



**Saints march home**

*Bishop Dwenger gets home football field*

Page 2

**Gun violence**

*A statement from Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades*

Page 3

**Ninety years of Catholic education**

*Pastoral visit made to St. Jude School*

Pages 8-9

**From STEM to STREAM**

*'Religion is the most important piece'*

Pages 10-11

**'Seize the Faith'**

*Fort Wayne parish emphasizes evangelization across ministries*

Page 11

# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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## St. Pius X growth, construction awe bishop

Derby Photography

At top, parishioners of St. Pius X Parish, Granger, gather in the gym Aug. 18 to begin the blessing of a new Parish Education Center and school addition. Below, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, St. Pius X pastor Msgr. William Schooler and an altar server walk the halls of the new addition, blessing the path.

BY LISA KOCHANOWSKI

GRANGER — “It’s really unbelievable how much you’ve done at St. Pius X Parish. It seems every year I’m coming to bless something,” Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades told the faithful of St. Pius X Parish at a noon Mass on Sunday, Aug. 18. “Monsignor told me before Mass,

‘Bishop that’s it, I’m finished.’ and I said, ‘I will think of something else.’ While I was sitting here, I looked up and said, ‘I can come back and bless the stained-glass windows, because we don’t have them yet,’” he joked to the packed church.

A blessing of the addition of the Parish Education Center and new Catechesis of the Good

Shepherd wing followed the Sunday liturgy.

The congregation was invited to the main gymnasium for the blessing and to tour the six new classrooms, expanded band room, new multipurpose room, new serving kitchen and atria for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, followed by light refreshments, and then to enjoy

greeting Bishop Rhoades.

“We need the extra classrooms for our larger classes and to allow us to offer full-day preschool, in addition to evening programming and activities. For the first time, our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd will have the required atria for its effective work.

ST. PIUS X, page 16

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# New stadium, new journey for Bishop Dwenger Saints



John Martin

After celebrating an all-school Mass at Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, Aug. 22, with chaplains and concelebrants Father Jay Horning and Father David Huneck, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades blesses Shields Field, the school's newly constructed home football field. Around 50 selected students, along with some faculty and representatives from the Tippmann Group and other contributors to the project, joined him.

BY SARAH DUSTMAN

**B**ishop Dwenger High School's football program marks a milestone Aug. 30: the Saints' first game in their own stadium. This home game, the second of the 2019-20 season, will be played against North Side.

Throughout the school's football program history, Bishop Dwenger shared a stadium with fellow Fort Wayne high schools North Side and then Concordia Lutheran. Bishop Dwenger and Concordia shared Zollner Stadium as a home field from the 1980s through the 2018-19 football season.

The reality of Bishop Dwenger being able to have its own home stadium took shape in January,

after the school received a generous donation during the holiday season. The donation represented more than one-third of the funding needed to enlarge the school's current practice location, Shields Field.

Main features added to Shields Field include a gated entrance and surrounding fence, home and visitor seating, two ticket booths, a press box, restrooms, a concession area and two team rooms. Home seating will hold 2,600 fans and visitor seating will hold 600 fans.

While the stadium will primarily be used for football, it will also host marching band and color guard events and lacrosse, rugby, soccer, track and field, and CYO sporting events.

"This is an awesome venue to celebrate the Bishop Dwenger

community and the human spirit through the excitement and festivity of competition," principal Jason Schiffli said.

Schiffli explained that the new stadium will be a place where "our families come together in a place we call home." Most importantly, he sees Shields Field as a way "to display the BD spirit and charisma by evangelizing our Catholic faith to our guests and modeling the virtues from which we have been graced as a result in practicing and exercising the pillars of our school mission: spirituality, service, academics and living an active life."

Shields Field is anticipated to strengthen the Bishop Dwenger community. Athletic director John Bennett cited finances as the main reason the school didn't tackle the project in the

past, along with other concerns about logistics such as parking and space on campus.

However, once the donation was received and the decision to build a stadium was made, the process moved quickly. Bennett credited the Tippmann Group, especially Joe Wharton, CME, and Kevin Scully of Design Collaborative for their dedication to the project and how "they pushed the project through."

Bennett, along with head football coach Jason Garrett, director of maintenance Dan Conroy and director of development and alumni relations Katie Burns, assisted the companies with what was needed and what could be afforded "from everything that went up to the colors."

DWENGER, page 3



## Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades' statement on gun violence

The terrible plague of deadly mass shootings in our country calls us, in the words of the U.S. bishops, "to fight this social disease that has infected our nation." I join my voice to my brother bishops' in inviting all to pray and work to end this culture of violence and to advocate for needed changes to prevent this scourge from continuing.

The proliferation of mass shootings can be called an epidemic against life. When mass shootings occur, there is extensive coverage by the media. However, we need to bring attention to the fact that murderous gun violence also takes place on a daily basis throughout our nation in individual shootings, which total, on average, over 100 people each day in homes and on the streets. Gun violence is truly a national epidemic.

Some citizens consider the right to bear arms, enshrined in our Second Amendment, an absolute right. Nowhere in Church teaching do we find an inherent natural right to bear arms. The legitimate use of arms, however, could be seen to fall under the Church's teaching on self-defense. People can choose to own and use guns or not to own and use guns, presuming, of course, that their use would be legitimate (e.g. hunting or self-protection).

Besides the principle of self-defense, it is important to recognize the right to life of the human person and the prin-

ciple of the common good. As a people of and for life, we cannot remain idle as the right to life is violated on a daily basis. We must not be indifferent when the common good is threatened. In the light of the right to life and the common good, both rooted in the Gospel of Jesus, we must confront the plague of gun violence in our nation.

Common sense reforms and prudent policies are needed to curb gun violence. I join my brother bishops in rejecting an absolutist interpretation of the Second Amendment. For the sake of the common good, we need reasonable gun control, beginning with comprehensive background checks and a ban on high-powered, high-capacity weapons meant for the military.

At the same time, we cannot and should not ignore the root causes of gun violence. We need prevention and intervention strategies that treat people who pose a threat of violence. Increased access to mental health care is necessary. We need to fight hatred, racism and xenophobia, which so often can lead to violence. We also cannot ignore the moral and spiritual vacuum in which many children and youth are raised — homes where there is abuse and neglect, alcoholism and drug addiction. And we must address the crisis of fatherlessness.

Tragically, we live in a culture that doesn't value life intrinsically, as seen in the recognition of so-called rights to abortion, euthanasia and phy-

sician-assisted suicide. Should we really be surprised that when life is not valued in these situations, life is not valued in instances of gun violence? Should we really be surprised at the prevalence of gun violence when violence is celebrated in much of our media, music and even video games? The glorification of violence reveals a disturbing cultural attitude.

We are called to build a culture of life and a civilization of love. Easy access to deadly assault weapons does not build a culture of life. Regulating and controlling guns is part of building a culture of life — so is our teaching on human life and dignity, on marriage and family, on right and wrong, on justice and peace, and on rights and responsibilities.

Finally, there is a spiritual dimension to the crisis of violence that we must attend to. Seeds of violence within the human heart can grow into violent thoughts, words and deeds. We need to ask God to purify our hearts and to convert the hearts of those who are tempted to commit acts of violence.

I invite all to pray for an end to gun violence and to pray for peace in our hearts, communities, nation and world. Let us hear anew the words of Jesus: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God."

*+ Kevin C. Rhoades*



## Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Sunday, September 1: 4 p.m. — Mass and Blessing of Renovated Gymnasium, Lebanon Catholic School, Lebanon, Pennsylvania  
 Tuesday, September 3: 1 p.m. — Meeting and Prayer with Priests Ordained in Past Five Years, Archbishop Noll Catholic Center  
 Wednesday, September 4: 6 p.m. — Annual Bishops' Appeal Dinner, Dahnke Ballroom, University of Notre Dame  
 Friday, September 6: 10:30 a.m. — Mass for Catholic School Mission Day, Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne  
 Saturday, September 7: 4 p.m. — Confirmation Mass for Youth with Disabilities, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Warsaw

### DWENGER, from page 2

While the stadium was under construction, the football team still had workouts and practices on Shields Field. The players and coaches had to navigate the field differently and go through different entrances, Garrett said, but he saw "ongoing and growing excitement" among his team as the project developed.

Senior Luke Wiginton, an offensive lineman, said that "it's been awesome and exciting seeing the field go up during practices."

Seeing the stadium go up has been more than exciting for Garrett; the gift has been "a tremendous blessing" for him.

"The new stadium adds new opportunity and a new journey to Bishop Dwenger's football program," he said.

He added that for his team, especially the seniors, having this stadium has been very humbling because they understand that there are many players

before them "who would've done anything to have this opportunity."

As a part of the new journey with Shields Field, Garrett wants to implement new traditions with his team. One of these new traditions is holding post-game talks on the field after playing a home game. He was able to start this tradition after the team's scrimmage against Carroll High School on Aug. 16. When the team returned to school after the practice, it was still light outside, so they held their post-game talk on the field. The stadium lights came on for the first time, and along with seeing the reaction from the team it was "a beautiful moment" for Garrett.

There will be many more special moments for the team as they begin playing on Shields Field, especially for senior team captain Griffin Eifert, who plays free safety and wide receiver.

"It's super special that we're the first team to walk out on the field, call it ours, and make new traditions," Eifert said.



John Martin

Bishop Rhoades walks along the track of the expanded Shields Field with three Bishop Dwenger students.



John Martin

## Why we call Mary our 'Queen'

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated an all-school Mass at Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, on Thursday, Aug. 22, the feast day of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The feast day celebrates the school's patronage, Mary, Queen of All Saints. The other reason for the bishop's visit and the liturgy was to bless the school's new football stadium, Shields Field.

The Gospel read was Luke's account of the Annunciation. The bishop focused his homily on the passage where Gabriel says, "He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High and the Lord God will give Him the throne of David his father."

"This Son of the Most High," meaning Jesus, would become the new king. But not only is Jesus the king of all people but the "king of heaven and earth."

His reign in the Davidic kingdom as king made Mary the queen. Bishop Rhoades explained that with the Davidic kingdom, the queen was the king's mother, "not the wife like we might think." This is seen in the Old Testament with King Solomon and his mother Bathsheba, who was queen. Bathsheba wore a crown and sat on Solomon's right side and was the second most important person in the kingdom.

This is why we call Mary our queen "because she was the second most important person" in Jesus' kingship.

But this kingship is a paradox because Jesus' life was about service and giving His life for His subjects, not domination and power like a typical king. Mary's queenship is also a paradox because she served as "the humble handmaid of the Lord" and accompanied Jesus to the cross, suffering along with Him.

The bishop then spoke about the Latin phrase "cui servire est regnare" meaning "to reign is to serve." He said that this phrase "is what Christianity is about" because Jesus and Mary reigned but also served through living self-giving lives. He added that we need to serve like Jesus and Mary did if "we want to be a part of the kingdom" of heaven.

# Pope, bishops urge action to save burning Amazon rainforest

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Describing the Amazon rainforest as “vital for our planet,” Pope Francis joined the region’s bishops in praying for action to extinguish the massive fires burning there.

“We are all worried about the vast fires that have developed in the Amazon,” the pope said Aug. 25 after leading the recitation of the Angelus prayer. “Let us pray that with the commitment of all they will be brought under control quickly. That forest lung is vital for our planet.”

Leaders of the Latin American bishops’ council also urged international action to save the Amazon rainforest from the fires.

“We urge the governments of the Amazonian countries, especially Brazil and Bolivia, the United Nations and the international community, to take serious measures to save the lungs of the world,” said the statement Aug. 22 by the top officers of the council, known by its Spanish acronym, CELAM.

“What happens to the

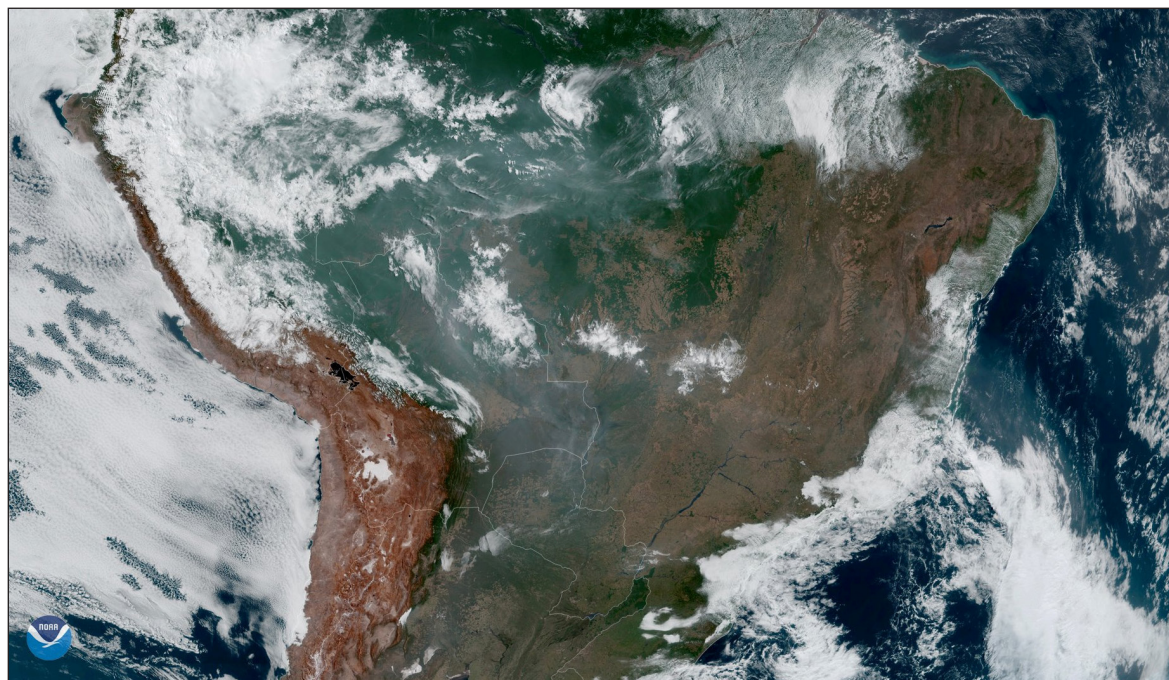
Amazon is not just a local issue, but is of global reach,” the bishops said. “If the Amazon suffers, the world suffers.”

The Amazon produces 20% of the world’s oxygen, according to scientific measurements.

Brazil’s space research institute, which is responsible for satellite monitoring of the Amazon, had reported that the number of wildfires, common in July and August, had reached a record number already in 2019, with 72,843 fires spotted.

The U.S. space agency, NASA, Aug. 21 and 22 released satellite imagery showing how smoke from the fires had created “a shroud that is clearly visible across much of the center of South America.”

French President Emmanuel Macron called on world leaders to place the fires at the top of their agenda as they meet in France for the Group of Seven summit starting Aug. 24. Attendees will include President Donald Trump, Macron and the leaders from Canada, Germany,



CNS photo/NASA, NOAA handout via Reuters

**Fires burning in the Amazon rainforest are pictured from space by the geostationary weather satellite GOES-16 Aug. 21. Leaders of the Latin American bishops’ council urged international action Aug. 22 to save the rainforest as massive fires continued to burn.**

Italy, Japan and the United Kingdom.

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro has said publicly that he believes nongovernmental agencies — including Catholic-backed agencies such as the Land Pastoral and the Indigenous Missionary Council — are behind the illegal burnings because they have opposed his call for development of the rainforest. The organizations have strongly denied the allegations.

In its edition released Aug. 23, the front page of the Vatican newspaper, *L’Osservatore Romano*, led with two articles about the Amazon fires. The first, titled “The Amazon must be protected,” included general coverage of the fires’ scope and the alarm launched by U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. A second article reported on the CELAM statement under the headline, “Save the forest to save the world.”

In their statement, the bishops noted that the upcoming October Synod of Bishops for the Amazon will discuss the plight of the indigenous living in the area as well as the deforestation

of the region. Sixty percent of the Amazon rainforest is in Brazil.

“Hope for the proximity of the Amazon synod, convened by Pope Francis, is stained by the pain of this natural tragedy,” the bishops said. “To the brethren indigenous peoples who inhabit this beloved territory, we express all our closeness and join your voices with yours to shout to the world for solidarity and pay attention to end this devastation.”

And while the deforestation of the world’s largest tropical forest and the violence against the indigenous population there have been a great concern to the Catholic Church, the upcoming synod also has caused apprehension for the Bolsonaro government.

In February, the Brazilian government was forced to deny that it was spying, through its intelligence agency, ABIN, on more “progressive” bishops and priests working on the synod.

The government’s Institutional Security Cabinet, known as ISC, however, admitted it was worried that the meeting would be used to criticize the Bolsonaro administration’s

stance on environment and indigenous rights.

“There are no general criticism of the Catholic Church. There is the functional concern of the Minister of State Chief of the Institutional Security Office for some points of the synod’s Amazon agenda that will take place at the Vatican in October this year,” said an ISC statement at the time.

The CELAM bishops, quoting Pope Francis from his homily at his papal inauguration in March 2013, requested to “please ask all those who hold positions of responsibility in the economic, political and social fields, all men and women of goodwill: (to) be guardians of creation, of the design of God inscribed in nature, guardians of the other, of the environment; let’s not let the signs of destruction and death follow the path of our world.”

The declaration was signed by Archbishop Miguel Cabrejos Vidarte, of Trujillo, Peru, CELAM president, as well as the officers of the organization.

*Contributing to this story were Lise Alves in Sao Paulo and Cindy Wooden at the Vatican.*

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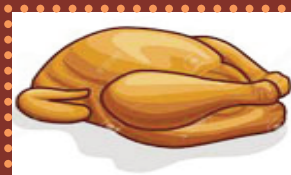
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# Catholic teens inspire one another to 'not grow tired' of abortion fight

BY MIKE FITZGERALD

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (CNS) — As Planned Parenthood prepares to open Charlotte's newest abortion facility this summer, pro-life groups are responding by organizing prayer rallies and sidewalk vigils in front of the facility, and by generating awareness of abortion among local Catholics.

Among these groups, one has a unique focus in mobilizing Catholics from an often-overlooked demographic: Catholic teenagers. This group is called EPIC and stands for "Each Person Is Cherished."

Founded in 2014 by St. Patrick Cathedral parishioner and pro-life teen activist Molly Rusciolelli now professed with the Franciscan Daughters of Mary in Kentucky the group is open to Catholic teens from ages 13 to 19 and its members participate in a variety of pro-life activities.

EPIC coordinates a monthly prayer vigil at the site of the soon-to-open abortion facility, organizes pro-life conferences, and hosts social and educational events. This past spring, it organized a pro-life movie night during which teens viewed and discussed "Gosnell: The Trial of America's Biggest Serial Killer," a documentary about convicted abortionist Kermit Gosnell.

They also hosted a speaker from the national group Students for Life to empower the teens to engage in pro-life conversations with their peers.

Prayer and fasting are a key component to EPIC's activities,



CNS photo/Patricia L. Guilfoyle, Catholic News Herald

**Members of Catholic and Protestant congregations pray for an end to abortion during a June 15, rally outside Planned Parenthood's new location in Charlotte, N.C. The facility is larger than its previous location and is located in a historically African American neighborhood of Charlotte. Pro-life groups, grassroots organizations and churches have united in opposition to the new location.**

as it also runs a prayer and sacrifice sign-up page where members are asked to offer prayers and small penances each month. Recognizing that many teenagers are dependent on their parents for transportation, this offers an option to help end abortion without leaving home. The group has an e-mail list to keep members updated on upcoming activities.

With Charlotte's fourth abortion facility set to open, EPIC is

renewing its efforts to engage Catholic teens and invite them to participate in pro-life advocacy.

Mary Ohlhaut, a 17-year-old St. Ann parishioner and cousin to Rusciolelli, now leads the group, supported and mentored by her parents, Dan and Beth Ohlhaut.

"Abortion is a defining moral issue among my generation, and teens have shown their enormous interest in ending abortion

by participating at the March for Life in D.C. each January," said Ohlhaut. "We want to let them know there is an outlet at home where they can continue that momentum and enthusiasm for pro-life work for the rest of the year that place is EPIC."

To engage more Catholic teens in the pro-life cause, EPIC is seeking to form a leadership team of teens and parents to expand its reach and activities. The team would focus on social media, email communications, publicity, event organizing, hosting an annual conference, coordinating prayer efforts and fundraising.

The goal is to have one to two teens per task along with a parent or other adult to support them. No prior experience is required and the roles would only take a few hours a month. With a team in place, Ohlhaut believes EPIC can hold more pro-life events and activities thereby enabling teens to help end abortion in Charlotte.

"My generation of pro-life teens, which has grown up in the climate of easy access to abortion, wants to make it illegal and unthinkable. We want to help mothers and their babies," she told the *Catholic News Herald*, newspaper of the Charlotte diocese.

"We want to make reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary for the outrages committed against Our Lord and Our Lady in the abortion facilities in our city. And we want to inspire one another to not grow tired of fighting this spiritual battle," Ohlhaut continued.

"EPIC is the place where we can do this, while growing in leadership and team-working skills that will prepare us for a lifetime of involvement on this issue of great national and moral importance."

*Mike Fitzgerald is a correspondent for the Catholic News Herald, newspaper of the Diocese of Charlotte.*

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## Bangladesh flood victims reel as aid agencies struggle to respond

DHAKA, Bangladesh — Weeks after devastating floods affected millions and killed more than 100 people in Bangladesh, many families are reeling from a lack of aid as the country suffers an outbreak of waterborne diseases. Monsoon flooding in 28 of the country's 64 districts affected more than 7 million people, left tens of thousands of houses uninhabitable and destroyed crops over vast areas, ucanews.com reported. During a week of flooding, at least 114 people died and 14,000 others became ill from various diseases and infections, according to government data. The crisis eased somewhat in recent weeks as the rains eased and water levels receded, allowing government and disaster relief agencies to distribute emergency supplies. However, many victims said the support fell far short of the need. Jamal Khan, 40, a father of three from the flood-affected northern district of Sirajganj, said his family was struggling to get back to normal. "The government handed out some food and a charity (Caritas) also offered food and cash, but the aid was not enough," Khan, a Muslim, told ucanews.com. "My wife, son and I have been struggling maintain the family by working as day laborers, but after flooding, there is less opportunity to find work."

## Migrant children will suffer most under new detention rule

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The chairman of the U.S. bishops' migration committee said Aug. 23 sees "heartbreaking consequences for immigrant children" in a final rule issued by the Trump administration that allows the federal government to hold immigrant children in family detention indefinitely. The new rule was issued jointly by the Departments of Homeland Security and Health and Human Services that will end a long-standing legal agreement put in place in 1997— known as the Flores Settlement Agreement — to ensure the safety and care of children in immigration detention settings. Pope Francis has deemed immigrant children "the most vulnerable group" among migrants, and they will be most affected by this new rule, said Bishop Joe S. Vasquez of Austin, Texas, who is chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Migration. (This) is an attempt by the administration to circumvent existing obligations and undermine critical protections for these children," the bishop said in a statement. "This rule will jeopardize the well-being and humane treatment of immigrant children in federal custody and will result in children suffering long-lasting consequences of being held

## St. Teresa of Kolkata's birthday not forgotten



CNS photo/Andrea Comas, Reuters

KOLKATA, India (CNS) — In this 2011 file photo, a member of the Missionaries of Charity carries a portrait of St. Teresa of Kolkata in Madrid's Buen Retiro park. The Missionaries of Charity nuns in India celebrated the birthday of their order's founder three years after her canonization, breaking a Catholic convention. Archbishop Thomas D'Souza of Kolkata led a Mass Aug. 26 marking the 109th anniversary of the St. Mother Teresa's birth in the headquarters of the Missionaries of Charity in the eastern city, formerly known as Calcutta, ucanews.com reported. Soon after the Mass, about 300 women religious and novices sang "Happy Birthday" at the tomb of their founder.

for prolonged periods in family detention. We oppose this rule that we believe is unlawful and inhumane. Countless children will be harmed by this new rule and this is simply not acceptable," he said.

## 'ABCs' of Christian charity require helping those in need, official says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A patriotic love for one's country and culture does not mean closing off oneself to others, particularly those in need, said the Vatican foreign minister. "No one calls into ques-

tion the sovereignty of a country, of a nation," Archbishop Paul Gallagher, the Vatican secretary for relations with states, told Vatican News Aug. 22. The problem is an "exaggerated view of sovereignty" that calls for "total closure to others," he said. "Perhaps it has a certain theoretical, pragmatic attraction, but I don't think it is the path to take," he said. The archbishop was in Rimini, Italy, where he was addressing a large annual meeting sponsored by the lay movement, Communion and Liberation. In the interview with Vatican News, he said that everyone is "interconnected," and it is too difficult for one nation to guarantee by itself all of its people's needs, for example, for

peace, defense and security. "We very much value patriotism, the love of one's country, one's culture, the people," he said. "In the Catholic faith — and I believe in other Christian denominations, too — there is a view of openness toward others," which is rooted in an understanding that "there are more things we have in common than things that divide us."

## Threats to dignity, sanctity of life seen advancing at 'breakneck speed'

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A globe-trotting warrior for life and

human dignity has taken up a new gauntlet as president of the National Catholic Bioethics Center, where he will use his global expertise and Catholic bioethics education to defend against what he termed life-degrading "science fictions" that are becoming reality. Joseph Meaney, former director of international outreach and expansion for Human Life International, assumed the presidency of the National Catholic Bioethics Center, taking over from the former president of 22 years, John Haas. The new president earned his doctorate in bioethics from the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart in Rome. In an interview with Catholic News Service, Meaney said he foresees helming a difficult and fast-paced battle against an encroaching "culture of death. There are a lot of things developing at breakneck speed. We are at an unprecedented point in U.S. history. We have never seen this speed of scientific change," Meaney said. "There are huge developments in robotics, movements to replace organs and limbs with robotic parts, artificial intelligence implants directly into the brain. These all were science fiction so recently. We are taking something you would talk about in a Hollywood film and turning it into reality."

## Institute offers free online video series on thought of St. Thomas Aquinas

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Thomistic Institute in Washington has launched "Aquinas 101," a free online video course that instructs interested viewers in the thought of St. Thomas Aquinas. "Aquinas 101" will consist of 85 to 90 videos released over the course of the year. The series will introduce the basics of the Catholic intellectual tradition with St. Thomas Aquinas as a guide. The first three videos can now be viewed on aquinas101.com or on YouTube.com. The videos in the course each feature a Dominican friar/professor and are animated to illustrate the doctrines described. The priests featured include Fathers Dominic Legge, Thomas Joseph White, Thomas Petri, James Brent and Gregory Pine. The course proceeds through an introduction to St. Thomas, a basic description of his philosophy and an in-depth study of his masterwork: "Summa Theologiae." "At the end of the course, the viewer can expect to have gained a basic mastery of the essentials of Aquinas and to have acquired the tools to engage many difficult issues of faith and science, reason and revelation, and beyond," said a news release from the Thomistic Institute announcing the course. More about the institute can be found online at <https://thomisticinstitute.org>.

## Federal court grants WCHA provisional license

SOUTH BEND —The 7th Circuit Court of Appeals granted a provisional license Aug. 22 to Texas abortion business Whole Woman's Health Alliance, to offer chemical abortions in South Bend. The court amended Judge Sarah Evans Barker's original injunction that permitted WCHA to operate without a license or state jurisdiction.

The appeals court, by granting a license without state authority to an abortion chain with a history of health and safety violations, has overstepped its bounds to pander to the abortion lobby, according to St. Joseph County Right to Life Executive Director Jackie Appleman.

"This isn't about health care," Appleman said. "This is about pandering to the abortion lobby, which sees Indiana as a lucrative market to sell abortions to women in crisis. I encourage our community to come together to provide real solutions for women instead of falling for the deceptions of the abortion industry."

Right to Life is committed to continuing to share life-affirming resources with women in the community and empowering them to appreciate their own value and

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## Cultures meet in Plymouth



Provided by John Korcsmar

Almost 50 parishioners from St. Michael Parish in Plymouth met for a cross-cultural dinner on Sunday, Aug. 18. Over dinner parishioners introduced themselves and shared their personal and family stories. Some told how they had lived in Plymouth for generations. Others told how they had more recently migrated from Mexico. They discussed hopes and dreams for themselves and, especially, for their children.

that of their preborn children, the organization noted in a press release.

St. Joseph County Right to Life Inc. is dedicated to the social welfare by promoting life through outreach, education and advocacy. It is the oldest, continuously active pro-life organization in St. Joseph County. Its goal is to protect all human life — from fertilization to natural death.

## National Catholic Youth Conference set for November

INDIANAPOLIS — The National Catholic Youth Conference is a conference for high school youth from across the United States from Nov. 21-23. This event draws over 20,000 and is packed with powerful prayer experiences talks from national speakers, and liturgies with thousands of Catholics from all 50 states. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will join youth from the Fort Wayne-South Bend delegation to Indianapolis for Mass. For more information, contact John Pratt at [jpratt@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:jpratt@diocesefwsb.org) or visit <https://www.fwsbym.com/ncyc-nov-2019>.

# Christ embraced on 20th annual Father and Son Canoe Trip

BY DR. HERON RODRIGUEZ

On Friday, Aug. 2, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated Mass at Our Lady of Good Hope Church, Fort Wayne, before a unique group of congregants: 186 campers and canoeists, who were kicking off the 20th annual Father and Son Canoe Trip.

The weekend of outdoor adventure was started in 1999 by Douglas Snowball, an airline pilot and father of nine who envisioned a weekend in the wilderness as an opportunity for men to grow in friendship and to strengthen the bonds between fathers and sons. On the very first weekend at the Au Sable River in Michigan, Father Glenn Kohrman, now the pastor of Holy Family Parish and St. John the Baptist Parish, both in South Bend, joined the group of seven dads and their sons and led them to define the theme of the canoe trip: "Christ in all we do; even camping and canoeing."

Over the years the trip has grown through the apostolate of friendship. For the last 13 years it has taken place at the Culver Academy campground on the Tippecanoe River.

Every day starts with Mass, and every meal is served by an assigned group of fathers and sons who also take care of the cleaning and keeping things in order. There are formative talks, opportunities for confession, spir-

itual direction and, at the end of the day, a rosary by the fire. The participants play soccer, baseball and football, and on Saturday and Sunday they paddle their canoes in the river for more than nine hours each day.

In the past, the campers have ranged in age from 2 to the 70s. Several families have enjoyed the outings for three generations. They mainly come from Indiana and Illinois, but through an international exchange program Snowball has organized over the years, a few young Catholic men from Spain, France, Hong Kong and Taiwan also have joined in.

In addition to Father Kohrman, visiting priests from those countries also have enlightened the group. This year the fathers and sons enjoyed the company of Father José Vera from Spain and Father Rolando "Rolo" Montes de Oca from Cuba, who is currently in Missouri doing postgraduate studies in journalism prior to returning to Cuba this fall.

"The canoe trip weekend was for me a series of surprises," said Father Montes. "Before my eyes (was) a huge masculine community having fun, playing sports and praying together in perfect harmony. The dads, in a very natural way, preached by their example and taught the boys how to be Christian men while enjoying an unforgettable weekend."

Father Montes said he at first thought that an "exclusively



Douglas Snowball

Father José Vera from Spain, in the bow, and Father Rolando "Rolo" Montes de Oca from Cuba, in the stern, row during the 20th annual Father and Son Canoe Trip on the Tippecanoe River Aug. 3.

male' weekend would be doomed to fail, since it would lack the treasure of the 'feminine touch.' Nevertheless, he said, during three days, "we saw friendships shine with the warmth of faith, fraternity and sportsman spirit."

"Our weekend did not lack jokes or chats. The wisdom of Father Glenn during the campfire talk amazed me when he answered the questions about faith posed by kids and some fathers alike."

"I enjoyed Father Jose's homily about the similarities between canoeing and spiritual life: that

when you discover a defect in yourself, it is like seeing a rock or logjam in the river. You must paddle hard to overcome this obstacle. While dodging these obstacles, you also must keep your sight on the horizon so not to lose direction. Rowing always together and staying united is key. Above all, it's critical to keep your canoe in the center of the river, where steady water flows: You can only do this in the faith by following the pope and the bishops."

Father Montes said he came back with darker skin and

sore arms, but departed with a renewed mission to row along with Christ, in His boat, the Church.

"I took with me a prayer of thanksgiving for the gift of my new brothers, rowers in faith. Men that do not let themselves be carried by the current, but row and teach their sons to row towards the safe ports of holiness and eternal life."

Organizers intend for the trip to take place again next year. For information, contact Snowball at [dougsnowball@gmail.com](mailto:dougsnowball@gmail.com).

# Pastoral visit blesses St. Ju



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades engages with St. Jude students during Mass Aug. 20, when he made a pastoral visit to the Fort Wayne school.



Father Robert D'Souza, parochial vicar, and Msgr. Robert Schulte, pastor, watch as the bishop speaks at the end of Mass.



To the delight of Deacon Jim Tighe, Bishop Rhoades displays a gift given to him. The St. Jude Home and School Association presented him with a fleece pullover bearing the school's insignia.



Students listen attentively as the bishop answers questions.



Kindergartners in Cathy Ziegler's class ask questions of the bishop.

Student

Princ



# St. Jude School

BY KEVIN KILBANE



Students participate in the Mass.

Serving as both shepherd and impromptu teacher, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades made his first pastoral visit of the 2019-20 academic year Aug. 20 to St. Jude School in Fort Wayne. He celebrated Mass with the school's 430 students in kindergarten through grade 8 and then visited students in their classrooms, where he asked them about what they are learning. They asked him about everything from his clothing to his age (61) and favorite foods (Italian and Greek).

"I think it was such a blessing for the students to have the personal time with the bishop," St. Jude School principal Mike Obergfell said.

Along with answering students' questions, whether faith-related or personal, the bishop could share his great knowledge of the faith in a way students understand and also that he is a regular person, Obergfell said.

The bishop began Mass by expressing thanks for being invited to visit and for all the blessings St. Jude School has provided during the parish's 90 years.

Then-Bishop John F. Noll dedicated the school and a chapel inside it on March 3, 1929, and classes began the next day with 105 children in first grade through fourth grade, a parish history said. Noll dedicated the site as St. Jude Parish several weeks later.

Over the next 35 years, growth of the parish and school resulted in additions to the school and construction of a church beside the school, the history said. The current church opened in late 1966, allowing the old church to be remodeled into more classrooms for the school.

In addition to kindergarten through grade eight, St. Jude School now also offers half-day and full-day prekindergarten classes for about 50 children ages 3-5.

"We continue to be excited about the possibility of educating kids in the Catholic faith," said Msgr. Robert Schulte, who became St. Jude's pastor in June 2018.

In addition to emphasizing academics, the school will add new programs this year, Obergfell said.

"Last year, we began the Peace be with You program where older students learn lessons on leadership and interpersonal and intrapersonal life skills. This year, we will be adding a program called Faith Families, where students join together, older and younger, and work together for a common project or activity related to Catholic identity, whether it is serving the poor, making cards for shut-ins or veterans, praying the rosary or feeding the hungry. The focus will be on the dignity of and concern for others in our community."

The school also plans to add enrichment programs after Christmas that may help students discover gifts in areas such as music, science, art or robotics, Obergfell said.

During the Mass with students and school staff, Bishop Rhoades tied his homily closely to the Gospel reading, Matthew 19:23-30, in which Jesus tells His disciples, "... it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."

"If we have a lot of money and a lot of possessions and we only think about those things or do not think about others or are not generous, we will not go to heaven," the bishop said. "Jesus said, 'Anyone who follows me will be rewarded in heaven.'"

"There are so many ways right here in St. Jude School you can live your faith and practice your faith," he continued, "such as donating to collections for the poor or missions, being kind to one another, and being helpful to teachers."

The bishop also invited students to think about what God may be calling them to do in life. He was in seventh grade when he first heard God calling him to become a priest, he said. Mary was a young woman when God called her to be the mother of Jesus.

"Think about it," he encouraged the students. "Don't let things get in the way, like money."

Just before the final blessing, Obergfell told the bishop the Home and School Association had a gift for him. Bishop Rhoades reached into a gift bag and pulled out a St. Jude Eagles fleece sweater.

"This is great," a smiling bishop told students and staff. "Every time I wear this, I'll think of you."

Afterward at the school, Bishop Rhoades spoke with each grade separately. All students in a grade gathered in one

classroom so he could visit with them together.

Kindergarteners greeted the bishop by holding up letters spelling out "Welcome Bishop Rhoades. We love you," and reciting that message. They also sang, "We love you Bishop, oh yes we do," ending by blowing him a kiss.

When the bishop invited children in the younger grades to ask him questions, many asked about what he was wearing — the black cassock with a magenta belt and zucchetto he wore to the school or the cream-colored vestments and miter he wore at Mass.

The pope normally wears white, cardinals wear red, bishops wear magenta and priests wear black, he explained in more than one classroom.

When a third grade boy asked what "that thing" was he was holding at times during Mass, Bishop Rhoades explained it was his staff, or crosier.

"What job or occupation carries a staff?" the bishop asked. Students volunteered the names of a few saints and prophets before a girl answered correctly, "shepherd."

"Who is my flock?" he asked. "You are. I try to protect you from evil and from the devil and from bad things."

During his visit with first graders, one girl asked, "Why did Jesus die on the cross?"

"Because He loved us so much," Bishop Rhoades said. "That makes sense," the girl replied matter-of-factly, sparking grins from the bishop and other adults in the room.

While he visited with sixth grade classes, a student asked Bishop Rhoades what he would be if he hadn't become a priest. "I'd probably be a teacher," he replied, saying he loves the subjects of theology and history. He then led a quick social studies lesson on Europe, which the students will study this year.

Bishop Rhoades also questioned students about what they learn in their religion classes.

"I think study of Scripture is really, really important," he said when told sixth graders learn about the Old Testament. "Reading and understanding the Old Testament helps you understand the New Testament."

With the second grade classes he spoke about the sacraments of reconciliation and Communion, which the students will receive this year, and about their lessons on the Trinity.

"The Trinity is a great mystery — three persons in one God," he said.

Fourth graders told him they were learning about the fruits of the Holy Spirit, including love, joy, peace, faithfulness and self-control.

"If you have the fruits of the Holy Spirit, you are on the right path," the bishop said.



Principal Michael Obergfell, left, listens as Bishop Rhoades speaks with St. Jude students.

Photos by John Martin

# 'STREAM' points Sacred Heart to future

BY WILLIAM SCHMITT

WARSAW — Sacred Heart School in Warsaw shares with its parish a motto — “Where God and Education Lead the Way” — to proclaim that a completely secular approach to learning doesn't go far enough.

This year, the school will continue to build on a one-word statement of the same message. Teachers have adopted the STEM approach but are integrating religion and the arts into a lively mix. That yields an acronym, STREAM, said to propel students further along the path of readiness for life as a whole person.

STREAM stands for “science, technology, religion, engineering, arts and mathematics.” Sacred Heart's STREAM coordinator, Andrea Komorowski, calls this a framework of “real-world, relevant, rigorous instruction in problem-based experiences.”

But she adds that this focus, which the school embraced about six years ago, is constantly evolving while retaining a guideline present from the start, namely that “religion is the most important piece” in the combination.

“We are not just teaching religion as a separate subject,”

Komorowski said. “Just as I imagine most Catholic schools do, we make it a point to incorporate our Catholic faith in all areas so that it is a part of the students' way of life and not something just done for 30 minutes a day or at Mass on Sunday.”

The integrative approach is adding to an overall “continuous improvement journey,” said Komorowski, who is also the resource specialist at the Pre-K-6 school. STREAM encourages teachers to become more adept at bringing multiple subject areas into students' daily lessons. Instruction includes more hands-on learning, as required by Indiana state standards, as well as the introduction of broader abilities to make sense of a complex, changing world of business and culture, she said.

This year, for example, educators will incorporate more of an “Engineering is Elementary” program and will utilize a “Digitarium” — a kind of inflatable planetarium — to enhance lessons on space exploration.

But they won't neglect the goal of shaping students as well-rounded contributors to society. Komorowski referred to guid-

STREAM, page 11



William Schmitt

Carolyn Pirtle of the McGrath Institute for Church Life describes the depiction of the seven days of creation in the St. John's Bible to high school teachers at the SRI Capstone Seminar at the University of Notre Dame in July.

## Breaking down the walls between science, education

BY WILLIAM SCHMITT

During June and early July, teachers from Marian High School, Mishawaka, and Saint Joseph High School, South Bend, worked with Catholic scientists, philosophers and theologians to meet a crucial need: the integration of faith and science in their classrooms and throughout the high school curriculum. They and other educators were welcomed to the Science & Religion Initiative of the McGrath Institute for Church Life of the University of Notre Dame for weeklong seminars aimed at this goal at the Notre Dame campus.

Since 2014, Catholic educators have joined with peers from Catholic schools across the country for the sake of building “a synthesis of faith and culture, reached by integrating all of human knowledge through the subjects taught, in the light of the Gospel,” as called for by the Vatican Congregation for Catholic Education. Since then, more than 400 high school teachers nationwide have participated in the Foundations and Capstone seminars in an effort to create a new approach to professional development and classroom implementation.

SRI gives teachers official Church resources and insights to draw upon for big-picture discussions and lesson plans

that break down the walls often isolating religion education from science education. The initiative equips educators to convey the complementarity of faith and reason, science and religion. The approach received international recognition in 2018 with an Expanded Reason Award bestowed by the Vatican Foundation and the University of Francisco de Vitoria.

Selected participants probe ways to help students “see scientific investigation and discoveries in the light of the Catholic faith,” said Chris Baglow, director of SRI. “To be able to connect [scientific learning] to their faith is a way of helping young people to see the glorious harmony between the Book of Nature and the Book of Scripture, which both reveal the Creator.”

Addressing the teachers at one of this summer's seminars, Baglow suggested “bringing home to your students that, without a holistic view of the world, they'll find it very hard to understand themselves and find it very hard to know how to act and find meaning in that world.”

They need to see how “Christianity is offering answers” in a world where divine principles endure but “there are always new horizons” for any field of knowledge to explore, Baglow said. Theology is defined as “faith

seeking understanding”; that is, “it's an activity” in which students can feel engaged.

Sister Marie Morgan and Mary Ann Hinora represented Marian at this year's Foundations seminar, while Chris Culver, Deb Semmler, and Mary Kate Lamp represented Saint Joseph at the advanced Capstone Seminar.

One teacher responded to the seminar by commenting that students “shouldn't think it means they're less Catholic” if they have questions that go beyond their catechetical learning. In embracing questions, “they come to understand God better.”

Another teacher said the seminar had answered many of her own questions, but she was also grateful that the week's talks and workshops had “given me far more questions to actively seek answers to.” Those sessions, she said, reinforced the guidance, “read more about this, look this up,” using the authoritative resources that could help her reach students.

SRI is now accepting high schools' applications for the 2020 Foundations Seminar in its two locations. Applications are due by Dec. 3. Educational leaders can apply or learn more about these programs, the Capstone Seminar and Institute Days by visiting the SRI website, [mcgrath.nd.edu/science](http://mcgrath.nd.edu/science).



Photos provided by Andrea Komorowski

Kindergarteners at Sacred Heart School build a cathedral out of blocks.

**STREAM, from page 10**

ance from Sacred Heart's pastor, Father Jonathan Norton, who she said has pointed out that "God gave humans the unique ability to create something of beauty." She noted, "Art and music are an important part of our Catholic tradition, so it is important to keep the arts in our curriculum."

Mike McClain, the school's new principal, hopes to offer further professional development to teachers as another step toward school improvement. "We need to continue doing what is best for kids and equip them for the future" in terms of careers — and more.

The ability to see the entire world "through a Catholic lens" and stay "grounded in the Lord" is a gift Sacred Heart's educators can share through STREAM as students build their personal futures, McClain added.

"It is our job, in collaboration with their parents and family members, to equip them with the moral decision-making skills they need to get themselves and their loved ones to heaven," he said. "By infusing religion into their academic life, we are helping to develop and reinforce their own Catholic lens."

# Parishioners 'Seize the Faith'

BY SAMANTHA ROHLOFF

Sharing the beauty, goodness and truth of the Catholic faith with others is not only an exciting and joyful task, but also a meaningful and fundamental duty. The Seize the Faith Committee of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, was created to do just that. The committee consists of different parish offices and ministries that integrate and work together to seek out special ways to share the faith in all its glory.

Originally taking the name "Carpe Fidem," Latin for "seize the faith," the group relentlessly works to evangelize. "The committee was formed to allow the talent, energy and passion of our parishioners to form an ongoing mission of adult faith formation for the entirety of the parish," co-chairman John Faylor explained.

That effort consists of different departments coming together to seek out ways to share the faith in all its glory. One subcommittee assists adults in furthering and strengthening their faith; the writing subcommittee uses their charisma to produce articles for the bulletin and *Today's Catholic*. There's also a video committee that records events put on by Seize the Faith to exhibit to those who missed them, to remind those who were there about the message, or to encourage people who have never been to a parish event to attend one and then go share the faith themselves. A podcast subcommittee is also being formed as another outlet to spread the faith to all.

The more platforms there are, committee members believe, the more opportunities to share the Catholic faith.

Another way they hope to form Catholics in their faith and inspire evangelization is by hosting prominent speakers who can encourage, educate and motivate with their words and stories. In November, the parish proudly and excitingly hosted prominent Catholic apologist and speaker Trent Horn, who gave advice on how to talk about tough moral issues. This year the Seize the Faith Committee planned a series featuring speakers Dr. Christopher Stroud, Dr. Ray Guarendi and Chris Padgett. The series is titled "Love, Life & Laughter," and all the presentations are free and open to the public.



The Sacred Heart School VEX IQ robotics team competes last year.

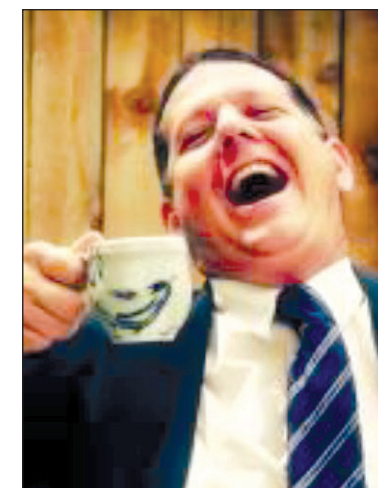


On dress as your vocation day, most students at Sacred Heart School dressed for a secular vocation. A kindergartener, Joel Velazquez, dressed as a priest and posed with Father Jonathan Norton.



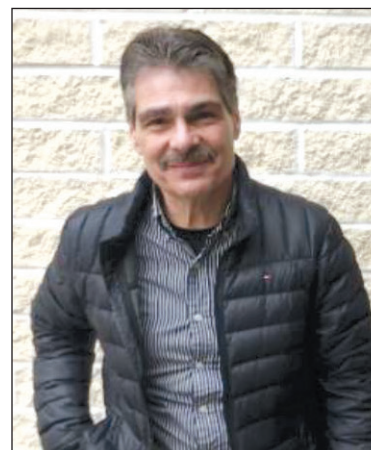
DR. CHRISTOPHER STROUD

On Aug. 25, Dr. Stroud and his wife, Marianne, discussed love — specifically, marriage and family — in the context of St. Pope Paul VI's papal encyclical "Humanae Vitae." They shared their own journeys of living as one in Christ through marriage and in professional vocations as obstetrician and midwife at their Creighton Fertility Model / Natural Procreative Technology fertility practice.



CHRIS PADGETT

Speaking on the topic of laughter, Padgett is a Catholic father bent on illuminating the beauty of the Catholic family. "Chris is a musician and author who uses humor and a light-hearted approach to help children, adults and families understand and overcome roadblocks to living out their faith," said Obergefell. His talk is slated for Oct. 6, 7:30-9 p.m. in the church.



DR. RAY GUARENDI

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## An authentic democracy

Those of us who have grown up within the womb of a democratic society may not always recognize how radical the idea behind such a society actually is, nor how fragile its structure can be in the face of strident claims regarding individual freedoms. Legalization of abortion, to focus on one of the most strident claims, corrodes the very pillars of our democratic society.

The legalization of abortion means guaranteeing immunity from prosecution for those older human beings who directly end the lives of much younger humans before they are born, or even as they are being born. Such actions constitute a form of injustice perpetrated by the powerful against those who are, by virtue of their extreme youth, the weakest, most vulnerable and most voiceless humans. Laws sanctioning abortion fundamentally confirm the idea that “might makes right.” An ordered society, however, and especially a democratic one, can never be built upon such a self-serving, unjust and distorted premise.

This premise runs directly counter to the tradition of our great Western constitutional texts, which arose as a cry for an order of justice superior to the raw exercise of power and domination by privileged individuals and groups. Those texts were born from centuries of struggle by entire peoples living under various forms of oppression. The order of justice they sought required the clear acknowledgement of the universality of basic human rights, first among which was the assurance that one’s life would not be unjustly exploited, attacked or ended. As Msgr. Michel Schooyans has noted, “That is why democratic regimes were founded — first and foremost

to protect citizens from arbitrary executions, from the terrorism of despots and their police.”

Many of us who have lived in a democratic society for most or all of our lives, never having struggled or fought for its original implementation or continuation, can forget the threatening historical circumstances that led to forging the substance of that democracy. Moreover, even as we benefit from the blessings of liberty, we can fall prey to erroneous conceptions about the meaning of freedom, as the rights of some begin to be subtly elevated over the rights of others. Indeed, every democracy struggles to avoid the treachery of various forms of despotism, as the long and arduous battles over human slavery that culminated with the Civil War remind us. At Gettysburg, President Abraham Lincoln declared that “a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal” was now “engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived, and so dedicated, can long endure.”

Preceding those turbulent times, “equality” had certainly been proclaimed and was textually present within various founding documents. It remained, however, fundamentally elusive as laws continued to sanction the inequalities of human bondage and realities on the ground continued to thwart basic human rights. During those dark times, the light of democracy sputtered and flickered, and nearly went out. The widespread practice of abortion today raises a similar threat, as stronger individuals are tempted to establish their liberties upon the ruins of weaker ones. What is most



FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

### MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

important to recognize is how this existential threat to democracy is actually — without hyperbole — greater now than it was during the times of slavery.

Msgr. Schooyans trenchantly describes it this way:

“The liberalization of abortion laws puts into motion a political process in which the democratic State imperceptibly becomes transformed into a totalitarian State... From the very moment the state reserves for itself the right to decide, through its institutional organs, which human being has the right to protection and which human being does not, it ceases to be a democratic State because it negates the fundamental reason for which it was instituted: the defense of every human being’s right to life. The power such a State exercises becomes arbitrary when it authorizes certain citizens to execute their own equals with impunity...”

One is reminded of the testimonies of certain U.S. soldiers who, upon their return from Vietnam, in the wake of the sexual revolution, were shocked by the seismic shifts in the understanding of freedom that had occurred during their long deployment. Some of them said that they hadn’t stepped onto the battlefield and made great personal

BIOETHICS, page 13

## Do we really believe in the Real Presence?

When Pope Francis recently said that every time we receive Communion, it should be like our first time, it reminded me of a friend’s story.

He had left his then-youngest son in the pew while the rest of the family went up to receive Communion. Upon his return, his son was missing. Looking around to see where he went, he suddenly saw his little boy racing down the aisle shouting, “I got one! I got one!”

I’m not sure how many of us can equal that excitement, but what do we feel when we receive Communion? What are we thinking when the priest says the words of consecration?

A longtime editor in the Catholic press, himself a convert, once confessed that the hair on the back of his neck stood up every time the priest uttered those words, so powerful was his sense that God really and truly became present in a unique and tangible way.

For 2,000 years, this has been the teaching of the Church. But what do most Catholics believe these days about the real presence of Christ under the forms of bread and wine?

A recent survey by Pew Research Center suggested that a majority of Catholics do not believe that the bread and wine become the body and blood of Christ. In fact, Pew said 69% thought the host and wine were only “symbols” of Christ’s body and blood.

The polling results stirred a



GREG ERLANDSON

### AMID THE FRAY

great deal of breast-beating, and accusations flew about who was to blame for this sorry state of affairs.

But one must always approach such surveys with caution, as Mark Gray from the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, known as CARA, subsequently pointed out in his blog named 1964.

Gray noted that Pew gave Catholics the following choice: The bread and wine (a) actually become the body and blood of Jesus Christ, or (b) are symbols of the body and blood of Christ.

The results are significantly different from a 2011 survey in which 63% believe in the Real Presence (46% of whom knew what the Church teaches.)

The earlier survey asked the question this way: “Which of the following statements best describes the Catholic teaching” on the Eucharist: (a) The bread and wine really become the body and blood of Jesus Christ, or (b) the bread and wine are only symbols of the body and blood.

The difference is the use of the phrase “really become” versus

ERLANDSON, page 13

## Humility is indispensable to holiness



### THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

### Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Luke 14:1, 7-14

The Book of Sirach furnishes this weekend’s first Scripture reading. Sirach is among those biblical volumes collectively called the Wisdom Literature. This designation means that these books attempt to show that the Jews’ ancient faith in the one God of Israel, and their insistence that God’s law be obeyed, are in no way illogical or unreasonable. To the contrary, a person who possesses genuine wisdom realizes the fact that God lives and reigns and also knows that all persons and all things are subject to God.

This weekend’s reading expressly refers to humility. While humility definitely is associated with Christian theology and spirituality, humility was a virtue very much admired, and evident, in the Old Testament. This especially was the case with many of the prophets and even of some of the kings.

For instance, while David, whom God had chosen to be king, eventually rebelled against God and sinned, he, in the end, humbly turned back to God, repenting of his sins.

“Sirach,” the name of this book, derives from the name of the author, mentioned in the book. The author was Yeshua (Jesus, in English), the son of Sira. This book was written in Egypt by Jewish immigrants from the Holy Land, or possibly by descendants of such immigrants, around 132 B.C. The date of composition can be determined because the early verses say that it was authored during the reign of Pharaoh Ptolemy VII. The dates of this ruler’s reign are known.

The Epistle to the Hebrews is

the source of the second reading. Strong with Hebrew symbolism and references to Hebrew history, this reading recalls that whereas the ancient followers of Moses, the Hebrews escaping slavery in Egypt, had crossed the forbidding Sinai Peninsula with trepidation and had trembled as God came to Moses on the mountaintop, true disciples of Jesus are ushered literally into the heavenly Jerusalem, the very home of the Almighty God.

St. Luke’s Gospel supplies the last reading. In this story, the Lord is guest at a meal in the home of a Pharisee. Jesus uses the occasion to warn that no one should seek the highest place. Rather, the humble man who is content with a lesser place will be called to higher distinction.

In addition to its obvious call to humility, the reading makes two other points. The first point is that God cannot be tricked into tolerating anyone’s self-engineered passage into the heavenly kingdom. The second point, so typical of Luke’s particular insight, is that property is not so absolutely belonging

to anyone that the owner can grasp it tightly while others are in great want.

Emphasizing the call to humility is the detail that a Pharisee is the host. Pharisees, well-schooled in Jewish theology, supposedly knew much about life. Jesus, however, had to instruct this Pharisee and his guests.

### Reflection

Followers of Jesus always have treasured humility, a virtue also revered in the Old Testament. Humility so long has been seen as indispensable to holiness, the common denominator among all the saints, men and women, of whatever circumstances, from every place on earth.

Humility is not self-degradation. Humility does not debase or deny human dignity and potential. Instead, it means that a person does not overestimate his or her personal worth. Still, every person possesses the distinction of being God’s precious creation.

Recent events have shocked

us all with their utter disregard for human life. These readings tell us that reality is that we are God’s beloved, and that humbly we must regard all others as precious.

By realizing who, and what we are, and by fulfilling our destiny of being redeemed by obeying God, we wisely recognize our identity, our limitations, and our potential to bring God’s love to all.

### READINGS

**Sunday:** Sir 3:17-18, 20-29 Ps 68:4-7, 10-11 Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a Lk 14:1, 7-14

**Monday:** 1 Thes 4:13-18 Ps 96:1, 3-5, 11-13 Lk 4:16-30

**Tuesday:** 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11 Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 Lk 4:31-37

**Wednesday:** Col 1:1-8 Ps 52:10-11 Lk 4:38-44

**Thursday:** Col 1:9-14 Ps 98:2-6 Lk 5:1-11

**Friday:** Col 1:15-20 Ps 100:1-5 Lk 5:33-39

**Saturday:** Col 1:21-23 Ps 54:3-4, 6, 8 Lk 6:1-5

# Getting beyond Darwin

**B**ishop Robert Barron and others working hard to evangelize the “Nones” — young adults without religious conviction — tell us that a major obstacle to a None embracing Christianity is the cultural assumption that science explains everything. And if science explains it all, who needs God, revelation, Christ or the Church? To be even more specific: If Darwin and the Darwinian theory of evolution explain the origins of us (and everything else), why bother with Gen. 1-3 and Col. 1:15-20 (much less Augustine’s “Thou hast made us for Thee and our hearts are restless until they rest in Thee”)?

That’s why “Giving Up Darwin,” an essay by Dr. David Gelernter in the spring issue of the “Claremont Review of Books” is both a fascinating article and a potential tool in the New Evangelization.

No one can accuse Gelernter of being an anti-modern knucklehead. He’s a pioneering computer scientist, a full professor at Yale, and a remarkable human being: a package from the Unabomber blew off his right hand and permanently damaged his right eye but didn’t impede his remarkable intellectual, literary and artistic productivity.

In his Claremont Review essay, Gelernter gives full credit to what he calls “Darwin’s brilliant and lovely theory” and readily concedes that “there’s no reason to doubt that Darwin successfully explained the small adjustments by which an organism adapts to local circumstances: changes to fur density or wing style or beak shape.” But Darwinian evolution can’t “explain the big picture — [which involves] not the fine-tuning of existing species but the emergence of new ones.” What Darwin cannot explain, in short, is “the origin of species” — the title of the British naturalist’s first, revolutionary book.

The argument is complex, so it’s important to read Gelernter’s

entire article carefully, and more than once. But to be desperately brief:

First, Darwinian evolutionary theory can’t explain the so-called “Cambrian explosion,” in which, half a billion years ago, a “striking variety of new organisms — including the first-ever animals — pop up suddenly in the fossil record.” How did this “great outburst” of new life forms happen? The slow-motion processes of Darwinian evolution can’t answer that question. Gelernter concludes that “the ever-expanding fossil record” doesn’t “look good for Darwin, who made clear and concrete predictions that have (so far) been falsified.” (This gaping Cambrian hole in the Darwinian account goes unremarked in the otherwise-magnificent new David H. Koch Hall of Fossils at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History.)

But there is more. “Darwin’s main problem...is molecular biology:” a scientific field that didn’t exist in his era. Given that he knew nothing about the inner workings of cells through proteins, Darwin “did brilliantly” in explaining species adaptation. But Darwin and his Neo-Darwinian disciples can’t account for the incredible complexity of the basic building blocks of life: for as we now know, “genes, in storing blueprints for the proteins that form the basis of cellular life, encode an awe-inspiring amount of information. Where on earth did it all (i.e., all that “profound biochemical knowledge”) come from?” From random mutations? Maybe, but very unlikely, for as Gelernter puts it, “You don’t turn up a useful protein by doodling on the back of an envelope, any more than you write a Mozart aria by assembling three sheets of staff paper and scattering notes around.”

Put the Cambrian fossil record together with the high statistical improbability that the information-dense building blocks of life hap-



## THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

GEORGE WEIGEL

pened through random mutations and you’re forced to consider what amounts to cultural heresy: that “the explosion of detailed, precise information that was necessary to build the brand-new Cambrian organisms, and the fact that the information was encoded, represented symbolically, in DNA...” falsify the Darwinian explanation of the big picture.

Gelernter is intrigued by “intelligent design” approaches to these evolutionary conundra but also suggests that, “as a theory,” intelligent design “would seem to have a long way to go.” But to dismiss intelligent design out of hand — to brand it piety masquerading as science — is, well, unscientific. The fossil record and molecular biology now suggest that Darwinian answers to the Big Questions constitute the real fundamentalism: a materialistic fideism that, however shaky in dealing with the facts, is nonetheless deeply entrenched in 21st-century imaginations. Thus, Gelernter asks whether today’s scientists will display Darwin’s own courage in risking cultural disdain by upsetting intellectual apple carts.

The empirical evidence suggests that the notions of a purposeful Creator and a purposeful creation cannot be dismissed as mere pre-modern mythology. That may help a few Nones out of the materialist bogs in which they’re stuck.

**George Weigel** is Distinguished Senior Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.

### BIOETHICS, from page 12

sacrifices in order to defend a false liberty so their fellow citizens at home could descend into promiscuity and abortions with reckless abandon.

The promotion and legalization of abortion inexorably leads to a system of privileges for the powerful that engenders instability and divisiveness as it undercuts the most basic of all human rights. Abortion really kills at least twice. It kills the body of the baby and it kills the conscience of a nation, perverting the very essence of a democratic society.

Legal safeguards for all human life, on the other hand, assure the possibility of liberty, justice and equality — protecting the very core of an authentic democracy.

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

### ERLANDSON, from page 12

“actually become.” “Actually,” Gray suggests, may make it sound like something that could be analyzed under a microscope or empirically observed.

Instead, the Church describes the Real Presence as “an inexhaustible mystery,” and that the “substance” of the bread and wine are changed at consecration, but “the ‘accidents’ or appearances of bread and wine remain.”

Past CARA surveys, Gray said, used the wording “Jesus Christ is really present in the bread and wine of the Eucharist,” or the “bread and wine are symbols of Jesus, but Jesus is not really present.”

Gray hopes to test this hypothesis further, but I suspect he is on to something. As one theologian told me when a similar survey came out years ago, Catholics may not be able to articulately define the “Real Presence,” and

the phrase “transubstantiation” may be obscure to them, but in their reverence and demeanor, they demonstrate their belief that this is not just a symbol.

What all of these surveys underscore, however, is the Church’s great need for adult faith formation. A few years of religious education classes as children is not sufficient, and we are paying the price for this neglect now.

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

# SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for September 1, 2019

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C: a lesson about expectations. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

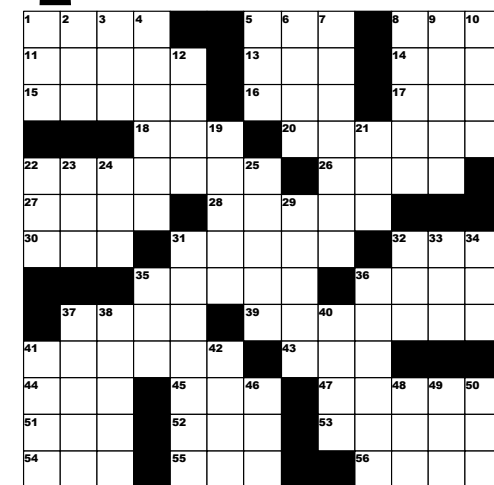
SABBATH	PARABLE	INVITED
SOMEONE	A WEDDING	FEAST
DO NOT	PLACE	HONOR
HOST	LOWEST	HIGHER
TABLE	EXALTED	RELATIVES
NEIGHBOR	POOR	LAME
BLIND	RESURRECTION	RIGHTEOUS

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# The Cross Word

September 1 and 8, 2019



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Readings: Heb 12:18-19, 22-24; Lk 14:1, 7-14 and Phm 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33

### ACROSS

- 1 Saint-\_\_\_, Haiti
- 5 Recede
- 8 **Did at Last Supper**
- 11 Blue ribbon
- 13 Thai
- 14 Not high
- 15 Ditto (2 wds.)
- 16 "\_\_\_ and you shall receive"
- 17 IOU part
- 18 Spider home
- 20 "My friend, move up \_\_\_"
- 22 Water between Jordan and Israel (2 wds.)
- 26 Close by

- 27 Loch \_\_\_ monster
- 28 Electronic mail
- 30 Every
- 31 "Carry his own \_\_\_"
- 32 "\_\_\_ Father"
- 35 **Mediator of the new covenant**
- 36 Expert
- 37 "I, \_\_\_, an old man"
- 39 "Do not \_\_\_ at place of honor"
- 41 "If you hold a lunch or \_\_\_"
- 43 Also
- 44 Writing liquid
- 45 "Just as"
- 47 Doesn't win

- 51 Volume (abbr.)
- 52 Teaspoon (abbr.)
- 53 Entertain
- 54 Compass point
- 55 Precedes an alias
- 56 Gym place

### DOWN

- 1 "Yes, \_\_\_"
- 2 Reverence
- 3 Rodent
- 4 **Travelled with Jesus**
- 5 Airport abbr.
- 6 Tear down
- 7 Swimsuits
- 8 Hawaiian 'hello'
- 9 **Expensive to construct one of these**
- 10 Water pitcher
- 12 Bucks' wives
- 19 Ales
- 21 Harden
- 22 Genetic code
- 23 Conger
- 24 Sign language
- 25 'Love' (French)
- 29 Strength
- 31 Small keyboard instrument
- 32 French "yes"
- 33 Vase
- 34 Regret
- 35 Kombucha-like drink
- 36 Dismal
- 37 Type of pine tree
- 38 Foot joint
- 40 Type of soda
- 41 Plunge into water
- 42 Peril
- 46 Accountant
- 48 **Tally the \_\_\_ of 9D**
- 49 Escape key
- 50 **Galilee lake**

Answer Key can be found on page 15

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**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. Therese fall festival**

**FORT WAYNE** — St. Therese Parish, 2304 Lower Huntington Rd., will have a fall festival Saturday, Sept. 7, from 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Enjoy family games, food, farmer's market, silent auction, bingo and adult beverages during the day. Menu items include: hot dogs, brats, hamburgers, corn on the cob, walking tacos, pizza, funnel cakes and ice cream. Mass on the grass is at 5 p.m. Evening activities (21+) will follow with entertainment by *SwimmingIntoView* from 7-10 p.m. Visit [www.sttheresefw.org](http://www.sttheresefw.org)

**Deerstock charity fundraising event**

**FORT WAYNE** — A charity fundraising event to benefit Vincent Village, Miss Virginia's Food Pantry and the St. Mary Soup Kitchen will be held at Deerpark Irish Pub, 1530 Leesburg Rd., on Saturday, Sept. 7, from noon to 11 p.m. Musical entertainment throughout the day will conclude with *Duke Tomatoe* at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10, \$15 day of the festival.

**Bilingual confirmation Mass for youth with disabilities**

**WARSAW** — Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will celebrate a bilingual confirmation Mass for youth with disabilities (7th grade

through age 18) and their families on Saturday, Sept. 7, at 4 p.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Warsaw. Contact your pastor or Allison Sturm at 260-399-1452 or email [asturm@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:asturm@diocesefwsb.org).

**Little Flower Holy Hour for Vocations**

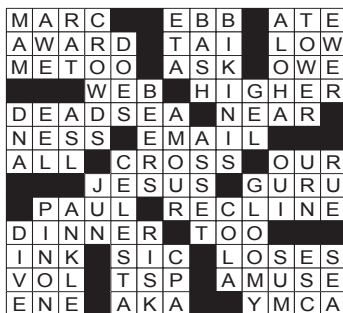
**FORT WAYNE** — The Little Flower Holy Hours will begin again on the first Tuesday of the month at St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel, 1122 S. Clinton St., from 7-8 p.m. Father Patrick Hake, parochial vicar at St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, will offer a reflection on a biblical reading, lead the rosary during adoration and conclude the evening with Benediction.

**'Be It Done!' women's retreat**

**ELKHART** — St. Vincent de Paul Parish, 1108 South Main St., is hosting the "Be It Done!" Catholic Women's Retreat with speaker, author, life-coach Judy Hehr Saturday, Sept. 7 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The retreat will be a combination of prayer, music, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, opportunities for confession, talks by Judy, discussion, sisterhood and will end with Mass at 5 p.m. Cost is \$25. Contact Lori Massa at 574-293-8071 or [loriamassa@gmail.com](mailto:loriamassa@gmail.com) for information.

## The CrossWord

September 1 and 8, 2019



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| <b>Decatur</b><br>Rose Marie Eller,<br>91, St. Mary of the<br>Assumption       | Francis Donald<br>Griffith, 94, Cathedral<br>of the Immaculate<br>Conception                           | Sr. Lucy Marie Vega,<br>OLVM, Noll Chapel                                    |
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| <b>Decatur</b><br>Marilyn S. Meyer,<br>77, St. Mary of the<br>Assumption       | Geraldine Raupfer, 90,<br>St. Jude   | Ralph Rakowski,<br>St. Jude  |
|  | <b>Granger</b><br>Gregoory Olson, 68,<br>St. Pius X  | <b>Warsaw</b><br>Donald Sweatland, 82,<br>Sacred Heart                       |
|  |  | <b>Waterloo</b><br>Patricia G. Flaharty,<br>80, St. Michael the<br>Archangel |

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**ST. PIUS X, from page 1**

Finally, a multipurpose room will accommodate the school lunch program, after-school activities and additional parish programming. It is the final step in our efforts to provide the parish with adequate space for our growing community," said pastor Msgr. William C. Schooler. "We hope that people will see for themselves the fruits of their many sacrifices and appreciate the positive benefits to our parish and educational efforts."

According to Msgr. Schooler's message in the weekly bulletin, "Bishop's blessing concludes construction of our ambitious building project, which began with the building of our new church and the adaption of the former church into the Parish Life Center. We would never have accomplished all of this without the prayers and generous financial support of so many parishioners. I look forward to the successful completion of the Behold, I Make All Things New campaign (hopefully, very soon!) when the entire expansion project is fully funded."

During the homily, Bishop Rhoades discussed the image of St. Paul viewing Christian life as an athletic race, in the second reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

"The author of the letter speaks of our persevering and running the race that lies before us keeping our eyes on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith. Jesus is at the finish line in the glory of heaven, and we're on this race as his disciples heading toward that triumphant goal, the goal of eternal life with him in the glory of heaven," said Bishop Rhoades. "What's great is there's a crowd cheering us on. And the letter to the Hebrews says we're surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses — the saints in heaven."

"It's like they're a crowd in a big sports arena rooting for us. And they're not just spectators — they're praying for us. They are examples that inspire us to persevere in the race."

"It's great that we Catholics believe and take seriously what the letter to the Hebrews says about the cloud of witnesses. We have devotion to the saints — we even have an All Saints Day. Saints are encouraging us to stay faithful and to persevere as they did even when it's tough," noted the bishop.

The letter tells Christians to rid themselves of every burden and sin that clings to them.

"We need to throw off those things that impede our progress, works of darkness, sins and vices that weigh us down," said Bishop Rhoades.

In Christian life, it's not a sprint. It's more like a marathon, a distance race. There are some long uphill climbs and stretches of rough terrain. Perseverance and endurance is needed.

"Let us continue to run the race knowing that we are sur-



**Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades blesses a gathering room in the new St. Pius X Parish Education Center in Granger Aug. 18.**

Photos by Derby Photography



**At left, before a collection of the pipes that are to be installed, Msgr. William Schooler and Bishop Rhoades talk about the parish's new organ.**

**At right, St. Pius X parishioner musicians celebrate with song at the closing of the blessing.**



rounded by a great cloud of witnesses. Try to rid ourselves of the burdens of sin that weigh us down, keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus ready to endure the cross knowing what lies before us at the finish line," said Bishop Rhoades.