



Needing a new heart

Theresa Thomas speaks to the heart of the family

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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

In first encyclical, pope calls for deeper understanding of love



CNS FILE PHOTO/PAUL JEFFREY

BY JOHN THAVIS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In his first encyclical, Pope Benedict XVI called for a deeper understanding of love as a gift from God to be shared in a self-sacrificial way, both at a personal and social level.

The pope said love between couples, often reduced today to selfish sexual pleasure, needs to be purified to include “concern and care for the other.”

Love is also charity, he said, and the church has an obligation to help the needy wherever they are found — but its primary motives must always be spiritual, never political or ideological.

The nearly 16,000-word encyclical, titled “Deus Caritas Est” (“God Is Love”), was issued Jan. 25 in seven languages. Addressed to all Catholics, it was divided into two sections, one on the meaning of love in salvation history, the other on the practice of love by the church.

The pope said his aim was to “speak of the love which God lavishes upon us and which we in return must share with others.” The two aspects, personal love and the practice of charity, are profoundly interconnected, he said.

The encyclical begins with a phrase from the First Letter of John: “God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.” The pope said the line expresses the heart of the Christian faith,

LOVE, PAGE 5

A homeless woman begs on a street in Seattle. In his first encyclical, Pope Benedict XVI said that in a community of believers there is no room for poverty “that denies anyone what is needed for a dignified life.” The papal letter, “Deus Caritas Est” (“God Is Love”), was released at the Vatican Jan. 25.

Diocese celebrates 36 Light of Learning recipients

Bishop D’Arcy announces retirement of superintendent

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

During National Catholic Schools week, 36 educators from South Bend and Fort Wayne were honored with Light of Learning awards at luncheons sponsored by Quality Dining and Our Sunday Visitor.

At the luncheon, Bishop John M. D’Arcy announced Catholic Schools Superintendent Michelle Hittie will be retiring at the end of the school year. Her final day will be June 30. Bishop commended Hittie for her five years of service as superintendent and devoted years as a school principal for 11 years and teacher for nine years and said, “We are going to miss her.”

Hittie told *Today's Catholic* that she still wants to be involved in the diocese. She is looking for work that has “less pressure,” and “something that I enjoy.”

The master of ceremonies for the South Bend occasion was Jeff Jeffers, sports director at WNDU-TV in South Bend. In gratitude for his own Catholic Education and that of his children, he has served in this role for 10 years. The master of ceremonies for the Fort Wayne gathering was Jim Fitzpatrick.

Michelle Hittie, superintendent of schools for the diocese, spoke on this year’s theme: “Character, Compassion and Values” and the impact Catholic education has on the community. She said that Catholic schools develop character by teaching students to serve others.

“Doing for others helps us to develop the character we want for our students,” she said. She spoke of the importance and challenge of instilling compassion and respect into students. “Compassion is both doing works of mercy and working for justice.” Teachers are key in making this happen.

In South Bend, awards were presented to the following: Lori Harmacinski, Christ the

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DWENGER STUDENTS MARCH



TIM JOHNSON

The pro-life march in downtown Fort Wayne to the Federal Building attracted one of its largest crowds in its 32-year history. Armed with their pro-life banner, students from the Saints for Life group pass near the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Testimonials from The Silent No More contingency shared the hurt and then the healing of their abortion decisions.

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Pro-life rally

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Find ‘sunshine’ through hope

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Sesquicentennial

St. Vincent, Elkhart, and St. Thomas share the spotlight

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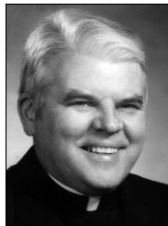
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Readers may agree or disagree with
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must not exceed 500 words. All let-
ters must be signed and include a
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fication. We reserve the right to edit
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Encyclical provides reflection on a central theme of Scripture



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

A time to read

While my schedule makes it difficult to find enough time to read, I always find it enriching and strengthening when I do so. During these weeks when there are no confirmations and evening events, I try to read after supper. Also, there are no baseball games on television for distraction.

What a joy this past week to read two documents by Pope Benedict XVI. The first, which could easily be missed, was the talk he gave around Christmas to members of the curia; his collaborators, those who work closely with him in Rome in the different offices. He spoke about the year just completed in a style that was warm, friendly, quite pastoral and easy to understand even though the thoughts are profound.

Foremost was the death of Pope John Paul II and of the suffering of this man who had spoken and preached all over the world. This "artist of the word," as I heard Cardinal Casaroli refer to him in his first visit to this country in 1979, was now silent and he could only bless in silence from his window on Palm Sunday and even Easter Sunday. Pope Benedict reflected on World Youth Day in Cologne where he said there were one million young people and the police had nothing to do but help keep things organized. This event in Cologne, along the Rhine River and in neighboring towns touched Pope Benedict deeply.

He spoke about the Eucharist and the recent synod, which was a time of faith. He gave a rich reflection on eucharistic adoration and how it had grown up in recent years among the people themselves. He indicated that it was a sound and beautiful development of our faith. He even quoted St. Augustine, the great Latin Father of the Church, in support of eucharistic adoration.

"It is moving for me to see how everywhere in the church the joy of eucharistic adoration is reawakening and being fruitful. In the period of liturgical reform, Mass and adoration outside it were often seen as in opposition to one another: It was thought that the eucharistic bread had not been given to us to be contemplated but to be eaten, as a widespread objection claimed at that time. "The experience of the prayer of the church has already shown how nonsensical this antithesis was. Augustine had formerly said: 'Nemo autem illam carnem manducat, nisi prius adoraverit... peccemus non adorando' — 'No one should eat this flesh without first adoring it ... We should sin were we not to adore it.'"

— cf. Enarr. in Ps 98:9 CCL XXXIX 1385.

"Indeed, we do not merely receive something in the Eucharist. It is the encounter and unification of persons; the person, however, who comes to meet us and desires to unite himself to us is the Son of God. Such unification can only be brought about by means of adoration."

In this pastoral reflection, he also spoke about the Second Vatican Council and the correct manner of interpreting it.

Remember, he was a peritus or theologian of the council, one of the few bishops now remaining who was present at every session. He was the theologian of the legendary Cardinal Frings. The Holy Father reflected on a theme that is found often in his writings; namely, the correct and incorrect interpretation of the Second Vatican Council.

"On the one hand, there is an interpretation that I would call 'a hermeneutic of discontinuity and rupture'; it has frequently availed itself of the sympathies of the mass media and also one trend of modern theology. On the other, there is the 'hermeneutic of reform,' of renewal in the continuity of the one subject-church that the Lord has given to us. She is a subject that increases in time and develops, yet always remaining the same, the one subject of the journeying people of God."

Finally, he speaks of his own election to the See of Peter, something surely unexpected in his life, and not sought after. "Such an office was far beyond anything I could have imagined as my vocation."

The new encyclical

On the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, there comes something filled with devotion and faith. I refer to Pope Benedict's first encyclical. It is a beautiful theological, biblical and historical reflection on a central theme of the Scriptures and of revelation. Revelation, after all, is what God tells us himself, and also about our relationship with God. The pope takes us through the various understandings of love, with much reflection on the love between a man and woman, and does it all with great understanding of the difficulties modern men and women have in believing in a God who is filled with love and is always bending toward human beings.

"Man cannot live by oblation alone. He cannot always give, he must also receive anyone who wishes to give love, must also receive love as a gift. Certainly as the Lord tells us, one can become a source from which living waters flow. Yet to become such a source, one must constantly drink anew from the original source which is Jesus Christ, from whose pierced heart flows the love of God."

— "Deus Caritas Est" Pope Benedict XVI.

The second part, which I am only beginning to read, reflects in a practical way on the ancient church practice of giving to those in need. I would think it would be very helpful for parish leaders to reflect on this second part, and also those involved in the various works in our diocese, such as Catholic Charities, the Christ Child Society, Women's Care Center, Matthew 25, the Chapin Street Clinic, The Franciscan Center, St. Vincent de Paul and all those who do such wonderful work so they may know how central this work has always been in the Catholic Church. They will see more clearly the reason why such work may be continued and expanded.

The new pope will be a teacher.

Remember, he became pope at the age of 78. Pope John Paul II was elected at the age of 58. Pope Benedict is a very gentle, gracious and good priest and a brilliant theologian. I treasure my meetings with him, along with some correspondence. I hope I have the good fortune to visit with him again.

A typical weekend

I offered an early Mass on Saturday and then arrived at the Scottish Rite Center in Fort Wayne at noon to say the opening prayer before a packed house of more than 1,000 people at a Rally for Life. Then I marched with them to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. I made a brief stopover at our new Archbishop Noll Catholic Center to greet a large number of catechists and others in our diocese where, under the sponsorship of Sister Jane Carew and our wonderful Office of Catechesis, they were attending the first of three weekends at which they will receive instruction on the "Theology of the Body" of Pope John Paul II, given by a professor of philosophy at Notre Dame.

I was up early on Sunday morning to celebrate the television Mass, comment on the beginning of Catholic Schools Week, and, after a break, to write this column and do some paperwork. Then, off to St. Patrick Parish to celebrate Mass with our Vietnamese community. No, I cannot speak or preach in that Asian language, but it was important that I be with these people who are taken care of so beautifully by Father Chau Pham, SVD. It was their celebration of the Lunar New Year.

A significant anniversary

On Feb. 2, I will celebrate 49 years as a priest. To put it in another way, I begin my 50th year as a priest. I recall so well that wintry day with a light snow falling and my dear parents and sisters. There were 52 of us ordained for the Archdiocese of Boston; 78 in our class. History has shown that there probably were some who should not have been there. That, of course, is with perspective of the years.

I celebrated Mass that day in our Cathedral Chapel and then had a little cake with some of my staff. Most important, I hope to get some time this week to think, pray and give thanks to Jesus Christ our savior, the high priest, for this enormous gift. In the seminary, we were always told that the graces of the sacrament, the graces received from the laying on of hands, would be sufficient for us. Indeed, more than sufficient. How grateful we were to be priests. How can I ever possibly thank God for the life and graces of these 49 years? I have never had an unhappy day as a priest. Demanding days and challenging moments of course. Who of us would have wanted to become priests if we did not think that Christ was going to ask a great deal of us. The priesthood is a great adventure. It takes men who are not afraid of adventure. It is a life of love. *Officium Amoris*, as Pope John Paul II called it. It is not a life of drawing attention to oneself, but to Christ. I love it more and am more grateful for it now than at any other time. These past 21 years here have been central to it. Imagine. On Feb. 3, I began my 50th year as a priest. *Deo Gratia*.

See you all next week.

Notre Dame president gathers views about controversial play and film festival

BY ANN CAREY

NOTRE DAME — The controversial play, "Vagina Monologues," which had been performed for large audiences in theaters on the University of Notre Dame campus for the past four years, will be restricted to a classroom setting this year.

Holy Cross Father John I. Jenkins, Notre Dame's new president, made this announcement during convocations with faculty on Jan. 23 and students on Jan. 24. The announcement came as part of Father Jenkins's presentations on "Academic Freedom and Catholic Character: An Invitation to Reflection and Response." In those presentations, Father Jenkins asked for the input of faculty, students and alumni to help him develop principles to guide decisions about what events are appropriate for Notre Dame.

Father Jenkins, who was inaugurated as Notre Dame's 17th president last September, told the faculty and students that as the new president, he was aware that he is establishing patterns and expectations for how he will lead the university. He said he would lead not by consensus or majority vote, but rather make decisions "according to my most informed and considered judgment about what is best for the university and its mission." However, he stressed that he would, "as appropriate and practicable, strive to solicit and listen to the views of relevant individuals and groups."

Father Jenkins focused his presentations on two events scheduled for February at Notre Dame, the "Vagina Monologues" and the "Queer Film Festival," and discussed what he had decided to do about them for this year.

The "Queer Film Festival" has taken place on the Notre Dame campus for the past two years. Father Jenkins said that to the nonacademic observer, the title of the event "seems to celebrate homosexual activity." Additionally, he said, "(There) is a concern that, among its constituent presentations, a Catholic view on sexual morality is not adequately presented." Discussions about these concerns over the film festival have been taking place with the sponsoring department he said, and he indicated that the people involved with the event have been receptive.

As for the "Vagina Monologues," Father Jenkins said that many "laudable" goals were associated with the performance of the work. The play is presented during Valentine's week on many college campuses as part of a "V-Day" campaign to stop violence

against women. Proceeds usually go to organizations that help women in crisis.

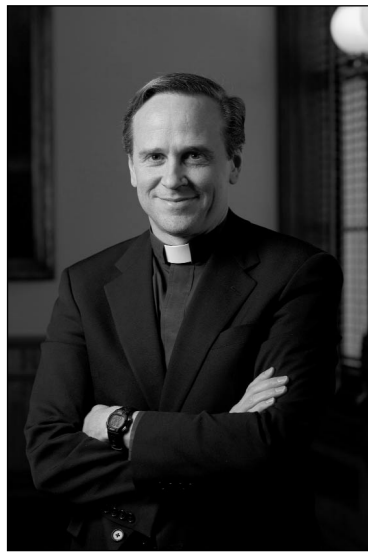
Father Jenkins said that he had read the play and shared the concern of many others that, in the play's discussion of female sexuality and in the community and culture it strives to create, "(There) is no hint of central elements of Catholic sexual morality."

The play's portrayals "stand apart from, and indeed in opposition to, the view that human sexuality finds its proper expression in the committed relationship of marriage between a man and a woman that is open to the gift of procreation," Father Jenkins said.

"Moreover, the repeated performance of the play and the publicity surrounding it suggest that the university endorses certain themes in the play, or at least finds them compatible with its values. Despite the many laudable goals of those who support this performance, I find problematic that the university continues to sponsor annual performances of this play."

Throughout his talks, Father Jenkins referred to the "sacred value" of academic freedom, saying it is "essential" to a university.

"It ensures that faculty have the ability to research, create, teach and express themselves in accord with their own best judgment. Appropriately applied to students, it ensures that they have the opportunity to inquire, express opinions, explore ideas and



FATHER JOHN JENKINS, CSC

to consider, then," Father Jenkins concluded, "is that an event, which has the implicit or explicit sponsorship of the university as a whole, one of its units, or a university-recognized organization, and which either is, or appears to be, in name or content clearly and egregiously contrary to or inconsistent with the fundamental values of a Catholic university, should not be allowed at Notre Dame."

In open microphone sessions after the presentations, both faculty and students — even those who disagreed with Father Jenkins — voiced appreciation for the president's openness and his invitation to gather their views. However, several faculty criticized what

Jean Porter of the Theology Department called a "narrow construal of academic freedom." And Margaret Doody of the English Department called Father Jenkins's observations "very dangerous," "not in the spirit of Christianity," and even reminiscent of McCarthyism.

Father Jenkins promised to consider all the input he receives and take it into consideration in formulating principles that will guide decisions about the two events he focused on, as well as future events. Notre Dame has set up special e-mail addresses for faculty, student and alumni response. The complete text of Father Jenkins's address is at <http://president.nd.edu> under "Academic Freedom and Catholic Character."

The decision to confine the "Vagina Monologues" to a classroom setting at Notre Dame is similar to a decision announced earlier in January by Dominican Father Brian J. Shanley, the new president of Providence College in Providence, R.I. Other Catholic colleges, including Portland University in Oregon, another Holy Cross college, also have prohibited public performances of the play on their campuses.

engage in discussion," Father Jenkins said.

However, freedom of expression does not have "absolute priority in every circumstance," Father Jenkins continued. "While any restriction on expression must be reluctant and restrained, I believe that, in some situations, given the distinctive character and aspirations of Notre Dame, it may be necessary to establish certain boundaries, while defending the appropriate exercise of academic freedom."

Father Jenkins drew a careful distinction between the activities of individual faculty and students versus activities like the play and the film festival that are sponsored by units of the university, occur in university facilities and associate the university's name with them. His concern, Father Jenkins said, is not with censorship, but with sponsorship.

"The position I am inviting you

STATEMENTS BY BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Feb. 5 is Renewal Sunday

Dear Readers of *Today's Catholic*,

The time has come for renewal of subscriptions to *Today's Catholic*. I thank all of you who subscribe to this excellent newspaper and read it every week. We are bombarded by 24-hour news coverage, reporting, for the most part, on the dark side of human nature. This newspaper brings us the light and hope, which comes from living in the presence of Christ, our redeemer.

Today's Catholic has consistently won awards from the Catholic Press Association for general excellence, competing with papers from much larger markets. The goal of *Today's Catholic* is to educate and evangelize. In keeping with this, readers will find new and exciting features for 2006. Operating an effective, financially efficient diocesan newspaper is a challenge. Subscribers are the answer.

I hope all of our regular readers will renew their subscriptions immediately. You can do this through your parish envelope or through a form on page 11 of this newspaper. But I need more than this from you. We need to get 1,000 new subscribers each year just to stay where we are. It would be of enormous help if everyone gave a gift subscription to a friend.

Most dioceses have a mandate to see that in each parish a certain number of parishioners, sometimes 100 percent, are subscribers. Fundamentally, however, this puts another burden on the parish priest. Because our priests and the parishioners work so hard on the Annual Bishop's Appeal, I have resisted this. In addition, I want subscribers who really want to read the newspaper.

We have excellent changes, which will include responses to questions, as has been explained to you. We will keep working on improvements.

There is a reason that this newspaper wins the Catholic Press Association award for general excellence nearly every year. As we approach the 150th anniversary of our diocese, we want this newspaper to go into more and more homes. I ask you, our faithful readers, to help us.

Sincerely yours in our Lord,

John M. D'Arcy
Most Reverend John M. D'Arcy

Collection moneys reported for 2004-2005

Every year throughout the land, collections are taken for special needs in the church, here at home and throughout the world. Our people continue to be most generous.

In the interest of openness, especially on financial matters, the amount received in these collections is here reported for our diocese.

It should be noted that the Black and Indian Collection, the oldest in the land, also returns funds to the diocese. For example, \$16,000 is being returned this year for help to African-American students in our schools.

These collections show that we are a universal church and that we care for others.

Because it has been reported previously, not listed here is the collection to help those areas impacted by Hurricane Katrina.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

John M. D'Arcy
Bishop John M. D'Arcy

REPORT ON COLLECTIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004-05

Collection	Amount
Black & Indian	\$ 46,820.99
Human Development	\$ 40,171.02*
Holy Land	\$ 62,350.26 (Good Friday)
Latin America	\$ 49,113.95
Missions	\$ 55,432.63
Catholic Relief (Overseas)	\$ 60,495.84
Catholic University	\$ 28,174.92
Communications	\$ 21,251.49**
Peter's Pence	\$ 59,365.59
Religious Retirement	\$136,856.00
Rice Bowl	\$ 44,294.59
Eastern Europe (Ash Wednesday)	\$ 36,142.61
Home Missions	\$ 44,110.34
Mother's Day	\$ 70,357.95 May-June 2005 (Catholic Charities)
Christmas	\$133,129.61 December 2004-June 2005 (Catholic Charities)

* In the collection for the Campaign for Human Development, one quarter (25 percent) remains in the diocese for local needs. Thus, \$14,000 over and above the amount sent to the National Campaign for Human Development was granted to local self-help projects. An accounting of these local grants was listed in the Nov. 20, 2005 edition of *Today's Catholic*.

** In this collection, by regulation of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 50 percent remains in the diocese, and the balance (\$21,251.49) is sent to the National Conference for use in national Catholic communications.

Sounds of thunder march on to the pro-life cause

Dr. Alveda King speaks at the Allen County Right to Life rally and march

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — Her uncle and father were famous “Sons of Thunder” who fought for civil rights in the United States in the 1960s. “Sons of Thunder” was the name they were given because they could imitate their father’s preaching and oratory style. Forty years later, Dr. Alveda King, niece of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and daughter of Rev. A.D. King, continues to thunder the civil rights’ cause, this time for the unborn.

King is a mother of six “surviving babies” as she called them at the Allen County Right to Life pro-life rally and march Jan. 28 in the Scottish Rite Auditorium. She is also a doting grandmother.

King, following the footsteps of her father and uncle, is a minister of the Gospel and serves as the director of African-American Outreach for Gospel of Life, coordinated by Priests for Life.

King related the civil rights marches and introduced her talk

with many of the freedom songs from the movement.

“We will be marching for freedom and the lives of the unborn who are like a slave in the womb of their mom,” she said. “As you are marching today, just remember that when we marched for freedom, we were not afraid because God was on our side, and were able to sing hymns of freedom and praise to him.”

King said that she was encouraged as she watched the auditorium fill to near capacity and heard the words of U.S. Rep Mark Souder (R-3rd District).

King encouraged those gathered to let the elected officials who promote pro-life issues “know that you are with them.” King, too, was an elected official at one time. “Sometimes we just need to hear the voice of the people say, ‘Keep on. We are with you’ ... They need your prayers,” she said.

King married a year after her

uncle’s assassination in 1968. Her father was found in the family pool dead from a bruise to the head a year later. She and her husband had a son, but King was pregnant again shortly after the birth of her first child. When she

mentative, combative, not feeling well.” Her husband asked, “What happened to the person I married? Where is she? Who are you?” The marriage ended in divorce.

In 1973, after the U.S. Supreme Court’s Roe v. Wade decision, she and her first husband tried to reconcile their marriage, but it wasn’t working. Again, she was pregnant. “We both said, ‘We don’t need another baby. We’re not getting along,’” King related. “So the law had passed, I went to the doctor and the doctor said, ‘Well it won’t be as bad as pulling a tooth. It won’t hurt. It’s a blob of tissue. It would be done in a hospital. Insurance

will pay for it.’ Third baby — gone.”

For the next 10 years, until 1983 when she was born again, King said she was a “woman’s liber.” During that time she met her daughter Celeste’s father.

Again King was unmarried,

pregnant and thinking about abortion. Celeste’s father said, “Nobody’s going to abort a baby of mine,” related King.

“And so I went to my favorite African-American man, Daddy King (her grandfather). ... Everything that I ever asked him he gave me,” King said. But when she announced her thoughts about aborting the baby, he said, “Nobody’s going to kill a baby of mine.”

That was two African-American men who “stood up for truth, justice and life,” King remarked. Celeste, now an adult, accompanied her mother at the talk.

King discussed the healing power of God and related a recent conversation with a famous pro-choice man whom she would not name. “You know you must really be a big hypocrite,” the man told her, “because from listening to your story, you need to be on death row — you’re a murderer.”

King responded, “You know,

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LIGHT

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King; William Flesh, Corpus Christi; Donna Paczkowski, Holy Family; Annette Romans, Our Lady of Hungary; Douglas Clark, St. Adalbert; Donna Hemmerlein, St. Anthony; Marilynn Williams, St. John the Baptist; Pamela VanHuffet, St. Matthew; Kimberly Obringer, Queen of Peace, Mishawaka; Michael Megyese, St. Bavo; Nancy Catanzarite, St. Thomas, Elkhart; Tara Bell, St. Vincent, Elkhart; Sister Colleen Bauer, SSND, St. John the Evangelist, Goshen; Joyce Faulstich, St. Michael, Plymouth; Michele Long, Marian High School; John Wojtowicz, Saint Joseph’s High School. The administrative recipient was Angela Budzinski, principal at Holy Cross in South Bend.

Honored in Fort Wayne were the following: Heather Van, Precious Blood; Mary Nicolosi, Queen of Angels; Maryann Quinn, St. Charles; Richard Burton, St. John, Fort Wayne; Nancy Potchka, St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth; Mary Ellen Maffey, St. Jude, Fort Wayne; Pamela Smith, St. Therese; Paul Cassabon, St. Vincent; Priscilla Harless, St. Aloysius; Jeanette Donovan, Benoit Academy; Mary Jane Tucker, St. John, New Haven;

Cheryl Layton, St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel; Janice McNutt, St. Mary, Avilla; Amy Ross, St. Joseph, Decatur; Rita Disler, Huntington Catholic; Angela Benner, St. Bernard, Wabash; Doris Derheimer, Bishop Dwenger High School; Heather Briggs, Bishop Luers High School. Sister Marilyn Ellert, OSF, principal at St. Bernard in Wabash, received the administrative award.

Also recognized in South Bend were Charles and Barbara Asher

“I think these inner city schools are the front lines for evangelization for the Catholic Church.”

BILL DOTTERWEICH

who received an award last year for their Freedom 22 Foundation that helps parents in difficult situations to pay tuition and to be involved in their children’s education.

This year’s special award was given to Bill and Peggy Dotterweich, friends of Bishop D’Arcy, who started the Guardian

Angel Society that raises money by asking people to contribute \$1,000 to help pay the tuition for a student in an inner city school. They have raised over a million dollars, mostly from older people whose children went through Catholic schools, and have contributed tuition money to Our Lady of Hungary and St. Adalbert schools in South Bend and Benoit Academy, Most Precious Blood and Queen of Angels schools in Fort Wayne.

The goal of the Dotterweichs is “to fill our Catholic inner city schools.” It is their belief that we help the world community by educating students in these neighborhoods. “I think these Catholic inner city schools are the front lines for evangelization for the Catholic Church,” said Bill Dotterweich.

Bishop D’Arcy spoke of the Legacy of Faith Foundation that is helping with tuition and teacher salaries in schools throughout the diocese. He also gave special recognition to the pastors who work hard to keep the schools going and to their faculty and staffs.

In conclusion, Quality Dining and the Fitzpatrick family were also recognized for the You Can Lend a Hand campaign that has raised millions of dollars for Catholic education. Only 25 cents of each coupon book sold goes to Quality Dining for marketing purposes. The rest is donated to the schools.



SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

Light of Learning recipients from the South Bend area pose with Catholic Schools Office administration and Bishop John M. D’Arcy at the Century Center in South Bend on Jan. 23.



DON CLEMMER

Light of Learning recipients from the Fort Wayne area were recognized at a luncheon sponsored by Quality Dining on Jan. 26 at the Fort Wayne Marriott.

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LOVE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

which understands the creator as a loving God and which sees Christ's death as the ultimate sign of God's love for man.

In today's world, however, the term "love" is frequently used and misused, he said. Most commonly, it is understood as representing "eros," the erotic love between a man and a woman. The church, from its earliest days, proposed a new vision of self-sacrificial love expressed in the word "agape," he said.

At times, the pope said, the church, with all its commandments and prohibitions, has been accused of poisoning eros or of being ready to "blow the whistle" just when the joy of erotic love presented itself.

But in modern society, he said, it has become clear that eros itself has been exalted and the human body debased.

"Eros, reduced to pure 'sex,' has become a commodity, a mere 'thing' to be bought and sold, or rather, man himself becomes a commodity. This is hardly man's great 'yes' to the body. On the contrary, he now considers his body and his sexuality as the purely material part of himself, to be used and exploited at will," he said.

Properly understood, he said, eros leads a man and woman to marriage, a bond that is exclusive, and therefore monogamous, as well as permanent.

While it is true that the happi-

ness of eros can give people a "foretaste of the divine," eros needs to be disciplined and purified if it is to provide more than fleeting pleasure, the pope said.

The solution is to rediscover a balance between the ecstasy of eros and the unselfish love of agape, he said.

The key to regaining this balance, he said, lies in a personal relationship with God and an understanding of the sacrificial love of Jesus Christ. He said Christ gives the ultimate lesson in "love of neighbor," which means: "I love even the person whom I do not like or even know."

The pope said there was an essential interplay between love of God and love of neighbor.

"If I have no contact whatsoever with God in my life, then I cannot see in the other anything more than the other, and I am incapable of seeing in him the image of God," he said.

"But if in my life I fail completely to heed others, solely out of a desire to be 'devout' and to perform my 'religious duties,' then my relationship with God will also grow arid," he said.

The second half of the encyclical makes two main points:

- As a community, the church must practice love through works of charity and attend to people's sufferings and needs, including material needs.

- The church's action stems from its spiritual mission and must never be undertaken as part of a political or ideological agenda.

The pope said there was a connection between the commitment to justice and the ministry of charity,

but also important distinctions. Building a just social and civil order is an essential political task to which the church contributes through its social doctrine, but it "cannot be the church's immediate responsibility," he said.

"A just society must be the achievement of politics, not of the church," he added.

"The church cannot and must not take upon herself the political battle to bring about the most just society possible. She cannot and must not replace the state," the pope said.

"Yet at the same time she cannot and must not remain on the sidelines in the fight for justice," he said. The church's role is to make the rational arguments for justice and awaken the spiritual energy needed for the sacrifices that justice requires, he said.

"Christian charitable activity must be independent of parties and ideologies. It is not a means of changing the world ideologically, and it is not at the service of worldly stratagems, but it is a way of making present here and now the love which man always needs," he said.

The pope examined and rejected the Marxist arguments that the poor "do not need charity but justice," and that charity is merely a means of preserving a status quo of economic injustice. He said the church must help the needy wherever they are found, and he cited Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta as an example of love in action.

"One does not make the world more human by refusing to act humanely here and now," he said. And charity will always be neces-



CNS PHOTO FROM L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO

Pope Benedict XVI signs his first encyclical, "Deus Caritas Est" ("God Is Love"), in his private library at the Vatican Jan. 23. The pope said his aim in the encyclical is to "speak of the love which God lavishes upon us and which we in return must share with others." Archbishop Leonardo Sandri, assistant papal secretary of state, is at right in this photo.

sary, even in the most just society, he said.

In any case, he said, it is an illusion to think that the state can provide for all needs and fully resolve every problem.

"We do not need a state which regulates and controls everything," but a state that supports initiatives arising from different social forces, he said. The church is one of those forces, he said.

The pope said that those working for Catholic charitable organizations need to be witnesses of the faith as well as professionally competent in humanitarian affairs.

The church's charitable activities, he said, should not be seen as opportunities for proselytism, in the sense of imposing the church's faith on others.

"But this does not mean that charitable activity must somehow leave God and Christ aside," he said. Without proposing specific guidelines, he added: "A Christian knows when it is time to speak of God and when it is better to say nothing and to let love speak alone."

The pope said that prayer should not be forgotten as the church tries to alleviate the immense needs around the world.

"People who pray are not wasting their time, even though the situation appears desperate and seems to call for action alone. Piety does not undermine the struggle against the poverty of our neighbors, however extreme," he said.

Notre Dame scholars assess Pope Benedict XVI's first encyclical, 'Deus Caritas Est'

BY MICHAEL O. GARVEY

NOTRE DAME — Pope Benedict XVI's first encyclical, "Deus Caritas Est" ("God Is Love") was issued Jan. 25 in seven languages. A 16,000-word teaching letter addressed to all Catholics, the encyclical has been widely anticipated as an indication of the new pope's concerns, understandings and inclinations, and of how he hopes to exercise his ministry.

Two Notre Dame faculty members have read "Deus Caritas Est" and expressed differ-


ing reactions.

In an interview in today's *Newsday*, Scott Appleby, a religious historian and director of the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, described it as "a return to a theology of church in which the church is primarily given the responsibility to form consciences and to provide charity — something no Catholic would disagree with — but which is not further responsible for prophecy or for actual social reform towards justice. That's not how my generation of Catholics understood Vatican II."

To Lawrence S. Cunningham,

John A. O'Brien Professor of Theology, the encyclical seemed "a very sophisticated statement of what the church stands for in terms of love of God and love of neighbor. I take that as a very hopeful thing."

Speaking to a writer for the *Baltimore Sun*, Cunningham also remarked on what Pope Benedict left out. "Now this would have been a perfect time for him to launch into a huge diatribe against the moral relativism and pornography and so on," he said. "He doesn't do that. He sticks pretty much to what he wants to say."



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St. Mary Church celebrates Black History Month

FORT WAYNE — The St. Martin de Porres Society of St. Mary Church in Fort Wayne will celebrate February, Black History Month, with a series of special events.

Celebrations planned include the following:

- On the Sundays of February, a display highlighting items of significance in black history will be located in the gathering area of the church.

- Sunday, Feb. 5, following 10:45 morning Mass, there will be coffee, snacks and conversation centered around current issues facing the minority community.

- Saturday, Feb. 11, beginning at 9 a.m. in the Oechtering Hall, there will be a day of reflection with guest speaker Richard Pierce Jr., a University of Notre Dame associate professor of history and chair of the Department of African Studies. The reflection will include a film, speaker and discussion. Lunch will be provided, followed by a prayer service. Preregistration is required for this event. Contact the parish office at (260) 424-8231.

- Sunday, Feb. 19, following the 10:45 morning Mass, there will be coffee, snacks and the Fort Wayne Dance Collective featuring the Jenbe Dancers who will present authentic African dance including tribal dress and instruments.

- Saturday, Feb. 25, the special event will be a museum tour of Fort Wayne's African American Historical Museum. Meet at St. Mary at 1 p.m. The cost will be \$3 for adults and \$2 for children. Reservations are required by calling the parish office at (260) 424-8231 or contacting Thelma Schulte, Jane Wick or Dottie Carpenter.

St. Mary Catholic Church is located 1101 S. Lafayette St. in Fort Wayne. For more information, call (260) 424-8231.

Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home hosts Bereavement Education Series

FORT WAYNE — Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home will present a series of free, educational presentations on issues of interest to bereaved or grieving people. Each program in the Bereavement Education Series will be held from 9-11:30 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 300 West Wayne St. in downtown Fort Wayne.

March 4 — "Learning to Live after the Death of a Spouse" presented by Kay Cozad

April 1 — "Understanding Your Grief" presented by Dar Richardson

April 15 — "When Mourning Dawns" presented by Lili Carroll and Michael Handlin

May 20 — "Memories that Heal" presented by Ken Prather

Sept. 16 — "Understanding Your Grief" presented by Dar Richardson

Oct. 7 — "Learning to Live after the Death of a Spouse" presented by Kay Cozad

Oct. 28 — "When You are Grieving the Death of a Parent or

AROUND THE DIOCESE

ST. JOSEPH PARISHIONERS CELEBRATE EPIPHANY



PROVIDED BY ST. JOSEPH PARISH

While the church celebrates the Christmas season through the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, the parishioners of St. Joseph Parish in Bluffton held their first annual Three Kings Brunch to mark the solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, Jan. 8. The new Parish Social Committee organized the event. About 200 people, including adults and children, kept Christmas alive into early January for the celebration.

Parents" presented by Michael Handlin and Bonnie Knuth

Nov. 18 — "When You are Grieving During Special Days and Holidays" by Jeanne Sporre

Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home is a community-based agency that provides end-of-life care for the patient and support for the family.

For more information, please contact Michael Handlin or Lili Carroll at Visiting Nurse and Hospice at (260) 435-3222 or e-mail michaelhandlin@vnhh.org.

Catholic high schools hold annual jubilee

SOUTH BEND — The two South Bend area Catholic high schools, Saint Joseph's of South Bend and Marian of Mishawaka, will hold their 22nd annual fund-raising jubilee on Saturday, March 11, at Marian High School.

In the more than two decades of the jubilee, a total of 1.5 million has been raised for the two institutions.

"This amount has helped maintain the high quality of education for our children," said the co-chairpersons Mo Miller and Janie Reese, both of Marian, and Jean James and Katie Demorais, both of Saint Joseph's.

A major part of the jubilee, titled the Orient Express, is the raffle and an opportunity to win \$10,000. In the past, hundreds of parents have demonstrated their commitment to the mission of the schools through the purchase of these tickets.

"This year, we are limiting raffle tickets sales to 1,000," they said.

In addition to the grand prize of \$10,000, there are five prizes of \$500 each. — EJD

St. Vincent de Paul Society plans centennial observance

SOUTH BEND — The St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County will commemorate its 100th year of service to the underprivileged and poor with a series of programs also designed to raise funds for its continued operation.

The programs planned for observance include the film, "Jesus Christ, Superstar," during Easter week and a civic luncheon tentatively planned before a Notre Dame home football game in September.

The society in St. Joseph County was actually established in October 1904 in St. Patrick Parish in South Bend.

A group of officers of the Santa Maria Council 553, Knights of Columbus, actually helped plan and form the organization to assist widows in the area and also help care for their children.

Sean Wendlinder is the current executive director of the society, which also includes 20 parish conferences in the South Bend area. — EJD

Snite Museum of Art features exhibitions

NOTRE DAME — The Snite Museum of Art is currently hosting several exhibitions, most of which opened in January and will run

through the middle of March. Running through March 12 are "American Twentieth-Century Watercolors" at the Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute, "The Chimeras of Gerard de Nerval: Thirteen Monotypes by Doug Kinsey," and "Big Shots: Large Format Photographs from the Permanent Collection."

Running through March 19 is "The Genesis of Monumental Architecture in Greece: The Corinth Project." Running through March 26 is "Memoria: Roman Funerary Monuments" from the Speed Art Museum. Running through June 25 is "Dietrich Klinge: Figurative Sculptures." Opening April 9 and running through May 21 will be the "Annual Student Exhibition — BFA and MFA Thesis Candidates."

St. Margaret's House Winter Walk raises money to help women

SOUTH BEND — Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center is a lead sponsor for St. Margaret's House upcoming Winter Walk 2006. The 1-1/2 mile walk will be held this year on Sunday, Feb. 12, beginning at 2:30 p.m. with a 1:30 p.m. on-site registration. Those wishing to pre-register can do so by visiting www.stmargaretshouse.org or by calling (574) 234-7795.

The theme for Winter Walk is "Walk a Mile In Her Shoes," as participants can experience the life of a woman or child whose everyday means of transportation

is their feet, regardless of weather conditions.

Winter Walk is a 1-1/2 mile walk that begins and ends at St. Margaret's House, located at 117 North Lafayette Blvd. in downtown South Bend. Proceeds from Winter Walk will enable St. Margaret's House to continue to be a haven of hospitality and of life changing support and service for women and children in need within our community.

St. Margaret's House is a day center dedicated to providing a safe and caring environment where women and children can help themselves and each other develop their self esteem and potential.

For more information on how to participate in the Winter Walk 2005 or on how to make a donation, call (574) 234-7795 or visit www.stmargaretshouse.org.

Knights prepare for Lourdes Charity Ball

SOUTH BEND — The Knights of Columbus Santa Maria Council 553 will host a Lourdes Charity Ball on Saturday, Feb. 25 to raise funds to send a person(s) on a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady at Lourdes.

The event will be at the banquet hall at 553 E. Washington St., just east of the East Race Waterway in downtown South Bend.

A social hour begins at 5:30 p.m., followed by an invocation and the presentation of the Fourth Degree Color Guard. Dinner is at 7 p.m., featuring the culinary creation of Chef James.

Dancing follows to the music of The Mike Vaszari Combo. This year's theme is "An Evening In Paris," and attire is semiformal. The cost is \$30 per person and reservations can be made by calling (574) 243-9467 or e-mail bmasterson@crowechizek.com by Feb. 15.

Those interested in the Lourdes pilgrimage can obtain a formal application form by calling (574) 243-9467 or writing the Lourdes Charity Committee, 22411 Applewood Ln., South Bend, IN 46628. Applicants should submit their requests in spring or early summer. The pilgrimage generally takes place in October.

A medical diagnosis of a serious condition is required, and the applicant must be able to make the journey to Europe and back. This must be certified by a doctor. The program is not limited to Catholics, however, a deep faith in the Blessed Virgin Mary and an acceptance of the church's teachings regarding Lourdes are implicit.

Saint Mary's College VP to lead Wabash College

NOTRE DAME — The Wabash College Board of Trustees elected Dr. Patrick White, vice president and dean of faculty at Saint Mary's College, as its 15th president. White will assume the Wabash presidency on July 1 and will also serve as a professor of English.

"Dr. White contributed 17 years of dedicated service in academic administration to Saint Mary's, and the college has benefited tremendously from his creative leadership," says Saint Mary's College President Carol Ann Mooney. "On a personal note, Dr. White's sense of humor, easygoing nature and

ability to remain level-headed in any situation made him a great asset to our leadership team. We will miss him."

During his tenure at Saint Mary's, White created the Center for Academic Innovation and helped to establish the Center for Women's InterCultural Leadership, funded by Lilly Endowment, Inc. He also created the SSTAR and COSTAR programs, which supported collaborative research between students and faculty as well as among faculty members themselves.

In addition to his role as Saint Mary's vice president and dean of faculty since 2002, White also served as associate dean of faculty from 1988 to 2002. He has been a professor of English at Saint Mary's since 1988 as well.

White earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Chicago, and received his master's and doctorate in English and American literature from the University of Iowa.

"I love Saint Mary's College. Saint Mary's and its students will always have a special place in my heart," says White. "But it's also exciting and challenging to move from one great college to lead another." White's two daughters, Molly and Katie, are juniors at Saint Mary's.

Wabash College, with an enrollment of 871 students, is one of three men's colleges remaining in the United States.

President Mooney hopes to have someone in place by the time White leaves.

My Friend Magazine holds poetry contest

My Friend — The Catholic Magazine for Kids announces their annual poetry contest. In the February 2006 issue, the editor invites children to create a poem on their favorite saint.

"We're asking kids to take the inspiration they get from a favorite saint and put it into poetry," says Sister Maria Grace Dateno, FSP, a Daughter of St. Paul and the editor of *My Friend*. "I love reading the poems our readers send in. I'm really looking forward to seeing what they do with this contest."

Children ages 7 to 13 may enter the contest. They do not need to be subscribers to *My Friend* magazine. All contest information is available at www.myfriend-magazine.org. The deadline to enter is March 31, and the poems can be no longer than 20 lines long.

With this contest, *My Friend* hopes to encourage young people to take saints as role models and to reflect on the difficulties and weaknesses they had to overcome in their struggle to live according to the Gospel.

My Friend — The Catholic Magazine for Kids is a 32-page monthly magazine (September to June) for children ages 7 to 12. *My Friend* helps kids bring faith and friendship with Jesus into all aspects of their everyday lives, and is a wonderful resource for classrooms and home schools. For more information, contact Sister Maria Grace Dateno, FSP, at (617) 522-8911 ext. 4470 or e-mail mgsdateno@paulinmedia.com.

Saint Mary's vice president to attend campus housing summit

NOTRE DAME — A group of campus housing experts from across the country will convene in Chicago next month to begin designing the college and university residence halls of the future. Saint Mary's College Vice President for Finance and Administration Laurie Stickelmaier is one of the invited participants to the 21st Century Project summit, held Feb. 5-8.

The 21st Century Project is a multi-phase program that will culminate in the construction of a state-of-the-art residential facility. The Association of College and University Housing Officers-International (ACUHO-I) and its member organizations are sponsoring the development of this prototype. Federal agencies such as the Department of Energy, Department of Education, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development will also be recruited to participate at various stages in the process.

"This is not simply a group of people brainstorming a wish list of ideas," says Sallie Traxler, ACUHO-I executive director. "When the project is complete, there will be tangible evidence of our work and we fully expect it to serve as a model for the college residence halls to be built around the world for the next generation."

Moorman to perform at Sacred Heart Church

WARSAW — Unique Valentine Experience presents Joseph C. Moorman, "Songs of Praise and Devotion," a benefit concert for the Crusades Youth Group, on Sunday, Feb. 12, at 2 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church in Warsaw.

Moorman has been performing professionally since 1985, doing concerts, light opera and musical theater throughout the world.

As part of the concert, Catholic songs may be purchased as a tribute to a loved one, living or deceased. A short tribute will be read by Joseph Moorman before each song is sung. The song list includes Schubert's "Ave Maria," "Shepherd Me O God," "Be Not Afraid," "You Raise Me Up," "Tys Maria, Nasa Radost," "The Lord's Prayer," "St. Joseph's Lullaby," "How Great Thou Art," "Via Delorosa," "We Remember," "You Are Mine," "Thou Will Keep Him In Perfect Peace," "The Virgin's Slumber Song," "Pange, Lingua" (chant), "Panis Angelicus," "Prayer of St. Francis," "Mater Dei" and "Christ Be our Light." To reserve a song, contact Jane Serovy at (574) 269-7588.

A free will offering will be taken up during the performance, and many items will be raffled during intermission. Proceeds from the event will help offset the costs for teens to attend the High School Youth Conference at Franciscan University of Steubenville and the Young Church Leadership Institute this summer.

MARCH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

you're right. Except, I got a pardon from the greatest king and the greatest judge whom will ever be. ... And because of Jesus Christ, I am forgiven."

There are "survivors" — any child born after 1973 — and the "overcomers," King related. "Because of that, the overcomers, like me, who have overcome the tricks of the devil, ... have lived to tell the truth of it. We are here today — that's why we are marching. ... And (God) promised that if we come back to him, he will lead us, and we will be cleansed and healed."

Last year, when King felt disheartened about the death of Terri Schiavo and when the Supreme Court did not overturn *Roe v. Wade*, she turned to God in prayer. She said, "God moved on my spirit and he said, 'The hearts of the people must be changed. We have to take the long road home.'"

"He didn't say 'no,'" King said. "It's gonna happen. It's gonna happen soon." She said the large number of young people under 30 at the rally offered encouragement.

King said that faith-works by love will change hearts. "So when we see those young girls going into the clinic, it can't be, 'Oh, look at those wicked girls going into the clinic,'" she said. "It is wicked, and they shouldn't kill the baby if it happens. But it should be, 'Look at those precious little girls who need the truth. How can we reach them in prayer?'"

"Stand there with your pride, with your compassion, and your love," she said. "Let them know that if they need for you to be with them through that nine-month period, and even after, your prayers are going to be there, your support. Let them know how precious life is."

"Life is important, life is precious, life is sweet, and as you march today, know that God goes with you, love goes with you, truth goes with you and truly 'We shall overcome,'" King said.



PHOTOS BY TIM JOHNSON

The rally was opened with prayer by Bishop John M. D'Arcy. Rev. Michael Latham of the Renaissance Baptist Church in Fort Wayne gave the closing prayer and as an ecumenical gesture invited all the clergy from the auditorium to join him on stage. On stage were many parish pastors from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.



Dr. Alveda King, left, joins arms in "freedom" hymns before her talk at the Allen County Right to Life annual rally and march at the Scottish Rite Auditorium in downtown Fort Wayne. Joining King are Cathie Humbarger, director of the Allen County Right to Life, Rev. Michael Latham, right, president of the local NAACP, Branch 3409 and of Renaissance Baptist Church in Fort Wayne, and his wife BIRTHA, second from right. King's aunt, Coretta Scott King, 78, widow of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., died Jan. 30.

KNIGHTS PARTICIPATE IN ANNUAL MARCH



TIM JOHNSON

The St. Aloysius Knights of Columbus council have made the pro-life march, sponsored by the Allen County Right to Life, an annual tradition for their council. The 4th Degree Assembly of the Knights' color guard from Fort Wayne have also made it their tradition to lead the march from the Scottish Rite Auditorium to the Federal Building.

ICC opposes immigration bill moving through General Assembly

BY BRIGID CURTIS AYER

INDIANAPOLIS — Immigrants living and working in Indiana may face additional hardships if House Bill 1383, an immigration bill moving through the Indiana General Assembly, becomes law.

The bill, authored by State Representative Eric Turner (R-Marion), would prohibit an undocumented immigrant from receiving public assistance, benefits for publicly funded health care, or health care services from publicly funded hospitals or health facilities. Schools would be required to check a student's immigration status before admitting them and to deny school admittance to those children who were not American citizens. The bill also makes immigration forgery a Class C felony punishable by a prison term of two to eight years.

"We should not reward illegal behavior by providing public assistance to illegal aliens," said Rep. Turner. "Providing public service benefits to illegal aliens is simply endorsing illegal behavior."

The Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC), the church's official representative in the state legislature, testified in opposition

to the bill during a Jan. 24, hearing before the House Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security at the Statehouse. Glenn Tebbe, executive director for the ICC said, "While the church does not encourage illegal immigration, the church sees some rights as inherent in the human condition, which extend beyond all national boundaries. The undocumented residents, aliens, as the bill calls them, have natural rights from their inherent dignity as persons, each created in the image and likeness of God. These rights include all that is necessary for living a genuinely human life — food, clothing, housing and education..." Despite an overwhelming majority of groups testifying in opposition to the bill, the committee members approved HB 1383 by a vote of 7-3.

Rep. Mike Murphy (R-Indianapolis), a member of the committee who voted no said, "The essence of my opposition to this bill stems from Matthew's Gospel. In it, Jesus relates a story of the stranger who came and needed food, drink or a place to stay — how was the stranger treated? His message was 'Those who take care of the least, take care of me,'" said Rep. Murphy. "This is how we are to treat those from our immigrant community."

Lindsey Mintz, director of Government Affairs for the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), also testified in opposition to HB 1383. A letter to the state representatives outlining the JCRC's position states, "House Bill 1383 contains alarming language that recruits law enforcement officials, health care providers and educators to engage in activities which indicate a 'guilty until proven innocent' approach ... Such activity contradicts American history, culture, and values. Further, it seeks to force educators and health care providers into inappropriate roles, distorting the very ideals of those professions and, in the process, treating undocumented persons unfairly."

Franciscan priest Father Tom Fox, of Sacred Heart of Jesus, Indianapolis, who testified in opposition to the bill told lawmakers, "As a Catholic priest, I do not have children. However, I wish to speak on behalf of children. Anyone who works with immigrants, as I have for 12-1/2 years, knows that the doctor of the poor is the hospital emergency room. Poor people cannot afford a family physician," said Father Fox. "So according to this bill, parents must wait till their child gets sicker and sicker until they are in danger of

death. Then you would finally allow them to be cared for."

Debbie Schmidt, executive director of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, said that the impact this legislation would have upon Catholic Charities would likely result in "more requests for assistance and would impact the community as a whole." Schmidt said, "The demands for financial assistance have already increased drastically over the last two years due to rising fuel and utility costs."

Bob Morr, one of the vice presidents for the Indiana Hospitals and Health Association said, "We see no reasonable merit in HB 1383 from a health care perspective. The general language of the bill suggests that health care providers would have the additional role of running immigration checks. This is an exceedingly unreasonable burden to have to screen a person for their legal status prior to provision of services."

Benedictine Sister Karen Durliat, of the Guadalupe Center in Huntingburg, a ministry of the Evansville Diocese serving the Hispanic community said, "My biggest concern is that police will be asked to act as immigration agents. The Guadalupe Center

sponsors meetings with the Hispanic community and the police so that they get to know each other and so the Hispanic community knows that the police are here to help them," said Sister Durliat. "If this bill passes, what will happen in situations where the police are needed? Who will an undocumented person turn to for help?"

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, 15 states are currently working on legislation to address undocumented immigrants including Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Maryland, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.

House Bill 1310, the driving privileges bill to grant undocumented immigrants a driving certificate, which the ICC supported, died in the House Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security by a six to six tie vote and is unlikely to be reconsidered this year. House Bill 1383 now moves to the House floor for further consideration. Bills must pass their house of origin by Feb. 3, to be eligible for passage this year.

Survey results published by National Association of Pastoral Musicians

SILVER SPRINGS, Md. — A wide variety of liturgical songs has fostered and nourished the faith life of American Catholics, according to the results of a survey by the National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM). The online survey was conducted this past fall and drew responses from music directors, clergy, choir members, students and ordinary parishioners. Survey results are published in the February-March, 2006 issue of *Pastoral Music*, the association's bimonthly journal.

"A surprising finding of the survey — and perhaps the most important one — was the lack of any clearly dominant choice," according to NPM President J. Michael McMahon. In fact, the 3,000 survey respondents named 670 different songs as most important for their own life of faith.

The survey also revealed that U.S. Catholics are inspired by songs based on a diversity of musical styles, including traditional, contemporary and others. Just over half of the top 25 songs were contemporary Catholic liturgical

songs written after 1965, including "On Eagle's Wings," "Here I Am, Lord," and "Be Not Afraid." About a quarter of the top 25 songs were traditional Catholic hymns that predate the Second Vatican Council, including "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name," "Ave Maria," and "Panis Angelicus." A number of participants identified hymns from Protestant and Evangelical sources, including "How Great Thou Art" and "Amazing Grace."

Many respondents related their choice to an important celebration — the funeral of a loved one or friend, the baptism of a child, a wedding or a religious profession. Funeral celebrations were by far the most commonly cited occasions on which a particular song made a lasting effect. A large number of participants chose songs that they recalled from childhood and that have continued to evoke and express a connection to faith and to the church.

The following are the top 25 songs identified by respondents to the NPM survey as making a dif-

ference in their own lives of faith. Numbers in parentheses reflect the number of responses:

1. On Eagle's Wings (242)
2. Here I Am, Lord (152)
3. Be Not Afraid (146)
4. You Are Mine (138)
5. How Great Thou Art (76)
6. Holy God, We Praise Thy Name (70)
7. Amazing Grace (69)
8. All Are Welcome (58)
9. Prayer of St. Francis (43)
10. Ave Maria (42)
11. We Are Called (38)
12. Let There Be Peace on Earth (36)
13. I Am the Bread of Life (30)
14. The Summons (30)
15. Panis Angelicus (29)
16. The Servant Song — Gillard (29)
17. Pescador de Hombres (28)
18. Servant Song — McCargill (28)
19. Shepherd Me, O God (27)
20. Ave Verum Corpus (26)
21. Lord of the Dance (24)
22. One Bread, One Body (24)
23. Tantum Ergo (24)
24. Hosea (23)
25. Pange Lingua (23)

SCHOOL SONG WAS LOST AND FOUND



KAY COZAD

Father Tom Shoemaker, pastor of St. Jude Parish in Fort Wayne, appears in an eagle costume as St. Jude School Band plays "On Eagles Wings" during a spirit rally Jan. 30. The school-wide rally hosted the recommissioning of the "St. Jude School Song," written in the 1940's. Long forgotten, a staff member found the song in an old file, and it was determined to be a start to renewing St. Jude school history, according to assistant principal Betty Buckle. Principal Sister Kathleen Marie Knueven, SND, says the revival of the school song is a "revival of Catholic education and the spirit of St. Jude."

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Christian sunshine: Hope

BY GINNY KOHRMAN

Opening prayer

God, grant me serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can and wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time, accepting hardship as a pathway to peace, taking, as Jesus did, the sinful world as it is, not as I would have it, trusting that you will make all things right if I surrender to your will, so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with you forever in the next. Amen

— Serenity Prayer
by Reinhold Niebuhr

Scripture: Ps 16

Commentary

Within each of us there seems to be a built-in human scale that occasionally gets out of balance. During the cold days of winter after the excitement of the holidays, it seems that often our bodies, minds and hearts go into "hibernation mode." We find that we are extra tired and in need of recuperation, replenishing of body and soul. I find myself longing for the warmth and brightness of the summer sun. I miss summer flowers and the taste of a good hamburger sizzling on the outdoor grill. Cold winds cause us to move less and embrace more the comforts of home and hearth. We want to cuddle under the covers and sleep later. It's as if we need to reenergize ourselves for the journey of life.

It helps to remember that winter naturally gifts us with this time of physical, emotional and spiritual regeneration. We longingly hope for brighter, warmer, more life-giv-

ing days. With confidence in God as the creator and designer of all times and seasons, we know that we are not forgotten during winter's long, dark days. Even if we are spiritually fatigued or weakened by life's struggles, we steadfastly know the Lord will provide the supernatural sunshine of hope to enlighten our dark times. During the long dreary days of winter if we allow it, the Holy Spirit enkindles within us the warmth and grace of hope.

Hope: Faith for the future

Winter is a time of hope. Peter Kreft in his book, "Back to Virtue," states that "hope is faith directed to the future." Hope for the future is a sure sign that there is still life to be lived ... something, someone continually calling us onward and upward to new life. If hope is lost, we can stay locked up in our blankets, in the darkness of our own being. Or if hope is placed in earthly things or persons that cannot fulfill our expectations, we may find ourselves despairing and miserable. Our human nature instinctively nudges us to hope and work for the good things of earth, things that can make our lives pleasant and bearable — although these human accomplishments rarely serve to keep us afloat in the storms of life. "What profit would a man show if he were to gain the whole world and destroy himself in the process?" — Mt 16:26.

Ladislav Orsy, in the article "The Virtue of Hope" — America, Dec. 5, 2005 — writes: "As fragile beings, we are tossed around by the winds and waves of the present. We need and want stability, and we find it by tying ourselves through the bond of hope to some future event. And through hope, we can find stability and meaning in our stormy present." God's gift of hope is different than our human hope. Hope is that spark of

faith in God's love and promises, kept aglow, even as we stop to "hibernate" for a bit.

Jesus: Our anchor of hope

I ponder the hope of the Israelite people who waited for centuries to welcome their Messiah and King. Their faith in God's promises sustained them through wars, slavery, exile, confusion and endless physical hardships. At the appointed time, God was revealed to the world through the infant Messiah ... the fulfillment of their hope, our hope. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full." — Jn 10:10.

All too soon after Christmas, the realization and wonder of the Incarnation wanes, and we forget what this wondrous mystery means in our lives. Jesus, both human and divine, comes into our world to share our burdens and blessings, our ups and our downs. He comes so that through him we might have light and life in this world — and even more fully eternal life in heaven. Through Jesus the world is made new ... transformed. Through him we hope for daily personal transformation and eternal joy. Hope is grounded in our trust that God will give us the means, through divine grace, to attain happiness in this world and in the world to come.

The symbol of hope within Christianity is the anchor. The anchor of a ship is that heavy metal device dropped into the water to secure and stabilize the ship. Our anchor for life is Jesus who gives us divine hope that secures us now, as well as in the future. In John 15:5 Jesus tells us, "Apart from me you can do nothing." God's grace makes it possible for us to persevere with joy even when we are tired and in need of refueling. Along with perseverance, cooperation with God's

grace is essential: "I have the strength for everything through him who empowers me." — Phil 4:13.

Hope: Don't despair

From birth to death we endure trials and tribulations that can easily get the most holy of people down; it's then we cry, "Where are you, Lord?" As a disciple of Christ, we know and accept that we must also share in his suffering. But our Christian hope reminds us that our sufferings, our dark hours are nothing compared to the glory shared with Jesus Christ. We, as hope-filled Christians, are asked to keep one eye on the present and the other eye on the final goal ... eternal life and communion with the Trinity in heaven.

Practical paths of hope

As we await springtime with hope, perhaps it is good to take some advice from the master, Jesus Christ:

1. Don't be anxious about your life — Mt 6:26-30. Jesus tells his disciples: "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides. Do not worry about tomorrow, tomorrow will take care of itself." Have faith that Jesus means what he says.

2. Cry out to the Father, "Abba," in prayer. We compliment our heavenly Father when we go to him as a child. We can tell him everything, and God wants to hear us even if he already knows our needs. "Your Father knows what you need before you ask him. This is how you are to pray (say) ... Our Father ..." — Mt 6: 8-9.

3. Detach yourself from earthly goods that might lead you away from God. Worldly goods bring only temporary happiness. Set your standards higher. "Do not love the world or the things of the

world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him." — 1 Jn 2:16.

4. Receive the sacraments. God's grace strengthens and nourishes us spiritually. The sacraments of reconciliation and holy Eucharist offer to us God's generous love and mercy. Participate and partake of these gifts. "Do not work for food, that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you." — Jn 6:27a. "They that hope in the Lord will renew their strength, they will soar as with eagles' wings; they will run and not grow weary, walk and not grow faint" — Is 40:31.

Reflection and connection

- How do you cope with the winter months? How might you see these quieter times as a time for spiritual renewal and growth?
- What spiritual resources help you to maintain your faith and hope when life becomes a struggle?
- Who might benefit from a call or a visit from you during this season?

Evangelization and action challenge

For interior renewal

Faith, hope and love are God-given virtues that work harmoniously. Be a living Christian witness of your faith and hope by treating all people with respect, even when it seems they do not deserve your respect. Refrain from negative talk about others. Actively change your negative thoughts about them to something positive.

Reaching out to others

Father Martin Pable, OFM Cap. writes in "Why Catholics Don't Share Their Faith" — PNCEA, Oct. 31, 2005 — that research shows about one third of all inactive Catholics would like to reconnect with their faith tradition. They have hope that someone cares. Most are waiting for an invitation by you or a sign of welcome from an active member. Help them return to the practice of their faith by listening to them. Renew their strength so that they may once again soar with eagles' wings.

Transforming society

Remain joyful and hope-filled. Share your own story of Christian faith and hope with someone who notices your joy: "Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentleness and reverence ..." — 1 Pt 3:15-16a. Invite someone, who might be despondent for whatever reason, over for dinner in order to lift his or her spirits and hopes.

Closing prayer: An Act of Hope

Oh my God, relying on your infinite goodness and promises, I hope to obtain pardon for my sins, the help of your grace, and life everlasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

Jubilee Pilgrim Cross



Feb. 3-10	St. Therese/Villa of the Woods	Fort Wayne
Feb. 10-17	St. Henry	Fort Wayne
Feb. 17-24	Sacred Heart/Indiana Tech	Fort Wayne
Feb. 24-March 3	St. Peter	Fort Wayne

Cardinal says pope may visit Baltimore in 2007

BALTIMORE (CNS) — Cardinal William H. Keeler of Baltimore has invited Pope Benedict XVI to visit Baltimore and has expressed hope the trip will take place in 2007. "The Holy Father will most likely be able to come next year," the cardinal said after returning from Rome in mid-January. The cardinal had originally invited the pope to visit in the fall of this year for the rededication of the Basilica of the Assumption, the first metropolitan cathedral in the United States, but the pope's schedule was filled up, said Sean Caine, archdiocesan communications director. The possibility of a papal trip to Baltimore was discussed by the cardinal Jan. 17 at the annual archdiocesan Catholic Charities dinner after he had returned from attending Rome events sponsored by the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity. Caine told Catholic News Service Jan. 27 that while in Rome Cardinal Keeler heard that the pope already had an invitation to visit the United States in 2007 and asked the pope to visit Baltimore as part of the trip. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has not invited the pope to visit in 2007, said Msgr. Francis J. Maniscalco, conference spokesman. "I don't know of any other invitations," he said.

Pope says marriage tribunals must act quickly, follow church law

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — For the good of individuals and the Catholic Church as a whole, marriage tribunals must act as quickly as possible while fully following church law, Pope Benedict XVI said. "For more than a few of the faithful," he said, "ecclesiastical sentences in this area, in fact, have an impact on the possibility or not of receiving Communion." Pope Benedict met Jan. 28 with members of the Roman Rota, a church court dealing mainly with marriage cases. A tribunal declaration that a marriage was invalid would allow a divorced and civilly remarried couple to have their union recognized by the church and, therefore, to receive Communion. Pope Benedict said the reason why so many bishops at the October synod on the Eucharist raised questions about tribunals and annulment procedures was precisely because receiving the Eucharist is so important.

Palestinian Christians take a 'wait and see' approach to Hamas win

JERUSALEM (CNS) — Following their initial shock, many Palestinian Christians are taking a "wait and see" approach to the Jan. 25 Hamas election victory, although some young Christians have expressed concern about the future. "I was shocked," said Rami Giacaman, 19, a Catholic student at Bethlehem University whose family owns a souvenir shop on Manger Square in Bethlehem, West Bank. "I didn't imagine that Hamas would win. I am just a little bit concerned about things changing that may hurt

NEWS BRIEFS

BOY AMONG DEAD IN BOMB ATTACK ON IRAQ CHURCHES



CNS PHOTO/SLAHALDEEN RASHEED, REUTERS

Relatives and friends carry the casket of a boy during a funeral in Kirkuk, Iraq, Jan. 30. He was killed with at least two others in two bombing attacks outside two Christian churches the day before in Kirkuk.

us." Suheir, 24, a Catholic owner of a high-end women's clothing boutique in the Bethlehem area, who preferred not to have her last name used or the exact location of her store revealed, said she hopes Hamas will not venture into the social sphere of Palestinian life. She said she is concerned that the new ruling party could try to implement dress and social codes based on Islamic law.

Bishop Sample ordained in Marquette; at 45 he is youngest U.S. bishop

MARQUETTE, Mich. (CNS) — With St. Peter Cathedral in Marquette filled to capacity for his episcopal ordination, Bishop Alexander K. Sample became the 12th bishop of the Diocese of Marquette Jan. 25. At age 45, he is the youngest Catholic bishop in the United States. Addressing the people for the first time as their bishop, Bishop Sample recalled wearing a cassock as he prepared for his first Mass as associate pastor at the cathedral. "At the end of Mass, one of the ladies of the parish came up to me and said, 'So you're our new associate. I saw you before Mass and I thought you were one of the altar boys,'" the new bishop said. "From that point on, I became known as the altar-boy priest. Being now the youngest bishop at the moment in the United States, I do not want to be known as the altar-boy bishop!" he added. On a more serious note, Bishop Sample said, "I hope to be truly a shepherd to minister in the person and in the image of Christ the Good Shepherd, who came not to be served but to serve and to give his life. I give to you that pledge today to do that to the best of my ability."

Ukrainian Catholic Church officials bar priests from campaigning

OXFORD, England (CNS) — Ukrainian Catholic Church officials have barred priests from campaigning in the country's upcoming elections and warned that they will violate church rules if they engage in some business activities. The decision is outlined in a statement from the Ukrainian-rite Synod of Bishops, which met in mid-January in Lviv, Ukraine. The statement added that church law also bars priests from dealing "with financial transactions and trade, either for their own or another's benefit." During a Jan. 21 press conference, Cardinal Lubomyr Husar of Kiev-Halych said the synod had "strictly interpreted church rules" in preparation for the March 26 parliamentary ballot, the first since Ukraine's 2004 disputed presidential election known as the Orange Revolution.

Bishop Gumbleton announces his retirement

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Auxiliary Bishop Thomas J. Gumbleton of Detroit, internationally known for his activism for peace, human rights and the poor, announced Jan. 26 that Pope Benedict XVI has accepted his resignation. Jan. 26 was his 76th birthday. As of Jan. 27, there was no official announcement from the Vatican press office about the bishop's resignation. When he was ordained a bishop in 1968, he was 38 and the youngest bishop in the country. From 1972 to 1991 Bishop

Gumbleton was founding president of Pax Christi USA, the U.S. branch of the international Catholic peace movement. From 1976 to 1984 he was president of Bread for the World, an interfaith organization that fights world hunger through research, education and advocacy. An early advocate of nuclear disarmament, he was a member of the committee that drafted the U.S. bishops' landmark 1983 pastoral letter, "The Challenge of Peace: God's Promise and Our Response."

Underground church priests released in China's Wenzhou Diocese

HONG KONG (CNS) — Two underground church priests, officials of Wenzhou Diocese in eastern China, were freed in mid-January after being detained for two and a half months. UCA News, an Asian church news agency based in Thailand, reported Jan. 27 that Father Shao Zhumin, 44, vicar general of the diocese, and Father Paul Jiang Sunian, 36, diocesan chancellor, were released Jan. 11 and 13, respectively. Their diocese is based in Wenzhou, in China's Zhejiang province. After his release, Father Shao was rushed to a hospital for kidney treatment. A source told UCA News Jan. 25 that he was unlikely to be discharged before Jan. 29, the beginning of the lunar new year. Father Jiang underwent a medical checkup and is said to be in good health. Before Christmas, he staged a three-day hunger strike to demand that Mass vessels, confiscated when he was detained, be returned to him so he could celebrate Christmas Mass. The vessels

have not been returned, the source said. Public security officers arrested the priests separately Oct. 27, hours after they celebrated Mass to close the Year of the Eucharist.

Jury finds pedophile priest's killer guilty of murder

WORCESTER, Mass. (CNS) — A jury Jan. 25 found Joseph L. Druce guilty of first degree murder in the 2003 prison slaying of ex-priest John J. Geoghan. Geoghan, a former Boston priest, was the serial child molester whose January 2002 conviction for groping a young boy helped spark the national clergy sexual abuse scandal and force the church to adopt major policy changes. On its second day of deliberations after a two-week trial the jury rejected the insanity defense put up by Druce, who admitted killing Geoghan in his prison cell. The conviction carries an automatic sentence of life in prison without parole. Druce is already serving a life sentence handed down in 1989 for killing a man who allegedly made a sexual pass at him.

New bishop of Sioux City ordained

SIOUX CITY, Iowa (CNS) — With his ordination Jan. 20 at Sioux City's Church of the Nativity, Bishop R. Walker Nickless became the seventh bishop of Sioux City. "The mission has begun," the 58-year-old bishop said in closing remarks at the ordination. "May God the Father bless all of our efforts. May Jesus Christ continue to be the way, the truth and the life and may his Holy Spirit guide us always and be at our side." Nearly 1,000 people attended the two-and-one-half hour service. They included 34 bishops, an abbot and more than 130 priests and deacons. Archbishop Jerome G. Hanus of Dubuque was the chief ordaining bishop.

Tribunal declares priest who started his own church is heretic

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. (CNS) — A church tribunal of the San Bernardino Diocese has formally declared the Rev. Ned Reidy a heretic and schismatic, a diocesan spokesman told Catholic News Service Jan. 24. The former Holy Cross priest was pastor of a Palm Desert Catholic parish for 19 years before he left his order and the Catholic Church in 1999 and formed his own breakaway congregation. By leaving the church Rev. Reidy was automatically excommunicated. He remained a priest but was no longer in good standing. The judgment by the tribunal paves the way for Bishop Gerald R. Barnes of San Bernardino to laicize him, that is, to formally dismiss him from the clerical state, said Father Howard Lincoln, diocesan spokesman. In interviews with local media Rev. Reidy, 69, dismissed the church trial as medieval and said he is no longer under the authority of the Roman Catholic Church.

ALL IN A DAYS WORK AT TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Today's Catholic offers venue for faith-filled retailers

BY KAY COZAD

In today's world, the marketplace holds fierce competition for those who have goods and services to offer. The business climate within Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is no different. However, for those who embrace their faith, there is more than just the secular advertising venue to choose from. *Today's Catholic* offers advertisers a faithful, family-oriented market base.

The Don Hall family has served Fort Wayne its fine cuisine since the 1940s. Hall's offers several area restaurants from the Guesthouse to the Tavern at Coventry including a catering and cake service. Bud Hall says his restaurants have advertised in *Today's Catholic* for as long as he can remember.

"Being Catholic, it just makes sense to have that religious link," he says. He recalls that the diocesan newspaper "always came to our house as a child" as well as in the "good old days" at Central Catholic High School where the students read articles for specific classes. Hall believes *Today's Catholic* is a nice venue for reaching the dining public. "The people who read *Today's Catholic* are family-oriented and generally have a religious affiliation," he says. He hopes the readers will patronize those who advertise in the paper.

Elaine Herber, seasoned real estate agent with ReMax Realty, has advertised in *Today's Catholic* for almost two decades.

She says, "My role is to help people make quality decisions (with real estate). I have the most common ground as a Catholic."

Because she knows the Fort Wayne area so well, she is able to assist those interested in finding just the right parish community as well as Catholic school availability. Of her presence in the newspaper she says, "*Today's Catholic* is the voice of the diocese. It's a valuable tool for any Catholic to have. I like being a part of promoting that."

Aquinas Inc. owner Mike Manley says his religious book and gift store advertising thrust is the Catholic reader and gift buyer. "We've gotten away from secular media and do most advertising with *Today's Catholic*." The store, purchased in 1967, has inhabited several locations in the South Bend area and currently offers religious goods at its present location on Mishawaka Ave. Advertising in *Today's Catholic* on a regular basis and specifically during special seasons such as Lent and Advent has been of benefit to both retailer and consumer. "I've always been happy with the results and will continue to advertise with the paper," Manley says.

All those with goods and services to offer agree with Bud Hall when he says of advertising in *Today's Catholic*, "It's just good business."

Today's Catholic encourages readers to patronize businesses that advertise in the newspaper. Please be sure to tell the advertiser you saw the advertisement in *Today's Catholic*.

A story and weekly newspaper comes to life

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — Many readers are surprised that the *Today's Catholic* staff consists of a small, but very creative and committed team that pulls many pieces of a puzzle together each week to bring the newspaper to your home.

At the front desk, Kathy Voirol answers the calls and takes care of bookkeeping and subscriptions. Kathy Denice, the business manager, directs the subscriptions and advertising. Our advertising representatives are Carol Eifert in Fort Wayne and Judy Kearns in South Bend. Advertising, not just subscriptions, actually pays the major expenses of the newspaper. Mark Weber designs the advertisements and also helps write some of the copy, such as the Sesquicentennial parish histories.

The editorial staff consists of the following: Tim Johnson, editor; Don Clemmer, assistant editor; and Kay Cozad, staff writer. We are joined by freelance writers from across the diocese who accept assignments and also submit ideas.

Francie Hogan designs the newspaper pages. She also is our technical expert and designed and updates the diocesan Web site. We use Macintosh computers and a program called Quark Express 6.5 to produce the paper.

As *Today's Catholic* thrusts into the renewal process in February, we would like to share how a story is developed.

First, we need to know about a news item. We get the news from several resources. Diocesan departments post us on diocesan events. The Office of Communications works very closely with *Today's Catholic*. Many parishes and schools have

marketing or public relations groups that promote their activities and events. Some people call the office with a story lead. Some utilize the fax, some "snail mail" letters, but, as editor, I prefer e-mail. Through e-mail, I can provide the quickest response, and so it holds the highest priority with me.

All of our writers have e-mail. When a story lead comes to us from, for instance, South Bend, I can query several South Bend writers to see if they can cover the event.

Kay Cozad reviews the parish bulletins sent to our office by many — but certainly not all — parishes in the diocese. She presents the best ideas at a Wednesday morning staff meeting.

At the staff meeting, which begins with prayer, we set into motion the items for the next week. We also plan the special sections for the next several weeks and assign stories at the meeting. For example, in this week's issue, I covered the pro-life rally and march in Fort Wayne on Saturday.

Because we need all story copy by first thing on Monday, I spent Saturday afternoon after the rally at the office writing the story. I also shot the photos at the march and rally. They were downloaded in the computer from our digital camera.

Press releases and stories come to the editor throughout the week, but Monday morning is our deadline. About 90 percent of the stories are sent via e-mail, once again the preferred means of sending a story or letter to us. Don Clemmer and I clean the copy, beginning on Wednesdays, and make it comply with Catholic News Service or Associated Press standardized styles. Setting copy

to the style is an art all to itself with somewhat bizarre rules.

From the cleanup stage, we give the copy of the story to Francie Hogan who drops the files into the layout.

On Monday afternoons and evenings and Tuesday mornings, Don Clemmer, Kay Cozad, Kathy Denice, Francie Hogan and I proofread the paper. Francie makes the changes and saves each section of the newspaper as a portable document format (PDF) file. These files are then transmitted digitally to The Papers in Milford where the paper is printed, labeled with your address and mailed on Wednesday.

Today's Catholic is, among other things, the voice of Bishop John M. D'Arcy, our publisher. We have lots of pieces of a puzzle to put together 47 issues per year into a product that informs, evangelizes, teaches and presents the viewpoint of the church at the diocesan, national and universal levels. But that keeps the ministry challenging and fun. There is a real creative energy that flows through the office — we like to think it is the Holy Spirit working through us.

If you are a subscriber, we thank you for your patronage. We encourage you to renew your subscription. If you are not a subscriber and happened to pick up a copy of *Today's Catholic* in the back of your church or are reading a friend's copy, please consider a subscription. At \$20 per year, it's a bargain and breaks down to about 50 cents per issue. If you wish to use your Visa or Master Card, please call our offices between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at (260) 456-2824.

Tim Johnson is the editor of *Today's Catholic*.

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EDITORIAL

Our Catholic Schools — personal and social

Last summer, Pope Benedict XVI went on vacation in Italy and found himself the object of requests from local priests to meet with them and to answer questions that were important to them. One of those questions was about the schools.

The pope reflected that many bishops who came to Rome to meet the pope at the time of their “ad limina” visits frequently express their importance for the faith.

The pope’s remarks give point and direction to what our schools are about and why they are so important in the world in which we live.

The personal side of the faith is the intellectual factor that must be part of the schools’ endeavor. The pope remarked “that it is important that young people discover the beauty of faith, that it is beautiful to have a direction, that it is beautiful to have God as a friend who can truly tell us the essential things of life.”

The great emphasis that has been discovered in the recent past about the importance of our religion in the life of the school is a most welcome emphasis, which helps us all understand why “Catholic identity” must truly be the hallmark of our schools. It is that which gives meaning and purpose for the faithful to extend their energies and their material support to open, to maintain and to sustain our schools.

Our schools are not a retreat from reality, but rather they are places of formation to give us an understanding of the relationships of faith to the many forms of life and endeavors of our modern civilization.

Pope Benedict states, “Thanks to the Catholic school, it is also possible to confront the challenges of technology that strive for a pro-technological culture, destroying ancient forms of life and their moral content. It is vital to make people understand that faith is permanently up-to-date and perfectly reasonable. Hence an intellectual assertion is called for that makes the beauty and organic structure of the faith comprehensible.”

A second attribute that the pope sees to be necessary for the full development of the person in a school setting is to recognize that the intellectual factor must be accompanied by an emotional and social factor, that is, by socialization in the faith because faith can only be fulfilled if it also has a body, and this involves human beings in their way of life.

“Personalization and socialization are the two approaches that must penetrate the actual situations of today’s challenges.”

Pope Benedict points out the importance of these two attributes for the life of faith in our times, attributes which the Catholic school has a unique character and ability to so enter the lives of the faithful in the culture of our day.

Securing the vision

It is not difficult for the faithful today to see the importance of forming their children and young men and women in our elementary and secondary schools, as well as our excellent institutions of higher learning, so that their lives may have a secure vision of the importance of their own lives. Also clear is the importance of making a contribution to the society, which is and will be theirs in influence and to assist in living correctly.

The importance of the school in forming a true human culture lies in the socialization of faith, that is, to live and place importance in daily activities on the important moments of life.

The school is such a social institution, and there is a huge vacuum when it does not exist, or where it fails to recognize where it makes an indispensable contribution, not only to personal and social faith, but also to the true humanization of the values, the attitudes and the dispositions of all who live within the culture of our times.

Our Catholic schools are indispensable means for penetrating the culture of our day with truly religious values that are of the first importance to our young people in the formation and education they receive. In their faith, in the culture in which they are raised, and in the fulfillment of a truly Christian personality now and in the adult lives they will lead.

Our Catholic schools are beacons of light in a difficult world where darkness threatens human values.

Praise to all those in our diocese, from our bishop, to all of our patrons, who have continued to make our schools bastions of hope for our time.

May they continue their heroic task.

Today's Catholic editorial board consists of Bishop John M. D'Arcy, Ann Carey, Don Clemmer, Father Mark Gurtner, Father Michael Heintz, Tim Johnson, Vince LaBarbera and Msgr. J. William Lester.

COMMENTARY

TODAY'S CATHOLIC welcomes letters from readers. All letters must be signed and include a phone number and address for verification. Today's Catholic reserves the right to edit for clarity and length. Address letters to: Today's Catholic • P.O. Box 11169 • Fort Wayne, IN • 46856-1169 or e-mail to: editor@fw.diocesefwsb.org

Entry into the U.S. should be conducted through legal means

I can't believe that people in our Catholic community are supporting legislation that further promotes the breaking of the laws governing legal immigration. Render unto Caesar...

Let me begin that I am not against immigration as I am second-generation Italian-American. My grandparents came to the U.S. legally. My grandparents wanted a better life for themselves and their subsequent children. They came to this country to become American, not Italians living in America. They did not slip across the border under the cover of darkness or ford the Rio Grande. They did not come here without papers. They learned English and did not teach my mother, aunts and uncles Italian so that they could be assimilated into the American culture.

I think anyone who hires illegal aliens is breaking the law and anyone who conceals the identity of known criminals are complicit in the crime. I think we should only grant driver's licenses to law abiding people. If a person enters the country illegally, how can I be assured that said person will abide by the laws governing the road and carry insurance as well? Do the ends ever justify the means?

The subcommittee conclusion that giving “those who are undocumented ... access to driving privileges will make Indiana a safer, more attractive state for growth of business, tourism and families” is just a bunch of hoey. My suggestion is to send the illegal aliens back to their country of origin and have them apply for legal entry into the U.S.A. While the majority of illegal aliens are not terrorists — I hope — I think that this idea helps to make terrorism easier for those who wish to do us harm.

I empathize with the “undocumented's” need to make a better life for themselves, just as my grandparents did, but please let them do it legally.

Michael Scrogam
Fort Wayne

It's time to stop Roe v. Wade

On Jan. 22, 1973, Roe v. Wade promised to stop “back-alley butchers” from performing dangerous abortions on desperate women. Have 33 years of legal abortion made it “safe”

and “rare?”

To date, doctors have legally killed 48 million pre-born babies in the United States — about 1.3 million in 2002 — hardly “rare” and always fatal to the baby.

What about the mother's safety? Only 26 states regulate abortion clinics to ensure a sterile environment and trained staff, as is required of other medical facilities. The National Abortion Federation complains that such costly measures would close most clinics.

Eileen Roberts paid \$27,000 to repair damage on her 14-year-old after a secret, botched abortion. She testified before Congress, “Some of these so-called physicians do not even have medical degrees.” After 33 years of legalized abortion, women are still being butchered.

Are abortion pills safe? U.S. Rep. Mark Souder is investigating RU-486. At least four American women have died from infections associated with its use since FDA approval in 2000. *The New England Journal of Medicine* states RU-486 abortions are 10 times more likely to cause death of the mother than surgical abortions performed at the same point in pregnancy. Hundreds of women have experienced life-threatening hemorrhaging.

Research has also documented the psychological toll on parents who abort: lifelong grief, guilt, substance abuse, suicide. The number of women and men speaking out that they regret their abortion is on the rise.

It is time to stop Roe v. Wade and heal our society.

Annemarie S. Muth
Bluffton

College Bowl Sunday provides financial aid form assistance

This time of year, high school seniors are looking ahead and planning for their futures. For many students, that means applying for post secondary education. But, for many Indiana families, the high cost of higher education and the process of completing the complicated Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) are huge hurdles.

The FAFSA is the form students must submit if they are seeking federal and state grants, loans and scholarships, as well as other financial aid in 2006. The key to receiving financial aid is filling out the FAFSA correctly and on time.

Unfortunately, too many students miss out on grants — the most desirable financial aid — because they submit incomplete or incorrect FAFSA information. For those of us in the financial aid community, that is heartbreaking because financial aid is available, and post secondary education can be affordable if students file the FAFSA properly.

Fortunately for Indiana students, there is a program called College Goal Sunday — supported by the Indiana Student Financial Aid Association — that helps students, especially first-generation college students and low and moderate-income families complete the FAFSA. At the event, financial aid experts from Indiana colleges and universities walk through the FAFSA with families and answer their questions.

In the past 17 years, College Goal Sunday has assisted nearly 65,000 Indiana residents with the FAFSA. The event has more than tripled its reach from 10 sites statewide, in its first year, to 34 sites and has been a model for programs in several other states.

According to the State Student Assistance Commission of Indiana, programs such as College Goal Sunday are helping to connect first-generation college students and at-risk youth with important information. More than 126,000 first-generation Indiana students attended college in 2005. Also, more than 29 percent of Hoosiers who filed the FAFSA in 2005 were from single-parent families.

College Goal Sunday 2006 will take place at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12, at 34 sites throughout Indiana. The program helps thousands of Hoosiers each year through generous funding from Lumina Foundation for Education, Lilly Endowment and USA Funds.

For more information, including a list of the 34 sites, families can call toll free (800) 992-2076 or visit CollegeGoalSunday.org.

Martin E. Case
Jacki Switzer
College Goal Sunday
co-coordinators
Indiana Student Financial Aid
Association

Laity address challenges in their parishes

Parishes are the cornerstone of the church as far as most Catholics are concerned. It is in local parishes where most Catholics go to Mass, receive Communion, get married and have their children baptized.

If parishes are so central to Catholics' experience of the church, it is important to keep track of conditions in them. The National Pastoral Life Center (NPLC) in New York is doing just that. In recent years, NPLC has published three studies of lay ecclesial ministers and the parishes where they work. The first study was done in 1990 and resulted in Msgr. Philip Murnion's path-breaking report, "New Parish Ministers." The second was done in 1997 and produced the follow-up book, "Parishes and Parish Ministers," by Murnion and David DeLambo. The most recent study was done in 2005, and the findings are contained in "Lay Parish Ministers," written by David DeLambo.

NPLC's findings point to a number of challenges.

- More Catholics, but fewer priests and fewer parishes. In 1990, the Official Catholic Directory (OCD) reported that there were 55 million Catholics, 52,535 priests and 19,620 parishes.



RESEARCH FOR THE CHURCH

JAMES D. DAVIDSON

Now there are over 64 million Catholics, but only 42,528 priests and 19,206 parishes.

- Same number of registered parishioners per parish. In 1990, there was an average of 2,351 registered parishioners per parish. That average has not changed much; it is now 2,323. DeLambo attributes this finding to the increasing number of Hispanic Catholics ("who are not as likely to register as Anglo Catholics") and the fact that today's young adults also are not as likely to join a parish.

- Fewer, larger Masses. With the declining number of priests, there has been a reduction in the number of Masses offered each weekend and an increase in the average attendance of Masses. In 1990, the average weekend Mass attendance rate per parish was 1,099. Now it is 1,326. But NPLC's data also indicate that parishioners are responding to these challenges. They are stepping into leadership roles and

making improvements in their parishes.

- Increased number of lay ecclesial ministers. In 1990, just over half of parishes employed lay people who worked at least half time in parish ministry. Now, two-thirds do. The number of lay ecclesial ministers also has risen, from 21,569 in 1990 to 29,146 in 1997 and 30,632 in 2005. As the percentage of lay ministers who are sisters has declined (from 41 percent in 1990 to just 16 percent in 2005), the percentage who are lay women has increased (from 44 to 64 percent), as has the percentage of lay men (from 14 to 20 percent).
- Increased planning. Over time, parishes seem to be doing more planning. One indication of this is that the percentage of parishes with a parish council has reached an all time high of 92 percent. Another sign of increased planning is the growth of mission

DAVIDSON, PAGE 14

Learning about Jesus and ourselves



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Mk 1:29-39.

The Book of Job is the source of this weekend's first reading. This book furnishes few details about the identity of Job. It is nonetheless one of the great literary works in the Old Testament since it so remarkably captures the struggle experienced by many believers as they try to match their faith in the merciful God to problems in their lives.

Scholars disagree as to when this book was written.

A misreading of Job has led to a phrase that has gone into English common speech. It is reference to the "patience of Job." Clear in many places in this book is the fact that Job was not always so patient with God.

In this weekend's reading, Job vents his impatience. He asks if life on earth is not in reality drudgery. Each human being, Job writes, is a slave. Personally, Job says he has been assigned "months of misery." "I shall not see happiness again," he writes drearily.

St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians provides the second reading.

The same source has given earlier weekend liturgies this winter

their second readings. In this passage from First Corinthians, Paul insists that he was free to accept the call to be an Apostle or to spurn the call. He chose to accept the call.

He evangelizes. He proclaims the Good News. He explains the identity, and mission, of Jesus. Paul's own Christianity compels him to evangelize. It is an act of service, and of love, given people who otherwise would not know Jesus. People's needs in this regard are so great that Paul's obligation, correspondingly intense, makes him the people's slave.

For its final reading, the church offers us a selection from St. Mark's Gospel. It is the story of the Lord's curing of Peter's mother-in-law. Matthew and Luke have their versions of the same story.

The story is clear. Merely by touching her hand, Jesus cured the woman. She was so fully cured, in fact, that she immediately rose from her sickbed and began to wait on Jesus and the disciples. She was healthy again, but she used her health to care for others. For all Christians, the impulse to serve others is true health.

While the cure is extraordinary, Mark does not make the fortunate mother-in-law the centerpiece of this reading. Rather, Jesus is the focus of the story. Christians have remembered the miracle long. Indeed, archeologists have found traces of this mother-in-law's house in Capernaum. They confirmed their discovery by the fact that ancient Christian inscriptions were found on the walls.

As the story continues, Jesus heals the sick and drives demons away. He ordered the demons not to speak, and they obeyed.

Then, alone, Jesus went to a distant place to pray. Since there

are no deserts in the vicinity of Capernaum, Jesus must have gone some distance, or at least to a barren place. Simon and the others pursue Jesus, longing to be near the Lord, needing the Lord.

When at last they find Jesus, the Lord reminds them that the messianic role is to reach all people.

Reflection

The church continues to introduce us to Jesus, a process begun weeks ago at Christmas and underscored in the lessons of the feast of the Epiphany and in those of the feast of the Lord's Baptism.

Jesus is Lord, the Son of God, with all the power thus implied. His role is to bring to humanity God's mercy and perfection.

The condition of Peter's mother-in-law, and the anxiousness with which Peter and the others search for Jesus, tell us about ourselves. Conditions occur in life, as overwhelming as those faced by Job. We are powerless to overcome them. Jesus overcomes them. His apostles continued to exercise this saving mission.

READINGS

Fifth week of Ordinary Time

Monday: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13 Ps 132:6-10 Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30 Ps 84:3-5, 10-11 Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday: 1 Kgs 10:1-10 Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40 Mk 7:14-23

Thursday: 1 Kgs 11:4-13 Ps 106:3-4, 35-37, 40 Mk 7:24-30

Friday: 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19 Ps 81:10-15 Mk 7:31-37

Saturday: 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34 Ps 106:6-7, 19-22 Mk 8:1-10

THE CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Camplisson

In February, we remember Our Lady of Lourdes. Apparitions, beloved by many in the church, and distrusted by many outside her, are the subject of this quiz.

1. What is an apparition?

- a theophany or acting by God in history
- a perceptible vision of Christ, Mary or a saint to a person or persons
- a conversation between God and a mystic

2. Apparitions are not only recent phenomena. They occur as early as this in the Bible:

- Genesis 26:24
- Exodus 34:87
- Mark 1:34

3. Who has the authority to decide if an apparition is genuine?

- the one who sees it
- only the faith community
- the church

4. When does a review usually have to occur?

- when two or three people see it
- when it has become a local "cultus" or focus of devotion
- when Satan decides

5. This apparition was to Juan Diego

- Our Lady of The Roses
- Our Lady of Guadalupe
- The Virgin of Jalisco

6. In what country was that?

- Panama
- Belize
- Mexico

7. This medal is related to an apparition:

- The Croix de Guerre
- The purple heart
- The miraculous medal

8. To whom was its design given by Mary?

- Catherine de Medici
- Sister Catherine Labouré
- Carlotta of Mexico

9. In 1846, this apparition occurred in France:

- Our Lady of La Salette
- Lourdes
- La Pucelle d'Orleans

10. Perhaps the most famous apparition was in this French town in 1858:

- Our Lady of La Salette
- Lourdes
- La Pucelle d'Orleans

11. This Irish site (whose name means hill in Irish) was the venue for as Marian apparition in 1879:

- Knock
- An Montaignhe
- Glenna Caoire

12. This Portuguese site with an Arabic name was the scene of an apparition in 1917:

- Mustafaze
- Al Wafd
- Fatima

13. In the 1930s, there were apparitions in Banneux and Beauraing, both in

- Belgium
- France
- Switzerland

14. More recently, apparitions have been claimed for Medjugorje. Where is that?

- Croatia in the former Yugoslavia
- Kosovo in the former Yugoslavia
- Bosnia in the former Yugoslavia

15. What term officially describes validated apparitions?

- locution
- public revelation
- private revelation

ANSWERS:

1. b, 2. a, 3. c, 4. b, 5. b, 6. c, 7. c, 8. b, 9. a, 10. b, 11. a, 12. c, 13. a, 14. c, 15. c

'Mixed marriages' requires the Catholic to be strong in the faith

If a Catholic is considering marrying a Protestant or other non-Catholic, what does church teaching say about this? Anonymity requested, Fort Wayne.

Since ancient times, the church has been concerned about marriages of Catholics with those who do not share the faith of the church. Such marriages are called "mixed marriages." The concern here has centered on the fear that such Catholics will lose their faith and that children born of this marriage will also be lost to the church. In fact, at certain times in the church's history, it was prohibited for Catholics to marry non-Catholics.

However, because of the ecumenical openness of the Second Vatican Council, this prohibition was reconsidered by the church, and in 1970, Pope Paul VI issued a document, which made the contracting of mixed marriages a more open possibility. At this same time, the pope warned the faithful that such marriages are not without difficulty for the church. He stated, "There are

very many difficulties inherent to a mixed marriage as such since a kind of division is introduced into a living cell of the church." Because of this, mixed marriages were discouraged.

At the present time, the law of the church requires that a couple obtain the permission of the bishop of the diocese in order to enter into a mixed marriage. Before this permission is granted, the Catholic party must promise to remove all dangers of leaving the Catholic faith and is to make a sincere promise to do all in his or her power to baptize and raise their children Catholic. In current practice, this permission is easily obtained from diocesan bishops in this country.

My pastoral experience as a priest has shown that in order for mixed marriages to be successful in terms of the faith, the Catholic party must be especially strong in the practice of the faith. The Catholic must be willing, for all practical purposes, to shoulder the burden of raising the children in the faith by themselves. This is

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

no small matter and can be especially difficult if the non-Catholic happens to have a strong identity with their own Christian community. Paul VI's warning is as appropriate today as it was in 1970.

On the other hand, mixed marriages are not impossible situations. With much love, patience and openness of God's grace, couples in mixed marriages can flourish along with their children in the fulfillment of the plan of God for their lives. Also, it should be remembered that many non-Catholics have become Catholic because of marriage to a Catholic. This has been a source of great blessing for the church.

Why can't priests marry? EC, Fort Wayne

Actually, being unmarried is not essential to being a priest. The pope could change this tomorrow, if he wanted. However, for centuries the church has required that priests make a promise of celibacy, that is, a promise to remain chaste and unmarried for the rest of their lives. I wouldn't look for the pope to make this change anytime soon, or ever, because the celibacy of the priest is a great gift to the church for several reasons.

First, we truly believe that because of his ordination the priest becomes changed. He remains the same person, but his very being changes so that when the priest celebrates the sacraments, it is truly Jesus himself who celebrates them in and through the priest. For example, when at Mass the priest says, "Take this all of you and eat it. This is my body," we hear the voice of the priest, but it is really Jesus who is speaking to change the bread and wine into his own body and blood. Because Jesus remained unmarried while on this

earth, the fact that a priest is celibate always reminds us of the fact that the priest is "another Christ" in the world, especially when he celebrates the sacraments.

Second, the celibacy of the priest points to the way that all of us will be in heaven. Jesus himself tells us in the Scriptures that there is no marriage in heaven. Matthew 22:29 says, "For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven."

Finally, when we talk about the relationship of Jesus and the church, we say that the church is the bride and Jesus is the bridegroom (this comes from the Book of Revelation, among other places). Since the bride of Jesus is the church, that means that the church is also the bride of the priest since the priest becomes truly "another Christ" in the world. If that is the case, then there's no room in the priest's life for any other bride. The priest becomes completely enamored with, completely devoted to, his and Christ's one beautiful bride, the church.

I need a new heart

It's serious. I need a new heart. No, no, not that kind. Thank goodness I'm alive and actually pretty healthy. What I'm talking about is my kitchen. They say the kitchen is the heart of the home. Well, I need a transplant.

Let me back up a second. My kitchen is actually very nice. I have simple cherry cabinets with clean lines, a functioning refrigerator and stove, although the latter is approaching its 20th birthday. The faucet works. The view of the backyard is nice, and the light oak floor hides the crumbs very well. But the eating area is markedly too small for our brood of nine children. We have to all hold our breath to sit down at the table for dinner. Have you ever been to a circus where clown after clown keeps climbing out of a Volkswagen? Well, that reminds me of my kids and my kitchen.

Woe to the three-year-old that has to excuse herself to use the bathroom during a meal. She has an important decision to make. Will she squeeze through dad's side, though he will be required to take a deep breath to allow the passage? Or will she pass through brother Michael's side, which would require him to stand up and to the side?

Never mind either of those options. She chooses the sensible thing. She crawls under the table, dodging legs, and gets through in a jiffy.

It's gotten so cramped around here that the kids actually take bets at the beginning of the meal as to who will be the one to spill the milk. The odds are pretty good that someone will. Eleven people going elbow to elbow at a table meant for six is a recipe for a milk disaster if I've ever seen one.

Last night, the unlucky one was Melissa, age 10. She was a pretty good sport about it. (It happens to most of us at one time or another) and not too much milk



EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

TERESA A. THOMAS

landed on the floor. Most landed in the dish of cold carrots, which were, after all, crammed in right next to her plate.

I've read that crime rates increase in cramped spaces in hot weather. I believe it. That's why I try to keep the kitchen cool. No need to build up friction when rubbing elbows already accomplishes that. I've always got the ceiling fan on in there too. It's hard to swat at a younger sibling when a brisk breeze is blowing you backwards.

I was pondering our space situation the other day as I was helping three little girls who share one double bed fluff up their pillows and quilt. (Our kitchen isn't the only space in this house that is too small.) Is it really necessary, I wondered, to have lots of room to accomplish our mission as a family?

Pope John Paul II emphasized, in his "Apostolic Exhortation Familiaris Consortio on The Role of the Christian Family in the Modern World" four general tasks for the family: forming a community of persons; serving life; participating in the development of society; and sharing in the life and mission of the church.

I don't see anything about a spacious kitchen in there.

A family's job to form a community of persons seems simple enough. Marriage makes an instant family. Adding children through birth or adoption makes the family grow. But the next task starts to make things tricky. It is serving life.

Notice the task is not "serving life in a 3,000 square foot home" or even "serving life comfortably"

but just serving life. By opening our heart and home (small kitchen and all) to people, from noisy babies who keep us up at night to aging parents with their own idiosyncrasies and demands to unexpected visitors, we are performing the family mission of serving life. By educating our children to the best of our ability and making sacrifices to do so, we are also serving life and thus fulfilling our task as family.

Participating in the development of society and sharing in the life and mission of the church means we are to model the universal church in our family home. The universal church is composed of many members. Strong members are to look out for weak members. In a cramped kitchen they pour the milk and cut up meat for those unable to do so.

We're making plans to build a new home, closer to the kids' Catholic high school, and to my husband's new office. We'd like to add a bedroom or two since the kids are currently stacked, a la bunk bed, vertically to sleep. While I'm hoping for more square footage to raise this brood of blessings, I know it's not necessary in order to fulfill our task as a family. Our oldest starts college in the fall, so finances are going to be tight. I really would like a larger kitchen, but I'm not going to hold my breath — unless, of course, it's to let one of the kids through.

Theresa A. Thomas is the mother of nine children and a member of St. Mary of the Annunciation Parish in Bristol.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for February 5, 2006

Mark 1:29-39

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: the healing of Peter's mother-in-law and others. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

SYNAGOGUES	HOUSE	SIMON
ANDREW	JAMES	JOHN
MOTHER-IN-LAW	FEVER	TOLD HIM
LEFT HER	POSSESSED	DEMONS
CURED MANY	SICK	DISEASES
KNEW HIM	PLACE	HE PRAYED
EVERYONE	LET US GO	THAT I MAY

SIMON'S HOUSE

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

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DAVIDSON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

statements. In 1990, only 29 percent of parishes had mission statements. By 1997, half did. In 2005, 78 percent did.

• More use of computers. With all of these changes and the availability of new technology, parishes

are increasingly turning to computers for help. In 1990, only 6 percent of parishes had an Internet home page. Now, 55 percent do. In 1997, 78 percent of parishes used computers to manage their revenues and personnel information. Now, 88 percent do.

James D. Davidson is professor of sociology at Purdue University in West Lafayette.

The Garden of Eden is believed to be in modern Iraq

What did the Garden of Eden where Adam and Eve first lived look like?

The Book of Genesis describes the Garden of Eden located near the head of the Persian Gulf where the Tigris and Euphrates rivers join with two other streams to form a single river. This area is in southern Mesopotamia in modern Iraq. The Bible describes the Garden of Eden as having many trees that were beautiful and good for food. The Bible singles out two special trees: the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and bad. The land around these rivers also offers gold, bdellium (a gum resin similar to myrrh) and lapis lazuli (an azure blue semiprecious stone).

The New American Bible mentions that the word "Eden" is ancient Sumerian for "fertile plain." A similar-sounding Hebrew word means "delight." So the Garden of Eden is a garden of delight, a paradise, a pleasure park.

The Old Testament prophets, like Isaiah, Ezekiel and Joel, mention the Garden of Eden as a place of extreme fertility and magnificent trees.

Father John McKenzie men-

tions that pagan near Eastern literature also describes places of happiness near the mouths of two rivers. The Ugaritic god El dwelt at the source of two rivers, possibly a cosmic paradise similar to Eden but not a human abode. In the Sumerian flood story, Utnapishtim and his wife were translated after the flood to enjoy immortality at the mouth of the rivers. Of course, being near a source of fresh water would be a must for ancient people to survive.

The area where the Garden of Eden is said to be located is called the "Marshlands" today. It is an area in southern Iraq covering 6,000 square miles and forms a triangle between the cities of Basrah, Amarah and Nasiriyah. The marshlands is a sea of reeds and its thousands of inhabitants are ancestors of the ancient Sumerian fishermen who lived in this area 6,000 years ago.

K. Dabrowska explains that these Marsh Arabs, like the ancient Sumerians, built cathedral-shaped reed houses and bitumen or asphalt-covered boats and caught fish using spears. Eventually thin-grained rice was



FATHER RICHARD HIRE

HIRE HISTORY

introduced in 1000 B.C. (the time of King David in Israel) that was considered very nutritious. Where the Tigris River joins the Euphrates, you can see what is claimed to be Adam's tree, or the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, but the tree is dried up today, because of recent attempts at draining the marshes.

The reeds of these marshlands grow up to 20 feet in height and provide house-building material. The birds and the fish serve as a ready supply of food. Duck and heron breed in the reeds and there is a plentiful supply of carp and eel. The ancient Sumerians also introduced water buffalo into the marshlands. The rafts or floating platforms of reeds were large enough to hold a hut or a few buffalo.

The canoes of the marshlands are made of wood and can carry as many as 12 people. They are 36 feet long, but only 3-1/2 feet at the widest beam. The canoe is flat-bottomed with movable boards covering the floor. The canoe resembles a Viking ship.

The canoe can be fitted up as a floating shop. The Marsh Arabs sell sugar, tea, tobacco and cloth. The Marsh Arabs are excellent swimmers and can kill a fish from a moving canoe.

An environmental study in 1994 said the Marshlands support a number of rare species. These include mammals like the long-fingered bat, the Mesopotamian spiny-tailed lizard, the bandicoot rat, the smooth-coated otter, the wild boar, the Goliath heron and

the sacred ibis. Some 134 species of birds are found in the Marshlands.

There are some travel videos and educational television programs that give you a glimpse of how the Marshlands and its people look. It is a very primitive,

unspoiled, true-to-life and beautiful picture that you see.

We can suppose that, for the ancient Sumerians, the marshlands signified great fertility and happiness, and could be a proper location for the first man and woman. It would be possible that Abraham, who lived in southern Mesopotamia, brought the

story of the Garden of Eden with him and passed it on to his descendants.

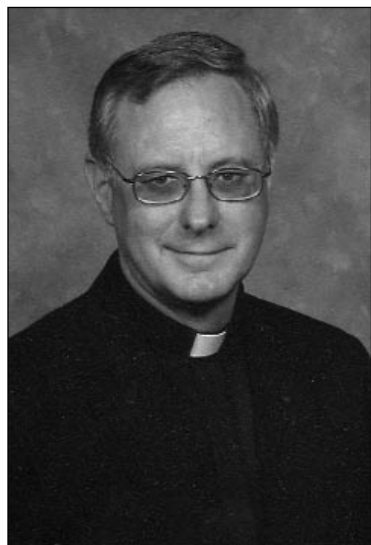
It is an area in southern Iraq covering 6,000 square miles and forms a triangle between the cities of Basrah, Amarah and Nasiriyah.

Meet The Priest

Father Robert Schulte

Ordained to the priesthood:
May 31, 1975

Rector of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
Vicar General/Chancellor of Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend



Briefly tell us what was the primary influence on your decision to become a priest?

Other good priests I observed when growing up.

Why do you like being a priest?

I get joy from celebrating Mass, preaching, visiting the ill and homebound.

Do you have a special interest or hobby? How did this interest develop?

Bicycling, from childhood, especially the early teen years.

What do you like to do for relaxation?

Ride bike, hike, read and travel.

What is your favorite reading material? Who is/are your favorite author(s)?

Recently, Jerome Murphy-O'Connor, "Paul, His Story"; Jon

Krakauer, "Under the Banner of Heaven"; Graham Green's so called "Catholic novels." Also poems of Gerald M. Hopkins, T.S. Elliot novels and short stories of Flannery O'Connor.

What do you think is the best part of being Catholic?

Promise of eternal life, sacraments, mystery and the Mass.

What is your favorite prayer?

Memorare

What is your favorite Scriptural passage?

Is 35:3-4

How do you prefer to be addressed by laity?

Father Bob

Catholic Charities president on Pope Benedict XVI's encyclical 'Deus Caritas Est' ('God Is Love')

BY LARRY SNYDER

It is of profound significance that the subject of Pope Benedict XVI's first encyclical is charity. Using biblical and poetic imagery, he reminds us that charity is as central to Christian life as word and sacrament.

It is also noteworthy that the encyclical's release coincides with an International Conference on Charity sponsored by the Pontifical Council Cor Unum at which some 200 leaders of Catholic charitable organizations around the world gathered.

The Holy Father explained to us that his purpose in promulgating this encyclical is to reclaim the word "Caritas" (love). "We must reclaim it, purify it, and bring it back to its original splendor."

The Holy Father does not shy away from confronting the misunderstandings of our culture, but addresses them in a reflection on the relationships of "eros" to "agape".

Catholic Charities USA and its member agencies welcome this encyclical and find in it a challenge and an affirmation. As organizations specifically commissioned to carry out the social ministry of the church, the encyclical demands that we be not just another philanthropic organization but that our Catholic identity and its inherent values imbue our organization and permeate how we deliver services.

This is an affirmation of the commitment we have made in the United States to make the forma-

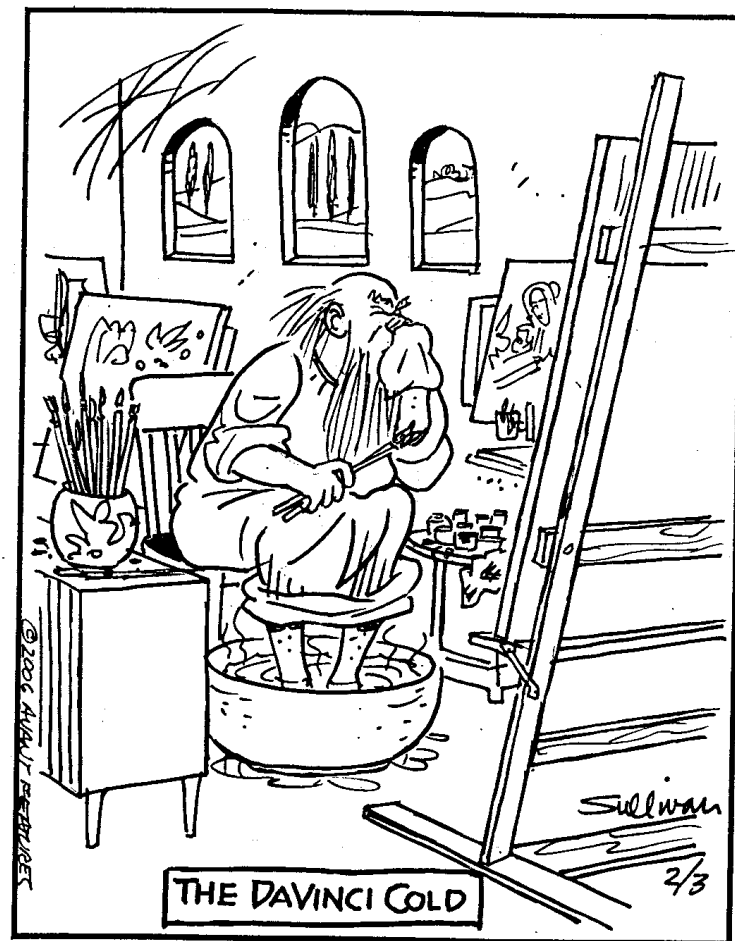
tion of our leaders and staff in mission and Catholic identity a priority.

The Holy Father's comments on the place of proselytism in the service of charity also affirm the practice of Catholic Charities agencies to provide services based upon need and not race or creed.

The encyclical also reaffirms that the Catholic response is a

social response, but one rooted in the commitment and conviction of individual behavior. Without that support, our work would be impossible.

Father Larry Snyder is the president of Catholic Charities USA.



Sports

UNIVERSITY OF SAINT FRANCIS HOSTS AWARDS BANQUET The date for the annual Cougar Football Awards Banquet is set for Sunday, Feb. 26, 1 p.m. at the new Landmark Conference and Reception Center, 6222 Ellison Rd. The awards banquet is \$25 per person. Reservation deadline is Feb. 10, 5 p.m. Contact Juanita McMeeking at (260) 434-7772 or by e-mail at jmcmeeeking@sf.edu to reserve a seat to join the celebration that includes 18 seniors who were 40-0 over the last four regular seasons.

God is there — win, lose or draw

We've all heard someone say it. In fact, you've probably said it yourself. God has more important things to worry about than who wins a football game ... or a basketball game ... or a baseball game. In theory, one would have to agree. God's "concerns" must go far beyond the winner of this Sunday's clash between undefeated CYO or ICCL teams.

Yet it would be rather presumptuous on our part to assume an understanding of God's concerns, let alone how he would choose to utilize the outcome of a game. We are taught that God's scope is so broad-ranging that we cannot begin to comprehend. Yet we feel secure in speculating that God doesn't care about a game's result.

I have to admit that I don't have the knowledge or depth of wisdom to know the answer to that for sure.

Naturally, as flawed humans, we assume that God deems winning as good and losing as bad. We are so secularly conditioned that we figure God would only reward with a victory and punish with a defeat. I suspect God prob-

ably doesn't look at it that way. I suspect that sometimes losing is the best outcome for the coach or the players involved. Sometimes the lessons we learn about life or dealing with people are better taught in defeat than victory. Sometimes adversity is what we need to become a better person.

Likewise, a victory is not always in the best interest of the conquerors. Perhaps it is at that time that God cares about the outcome of a game the most.

I have found myself embroiled in a tense, action-packed baseball game, sitting in my team's dugout, feeling like the calmest guy in the park. Why? Because sometimes, when I can detach my human emotions from the situation, I can turn to God and simply say, "Your will be done," and accept the fact that at that precise moment, I have absolutely no control over the result. That doesn't mean I stop coaching or stop trying to provide my players with the words to succeed. That would be a neglectful act on my part. But sometimes you must let your fate take care of itself, accept the outcome and move on. We've prepared them the best we could;



FROM THE SIDELINES

BY TIM PRISTER

now it's up to the players to succeed or fail.

I'd be less than truthful if I said that there aren't times when I get very emotional during a game. If you've seen us play the last two years, you'd know this to be true. I'm human and I want our team to win. I can sometimes feel my heart pounding in my chest at the most critical juncture of the game. But there are other times when I can completely relax and be at peace. It is at those moments when my faith serves me well.

When a player or coach thanks God after a victory, it doesn't necessarily mean that he or she is thanking God for making him a winner and the opponent a loser. He or she is simply saying, "I feel

wonderful. I am very happy that we won. My hard work paid off in the form of a victory. I feel blessed. Thank you."

I have different reactions when my team loses a game. Sometimes I'm very optimistic after a loss, especially if we played well. Sometimes I'm quite upset with my team, despite the victory, because even though we won, we didn't play up to our potential or, far worse, we didn't represent our school with dignity. Win or lose, I ask God to help me use the outcome for the benefit of my players.

I don't know if God wants our team to win all the time. (I suspect he would have to take my ego down a peg or two if we did.) I'd like to think that our hard work, doing things right and believing in all the positive things that contribute to a winning team will help lead us to victory the next time we play. But sometimes it doesn't work that way, and we must accept that.

Does God have better things to worry about than who wins the baseball game? I must say, I don't really know, although clearly there are more pressing issues

in the world. I do know that athletics provides us with the forum to teach young men and women a lot of great lessons about life.

Sometimes the worst examples are perpetuated in victory. Other times, the lessons in defeat have the most significant impact. Just as long as I know God is there with me — win, lose or draw — is all that really matters. In that much, I am secure.

Tim Prister is a 1978 graduate of Mishawaka Marian High School and a 1982 graduate with a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Notre Dame, where he was the starting third baseman for the Irish baseball squad in 1981-82. Prister is the senior writer for *Blue & Gold Illustrated* after serving 20 years as editor. He is the author "What It Means To Be Fighting Irish" and is currently working on "The Gold Standard," a book which will detail Charlie Weis' first year as head football coach at Notre Dame. Prister also is in his third year as head baseball coach at Mishawaka Marian.

St. Jude and Corpus Christi continue winning streak

SOUTH BEND — In Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) action on Jan. 29, Corpus Christi of the St. John Bosco West division and St. Jude of the St. Martin de Porres West division continue their winning streaks with no losses this season.

Corpus Christi won in a nail-biter game with St. Thomas of Elkhart, which led to overtime. The game was tied at 49 at the end of the regulation. Corpus Christi won, 63-54, with Joey Ragukonis pacing his team with 20 points. St. Thomas' Michael Kibiloski also had 20 points.

The big scorer of the day was Todd Vervynckt of St. Michael of Plymouth. He scored 23 points for St. Michael to beat St. Joseph of Mishawaka, 40-24. Aaron Bulger had 14 points for St. Joseph.

St. John the Baptist beat St.

Bavo, 43-29, with Chris Shaw and Jacob Kuczanski, each tallying 11 points for the St. John's team. Jordan Milligan had 17 points for St. Bavo.

In other games, St. Jude won over St. Pius, 45-12, with Trace

Christ the King beat St. Matthew, 42-17, in a game in which Tim Bishop had 13 points for Christ the King.

St. Monica of Mishawaka beat St. Adalbert, 18-17, and St. Joseph, South Bend, defeated Holy Cross, 50-21.

In the colors division, Corpus Christi Red beat St. Matthew Black, 21-17. Hank Blum scored 12 points for St. Matthew. Christ the King White beat St. Thomas White, 44-32, with Alec Estep leading St. Thomas with 10 points. St. Thomas Gold defeated St. Jude Green, 32-19, with Ben Brewers of St. Thomas tallying 18 points. St. Anthony Maroon beat St. Thomas Maroon, 39-32, with Brandon Thorpe leading St. Anthony with 17 points. Holy Family Blue nipped St. Joseph Blue, South Bend, 17-16.

Dowling tossing in 17 points for the winners.

Holy Family defeated St. Anthony, 38-28. Holy Family was led by Jordan Carillo with 10 points.



Clergy wonder how to deal with effect of Ford job cuts in their areas

BY ROBERT DELANEY

DETROIT (CNS) — As Ford Motor Co. announced its intent to close 14 manufacturing plants and cut up to 30,000 jobs over the next six years, clergy in cities affected by the plant closings wondered how they were going to help their parishioners whose jobs and livelihoods were at risk.

Father Michael Savickas said he would remind parishioners affected by the planned closing of Ford's assembly plant in Wixom, a Detroit suburb, of the symbol of the church as an anchor.

"Our faith is a fixed point we can hold onto when things are changing around us," Father Savickas, pastor of St. William Parish in nearby Walled Lake, said soon after hearing the Jan. 23 announcement that the huge plant within his parish boundaries would close as part of the automaker's "Way Forward" restructuring plan.

Faced with a declining share of the U.S. car market and losses on its domestic business, Ford's

sweeping plan includes closing five plants by 2008, including Wixom.

Father Savickas said he knows about 100 of his parish's 2,350 families include Ford employees, but was not sure how many of them are employed at Wixom. But he added that many more parishioners could be affected.

"This will probably have an even larger impact on people who work for other companies that are suppliers to the plant, or those in service businesses such as restaurants that depend on business from the plant's workers," he said.

The Wixom plant stands just outside the parish boundaries of St. James Parish in the suburb of Novi, and its pastor was already asking parishioners to pray for the Wixom workers at weekend Masses prior to the announcement.

Father George Chamley, St. James' pastor, said he believes the church has a solid message of hope for those affected by the planned closing. "As Catholics,

Homeless an issue clouding effort to shine up Detroit for Super Bowl

BY JOE KOHN

DETROIT (CNS) — Detroit officials and residents hope to spit-shine the city's image when the Super Bowl comes to town Feb. 5, but to do that the city has had to focus on a growing concern that screams for help: the problem of homelessness.

Depending on who's counting, there are 5,000-13,000 people living on the streets of Detroit at any given time. Other estimates say 30,000-50,000 have no homes of their own but are taken in by friends or relatives.

A sizable portion of the homeless population resides in downtown Detroit — within blocks of where the National Football League's Super Bowl will be played.

It's in this area that a handful of organizations have dug their trenches in the war against homelessness. Among them are Most Holy Trinity, Sts. Peter and Paul (Jesuit) and St. Aloysius parishes,

the Dorothy Day Catholic Worker House shelter for women and Manna Community Meals soup kitchen.

"The focus right now is to take care of their daily needs," said Kathy Lynch, director of St. Al's Center in downtown Detroit. "But it's also to reroute them in their journeys so their daily needs will be satisfied in different ways."

The major needs of the homeless, Lynch told *The Michigan Catholic*, newspaper of the Detroit Archdiocese, are having food and clothing, being able to use a restroom and to shower. "The biggest, of course, is the issue of housing — getting them into an apartment or some place where they're safe from the elements," she said.

Volunteers at the city's shelters scramble to make sandwiches, hand out blankets and open restrooms and portable toilets. Some even have nurses tend to the feet of the homeless, who often spend their days walking in shoes that are worn or don't fit properly.

Lynch points out that not everyone understands what it means to give a homeless person life's bare necessities.

"I've had people say to me, 'You're enabling them,'" Lynch said. "And I tell them, 'You try to go 48 hours without eating, and then tell me that we're enabling them.'"

The main goal Catholics in and around Detroit have in caring for the poor is to eliminate the source of homelessness.

Those who take it on say it's even more difficult than it sounds.

"Without constant support, they're not going to make it any amount of time in any housing facility," said Jamie Ebaugh, a program manager and caseworker at Oasis Detroit. The nonprofit that houses 15 mentally ill homeless people was founded by parishioners from St. Aloysius.

The difficulty of the challenge, however, hasn't kept Christians in Detroit from answering their baptismal call to serve the poor,

according to some of the city's spiritual leaders.

"When the people see a clear connection between the announced Gospel in liturgy and an opportunity to apply it where there's a loose end in society, they want to be a part of it," said Father Russ Kohler, pastor of Most Holy Trinity Parish.

Most Holy Trinity has stretched its resources to meet the needs of the homeless — from opening its church as a place to sleep at night, to maintaining the free St. Frances Cabrini Medical Clinic, to using its school cafeteria to provide legal services to the poor.

Father Tom Lumpkin, co-manager of Manna Community Meals, said Christ taught the church that helping the poor is as natural as prayer.

"It is just as much a mission of the church to be actively involved in alleviating the concerns of the poor as it is to have a good liturgy," Father Lumpkin said. Through caring for the needy,

Father Lumpkin said, Christians are realizing the oneness of God's family.

"In Scriptures, that thought is expressed well in that we are the body of Christ," he said. "We're trying to be connected. We find our true selves in reaching out to others and being connected ... because our true self is an interconnected part in the whole body of Christ."

Often in his four decades of ministry at Manna, Father Lumpkin added, he has seen volunteers grow to a deeper understanding of their role within Christ's body.

"One of their experiences is that they discover that the homeless person or hungry person is not all that different from themselves," he said. "Those programs and structures (to help the homeless) are ways to dispel some of those fears and discover people like you in the people that you're serving."

FORD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

we're always hope-filled and relying on the Lord," he told *The Michigan Catholic*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Detroit.

Sponsoring a jobs fair could be a way for the parish to help, Father Charnley suggested. He said he did not know how many of the parish's 2,000 families included Ford Wixom workers or others who might be affected.

Ron Michels, 43, a pipe fitter in the paint shop at the Wixom plant and a member of St. William Parish, said the announcement was not unexpected. "I pretty much knew it was coming. It's been a two-year ordeal, ever since the plant went down to one shift," he said. "Unless you'd been sleeping, it's not really a surprise, but it is a disappointment."

Michels said Ford workers would be eligible for unemployment, with supplemental pay from Ford taking them up to about 80 percent of what they were making for up to 40 weeks. Beyond that point, they would go into the company's "jobs bank" for an additional period.

Michels said he and his wife, Kris, would have to look at all their expenditures, including the tuition they pay for three children to attend St. William Elementary School.

But he added they were "not in a crisis mode," and had "always been kind of thrifty."

Michels said his wife was already going to school to get a better job, and he could always use his pipefitting skills to do other kinds of plumbing work.

He said faith should be a constant in a person's life under any circumstances. "You need your faith whether or not you keep your job — in bad times or in good times," he added.

Ford is also closing an assembly plant in Hazelwood, Mo., outside St. Louis.

"The impending closing ... is a matter of great concern both to me



CNS PHOTO/JIM WEST

A worker assembles a Ford F-150 pick-up truck at the Dearborn Truck Plant in Dearborn, Mich., in this 2005 file photo. Father Michael Savicka, pastor of St. William Parish in Walled Lake, Mich., said he would remind parishioners affected by the planned closing of Ford Motor Co.'s Wixom assembly plant that they should see the church as an anchor to hold onto as they cope with the coming changes.

and to the Catholic Church in the St. Louis region," said a Jan. 24 statement by Archbishop Raymond L. Burke of St. Louis.

"We understand that such closings are usually necessitated by undeniable economic realities and that there are complex issues of corporate viability which must be taken into consideration as well," he said.

"However, the loss of livelihood for anyone is a hardship, and not only for that individual. It has repercussions for everyone with whom that person interacts. When the loss is multiplied hundreds of times over, as will be the case with the layoffs resulting from the closing of the Hazelwood manufacturing facility, the situation becomes critical for the entire community," he said.

Archbishop Burke said a Catholic Family Services office

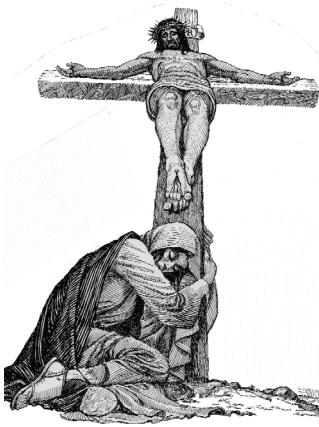
would relocate to nearby St. Sabina Church in Florissant, Mo., as of Feb. 1 to provide counseling and other services to laid-off workers and to their families.

"Also, the archdiocesan Catholic Education Office is currently working with parishes in the vicinity of the Hazelwood plant to ensure that families affected by the closing will be able to continue to make a Catholic education available to their children," he added.

Sydney Boesen, business manager of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Hapeville, Ga., an Atlanta suburb, said the parish was considering surveying parishioners who work at the Hapeville Ford assembly plant, also scheduled to close under the automaker's plan, to assess their needs.

CATHEDRAL

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Accusers, defenders tell their stories in Opus Dei book

REVIEWED BY YORK YOUNG

I can almost see the promo now for the movie version of "The Da Vinci Code," scheduled for release this summer. Shrouded in mist, a very light-skinned man in a white suit is barely visible. The tag line reads: "A secret society. A mission for God. One man is to be feared."

Anyone who has read the book knows what I speak of (think albino). And anyone who loves conspiracy theories and seeks to denigrate the Catholic Church will run to the movie hoping to see the exposition of the evil that is Opus Dei. Maybe I'm exaggerating a little here.

There are no worldwide conspiracies to control the world market, influence the Vatican and bring back the Tridentine Church in all its glory, according to "Opus Dei" (Doubleday, \$24.95), the latest book by John L. Allen Jr.

National Catholic Reporter's Vatican correspondent, Allen has made a living over the past several years demystifying subjects that people with an unfavorable view of the Catholic faith (anti-Catholic would be too strong a word in this particular case) love to point at as evidence that the church is out of touch with the people in the pew. "All the Pope's Men" and "Conclave," both favorably reviewed in these pages previously, took a reporter's look at the Vatican and its goings-on.

Allen's expertise as a reporter shines through again in "Opus Dei," which he posits as "an objective look behind the myths and reality of the most controversial force in the Catholic Church." He

does so admirably, though the work, as Opus Dei is called by adherents, is considered controversial because the myths he discusses in this effort too often are taken for reality.

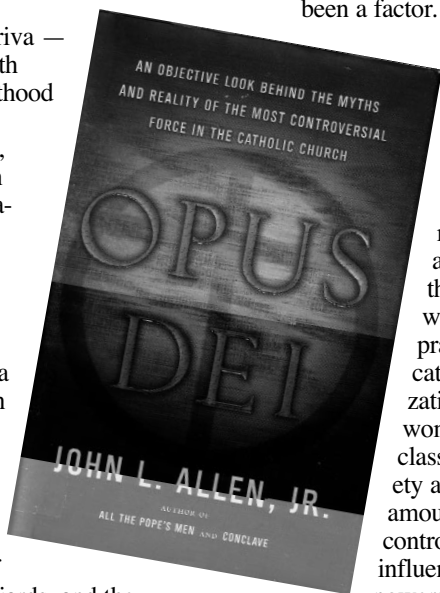
Opus Dei was founded by St. Josemaria Escriva — the rapidity with which his sainthood was bestowed (death in 1975, beatification in 1992, canonization in 2002) merely adds to the conspiracy models — in 1928 in Spain. Though it has a little more than 86,000 devotees worldwide at different levels of participation, 35,000 of those are Spaniards, and the United States is fifth on the list of total number of members. (According to Allen, there's a good chance that any individual Catholic in the United States doesn't know anyone that is a member of Opus Dei.) A lay organization that strives to avoid clericalism and maintains a clear demarcation between men and women residences, it is not a religious order. It earned Personal Prelature status in 1982 from the Vatican, the only organization in that category as of now — there has been much speculation that several other organizations may gain that status in the near future. All work is holy, and Opus Dei's goal is to sanctify the world through the work of its members.

But what has contributed to the mysterious nature of Opus Dei. No doubt, the success of "The Da Vinci Code," a novel that has sometimes been presented as fact by its author Dan Brown, though it still is merely a work of fiction, has been a factor. But even aside

from that, there have been plenty of charges, including, but not exclusive to, the secrecy members generally keep about their membership; wild stories of the practice of mortification; the organization treating women as second-class citizens; a society accruing huge amounts of money to control markets and influence political powers; recruiting practices; and pressure on members to disengage from relationships with their families.

Allen gives both accusers and defenders of Opus Dei pages to tell their stories and then analyzes these stories with a dispassionate eye. He also recounts both good and bad stories from former members.

The impression that Opus Dei is secretive can make even faithful Catholics curious and confused about its true nature. Allen's tome should put those fears to rest, and will hopefully get a reading from many moviegoers this summer that could use a little rational thinking after absorbing Hollywood's world view.



MOVIE CAPSULES

NEW YORK (CNS) – Following is a recent capsule review issued by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Office for Film and Broadcasting.

"Annapolis" (Touchstone)

Diverting but derivative drama about a scrappy shipyard worker (an appealing James Franco), who, after being accepted to the U.S. Naval Academy, must prove his mettle while training for the school's boxing tournament against his no-nonsense drill instructor (Tyrese Gibson). Though director Justin Lin's adrenalized climax achieves its desired rousing effect, this retread of "An Officer and a Gentleman" is hollow and formulaic. Brutal boxing sequences, an attempted suicide, some sexually crude language and humor, as well as profanity. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13.

"End of the Spear" (Every Tribe Entertainment)

Inspiring true story about a group of American missionaries in the Amazon and the native tribe with whom they are trying to make contact, whose lives are changed by tragedy when tribal warriors kill five of the foreigners in 1956, told through the eyes of the son of one of the martyred men (Chad Allen) and a volatile tribesman (Louie Leonardo) who took part in the massacre. Despite its tepid telling, director Jim Hanon's visually lovely and earnest film is a stirring testament to the power of faith and forgiveness to reconcile and heal. Some scenes of violence, including several spearings, limiting its suitability to older adolescents and up.

The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13.

"Nanny McPhee" (Universal)

Enjoyable tale of magical nanny (Emma Thompson) who comes to the aid of (seven) out-of-control children and their befuddled widower father (Colin Firth), a mortician, and the servant (Kelly MacDonal) who loves him from afar. Director Kirk Jones, working from a screenplay by Thompson based on the "Nurse Matilda" books, has derivative overtones of "Mary Poppins" and other children's fare, but the sweet story is touching, well acted by a solid British cast, including Angela Lansbury, Derek Jacobi and Imelda Staunton, and the almost fairy-tale ambience successfully sustained, with solid moral messages about the primacy of family and the inherent goodness of people. Some innuendo, mild bad language, rude humor, innocuous shots of cadavers and macabre childish pranks perhaps preclude viewing by the very youngest children. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II - adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

"Tristan & Isolde" (20th Century Fox)

Occasionally stirring but mostly somber retelling of the classic star-crossed love story set in the 6th century, about an English knight (James Franco) and his Irish lover (Sophia Myles) — promised in marriage to his liege (Rufus Sewell) — who must choose between passion and duty with the peace of their warring peoples hanging in the balance. Despite nice photography, attractive leads and the enduring themes of love, loss and honor, director Kevin Reynolds' tale of tragic romance is weighed down by Franco's brooding and humorless performance.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send in your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. Mail to: Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne 46856; or e-mail: fhogan@fw.diocesefwsb.org. Events that require an admission charge or payment to participate will receive one free listing. For additional listings of that event, please call our advertising sales staff to purchase space.

DEVOTIONS

Little Flower Holy Hour

Fort Wayne — Father Robert Schulte, rector of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, will celebrate the Holy Hour at MacDougal Chapel on Tuesday, Feb. 7, at 7:15 p.m. Join in prayer with the special intention for priests and vocations.

First Saturday devotions

Fort Wayne — On Saturday, Feb. 4, the World Apostolate of Fatima will hold devotions of reparation at St. Joseph Church, corner of Brooklyn and Hale and at St. Patrick, Arcola. Confessions will begin at 7:15 a.m., with meditation at 7:30 a.m., and the rosary at 7:45 a.m. The Mass will be at 8 a.m. All are welcome.

First Sunday rosary for families

Fort Wayne — The first Sunday rosary for families will be at MacDougal Chapel on Sunday, Feb. 5, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. with Father Jim Stoye from the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Sister Geraldine from USF and Sister Austin from St. Jude attending.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Baby shower supports Women's Care Center

Fort Wayne — The women of St. Joseph Parish, corner of Brooklyn and Hale Ave, will host a baby shower on Wednesday, Feb. 22, at 7 p.m. in the church basement. Bring a baby gift as a donation. The gifts will be given to the Womens Care Center.

Christ Child Society plans raffle

South Bend — The Christ Child Society is sponsoring a 50/50 cash raffle. Proceeds will be split 50/50 between the society and pro-rated evenly for five drawings. Tickets are \$100 each and will be sold from Feb. 10 to March 29 when the drawings will take place at the Sacred Heart Parish Center. For information or tickets contact the Christ Child Center at (574) 288-6028.

Beginning Experience announces retreat for widowed, divorced

Donaldson — A Beginning Experience weekend will be held Feb. 17-19 at Lindenwood Retreat Center. The weekend fee is \$175. Call (574) 233-2132 for information.

St. Jude Adult Faith Formation to host lecture series on church history.

Fort Wayne — Marilyn Fech, diocesan workshop speaker, will be presenting a church history lecture series at St. Jude Parish Hall on three Wednesdays, Feb. 1, 8, and 15, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Participants may attend one or all of these sessions. For information call the parish office at (260) 484-6609.

Blood drive hosted by Our Lady of Good Hope

Fort Wayne — A blood drive will be held at Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, 7215 St. Joe Rd, on Saturday, Feb. 18, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Each donor will receive a t-shirt.

FUNDRAISERS

Spaghetti dinner planned

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5570 will have an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner on Thursday, Feb. 9, from 4 to 6 p.m. Adults \$6, children ages 5 to 12 \$2.50. Dinner includes spaghetti, salad, bread, beverages and dessert. The council is located at 5202 Linden Ave., one block east of Mayflower Road.

SEAS Knights plan breakfast

Fort Wayne — A pancake and sausage breakfast will be Sunday, Feb. 5, from 8 to 11:30 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church on Aboite Center Road. Sponsored by Knight's of Columbus Council 11276.

Luers presents Cabaret Knight

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers Performing Arts Department will present Cabaret Knight Saturday, Feb. 18, at Bishop Luers Italian Cafe. This musical cabaret includes an Italian dinner, lively song and dance, and witty repartee. Doors open at 7 p.m., dinner and dessert served at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person. Phone reservations to Sue Mathias at (260) 456-1261 x3114 by Feb. 14.

Knights plan fish fry

Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 451, 601 Reed Rd., will have a fish fry on Friday, Feb. 3, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$6 for adults, \$3 for children 12 and under. Fish, two sides and beverage are included.

Knights plan spaghetti dinner

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner on Friday, Feb. 3, from 5-7 p.m. Adults \$7, children (5-12) \$3. Also available are chicken strips for \$7 and shrimp for \$8. Carry-out available.

Fort Wayne — The St. Joseph Hessen Cassel Knights of Columbus will have a drive-through fish dinner by Country

Chef on Friday, Feb. 10, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the church hall. Cost is \$6.50.

Scouts plan breakfast

Fort Wayne — St. John the Baptist Boy Scout Troup is hosting a pancake and sausage breakfast on Sunday, Feb. 19, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at St. John's PAC. The funds raised will be used to buy a new Scout trailer for Troup 19.

St. Joseph Athletic Association plans athletic smoker

Mishawaka — An athletic smoker will be held Friday, Feb. 10, from 7 p.m. to midnight in the school gymnasium, Third and Spring Street. First prize — \$100, second prize — \$50, third prize — \$25. Tickets \$1 in advance or 6 for \$5. \$2 at the door. Reverse draw tickets are \$20 each. Only 300 tickets available. Reverse draw ticket includes admission, refreshments and food.

Bishop Luers basketball sponsors casino 'knight'

Fort Wayne — The Bishop Luers Boys' Basketball Program is sponsoring Casino Knight, an evening of great adult entertainment in the Bishop Luers Cafe on Friday, Feb. 10, from 8 p.m.-midnight. Tickets are \$20 a person, which includes two-drink tickets, hors d'oeuvres and admission to the event. The services of "Aces Up," a Las Vegas style gaming company have been secured for the event. Some games include Texas Hold'em, Seven Card Stud, Five Card Stud and Black Jack. For tickets or questions, contact Dave and Joni Kuhn at (260) 456-2670, Dan and Anita Correll at (260) 747-7572 or Bishop Luers High School at (260) 456-1261.

Marian baseball trivia night

Mishawaka — Marian baseball will have a baseball trivia night on Saturday, Feb. 18. First prize is \$200. Call Tere at (574) 360-3786 or Linda at (574) 255-5512 to book a table. \$100 per table of 10 or \$10 per person. Arrival time is 6:30 p.m., start time is 7 p.m. Bring any tailgate foods for your table to share but purchase drinks from the volunteers. Pop, water and Gatorade will be available.

Kid and kin sock hop supports Camp Fire Girls

Mishawaka — Queen of Peace School gym will host a Camp Fire USA sock hop on Sunday, Feb. 19, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Tickets are \$3 in advance from the Camp Fire office or \$3.50 at the door. Tickets include a drink,

REST IN PEACE

Columbia City

John J. Wyman, 67, St. Paul of the Cross

Decatur

Martha B. Faurote, 89, St. Mary of the Assumption

James A. Custer, 69, St. Mary of the Assumption

Elkhart

Antonia Bilancio, 96, St. Vincent de Paul

Israel Gavia, stillborn, St. Vincent de Paul

Fort Wayne

Ralph F. Kelker, 90, St. Jude

Charles Pantello, 85, St. Jude

Grace C. Sitko, 69, St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel

Sophie C. Corbat, 84, Queen of Angels

Frank Loop, 71, St. Joseph

Kimberly K. Koehlinger, 35, St. Charles Borromeo

Dorman E. Nix, 81, St. Joseph

Goshen

Paulo Martinez-Hernandez, 2 months, St. John the Evangelist

Huntington

Alfred R. Stoffel, 77, Ss. Peter and Paul

Mishawaka

Gladys C. Barnhart, 81, St. Bavo

Marie Pechi, 89, St. Bavo

Nix Settlement

Josephine Cecelia von Holdt, 77, St. Catherine of Alexandria

South Bend

Matthew J. Osowski, 88, St. Stanislaus

Albert F. Tengelitsch, 88, St. Mary of the Assumption

James S. Bamber, 63, Holy Cross

Sharlene M. Snyder, 59, St. Casimir

Celeste Powicki, 94, St. Casimir

Marjorie M. Kuboske, 89, Corpus Christi

Larry S. Nitka, 60, St. Adalbert

Evelyn R. Linner, 83, Christ the King

Walkerton

Erica L. Baltierra, 15, St. Patrick

Warsaw

Juan M. Ibarra, 53, Our Lady of Guadalupe

snack and dancing to Paul Chamberlin of the Music Machine. Best dressed in costume wins a prize. Call (574) 234-4145 for information.

Fish fry planned at St. Jude

Fort Wayne — An all-you-can-eat Ed Fox fish fry will be held Friday, March 3, from 5 to 8 p.m. at St. Jude, across from Parkview Hospital. Adults \$6, children (6-8) \$5, children 5 and under free.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers needed

Fort Wayne — The Franciscan Center Clothes Closet is in need of volunteers. Call Doris Bermes at (260) 744-3977 for information.

Erin's House seeks good listeners

Fort Wayne — Erin's House is seeking volunteers who are good listeners with a caring and compassionate heart for children and young adults ages 3 to 25. Call (260) 423-2466 for information.

Volunteer for St. Mary Soup Kitchen

Fort Wayne — St. Mary Parish is in need of regular volunteers for the soup kitchen on Wednesday and Friday mornings. Additional substitutes are needed for all days and shifts. Interested persons 16 and older should call (260) 424-8231. Some lifting required.

DONATIONS

St. Vincent de Paul needs your help

South Bend — The St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County is in need of donations and monetary contributions. Large items will be picked up. Call the office at (574) 234-6000 for information.

St. Vincent de Paul needs your help

Fort Wayne — The St. Vincent de Paul Society of Allen County is in need of donations. Monetary contributions are always appreciated. The St. Vincent de Paul Society accepts cars, trucks and vans. Donations can be dropped off Monday through Friday at 1600 S. Calhoun from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call (260) 456-3561 for pick-up information. Large items will be picked up.

Mustard Seed Furniture Bank can use your donations

Fort Wayne — The Mustard Seed Furniture Bank is in need of furniture. Donations may be picked up by calling (260) 471-5802. The Mustard Seed is dedicated to providing household furnishings to those in need.

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BY MARK WEBER

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS SESQUICENTENNIAL

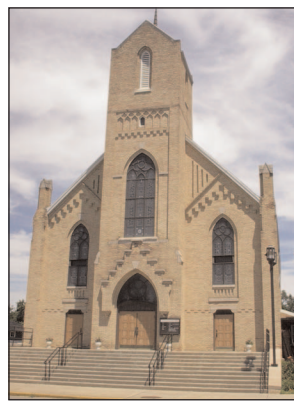
THE DIOCESE OF FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

St. Vincent de Paul, Elkhart, Est. 1868

Other than brief visits by missionaries clad in buckskin and black robes and who traveled by canoe, the history of the church in Elkhart begins about the same time as the Civil War, when the Father Henry Koenig, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Mishawaka made occasional visits to Elkhart and said Mass in someone's home. One of the favorite spots for visiting priests was the home of August Ludwig at the spot now known as 1039 S. Main. Baptisms, marriages, Masses and spiritual assistance were provided there on a schedule determined by weather, road conditions and the availability of priests and good horses.

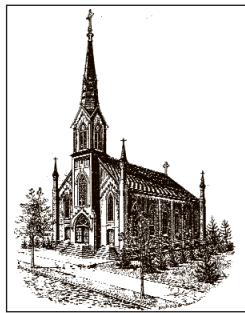
First steps at forming a parish were made by Father A.B. Oechtering, also of St. Joseph, with encouragement from Bishop Henry Luers, who attempted to buy land but met resistance when the purpose of the purchase was revealed.

Eventually a deal was made, and Bishop Luers laid the cornerstone for the first St. Vincent de Paul Church on July 12, 1868. The small church was built in 100 days, and in the fall, regular services began with two Masses a month. It would be another 38 years before parishioners would worship under electric lights.



The spirit of St. Vincent de Paul Parish as it exists today was well stated in 1993 on the occasion of the 125th anniversary of the parish when the then-mayor, James P. Perron, a parishioner, proclaimed, "While many

churches may attempt to flee our central community, not realizing that they have left many of the poor and the less fortunate behind them, St. Vincent de Paul Church has recognized as blessed Vincent de Paul himself said as he wandered the streets in search of the poor and the homeless to be cared for by the good Sisters of Charity: "These are my treasures."



These words are demonstrated daily through the Hispanic ministries of the parish, where each Tuesday the Food Pantry is open from 1-5 p.m., providing food supplied by parishioners and the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

All are welcome here and anyone referred by the township trustee can receive food supplies for one month.

In a parish that is 60/40 percent Hispanic, the Hispanic ministries office is busy scheduling weddings, quinceañeras, appointments with priests and baptisms, which sometimes reach 30 a month. On a regular basis, 15 babies are baptized on the third Saturday of each month and four babies are baptized during Mass on the fourth Sunday of the month.

Hispanic ministries also conducts weekly RICA meetings, weekly faith group meetings and biweekly English classes.

St. Vincent de Paul School, now planning its 125th anniversary, first held classes in an abandoned rookery, which was also living quarters for the faculty, three Sisters of The Holy Cross.

The school enrolls 158 in preschool through grade 6, with different grades planning liturgies on a weekly basis.



MARK WEBER

The main altar at St. Vincent de Paul, Elkhart, is adorned with an image of the Holy Spirit.

St. Thomas the Apostle, Elkhart, Est. 1949

St. Thomas the Apostle church in Elkhart, an imposing edifice at 1405 North Main St., had its actual beginning at the other end of Main street, at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, then the only Catholic church in the city.

At the request of Bishop John F. Noll, who saw the need for another parish in Elkhart, Father Joseph Hession, pastor of St. Vincent, acquired the land for the yet unnamed parish.

The first pastor, appointed by Bishop Noll, July 7, 1949, was Father James Elliott, associate pastor of Holy Angels Parish in Gary.

Father Elliott, with no church and no congregation, moved to Elkhart and took up residence at St. Vincent rectory, and with no other suitable location for worship, said Mass at St. Vincent for a group of prospective members.

On Sept. 9, 1949, Father Elliott moved from St. Vincent to a house at 1326 Romain St., which had been remodeled as a rectory. It was from here that he would observe and supervise construction of one building that would have four classrooms and a gym, which would be the temporary church.

As founding pastor, Father Elliott named the new parish St. Thomas the Apostle.

The building was completed in May 1950 and in September of that year, with 67 students in the first four grades, St. Thomas School began classes taught by two Sisters of the Holy Cross. By 1952, there

were eight grades and 185 students.

Because development of the school took precedence, church services continued to be held in the gym until April 21, 1963, when ground was broken for the present church, which was dedicated by Bishop Leo Pursley, June 7, 1964.

In May 1999, the Blessed Sacrament Chapel of Eucharistic Adoration, located inside the main door of St. Thomas School opened, with hours of adoration from 3 to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Through the years, students at St. Thomas School have reflected the efforts of its certified faculty by consistently posting academic records higher than the Indiana average in all public schools. Students from all grades participate in weekly school liturgies and occasional Gospel processions on Sundays.

Through cards and letters, students from all grades correspond with St. Thomas parishioners who are shut-ins.

In the wake of Katrina, St. Thomas students adopted the St. John Vianney School in Baton Rouge and helped that school financially by a series of fund-raising events.

The Spartans of St. Thomas also support the local women's shelter at Christmas time with supplies for infants.

In still another community service, the students last year held five food drives with impressive amounts of canned foods donated to the St. Vincent de Paul Society and combined churches food bank.



MARK WEBER

The wrought iron crucifix on the exterior church wall is dedicated to the memory of parishioner Noreen Rizzo and was designed by Father James Flannigan, CSC, Notre Dame.

