with the crisis of credibility,” he warned that credibility “cannot be regained by issuing stern decrees or by simply creating new committees or improving flow charts, as if we were in charge of a department of human resources. That kind of vision ends up reducing the mission of the bishop and that of the church to a mere administrative or organizational function in the ‘evangelization business.’”

A restored credibility, he said, can only be “the fruit of a united body that, while acknowledging its sinfulness and limitations, is at the same time capable of preaching the need for conversion. For we do not want to preach ourselves but rather Christ who died for us.”

“We want to testify that at the darkest moments of our history the Lord makes himself present, opens new paths and anoints our faltering faith, our wavering hope and our tepid charity,” the pope said.

The bishops as a group, he said, must have a “collegial awareness of our being sinners in need of constant conversion, albeit deeply distressed and pained by all that that has happened.”

Humility “will liberate us from the quest of false, facile and futile forms of triumpha-

lism” and from anything that would “keep us from approaching and appreciating the extent and implications of what has happened.”

“Affective communion with the feelings of our people, with their disheartenment, urges us to exercise a collegial spiritual fatherhood that does not offer banal responses or act defensively, but instead seeks to learn — like the prophet Elijah amid his own troubles — to listen to the voice of the Lord.”

The bishops had planned to devote most of their November meeting to discussing and voting on several proposals to the abuse crisis, including the formulation of standards of episcopal conduct and the formation of a special commission for reviewing complaints against bishops for violations of the standards.

However, Cardinal Marc Ouellet, prefect of the Congregation for Bishops, asked the bishops to delay their votes, citing the short amount of time the Vatican had to review the proposals, possible conflicts in them with Church law and in view of the meeting Pope Francis has called for February with the presidents of all the world’s bishops’ conferences to discuss child protection and the abuse crisis.

# Pope prays for new year marked by tenderness, brotherhood, peace

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A new year is a chance for a new start, a time to remember that all people are brothers and sisters and a time to nurture amazement that God became human to save all people, Pope Francis said.

The Jan. 1 feast of Mary, Mother of God, also is a time to remember how strong maternal love and care are, and how they are the secret to making life more livable, the pope said during his homily at a feast day Mass in St. Peter's Basilica.

The Catholic Church also marks Jan. 1 at World Peace Day, an observance the pope spoke about when, after Mass, he recited the Angelus with tens of thousands of people gathered in St. Peter's Square. So many people were in the sunny square that Pope Francis remarked, "It seems like a canonization," which usually is when the square is full.

Mary shows to the world her son, the prince of peace, he said. "He is the blessing for every person and the whole human family. He is the source of grace, mercy and peace."

Pope Francis chose as the theme for this year's World Peace Day: "Good politics is at the service of peace."

"We must not think politics is reserved to those who govern," the pope said. "We are all responsible for the life of the community, of the common good, and politics is good to the degree that everyone does his or her part in the service of peace."

After greeting hundreds of people who participated in a march for peace, carrying signs with the names of countries suffering because of violence, Pope Francis prayed: "Through the intercession of the virgin Mary, may the Lord grant us to be arti-

sans of peace — and this begins at home, in the family — every day of the new year."

Earlier, in his homily at the Mass, Pope Francis paid homage not only to Mary, but also to all mothers and all those who show tender care for others, including in political and economic life.

"A world that looks to the future without a mother's gaze is shortsighted," he said. "It may well increase its profits, but it will no longer see others as children. It will make money, but not for everyone. We will all dwell in the same house, but not as brothers and sisters."

Pope Francis prayed that Mary would help all people learn to look at the world and each other as she does, providing for people's needs, loving them and leading them to Jesus.

"In today's fragmented world, where we risk losing our bearings, a mother's embrace is essential," he said. "How much dispersion and solitude there is all around us! The world is completely connected, yet seems increasingly disjointed. We need to entrust ourselves to our Mother."

Too many people, he said, forget they are beloved children and instead "live in anger and indifference to everything! How many, sad to say, react to everything and everyone with bitterness and malice!"

In fact, he said, "showing oneself to be 'malicious' even seems at times to be a sign of strength. Yet it is nothing more than weakness. We need to learn from mothers that heroism is shown in self-giving, strength in compassion, wisdom in meekness."

For Catholics, he said, Mary "is not an optional accessory: she has to be welcomed into our life" because Jesus entrusted her to His disciples and His disciples to her as their mother.

"She is the queen of peace, who triumphs over evil and leads us along paths of goodness, who restores unity to her children, who teaches us compassion," Pope Francis said.

He urged people to begin the new year holding on to the "amazement" they should have experienced at Christmas, amazement that God was born a baby, "held in the arms of a woman who feeds her creator."

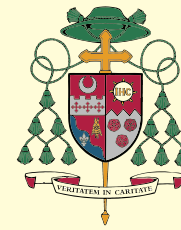
"God has become one with humanity forever. God and man, always together, that is the good news of this new year," he said. "God is no distant lord, dwelling in splendid isolation above the heavens, but love incarnate, born like us of a mother, in order to become a brother to each of us."

Jesus himself "pours out upon humanity a new tenderness," the pope said, which helps people "understand more fully God's love, which is both paternal and maternal, like that of a mother who never stops believing in her children and never abandons them."

"God-with-us, Emmanuel, loves us despite our mistakes, our sins and the way we treat our world," he said. "God believes in mankind, because its first and preeminent member is his own mother."

The Church, which is called to be a mother, the pope said, also must be renewed and filled with amazement at the fact that it is "the dwelling place of the living God" and "a mother who gives birth to her children."

Without that awareness, the Church risks turning into "a beautiful museum of the past," he said. Pope Francis ended his New Year's homily praying that Mary would "take us by the hand. Clinging to you, we will pass safely through the straits of history."



## Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Monday, January 14: 10 a.m. — Meeting of the Bishop's Cabinet, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne  
 Tuesday, January 15: 7 p.m. — Healing Night with Missionaries of the Resurrection, St. Patrick Church, Fort Wayne  
 Wednesday, January 16: 9:30 a.m. — Blessing and Dedication of New Addition to Achatz Hall, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne



## Priest appointment

The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend, has made the following appointment:

**Reverend Louis Fowoyo** to Parochial Vicar, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne, effective Jan. 23, 2019.

### WOMEN, from page 1

or two to mid-level management positions in some Vatican offices and used as an example of the fact that while women make up two-thirds of the consecrated religious in the world, there has been only one female undersecretary at a time at the Vatican Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life.

Many other women religious perform almost hidden work in the Vatican — running the switchboard, keeping house for cardinals, doing secretarial work.

"It's like self-sacrifice is the only way to live a religious vocation," Scaraffia wrote. But, in the end, it simply supports the power and authority the men in charge have.

The January edition of "Woman-Church-World" also included a short article about the Benedictine convent of Fahr,

Switzerland, which attracted attention during the world Synod of Bishops in October. The sisters distributed a photo of 15 of their members wearing their traditional, long black habits and holding signs saying, "Votes for Catholic Women," which was part of a campaign calling for women to be among the voting members of the synod.

"We women are part of this church and therefore we should be able to have our voice heard and make our contributions," Prioress Irene Gassmann told L'Osservatore.

The 20 sisters at Fahr, she said, have been reflecting for years on the role of women in the Church and, in 2016, were among the leaders of a walking pilgrimage to Rome to draw attention to the need to do more to promote women's involvement in Church leadership and decision-making.

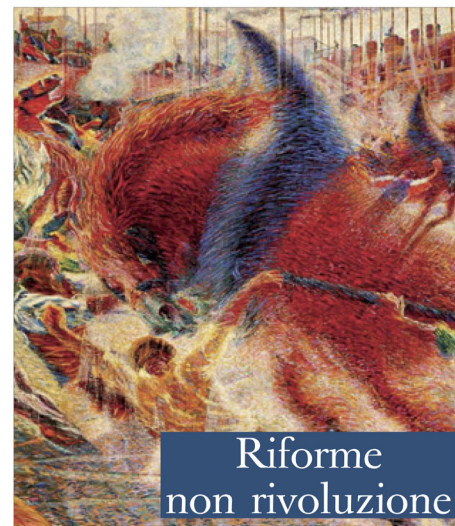


CNS photo/Paul Haring

Pope Francis greets children dressed as the Three Kings as he celebrates Mass marking the feast of Mary, Mother of God, in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican Jan. 1.

## DONNE CHIESA MONDO

MENSILE DELL'OSSERVATORE ROMANO NUMERO 75 GENNAIO 2019 CITTA' DEL VATICANO



"Reform, not revolution" is the cover title on the January issue of "Woman-Church-World," a monthly supplement to the Vatican's L'Osservatore Romano newspaper. The January issue is devoted to ways the Catholic Church could include more women in positions of responsibility without changing Church teaching.

CNS photo/courtesy L'Osservatore Romano

# Mass of Christian Burial planned for Father Laurence Tippmann

FORT WAYNE — Father Laurence E. Tippmann, former pastor of St. John the Evangelist, St. Joseph and assistant at other parishes of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, as well as a judge of the marriage tribunal, died Jan. 3.

A Mass of Christian Burial for Father Tippmann is planned for 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 12, at St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne, 4916 Trier Rd., with celebrant Father Jacob Runyon. Visitation will take place Friday, Jan. 11 from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. at St. Charles, with a vigil service at 6 p.m.; and also prior to the Mass, from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Burial will be in Catholic Cemetery, Fort Wayne.

Father Tippmann retired from priestly ministry on July 1, 2001, and had since been a resident of St. Anne Home, Fort Wayne. He was born Aug. 22, 1933, in Gary to Laurence E. and Mary L. (Cross) Tippmann and attended St. Jude School and Central Catholic High School in Fort



LAURENCE E. TIPPMANN

Wayne, followed by college at St. Gregory and seminary at Mount St. Mary's, both in Cincinnati, Ohio.

His ordination to the priesthood took place May 31, 1969, at a Mass of ordination celebrat-

ed by Bishop Leo A. Pursley at St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne.

He was first appointed assistant, then administrator, of St. Michael Parish, Plymouth; in 1972, he was appointed assistant at St. Matthew Cathedral Parish, South Bend. On July 1, 1974, he was appointed assistant at Queen of Angels Parish, Fort Wayne.

He began serving as chaplain of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, in addition to his duties as assistant, in 1978. The same year, he was appointed an advocate for the Marriage Tribunal. The following year, he became a judge of the Tribunal.

Father Tippmann and Father Jim Wolf were five years ahead of Msgr. William Schooler when the three were in the seminary in Cincinnati, Msgr. Schooler remembered.

"I always admired them, especially because they were sons of St. Jude, where I served as a deacon in 1973 and again as pastor from 1988-2001."

The three were friends.

"Father Larry and Father Wolf were part of our priests' skiing group for many years. While most of us would travel by plane, Father Larry always came with Father Wolf in whatever bus he had been rehabilitating at the time.

"I always enjoyed his sense of humor," he shared. "After a particularly spectacular fall on the slopes, he argued that a 'fist from hell' had grabbed him."

On July 7, 1980, Father Tippmann was appointed assistant at St. Charles. A year later he assumed the pastorship of St. John the Evangelist Parish, Goshen, and served there until 1987, when he was appointed pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Fort Wayne.

## Vatican opens investigation of Archbishop McCarrick

BY CAROL ZIMMERMANN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — James Grein, a Virginia man who said Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick, former archbishop of Washington, sexually abused him for years beginning when he was 11, gave his testimony about what occurred Dec. 27 before a judicial vicar for the New York Archdiocese.

His testimony was requested by the Vatican.

According to reports about Grein's testimony, he spoke of repeated incidents of the archbishop groping him during confession.

In July, Pope Francis accepted Archbishop McCarrick's resignation from College of Cardinals and suspended him from public ministry, ordering him to a "life of prayer and penance" until the accusations against him, also about misconduct with seminarians, were examined in a canonical trial.

# Catholic advocates outline legislative goals for a new Congress

BY MARK PATTISON

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Did you get everything you wanted for Christmas? Thought not.

Neither did several Catholic organizations, despite the last-minute flurry of legislation typical of a lame-duck Congress.

Even though there's still 300-plus days until Christmas comes around again, those groups have recalibrated their priorities in light of a new, divided Congress, with Democrats taking control of the House and Republicans slightly increasing their heretofore razor-thin edge in the Senate.

Much talk prior to Congress being seated Jan. 3 focused on a "Green New Deal," a sweeping series of energy efficiency measures that has yet to be written.

The Catholic Climate Covenant hasn't seen much under its tree from Congress in nearly a decade.

According to its executive director, Dan Misleh, the last bill Congress tried to pass was the cap-and-trade bill in the 2009-10 Congress, when Democrats had majorities in both chambers plus a president in the White House.

Since that bill failed, "there really hasn't been much legislatively happening," Misleh

told Catholic News Service. The Obama administration's way of dealing with environmental issues was with regulations, but "this administration is rolling a lot of that," he said. "There really haven't been a whole lot of initiatives at the federal level that they're tackling."

With reports late in 2018 from both the United Nations and the National Climate Assessment that "we're not doing enough" on climate issues may provide urgency in Congress, Misleh said, "whether this is the legislative fix that we need is open to debate." He added, "There's certainly some cautions. How is this going to play out in the (congressional) arena? Who gets to take part in shaping the legislation? How much does it do to help poor people or harm people — a key Catholic question?"

Catholic Rural Life got a farm bill for Christmas — this time without any delays in shipping. It was the first time since George H.W. Bush was president that a new farm bill was enacted the same year the previous one was set to expire.

However, it didn't come with everything Catholic Rural Life had sought. Still, noted James Ennis, its executive director, there are ways other than a farm bill to get rural America what it needs.

With two years of prep work and education among its members prior to the farm bill, "our hope right now," Ennis said, is to "continue to keep attentive to the programs that are benefiting rural residents, farms, and hav-

ing access to healthy food." How farm bill provisions are implemented are also key, he added.

"There's a lot of pressure on farmers right now, a lot of pressure," and even more on smaller, family-run farms, Ennis said. "It's a risky business. Always has been, but it makes it that

executive director of Network, the nun-run social justice lobby, isn't all that sad to see the Republicans lose one chamber of Congress. "What the Republican policies do is blame the people, not the system," she said.

But what is good for the goose should be good for the gander, she argued. "Since they're so into work requirements, none of the uber-wealthy should get a benefit for their unearned income unless they have maxed out their earned income on Social Security, which is, I think, \$120,000," Sister Campbell said. "Everybody ought to work, including the uber-wealthy."

Items she'd like to see addressed include health care and voting rights. "We've got to fix up this election system that we have. Our election system is being undercut by scheming, conniving people who want to win without seeing the people getting into the system," she said.

Sister Campbell also acknowledged the possibility of delayed gratification for some things she'd like to see under her tree. "We've got to raise the banner on immigration, but I don't think this Congress is going to make a change," she said. "I think I have to look toward 2020 to fix it."

The stocking might not be quite so stuffed, either, for pro-life Americans, to hear Tom McClusky, President of March for Life Action.

"The last time Democrats

*Catholic Rural Life got a farm bill for Christmas — this time without any delays in shipping. It was the first time since George H.W. Bush was president that a new farm bill was enacted the same year the previous one was set to expire.*

much harder when prices are low. Catholic Rural Life is very aware of that, and it works with local parishes and pastors to address it from a pastoral standpoint. But there are policies that also can help — or not help — that situation," he added. "I'm hopeful ... some of that can be rectified this year."

Sister Simone Campbell,

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# ICC set to monitor Indiana General Assembly 2019 session

There are some new voices at the Indiana Statehouse following the midterm elections of 2018, but one remains constant — that of the Catholic Church.

As lawmakers reconvened in Indianapolis on Jan. 3 to open the 2019 Indiana General Assembly, so did the Indiana Catholic Conference, which for more than 50 years has served as the public policy voice of the Catholic Church in the state. The ICC once again will follow proposed legislation and promote the Church's position on key issues to legislators, the media and the general public. Religious liberty, abortion, payday lending industry practices and parental authority with respect to education choice are among the issues the ICC is expected to track closely during this legislative session, according to Executive Director Glenn Tebbe.

"Protecting the dignity of people is always our guiding principle," said Tebbe, now in his 15th year at the helm of the ICC. "At the forefront is promoting the sanctity of life, on matters ranging from abortion to assisted suicide. Our role is to make sure that the Church's voice is heard on these and other important issues." This is a long session of the General Assembly, occurring every other year. Over the course of nearly four months, lawmakers will work toward their overarching goal of passing the state's two-year budget, due by the adjournment deadline of April 29. But they also are expected to introduce up to 2,000 bills on a wide range of topics affecting Hoosiers. Several hundred already have been filed since the session's opening. Bills can originate in the House of Representatives or the Senate, and they must pass both houses to become law. Under Indiana

law, the governor's signature is not required for a bill to become a law. However, the governor does have veto power. Following the November election, Republicans maintained their supermajority status in both chambers of the General Assembly, meaning that Republicans can pass bills without needing votes from Democrats.

Of the 150 lawmakers from across the state — 100 in the House, 50 in the Senate — 21 are new. The first couple of weeks of a legislative session involve getting acquainted with new legislators, reacquainted with longtime members and settling back into the fast-paced routine, according to Tebbe. "Each session begins with real hope and optimism," he said. "I know all the legislators are beginning with that same attitude. Everyone wants to do good things for the people of Indiana, and everyone is positive about what can be accomplished." As the ICC monitors the issues under debate, it does so guided by the Catholic Church's 2,000-year trove of teachings on social justice. One example of applying age-old Catholic principles to modern life is the Church's position on the payday lending industry. A payday loan — often called a "cash advance" — is a short-term loan usually involving an exorbitant interest rate. The loan is typically due on a person's next payday. The most frequent targets of this industry are low-income individuals who can least afford to pay back the loans.

"Economic transactions should be guided by moral principles," Tebbe said. "Lending practices that take unfair advantage of those in desperate circumstances are unjust."

During the past three legislative sessions, the payday lending

## INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

BY VICTORIA ARTHUR

industry in Indiana advocated for bills to expand the scope of loans offered to the public.

"The Indiana Catholic Conference, along with other faith traditions and organizations that work to protect and help struggling families, were able to stop these bills," Tebbe said. "We expect similar bills again this year. Besides opposing these bills, the conference will support a bill to limit the amount of interest and fees lenders can charge."

The ICC's priorities for the current legislative session will become clearer in the coming days and weeks, he said. But he also emphasized that an important part of the ICC's role is to engage Catholics on these issues and encourage them to stay informed.

When bills are filed, they are assigned a number, and the details are made available to the public. As the ICC tracks bills, it posts legislative updates on its webpage. The Indiana Catholic Conference will report on important developments throughout the session of the General Assembly, and *Today's Catholic* will publish those reports.

To learn more about the Indiana Catholic Conference, follow ICC priority legislation and receive regular updates, visit [www.indianacc.org](http://www.indianacc.org).

### CONGRESS, from page 4

were in power (in the House), there were 40 pro-life Democrats. Now there's only two," Reps. Bill Lipinski of Illinois and Collin Peterson of Minnesota, McCluskey said.

"Actual pro-life issues are going to be tough this Congress. In the Senate, (confirming) judges will always be a key thing, but what we're already seeing on Day One," he noted Jan. 3, "we're already playing defense with the president's foreign and pro-life policies."

Pro-lifers may have to content themselves with "some of the more obvious things that are on the peripherals of the pro-life movement," such as "fighting against sex trafficking, promoting adoption. More bipartisan. We'll certainly be looking for opportunities to do that,"

McCluskey said. "I wish I could be more optimistic."

On the flip side of that coin, Catholic Charities USA is looking to the art of the possible, according to Lucas Swanepoel, its vice president for social policy.

Catholic Charities representatives will meet with House and Senate leaders to figure out their priorities and how Catholic Charities' priorities can mesh with theirs. Then, it's on to the 90 new members of Congress in both houses. "Most Congresses you have anywhere between 30-50 new members," Swanepoel said. "It's going to be a very busy time for our team. I'll be going to those meetings, sharing the load because there's so many."

Two items on Catholic Charities' wish list are flood insurance reauthorization and disaster assistance. For the

former, "it's critical if you're in a flood plain and you're low-income. You're going to be more impacted by the consequences," Swanepoel said.

As for the latter, Swanepoel wants to see low-income communities given greater priority. Currently, he said, "a disproportionate amount of the money will go toward Main Street, while low-income individuals are left behind and forgotten."

But what Catholic Charities wants to get across to lawmakers is that they're a ready resource. A Catholic Charities affiliate is active somewhere in each House member's district. Moreover, Swanepoel said, "it's key to our mission, frankly, the ability to build bridges between people and communities, but also between parties."

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# NEWS BRIEFS

## House budget bill repeals 'Mexico City Policy' on NGO abortion funding

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The budget bill passed by the House of Representatives to try to end the partial government shutdown includes a provision to repeal the "Mexico City Policy" that prohibits U.S. funding of foreign nongovernmental organizations that perform or promote abortion. Some House members and several pro-life organizations criticized the provision in the bill adopted Jan. 3, saying that it would end a policy that NGOs have managed to follow without a loss of health care funding. The same provision was included in the version of the spending bill passed unanimously by the Republican-led Senate Appropriations Committee in 2018. Democrats are using that bill in an attempt to end the partial shutdown. Rep. Chris Smith, R-New Jersey, was among the first to respond to the bill's passage. In a statement, he called the provision a "poison pill" that "overturns a major, comprehensive, current-day pro-life policy." The Mexico City Policy was first put in place by President Ronald Reagan in 1984. It was named for the city that hosted the U.N. International Conference on Population that year where Reagan unveiled it. The policy, now called Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance under President Donald Trump, has become a political ping pong ball, with Democratic administrations rescinding it and Republican administrations reinstating it. Trump re-established the policy in an executive order three days after taking office in 2017.

## Hysterectomy can be morally licit in limited situations, Vatican says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Catholic Church teaches that sterilization is morally unacceptable, but a hysterectomy could be morally acceptable if the uterus could not sustain a pregnancy, said the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. Affirming past indications as to when a hysterectomy would be morally acceptable, the doctrinal congregation, in a note published Jan. 3, said that "when the uterus is found to be irreversibly in such a state that it is no longer suitable for procreation and medical experts have reached the certainty that an eventual pregnancy will bring about a spontaneous abortion before the fetus is able to arrive at a viable state," it would be licit to remove the uterus with a hysterectomy. "Removing a reproductive organ incapable of bringing a pregnancy to term should not therefore be qualified as direct sterilization, which is and remains intrinsically illicit as an end and as a means," it said. The response and accompanying note by the congregation was dated Dec. 10 and signed by

## New York Byzantine Catholics celebrate Christ's baptism



CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz

Father Tyler Strand of Resurrection Byzantine Catholic Church in Smithtown, N.Y., holds a crucifix as he blesses the waters of the Nissequogue River in Smithtown during a prayer service Jan. 6 marking the feast of the Theophany. The feast, celebrated by Eastern churches, commemorates the revelation of the Holy Trinity through Christ's baptism in the Jordan River.

its prefect, Cardinal Luis Ladaria, and secretary, Archbishop Giacomo Morandi. Pope Francis approved the congregation's response and ordered its publication. The congregation reaffirmed the three responses it gave in 1993 to questions concerning "uterine isolation" or tubal ligation and "related matters."

## Irish bishops urge Catholics to 'resist' country's new abortion law

DUBLIN (CNS) — The primate of All-Ireland insisted that the country's new abortion law that took effect Jan. 1 has "no moral

force" and it "must be resisted" by Catholics. Archbishop Eamon Martin of Armagh, Northern Ireland, who also is president of the Irish bishops' conference, said in a message to mark the legislation that the new law "in good conscience cannot be supported. In a May 22 referendum, voters opted by a margin of 2-1 to lift the country's constitutional protection of the right to life of unborn children. The new law will permit abortion on demand up to 12 weeks' gestation. It also will permit abortion up to 24 weeks on unspecified grounds for the health of the mother, and up to birth where the child is diagnosed with a life-limiting condition that means he or she may not live long after birth," he

said. Archbishop Martin urged Catholics to "continue to call and work diligently for its limitation, amendment and repeal." A small group of demonstrators gathered for a symbolic protest outside the Irish parliament in Dublin Jan. 2. Ruth Cullen, spokeswoman for the Pro-Life Campaign, said that the protest stressed that the campaign to overturn the law continues.

## Jesuit to remain as House Chaplain in new Congress

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A Jesuit whom former Speaker of the House of Representatives Paul Ryan sought to oust in 2018 will

remain in his post as chaplain of the legislative body as the 116th session of Congress begins. Lawmakers voted late Jan. 3 to keep Jesuit Father Patrick J. Conroy, the 60th chaplain of the U.S. House of Representatives, in the post for the next two years. He began his term May 25, 2011. As the House chaplain, Father Conroy, 68, is responsible for offering a prayer at the beginning of each day when Congress is in session. The nondenominational prayer in the House chamber is broadcast live on HouseLive.gov and on C-Span. It's also archived in the Congressional Record and is part of the official rules of the House to get the day started. But some suspect that one of Father Conroy's prayers in 2017 is what moved former House speaker Ryan to try to oust the chaplain. Ryan was then trying to garner votes to pass a tax overhaul bill. "May their efforts these days guarantee that there are not winners and losers under new tax laws, but benefits balanced and shared by all Americans," Father Conroy said in a Nov. 6, 2017, prayer, a time when lawmakers were debating how some of the proposed tax laws would affect the rich and the poor.

## Details published on Vatican delaying USCCB vote on abuse provisions

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The surprising news in November that the Vatican had asked U.S. bishops not to vote on several proposals for responding to the sexual abuse crisis was motivated by a lack of time given the Vatican to study the proposals and potential conflicts with Church law, according to a letter obtained by the Associated Press. AP reported Jan. 1 it had obtained the letter written Nov. 11 by Cardinal Marc Ouellet, prefect of the Congregation for Bishops, to Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, asking that the votes be delayed. Cardinal DiNardo informed the bishops of the Vatican's request Nov. 12, at the start of their fall meeting, the agenda of which was primarily focused on the sexual abuse crisis and the accountability of bishops. "Considering the nature and scope of the documents being proposed by the (conference), I believe it would have been beneficial to have allowed for more time to consult with this and other congregations with competence over the ministry and discipline of bishops," Cardinal Ouellet wrote, according to the AP, which also reported that a draft of the U.S. proposals arrived at the Vatican only Nov. 8. In response to questions from AP, Cardinal DiNardo said, "It is now clear there were different expectations on the bishops' conference's part and Rome's part that may have affected the understanding of these proposals."

## The SEVEN Fund co-founder Andreas Widmer to speak at USF Servus Omnium Lecture

FORT WAYNE – The University of Saint Francis welcomes Andreas Widmer, author of “The Pope & The CEO: Pope Saint John Paul II’s Lessons to a Young Swiss Guard,” as featured speaker at the 2019 Servus Omnium Lecture.

Widmer will speak on “The Vocation of Business” on March 5 at the USF Robert Goldstine Performing Arts Center, 431 W. Berry St.

The event begins with a blessing and prayer at 7 a.m. by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, followed by a Mardi Gras breakfast buffet at 7:10 a.m. and Widmer’s address from 7:45 to 8:45 a.m.

Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door and \$80 per table. Please go to <https://servusomnium2019.eventbrite.com/> to purchase tickets.

Widmer is co-founder of The Social Equity Venture fund, or SEVEN, a philanthropic organization promoting enterprise solutions to poverty. He will share what that means to him as a seasoned business executive with experience in high-tech, international business strategy, consulting and economic development.

Widmer serves as assistant professor of entrepreneurship and director of the Art and Carlyse Ciocca Center for Principled Entrepreneurship at The Catholic University of America, Busch School of Business and Economics in Washington, D.C.

Corporate sponsorships are available for the event at the platinum, gold, silver and bronze levels.

For more information contact Dr. Lance Richey, vice president of Academic Affairs at 260-399-8112 or [lrichey@sf.edu](mailto:lrichey@sf.edu).

## Ave Maria Press names associate publisher, promotes two editors

NOTRE DAME — Karey Circosta has been named associate publisher at Ave Maria Press by Thomas Grady, publisher and CEO.

Circosta, who has worked at Ave for 15 years, also will remain director of sales and marketing. Under her leadership, Ave’s sales and marketing efforts have significantly increased sales, particularly in high school religion textbooks and trade books. She also strengthened Ave’s relationship with key distributors, including Ingram, Baker & Taylor, Amazon, and Barnes and Noble. The company also launched its new Parish Book Program and

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## Avilla students welcome diocesan seminarians



Provided by Heather Taube

St. Mary of the Assumption School, Avilla, recently welcomed diocesan seminarians Augustine Onuoha, Zane Langenbrunner, Michael Ammer, Brian Kempkiak and Keeton Lockwood to the school. The seminarians started the day with students at an all-school Mass, after which they visited all the classrooms and shared insights into how they discerned their vocation. Their zeal for the Lord was evident throughout the morning, according to their teachers, and the students appreciated the time the seminarians were able to spend with them.

Ave Explores during Circosta’s tenure as vice president and director of sales and marketing.

Two members of Ave’s editorial department also have been promoted.

Eileen Ponder has been named executive editor, ministry resources. She has worked at Ave for 15 years. Ponder is responsible for the Rebuilt Parish series, including the award-winning and best-selling book “Rebuilt” by Michael White and Tom Corcoran.

Ponder developed Ave’s marriage preparation program, Joined by Grace, in conjunction with authors John and Teri Bosio. She also updated The Order of Celebrating Matrimony ritual cards, as well as Together for Life, to reflect the Church’s new translation.

Ponder has edited books by authors including Lisa M. Hendey, Ann Garrido, Bill Simon, Katie Prejean McGrady and Deacon Greg Kandra.

Heidi Hess Saxton has been named senior acquisitions editor. She worked as an editor at Ave from 2013 to 2015 and then rejoined the company as an acquisition editor in 2017. She has been responsible for acquiring books by notable authors such as Kelly Wahlquist, Sarah Christmyer, Sonja Corbitt, Father Ubald Rugirangoga, Michele Faehnle, Emily Jaminet and Maria Morera Johnson.



## ‘You are enough’ theme of young adult retreat

FORT WAYNE — Join other young adults for a weekend of fellowship, healing and spiritual growth. This year’s young adult retreat, which takes place at Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center, is centered on the phrase “You are enough.”

Young adults often find themselves distracted by their busy lives and feel the pressure of never-ending expectations that leave them wondering how they will ever measure up. Sean Allen, director of Young Adult Ministry for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, encourages young people to step away from the craziness of life and rediscover the truth of who they are, that they have a God who loves them just as they are, and that He, in all His glory, is enough for them.

The retreat will take place Feb. 9-10 at the retreat center, located at 9601 Union Road, Plymouth. Enjoy relevant talks, active breakout sessions, inspiring music, confession, Mass, adoration, healing prayer and time to relax and socialize. The suggested donation of \$65, which is flexible, includes snacks, lunch and dinner on Saturday and breakfast and lunch on Sunday.

For more information visit [www.diocesefwsb.org/retreats](http://www.diocesefwsb.org/retreats) or contact Allen at [sallen@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:sallen@diocesefwsb.org) or (574) 234-0687.



# MARCH FOR LIFE

## Defend the life of the unborn — march for life

FORT WAYNE — During the month of January, marches will take place within the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and beyond to advocate for the life of the unborn and to protest legalized abortion. Those events include:

### Elkhart Jan. 12, noon

The eighth annual Elkhart County Right to Life will sponsor a rally at the Lerner Theater with Ramona Trevino and testimonies from Silent No More Awareness Campaign members, followed by a Prayer Walk for Life through the downtown. For more information call 574-295-7163 or visit [elkhart4life.org](http://elkhart4life.org).

### South Bend Jan. 18, 11:30 a.m.

St. Joseph County Right to Life will conduct a rally, march and protest beginning at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 553 Washington St., South Bend, with prayer, music and a testimony by the sibling of an aborted child. Participants will march to the downtown courthouse at 11:50 a.m. to peacefully protest the legalization of abortion. At 6:30 p.m., a spaghetti dinner will be served at the Knights of Columbus Hall, hosted by Council No. 553. For more information visit <https://www.pro-lifemichiana.org/march> or call 574-232-LIFE.

### Washington, D.C. Jan. 18, 1 p.m.

The world's largest pro-life event takes place on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. The 46<sup>th</sup> annual March for life, featuring speakers Abby Johnson, Ben Shapiro and others, steps off at 1 p.m. Various diocesan groups will attend: For information contact the diocese.

### Indianapolis Jan. 22, 11 a.m.

Indiana March for Life will hold a rally inside the Indiana Convention Center, 100 S. Capitol St., Indianapolis. A noon Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Charles C. Thompson of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and Bishop Timothy L. Doherty of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana at St. John the Evangelist Church, followed by a 1:30 p.m. march from Georgia Street to the Capitol building and a rally on the south steps of the Statehouse. For information visit <https://rtlindy.org/home/indiana-march-for-life/>.

### Fort Wayne Jan. 26, noon

At the University of Saint Francis Performing Arts Center, 40 Days for Life founder David Bereit will lead a rally that culminates in a march to the Allen County Courthouse at 1 p.m. For more information visit <https://ichooselife.org/march/> or call (260) 471-1849.

## Called to be a voice for the vulnerable National march operations directed by St. Bavo alumna

BY JILL A. BOUGHTON

"My inspiration for working with the March for Life has its roots in my life-affirming family of origin," said Andrea DeLee, director of operations for the national March for Life, scheduled for Jan. 18 in Washington, D.C.

DeLee grew up in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, attending St. Bavo Church, Mishawaka. The oldest of eight children of Phil and Monique DeLee, she remembers the "excitement, anticipation and joy of getting ready to welcome each new child into our family." That lived experience pre-dated her political advocacy, but it makes her grateful to be a voice for "the most vulnerable among us: children in the womb."

After graduating from Trinity School at Greenlawn, DeLee earned her undergraduate degree in bioethics at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. In that secular academic environment, she didn't get much affirmation for her senior thesis on how viewing an ultrasound can impact a woman in the abortion-decision process.

When DeLee learned that Catholic University of America's



ANDREA DELEE

Pontifical John Paul II Institute offered a master's degree in marriage and family life, she jumped at the opportunity to learn how better to articulate her strong sense that life is a beautiful gift. It was as a student at the institute that she participated in her first national March for Life, in 2013.

Wanting to support parents in fulfilling their responsibility as the primary educators of their children, DeLee next sought

Montessori training, then worked for four years in a Washington, D.C., Catholic school's preschool and Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program.

At every juncture, DeLee has entrusted her work as a young professional to the Virgin Mary under her favorite manifestation, Our Lady of Guadalupe — the apparition in which Mary is most clearly pregnant. She credits Our Lady with her present opportunity to "be part of making the womb a safer place in our country."

DeLee assumed her current full-time position last June. As director of operations, she organizes and oversees the daily business of the nonprofit organization, from coordinating volunteers to leading staff meetings.

Through prayer and brainstorming, the team chose the theme for this year's March: "Unique from Day One: Pro-Life Is Pro-Science." Many of the speakers will be physicians.

DeLee knows first-hand how science fascinates young people, and a great many youth will be among the 100,000 participants in this year's March. "That's a source of hope for all of us," she declared.

## March for Life and Rally South Bend

Join St. Joseph County Right to Life for a local march and rally

Friday, January 18th

11:30 am- Rally at KofC Hall 553

11:50 am- March to the Courthouse  
and peaceful demonstration until 1:00 pm

6:30 pm- KofC Spaghetti Dinner at Hall 553

Visit [prolifemichiana.org](http://prolifemichiana.org) for details



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## U.S. Catholics prepare for 9 Days for Life campaign

WASHINGTON — Each year the Octave Day of Christmas falls on the first day of the New Year, on which Catholics also celebrate the solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God.

Her open heart and courageous “yes” to God show His children how to live year-round — with hearts open to the Lord, following where He leads. All are called to place their trust in Him, to enter compassionately into the suffering of others, and to love one another as Christ loves us. Like Mary welcomed Jesus, everyone is called to cherish and protect the gift of human life, at every stage and in every circumstance.

One way to live out the message of Christmas and follow Mary's example is to join 9 Days for Life, a novena for the respect of all human life.

Join thousands of Catholics nationwide in prayer Monday, Jan. 14 – Tuesday, Jan. 22. The prayer campaign, sponsored by the Committee on Pro-Life Activities of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, leads up to the annual Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. The novena and day of prayer are a time of recollection and reparation in observation of the anniversary of Roe v. Wade — the Supreme Court decision that made abortion legal throughout the United States.

The overarching intention of the novena is that all human life will be respected. Each day of the 9 Days for Life novena highlights

a related topic and provides a reflection, educational information and suggested daily actions.

Participants can subscribe to receive the daily prayers at [www.9daysforlife.com](http://www.9daysforlife.com).

**WHO:** Since 2013, over 100,000 Catholics have joined together to pray this annual novena for the respect of human life sponsored by the Committee on Pro-Life Activities of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Through prayer and sacrifice, a culture of life can be built.

**WHEN:** 9 Days for Life will run Monday, Jan. 14 – Tuesday, Jan. 22.

**WHAT:** [9daysforlife.com](http://9daysforlife.com) is the dedicated website for joining the novena and for accessing resources. Participants can receive the novena by downloading the free 9 Days for Life app, or by subscribing to daily emails or text messages. A printable version is also available online. Those who join the campaign are invited to pray a multifaceted novena that includes a new intention, brief reflection, related information and suggested actions for each day.

**WHERE:** For additional information and updates on ways to get involved, visit [9daysforlife.com](http://9daysforlife.com) and follow the campaign on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

## Keep bringing Christ to others, archbishop tells SEEK conference attendees

BY SEAN GALLAGHER

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — Denver Archbishop Samuel J. Aquila described the 17,000 mostly college students attending SEEK2019 in Indianapolis as “a great sign of hope for the Church, that the Church is alive and well among young people.”

He celebrated Mass on Jan. 6 for the participants in the biennial conference sponsored by the Denver-based Fellowship of Catholic University Students, known as FOCUS. The group, founded in 1998, seeks to nurture the Catholic faith in college students. It currently has nearly 700 missionaries serving on 153 college campuses in 42 states and five international locations.

In his homily, Archbishop Aquila said he was briefly “playing hooky” from the retreat taking place for bishops in the U.S. at Mundelein Seminary at the University of St. Mary of the Lake near Chicago to celebrate the Mass in the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis.

This year's SEEK gathering, Jan. 3-7, is the sixth such conference that Archbishop Aquila has attended.

“Certainly, you can see the deep faith in the young people,” he said in an interview after the liturgy. “What their encounter with Christ has brought about is palpable. When you give young people the truth of Christ and Christ as the light and the one who gives meaning to life, it changes everything.”

In his homily, the archbishop spoke about the reading from Isaiah where the prophet spoke of darkness covering the earth. He said this darkness today is consumerism, incivility and the “sin by certain members of the clergy.”

“All of that can, at times, discourage us,” he said. “But in the midst of that is the light of Jesus Christ. And it is that light that we must focus on.”

He spoke about how Capuchin Father Raniero Cantalamessa, the preacher of the papal household who is leading the bishops' retreat, told the bishops that society has lost the “sense of eternity” and that “when we look at the darkness of the world, when we look at the darkness within the Church, we have lost the sense of eternity, that we really do not believe in Christ as the light, in Christ as the one who comes to give us eternal life.”

Turning to Christ and entering into a relationship with Him, Archbishop Aquila said, can draw people out of this darkness.

“Jesus can heal any wound. He can restore any disorder. He can bring light into darkness.”



CNS photo/Sean Gallagher, The Criterion

Young people kneel in prayer Jan. 6 during a Mass at the SEEK conference that drew 17,000 mainly college students from across the country to the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis. The conference is a biennial event sponsored by the Fellowship of Catholic University Students.

He implored the conference participants to take the light of Christ they have received and share it with others.

“You are the light of the world today, in history,” Archbishop Aquila said. “You are the ones who reflect the light of Christ to others. You are sent on mission in whatever walk of life you are in, to bring Christ to others.”

Colleen Tragonski, a junior from Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama, said the impact of the conference is “so hard to put into words.”

“The Holy Spirit is so present here, everywhere in the atmosphere,” she said. “That’s the best way that I can put it.”

She said the conference gave her “an incredible hope,” despite the challenges facing the Church

now.

“It’s amazing to see thousands and thousands of college students celebrating the Mass, all making this journey to Indianapolis, but also to heaven,” she said.

She also said she looked forward to embracing the mission that Archbishop Aquila presented to conference attendees.

“I hope that I can take everything that I’ve learned and use it in every single moment of my life to be the light of Christ for other people,” she said. “It’s so easy to be on a high when you’re here. It’s the biggest challenge to ... bring that to other people.”

*Sean Gallagher is a reporter at The Criterion, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.*

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 focus

# Robots, AI: Papal academy decodes newest pro-life challenges

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Even though today's modern tools and technologies are hardly human, the Pontifical Academy for Life is zeroing in on the world of robots and machines powered by artificial intelligence.

While the academy's focus is on the protection of human life and dignity, the rapidly shifting and radical capabilities of robotics are having an ever-increasing impact on human lives, people's relationships, communities and creation, said Jesuit Father Carlo Casalone, an academy member and consultant.

The need to reflect on the effects, opportunities and risks posed by artificial intelligence and robotics has led the pro-life academy to launch a special look at this complex field, adding robotics to its list of specialized projects, which already include palliative care, neuroscience, bioethics and human genome editing.

A major workshop on "Robotics: Humans, Machines and Health" will be held at the Vatican Feb. 25-26 as part of this increased study; the workshop will focus on the use of robots and artificial intelligence, specifically in medicine and health care.

The use of industrial and personal-service robots is on the rise, according to industry reports. They are being used in manufacturing, housekeeping, assisting with surgery and even caring for the elderly. People with reduced mobility can be assisted with brain control technology, which converts brain waves into digital signals that can command or control external devices, such as artificial limbs or machines.

Father Casalone, who studied medicine and worked as a cardiologist before joining the Society of Jesus in 1984, helped orga-



CNS photo/Reuters

**"Pepper" the robot, a humanoid robot designed to welcome and take care of visitors and patients, stands next to a mother and her new born baby at AZ Damiaan hospital in Ostend, Belgium, June 16, 2016. The Vatican's Pontifical Academy for Life has added robotics to its list of specialized areas of study.**

nize the workshop. He became a member of the pontifical academy in 2017 and works in its scientific section.

He told Catholic News Service in December that the workshop will bring together ethicists, health care workers and researchers, including Hiroshi Ishiguro, a Japanese robotics engineer who creates humanoid robots and promotes discussion about the essence of being human. His lab has developed the interactive "Actroid," a life-

like humanoid robot that can operate autonomously or be tele-operated and created an uncanny replica of Ishiguro known as the "Geminoid."

Father Casalone said the academy wanted the workshop to include experts like Ishiguro who could explain "what sort of vision" guides their work and so that members could "truly listen to what is going on in today's world and to engage with this historic moment in time."

"We are seeking to be fully aware of what's happening so that we know what is possible" in the rapidly advancing world of "cognitive machines" and to highlight the ethical, social, cultural and economic impact these tools may have.

For example, cheaper automated machine labor may

threaten emerging economies, and mineral-rich African nations often see their resources extracted and exported without receiving the benefits in what has become a new "robot divide," Father Casalone said.

Using robots for military applications can be "very dangerous and very deceptive" if nations use such machines to cover up their responsibility and destroy others "behind the scenes," he said. Automated systems also can lead to "a sort of gaming mentality" when soldiers can control weaponry remotely, far away from its effects.

Home automation or "domotics" — such as security systems or robot vacuum cleaners — also presents certain risks, he said, if "houses begin to be built in a way that makes them more

robot-friendly, more suitable for machines than for humans."

And the use of robots in assisting the elderly or infirm, while it "could be of great help," could also "risk triggering an attitude of delegating" the care of the most fragile and vulnerable in society "as if it were a task to be entrusted to machines" and not to fellow human beings, he said.

Similar problems may "also apply to the natural world," he said, for example, when using robots for farming and livestock "changes our relationship with animals" and nature. Father Casalone said the answer isn't a stance against technology but "guiding development so that it respects human dignity and the common good as much as possible."

"It is about becoming aware of and agreeing about regulating these radically new possibilities we have before us, which are able to increasingly and more deeply affect living beings and the human body," he said.

The two-day workshop in February will not be proposing specific guidelines, he said, but rather will lay the groundwork for drawing up "some criteria, given what is at play with the emergence of these cognitive systems in our lives."

The radical and pervasive impact today's new technologies will have on human beings and their relations "demands greater oversight," public discussion and concern not just among experts or special interest groups, but by everyone, he said.

Throughout history, science and technology have invented or developed new capabilities that have taken the world by surprise and "transformed our lives," Father Casalone said. "So, we have to expect something new" will always be around the corner and be ready to respond.

Current controls on "the atomic bomb and its destructive potential," he said, show how human beings are capable of not using every new technology, "which means there are options for guiding development" so that it can better respect human life.

"This, in every case, is what we are committed to," he said.



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# Pilgrims make spiritual preparations for Panama

BY STEPHANIE A. PATKA

With less than three weeks until they board an international flight to Panama, several World Youth Day pilgrims continue making preparations for their journey. The goal of a gathering Jan. 3 at St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne, was fellowship and making cord rosaries to be able to exchange with other pilgrims from around the world, a favorite tradition of the international assembly of youth and young adults.

St. Charles Borromeo youth minister Stacey Huneck stated that the students' preparations actually began many months ago, as she and St. Jude youth minister Vickie Lortie took turns hosting events once a month to help the teens prepare. "At the beginning, we asked each student to choose one of the World Youth Day saints, to ask that saint's intercession for their pilgrimage and to get to know that saint as they prepare for their journey."

Huneck and Lortie both stressed that the pilgrimage will be more than a trip or vacation, and helped the students by praying together and guiding them to ask questions such as: How is God affecting my life in this journey? How is this journey affecting me and giving me an opportunity to encounter God in a more profound way?

"Spiritual preparation and prayer are so important because at some points, the pilgrimage can be really grueling and yet, these students have a chance to see, that like this journey to Panama, our whole lives are a journey to grow closer to God," stated Huneck. "Prayer is really an essential component of a pilgrimage."

In the background, the students' voices were enthusiastic and joyful amidst the knotting of red, white and blue cords as rosaries began to form.

Huneck continued: "A theme that really emerged from our conversations was about discernment: what it is, what does it look like in the life of a teenager, how to incorporate prayer into the life of discernment and how our holy Father has encouraged us to discern our own vocations. My hope is that we can help these teens discover that discernment isn't a one-time deal. You discern choices every day and have to think about what God is calling you to do every day, not just for large events like World Youth Day."

Not all the teens present for making rosaries plan to attend World Youth Day. Even though he will not be in Panama at the end of January, Josh Schipper has been participating in World Youth Day preparations and fundraisers alongside his friends, to help them prepare for the event

in Panama — including help to make the video for the bake sale fundraising event at St. Charles Borromeo.

"I want my friends to have a really good time at WYD and have a good transformative conversion while they are there. Even though I'm not going, I am able to listen to them as they talk through things that they are going through, and I pray for them as they prepare," Schipper said. "It's transformative for me because I get to see people go do something that they have been preparing day and night to do. It's really cool to help them achieve their goals."

A parishioner of St. Mary of the Assumption in Avilla, Jenn Litchfield will be attending her first World Youth Day in Panama and has found her spiritual preparation in the hearts of those she has invited to prepare for the journey with her.

"My fire for faith has always come from watching my older siblings growing up and see-



Photos by Stephanie A. Patka

Jenn Litchfield teaches fellow pilgrim how to make a cord rosary to exchange with other pilgrims in Panama.



Utilizing the theme of WYD, the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend provided pilgrims with patriotic bracelets to exchange with other pilgrims.

ing them really being able to be fulfilled in Christ. It's been the biggest thing for me," Litchfield said. "Wanting to go to Panama is just that, partly wanting to travel and also because I love encountering other people and especially encountering other people through Christ."

Litchfield stated that her spiritual preparation has included praying with the saints of World Youth Day, adoration and Mass a few times a week. "I did take up a daily rosary in preparation," she smiled. "It fit perfectly in the time that it takes me to drive to school." Litchfield is also preparing for her encounter with the universal Church and is starting with the church right at home. "I dropped off a small journal at my old elementary school that will travel around to each class. They can write in all

their prayer intentions so that I will be able to carry it around with me and pray for them while I'm in Panama. After I get back, I'm excited to be able to go back and share my witness with them about the pilgrimage, so that in some small way the students will be able to encounter the universal Church too."

Veteran World Youth Day traveler Father David Huneck noted that this time around will be different for him, since he is now a priest. He attended World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland, when he was a seminarian.

"Last time, I was a co-pilgrim, this time it will be like going with my family. I know more of the students through my parish and Bishop Dwenger, and I'm excited to go on this pilgrimage with my spiritual children.

"I'm looking forward to experience the totality of Catholicism.

people in other parts of the world that experience the same faith just from a different culture. My prayer for students is that they can encounter the Lord in a very real way and see the universal nature of the Church."

That universality of the Church is something Litchfield is looking forward to encountering as well. "The Church is so much bigger than I think that it is. As people, sometimes we might be on the same side, but will argue about why certain things are the way that they are. But in the end, we arrive at the same conclusion. The fact of the matter is that our journeys in life are all going to be different, but the conclusion for us all should be heaven."

"When I'm in Panama, I'm not going to be able to understand many people at all and they might be acting completely different than what I'm used to, because it's a different culture," she continued. "But I don't have to worry about the differences, because we are all trying for heaven, so it helps me not to be so judgmental and try to be close to them as a universal body of Christ."

My little corner of the world is St. Jude: Day to day, weekend to weekend, that's how I experience Catholicism. But there are



Vickie Lortie, high school youth minister at St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne, stands besides a banner that hangs in the front entrance of the parish. The purpose of the banner is to encourage St. Jude parishioners to take a page with the names of the pilgrims and WYD prayer on it and pray for each of the pilgrims going to World Youth Day in Panama.

## Extra! Extra! Read all about it?

Fifty-three journalists were killed worldwide in 2018. Some died in war, but a shocking number died exposing corruption, covering protests or just doing their job. *Time* magazine called them and their harassed and persecuted colleagues “Guardians” of truth and named them collectively “Person of the Year.”

In the United States last June, four journalists and another staffer at the *Capital Gazette*, a local newspaper in Annapolis, Maryland, were killed by a local man who resented that the newspaper had reported on his harassment of a woman.

The widow of one of the victims said of the press and its importance to society: “A lot of people don’t understand how important what goes on in their community is to them and how it affects their quality of life — maybe until it’s gone.”

This is more than simply a defense of the First Amendment. This has a dollar-and-cents impact according to a study by three Midwestern researchers titled “Financing Dies in Darkness? The Impact of Newspaper Closures on Public Finance.”

It looked at the impact of newspaper closures on communities, concluding that communities lacking a newspaper paid higher borrowing costs because insurers worried that corruption and scandal might go too-long unexposed:

“Overall, our results indicate that local newspapers hold their governments accountable, keeping municipal borrowing costs

low and ultimately saving local taxpayers money.”

Newspapers benefit democratic societies in other ways as well: Recent polling by *The Washington Post* found that of all consumers of media, newspaper readers were least likely to believe political falsehoods. The *Post* did not offer an explanation, but newspapers have the space to offer context and provide depth to news stories as opposed to the superficial gloss of network evening news or the ideological opinions of cable.

As *Time* magazine said in its special issue, “The press always has and always will commit errors of judgment, of omission, of accuracy. And yet what it does is fundamental.”

So what does all this have to do with Catholics?

I think that the Catholic press — while not as threatened by violence and certainly not as well-funded as its secular counterparts — has an important role to play in the local Catholic community, especially at this present time. Most obviously, a robust Catholic press makes “transparency” and “accountability” more than just slogans.

During the recent wave of abuse crises, pollsters have found that Catholics who are reading their Catholic press have a greater awareness not just of what has gone wrong, but of what the Church has been doing to prevent abuse over the past 20 years. While much secular media coverage treats every expose as if it happened yesterday and the Church has done nothing, readers of the Catholic press know better.



GREG ERLANDSON

### AMID THE FRAY

Unfortunately, there are fewer of those readers because there are fewer Catholic newspapers. Papers are being shut down. Frequency is declining. Space for news shrinking. Accountants don’t want to pay for them. The result: Most Catholics get news about their Church from secular news sources or perhaps hysterical social media outlets.

Last year, Pope Francis said that the task of the press — both Catholic and secular — is “to inform correctly, to offer everyone a reporting of the facts that conform as closely as possible to reality” and to make complex issues accessible to most people.

A Catholic press that reports the whole truth and its context serves the Church best, especially in this polarized age. Well-funded Catholic media with high journalistic standards and a love for the faith is a resource for educating and informing Catholics that is needed today more than ever.

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

## Deleting the ethics gene

Leading scientists worldwide have strongly objected to an unauthorized and premature effort to produce “designer babies” in China. I agree with their objections. But I also find some of their own proposals inadequate and even objectionable.

The background: In late November, Chinese researcher He Jiankui revealed that he had altered the genetic makeup of human embryos produced in the laboratory from the gametes of seven couples. In each case, the husband was HIV-positive (carrying the virus that causes AIDS) while the wife was not.

Dr. He sought to delete part of a gene called CCR5 that is normally found in human beings, based on evidence that people who lack this gene have a greater resistance to the virus. So far, only one woman has carried to term, giving birth to twin girls named Lulu and Nana — and it may be only Nana’s genome that was altered enough to provide resistance to HIV.

By altering genes at the early embryonic stage, Dr. He conducted “germline” gene editing. Such alterations can change every cell in the grown human body, including reproductive cells, and so create permanent changes in the future makeup of the human race.

The consequences of such experiments are so far-reaching and potentially disastrous that science academies in the U.S., Great Britain and China have called for a moratorium on pursuing them until more research is done, risks are assessed and a



RICHARD DOERFLINGER

### A MORE HUMAN SOCIETY

societal consensus is formed.

Dr. He violated this consensus, the ethical standards of his university and perhaps Chinese law. In *The Atlantic*, science writer Ed Yong cites 15 problems with this experiment.

Among other things, Dr. He skipped over the animal and human studies others see as essential before taking this radical step.

This trial did not correct a defective gene to cure or prevent a horrible disease but disabled a normal gene to improve resistance to a disease that these children did not have and may never be exposed to — in the process, perhaps increasing their vulnerability to West Nile virus and to dying from the flu.

It imposed unknown risks on innocent children not able to give consent, using them as guinea pigs in the hope of someday benefiting others.

All these objections are valid. But leading scientists’ proposals for what should be done instead, and how it should be done, raise problems as well.

First, they want to do what Dr. He has done but more slowly and carefully, knowing that one disaster now may publicly dis-

DOERFLINGER, page 13

## Jesus is the instrument of God’s love for us



### THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

### Feast of the Baptism of the Lord Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

The feast of the Baptism of the Lord is very important to the Church’s process of bringing us to Christ. It reveals both the identity of the Lord and begins the Gospel revelation of the Lord’s work of salvation.

Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River by John the Baptist. The three Synoptic Gospels, Matthew, Mark and Luke, report this event. It is not recorded in John, although John’s Gospel alludes to John the Baptist’s baptisms in the Jordan, and in John’s Gospel, John the Baptist

gives Jesus the title, “Lamb of God.”

The first reading is one of the four Suffering Servant Songs of Isaiah. These quite poetic passages are prominent in the liturgies of Lent, and indeed of Good Friday. They convey an ominous overtone. Who was this Suffering Servant? To whom do these passages refer? The future Messiah? One of the prophets? The author? Was it a collective reference to the people of Israel? No one knows.

Regardless, the Christian liturgies over the centuries have seen Jesus in the Suffering Servant Songs. Certainly this is the message for this feast. In this Scripture, God reveals that a faithful and pure servant will come, who will endure an outrageous fortune. Many will turn against him. Yet he will be steadfast.

Supplying the second reading is the Acts of the Apostles. After Easter, almost every liturgy contains a reading from the Acts of the Apostles, but this source rarely furnishes readings

at Mass in any other time. So the appearance of Acts on this weekend is unusual.

The reading is important. Peter’s own identity is revealed. Peter speaks on behalf of all the Apostles. He is chief among the Apostles. He reaches out to gentiles, by teaching Cornelius, a Roman officer, a foreigner and pagan. Peter proclaims Jesus, declaring that the saving ministry of Jesus began with the Lord’s baptism. Peter’s message is the continuation of the Lord’s message.

St. Luke’s Gospel provides the last reading. Luke’s report of the baptism, as Mark’s, highlights the Lord’s divine identity and mission of salvation. In Luke, as in Mark, God announces that Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus is fulfilling the plan of God.

Certain images are important. In a distant echo of Creation, the reading says that life comes from the water. Jesus emerges from the water to begin the mission of redemption. Looking ahead, it prefigures Christian baptism.

Another image is that of the

sky. God speaks from the sky, an ancient image of divinity in the Old Testament.

### Reflection

In Advent, the Church called us to renew ourselves in holiness and grace. The Church joyfully has led us to Christmas, the anniversary of the Lord’s birth. If we responded in Advent, Christmas was much more than a commemoration. It was a personal event in which faithful hearts and souls truly received Christ and were restored, healed and freed from the inevitability of death.

In the great revelation of the Epiphany, celebrated last week, the Church continued to tell us about Jesus. Son of Mary and therefore human, the Lord also is God, as the Magi realized.

Now, on this feast, the Church instructs us further about Jesus. He is the instrument of God’s love for us. Doomed by our sins, we find another chance in Jesus. He is our savior. He reconciles sinners with God. Union with

Jesus is critical, if we wish to be saved. We must be inseparably bonded to Christ. He is God. God is love. God forgives us and restores us to eternal life; however, we must accept the Lord.

Practically speaking, Jesus comes to us through Peter and the Apostles, the Lord’s students, whom Jesus commissioned to bring salvation to all people.

### READINGS

**Sunday:** Is 42:1-4, 6-7 Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9b-10 Acts 10:34-38 Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

**Monday:** Heb 1:1-6 ps 97:1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9 Mk 1:14-20

**Tuesday:** Heb 2:5-12 Ps 8:2a, 5-9 Mk 1:21-28

**Wednesday:** Heb 2:14-18 Ps 105:1-4, 6-9 Mk 1:29-39

**Thursday:** Heb 3:7-14 Ps 95:6-11 Mk 1:40-45

**Friday:** Heb 4:1-5, 11 Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8 Mk 2:1-12

**Saturday:** Heb 4:12-16 Ps 19:8-10, 15 Mk 2:13-17

# Oh, my aching head

**M**igraines affect millions of people in this country every year. I am fortunate to not have recurring migraines, but I did experience a severe migraine once. About 10 years ago while I was doing my federal tax return (not kidding), I suddenly saw flashing lights and then, after a few minutes, lost part of my vision. I surmised I was having the onset of my first migraine ever, or I was having a stroke. I was actually very happy and relieved when I began to have a splitting headache, confirming it was a migraine.

My wife also gave me a scare about 20 years ago. She was driving with one of my daughters when she suddenly had visual changes followed by difficulty talking and right-sided numbness. She pulled to the side of the road and had my daughter take over. When she got home, I immediately was concerned that she was having a stroke and took her to the emergency room. After a brain MRI and neurology consult, we were told by the neurologist that she was having a migraine without the headache and that she would be fine. Yes, there are migraines that never culminate in a headache.

If you have a sudden neurologic deficit such as visual loss, droopy face, numbness or paralysis, I urge you to seek medical attention immediately because this could be a stroke and every minute counts in minimizing long-term brain damage. If you have a pattern of migraines that usually begins with certain specific symptoms every time, like visual changes, then when these occur you can be more reassured and not run to the emergency room.

Migraines occur in about 12 percent of the population. Females are affected much more than males. The incidence in women is 17 percent, while in men it is about 6 percent. Migraines peak between the ages of 30 and 40. They are frequently hereditary. I have family members whose lives have been majorly impacted by frequent migraines that interrupt not only their work but also their ability to travel and vacation.

Research has proven that the cause of migraines is very complex. Years ago, it was thought that vasodilatation and vasoconstriction of blood vessels were the drivers of this phenomenon. More recent research indicates that the situation is much more complex. For the brainiacs reading this, let me try to describe the pathophysiology of the migraine. There is activation of the trigeminovascular system. A self-propagating wave of neuronal and glial depolarization spreads across the cerebral cortex that is called "cortical spreading depression." This then activates the trigeminal nerve afferents, which inflame the meninges (brain covering),

which in turn cause the severe headache.

Before all our heads explode with a migraine, I will get back to using terms that we can all understand. That includes me.

There are four phases to the typical migraine, but not everyone gets all phases with each migraine. The first is the prodrome, which occurs hours to several days before the migraine hits. This can be manifested by an array of symptoms that include irritability, yawning, food cravings, depression and even a feeling of euphoria. The second, and to me the most interesting, phase is the aura. The most common type is visual. There may be bright zigzagging lines, shapes or loss of vision. The aura may also be auditory (ringing or various noises), sensory (numbness or burning pain), motor (paralysis or jerking movements) or confusion. All of these can be easily misinterpreted as the possible onset of a stroke. The aura may precede each migraine, but it can be variable, and some migraine sufferers rarely have an aura. The third stage is the headache itself. Usually it is a throbbing or pulsatile headache. It is commonly accompanied by nausea and sometimes vomiting, and there is photophobia, leading many migraine victims to disappear into a dark, quiet room.

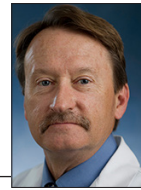
The final stage is postdrome. There frequently is a feeling of total exhaustion, but also can also be a feeling of elation (Yea, it's over!).

Factors that can precipitate a migraine include stress, weather, menstruation, fasting, odors and food. Some foods contain high levels of tyramine, which is an established trigger for migraines. Certain cheeses have high tyramine. It is usually the stinky cheeses, like sharp cheddar or aged brie that can be a problem for migraine sufferers. Cured meats like salami may also be a trigger. Alcohol can be a cause.

Here is an interesting caveat. Beer on tap, which contains high levels of tyramines, is 20 times more likely to trigger a migraine than beer out of a bottle. Many people have correlated their migraines with consumption of MSG, or monosodium glutamate, chocolate and red wine, but studies have failed to reliably prove this. If you get frequent migraines, keeping a food diary is strongly recommended. What triggers a migraine in one person is frequently different than another.

There are many medicines prescribed for migraine prevention and for acute treatment. The truth is that medicines for prevention frequently fail. One just has to try them and gauge the response. I should also mention that Botox injections in the head and neck are helpful for some people.

There is a new and exciting treatment for migraine suffer-



DR. DAVID KAMINSKAS

## THE CATHOLIC DOCTOR IS IN

ers that I want to share. It has been shown that calcitonin gene-related peptide is elevated in the blood when people suffer from migraines. CGRP is produced by nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. CGRP transmits pain signals in the brain and these receptors can be blocked by this new treatment. This first CGRP inhibitor released is erenumab and is actually a monoclonal antibody, rather than a typical pharmaceutical. Several other drugs (eptinezumab, fremanezumab, galcanezumab) were just released that also attack CGRP. They are self-administered subcutaneous injections given once a month or at a higher dose every three months. They are not a cure, but in several controlled scientific studies they reduced migraines by 50 percent in about half the people who took them. In another study, one-third of the injection recipients obtained a 75 percent reduction. There was a small percentage of people who had their migraines reduced to nearly zero!

Here is the bad news: Unless a person has failed multiple other migraine treatment medicines that are less expensive, it is unlikely his insurance will approve it. Erenumab costs \$575 for each monthly injection, or about \$7,000 per year. If your life is being majorly affected by migraines it may be worth the investment, though, so that you can be more productive in your daily life.

Both doctors and patients can become frustrated when there are not successful outcomes despite all efforts. When I don't have all the answers for my patients, I sometimes tell them that they are "fearfully, wonderfully made" taken from Psalm 139:13-14, which says: "Truly you have formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb. I give you thanks that I am fearfully, wonderfully made; wonderful are your works."

*Special thanks to Dr. Natalie Manalo, a local neurologist, migraine specialist and Catholic Medical Association member, who kindly reviewed this document before publication.*

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

## SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for January 13, 2019

Acts 10: 34-38; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

Following is a word search based on the Second Reading and Gospel for the Baptism of the Lord, Cycle C. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

PETER	PEACE	CHRIST
LORD OF ALL	GALILEE	BAPTISM
JOHN	PREACHED	DOING GOOD
DEVIL	PEOPLE	ANSWERED
WATER	SANDALS	HEAVEN
OPENED	DESCENDED	DOVE
VOICE	BELOVED	PLEASED

### BAPTISM BY JOHN

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

### Macarius of Alexandria (the Younger)

A citizen of Alexandria, Macarius abandoned his work as a confectioner while still young and chose instead a life of asceticism in the deserts of Egypt. He spent some 40 years learning and practicing monastic life in Upper Egypt, beginning about 335, then moved to Lower Egypt, where he moved among hermit's cells in three different deserts.



Feast: January 2

Desert monks lived alone but worshipped together on Saturday and Sunday. According to his disciple Palladius, Macarius was austere and rigorous. Macarius of Alexandria is recalled in the canon of the Coptic-rite Mass, and is often confused with his namesake, St. Macarius the Egyptian, also the Elder, who lived at the same time and whose feast is also in January.

#### DOERFLINGER, from page 12

credit germline editing for a long time.

The organizing committee of the Second International Summit on Human Genome Editing reacted to his research by reiterating that "any clinical use of germline editing remains irresponsible at this time" (emphasis added) — but "it is time to define a rigorous, responsible translational pathway toward such trials."

These scientists hope to carry society gradually toward accepting "designer babies," after establishing that it can be done safely.

Second, they hope to establish this by conducting numerous trials in which human embryos are genetically modified, studied and destroyed. In the meantime, no human being in these trials

should be allowed to be born alive.

Or as one news headline has declared, "Editing human embryos is OK — but don't turn them into people yet, geneticists say." Those of us who realize that people are already people at every stage of their existence will have problems with this.

If the latest dispute shows anything, it is that the scientific community is unable or unwilling to regulate itself effectively — and that its standards for what needs regulating may themselves be faulty. We all need to be part of this conversation.

**Richard Doerflinger** worked in the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. He writes from Washington state.

# Pete Duran: Here I am, Lord

BY BARB SIEMINSKI

He's a Levelland, Texas, native but was living in San Antonio, Texas, working as a carpenter in 1967, when Pete Duran's brother-in-law from Fort Wayne came for a visit.

Duran had not previously met this relative, who was on vacation in San Antonio. But by the time he was leaving for his home in Fort Wayne, he had talked Duran into coming back with him with the promise of plenty of well-paying jobs here.

"I was 20 years old and my wife, Sarah, and I were recently married, and we decided to leave Texas for Fort Wayne," said Duran, who, after football season, had to leave the first year of middle school and go to work to help support his family.

"However, I did get my GED later in life as well as some vocational training in electrical and carpentry areas. I worked at Dana Corporation for 34 years as a welder, machine operator, on assembly lines and as a group leader. I retired 14 years ago."

Although he has been going to St. Therese Church for more than 26 years, Duran has only been a member for about 15 years. There he is a server, a eucharistic minister, an usher and greeter.

He volunteers at the parish's St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank and uses his truck to bring commodities and food goods from the commissary to the food bank. He also volunteers on the church grounds, whether it be trimming, mulching, weeding or snow plowing, and helps take down trees to cut up for firewood.



Facebook

**The Fort Wayne Society of St. Vincent de Paul celebrated its annual Mass and prayer breakfast with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades on Dec. 15 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Fort Wayne. At the breakfast several Top Hat Awards were given to Vincentians nominated by their conference for dedicated service to the poor and the community. In addition to Duran, pictured, other winners were Diane Burch, St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne; Mark Schmidt, St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne; Neil and Kathy Coonrod, St. Louis, Besancon Parish, New Haven; and Sylvia Christian.**

If this sounds busy, wait: There's more. In winter, Duran clears snow and ice from driveways, sidewalks and steps for some of the elderly parishioners. He visits the sick at their homes and occasionally visits hospi-

tals and nursing homes as well. Taking time to take friends to doctor and dental appointments, sometimes very early, is also on his to-do list.

He assists with serving coffee and doughnuts after both

Masses on Sundays, 10 months of the year, and volunteers for the parish fish fries, helping set up tables and chairs and serving fish.

Duran helps prepare other food items at these events and also at the pancake-and-bacon breakfasts. He also does the cleanup afterwards.

He is a grand knight of the Knights of Columbus Council and a fourth-degree member of the organization. In addition, Duran is a member of The Fort Wayne Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Inc., and is on the committee for Rekindle the Fire men's conference. He is also a member of the Small Parishes Actively Receiving Christ organization and participates in prayer vigils for life.

Appropriately enough, Duran's favorite hymn is "Here I Am, Lord." He cites Father Lawrence Teteh, the congregation and "our beautiful church" as his reasons for loving his parish. His life's path is staunchly guided by Matthew 22:37: "To love the Lord our God, with all

our heart, with all our soul and with all our mind," followed by the commandment to love one's neighbor as oneself.

In December, Duran was among several members of the Fort Wayne Society of St. Vincent de Paul who were honored with the organization's Top Hat Award for generous and selfless service to others.

Duran and his wife have five children — Linda Cantu, Vickie DeArmond, Lupita Lazcano, Pete Duran and Andy Duran — 12 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. In his spare time, he enjoys planting flowers for his wife, keeping his vehicles clean and "driving anywhere." He also is a big fan of watching biblical movies.

Duran steadfastly follows Ronald Reagan's words: "Within the covers of the Bible are the answers for all the problems men face."

*This article appeared in Senior Life-Allen County, the December 2018 issue. Reprinted with permission.*



Barb Sieminski/Senior Life-Allen County

**Pete Duran works with a volunteer to get items ready in the food pantry.**



Barb Sieminski/Senior Life-Allen County

**Pete Duran checks the food and nonfood supply levels before loading carts to be wheeled out to the waiting public at the St. Vincent Food Pantry at St. Therese Church. Helping out in the food pantry is just one of the ways Duran serves at St. Therese.**

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

**St. Louis Parish to host trivia night**  
**NEW HAVEN** — The second annual trivia night benefiting the St. Louis Home and School Association will be Saturday, Jan. 12, at St. Louis, Besancon, Parish, 15535 Lincoln Highway E. Doors will open at 6 p.m. for table selection and decoration. Trivia, fun and games will be from 7-11 p.m. Team tables are \$100 each and will consist of 10 players. Tables will be limited, so register soon. See the flyer for more details or contact the parish office at 260-749-4525 for details.

**Bishop Rhoades to bless and dedicate new addition to Achatz Hall of Science**  
**FORT WAYNE** — Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will bless and dedicate the new addition of Achatz Hall of Science, 2701 Spring St., at the University of Saint Francis on Wednesday, Jan. 16, at 9:30 A.M.

**Training for extraordinary ministers of holy Communion**  
**MISHAWAKA** — The Office of Worship has organized diocesan liturgical trainings on upcoming Saturdays in early 2019 for lecturers and extraordinary ministers of holy Communion. There is no charge to attend a training, but

advance registration is required by mail or email. Extraordinary minister trainings will be on Jan. 26, at St. Monica Church in Mishawaka and on Feb. 2 at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Fort Wayne from 9-11 a.m. Visit [www.diocesefwsb.org/Trainings-And-Retreats](http://www.diocesefwsb.org/Trainings-And-Retreats) for information.

**Bishop Rhoades to celebrate Mass at St. Francis Xavier Church**  
**PIERCETON** — Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will celebrate Mass at St. Francis Xavier Church in Pierceton on Saturday, Jan. 12, at 4 p.m.



**CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF EVANSVILLE**


## DIRECTOR OF STEWARDSHIP

The Catholic Diocese of Evansville, Indiana, seeks a **Director of Stewardship**. This position coordinates and manages the stewardship efforts that support the mission of the diocese. This individual will work closely with the Bishop and his staff to determine and communicate stewardship priorities. A description of this position can be found at [www.evdio.org](http://www.evdio.org). This position reports to the bishop and chancellor/COO. Qualified applicants are invited to submit a professional resume, cover letter, and salary requirements to [hr-stewardship@evdio.org](mailto:hr-stewardship@evdio.org). Applications will be accepted – and interviews conducted on a rolling basis – until the position is filled.

## Chief Operating Officer

Saint Anne Communities in Fort Wayne, Indiana, is looking for qualified candidates to fill the role of Chief Operating Officer. St. Anne Communities is a not-for-profit five star continuing care retirement community which strives to be faith centered and family focused. The COO is responsible for the smooth and efficient operation of the company, including management of the profit and loss statement for the business, as well as the related resources associated with the operation. Candidates must have a bachelor's degree in Healthcare Administration, Nursing, Finance, or other relevant field of study. Candidates must have or the ability to obtain a licensure as a Health Facility Administrator in Indiana. To view a full job description, please visit [www.diocesefwsb.org](http://www.diocesefwsb.org).

To apply, please send a resume and cover letter via email to **Bob Nicholas** at [Bob.Nicholas@onbinvestments.com](mailto:Bob.Nicholas@onbinvestments.com), or mail to **116 E. Berry St. Fort Wayne, IN 46802** Attn: **Bob Nicholas**




**Saint Anne**  
 COMMUNITIES  
*Faith centered. Family focused.*

## REST IN PEACE

<p><b>Fort Wayne</b>                  Barbara Lyons, 86, St. Charles Borromeo</p> <p>Marilyn LaRocque, 91, St. Charles Borromeo</p> <p>Matthew Nagel, 35, St. Charles Borromeo</p> <p>James Zehr, 49, Most Precious Blood</p> <p>Michael J. Tilbury, 52, Most Precious Blood</p> <p><b>Lakeville</b>                  Walter Kowalski, 99, Sacred Heart of Jesus</p>	<p><b>Mishawaka</b>                  Susan Ann Denman, 71, St. Bavo</p> <p>John Bergan, 73, St. Bavo</p> <p><b>New Carlisle</b>                  Elsie Cooreman, 101, St. Stanislaus Kostka</p> <p>Stanley Kulwicki, 97, St. Stanislaus Kostka</p> <p><b>South Bend</b>                  Betty Spillman, St. Jude</p>	<p>Glenn E. Swaim, 65, Holy Family</p> <p>Edward P. Sipotz, 60, Holy Family</p> <p>Daniel Szczechowski, 99, St. Anthony de Padua</p>
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**Visit [www.todayscatholic.org/event](http://www.todayscatholic.org/event) for the complete calendar.**



## INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

### Executive Director, Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC)

The Executive Director is the chief administrative officer of the ICC and as a registered lobbyist serves as spokesperson for the five Roman Catholic Bishops in Indiana. The Executive Director also serves as the liaison to United States Catholic Conference, members of Federal and State legislatures, Executive and Administrative offices and statewide organizations. Responsibilities include enabling Catholics to participate in development of public policy and the political and democratic processes.

Candidates must be a practicing Roman Catholics with an in-depth knowledge of the faith and Catholic social teachings. Excellent oral and written communication skills along with demonstrated analytical and organizational ability are required. An advanced degree (or equivalent experience) in one or more of the related fields is preferred: theology, political or social sciences, philosophy, or education. Previous employment or volunteer experience in the Catholic Church, ideally involving administration, is preferred. The preferred starting date for the position is July 1, 2019.

Please e-mail cover letter, resume, and list of references by February 1, 2019 to:

**Ed Isakson**  
 Director, Human Resources  
 Archdiocese of Indianapolis  
 1400 N. Meridian St.  
 Indianapolis, IN 46202  
 E-mail: [eisakson@archindy.org](mailto:eisakson@archindy.org)

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CNS photo/Paul Haring

**Pope Francis uses incense as he celebrates Mass marking the feast of the Epiphany in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican on Jan. 6.**

## Knights take stand against lawmakers' judicial litmus test

BY MARK PATTISON

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The supreme knight of the Knights of Columbus, calling the organization “an American Catholic cultural icon,” said senators have no business questioning a federal judicial nominee’s membership in the Knights over its support for Church teaching on abortion and same-sex marriage.

“What we have to do is defend this fundamental principle of the free exercise of religion,” Carl Anderson said in a Jan. 4 telephone interview with Catholic News Service. “It’s something every Catholic should be concerned about.”

Anderson was referring to statements made by Sen. Kamala Harris, D-California, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, during a Nov. 28 confirmation hearing for Brian Buescher, nominated for a judgeship for the U.S. District Court for the District of Nebraska. Buescher, who lost the Republican nomination for Nebraska attorney general in 2014 while saying during the campaign he was “avidly pro-life,” is a member of Knights, joining when he was 18 years old.

Harris expressed concern during the hearing about the positions on abortion and same-sex marriage taken by the Knights, which she called “an all-male society comprised primarily of Catholic men.”

Another Judiciary Committee

member, Sen. Marie Hirono, D-Hawaii, asked Buescher, “If confirmed, do you intend to end your membership with this organization to avoid any appearance of bias?” Hirono was referring to the Knights’ support of California’s Proposition 8 to ban same-sex marriage. The proposition passed in 2008, but was overturned by the courts before it took effect.

Hirono also asked Buescher if he would recuse himself “from all cases in which the Knights of Columbus has taken a position,” adding the organization “has taken a number of extreme positions.”

Anderson, in a Jan. 1 statement to all members of the Knights, said, “We must remember that Article VI of the U.S. Constitution forbids a religious test for public office, and the First Amendment guarantees our free exercise of religion, freedom of association and freedom of speech. Any suggestion that the order’s adherence to the beliefs of the Catholic Church makes a brother Knight unfit for public office blatantly violates those constitutional guarantees.”

Asked why it took more than a month after the hearing to issue a statement, Anderson replied, “Really, we received just a flood of inquiries as this began to catch more news attention from our members wanting some guidance, wanting a clear statement. Washington has become so partisan and caught up with personalities, I didn’t what this

to be a partisan thing or a personality thing.”

Still, “the way the political winds shift in Washington,” Anderson told CNS, “it’s a very dangerous road these senators have started on.”

Anderson also took issue with remarks posed by Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-California, at a 2017 Senate Judiciary Committee hearing for Amy Coney Barrett, in which Sen. Feinstein told her, “The dogma lives loudly within you, and that’s of concern.” Barrett, who had been a professor at the University of Notre Dame’s law school, was ultimately confirmed for a seat on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit.

A vote on Buescher, who was nominated in October, remains in limbo, as other judicial nominees nominated before Buescher were also awaiting votes, and then-Sen. Jeff Flake, R-Arizona, had vowed to withhold support for any judicial nominee until the Senate voted on a bill to protect special counsel Robert Mueller’s probe into Russian interference in the 2016 election.

“The Knights of Columbus is really an American Catholic cultural icon,” Anderson said. “The teaching of the Church on marriage and abortion is clear and long-standing. The question can become: If belonging to a mainstream Catholic organization like the Knights of Columbus, or accepting the established teaching of the Church is dangerous, then what teaching is safe?”

### EPIPHANY, from page 1

Mass, Pope Francis pleaded with European governments to demonstrate “concrete solidarity” with 32 migrants rescued from the Mediterranean on Dec. 22 and 17 others rescued Dec. 29. The 49 people, including several children, are still on the rescue boats of the Germany-based Sea-Watch humanitarian organization; no European government has given the boats permission to dock and bring the migrants ashore.

In his Mass homily and in his main Angelus address, Pope Francis contrasted the attitude and actions of the Three Kings with the attitude of Herod, who was “greatly troubled” at news of the Messiah’s birth. While the Wise Men set out to meet Jesus, Herod stayed in his palace, plotting ways to keep all his power.

Herod and the scribes, he said at the Angelus, “had hard hearts, which stubbornly refused to visit that baby. That is a possibility: closing oneself to the light. They represent those who, even in our day, are afraid of the coming of Jesus and close their hearts to their brothers and sisters in need.”

The glory of God born in a stable is “is symbolized by the light, which penetrates and illumines all things,” he said. But the surprising thing is that “God does not need the spotlights of the world to make Himself known” or the assistance of the powerful, like Herod.

“We might think that it would have been better had the star of Jesus appeared in Rome, on the

Palatine Hill, where Augustus ruled over the world; then the whole empire would immediately have become Christian,” he said.

“But God’s light does not shine on those who shine with their own light. God ‘proposes’ Himself; He does not ‘impose’ himself,” the pope said. “He illumines; He does not blind.”

Being flashy or powerful is always a temptation for people, he said. “How many times have we pursued the seductive lights of power and celebrity, convinced that we are rendering good service to the Gospel!”

“How many times, too, have we as a Church attempted to shine with our own light,” he said. “Yet we are not the sun of humanity. We are the moon that, despite its shadows, reflects the true light, which is the Lord. He is the light of the world. Him, not us.”

Pope Francis also spoke about the gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh offered by the Magi to the baby Jesus.

“Gold, the most precious of metals, reminds us God has to be granted first place; He has to be worshiped,” he said. Frankincense is a symbol of the prayer that each person is called to offer God. And myrrh, the same ointment that would later be used to anoint Jesus’ dead body, is a sign of the gift of “care for bodies racked by suffering, the flesh of the vulnerable, of those left behind, of those who can only receive without being able to give anything material in return.”



CNS photo/Tyler Orsburn

**Carl Anderson, CEO of the Knights of Columbus, is seen Sept. 21, 2018, at the Fifth National Encuentro in Grapevine, Texas.**