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JANUARY 21-29, 2020

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# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

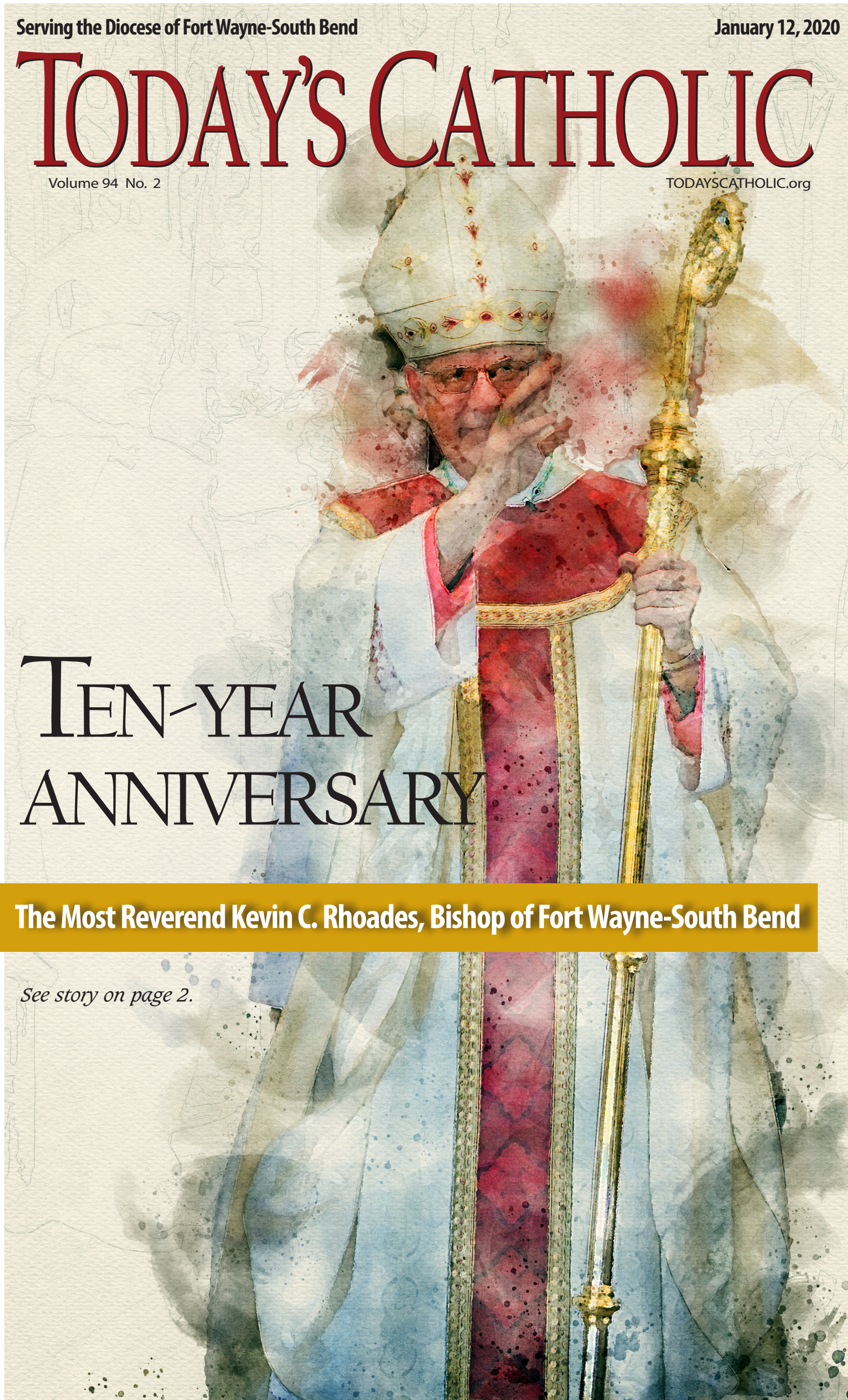
Volume 94 No. 2

TODAYSCATHOLIC.org

## TEN-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

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

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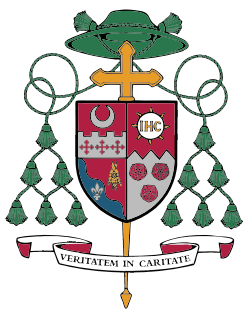


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# Diocese blessed by decade of Bishop Rhoades' pastoral leadership

BY JODI MARLIN

At a Solemn Mass of Installation Jan. 13, 2010, the Memorial of St. Hilary of Poitiers, the Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades became the ninth bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Blessed by her new shepherd's dedication to proclaiming and living the truth of the Gospel in charity, during the first 10 years of his episcopal leadership the parishes, ministries, schools and the faithful of the diocese have increased in faith, wisdom, clarity of mission and fervor.



Until Jan. 10, 2010, Bishop Rhoades led the Diocese of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. In late 2009, following the retirement of the eighth bishop of the diocese, John M. D'Arcy, Bishop Rhoades accepted the request of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI to come to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Born in Lebanon, Pennsylvania, Bishop Rhoades attended Catholic elementary and secondary schools before entering college. His studies continued in Rome at The Pontifical North American College and



Today's Catholic file photos

As the Mass of Installation begins, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades knocks on the door of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne. Bishop Rhoades became the ninth bishop of the diocese on Jan. 13, 2010.

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The bishop washes the feet of seminarians during Holy Thursday Mass of the Last Supper April 2, 2015, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.



Students of Most Precious Blood School, Fort Wayne, engage with Bishop Rhoades during a pastoral visit in 2016.



The bishop and Pope Benedict exchange greetings at the Vatican in 2009.

**ANNIVERSARY, from page 2**

Pontifical Gregorian University. He was ordained a deacon in 1982 and a priest of the Diocese of Harrisburg in 1983.

In 1985, Bishop Rhoades returned to Rome to earn advanced degrees in dogmatic theology and canon law, after which he served in the Harrisburg diocese until accepting a faculty position at Mount St. Mary's Seminary. He was named rector of the seminary in 1997, a role he fulfilled until his appointment by Pope St. John Paul II as bishop of Harrisburg.

It was at this time that he adopted his personal episcopal motto, "Veritatem in Caritate," "In Truth and Charity." The motto which has served as a guidepost and characterized his journey of thousands of miles to every corner of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend — as well as a ministry of presence on the weekly Redeemer Radio program, "Truth in Charity."

A mere three days after Bishop Rhoades departed Harrisburg, a Mass of Installation took place at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne. It was celebrated by Bishop Pietro Sambini, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States; Bishop Daniel Buechlein, OSB, then-bishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis; and Bishop D'Arcy. Hundreds of priests and lay well-wishers from Pennsylvania and Indiana attended.

From the day of his ordination to the episcopacy in 2004, in Harrisburg, Bishop Rhoades has steadfastly directed the faithful of the diocese to Mary and her Son. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend his prayers for young men discerning a vocation to the priesthood have been constant, and his example serves as a source of encouragement to them. Vocations to the priesthood and to the permanent diaconate continue to flourish under his care.

The spiritual education of teenagers and young adults has called the shepherd to accompaniment. Among his engagements, he has been present to them at Theology on Tap gatherings; in worship; and at retreats, rallies and World Youth Day pilgrimages to Poland, Spain and Panama.

At the Church of St. Francis of Assisi in Panama City Jan. 20, Bishop Rhoades again placed the spiritual focus of World Youth Day pilgrims on the Savior, through His mother. Reflecting on the Gospel of the Wedding Feast of Cana, he reminded the young people of Mary's response at the Annunciation.

"Behold the handmaid of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word." These words reflect Mary's basic and fundamental attitude and spirit, the same attitude and spirit that we see at the wedding feast in Cana: faith and openness to God's will," he said to them.



**The first class of deacons to have carried out their formation completely in Spanish stands with Bishop Rhoades following their ordination in July 2018 at St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend.**

"We also learn from Mary at Cana how to pray: not by asserting before God our own will and our own desires, however important they might be or however reasonable they may seem to us, but rather to bring our needs and desires before the Lord and let Him decide what He intends to do. 'Not my will, but your will be done.' Mary teaches us this," he taught. "We learn from Mary humility and generosity in accepting God's will and believing that He knows what is best for us, what is our true good."

It's a message that has become a hallmark of Bishop Rhoades' episcopal leadership. In 2014, he led a Marian consecration of the diocese, "33 Days to Morning Glory" — a fruitful initiative that served as an impetus for Catholics in parishes across the diocese to engage more deeply with their faith and live out their baptismal promises.

"Among the many gifts and talents that Bishop Rhoades has brought to our diocese, for me the greatest is his ability to be a clear and steadfast teacher and upholder of the Catholic faith," said Father Mark Gurtner, vicar general. "In these confusing times in the Church and in the world, this is a tremendous blessing for our diocese."

Also encouraging in its potential is another initiative of the bishop, Next Generation Parish. The reinvigoration program currently is being piloted in several parishes.

Lending his expertise to Catholic educational and charitable organizations both national and international, Bishop Rhoades serves as chairman of the USCCB Committee on

Doctrine; a member of the USCCB Administrative Committee, the USCCB Committee on Religious Liberty and the Board of Directors of Catholic Relief Services. He is chairman, a member of the board of directors/trustees or an episcopal advisor of Our Sunday Visitor, Ave Maria University, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Theology of the Body Institute, Bishops' Advisory Council of the Institute for Priestly Formation, National Conference of Diocesan Vocation Directors, Augustine Institute, Catholic Leadership Institute and the Society of Catholic Scientists.

Because of the administrative obligations of the office of the bishop, and certainly in larger dioceses, it's quite easy for bishops to function more like CEOs than shepherds, noted Msgr. Michael Heintz, a priest of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and theology professor at Mount St. Mary's. "But it's abundantly clear that Bishop Rhoades finds deep satisfaction and joy in his principal role as shepherd of the people of Fort Wayne-South Bend. It is very manifest how much he loves parish life and pastoral work, and no doubt one of the reasons he spends so much time on the move (just follow his public calendar!) is his desire for and joy in being with God's people, celebrating the sacraments, preaching the Word and coming to know his flock. In every parish he knows so many folks by name, is quick to respond to their needs and inquiries and has come to witness quite personally "Truth in Charity."



## Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Wednesday, January 15: 7:45 a.m. — Mass and Pastoral Visit, Bishop Luers High School, Fort Wayne

Thursday, January 16: 11 a.m. — Meeting of the Priest Personnel Board, Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, Fort Wayne

Friday, January 17: 8 a.m. — Mass with Spanish-Language Students, Queen of All Saints Chapel, Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne

Saturday, January 18: 12 p.m. — Northeast Indiana Rally and March for Life, University of Saint Francis Performing Arts Center, Fort Wayne



**The bishop makes his way toward the reception hall following the Rite of Election at St. Matthew Cathedral in 2017.**

## CRS named '2019 Top-Rated Nonprofit'

BALTIMORE — Catholic Relief Services has been named a "2019 Top-Rated Nonprofit" by GreatNonprofits, a provider of user reviews of charities and nonprofits.

"We are honored to be named a 2019 Top-Rated Nonprofit," said Laura Durlington, director of annual giving for CRS. "We are proud of our accomplishments this year and we want to continue to improve the lives of the world's most vulnerable people on a large scale."

CRS works in over 110 countries around the world, providing relief and development assistance for the poor and most vulnerable through programs including emergency response, health, agriculture and peace-building.

This year, CRS launched its "Vision 2030," a new strategy that will build on the expansive work that's already been accomplished over its 76-year history. The new strategy will allow even more families to survive and thrive when disaster strikes; it will ensure that all families have dignified and resilient ways of

making a living; it will create an environment where all children thrive in safe and dignified families; and it will empower youth around the world to prosper.

"Catholic Relief Services is a great example of a nonprofit making a real difference in their community," said Perla Ni, CEO of GreatNonprofits. "Their award is well-deserved recognition not only of their work, but the tremendous support they receive, as shown by the many outstanding reviews they have received from people who have direct experience working with CRS."

The Top-Rated Nonprofit recognition is based on the rating and number of reviews that CRS received from volunteers, donors and aid recipients.

"We have always felt that CRS makes good use of our donations with low overhead expenses," stated one donor review. "CRS help goes to all groups, regardless of religion, and is a living testimony to Christian caring for others. We are so blessed in this

# Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

WASHINGTON — On Jan. 22, 1973, the Supreme Court legalized abortion throughout the United States in companion decisions *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*. Since that time, millions of children have lost their lives and millions of women and families have been wounded by abortion.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal, no. 373, designates Jan. 22 as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children." The Church directs: "In all the Dioceses of the United States of America, January 22 (or January 23, when January 22 falls on a Sunday) shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion."

As individuals, Catholics are called to observe the day through the penitential practices of prayer, fasting or almsgiving. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops provides resources to help parishes, schools, families, ministries and individual Catholics participate in this important day of prayer and penance.

In addition, the USCCB also sponsors an annual, nationwide novena called "9 Days for Life,"



which surrounds the liturgical observance of the Day of Prayer. Each day for nine days, a different intention is featured, accompanied by a short reflection, suggested actions, and related information as prayers are said for the respect and protection of every human life. This year's novena will take place Tuesday, Jan. 21, to Wednesday, Jan. 29. Find the novena at [www.9daysforlife.com](http://www.9daysforlife.com).

Here is a list of simple steps that can be used in parishes, schools, ministries or at home to assist efforts to commemorate the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* and participate in the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. These steps offer ideas on how to use the provided resources. Each step may not apply to everyone's specific circumstances, but most

can be adapted to suit different needs. Don't be afraid to get creative!

## Pray for the protection of human life

Sample intercessions are provided for use in the Prayer of the Faithful during Masses the weekend of Jan. 18-19 and on Jan. 22. Families can include these intercessions in their regular prayers in the morning, evening or before or after a family meal.

## Share what you're doing.

Use social media to share the daily 9 Days for Life prayer intentions with the hashtag #9DaysforLife. Highlight parts of each day's reflection that stuck out to you. Other tools will be

made available to help engage others in building a culture of life. If a group from your parish is praying the novena together, share that on parish social media pages and invite others to join in.

## Invite others to participate

Announce 9 Days for Life during a regularly scheduled ministry or faith gathering. During the weekend of Jan. 18-19, share about the Church's observance of the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children, and encourage others to participate by taking up a personal act of prayer or penance.




*Information provided by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops*

## Share your efforts ...

The USCCB wants to see how individuals, families, parishes and schools participate in 9 Days for Life. Email [prolife@uscgb.org](mailto:prolife@uscgb.org) and tag @peopleoflife on Facebook or @uscgbprolife on Twitter.

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

# Vouchers, predatory lending among challenges of legislative session

As a new decade dawned at the Statehouse in downtown Indianapolis, the Indiana Catholic Conference was prepared to shed light on issues facing the legislature from the perspective of the Catholic Church and its timeless teachings.

Lawmakers from across the state reconvened Jan. 6 to open the 2020 Indiana General Assembly – a short session that could see up to a thousand bills filed on a wide range of matters affecting Hoosiers by its conclusion in early to mid-March. The ICC will once again serve as the public policy voice of the Catholic Church in Indiana, following proposed legislation and promoting the Church's position on key issues to legislators, the media and the general public. And now the ICC itself has a new voice, as Angela Espada became its executive director effective Jan. 1.

"Protecting the common good, the dignity of life and the dignity of the person will always be our core principles," said Espada, a lifelong Catholic and an attorney who brings an extensive background in law and higher education leadership to the role. She is the first woman at the helm of the ICC since its inception in 1966 and the first woman of color to hold a Catholic Conference directorship nationwide.

Pro-life matters, predatory lending practices and other topics that have been the subject of many bills in recent legislative sessions are expected to be debated once again, according to Espada.

"There will be hundreds of bills filed during this short session," Espada said. "The ICC will carefully follow, monitor and either speak in support of or in opposition to many bills. When appropriate, the ICC will also work to help pass or block bills as they relate to the common good, religious freedom, non-

public education and dignity of the person."

The ICC saw a number of successes in the 2019 General Assembly, a long session that culminated in the passage of the state's two-year budget. That budget included significant provisions for Catholic and other non-public schools. One important development was the creation of a third tier of funding for the state's voucher program, providing more opportunities for families to send their children to the school of their choice.

Another change was the addition of a second-semester window to allow families to apply for vouchers later in a school year. In addition, Catholic and other non-public schools were included in a school safety bill that passed both legislative chambers.

"These were significant victories in the area of school choice and religious liberty," Espada said, adding that issues related to education are likely to surface again in the 2020 session.

Protecting the most vulnerable people from an economic standpoint also remains a top priority of the ICC. One major success in last year's legislative session was the defeat of a Senate bill that would have dramatically expanded predatory lending in the state. Moving forward, Espada said, the ICC will be particularly interested in the prevention of online predatory lending that targets not only the poor, but the working class. Lenders largely operating from outside the state of Indiana often charge interest exceeding 150 percent.

"The ICC will be encouraging legislators to enact laws ensuring that lenders from outside our state conduct business in accordance with Indiana law," Espada said. "Currently there are no such provisions and online lenders conduct business with little or no restrictions. We hope that current payday lenders will

## INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE



BY VICTORIA ARTHUR

also oppose predatory online lending."

As always, life issues will be at the forefront of the ICC's focus and priorities, Espada said. Two successes in the 2019 session were the passage of important pro-life bills – one banning dismemberment abortion, a method in the second trimester of pregnancy that involves tearing a live fetus apart in the uterus, and another expanding conscience protection rights beyond physicians and hospital employees. The conscience protection bill ensures that nurses, pharmacists and physician assistants do not have to participate in abortion procedures if they object on moral grounds.

Other victories in the pro-life arena in 2019 included the stoppage of a bill promoting assisted reproduction and gestational surrogacy, as well as the failure of two bills advocating physician-assisted suicide.

"The Church will continue to oppose surrogacy in order to protect women, unused embryos and the relationship between a mother and child," Espada said. "In terms of respect for all life, the ICC will vehemently oppose any bills that provide a path for euthanasia or physician-assisted suicide. This is particularly important in protecting the disabled, who can be disproportionately affected by those seeking to prematurely end life."

Protecting the dignity of life will always remain a cornerstone of the ICC's agenda in any legislative session, according to Glenn Tebbe, who served as executive

director of the ICC for 16 years until becoming associate director Jan. 1. He will continue to collaborate with Espada through the leadership transition before his anticipated retirement in the spring.

"I look forward to working with Angela on the many challenges and opportunities that this session will offer," Tebbe said.

To follow priority legislation of the ICC, visit [www.indianacc.org](http://www.indianacc.org). This website includes access to I-CAN, the Indiana Catholic Action Network, which offers the Church's position on key issues. Those who sign up for I-CAN receive alerts on legislation moving forward and ways to contact their elected representatives.

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**CRS, from page 3**

country, and the situation is so desperate in so many countries, it is important that organizations like CRS continue to receive our strong support."

GreatNonprofits is a website where people share stories about their personal experiences with more than 1.6 million charities and nonprofits. The Top-Rated awards are determined only based on reviews given by those who have direct experience with the charities – as donors, volunteers and recipients of aid.

The complete list of 2019 Top-Rated Nonprofits can be found at <https://greatnonprofits.org/awards/browse/Campaign:Year2019/Issue:All/Page:1>. CRS' GreatNonprofits profile can be found at: <https://greatnonprofits.org/org/catholic-relief-services>.

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# NEWS BRIEFS

## Pope begins New Year with apology, prayers for peace

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis began the New Year with an apology for losing his patience the night before with a woman who grabbed his hand and yanked him closer to her while he was greeting people in St. Peter's Square. To get away, the pope had slapped her hand and gave her a very serious scowl. A video of the incident went viral on Twitter. Reciting the midday Angelus prayer Jan. 1, Pope Francis was talking about how God's offer of salvation in Jesus is "not magic, but patient, that is, it involves the patience of love, which takes on inequity and destroys its power." Then, briefly departing from his prepared text, the pope said that "love makes us patient. We often lose our patience; me, too, and I apologize for my bad example last night." Returning to his text, Pope Francis said that in gazing upon the Nativity scene with the eyes of faith, "we see the world renewed, freed from the dominion of evil and placed under the regal lordship of Christ, the baby lying in the manger." The Church marks Jan. 1 as both the feast of Mary, Mother of God, and World Peace Day, he said, urging Catholics to pray for peace and to recognize their responsibility to work for peace.

## 'Violence in the name of God is blasphemy,' USCCB president says

LOS ANGELES (CNS) — Decrying the acts of religious violence that have taken place during the Christmas season, the president of the U.S. bishops declared: "Violence in the name of God is blasphemy." Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles, chosen in November as president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said: "The rise of anti-Semitic violence in this country and around the world must be condemned along with the ongoing persecution of Christians. Protecting religious freedom and freedom of conscience should be among the highest priorities of every government." Archbishop Gomez's remarks, in a Dec. 31 statement, were prepared with the Jan. 1 observance of the World Day of Peace in mind. He cited three incidents in particular: the Dec. 29 assault on worshippers in a Texas church by a gunman, which left two congregants and the shooter dead; the Dec. 27 a stabbing rampage during a Hanukkah celebration in a rabbi's home in New York; and the Dec. 26 posting of a video by an Islamic State affiliate in Nigeria that showed the beheading of 11 Christians. "In our neighborhoods and communities, violence and cruelty are a sad and ordinary reality of daily life," Archbishop Gomez said. "Children in our country are killed each day in the womb and many

## Chicago celebrates feast of the Epiphany



CNS photo/Karen Callaway, Chicago Catholic

Members of St. Ferdinand and St. Ladislaus parishes in Chicago participate in a Three Kings' parade Jan. 5. The annual event celebrates the feast of the Epiphany.

of our neighbors do not have what they need to lead a dignified life. Our politics and cultural discourse are often marked by anger and a merciless and unforgiving contempt for others."

## At New Year's Mass, bishop says religious prejudice cannot be tolerated

PORTLAND, Maine (CNS) — Bishop Robert P. Deeley of Portland, Maine, called for the country to continue working to end "any form of religious prejudice" during a New Year's Day Mass. Citing incidents of religious violence as 2019 came to a close, including a knife attack at a rabbi's home in New York and a shooting at a Texas church, Bishop Deeley said American society is experiencing "too much" religious-based violence and hatred. "Unfortunately, it marks the century for us," he told worshippers at the Cathedral

of the Immaculate Conception in Portland. "We have seen too many shootings and attacks on religious houses and communities. As Christians we cannot tolerate any kind of religious prejudice." Bishop Deeley attributed the violence to "the implicit permission of society" for giving rise to such attacks. While acknowledging that some of the attacks are carried out by "mentally disturbed" people, he said they "find their ideas in places where such hatred is fostered."

## Nigerian diocesan spokesman: Bridal party beheaded en route to wedding

LAGOS, Nigeria (CNS) — Father Francis Arinse, communications director of the Catholic Diocese of Maiduguri, confirmed that a bride-to-be, Martha Bulus, and her bridal party were beheaded Dec. 26 at Gwoza, in northeast-

ern Nigeria's Borno state. Father Arinse told Catholic News Service that Bulus and her companions were traveling from Maiduguri to her Dec. 31 wedding when they were killed. "They were beheaded by suspected Boko Haram insurgents at Gwoza on their way to her country home," he told CNS. He added that Bulus used to be his parishioner at St. Augustine Catholic Church, Maiduguri, after he was first ordained. Father Arinse said there had been a series of abductions in the area recently. He said government agencies must beef up security in northeast Nigeria to prevent a recurrence. Several international media outlets reported Dec. 26 that the Islamic State group released a video showing it had beheaded 10 Christians and shot an 11th Dec. 26. The news agencies said they were unable to confirm the contents of the video but described the victims as men. IS said the beheadings were payback for the late-October killing of its leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

## Catholic publications join in naming people of the year

WASHINGTON (CNS) — With the close of 2019, Catholic publications joined the trend in naming people of the year by identifying Catholics who made a particular impact over the past 12 months. Our Sunday Visitor, a national Catholic newsweekly based in Huntington, Indiana, listed eight people as 2019 Catholics of the Year in its Dec. 29 issue, and National Catholic Reporter, a national Catholic newspaper based in Kansas City, Missouri, selected Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi as its Catholic Newsmaker of the Year in its Dec. 20 issue. The eight people to make Our Sunday Visitor's list were: Los Angeles Archbishop Jose H. Gomez, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops; St. John Henry Newman, English theologian canonized in 2019; Asia Bibi, a Catholic woman from Pakistan whose blasphemy charge was overturned in 2019; Janice Benton, a founder of the National Catholic Partnership on Disability; Kendrick Castillo, a Colorado student who was killed in May after rushing toward a school shooter; Bob Lockwood, former president of Our Sunday Visitor; Franciscan Sister Stephanie Baliga, an athlete who uses her talent to raise funds for charity; and Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas.

## 'A victory for women is a victory for humanity,' pope says on Marian feast

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The world will not know peace unless there is an end to violence against women, the exploitation of their bodies and the denial of their dignity, Pope Francis said on the feast of Mary, Mother of God. Celebrating Mass Jan. 1 for the feast day and the World Day of Peace, the pope said: "If we want a better world that is a house of peace and not a courtyard of war, we must take to heart the dignity of every woman." Jesus, the prince of peace, was born of a woman, he said. "The woman is a giver and mediator of peace and must be fully involved in decision-making processes because when women can share their gifts, the world will find itself more united and more at peace." "A victory for women is a victory for all of humanity," the pope said. The Christmas season and the feast of Mary, Mother of God, he said, are celebrations of the great gift of God sending His Son into the world as a human baby, born of a woman so that He would have the same human flesh of all those He came to save.

## Yahne receives St. Mary, Mother of God Parish award

FORT WAYNE — For a decade following the death of Father Tom O'Connor, St. Mary, Mother of God Parish in Fort Wayne honored individuals in the community who, through their endeavors or by their work with others, encouraged what they called "the next generation of Father Toms." With only one exception, and by design, recipients of the Father Tom O'Connor Light of Christ Award were not members of the parish.

After phasing out that recognition, a new award was created to honor members of the parish for their service. That award is presented close to Jan. 1 of each year, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, the parish patron.

The recipient of the 2020 St. Mary, Mother of God Sharing the Light of Christ award is Kenneth Yahne. Pastor Father Phil Widmann presented the award, an engraved statue of the Madonna of the Streets, to Yahne during Mass on Dec. 29. Yahne chairs the parish finance committee, works with the Bells of St. Mary's Scholarship program, counts the Sunday collection, ushers and serves as a lector and an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist. He has spent years helping to connect donated automobiles with persons who could not otherwise afford reliable transportation. He serves as parish liaison to Wellspring Interfaith Social Services and has served on the parish council as well as on numerous parish committees.

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## Food pantry collection



Provided by Lois Widner

The fourth and fifth grade classes at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, Fort Wayne, collected canned goods during Advent for the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish food pantry. Above, the fifth grade classes display their portion of the collection in December.

## Seminarians visit Avilla students



Provided by Joni Lazoff

St. Mary of the Assumption School, Avilla, recently welcomed diocesan seminarians, from left, Holden Berg, Augustine Onuoha, Michael Ammer and Keeton Lockwood, pictured with principal Andrew Adams, right. The seminarians started their day with students at an all-school Mass after which they visited classrooms, sharing their zeal for the Lord and insights about their lives as seminarians.

## Ad Altare Dei introductory meeting

MISHAWAKA — Duty to God is one of the primary requirements of Scouting. One way for Scouts to grow in their relationship with God is to work on their religious emblems. The Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting will hold an informational meeting at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Elkhart Jan. 12 from 4-5:30 p.m. to provide an overview of the Ad Altare Dei program and to begin working on the requirements. The Ad Altare Dei religious emblem is for Scouts, both boys and girls, who are in seventh through 12th grades. Parents can purchase the Ad Altare workbook at the LaSalle Council Office near the University of Notre Dame. For more information, contact Carl Loesch, [cloesch@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:cloesch@diocesefwsb.org).

## Diocesan liturgical trainings offered

FORT WAYNE — The Office of Worship has organized diocesan liturgical trainings on upcoming Saturdays for lectors and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. There is no charge to attend a training, but advance registration is required online or by mail.

Lector trainings will be on Feb. 8 at St. Jude Church, 2130 Pemberton Dr., Fort Wayne and on Feb. 29 at St. Pius X Church, 52553 Fir Rd., Granger. Extraordinary minister trainings will be on Feb. 1 at the St. John Paul II Center, 1328 W. Dragon Trail, Mishawaka, and on Feb. 15 at St. Charles Borromeo Church, 4916 Trier Rd, Fort Wayne.

The times and durations of the trainings vary. For more specific information and to register online, please visit [www.diocesefwsb.org/Trainings-And-Retreats](http://www.diocesefwsb.org/Trainings-And-Retreats).

## Huntington County Right to Life to collect names for ad

HUNTINGTON — Jan. 22 marks the 47th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court decision, Roe v. Wade, that legalized abortion on demand and has resulted in the deaths of over 61,000,000 children waiting to be born.

Each year, Huntington County Right to Life commemorates this anniversary with a large newspaper ad containing the names of those who oppose needless killing of the unborn. Those who wish to show their support of the pro-life efforts in Huntington County may include their names on the memorial ad. A minimum donation of \$1 per name is requested to help defray the cost of the ad.

Names may be submitted at the Huntington County Right to Life office, 34 E. Washington St., or at any participating Huntington County church. HCRTL office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. The deadline for submitting names is noon Sunday, Jan. 12.

# Bishop Rhoades, The Scally Brothers: diocesan World Youth Day

BY JOSHUA SCHIPPER

Last year, Pope Francis announced the theme of the World Youth Day diocesan conferences that would take place around the world in 2020: "Young man, I say to you, arise." The passage comes from the seventh chapter of Luke's Gospel, when Jesus raised the son of a widow from the dead.

Bishop Luers High School, Fort Wayne, will host the World Youth Day conference in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Teenagers from the 14 counties will gather there Feb. 21-23.

Jennifer Litchfield, a graduate of Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, has been involved in youth ministry for many years and exceed several past World Youth Day diocesan gatherings.

This year, however, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, Nathaniel Binversie and others will lead those attending in worship, conversation and reflection.

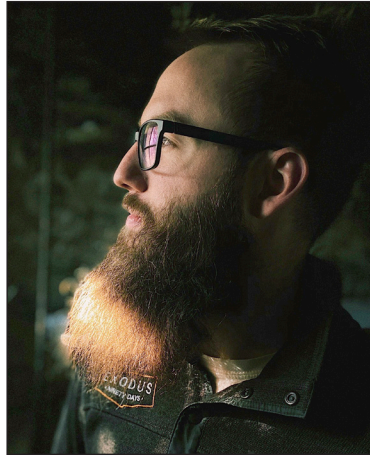
Binversie is the director of mission for Exodus Inc., the author of "Exodus 90 Spiritual Exercise," and chief editor for "Day 91."



Before he worked for Exodus he worked in collegiate ministry, including three years with Fellowship of Catholic University Students. Though he has seen the Lord call him to use his brain in fantastic ways, he said, he is certain that it is his knees that are most valuable to both his family and to mission.

A praise and worship group, The Scally Brothers, who performed in November at the National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis, will lead those attending in songs of praise and worship.

Diocesan seminarians studying at Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary, Indianapolis, will play a game of "students vs. seminarians" basketball during recreation time Saturday after-



Provided by John Pratt

**Nathaniel Binversie, director of mission for Exodus Inc., will be among the distinguished presenters at a diocesan World Youth Day conference Feb. 21-23.**

noon. The seminarians also will assist in leading the Liturgy of the Hours throughout the weekend.

On Friday evening, Father Mark Gurtner, Father Benjamin Muhlenkamp and Father Andrew Curry will conduct a healing service that includes an opportunity for the sacrament of reconciliation.

Saturday evening, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will address retreat participants. Adoration of the Eucharist will follow.

Youth Ministry Director John Pratt said that thanks to the hard work of parish youth ministers and the staff of Bishop Luers, sizable attendance is expected at the conference. "We've already nearly reached the number of registrations we

had in 2019," Pratt commented in December.

He added that a team of about 10 high school youths who are members of the Diocesan Youth Leadership team are assisting with retreat planning, "ensuring that it's relevant for our young people and that details keep running smoothly throughout the weekend."

Pratt said teens should attend the event because it's a chance to celebrate World Youth Day with Bishop Rhoades. "It's a unique opportunity to let our shepherd teach and lead us in our journey of faith." The weekend also will provide a kind of steppingstone, he said, to preparing for the fruits of the next international World Youth Day. That international event will happen in the country of Portugal in 2022.

The weekend will conclude Sunday morning with a 10 a.m. Mass celebrated by Bishop Rhoades, which family and friends are welcome to attend.

**The Diocesan World Youth Day conference begins at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 21, and concludes at 10 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 23. Teens in grades nine-12 are welcome to register, and they will receive \$10 off if they register by Jan. 31 with the coupon code "JANUARY." For more information or to register visit [fwsbym.com/youthconference](http://fwsbym.com/youthconference). Registration closes Feb. 14.**

## Young adult retreat to examine understanding of the Holy Spirit

BY LISA KOCHANOWSKI

Young adults in their 20s and 30s who are looking for a way to increase the role of the Holy Spirit in their lives in 2020 won't want to miss a weekend of talks, inspiring music, Mass, adoration, confession and social time at the annual diocesan Young Adult Retreat. Under the theme of "Anointed," the gathering will take place Jan. 18 and 19 at Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center in Donaldson.

After a brainstorming session by the planning team, the theme comes from discussions of the Saturday and Sunday Mass readings for the weekend of the meeting.

"The Saturday first reading was about Samuel anointing a young Saul to be king. The Sunday Gospel reading was about the Holy Spirit coming down on Jesus at His baptism and included John the Baptist saying "the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain, he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit,'" noted orga-

nizer Sean Allen, director of young adult and campus ministry. "Saul and Jesus were each young adults at that point in their lives. We combined these for the theme of 'anointing' to dig into understanding better the Holy Spirit and the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives as ones who were anointed at our baptism and confirmation."

Along with the goals of better understanding the Holy Spirit and its role in Christians' lives, Allen hopes participants also better understand their identity as anointed by God the Father with the Holy Spirit, as well as the purpose in life for which they were anointed to serve and how to live more fully through the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit.

The young adults will hear about topics presented by Father Benjamin Muhlenkamp; Sister Maria Gemma, OSF; Deacon Frederick Everett; Father Andrew Curry; and Benedict and Eryn Shoup. Other opportunities during the two-day event include Mass, reconciliation and adoration with area priests.

During their free time, retreat-goers will have optional activities available. One unique and



**Saturday, Jan. 18, 9 a.m. through Sunday, Jan. 19, 1 p.m.**

**Location:** Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center, Donaldson

**Suggested donation:** \$75 (flexible)

**Registration:** Required online at [www.diocesefwsb.org/yam-retreats](http://www.diocesefwsb.org/yam-retreats)

popular activity at past retreats will be available again: SoulCore. SoulCore is an opportunity that pairs physical core strengthening, stretching and functional movement with the prayers of

the rosary. Participants will experience the combination of candlelight, music, Scripture and movement to discover the beauty of the rosary.

For more information contact

Allen at [sallen@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:sallen@diocesefwsb.org) or 858-354-9006 or Crystal Serrano-Puebla, associate director of young adult and campus ministry, at [cserrano@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:cserrano@diocesefwsb.org) or 224-650-0578.



# Knights of Columbus confers father and son to fourth degree

BY ANNIE OBERGEFELL

This fall, Fort Wayne residents Gary Schleinkofer and his son, Alec, became fourth degree Knights of Columbus. Fourth degree is the highest achievable rank in the Knights.

With nearly 2 million members around the globe, the Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic fraternal organization, focusing its time and resources on initiatives that align with its four founding principles, or 'degrees' — charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. Upon becoming a fourth degree Knight, members receive the 'Sir Knight' title and are eligible to wear the fourth order regalia while participating in patriotic and charitable duties.

Gary, a tax consultant born and raised in Fort Wayne, joined Knights of Columbus Council 451 at St. Charles Borromeo Parish at the invitation of a friend. He had been looking for the right volunteer opportunity where he could deepen his faith and give back to

the community. In 2017 he was initiated as a first degree Knight, followed by the second degree. After becoming a member of the second order, Gary, along with his wife, Lisa, decided the Knights of Columbus could be something special to share with their autistic son, Alec.

Alec was 20 years old when he joined K of C in early 2018. After moving through the first and second degrees, he and his father advanced through the third and fourth degrees together.

As one of the youngest fourth degree Knights in the council, Alec hopes to encourage more young men to get involved in the organization.

"I've made friends I wouldn't have met before," Alec said. "It's a way for me to get closer to my Church and Jesus. Before we start every meeting, we say the rosary. At the end, we pray for anyone who is sick or needs it."

Council 451 hosts one of the largest Red Cross blood drives in Allen County each year. Member Knights also volunteer with Habitat for Humanity, host fish

fries and pancake breakfasts at St. Charles and raise money for Gibault Children's Services, a resource center for troubled youth in Terre Haute. They also contribute funds to purchase ultrasound machines for pro-life clinics, and Alec carried the Knights of Columbus flag in a March for Life rally in downtown Fort Wayne in 2019.

"I think there's a misconception," Gary said. "When I ask people to join, they say they don't have the time. The beautiful thing is, it's what you make it. You don't have to volunteer for everything. There's no requirement. Sign up for the things you can and give it the attention and time you have capacity for."

Gary and Alec are grateful to be serving their community and building the domestic Church together.

"The father-son dynamic has been great," Gary said. "It's really special. To see how everyone at K of C has accepted him, accepted me — It's a wonderful experience."



Provided by Gary Schleinkofer

Fort Wayne residents Gary Schleinkofer and his son, Alec, became fourth degree Knights of Columbus a few months ago. Alec, who is autistic, said he has found friendship and faith through the activities of Council 451 at St. Charles Borromeo Parish.



Alec stands next to a statue of Knights of Columbus founder Father Michael J. McGivney after being conferred his fourth degree.

Allen County Right to Life  
**March for Life 2020**  
 January 18<sup>th</sup> Noon Rally, 1pm March  
 University of St Francis Perf. Arts Center

[www.ichooselife.org](http://www.ichooselife.org) 260.471.1849

# Faith and Science: a divine Catholic education

BY JENNIFER MILLER

Catholic education forms the whole person, mind, body and soul. It teaches children and young people how to live well for today, as well as how to strive to live with God forever in eternal life.

Like his fellow Catholic school educators, Chris Culver desires to do this well. Culver developed the "Faith and Science" course at Saint Joseph High School, South Bend, as an elective for seniors: In the class, where modern society creates a false dichotomy between the faith and science, students are offered primary text readings from all sides of the debate to study how the Catholic Church integrates the two.

The course objectives state: "Both students and teacher will work hard to advance the student's ability to think theologically and scientifically to explain the world and God's interaction with creation and with us." Studying the relationship between natural science and supernatural faith, students investigate how one "knows truth." Using Sacred Scripture, St. Pope John Paul II's "Fides et Ratio," historical examples such as Galileo and Hobbes and talks by modern atheists like Richard Dawkins, students learn the tools to navigate the waters of heresy and truth.

The second half of the course focuses on faith as a reasonable commitment; that is, the "fundamental freedom to say Yes or No to God's invitation for faith will be affirmed; realizing that science can neither prove or disprove God's existence." Faith is a rational personal choice, students learn, and various areas of science, from physics to biology, involving evolution and quantum randomness are explored to demonstrate their compatibility with the Catholic faith. The class then discovers how the interplay of faith and science can lead to a greater and deeper understanding of the beautiful way in which God created and interacts in the universe, Culver shared.

A St. Joseph, South Bend, parishioner, Culver created the course five years ago, after attending a seminar from the



Photos by Jennifer Miller

**Chris Culver, a physics teacher at Saint Joseph High School, South Bend, designed the elective course "Faith and Science" for seniors. The elective is designed to bring them to an understanding of how to explain the physical world and God's interaction with creation.**

Templeton Foundation and the McGrath Institute for Church Life on a similar topic. Culver's professional and personal background was a perfect fit to teach the bi-disciplinary program. Earning a theological master's in divinity from the University of Notre Dame and an equivalent master's in nuclear engineering from the U.S. Navy, Culver used his talents to serve Saint Joseph High School by teaching primarily physics. But his passion and expertise in developing, curating and tweaking the Faith and Science course over the last five years is evident.

The students meet every other day for an hour and a half, for one semester. There are no prerequisites for the class. Culver splits the teaching load for the class with Andy Oross, theology department chairman, and emphasizes to students, "You

actually will have to read and write" in the course. They could add "think and discuss," as topics of "how might those implications be played out" are shared and dissected.

A final project with both a written and creative component is required.

Students' testimony to the fruitfulness of the class abounds. Recent graduate Lauren Rymssa presented her final project in song and guitar to the Abbey Youth Conference in Covington, Louisiana, as well as at the McGrath Institute for Church Life Theology Conference at Notre Dame last year. Current senior John Baglow remarked, "Initially, I thought it would be the traditional, re-read-Genesis-and-discuss type of deal. I'm glad I was wrong. Mr. Culver did much more than that. As a class, we read about the much-



**A final project from the course "Faith and Science" at Saint Joseph High School, South Bend, is shown. The elective for seniors is designed to bring them to an understanding of how to explain the physical world and God's interaction with creation.**

deeper meaning of Genesis from its writers during the Babylonian Exile, to how it reflects modern-day creationism. He also taught us about how evolution, which is widely thought of to be contradictory to God's existence and creation of the world but is actually highly plausible and does not go against Catholic doctrine whatsoever.

"If I had anything to say to Catholic educators in high school about the experience Mr. Chris Culver gave me and my class, it would be this: Make more use of meditative prayer. While general prayers like the Our Father and Hail Mary give the groundwork for our faith, Mr. Culver's use of meditative prayer in a class, discussing very vast subjects, gave us more appreciation of our faith in relation to science. This is because there is no other means by which we can fully understand science then by looking at it through the eyes of faith. That's what we need today."

The issue of faith versus science is not a new conflict, rather, Culver explains, but another form of a twist of the truth, which can be seen throughout human history.

"As humans, we are designed to resonate with the truth, that when we hear truth, it just speaks to us. First principals, we call in them in the course. They just are affirmed to be true. Let that (truth) deepen the relationship with God ... We need to be stewards of creation, not casual or arrogant owners of creation. The entire essence of creation is basically a playground for us to

have a relationship with God. That is why it was created, we needed someplace to be! God is extravagant and He could have made a simple playpen, but this is God's "simplicity" — all of the universe. His love is extravagant, so you would think His physical gifts are just as extravagant as His spiritual gifts," Culver explained. "That's very different that American, Protestant political thought, which stems from Hobbs that life is nasty, brutish and short ... we contrast this. The Catholic viewpoint takes you out of that and actually makes sense of what you experience, in a way that modern, American life can't."

God created a simple and complex world, all at the same time, which involves for the interaction of the purely physical and purely spiritual to affect each other in ways man does not understand, Culver said. "People always want to know exactly how that happened, but that hasn't been revealed at the deepest levels. We still don't see the bottom of quantum mechanics! But in revelation there are some things you have to let go as a mind game and trust it as a relationship. What the science and the theology point to is the most likely integration between body and spirit. But all the explanations fall short; they can't explain the whole picture. They ignore the wrong things. If you focus on the totality of our human experience, it makes the most sense."



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# Australian Catholics seek prayers as fires continue in four states

BY DAVID RYAN  
AND JORDAN GRANTHAM

As some of the worst wild-fires in Australian history rage across four states, thousands of people in affected areas in New South Wales and Victoria continue to be evacuated to safety.

Soaring temperatures, often higher than 100 degrees Fahrenheit, and a protracted drought have contributed to an unprecedented national emergency which, by Christmas, had already seen more than 14.5 million acres of forest and rural land burned.

Amid conditions regularly described as catastrophic, fires have continued to rage in hundreds of locations in Western Australia, New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria states for months.

Marie Burton, a parishioner of Our Lady of Sorrows Church, in the New South Wales Diocese of Wagga, lives on a farm in Jingellic, near the border with Victoria border. In late December and early January, Jingellic was surrounded by fire twice.

"We know so many Catholic people who are being affected. There's a lot of suffering going on, and we're continuing to pray," Burton said in tears.

"Twice our home was saved. On Monday evening — and again on Tuesday.

"The fire came up over the hill but there was no stopping it. My husband was getting things out of the house, but he was told to just get out of there.

"We didn't know for 24 hours (what happened) but luckily, it was saved."

Burton has taken shelter with her sister's family, the Darlows, including nephew Matthew Darlow, a member of the local brigade of the Rural Fire Service. The Darlows live at Lankeys Creek, approximately 12 miles north of Jingellic. While staying with her relatives, Burton has been cooking at a shelter to feed firefighters.

"We just need to band together, get the fires out and support those who have lost their homes and livelihoods," said Darlow.

"We're waiting on a change in wind that could affect things, and an increase in temperature, tonight or tomorrow," said Darlow, who asked Catholics around the world to pray.

"Offer up prayers for the people who've lost their lives and those who've lost their livelihoods so that they can rebuild as quickly as possible," he said. "And



CNS photo/Bianca De Marchi, AAP via Reuters

**Residents watch a water bomber helicopter as a fire burns near Sydney Jan. 5. Soaring temperatures, often higher than 100 degrees Fahrenheit, and a protracted drought have contributed to an unprecedented national emergency which, by Christmas, had already seen more than 14.5 million acres of forest and rural land burned.**

pray particularly for widespread rain across the whole country."

Bishop Shane Mackinlay of Diocese of Sandhurst expressed concern about "the impact that fires have already had on communities and by the anxiety that the threat of fire is causing."

In a statement Jan. 3, he urged "political and community leaders to continue efforts to identify and respond to the underlying causes that have contributed to the

heightened risks we are facing this summer, (and) we pray for those who lost their lives, and for the safe recovery of people who are missing."

The fires have been burning since August and have destroyed

an area comparable to the combined region of the Netherlands and Belgium.

By Jan. 3, thousands of people were given less than 48 hours to evacuate fire-ravaged coastal communities in New South Wales. With the heat forecast for 111 degrees Fahrenheit Jan. 4, the fires were expected to worsen.

More than 2,500 buildings have been razed and at least 20 people -- 16 from New South Wales, two from Victoria and two from South Australia -- have died. Officials fear the toll could rise steeply, with Victorian emergency services saying 28 people are missing in the state.

Smoke clouds, which can be seen from space, have reached New Zealand, nearly 2,500 miles away across the Tasman Sea.

The Gippsland region in Victoria's east has seen convoys of people escorted by police and emergency services personnel evacuating from towns such as

Corryong and Walwa in Victoria's Alpine country.

Catholics such as the Burtons and Darlows say their faith is strong.

"We have a very deep faith," said Burton. "I put a scapular on the door and sprinkled the house with holy water, and we have statues in our home, including the Infant of Prague, and so I prayed — we prayed very hard, and asked other people to pray.

"All of these people are amazing people, with an amazing Catholic faith, and we know God will protect them," she said. "Every time we hear good news, we're overjoyed that these people haven't lost their homes. There is just miracle after miracle happening."

In his statement, Bishop Mackinlay applauded the heroism of firefighters -- mainly volunteers -- risking their lives for their country and community

In Jingellic, a young volunteer firefighter, Sam McPaul, died Dec. 30 after a freak tornado caused by the fires flipped his 11-ton truck. His wife Megan, whom he married in May, is expecting their first child.

Similar stories can be heard across the country. In Sydney, the Mass for Sydney firefighter Andrew O'Dwyer was due to be held in the Horsley Park Parish Jan. 7.

O'Dwyer, 36, and fellow firefighter Geoffrey Keaton, 32, were killed Dec. 19 when a fallen tree caused their tanker to roll as they fought fires south of Sydney.

The Order of Malta Australia announced Jan. 3 it would use money from its Natural Disaster Fund to provide emergency relief to those directly impacted.

"We are exploring opportunities with our regional Hospitaliers to provide some direct assistance, with our top priority currently to provide support to the thousands who have lost homes or are stranded," said a statement from the order.



## MASSES INTERPRETED FOR THE DEAF

South Bend | St. Matthew Cathedral  
11:00 a.m. | 2nd & 4th Sundays of the Month

Fort Wayne | Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception  
11:30 a.m. | 2nd Sunday of the Month



MORE INFORMATION:  
[diocesefwsb.org/Deaf-Ministry](http://diocesefwsb.org/Deaf-Ministry)

## Catholic judges under the microscope

Catholics wanting to serve our country in the legal system are coming under intense scrutiny.

In 2017, University of Notre Dame law professor Amy Coney Barrett was grilled by members of the Senate Judiciary Committee about her Catholic faith. Sen. Dianne Feinstein told Barrett that “the dogma lives loudly within you, and that’s a concern.”

This sparked a public backlash, and a cottage industry in selling “The Dogma Lives Loudly Within Me” T-shirts to proud Catholics. Barrett was confirmed as a federal judge, supported by 52 Republicans and three Democrats.

Then in 2018, Sen. Kamala Harris and Sen. Mazie Hirono objected to confirming Brian Buescher as a federal district judge because he belongs to the Knights of Columbus, the world’s largest Catholic fraternal service organization.

Their problem: The Knights defend Catholic teaching on abortion and marriage. Sen. Hirono asked Buescher if he would leave the Knights if confirmed, “to avoid any appearance of bias.” Buescher was confirmed, with every Democrat present voting no.

And in recent weeks there was an unsuccessful effort to block confirmation of Sarah Pitlyk as a federal judge. She was opposed by all Democrats and one Republican, Sen. Susan Collins.

Some said she lacked trial and litigation experience. But Sen. Tammy Duckworth launched

a different attack: Pitlyk had expressed “extreme” views against in vitro fertilization and “surrogate motherhood,” views consistent with Catholic teaching.

Sen. Duckworth said she was offended by Pitlyk’s stand because her own children were conceived by in vitro fertilization. She harshly attacked the attorney for what she called a “cavalier willingness to substitute her own ideological opinions in place of facts.” But Sen. Duckworth herself ignored some facts.

Pitlyk’s chief offense was that when she worked for the Thomas More Society, a nonprofit public interest law firm, she submitted a brief to the Supreme Court on behalf of Catholic and secular organizations with expertise in medicine and medical ethics. (Full disclosure: I am affiliated with two of those organizations, the National Catholic Bioethics Center and Charlotte Lozier Institute.)

The brief urged the Supreme Court to hear the case of “M.C. v. C.M.” A woman, Melissa Cook, had agreed to be a “surrogate mother,” gestating a child conceived by in vitro fertilization using the sperm of Chester Moore Jr. and eggs donated by a young woman. When Cook became pregnant with triplets, Moore demanded under the surrogacy contract that she abort one child.

Cook refused on moral grounds, and later filed suit to ensure that Moore would be assessed for fitness as a father and would not get custody of



### A MORE HUMAN SOCIETY

RICHARD DOERFLINGER

the “extra” child he had wanted killed.

Pitlyk’s brief cited numerous medical journal articles and other secular sources to argue that a law demanding enforcement of such contracts against a birth mother was harmful to the health and well-being of women and children.

According to Sen. Duckworth, Pitlyk’s brief “cruelly implied” that children conceived by in vitro fertilization are “inferior.” She had said exactly the opposite, that these children have the same rights as other children and should have those rights respected.

Is Pitlyk’s view extreme? Surrogacy contracts have been criticized by secular feminists, who understand that a coerced abortion is not “pro-choice” and that commercial exploitation of women’s bodies demeans their dignity. In vitro fertilization, which treats human procreation as a manufacturing process, has long been criticized by Leon Kass and other non-Catholic ethicists.

But the brief was written by a Catholic and was consistent with Catholic teaching, so Pitlyk

DOERFLINGER, page 13

## Theotokos

“Theotokos:” A word that to the average American ear might sound like an appetizer on a Greek menu, is actually older than spanakopita itself. This word is an ancient Greek title for Mary, still preferred by the Byzantine and Orthodox traditions.

Translated literally as “God-bearer” or “Birth-giver to God,” Theotokos highlights Mary’s primary role to Jesus, who is the Son of God, fully divine and fully human. St. Cyril, Bishop of Alexandria, suggested it at the ecumenical Council of Ephesus in A.D. 431 to underscore what was believed since apostolic days in the early Church.

Mary’s motherhood is divine and virginal, yet is the basic, same vocation of all women. Called in the Gospels “the mother of Jesus,” Mary is acclaimed by Elizabeth, at the prompting of the Spirit and even before the birth of her Son, as “the mother of my Lord,” the Catechism of the Catholic Church states. “In fact, the One whom she conceived as man by the Holy Spirit, who truly became her Son according to the flesh, was none other than the Father’s eternal Son, the second person of the Holy Trinity. Hence the Church confesses that Mary is truly, “Mother of God” (Theotokos).

All women are called to motherhood, but how God asks each to that vocation is unique, just like the woman herself. It is this self-sacrificing love of motherhood, often dismissed or misunderstood by modern American society, which is elevated by the Church through Mary, Theotokos. One



### LIVING THE LITURGICAL LIFE

JENNIFER MILLER

cannot underestimate the value of mothering love in their life.

This mystery of Theotokos highlights Mary’s physical body, her womb, as sacred. Affirming what the Genesis creation accounts explain of human beings, her human being, her very flesh, muscle and fat, was good. Obedient to God’s will and blessed as a result, she flourishes in this motherhood, growing into the very vocation given by the Holy Spirit. The angel Gabriel announced the good news, but it took every fiber of Mary’s being, mind, body and soul, to be open and respond, “Yes,” thus allowing God’s Son to dwell in her for nine months.

With the numbing objectification of women’s bodies, splashed across billboards, flashed across internet ads and sold on magazines at grocery stores, what a contrast Theotokos offers. Her goodness and beauty came from God’s life within her — the same that is possible for every baptized person. To allow one’s body to be open to life, however God wills and grows it, is a great act of love. To receive and nurture God’s life within oneself is the gift of every Christian. The good-

MILLER, page 13

## We need Jesus, Son of the Father, to reconcile us with God



### THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

### Feast of the Baptism of the Lord Matthew 3:13-17

As winter begins each year, the Church presents three great feasts to celebrate our salvation in Jesus and also to teach us the meaning of salvation in Jesus. Christmas was the first of these feasts. Then came the Epiphany of the Lord. This weekend is the third, the feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

Each of these feasts, through the Liturgy of the Word, introduces us to a vital dimension in the identity of Jesus and to important considerations for Christians as they seek to follow the Lord.

Supplying the first reading for this weekend is the Book of Isaiah. Isaiah writes about a loyal servant of God, a servant who is steadfast in his faithfulness despite enduring the hostilities of others around him and the unhappy twists of his fortune. This servant is therefore the most perfect servant. Regardless of the injustices surrounding him, and the temptation to forsake God, the servant never falters.

This reading is among four quite similar passages in Isaiah, called the “Songs of the Suffering Servant.” They form a major part not only of Scripture, but also of the liturgy as they are used during Holy Week when the faithful concentrate of the sacrifice of Jesus on Calvary.

The second reading, from the Acts of the Apostles, reveals what life was in the first generation of Christianity. It verifies that the structure of the Church at that time was essentially as it is today.

Peter is central. He appears before Cornelius, whose name

indicates Roman origins. Peter preaches in the very name of Christ, discharging his responsibility as an Apostle, a responsibility given him by the Lord.

The reading is revealing because it shows that Peter announced salvation not just to Jews, whose heritage Peter shared, but also to pagans, indeed even to the brutal Romans whose military conquest and occupation of the Holy Land had resulted in so much misery, death and despair among Jews.

Peter’s preaching leads to one conclusion: Salvation is in Jesus alone. Jesus came as God’s representative. In God’s love, Jesus went about “doing good works” and healing the sick.

St. Matthew’s Gospel offers the last reading, revealing not only the event of the story of the Lord’s baptism in the River Jordan by John the Baptist, but the import of the event for us and for all believers.

Ritual washings, or baptisms, were popular in certain Jewish circles in the first century A.D. So, homes had ceremonial

bathtubs. Archeologists who excavated the ruins of Masada, the great Jewish fortress high on a mountaintop overlooking the Dead Sea, discovered such baths there.

Being baptized, or bathing in these special pools, symbolized the yearning of a person to be rid of sin. It was as if sin stained not just the soul but also the body.

John the Baptist salutes Jesus as God’s anointed. Then, miraculously, God appears and identifies Jesus as the Son of God. God could be seen and heard. To clarify the message even more, God speaks and gestures in ancient Old Testament words and symbols that no Jew would have misunderstood.

### Reflection

This feast of the Baptism of the Lord reveals the Lord’s identity to us. He is the Son of God, with all the force and mystery contained in this reality.

He is the Savior, rescuing us from eternal death by assuming

our sins and by making amends to God for our sinfulness. He is the mediator, uniting us with God.

The Church makes the words of Peter to Cornelius its own, calling us to the Lord as our Savior.

We are sinners, the Church bluntly — but honestly — tells us. We need Jesus to reconcile us with God. He is our hope and our life.

### READINGS

**Sunday:** Is 42:1-4, 6-7 Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 Acts 10:34-38 Mt 3:13-17

**Monday:** 1 Sm 1:1-8 Ps 116:12-19 Mk 1:14-20

**Tuesday:** 1 Sm 1:9-20 (Ps) 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8 Mk 1:21-28

**Wednesday:** 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20 Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10 Mk 1:29-39

**Thursday:** 1 Sm 4:1-11 Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 25-25 Mk 1:40-45

**Friday:** 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a JPs 89:16-19 Mk 2:1-12

**Saturday:** 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a Ps 21:2-7 Mk 2:13-17

# The foxes and the henhouse

Probably the biggest bioethics story of 2019 involved Dr. Jankui He — known to his associates as “JK” — a Chinese scientist who employed a new technology called CRISPR/Cas9 to produce the world’s first gene-edited babies. JK made genetic changes to two little girls, Lulu and Nana, when they were early stage embryos, attempting to modify a receptor for HIV to confer resistance to a possible future infection from the virus. He publicly announced the birth of the girls at an international scientific conference near the end of 2018, and as the news rapidly spread, many scientists and commentators expressed shock and dismay over his “designer baby” experiments.

Chinese provincial authorities quickly became aware of his activities as well, and he was placed under house arrest upon his return from the conference. In the closing days of 2019, a secret trial was held, and he was sentenced to three years in prison for producing the CRISPR babies. The trial proceedings concluded that JK had “rashly applied gene editing technology to human assisted reproductive medicine.”

The verdict reached by the Chinese court raises complex questions that must be confronted: What does it mean to “rashly apply” a new technology like human gene editing? Who should determine if a particular use is “rash” or “reasonable”?

Dr. Rita Vassena, a member of the Executive Committee of the European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology, framed the ethical concerns around JK’s case this way: “As the current scientific consensus indicates, the use of CRISPR/Cas9 in human embryos destined to give rise to a pregnancy is, at this stage, unjustified.”

She couches her ethical analysis, as many scientists do, in terms of the “current scientific consensus.” But such “consensus” is an extremely malleable concept. It also conveniently implies that scientists themselves can set up their own ethi-

cal rules and provide regulatory oversight for scientific research, so that they, in effect, become the foxes guarding the henhouse. The saga that has unfolded during the last year surrounding the gene-editing experiments of JK has demonstrated, if nothing else, how self-serving and ineffective a community of scientists can be as they try to exercise the role of lawyer, judge and jury of their own ethical standards.

Even though we should be justifiably alarmed at Chinese courts meting out jail time in secret to scientific researchers, the fact remains that it was a government-controlled court that finally put some teeth into ethical regulations. In the West, to have governments, courts or major institutions take any action whatsoever in a case like JK’s seems at present inconceivable. Instead, in American and European universities and industrial settings, we often encounter feeble, meandering discussions about research ethics, along with a proliferation of rubber-stamping “ethics review panels.” These often consist of hand-picked members devoid of strong ethical or religious training and viewpoints. Such panels give increasingly systematic cover for an ever-expanding range of unethical research practices.

Whether it’s giving a green light to use stem cells derived from human embryos or tissues from intentionally aborted fetuses for research, or to employ cloning technology to produce new human life, or to manufacture three parent embryos, many biomedical researchers have come to rely so much on ethical rubber stamps that they just venture ahead, confident that they won’t be “fenced in” by ethical considerations.

JK’s gene-editing experiments and China’s strong reaction have at least managed to bring the ethical concerns momentarily back into the spotlight. “I think a jail sentence is the proper punishment for him,” said Wang Yuedan, a professor of immunology at Peking University, in comments he shared with the



FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

New York Times. “It makes clear our stance on the gene editing of humans — that we are opposed to it... signaling that there is a bottom line that cannot be broken.”

Yet this is precisely the difficulty in biomedicine today: namely, that there are few, if any, “bottom lines” when it comes to research ethics. The lines have become exceedingly flexible, if the price is right or if a particular political administration is amenable to redrawing them.

While there isn’t any perfect solution to ensure scientists never engage in unethical research — and the involvement of communist secret courts is certainly far from ideal — we clearly need to promote, fund and regulate modern biomedical research in a way that prioritizes ethics over expediency.

This means establishing significant sanctions and funding restrictions when ethical violations by researchers occur. It also means including alternative viewpoints on ethics review panels, especially those informed by longstanding religious and philosophical traditions, like that of the Catholic Church, which offer the important perspective that certain ethical lines are not able to be moved or redrawn. This kind of input can contribute much to the kinds of discussions that need to occur, and can afford an important counterbalance to any foxes who desire to keep guard over the ethical henhouse.

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

## MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

### DOERFLINGER, from page 12

was attacked for holding extreme “personal beliefs.”

Some senators, especially Democrats, should recall that under our Constitution “no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States.”

Richard Doerflinger worked for 36 years in the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. He writes from Washington state.

## MARGUERITE BOURGEOYS

1620 - 1700 FEAST JANUARY 12



Growing up in Troyes, France, Marguerite formed a special relationship with Our Lady. She was turned away by two religious communities, but met the founder of Montreal, Canada, when he returned to France to visit his sister. He invited Marguerite to open a school in the New World; she went, despite misgivings, after praying to Mary. From that first school

in an abandoned stable, her ministry grew to include teaching women crafts and founding the Sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame. She managed to keep her sisters unclioistered, despite opposition from the bishop, and served as superior for many years. When Pope John Paul II canonized her in 1982, she became Canada’s first woman saint.

## SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for January 12, 2020

Matthew 3:13-17

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Baptism of the Lord, Cycle A: When the Spirit anointed Jesus. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

MATTHEW	BAPTIST	THE LORD
JESUS	CAME FROM	GALILEE
JOHN	AT THE JORDAN	BAPTIZED
PREVENT	I NEED	WATER
THE HEAVENS	OPENED	SPIRIT
GOD	DESCENDING	A DOVE
VOICE	THIS IS	PLEASED

### A DOVE DESCENDING

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

### MILLER, from page 12

ness of Mary’s womb is not hers alone, but rather every person’s, redeemed preciously by the child who was in it.

As many mothers will share, pregnancy is not for the faint of heart. Continual nausea, aching muscles and joints, shifting hormones and headaches are but a few of the physical pains offered for the good of the growing baby in utero. Theotokos, too, had to stretch and grow, literally making room for the Son of God within her. The birthing process itself is a human and divine experience; a true, common miracle that repeats every day around the world.

Emotional, spiritual, physiological weights add to a mother’s load, long past the stretch marks she may earn. Theotokos, Mother Mary, knows all this. She raised her Son, lost Him in a big city, and even followed Him faithfully and quietly through His Passion. Her many titles, such as Our Lady of Sorrows, Untier of Knots or Our Lady of Perpetual Help attest to the reality, which she lived and under which she now intercedes, because her motherhood extends to her adopted sons and daughters of this day. Her words to St. Juan Diego on Tepeyac Hill were: “Am I not here, I who am your Mother? Are you not under my shadow and protection? Am I not the source of your joy? Are you not in the hollow of my mantle, in the crossing of my arms? Do you need anything more? Let

nothing else worry you, disturb you.” They echo the same motherly care as to the servants at the wedding feast of Cana, “Do whatever he tells you.”

Consistently through the ages, Christ is at the center of Mary, as He was first in her blessed uterus. Her physical birth of Baby Jesus brought an even deeper indwelling of new life of the Holy Spirit within her. Mother of the Church, now Queen of heaven and earth, Mary still remains, first, the God-bearer.

Theotokos was given a unique role in history. To place her at the start of the Julian calendar on Jan. 1 was to emphasize this gift. Celebrated during the liturgical season of Christmas, the time of the Incarnation, the feast of Theotokos, renamed during Vatican II as the “Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God,” is to deepen the transformative Christmas gift of God becoming human. On the very first day of the new year, all the hopes and fears, are under her mantle. A woman alone is elevated in the Church to this position, a woman to whom the vicars of Christ, the popes, have credited with saving their lives. Who better to entrust our day, our year, our body and life to, then she who God trusted to receive and nurture His own son?

How are we open to receiving God’s will? May we all nestle and grow in the blessed womb of Theotokos to bear the fruit God distinctly desires to grow within us this year.

# Painting images of Mary begins spiritual journey for artist

BY JENNIFER BARTON

A series of paintings of Mary began with a mother's desperate, exhausted plea in the middle of a sleepless night.

"Please help me sleep, and I'll devote my life to Jesus," Elly Tullis spoke into the darkness. Wondering if she would later regret the promise, Tullis dismissed the concern. In the space of less than a year, though, Tullis has turned her life toward Jesus and is now eagerly seeking to join the Catholic Church.

Her conversion came about in large part through paintings she created of Mary. Tullis has painted 31 images of Mary, which currently make up the exhibition "Theotokos: Contemporary Visions of Mary" at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art.

Tullis was not raised Catholic. She didn't consider herself part of any religious denomination, though she attended a Catholic grade school and high school. "I didn't have the nicest things to say about the Catholic Church after graduation. I always kept God at a distance," she said.

Even with that distance, Tullis retained a connection to Mary. She remembered the prayers she had learned at school and prayed every night. So when she struggled with sleeplessness after the birth of her second child, Tullis prayed the Hail Mary.

Her newborn daughter would sleep for a brief 15 minutes, then wake again. "It was not just sleep deprivation; it was torture. And I felt like my prayers were not being answered." It was at that moment that her sleep-deprived mind made the bargain.

Shortly after, on New Year's Day, Tullis felt a frantic need to paint. She had saved an image of Mary on her phone, and that became the inspiration for her first work, "Full of Grace."

She had painted several images of Mary when she was approached by Charles Shepard, CEO of the Fort Wayne Museum of Art, about an exhibit. Shepard had stopped for lunch at Lindi's Deli, owned by Tullis's mother, Lindi Miller. Miller showed him photos of Tullis's Marian images, and he bought two pieces for the museum. After that chance encounter, Shepard and his wife, Amanda, vice president and chief operating officer of the museum, met with Tullis to encourage her to continue painting and to discuss a possible exhibit.

Amanda became instrumental in Tullis's conversion, offering loving guidance. Throughout the planning of the exhibit, Tullis and Shepard sent a series of question-and-answer emails. "I have prayed a lot for opportunities to evangelize," Amanda said. "In Elly's case, it was just a matter of responding to her ... I could tell she was curious and not trying to block me out."



Photos by Jennifer Barton

Artist Elly Tullis and Fort Wayne Museum of Art Chief Operating Officer Amanda Shepard will give an in-depth curator's tour of "Theotokos" Feb. 6 at 12:15 p.m. The exhibit will run through March 8.

The two connected over their vocation as mothers and began to discuss everything about Mary, as well as Catholic theology in general. Shepard sent Tullis a link to a "Word on Fire" podcast, which helped open up Church teaching for Tullis.

Tullis began reading and listening to more and more Catholic material, even singing hymns at home. Her husband, Mike, a Catholic, jokingly told her, "For someone who's not very religious, you're acting very religious."

The paintings Tullis first created were patterned after the works of various medieval and Renaissance masters. For her interpretation of these works, Tullis adjusted the angles of the paintings so that only Mary was visible; or she blurred the Christ Child to focus solely on Mary. "I was on a mission to find out what (Mary) really looked like, since history hadn't recorded her unique features or her essence as a human being." The more she painted, the more Tullis wondered about Mary.

At one point she ordered a rosary from eBay, wanting a blue one for both personal use and also as a prop in her paintings. When it arrived, it contained water from the spring in Lourdes, France. The apparitions at Lourdes were one of her main inspirations. She had also incorporated a water motif into one of her paintings.

In another, she realized she had made Mary's eyes "deformed;" when she went to fix them, she remembered how she had discovered during art school that her own eyes were asymmetrical. To Tullis, it was a "message from God that God loved me in my imperfect state." She left the eyes the way they were.

Conversion was not an easy process for Tullis. She had felt like an outsider as a non-Catholic in Catholic schools and had all but turned her back on the faith. So when Mary began to draw Tullis toward her divine Son, at first Tullis balked.

"I was afraid. That's too heavy, I can't 'do' Jesus," she thought. But she kept praying, even though prayer wasn't easy either.

Amanda noted that Tullis began her first painting on Jan. 1, 2019, the feast of the Solemnity of Mary, and attends a parish named for Our Lady. Even Tullis's sponsor for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults turned out to be a Catholic high school classmate, who now has become a good friend.

The paintings Tullis connects with the most with are some of her abstract works. In those, Mary has no distinct facial features.

"She's still a mystery. When I would start an image in my head of what she would look like, it was gone." Tullis also continues

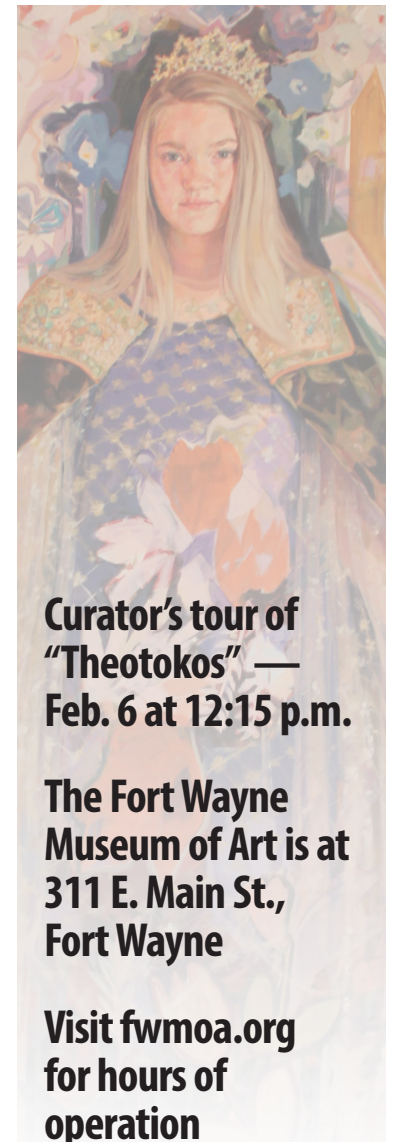


Standing before her favorite pieces of the exhibit, Tullis holds the inspiration for her Theotokos paintings, her daughter Vada. Husband Mike holds their oldest son, Everett. Both children will be baptized in January at Immaculate Conception in Auburn and Tullis will enter full communion with the Church at the Easter Vigil in 2021.

creating sacred artwork and searching for the face of Mary.

At one point in the painting process, because she was still resisting the Lord's call, Tullis had hoped that she could paint Mary without allowing herself to dig deeper into the faith. She admits that Mary took hold of her and led her straight to Jesus. "For me, I felt like Mary was for everyone. She was my connection and painting her was easy."

Once she finally let Jesus into her life, Tullis said she "felt an



Curator's tour of "Theotokos" — Feb. 6 at 12:15 p.m.

The Fort Wayne Museum of Art is at 311 E. Main St., Fort Wayne

Visit [fwmoa.org](http://fwmoa.org) for hours of operation

immense burning love radiating from so deep within me ... The closest feeling I can relate this love to is gratitude." From then on, Tullis has been ardently awaiting the day she can finally join the Church she had once dismissed. In January, her children Everett and Vada will be baptized in the faith. At the Easter Vigil Mass of 2021, Tullis herself will joyfully enter the Church.

She yearns for full communion, feeling that "it can't come soon enough."

# 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. Joseph County RTL march and rally**  
**SOUTH BEND** — St. Joseph County Right to Life will have a march and rally for life on Friday, Jan. 24, at 11:30 a.m. at the hall at 553 E. Washington St., followed by a march to the courthouse. The Knights of Columbus Council No. 553 will host a spaghetti dinner to support these efforts from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tickets for the dinner can be purchased at [prolifemichiana.org/march](http://prolifemichiana.org/march).

**Northeast Indiana March for Life**  
**FORT WAYNE** — Join other pro-life advocates to march through downtown Fort Wayne on Saturday, Jan. 18. The March for Life is an annual pro-life rally held near the anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion. This year's keynote speaker is Congressman Phil Roe, Tennessee Dist. 1, retired OB-GYN and advocate for life. The rally will begin at noon at the University of Saint Francis Performing Arts Center, 431 W Berry St., followed by the March at 1 p.m. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. with informational tables on the lobby. For information visit [www.ichooselife.org/marchnortheastin](http://www.ichooselife.org/marchnortheastin). Contact Abigail Lorenzen 260-471-1849 or [abigail@ichooselife.org](mailto:abigail@ichooselife.org).

**Celebrate! Roaring 20s dinner and auction**  
**FORT WAYNE** — St. Vincent de Paul School will host the Celebrate! event Saturday, Jan. 25, at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum Arena, Expo Center and Conference Center, 4000 Parnell Ave. Live music by the Alicia Pyle Quartet, games, prizes and auction items. Tickets are \$50 per person and includes dinner, drinks and dancing. Contact Regina Zedaker at 260 489-3537 or [reginazedaker@saintv.org](mailto:reginazedaker@saintv.org).

**Just Desserts date night for couples**  
**SOUTH BEND** — Just Desserts, a "date night" series for couples in their 20s and 30s will take place Saturday, Feb. 1, from 7:30-9 p.m. in Payne Hall in the lower level of St. Therese, Little Flower Church, 54191 N Ironwood Rd. The evening features food, faith and fun and entails desserts for every diet, a speaker who will help you deepen your relationship as a couple and with Christ, followed by a table discussion and a chance to win a gift card to a local restaurant. Cost is \$5 per couple at the door. Babies are welcome. Sponsored by Marriage & Family Ministry, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Contact Lisa Everett 574-234-0687 or [leverett@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:leverett@diocesefwsb.org).

## FULL-TIME POSITION Director of Human Resources

Responsible for the development, oversight and support in the area of Human Resources for diocesan offices, parishes and schools. Related tasks include employee recruitment, compensation, benefits, staff development, resources and labor relations. Compensation is commensurate with experience.

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*As you seek for ways to share Christ's love within you, please consider leaving a part of your legacy to the Church.*

*For more information about how you can include your parish or the Diocese in your will or estate plan, contact Michael Shade, executive director of the Catholic Community Foundation of Northeast Indiana at 260.949.2441.*



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## REST IN PEACE

<p><b>Fort Wayne</b>                  Daniel Fredbloom, 26, St. Vincent dePaul</p> <p>Mary Ruth Gebhard, 100, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception</p> <p>Anneliese Poremba, 90, Our Lady of Good Hope</p>	<p>Michael Sanders, 71, St. Charles Borromeo</p> <p>Kathleen Villareal, 72, St. Charles Borromeo</p> <p><b>Granger</b>                  Helen Danowski, 90, St. Pius X</p> <p><b>Mishawaka</b>                  Sister M. Clarice Sobczyk 98, Sisters of St. Francis of</p>	<p>Perpetual Adoration chapel</p> <p>Roberta Bokhart, 67, St. Bavo</p> <p><b>South Bend</b>                  Mary Sacco, 93, Christ the King</p> <p><b>Waterloo</b>                  Gail E. McIntosh, 94, St. Michael the Archangel</p>
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## *Seeking the Face of Christ* Eucharistic Miracles of Italy

September 27 - October 8, 2020

Join Father Louis Fowoyo and Mary Hilger on a Pilgrimage. Includes visiting Our Lady of Loreto during the Jubilee year Plus Rome, Assisi, Padre Pio's Tomb, Siena, and other Italian shrines.

For more information, visit: [www.pilgrim-path.com](http://www.pilgrim-path.com)  
 or contact Mary Hilger: 260-438-8356 | [hilger8@aol.com](mailto:hilger8@aol.com)  
 or Mike Nolan: 574-335-9952 | [mnolan6@me.com](mailto:mnolan6@me.com)



## NOW HIRING DIRECTOR

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Duties include developing and implementing annual goals and objectives in cooperation with the bishop of Evansville and the chief operating officer; collaborating with governmental and charitable agencies consistent with Catholic Social Teaching, the Code of Ethics of Catholic Charities USA, and the policies and guidelines of the diocese; and maintaining quality control and work with Catholic Charities' Board of Advisors and staff to develop and monitor annual goals, objectives, and outcomes. The successful candidate must be a practicing Catholic in good standing.

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Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters has an immediate opening for a Pastoral Companion who takes care of the non-medical needs of the Sisters. This is a full time position. The hours are flexible it includes nights and weekends. Candidate needs to have two or more years of long-term care or health care experience. A Bachelor's degree or certificate equivalency in nursing or related field, especially gerontology and pastoral care.

Please send your resume to Kathi Sands at  
 Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters  
 1900 West Park Drive  
 Huntington, IN, 46750  
 or e-mail to [ksands@olvm.org](mailto:ksands@olvm.org).

# AN AUDIENCE WITH POPE FRANCIS

During the Ad Limina visit of bishops from Region VII to the Vatican Dec. 5-13, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, seminarians and a priest of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend who are studying in Rome greeted Pope Francis.



At top right, Bishop Rhoades greets the pope following a celebration of Mass on the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Clockwise from right, Bishop Rhoades and Pope Francis say goodbye at the end of bishops' meeting; and seminarian Zane Langenbrunner, Father Spenser St. Louis, seminarian Samuel Anderson and seminarian Mark Hellinger greet the pontiff before he met with Bishop Rhoades and the other bishops of Region VII.



Photos provided by Mark Hellinger