

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Dwenger launches \$7.75 million capital campaign

BY DENNIS FECH

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger High School recently announced approval of plans to move forward with \$7.75 million expansion of the school facilities in order to meet the growing demands for Catholic secondary education in northern Allen County. Over the past 15 years, Dwenger has seen its enrollment increase from just over 700 students to a present enrollment of 1,055.

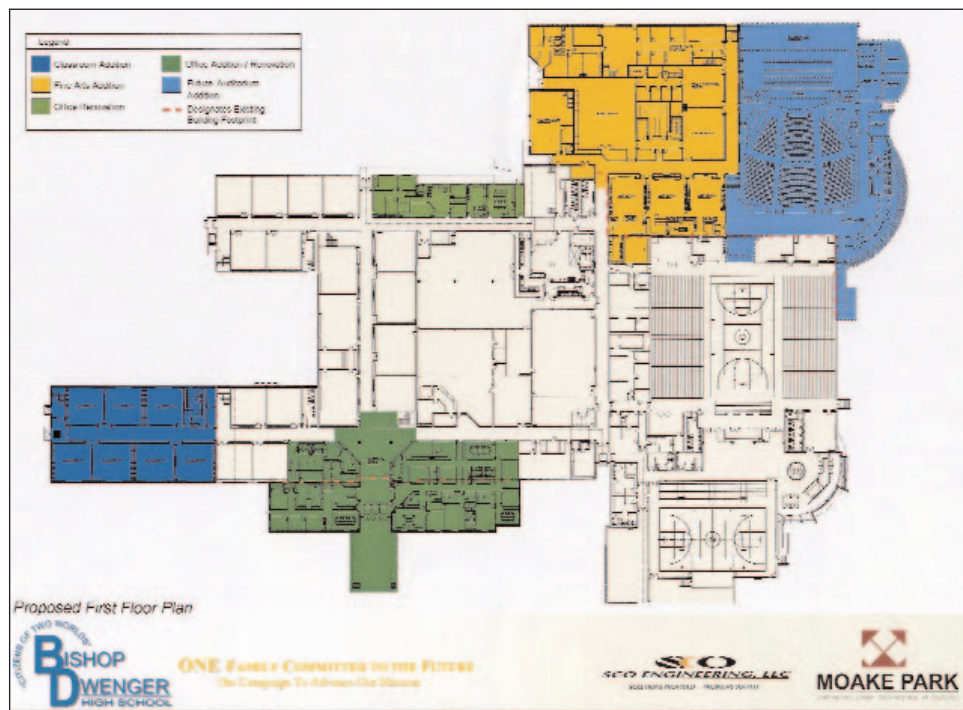
Two years ago, the Bishop Dwenger School Board began work on a strategic plan designed to carry the school through the next several years.

"The steady increase in enrollment along with an increased demand for fine arts courses makes this expansion the next logical step in Dwenger's future," said Bishop Dwenger Principal J. Fred Tone. Nearly 43 percent of Dwenger students are currently enrolled in either a visual or performing arts class. Some 65 percent of Dwenger graduates are expected to earn the Indiana Academic Honors Diploma.

The initial phase of the expansion project includes a 37,000-square-foot fine arts addition to the west of the existing music room. The new space will house separate band and choir rooms as well as individual and ensemble practice areas. It will also add much needed storage space for instruments, uniforms and a music library.

The existing music room will be converted into three art classrooms and will also provide space for photography and graphic arts. Construction costs for the fine arts wing are expected to run \$4.7 million and include all site development and infrastructure costs.

Plans also call for 20,000-square-foot classroom addition that will house 13 new classrooms and a new faculty workroom. Cost of the classrooms will be an



additional \$3 million.

School officials expect to begin work on the fine arts wing sometime in late May or early June. It will take approximately 15 months to construct. Classroom construction, while dependent on the school's continuing effort to raise funds from alumni, parents, friends, as well as the local community, will commence as soon as possible after that and is expected to take 10 months.

The goal is to bring both the fine arts wing

and the academic wing online by the beginning of the 2007-08 school year. We anticipate breaking ground on the expansion by May of 2006.

The school has already generated nearly \$4 million in pledges as part of its "One Family Committed to the Future — The Campaign to Advance Our Mission." Campaign co-chairs, Jack and Cathy Krouse

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Vet recognized for valiant efforts

Divine guidance leads many in senior spirit

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Promoting chastity

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'March Madness' derby style

Scouts uphold a wooden tradition

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MEDIA TRAINING OFFERED TO SCHOOL PRINCIPALS



DON CLEMMER

Barry J. McLoughlin speaks at the media training seminar sponsored by the USCCB at the Fort Wayne Marriott on March 16. The event, coordinated by the diocese and Sister Mary Ann Walsh, was attended by 16 principals from across the country, as well as a bishop from Kansas, several priests from Lansing and others.

St. Jude mission group wraps up trip to Gulf Coast

BY CRAIG BOBAY

FORT WAYNE — The mission crew from St. Jude Parish spent a week in February working on cleanup projects in Biloxi, Miss. This is the third and final installment, with excerpts from a log written by Craig Bobay, St. Jude parishioner, during the trip.

Thursday, Feb. 9.

"Many members of the Catholic relief staff in the Biloxi area lost everything to Katrina, including our cook, Connie. Her home was completely destroyed; all of her possessions are completely gone. Connie's job as a caterer was also lost to the storm. She just got the job as the center's cook to help support her family of five, who now live in a small FEMA trailer.

"Another LTDR (Diocese of Biloxi's Long Term Disaster Recovery Office) supervisor, Wayne, lost his home, and for the last several months has had the task of working with a new group of volunteers

most every week, having no advanced information regarding the job skills of the volunteers, he must coordinate their activities with a never ending list of work to be done. His home has not yet been repaired.

"Yvonne, a LTDR employee told us of the extreme gratitude of all of the people of the Biloxi Diocese, and of all of the people of the Gulf Coast for the generosity of all who are donating their time and money to help. ..."

At the home of Eula Mae Brubridge, the St. Jude crew "spent much of the day putting up new drywall ceilings." They also installed a new front porch security light, and secured the front steps handrail back in place. ...

"Walt (Schroder) began the work of measuring and cutting drywall to provide Eula with a new ceiling in her living room and front bedroom. All four of us were needed to put up the drywall ceiling.

"We were nearly finished with that task

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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Official newspaper of the
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
P.O. Box 11169
Fort Wayne, IN 46856

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Web site: www.diocesefwsb.org/TODAY

Published weekly except the last Sunday in June, second and fourth weeks in July, second week in August and last week in December by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, 1103 S. Calhoun St., P.O. Box 390, Fort Wayne, IN 46801. Second-class postage paid at Fort Wayne, IN, and additional mailing office.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN 46856-1169 or e-mail: kvoirol@fw.diocesefwsb.org.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Domestic in advance, one year \$20. Bundle rates available on request. Single copy 50¢.

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BUREAU OFFICE: 114 W. Wayne St., South Bend, IN 46601. Telephone (574) 234-0687. Fax: (574) 232-8483.

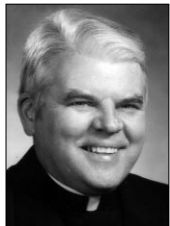
News deadline is the Monday morning before publication date. Advertising deadline is nine days before publication date.

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Mail letters to: Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN 46856-1169; or e-mail: editor@fw.diocesefwsb.org

ISSN 0891-1533
USPS 403630

Diocesan offices, high schools and missions are 'all in a day's work'



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Not a desk job

The presence of the bishop in parishes and other institutions is essential for pastoral care of the diocese. Priests sense this, and so do the laity. It is this presence that enables the bishop to understand the diocese and to care for it and to make the decisions that are required. The 10th chapter of the Gospel of John shows clearly the Good Shepherd is the inspiration for this. "I know mine, and mine know me." Visibility, though important, is not enough. The bishop should be present in the celebration of the Eucharist and as the preacher of the word of God. One of the instruments that makes this possible for me is the parish mission, as carried out through the instrumentality of the Office of Spiritual Development. Recently, I have preached at such missions at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception; St. Joseph, Roanoke; and soon at St. Mary, Fort Wayne and St. Bernard, Wabash. The Office of Spiritual Development has been involved in 13 such parish missions, and I have preached in six of them since last fall, with two coming up.

New evangelization

This is a term, I believe, coined by Pope Paul VI, but made especially relevant by Pope John Paul II. "Not new in content, but new in ardor, method and expression." One of the great strengths of this diocesan effort is the preparation done by the parishioners along with three dedicated evangelists: Sister Jolene Heiden, SSND; Sister Mary Brooks, CSC; and Ginny Kohrman. They work with the parishes on such things as publicity and outreach. They also conduct sessions in the morning with smaller groups, where there is a chance for exchange and discussion. There is strong preparation for four or five nights of prayer by the parish. Pope John Paul II has said that the parish should be "a school of prayer." It certainly is during these missions, and many people return to the practice of their faith through the sacrament of penance.

Also the schools

This week I will be spending a day at two of our high schools: Saint Joseph's in South Bend and Bishop Dwenger in Fort Wayne. These visitations take an entire day and are an opportunity to meet with students and faculty members and with the religion department and to offer Mass. At Dwenger, we will be holding a penance service, and I will hear confessions. I really do come to know the students in our high

schools in a spiritual way and as their pastor. They are an important part of the effort for our jubilee, now so quickly approaching.

I will be working with Steve Weigand and Chris Culver of our Office of Youth Ministry to strengthen our outreach to public school students who, after all, constitute the largest number of our teenagers.

More later on a very special day at Saint Joseph's High.

It was also a joy recently to offer Mass at the Holy Cross College with Brother Richard Gilman, CSC, and many of the students and to have lunch with them and to hear, again, about the excellent apostolic work being done there under the guidance of Robert Kloska, a member of the exemplary Kloska family of Elkhart. I heard about students going to Africa and Latin America on apostolic journeys.

In the near future, I will be offering Mass at the University of Saint Francis and a late night Sunday Mass at one of the Notre Dame residence halls, as well as making a noontime presentation to students of the Notre Dame Law School. All in a day's work.

Speaking of the upcoming jubilee

I met this past week with Linda Furge to go over the approach for our 150th anniversary, which will be observed in 2007. It was an encouraging visit. The centerpiece will be the diocesan Eucharistic Congress to be held at the University of Notre Dame on

It is especially encouraging
to see the Jubilee Cross
being carried from
parish to parish
throughout the diocese.

Aug. 18, 2007. I asked Linda, "Can we fill the Joyce Center again?" Linda gave great credit to the priests for the success of our Eucharistic Congress in the Year 2000, where there was a major effort to bring Catholics back to the practice of their faith. It is especially encouraging to see the Jubilee Cross being carried from parish to parish throughout the diocese. This last week it was in Fort Wayne; and as we gathered at the cathedral for the rite of election, this great cross was carried down the aisle at the beginning of the service. Etched in the cross are these words: "His Steadfast Love Endures Forever." This is from Psalm 117. When you are made a bishop, you are asked to have a certain motto or saying, which it is hoped will typify your episcopal ministry. At the time of my ordination as a bishop, I had a great sense of God's love — how strong it was and how personal — and so I took this brief psalm as my motto. It will be part of the logo/image in preparation for this great year of intense spiritual growth and evangelization. There are many other plans underway, and I am

beginning to create a pastoral letter to set this jubilee in context.

And our priests

Nothing is more important than the sanctification of our priests, and as I write this I am looking forward to a day of prayer at Sacred Heart Parish in Warsaw. Father James Steffes is the rector of Immaculate Heart Seminary in Winona, Minn., where three of our young men are studying for the priesthood. They are Chris Lapp, Terry "Tink" Coonan and Tim Chupp. I look forward to hearing from Father Steffes about these three candidates who are in the college division and are preparing for the priesthood for our diocese.

Spiritual reading

Every year at Christmas and also as Holy Week approaches, I send to our priests a book for spiritual reading. I find such reading to be very important. This week I am sending to our priests the following books: "God is Near Us: The Eucharist, the Heart of Life," by then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, who is now Pope Benedict XVI. It contains beautiful chapters on the holy Eucharist. I also included a book entitled, "The Joy of Priesthood," by Father Stephen Rossetti. Father Rossetti is a psychologist who saw the crisis of 2002 firsthand and assisted other priests during that time. Also included is a small booklet on Bishop Simon Bruté. Bishop Bruté, a native of France, who can lightly be called a predecessor of mine and of all of us. He was the first bishop of Vincennes, the first diocese in Indiana, which included the entire state. A scholar and a man of prayer. This booklet contains a series of essays written by Archbishop Buechlein, OSB, of Indianapolis. The cause for canonization of Bishop Bruté has been introduced by the archbishop, and this will be a great blessing for us all. We need to hear about holy and apostolic bishops, and this is certainly one. I also have included the beautiful encyclical by the Holy Father: "God is Love."

Sports report

Baseball season is nigh. I am not confident about the Red Sox this year. The Yankees look powerful. Our vaunted closer is getting injections in his knee every week, and the trades over the winter seem less than helpful. Ah, but there will soon be box scores in the morning paper and the crack of the bat will be heard in the land; and I shall have a nice July night, maybe two, at Fenway Park.

See you all next week.

Pope, celebrating Mass with workers, prays for jobless, exploited

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Offering special prayers for the unemployed and for those exploited in their work, Pope Benedict XVI celebrated Mass March 19 with members of Italian labor unions and Catholic organizations for workers.

Anticipating the liturgical feast of St. Joseph, transferred to March 20 this year because it fell on a Sunday in Lent, the pope said work enables people to realize their potential and contribute to the good of society as long as their work is "undertaken in full respect for human dignity and the common good."

The pope asked St. Joseph, patron of workers, to take special care of "young people who have difficulty entering the world of work, the unemployed and those who suffer from difficulties related to the widespread employment crisis."

In his homily, the pope said that in the world of work, "an important aspect of human existence," the rapid changes brought by technology and the globalization of the economy are experienced each day.

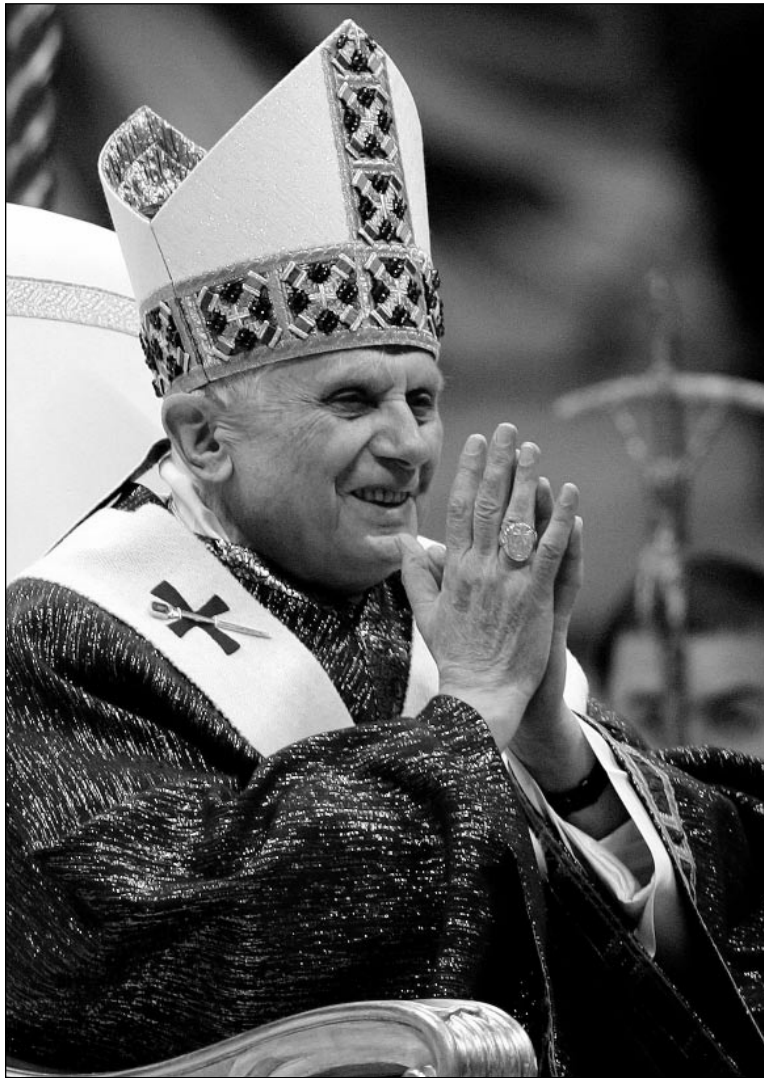
While people express themselves and support their families through their work, the pope said it is important that they not let their jobs take over their lives and become idols.

Obedying the commandment to keep the Lord's day holy helps people keep God first in their lives, understanding that they were created by God and are called to cooperate with God in all they do, the pope said.

In order for work to serve the good of humanity, professional and technical preparation and a just social order are not enough, Pope Benedict said.

The pope said people also need "a spirituality that helps believers sanctify themselves through their work, imitating St. Joseph, who had to provide with his own hands each day for the needs of the Holy Family."

During the Mass, special prayers were offered that God would help all men and women work with respect for creation



CNS PHOTO/ALESSANDRO BIANCHI, REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI celebrates a Mass for workers in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican March 19. The pope asked St. Joseph, patron of workers, to take special care of "young people who have difficulty entering the world of work, the unemployed and those who suffer from difficulties related to the widespread employment crisis."

and for justice. Other prayers were offered for those who are abused or exploited in work and for those who have died because of work-related accidents and illnesses.

In addition to the Sistine Chapel choir, the choir from St. James Cathedral in Seattle provided music for the Mass.

Reciting the Angelus at noon with visitors in St. Peter's Square, the pope continued his reflections on St. Joseph. Using the saint as an example, the pope said every Catholic is called to "undertake with fidelity, simplicity and modesty the task which providence has assigned to us."

"I am thinking particularly of fathers and mothers of families, and I pray that they always will appreciate the beauty of a simple and industrious life, cultivate their conjugal relationship with care and fulfill with enthusiasm their great and not always easy mission to educate" their children, he said.

March 19 also was the "name day" of the pope, the former Joseph Ratzinger, a fact remembered at the beginning of the Mass by Bishop Arrigo Miglio of Ivrea, Italy, and during the Angelus by workers holding banners wishing the pope well.

Compendium of catechism goes on sale in paperback

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, a 200-page synthesis of the 1992 catechism, is available in paperback from USCCB Publishing, the publishing office of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Both the paperback version and a hardcover edition to be published soon will be available in English and Spanish.

The compendium, made up of 598 questions and answers, echoes to some degree the format of the Baltimore Catechism, which was standard in many U.S. Catholic parishes and schools

from 1885 to the 1960s.

It also includes two appendices — a list of Catholic prayers in English or Spanish, side by side with the Latin versions, and a list of "formulas of Catholic doctrine," including the Ten Commandments, the beatitudes, the theological and cardinal virtues, and the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

Msgr. Daniel Kutys, USCCB deputy secretary for catechesis, said members of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Catechesis have recommended that the compendium "be used as a standard reference companion to which

teachers and catechists refer their students in much the same way they use Bibles for instruction."

"It is not meant to replace religion textbooks, but to augment and complement them," he added.

Pope Benedict XVI has said the compendium "contains, in concise form, all the essential and fundamental elements of the church's faith."

The paperback version of the compendium, in English or Spanish, costs \$14.95; the price for the hardcover book will be \$24.95.

Pro-life official urges Congress to suspend FDA approval of RU-486

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A spokeswoman for the U.S. bishops' pro-life secretariat, responding to a report that two more women have died after taking RU-486, called on Congress to pass legislation that aims to suspend the Food and Drug Administration's approval of the drug used for chemical abortions.

"We are deeply saddened by yet another advisory from the Food and Drug Administration that two more women have died from RU-486 abortions," said Deirdre A. McQuade, director of planning and information for the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities.

However, in its March 17 public health advisory, the FDA said it was not yet "able to confirm the causes of death" of the two women in the United States but was "investigating all circumstances associated with these cases."

The agency said it had received "verbal notification" of the deaths by the manufacturer of RU-486, Danco Laboratories. McQuade said 10 women have died after using the regimen.

"We again call on Congress to pass the RU-486 Suspension and Review Act ('Holly's Law') which will protect women's lives while the flawed FDA approval process of this dangerous drug is scrutinized," McQuade said.

The measure calls for temporary suspension of the FDA's approval of RU-486 so the U.S. comptroller general can review the agency's adherence to statutory mandates in its process for approving the drug.

"After five years of trauma and death associated with RU-486, the FDA's response has been limited to health advisories and amended drug labeling. How many more

healthy women must die before the agency takes a close second look at RU-486?" she asked.

Since its approval in September 2000, RU-486 has been marketed in the United States under the names Mifeprex and Early Option by Danco. Known generically as mifepristone, it induces an abortion in the first seven weeks of pregnancy when used in conjunction with another drug, prostaglandin.

RU-486 prevents the fertilized egg from clinging to the uterine wall, and the prostaglandin is used 48 hours later to set off contractions that expel the embryo. RU-486 was first produced in France and approved there in 1988.

McQuade said the *New England Journal of Medicine* reported in December 2005 that "RU-486 abortions are 10 times more likely to kill a woman, from infection alone, than are surgical abortions in early pregnancy."

"This estimate does not even include RU-486-related deaths from other causes, such as ruptured ectopic pregnancy," she said.

In its advisory, the FDA said that "all providers of medical abortion and their patients need to be aware of the specific circumstances and directions for use of this drug and all risks including sepsis when considering treatment. In particular, physicians and their patients should fully discuss early potential signs and symptoms that may warrant immediate medical evaluation."

Holly's Law is named in memory of Holly Patterson, an 18-year-old from California who died from toxic shock in 2003 after being given RU-486.

"RU-486 abortions are 10 times more likely to kill a woman, from infection alone, than are surgical abortions in early pregnancy."

NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE

EXPAND

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

announced that the campaign has already received two pace-setting gifts of \$1,000,000 and \$500,000.

"We are fully behind this important undertaking and we believe that the faculty and students at Bishop Dwenger High School deserve these crucial enhancements to the facilities," said Jack and Cathy Krouse.

The campaign is now moving into the public phase and over the next several months, all Dwenger parents and alumni will be invited to support this important endeavor.

Later phases of the school's master plan call for expansion and renovation of the administrative offices and student support services. It also includes enhancements to the school's main entrance. In addition, the school plans to increase its endowment fund by \$1 million which will ensure additional funding for the school's tuition assistance program. The cost for this phase will be \$2.9 million.

"These additional priorities are solely dependent upon the result of our capital campaign. If we can inspire our stakeholders to stretch more in their financial support, we will be able to fund more of these priorities," Fred Tone said.

Baltimore's basilica, nation's first cathedral, to reopen in November

BY JOSEPH RYAN

BALTIMORE (CNS) — It will take nine days of events to celebrate the completion of the two-year restoration of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, America's first cathedral.

The renovation will be completed in time for the scheduled reopening of the basilica Nov. 4. Special events are scheduled through Nov. 12.

This year marks the bicentennial of the start of construction on the basilica in 1806 on top of a hill overlooking Baltimore. The basilica was designed by Benjamin Latrobe, chief architect of the original U.S. Capitol in Washington.

When ground was broken for the cathedral, Bishop John Carroll of Baltimore was the only Catholic bishop for the entire country.

Michael Ruck, chairman of the board of the Basilica Historic Trust, announced plans for the reopening of the historic church at a press conference March 15 inside the basilica. With the work already completed during the pri-

vately funded restoration, the church is flooded with natural light that reveals its freshly painted colors.

He cited Bishop Carroll and Latrobe's vision for the nation's first Catholic cathedral and called it a masterpiece.

Ruck, a member of the basilica parish and president and CEO of the Ruck Family Corps., said the announcement of the November celebration marked the 200th anniversary of the week John Eager Howard, a colonel in the American Revolution, agreed to sell the site on which the basilica sits for \$20,000 "to the trustees of what would become the first great metropolitan cathedral in America."

Using the prominent 19th-century site for the building represented a break from the past, Ruck said. "Catholicism had been illegal and was repressed when the British were in charge."

Construction of the basilica would "secure not only the right of Catholics, but also the right of all Americans to worship as they pleased," he added. "Thus, religious freedom began to emerge from a constitutional concept to concrete reality, right here, 200

years ago this week."

The privately funded restoration is expected to cost \$32 million, said Ruck. Mark Potter, executive director of the basilica trust, said \$25 million has already been raised from individuals, organizations and foundations across the country, adding that \$21 million is already in hand, "which is phenomenal."

Ruck also noted that the building's historic significance is particularly important today when sacred mosques and basilicas in distant lands are being attacked.

"This cathedral deserves to be preserved, protected and ... showcased for Americans of today and Americans of tomorrow," he said, "as a symbol of our right to worship without fear or persecution or attack."

Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, a member of the basilica parish who is also a member of the board of the trust, announced the basilica will officially reopen Nov. 4. The following day the altar will be rededicated and an archdiocesan Mass will be celebrated.

Boursiquot said a highlight of the week will be Nov. 12, "when all the Catholic bishops of



CNS PHOTO/OWEN SWEENEY III, CATHOLIC REVIEW

Mark J. Potter, executive director of the Basilica of the Assumption Historic Trust Inc., gives the media a tour of the renovations of the Baltimore basilica, after a Feb. 15 press conference announcing the grand reopening celebrations set for Nov. 4-12.

America will converge on Baltimore for a procession into the basilica, a moment that will echo a similar procession when the church was first opened."

Potter thanked the trust's board members, the contractor, Henry Lewis and architect, John G. Waite Associates. In thanking all the carpenters, electricians, roofers and painters who are working to restore the basilica, Potter mentioned the signature of a mid-19th-century craftsman in the undercroft of the basilica.

Francis Gildea, who signed his

name in wet cement soon after the Civil War battle of Gettysburg, Pa., in 1863, is a tangible link "to all the many expert craftsmen whose beautiful work on this restoration will inspire and be admired for centuries to come," Potter said.

"Now that the scaffolding is down," Potter added, "it's easy to imagine how wonderful the basilica will be when the new marble floor is in place and our pews, pulpit, altar and bishop's chair are gloriously restored."

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Sainthood cause for missionary in Soviet Union takes next step

BY TARA J. CONNOLLY

ALLENTOWN, Pa. (CNS) — More than 20 years after the death of Jesuit Father Walter J. Cizek, a Pennsylvania-born priest who was a missionary in the Soviet Union, officials in the Diocese of Allentown have completed the preliminary phase of their quest to see him declared a saint.

Materials and documentation supporting the canonization cause for Father Cizek were sent to Jesuit Father Paolo Molinari, postulator general for the Society of Jesus, in Rome Feb. 27. This officially closes the first phase of the process of canonization — the diocesan inquiry into the priest's reputation for sanctity.

Allentown Bishop Edward P. Cullen and Msgr. Anthony D. Muntone, a co-postulator of the canonization cause, sealed the files at the diocesan chancery office before they were sent.

The diocesan phase included a series of investigations that began in 1990 under the direction of now-retired Bishop Michael J. Dudick of the Byzantine Diocese of Passaic, N.J.

The work continued under Bishop Thomas J. Welsh of Allentown, until he retired in December 1997 and his successor, Bishop Cullen, installed in 1998, took over responsibility for it.

The task of preparing the documentation sent to Rome included recording the testimony of 45 witnesses, gathering Father Cizek's published and unpublished works,

and transcribing hundreds of his handwritten documents.

"This phase of the process was very demanding," Msgr. Muntone told *The A.D. Times*, Allentown's diocesan newspaper. "It involved many steps and took a great deal of time, but at the same time it was very rewarding as it afforded the opportunity to see firsthand what a truly exceptional person Father Cizek was."

Father Cizek, who was of Polish descent, was born in 1904, and entered the Jesuits in 1928. In response to an appeal from Pope Pius XI to the Jesuit order, he volunteered to work in the Soviet Union and was ordained in 1937; he was the first American Jesuit to be ordained in the Russian Byzantine rite.

In 1940, he entered the Soviet Union. He was arrested by secret police the following year and sentenced to 15 years hard labor.

In 1947 he was declared "legally dead" in the United States. Eight years later Father Cizek was released from prison and given limited freedom in the Soviet Union, where he then functioned as a priest while working in factories and as an auto mechanic.

In 1963, Father Cizek, with another American, was returned to the United States as part of a prisoner exchange for two Soviets held for espionage in the U.S. He worked at the John XXIII Center for Eastern Christian Studies, which at that time was at Fordham University. He gave retreats and talks there and counseled people until his death in 1984.

Church official: People must be aware of potential abuse of religion

BY CAROL GLATZ

ROCCA DI PAPA, ITALY (CNS) — Christian churches should help alert people to the potential abuse of religion as a way to reach certain political goals, said a European Catholic official.

In some countries where people are living in poverty or have little or no voice in government, people "want a way out" said Msgr. Peter Fleetwood, deputy general secretary of the Council of European Bishops' Conferences and organizer of a mid-March conference dedicated to religion and violence.

"Why should people be able to pirate the name of religion and get away with it?" he asked.

"World leaders say God told them to do things" like wage a violent campaign against others, which represents "an abuse of religion," he said.

In an effort to inform European church leaders about what Islam and Christianity teach about licit or moral forms of violence, the Council of European Bishops' Conferences and the Conference of European Churches' joint committee for relations with Muslims met in mid-March at the English College retreat and conference center in Rocca di Papa.

Msgr. Fleetwood told journalists March 17 that the committee had been commissioned by Christian church leaders and the Catholic bishops in Europe to provide directives on how the churches could respond to "a very complex situation."

In places where there are repeated injustices or limited economic possibilities, "sometimes

the only way to get people together is to call on one of the pillars of their culture, which will be their religion," he said.

Some leaders might say, "Look, this whole situation is immoral. God doesn't want this," he said. "But whether God wants killing and bombing as a way out of a bad situation is the question."

Msgr. Fleetwood said he was in charge of explaining the Catholic Church's just-war tradition and its limitations and relating it to other statements on the religious justification of violence from committee members who represented other Christian churches.

Martin Affolderbach, secretary of Christian-Muslim and interreligious affairs for Germany's Lutheran church, said the real difficulty was determining Islamic teaching

about the use of violence. When surveying Islamic publications, "it's difficult to get the right picture of what is Islam," he said.

Is a religious leader or intellectual's particular statement on the question of violence or nonviolence an accurate interpretation of the Quran or is it a manipulation of religious convictions used in a political situation of conflict? he asked.

Affolderbach said the Lutheran church in Germany does not focus only on dialogue with individual

leaders of Islamic communities, but also with Muslim doctors, lawyers and other professionals who are familiar with their own religion and German culture.

He said he keeps the channels of dialogue open to all groups and individuals, even ones that may have been labeled as extreme by German authorities.

"Sometimes internal intelligence will label a group as extreme," but there is no evidence, he said. A person may attend a mosque simply because it is the closest one to his home, not

because he agrees with any inflammatory statements its imam might have made in the past, he said.

"Better to keep them at the table than label them and exclude them" from dialogue, he said.

Msgr.

Fleetwood said the committee's final statement on religion and violence would be made public at the end of the year.

He said church leaders do not see Muslim-Christian dialogue as an ideological battle to be won. Muslim-Christian exchanges are aimed at understanding each other better and creating a more healthy continent where different peoples coexist in peace.

"Rather than winning a battle, it's making the most of life here; what's the most human Europe we can contribute to?" he said.

"Why should people be able to pirate the name of religion and get away with it?"

MSGR. PETER FLEETWOOD

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Bishop Luers hosts Japanese visitors

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School will be hosting 19 students and two teachers from their sister high school, Fushiki Senior High School in Takaoka, Japan.

They visited Fort Wayne March 18-25 and were welcomed to Bishop Luers at an all-school assembly on March 22.

The Japanese students were given a chance to share their culture with Bishop Luers World Culture Club, they explained calligraphy, origami, use of chopsticks and Japanese pop music.

Sister Cities International hosted a luncheon in honor of the group at Hall's Gas House in Fort Wayne on March 23. After their luncheon they visited the City-County Building and were welcomed by Mayor Graham Richard.

Redeemer Radio will begin spring share-a-thon

SOUTH BEND — Redeemer Radio, Catholic Radio 1450 AM, has completed its first two months of operation, broadcasting the Catholic message throughout Fort Wayne and the surrounding area.

Redeemer Radio is a 501c3 nonprofit group of lay Catholics, financially separate from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and totally dependent on the generosity of listeners.

The first of two annual on-air pledge drives will take place Wednesday through Friday, March 29-31, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day.

Known as "Spring Share-a-thon 2006," the event will be hosted by Jerry Usher at the studios of Redeemer Radio. Usher is the national host of Catholic radio's most popular program, "Catholic Answers Live," heard on Redeemer Radio weekdays from 6 to 8 a.m. and 6 to 8 p.m.

The response from listeners to Redeemer Radio has been tremendous, according to the radio station's management. Priests have noted that they listen on a regular basis and that the station is a help to them in meeting the spiritual and theological needs of their parishioners. Many Catholics are reporting that they listen throughout the day and enjoy all of the programs.

A number of listeners have told Redeemer Radio that the station is changing their lives. A non-Catholic noted that she used to listen to the station when it used to be Protestant, "but then it switched to Catholic, but I really like it."

The station clearly sees its apostolate as fulfilling the call of Pope John Paul II for a New Evangelization.

Luers students compete in FBLA competition, qualify for nationals

FORT WAYNE — Members of the Bishop Luers High School chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) competed at the annual state conference in Indianapolis March 10-12.

The following members placed in the top ten in their events and

AROUND THE DIOCESE

IRISH STEP DANCERS ENTERTAIN FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY



DENISE FEDOROW

Irish step dancers from the World Academy of Irish Dance, based in Chicago entertained during the St. Patrick's Day program at St. Vincent de Paul School in Elkhart March 17. Shown are the youngest lasses from the South Bend chapter of the World Academy performing an Irish jig. Far right is Emma Coates, a student at St. Vincent.

may be qualified for national competition this summer in Nashville, Tenn.:

- Zach Burrell, third in business calculations and fourth in international business
- Andrew Stein, third in C++ programming
- Aaron Ware, sixth in economics
- Mandi Lazzaro, fifth in FBLA principles and procedures
- Jacob Ware, sixth in introduction to parliamentary procedures and seventh in marketing
- Kylie Canalas, fifth in job interview and fourth in public speaking II
- Bill Craighead, seventh in public speaking, fourth in visual basic and fourth in Web site development
- Joe Spatt, fourth in technology concepts
- Adrian Rivera, fifth in visual basic and third in word processing I
- Isaac Larson, fourth in Web site development
- Vincent Rivera, fourth in Web site development and fourth in word processing II

The following people have placed second and have automatically qualified for national competition:

- Zach Burrell, second in banking and financial systems
 - Brian Gannon, second in business law
 - Andrew Stein, second in computer concepts
 - Mandi Lazzaro, second in introduction to parliamentary procedures
 - Isaac Larson, second in networking concepts
- Finally, the following people have qualified for nationals by taking first place:
- Isaac Larson, first place in computer concepts
 - Mandi Lazzaro, first place in

introduction to business communications

- Aaron Ware, first place in marketing
- Brian Gannon, first place in word processing II.

Knights honor Vaszari

SOUTH BEND — Michael Vaszari, who has directed special music for the annual Lourdes Charity Ball, sponsored by the Santa Maria Council 553, Knights of Columbus, was honored with a special citation for his 20 consecutive years of service to the organization at an awards ceremony.

"This remarkable dedication of service to such a humane cause is genuinely appreciated," said Kevin Large, grand knight of the council. — EJD

Knights of Columbus support child safety program

GOSHEN — The Knights of Columbus, Council 7541 of St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen is once again offering Lenten fish fries each Friday. The Knights sponsored a child-fingerprinting program as a public service to parishioners and the community at the March 17 fish fry.

Grand Knight Mark Weaver said, "The Knights of Columbus are involved in many things and one of our main focus is serving the youth. We want to make sure our children are kept safe."

He said the Knights thought the fish fry was "a wonderful opportunity to have the people participate in the child fingerprinting. It's a good opportunity to do service work, not only for St. John's, but also the community. We may do this sort of thing on a more regular basis."

Goshen Police officer Mark Huser was kept pretty busy fingerprinting the youngsters. He said, "As a police officer and a parent, we hope this will never be needed

for anything. But in an emergency, it will provide important information. In the past, if children have been taken, their appearance is often altered right away."

Huser said, "And sometimes children are brainwashed to believe they are someone they are not. This helps prove the truth to them."

Officer Huser said he was merely doing the fingerprinting that evening, but the kit also explains to parents how to record other important data and how to collect DNA. — DF

New Haven students place in poster contest

NEW HAVEN — Clarian Health Partners and the Indiana Poison Center hosted an award ceremony for a statewide poster contest where 667 third through sixth grade students were asked to create attention-getting artwork that promoted National Poison Prevention Week.

Marie Behm of Keystone School, Fort Wayne, and Connor Leslie and Kori Current, both of St. John the Baptist School, New Haven, each placed in the Indiana Poison Center's statewide poster contest to promote National Poison Prevention Week, March 19-25. Leslie took second place in the fifth and sixth grade division. Current took third place in the fifth and sixth grade division.

The Indianapolis Colts' Bill Brooks was on hand to award the students. The award ceremony took place at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis. National Poison Prevention Week is intended to be a time for local communities to raise awareness about the danger of unintentional poisoning.

KNIGHTS PRESENT CHECK FOR GUARDIAN ANGELS



MARK WEBER

Norman Stoffel, state secretary of the Indiana Knights of Columbus, presents a check to Bishop John M. D'Arcy. The check for \$750 was from a new Northern Star charity fund established by the Indiana Knights with proceeds going to the bishops of each Indiana diocese. Bishop D'Arcy will add \$250 to this gift and pass \$1,000 on to the Guardian Angel fund, a charity for tuition assistance to Catholic grade schools in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Companions in Prayer teach students, adults to 'talk to God'

BY KAY COZAD

Grant me, O Lord my God, a mind to know you, a heart to seek you, wisdom to find you, conduct pleasing to you, faithful perseverance in waiting for you, and a hope of finally embracing you.

— St. Thomas Aquinas

FORT WAYNE — Thomas Aquinas and his writings on prayer have been an inspiration to New York native, Sister Marlene Haplin, O.P., PhD, for many years. A member of the Dominican Sisters of Amityville, N.Y., and doctor of philosophy, Haplin began her teaching career in 1947 and has taught all grade levels including postgraduate studies. This popular speaker, author and lifelong teacher has been teaching children and adults how to pray her entire life. It is her passion.

Over two decades ago, while teaching in Kalamazoo, Mich., Haplin was challenged by the rector of the cathedral there to teach the children how to pray. "He said, 'Our young people don't leave the church because of lack of knowledge of the doctrine but because they don't know how to develop a relationship with God,'" says Haplin.

So for the next 16 years she taught children from kindergarten to eighth grades a program of her own design based on contemplative prayer.

The program, aptly dubbed "Companions in Prayer," requires a quiet, prayerful space where the students can gather. Students settle to listen to a Scripture or story based on a moral truth and a discussion on its application to real life follows. Students are then moved through an imaginative prayer setting with Jesus, similar to a guided meditation, where they are encouraged to talk to him about the story from within their hearts. Finally, in imagination, Jesus leads them to God where they rest, quietly in his presence. The length of time spent in quiet is a function of the age group and its

attention span and the session is closed with no further discussion. The purpose is to listen to God in quiet prayer.

As Haplin was invited to speak at conventions around the country she realized that those working within the churches were teaching students prayers but not how to pray. Seeing the need to teach "how to pray and get a relationship with God," Haplin suggested the program to Loyola Press, with whom she was working on publication of two books. Loyola observed her contemplative prayer sessions and became immediately interested. "They said it should be taught in all our schools," says Haplin.

With wholehearted agreement, Haplin designed and launched her first session of a two-year Companions in Prayer program in 2001. The program, funded by Loyola Press, brought a group of 16 well-educated participants together from all over the country for five, three-day seminars the first year. The 16 came recommended by their own diocese, most holding graduate degrees and diocesan positions.

Four candidates were chosen from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend for the initial session. Lori Neumann and Theresa Driscoll from the Fort Wayne area began the program in 2002. Neumann was junior high religion teacher at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Catholic School and a catechist for the religious education program there. Driscoll was the director of religious education for St. Therese Church in Fort Wayne.

Both agree the program has changed their lives. "It's so powerful. It resonates with almost everyone at some level," says Neumann.

Each program session they attended allowed for time to get acquainted as well as information sharing. After attending the structured sessions, each participant "reported" on their own previous use of the prayer style and its successes and failures. A spiritual director was available during the sessions, as well. Upon program completion, each participant pos-

sessed four binders of notes, Scriptures and handouts, including experiential stories and scripts written by the others in the group.

"We shared our materials freely," says Driscoll. "It was mentoring with hands on things, homework and evaluations."

The group was encouraged to use the prayer style in their churches immediately and that they did. Neumann first brought it into the junior high religion classes where, she says, it was "relished."

Driscoll began the prayer sessions in first, third and sixth grades at St. Therese and says, "The students like it because it gives them quiet space, personal time with Jesus and a chance to share with no tests. It teaches them not to talk about God but to talk to God."

Driscoll, who along with Neumann, is a parish representative for the books marketing department at Our Sunday Visitor, says, "We are extremely blessed by this and take any opportunity to pass it on. We work together well." Both women are pleased to have undertaken this program and feel it has changed their lives.

Another participant, Ginny Kohrman, of the diocesan Office of Spiritual Development, is now in the first year of the program.

One of 14 in the new group, she has begun to teach contemplative prayer to first and fifth grade students at St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel in Fort Wayne.

"It's a great program. You are always turning it (the issue or story) back to Jesus and taking it to prayer. It's teaching them to grow in spirit and to listen," says Kohrman.

Sister Marlene says she is grateful to work with such spirit-filled people. "They are a wonderful community of learners and learn from each other. There is no imitation anywhere. They work from their own faith. I just love them." Her thoughts for the future of the program?

"I wish it to increase and multiply, because as Thomas Aquinas said, 'The heart of morality is found in your prayer.'"

President of Ireland to offer commencement address at Notre Dame

BY DENNIS BROWN

NOTRE DAME — President of Ireland, Mary McAleese, will be the principal speaker and the recipient of an honorary doctor of laws degree at the University of Notre Dame's 16th commencement exercises on Sunday, May 21. The ceremony will begin at 2 p.m. in the Joyce Center arena on campus.

"As an attorney, journalist, scholar and now president, Mary McAleese is an inspiring role model for women, a fierce champion for peace, and a passionate voice within the Catholic Church," said Father John I. Jenkins, CSC, Notre Dame's president. "The theme of her presidency is 'building bridges,' and she has done just that, while also staying true to herself. We are honored that she has accepted our invitation to speak to the class of 2006 and receive an honorary degree from Notre Dame."

McAleese was elected president in 1997 and stood unopposed for election to a second term in 2004. A native of Belfast, she is the country's eighth president and the first from Northern Ireland.

As part of her "building bridges" theme, President McAleese is a regular visitor to Northern Ireland, where she has been warmly welcomed by both the Catholic and Protestant communities, confounding critics who believed her election would lead to greater division. Among many conciliatory gestures, she officially recognizes both St. Patrick's Day and the Twelfth of July, the anniversary of the Protestant victory in the 1690 Battle of the Boyne.

The eldest of nine children, President McAleese was raised in a Catholic family in a mainly Protestant area of Belfast. During "The Troubles," her family was forced to leave its home, settling in County Down. She studied law at Queen's University in Belfast and

was graduated with honors in 1973.

After practicing law for a year, President McAleese accepted a position at Dublin's Trinity College as the Reid Professor of Criminal Law, Criminology and Penology, succeeding Mary Robinson, whom she later succeeded as Ireland's president. She left the university to work for two years as a journalist for the "Frontline" and "Today Tonight" programs on RTÉ, the national television network of Ireland. She continued to work part time with RTÉ after returning to Trinity in 1981.

President McAleese returned to Northern Ireland in 1987 to become director of the Institute of Professional Legal Studies at her alma mater. Seven years later, she was appointed a pro vice-chancellor at Queen's, giving her management responsibilities for the entire university.

President McAleese served as a member of the Catholic Church Episcopal Delegation to the New Ireland Forum in 1984 and the church's delegation to the North Commission on Contentious Parades in 1996. She also was a delegate to the 1995 White House Conference on Trade and Investment in Ireland and to a follow-up conference a year later in Pittsburgh.

Other foreign heads of state to serve as Notre Dame's commencement speaker include Irish Taoiseach (prime minister) Albert Reynolds in 1994, Canadian Prime Ministers Lester Pearson (1963) and Pierre Trudeau (1982), and the president of El Salvador (and Notre Dame alumnus) Jose Napoleon Duarte (1985). Five U.S. presidents have been commencement speakers at the university — Dwight Eisenhower, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush. Three others, Franklin Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy and Gerald Ford, received honorary degrees.

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ICC gains moral ground at Statehouse final session

BY BRIGID CURTIS AYER

INDIANAPOLIS — While Major Moves, property tax reform and deregulating the telecommunications industry captured the headlines, the Indiana Catholic Conference covered a lot of moral ground at Statehouse this year.

The priority issues the Indiana Catholic Conference addressed during the 2006 Indiana General Assembly included legislation 1) to limit the death penalty; 2) to curb abortion by improving Indiana's informed consent; 3) to ensure fair treatment for immigrants; and 4) to assist low income families with heating costs.

"Upholding the dignity of the human person especially the least among us is a work all Christians share," said Indiana Catholic Conference, Executive Director Glenn Tebbe.

Two measures aimed at limiting Indiana's death penalty were introduced but did not receive a hearing and died. Another death penalty related measure, SB 160, extends a right for a representative of a victim's family to witness the execution.

"While we support the rights of victims and efforts to help victims and all who are affected by violence and crime, we do not see this legislation as providing the means to achieving true healing and peace of mind," said Tebbe. "The church opposes legislation, which may foster feelings or attitudes of revenge."

Senate Bill 160 passed the Senate 38-11 and passed the House 82-12.

The Indiana Catholic Conference also led an effort to defeat a bill restricting public assistance for undocumented immigrants. House Bill 1383 would have restricted access to public services including schools and hospitals and charged state police with immigration enforcement. Several from the Catholic community, and those representing health and education groups testified against the bill, noting the devastating effects it would have for families and children who are citizens, but whose parents are undocumented residents. The

measure also would have had negative consequences for employers and Indiana's economy. House Bill 1383 was defeated in the House, 19-74.

Rep. Micon said, "The floor debate on HB 1383 was our chamber's finest moment. When Rep. (Mike) Murphy (R-Indianapolis) spoke about Matthew's Gospel about 'when I was hungry you gave me food, when I was thirsty you gave me drink, and when I was a stranger you welcomed me,' it truly summed up the debate."

A bill to improve Indiana's informed consent law died when the conference committee report for HB 1172, was not voted on by the Senate. The final version of the bill only dealt with informed consent. The effort to add abortion clinic regulations was dropped.

"The bill was significant, and the effort to defeat it was well orchestrated," said Tebbe. "The two provisions that caused the opposition were, 'the fetus might feel pain' and 'human physical life begins when a human ovum is fertilized by a human sperm.'"

Although the report was approved 7-3 by Senate Rules Committee late March 14, the bill was not called before time expired at midnight. Even though the House was under the same time constraints, the measure passed 75-23. Since the conference committee report did not pass the Senate, Indiana's informed consent law remains unchanged.

The one-year state sales tax exemption for persons receiving heating assistance will become law with the governor's signature on HB 1001. Under the bill, all of the money set aside for the program will be used to provide heat assistance rather than 6 percent being used for sales tax.

"The Indiana Catholic Conference and the Indiana Catholic Action Network (I-CAN) has had an impact on lawmakers by taking part in the political process," said Tebbe. "Even though some of the legislation we supported or opposed did not go our way, by taking part in the debate, we were able to educate the decision makers and raise awareness on important moral issues."

Invitation appreciated in welcoming Catholics home to the church

BY DENISE FEDOROW

GOSHEN — Father Bill McKee, whose ministry includes bringing non-practicing Catholics back to Mass, relates a story about meeting someone at a wedding who announced they "used to be Catholic." Father McKee asked why they didn't come back and the person replied, "Because no one asked me."

Welcoming Catholics Home is a program designed to extend the invitation to non-practicing Catholics as well as to catch them up on what has changed in the church while they've been gone. Topics covered in the six-week program include why people leave and why they return, a video presentation by Father McKee on inactive Catholics, the church today, changes since Vatican II and an explanation of penance.

St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen has begun offering the program. It was offered for the first time in the fall with three participants. The series recently began again to coincide with Lent in order to help the inactive Catholics be ready to rejoin full communion with the church, if that is their desire.

Marsha Meyer is the program coordinator at St. John's. Marsha said she first heard about the program through an ad in *Today's Catholic*. "I had never heard of it before, had no idea such a thing existed. I asked Father John (Delaney) about it, and he was all for it, so I brought it to the parish council, and they all agreed too."

Marsha said when she saw the ad it struck her that it was something she wanted to do and that it was a good way to serve the church. "I thought it was worthwhile to have a program like that and, having been away from the church myself, I could identify with them. I thought that's a nice way to come back; it gives a little direction," she said.

Four participants joined this session, and two of them, Max Blue and Teri Germane, spoke about what led them to join the program. Teri said when she heard Marsha speak about the program at Mass, "I was moved by Marsha's invitation."

Germane explained that she'd been more active in the church years ago but just fell away. When she was visited recently by a youth group from a local non-denominational church, she was touched by their service outreach and said it made her realize, "I do need to make a commitment to stay or to find another church. When Marsha



DENISE FEDOROW

St. John the Evangelist's Welcoming Catholics Home participants meet to discuss reasons why Catholics become inactive and how to return to the church. Pictured from left are Teri Germane, participant, Max Blue, participant, Marsha Meyer, program coordinator and Maria Pirrie, young adult minister with the Catholic Education Center office in Mishawaka.

talked and invited us, the invitation meant more than I thought," she said.

Teri said her mother and sister are more active Catholics but live out of state. Teri described herself as "the black sheep." Her children were baptized but she wasn't practicing, and when they asked questions about the faith, she felt she couldn't properly answer them.

Germane said she's now realized her Catholic faith is "more important to me than I thought — I just wasn't practicing." Germane said it also helped that Marsha had also been away from the church at one time, so she wasn't as afraid she'd be judged.

Meyers feels it is an advantage and preferable for the program coordinator and volunteers to have once walked in those shoes and are able to relate with where the participants are coming from.

Some people leave the church because of "real issues" or because of problems or slights from the clergy. Most of the participants who've come to St. John program so far haven't had those issues. Generally they are still attending Mass periodically; some have children in St. John School, but situations or choices in life have left them feeling estranged in some way.

Max Blue is one of those people. He said things in life left him feeling like he needed a more spiritually based life. He joined the program because he felt "I need to get closer to God." And he is hoping this program will set him on the right path.

Campus Young Adult Minister Maria Pirrie is sitting in on the sessions to observe. Pirrie works out of the Catholic Education

Center in the Mishawaka office and hosts the Theology on Tap program for young adults.

Pirrie said, "I want to familiarize myself with the program and see if it's something that would be worthwhile for young adults who've fallen away."

Pirrie thinks the program could be "a wonderful invitation to come back and an opportunity to support their needs and have questions answered in a community development setting."

Pirrie also remarked she hoped programs such as this would be available in many more parishes in the diocese.

Past participants have found the program helpful. Tim Miller, who shared he was inspired by his son Joseph to start attending Mass again, said he thought the program was great. "It was very comfortable," he said.

Tim's sister, Shelly, also participated in the program with him. Mary Hertzler, who is friends with the Millers, participated in the first session as well. She too thought the program was very worthwhile and should continue. She said she thought the sessions with Father Delaney might be uncomfortable for her but surprisingly they weren't and she felt she learned a lot.


One common feeling among returning Catholics is that the longer they've been away, the more they feel unworthy to get involved in the parish and feel they'll be judged for their lapses. This program is a way to let them know there is a place just waiting for them. "It's very helpful for people to know they are wanted and welcome to come back," Marsha said.

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Living Christ today: Why be Catholic?

BY LINDA FURGE

Opening prayer

Loving God, we so often take for granted the many gifts you give out of unconditional love for us. We sometimes forget to thank you for the daily blessings that come our way and for the gift of faith that gives purpose and meaning to our lives. We neglect to pray for our fellow travelers on the path to eternal life with you in heaven. Renew in us a passion, energy and gratitude for life, for community, for justice and for peace. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Scripture: Acts 10: 34-43

Commentary

Those of us who grew up in the church before the Second Vatican Council really never had to talk about being Catholic — we just were. Period. Back then "what made us Catholic" was out there for all to see: statues of Mary and the saints, Stations of the Cross; rosaries, missals and holy cards for Sunday Mass; pictures of the Sacred Heart or the Immaculate Conception in homes, etc. Everyone knew who was Catholic by the peanut butter and jelly sandwiches in the lunch boxes or the local fish fries on Fridays in Lent.

Those of us who grew up after the council know that today the question, "Why be Catholic?" comes up quite frequently ... when Sunday Mass is particularly boring, when a person disagrees with the pope or bishop or pastor, when talking with other Christians who seem more committed to Gospel values than Catholics are.

Much of this has to do with the fact that, during the Second Vatican Council, the narrow approach that there was no salvation outside the Catholic Church

was broadened in "Lumen Gentium" (16) so that it embraced God's love for every person of good faith and good will. So, if persons of good faith from other faith traditions can also be saved, why be Catholic — or why remain a Christian? Perhaps in order to be able to answer these questions, we should dig deeper into our Catholic practices to rediscover some of our underlying core Catholic convictions.

The word "Catholic" means "universal." The church is catholic in two ways: 1) because Christ is present in the body of Christ, the church, who receives from him "the fullness of means of salvation" (Eph 1:22-23), and 2) because each member in Christ's body has received the great commission to go and proclaim to the whole world the good news of salvation.

Food and drink (even alcohol), sex and children are all good. All of life is gift from God, intended for our benefit and enjoyment when wisely used. This is why Catholics have a fundamentally sacramental view of the world. A sacrament is a sign of God's presence. Catholic wisdom says that the world — and everything in it — is gift and sign from God.

Catholics use the gifts of creation in all their rituals and are very comfortable with bringing sculpture, painting, stained glass windows, music, drama and other elements of the created world into their worship. God's greatest sacrament (sign) to the world was Jesus Christ himself. In the seven great sacramental moments of Catholic Church life, we use water and oil, bread and wine, human touch as signs of God's love for humanity.

We believe that, even though humans can — and do — commit atrocious acts, this is not what first defines us. We believe that all per-

sons are made in the image and likeness of God and because of this all human life, from womb to tomb, has value and meaning, basic rights and responsibilities.

We see the process of conversion as lifelong and ongoing, beginning with our baptism. There is no one moment when a Catholic says that she or he is "saved." Achieving our fullest potential is a process, a journey through stages as we enter more deeply into God's life. The same God who created us also continuously walks with us through our life's journey towards holiness.

We Catholics take community so seriously that we believe it extends even beyond the grave — to the communion of saints, past and present. Because life in Christ is eternal and not bound by our earthly concept of time, we believe we are still "in communion with" those who have gone to heaven before us. And so, we pray for "the souls of the faithfully departed" and to the saints for help and guidance.

Being in the Catholic Church means we belong to a church that spans time and distance. It is one of the truly international and multicultural institutions in the world today. People of every race and nationality are Catholic, part of the same universal church. Because of this, the Catholic Church has the universal resources to meet the challenges of each century. And because of this, we can go anywhere on the planet and explore the same unchanging Sunday Gospel that crosses all differences.

Catholics have a commitment to justice. Social transformation through justice is woven throughout our Catholic faith. Our personal conversion process, in imitation of Christ, calls us to abandon ourselves and put others first. The cross leads to resurrection and new life.

Being Catholic means always looking to further God's kingdom here on earth and standing with

social reformers everywhere who want to change the world to be more like God's kingdom.

So, to answer the question, "Why be Catholic?" Just some of the reasons are:

- Be Catholic because the Catholic Church contains the "fullness of the faith."
- Be Catholic because all of creation is good, because we have been created good and redeemed by God for a lifelong journey of wholeness and holiness.
- Be Catholic because we are needed in the community of the body of Christ, living and dead, to build up God's kingdom on earth and in heaven.
- Be Catholic because we have a universal vision for humanity and a long and rich history of Scripture, tradition and prayer from which to draw.
- Be Catholic because we have a never-ending mission to "bring good news to the poor, liberty to captives, sight to the blind and let the oppressed go free."
- Be Catholic because we are always on the journey, asking questions about faith, about the church, or about the world in which we live.

Yet all these reasons are pointless unless they also lead us to Christ and his living Gospel. In Acts 10:34-43, Peter proclaims to the gentiles the good news of Jesus Christ. His words lay the foundation for all the many reasons why we choose to be Catholic.

Connection and reflection

- Why are you Catholic? What does it mean to be Catholic today?
- What is the greatest challenge of Catholicism for you? What is the most challenging thing you've discovered about living your Catholic beliefs? Why?

Evangelizing action challenge

For interior renewal: Often Catholics simply don't know why we believe as we do, or why we do things in liturgy or the sacraments. Pick anything that piques your interest that was mentioned above for further study so you become familiar with its history and place in the church.

For reaching out to others: If you sense an interest, invite non-Catholic friends to inquire into RCIA or an inactive Catholic to join you for a parish catechetical presentation. Consider becoming a RCIA sponsor or mentor.

For transforming society: Reread the paragraph: "Catholics have a commitment to justice." Identify one more concrete way to further God's kingdom on earth — and then do it.

Closing prayer

O God of compassion, we have come to the end of our faith sharing and look forward to returning to our homes and families. We ask that we may go forth in renewed love to serve all your people, beginning with those dearest to us. In flame our hearts with joy in our Catholic faith so that we may ever more confidently preach the Gospel message through words and actions and live out our baptismal call to extend God's kingdom here on earth. Fill us with your courageous Spirit, O Lord. Amen.

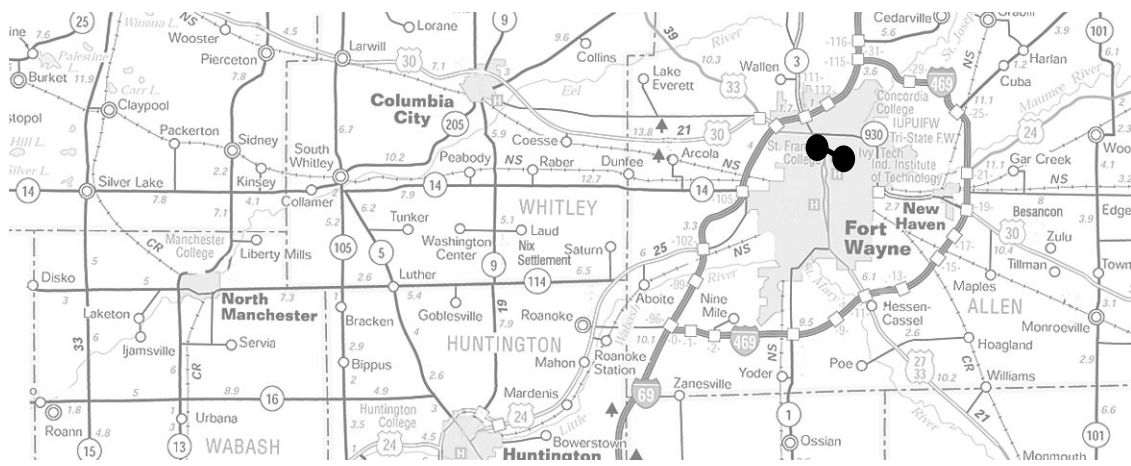
CROSS TRANSFERED FROM ST. JUDE TO ST. CHARLES



FRANCIE HOGAN

Parishioners of St. Jude Parish walked the Jubilee Pilgrim Cross to St. Charles Borromeo Church on Saturday, stopping along the way at 14 stations for prayer and song.

Jubilee Pilgrim Cross



March 31-April 21 University of St. Francis/TV Mass Fort Wayne
 April 21-28 Most Precious Blood Fort Wayne

Pope, Russian Orthodox patriarch affirm importance of cooperation

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI and Russian Orthodox Patriarch Alexy II of Moscow have affirmed the importance of Catholics and Orthodox cooperating to keep Gospel values alive in increasingly secularized societies. The Vatican March 17 published an Italian translation of letters the two leaders exchanged in February. Pope Benedict sent his brief letter on the occasion of Patriarch Alexy's 77th birthday and his name day Feb. 23. The letter was given to the patriarch by Cardinal Roger Etchegaray, former president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, who was invited to Moscow for the birthday festivities. In addition to offering his prayers and best wishes, the pope expressed his hopes for improved relations between the Catholic and Russian Orthodox churches.

U.S. foreign policy must promote religious freedom, bishop says

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Because religious freedom "lies at the heart of human rights," the U.S. government must give it greater support and higher visibility in its foreign policy decisions, a Catholic bishop told a congressional subcommittee March 16. Bishop Thomas G. Wenski of Orlando, Fla., chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on International Policy, was addressing the House International Relations Committee's subcommittee on Africa, global human rights and international operations. "Given the enormous potential of religion to contribute to a more humane world, as well as the troubling ways religion can be manipulated, especially in coercive or repressive environments, religious freedom needs to be at the center of the work on human rights in U.S. foreign policy," he said. The March 16 hearing was convened to review the U.S. State Department's 2005 country reports on human rights practices.

Pope, Egyptian president discuss nuclear arms, religious tolerance

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI met Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak March 13 to discuss the situation in the Middle East, tensions surrounding Iran's nuclear program and religious tolerance in Egypt, the Vatican said. Mubarak returned to Rome specifically to meet the pope at the end of a March 9-13 series of visits with European leaders. The president had met Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi March 9 in Rome, but could not meet the pope at the time because of the Vatican's annual Lenten retreat. Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said Pope Benedict and Mubarak spent about half an hour together and began their meeting by discussing "the good relations

NEWS BRIEFS

VATICAN PRIEST VISITS CHILDREN IN NEW ORLEANS



CNS PHOTO/FRANK J. METHE, CLARION HERALD

Capuchin Franciscan Father Raniero Cantalamessa, the official preacher to the papal household, greets children at St. John the Baptist Community Center in New Orleans during his visit to view the destruction Hurricane Katrina brought upon the city. Father Cantalamessa planned to share the experiences of storm victims in a series of programs for Italian television during Lent.

between the Holy See and the Arab Republic of Egypt and the situation of interreligious relations in the country." The two spoke English and spent about 20 minutes together without aides present. "The meeting allowed them to review themes relative to the prospects for a stable peace in the Middle East," Navarro-Valls said. "There was a profound exchange of ideas about the situation in Iraq and also a look at issues regarding the Islamic Republic of Iran."

Priest says culture of death builds fortress if it controls society

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — The director of Human Life International warned an Indianapolis audience of pro-life supporters against being complacent because a culture of death builds "a fortress of death" when it gains control of a society. But when a culture of life predominates in a country, Father Thomas Euteneuer said, society's laws, traditions and customs act like a stronghold to protect the sacred institutions of life, marriage and family. The first duty of government is to protect the innocent, he said, as well as whatever is fundamentally important for the survival of the society. After he arrived in Indianapolis March 4 and before his address that evening, Father Euteneuer prayed the rosary outside a Planned Parenthood abortion clinic and called on St. Michael the Archangel for help in the fight against the culture of death. During his keynote speech on "Mary's Role in the Pro-Life Movement," he challenged more priests to join him in the "spiritual

warfare" to save souls by praying outside abortion clinics and preaching pro-life homilies during Masses.

Vatican laicizes eight Boston clerics accused of child sex abuse

BOSTON (CNS) — Seven priests and one deacon of the Boston Archdiocese accused of sexually abusing minors have been laicized by the Vatican, the archdiocese announced. Among the priests removed from the clerical state was Msgr. Frederick Ryan, a former archdiocesan vice chancellor and regional vicar. The Vatican decision means that all eight men will no longer receive financial support from the archdiocese and they may no longer perform public ministry, with the exception that those who are priests may offer absolution to the dying, said the March 17 announcement. Terrence C. Donilon, archdiocesan communications secretary, said that all eight men had been removed from active ministry prior to the Vatican decision. The seven priests who were laicized are: Anthony Buchette, Paul Finegan, Thomas Forry, Robert Morrisette, Ernest Tourigney, Patrick Tague and Ryan. The deacon who was laicized is Joseph Crowley.

Catholic priest murdered in southwestern India

PUNE, India (CNS) — The murder of Father Eusebio Ferrao, a parish priest in India, has shocked Catholics in the southwestern Indian state of Goa. Father Ferrao, pastor of St. Francis Xavier

Church in the village of Macasana, was found dead by parishioners who arrived at the church for the 6:30 a.m. Mass March 18. When the priest did not show up for Mass, a few of them went to his home, where they found him in his room lying on the ground, partially naked, his face covered with a pillow and a towel in his mouth. According to forensic reports, the 61-year-old priest's body bore 27 knife stab wounds on the back and chest, inflicted after his death from asphyxiation as a result of strangulation and smothering. Archbishop Filipe do Rosario Ferrao of Goa and Daman, who is not related to the priest, arrived at the parish that morning to lead a prayer service. He described the murder as "the first of its kind in peaceful Goa in recent times."

Wisconsin bishops glad voters will decide on same-sex marriages

MADISON, Wis. (CNS) — Wisconsin's Catholic bishops were pleased with the state Assembly's decision to send to the voters a constitutional amendment defining marriage as being between one man and one woman, according to the head of the Wisconsin Catholic Conference. "Wisconsin is one step closer to placing this question before the voters and the strong vote in favor of the resolution mirrors the public sentiment on the issue," said John Huebscher, executive director of the conference, in a statement. "The bishops anticipate that when given the chance to approve this amendment, the voters will do so, as they have in other states where the question was put before

them," he added. By a 62-31 vote, the Assembly approved a bill to place the amendment on the Nov. 7 general election ballot. The Senate had approved the measure in December.

Vatican official says Catholic approach to media must include praise

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Catholic Church's approach to the media must include praise for positive programming and stories as well as criticism of what is harmful or dishonest, said U.S. Archbishop John P. Foley. The archbishop, president of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, said his office always has tried "to recognize the good and affirm it, to see needs and fill them, to deepen our knowledge of the good news of Jesus Christ and to share it." Celebrating Mass March 13 to open the weeklong plenary session of the council, Archbishop Foley said that, unfortunately, the media have come to expect "more condemnation than commendation, more negative criticism than positive affirmation" from the church. The archbishop said he was convinced that the church must point out the negative that exists, but that it must be overcome with positive support and suggestions. "Let us continue not so much to curse the darkness as to offer the light of Christ through the communications media to those who search for purpose in life and love," he said.

French cardinal-designate named for long dedication to study of Bible

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — When he creates new cardinals March 24, Pope Benedict XVI will honor the more than four decades French Jesuit Father Albert Vanhoye has devoted to studying and teaching about the Bible. The 82-year-old priest was one of three churchmen Pope Benedict was honoring specifically for their long service to the church; the new cardinals who have passed their 80th birthdays are not eligible to vote in a conclave to elect a new pope. Announcing the 15 new cardinals Feb. 22, Pope Benedict limited himself to saying their names and the office they hold. But he made a small exception for Father Vanhoye, describing him as the "well-deserving" former rector of the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome and former secretary of the Pontifical Biblical Commission. As a member of the biblical commission, 1984-1990, and secretary of the body, 1990-2001, Father Vanhoye worked closely with then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and president of the commission. While he was secretary, the commission issued two major documents with guidelines not only for biblical scholars, but also for theologians and pastors charged with helping the Catholic faithful read and understand the Bible.

Senior Spirit

SENIOR VOLUNTEERS HAVE BIG IMPACT IN COMMUNITIES Volunteering is a perfect way for older adults to remain active, creative and productive in their later years. More than ever before, older Americans are volunteering to help others in their community. Visitors to the Web site www.VolunteerMatch.org can find local opportunities by entering their zip code.

Required minimum distribution rules direct withdrawals from retirement plans

Question: What are the rules for withdrawing required minimum distributions from retirement plans?

Answer: The IRS requires that when an individual reaches a certain age, he/she must start taking money out of his/her retirement plan accounts. These withdrawals are called required minimum distributions.

The intention of the required minimum distribution rules is to prevent participants of retirement plans from leaving money in their accounts indefinitely in order to avoid paying the federal income taxes that have been deferred over the years.

The required minimum distribution rules apply to employer-sponsored retirement plans, such as 401(k) plans and profit sharing plans, as well as traditional, rollover, SEP, SARSEP and SIMPLE IRAs. Roth IRAs are not subject to the required minimum distribution rules.

When to take distributions

Distributions must begin on a participant's required beginning date (RBD). The participant's RBD is April 1 after the year in which the participant reaches age 70. For each succeeding year, min-

imum distributions must be taken on or before Dec. 31. If the participant takes his/her first distribution between Jan. 1 and April 1 of the year after turning 70, he/she must also take the next distribution on or before Dec. 31 of that same year.

Typically, ordinary income taxes will be due on the distribution amount in the year the withdrawal is received. However, if an individual made nondeductible contributions to an IRA, a portion of the distribution will be tax free.

Life expectancy tables

The required minimum distribution is based on the individual's life expectancy, beginning in the year when he/she attains age 70.

When IRS issued Final and Temporary Regulations in 2002 for any required minimum distributions taken on or after Jan. 1, 2003, they also issued new life expectancy tables — the Uniform Lifetime Table, the Single Life Table and the Joint Life Table.

The Uniform Lifetime Distribution Table is used by most IRA owners and plan participants for calculating lifetime required minimum distributions. The only participants who will not use this table in calculating their required distribution would be those whose

spouse is their sole beneficiary for the entire year and is more than 10 years younger than the participant. Beneficiaries never use this table.

The Joint Life Table is used for lifetime distributions for those participants whose spouse is their sole beneficiary for the entire year and is more than 10 years younger. Beneficiaries never use this table.

The Single Life Table is used by designated beneficiaries to compute required minimum distributions on inherited retirement plan accounts. This table is never used to calculate the participant's lifetime required distributions.

Calculating Distributions

The required minimum distribution is calculated using the participant's account balance on the prior Dec. 31 and dividing it by the life expectancy factor from the appropriate table. The factor is determined by the participant's age on his/her birthday during the current year.

Let's assume that George's date of birth is Nov. 19, 1935. George turned 70 in 2005 but doesn't reach 70 until May 19, 2006. Therefore, he has a required minimum distribution for 2006. Because he will be 71 in 2006, he must use the factor listed in the IRS table for age 71 in order to

determine his required minimum distribution.

Here are the steps involved in George's calculation. First of all, George must determine his age as of Dec. 31 of the current year — age 71. Second, George needs to determine the life expectancy factor from the Uniform Lifetime Table — 26.5. Next, he must determine the total balance of all of his IRAs and retirement plan balances (excluding Roth IRAs) as of Dec. 31 of the prior year — \$300,000. Finally, he calculates his required minimum distribution by dividing his account balance by his life expectancy factor — \$11,321.

If he does not withdraw all of the required distribution, the IRS will impose a penalty of 50 percent of the amount that was not distributed.

Distributions after death

It is important for the participant to name a designated beneficiary of his/her retirement plan in order to calculate required minimum distributions after death. For purposes of calculating the required minimum distributions, the designated beneficiary is determined on Sept. 30 of the year following the participant's death.

If the participant dies before April 1 of the year after reaching



PLANNED GIVING

ELISA SMITH, CPA/PFS

age 70, the beneficiary's required minimum distributions are calculated using the beneficiary's life expectancy.

However, if the participant dies on or after April 1 of the year after reaching age 70, the beneficiary's required minimum distribution is calculated using the longer of the beneficiary's life expectancy or the participant's life expectancy based on age at death.

Note: This information is for educational purposes only and is not intended for tax advice. Please consult with your professional advisor.

Elisa M. Smith, CPA/PFS, is vice president and director of financial planning for STAR Wealth Management, Fort Wayne, and the director of planned giving, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

St. Michael couple shares their devotion and talents

BY IDA CHIPMAN

PLYMOUTH — Lloyd and Theresa Anderson, married for 51 years this coming April, are a devoted and talented couple. They have both — except for the time he spent in the service — lived all of their lives in West Township of Marshall County.

She is an accomplished artist, an herbalist, a volunteer chaplain, an expert seamstress, a deputy trustee and has served on numerous civic committees.

Lloyd, 74, was first elected West Township trustee in 1986. He served for 19 years, retiring as of Dec. 30, 2005.

He is an author, a musician and a horseman — the Andersons have bred Arabians — selling and delivering them all over the country since 1965. He has also been active in many community projects, including helping to found and serving for years on the Blueberry Festival Committee.

Lloyd graduated from West High School in 1949.

His family didn't have a tractor, so Lloyd started farming with horses at the age of 12.

Many of the West High students would be in school only two or three days a week during planting and harvest time.

In November of 1951, Lloyd joined the United States Air Force, was sent to electronics school and became the supervisor working on the radar systems for 65 jets, F-86Ds — Dog Interceptor Sabres — at Perrin Air Force Base in Texas.

In 1955, Staff Sergeant Anderson retired from the Air Force and came home to Theresa.

Theresa Houin had grown up five miles south of Plymouth. She went to St. Michael School through the eighth grade and graduated from Plymouth High School in 1952. A bright, hardworking student, she was third in her class.

After she graduated, she got a job as a clerk in the shoe department of Montgomery Ward in

Plymouth.

And that's where she met Anderson when he came into the store with a friend.

He asked her out.

They went to a movie during a heavy snow storm and then went out driving to see the Christmas lights around town.

On Labor Day, 1954, he gave Theresa an engagement ring. They were married the next year on April 16. She lived with her folks, milking a herd of cows for her brother, Lawrence, until Lloyd was discharged from the Air Force the following November.

In 1957, the young couple moved to the home, where they now live on Queen Road, two weeks before Sharon, their second of three daughters, was born.

They bought a herd of cows and Lloyd and Theresa became dairy farmers.

In 1960, Lloyd went back to studying electronics. He got a job as a technical writer with the Bendix Corp. in South Bend mak-

ing Navy missiles.

For 17 years, once a year, the Andersons hosted a weekend trail ride on Kurt Marohn's farm. Sponsored by the Marshall-Starke Horse Association, it featured 30 miles of trails.

"We'd have over 150 riders," Lloyd said. "It was great fun."

He still rides. Theresa walks. They take their camper, a horse and bicycles and travel to Colorado, Kentucky, West Virginia and southern Indiana.

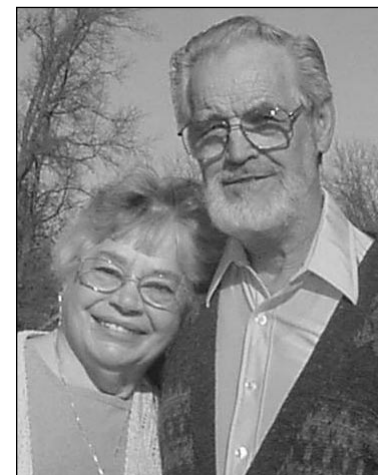
"For 40 years," Lloyd said, disgustedly, "I went on the trail ride in the Hoosier National Forest. Never missed one until '05 when I was covered up with the West Township fire department controversy."

Lloyd authored a book, "A Slice of History" an account of Marshall County and West Township, and its schools. Theresa did the illustrations.

In their retirement from civic duties the Andersons plan to travel more.

Theresa will take up her paint brushes and learn more about herbs and natural medicines.

The Andersons will remain busy and productive people. They are members of St. Michael Catholic Church.



IDA CHIPMAN

Theresa and Lloyd Anderson enjoy life at their home in Marshall County.

St. John veteran believes divine guidance protected him

BY DENISE FEDOROW

GOSHEN — Stanley Uryga, parishioner at St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen, has had his share of narrow escapes — including escaping from a POW camp, living through a car-train accident and surviving a stroke — and through it all, he believes he was guided from above.

"Everything that happened from the time I became a POW to today, I believe I was guided and taken by the hand from place to place from God above," he said. "There were many times I should've been dead."

Uryga is not sure why his life was spared so many times, but he is sure there is a reason.

Stanley met his wife Dorothy in England at a hospital where they both worked after he was discharged from the service. They married in 1950 and have three children, Julie (Senger), Jamie and John and 12 grandchildren.

Stanley was raised in Wojakowa Krakow, Poland on a farm about 40 miles from where Pope John Paul II was born. When Germany seized Poland in 1939, Nazi soldiers came to the village to take young men to forced labor camps. In May 1941, Stanley's older brother hid from the Nazi soldiers, and the family thought 15 year-old Stanley would be safe. But he was taken to Germany to work on a farm, where he said the family was kind to him.

In September he was taken to Schiltach in the Black Forest to work in a metal factory. He was housed in barracks at a labor camp with Russian, French, Polish and Ukrainian prisoners, surrounded by barbed wire and a machine gun tower. The conditions were poor, and the bread the prisoners were given to eat was half flour and half sawdust. The sawdust wouldn't digest and would crumble so it couldn't be eaten.

"Conditions were real, real bad. There were three or four times when I didn't eat for three days in a row," he recalled.

After getting hurt, he was sent to the railroad to unload boxcars. "Inside the crevices of the boxcars, Polish people would write notes saying, 'We're praying for you,' 'hold on' — that sort of thing. We'd write back 'so and so says hello' so they'd know he was alive."

On the weekends, they were guarded by German soldiers who were injured in the war, and while the prisoners were unloading, they'd sometimes go for coffee. Stanley decided to escape back to Poland, and he slipped into a boxcar and was covered with boxes and trash.

When he arrived home he had to hide in his aunt's attic. One night the dogs started barking, and Stanley's aunt warned him the German soldiers had come looking for him. He attributes the fact that he didn't get caught when others who were more educated or who



DENISE FEDOROW

Stanley Uryga of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Goshen shows the medal of freedom award and certificate presented to him last year by the Knights of Columbus. Stanley was also presented with a flag from Sen. Richard Lugar's office.

were army officers got caught to divine guidance.

"I ran as fast as I could as far as I could into the woods and climbed a tree and tied myself in it with my belt in case I fell asleep. I strongly believe an angel or a saint guided me step by step. There was no way I could've done that without help," he said.

Stanley ended up joining a Polish underground army and when the Germans declared war against Russia. The Russian Army asked them to join forces against Germany. He was with a group that escaped into Italy and then England, at which point, the Polish

soldiers were fighting, wearing a Polish insignia under British rule.

When discharged, there were more than 11,000 Polish soldiers in England. The Russians were still in control of Poland and called Winston Churchill, wanting the soldiers returned.

"That was a most worrisome time. If we were sent back, Russia would've totally destroyed us," he said.

At the end of the war, Stanley returned to Schiltach to the metal factory he escaped from to prove to himself and show them he had made it and was still alive. He also discussed how, when the Nazi's first occupied Poland, they took all the teachers and priests — anyone who the people looked up to for help or guidance.

Stanley returned to England and became an ambulance attendant at the hospital where he met his wife. A year later, the couple came to the United States to Detroit and two months later, Stanley was drafted to serve in the Korean War.

"In a way, we were devastated — we just came in and had no time to settle," Stanley said. But when he went before the draft board and told his story, they told him he didn't have to serve, that he had served enough.

But Stanley joined the Air Force Reserve, serving out of South Ridge Air Force Base in Mt. Clemens, Mich. He worked with a medical group that dropped medical supplies and equipment for the troops.

Col. Richard Mudd was his commanding officer. Mudd was the great-grandson of the infamous

Mudd who was imprisoned for treating John Wilkes Booth, President Lincoln's assassin. Every year until he passed away, Mudd sent a Christmas card to Uryga.

Stanley believes miracles are around us every day; we're just not always open to them. Six years ago, he had another narrow escape. While attending Mass at St. John, he began to feel ill. He told his daughter she'd better take him to the hospital. He was told by the medical staff that, because it was just a short drive from St. John to the hospital, his life had been saved.

When asked if he felt like he had nine lives he replied, "Many, many more than nine."

And Uryga said he has wondered many times why his life was spared so often. "I strongly believe there was a reason for it. I do know whatever happens, happens for better. Good always follows bad."

He also said he never thought he'd live to be nearly 80, but he's not afraid of dying and feels, as Christians, death is a cause for celebration.

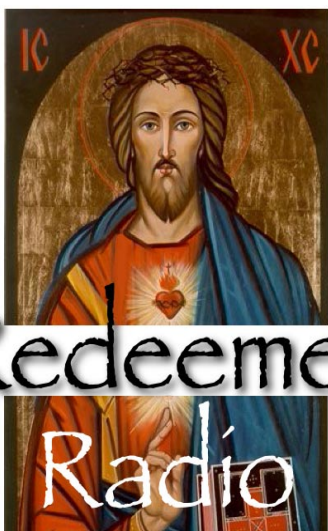
Uryga used to volunteer with the homebound ministry at St. John's and was active with the Knights of Columbus. Last year the Knights surprised him with a medal of freedom and a flag from Senator Richard Lugar's office.

Stanley, who became a U.S. citizen in 1956, feels as Americans we don't realize how lucky we are.

"This country has been blessed and I sincerely hope we get on our knees and thank God for what he gives us," Stanley said. "Freedom is worth dying for. If you lose your freedom, you lose everything."

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Hip Hope

SAINT JOSEPH'S HIGH SCHOOL'S H.O.P.E. GOES GLOBAL The h.o.p.e. membership raised money for an Ark. Through the efforts of the Heifer Project International, people will receive animals to help them survive and thrive. Animals range from llamas and water buffalo to rabbits, chickens, and, of course, heifers. The students took on the project of raising an Ark at a cost of \$5,000. Two of each animal are included in this symbolic Ark. The Saint Joseph's High School community collected a total of \$6,861.57.

Warsaw workshop gives clues to teen minds

BY KRISTI WARD

WARSAW — Have you ever looked at your teenager and asked in frustration, "What were you thinking?" Have you ever been awestruck at a painting, poem, story or song created by an adolescent? Have you ever wondered about the roller coaster emotions in the adolescents you teach?

There are reasons for all these things — and more.

Kathleen McGee and Laura Buddenberg of the Girls and Boys Town Center for Adolescent and Family Spirituality in Omaha, Neb., led a recent workshop on the teen mind at the new Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Warsaw.

With over 40 parents and catechists attending, McGee and Buddenberg shared valuable clues gathered from recent research to what's going on in adolescent minds and bodies — and what adults can do to help them stay safe.

They gave a recipe for risky teenage behavior which included a 300 percent increase in hormones, powerful peer pressure, powerful media messages and a need for autonomy. They also included

research, which showed the prefrontal cortex — the part of the brain responsible for self-control, judgment, emotional regulation, organization, planning and impulse inhibition — undergoes a major growth spurt at puberty, but remains immature until adulthood.

The lack of prefrontal cortex maturity often leads to unusual — and sometimes destructive — teen choices, but it's also responsible for the awesome creations of adolescent artists.

McGee and Buddenberg said hormones are the reason for the roller coaster emotions since hormonal increases cause wild and spectacular mood swings — and as they reminded the workshop participants, the changes don't just happen to young girls.

"It's as true for young men as for young women," said Buddenberg. "You tend to hear about it more in girls, but guys have the same experience. Kids can be totally up one moment and totally down the next. And that's very normal. It makes you a little crazy as a parent or if you're trying to teach kids, but that's simply a normal thing."

McGee stressed early in the workshop the word "adolescent"



KRISTI WARD

Laura Buddenberg, director of administration and outreach at the Girls and Boys Town Center for Adolescent and Family Spirituality, explains the recipe for risky teen behavior to the more than 40 parents and catechists attending the recent workshop on adolescents at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Warsaw.

doesn't mean just the teen years.

"Thirty percent of girls these days are getting their menses at eight now," McGee said to gasps from the audience. "So, adolescence — when we use that term, we don't think teenager anymore — adolescence officially begins with puberty, whenever that hap-

pens."

Throughout the workshop, Buddenberg gave suggestions on how to teach teens to "hardwire" their brains to lead safe and healthy lives — and stressed the need for adults to be aware of the way teens think.

"Kids do feel things very

intensely," she stressed. "They don't yet have the brain hardware for problem solving, nor do they have the life experience. They can get stuck in a situation and literally be unable to reason a way out, or hit the depths of despair over something and not see the light at the end of the tunnel. It's important to remember that as adults."

Both leaders offered useful tips on teaching kids life skills based on the Ten Commandments and provided lists of helpful reading materials. As one of the major ways to help keep kids safe, Buddenberg recommended encouraging kids to make and be a good friend and explained how parishes can help.

"If a child has even one friend that stands by him against a culture that offers every wacky thing under the sun, that can be a kid's best protection," she says.

"Church, youth group, religious education programs — they're very obvious places where kids really do find good friends — and where you can go and be yourself," said Buddenberg.

"And our programs, our parishes should be the very places where that happens — where everybody is welcome."

Conference explores 'real passion, real purity and real relationships'

BY TOM UEBBING

NOTRE DAME — The most pressing spiritual need of our young people today is "to have a passionate relationship with Jesus Christ," according to Jan Torma of St. Jude, South Bend. With her husband Dave, she helped organize and promote the 2nd Timothy 1 Youth Conference, held Jan. 28, at Holy Cross College in South Bend. Jan explained "passionate" as "conversion that begins in the heart, resulting in a wholehearted, unreserved commitment to Christ, but also knowing and receiving his love."

The conference took its name from 2 Tim 1:6-7: "For this reason I remind you to stir into flame the gift of God bestowed when my hands were laid on you. The spirit God has given us is no cowardly spirit, but rather one that makes us strong, loving and wise." This one-day youth retreat had three topics, each building on the previous — "real passion, real purity and real relationships." About 50 young

people attended. The event was sponsored by Holy Cross College and financially supported by Cressy and Everett Real Estate and First Response fire and water restoration.

Dr. Tina Holland, vice president of student affairs at Holy Cross College, was very pleased with last year's conference and welcomed back the organizers to hold another event in 2006. Holland wants to see Holy Cross College continue to be a "strong venue for the wholesome and healthy development of students' faith." Two of her daughters contributed their musical talents this year, participating in the praise-and-worship band, which was led by Pat Millea, a University of Notre Dame graduate student.

Holy Cross director of campus ministry, Bob Kloska, attended the event and observed that a lot of the young people "had a moving or touching experience" and that it was a timely message and "a good fit for our school and our mis-

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Notre Dame students encourage chastity with enthusiasm

BY ANN CAREY

NOTRE DAME — They are handsome, energetic young people, 17 students at the University of Notre Dame who obviously are enjoying themselves as they dance, sing, rap and joke. A passerby peering through the window of their rehearsal room never would be able to guess that the topic of all this merriment is the very serious topic of chastity.

However, it is exactly this joyful, enthusiastic approach to chastity that promises to appeal to the middle school and high school students the "Chastity: Love without Limits" program hopes to reach.

"We really want to communicate what the real meaning of human sexuality is and how we, as young adults, can best live that meaning now," explained Mary Twetten, who heads up the chastity presentations for Notre Dame-Saint Mary's Right to Life.

Twetten told *Today's Catholic* that our culture's view of the human person is the root cause of abortion and other attacks against human life and dignity. Thus, the student pro-life group decided to offer chastity presentations to younger students as an effective way of building up a culture of life.

"It's also a way of using our own particular gifts and situation," she said, for "young students are much more likely to respond positively to chastity when they see other young people who are living it too."

And living chastity in a joyful manner, for these young people are not wallflowers who spend all their time studying. One young woman in the group is engaged and will be married when she graduates. A couple in the group talk about their experience of dating each other for a year, and other students speak freely about their attraction to members of the opposite sex.

As one of the attractive young women in a skit about modest clothing said: "I love clothes, and I love to shop," but she channels that love into buying appropriate clothing and dressing modestly so that people will notice she is a person with dignity.

"We want the students to understand that chastity isn't



ANN CAREY

One of the skits in the Notre Dame chastity presentation involves dressing modestly in order to present oneself as a person with dignity. Notre Dame students participating in the skit are, from left to right: Rachel Miller, freshman from St. Louis; Joanna Emilian, freshman from Fort Wayne; Mary Twetten, senior from Brookfield, Wisc.; Laura Rose, sophomore from Fort Wayne; and Kimberly Stoddard, freshman from Loveland, Colo.

something old-fashioned, designed by the church to make you unhappy and unfulfilled," Twetten explained. "It's just the opposite: It brings joy and allows one to really love other people in a profound and fulfilling way."

Indeed, in the skits presented for the younger students, the college students stress that chastity is more than just abstinence: Chastity is about how human beings use their sexuality to love someone else, and love is not just love of someone's body but love of the whole person.

"Ultimately, chastity is about loving the right way. If we're going to love, let's do it right," is the message of one skit.

Twetten said that the content of their program is based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church and on Christopher West's "Theology of the Body Explained: A Commentary on John Paul II's Gospel of the Body." She said they try to tailor their material to the interests of middle school and high school students. After presenting several short skits to a group, the college students — usually about 10 men and women come for a presentation — break the younger people down into smaller groups.

In the small groups, the older students relate their own stories, experiences and struggles, said

Twetten, and they tell the younger students what they have learned from these experiences. In the small groups, younger students are encouraged, and feel free, to ask the college students any questions they may have.

The greatest challenge to chastity for middle school and high school students is the pressure placed on them by the culture and by other students, Twetten said. This kind of pressure suggests that if a young person is a virgin, it must be because he or she is unpopular or not "cool" or not good-looking, she explained.

Peer pressure is a big issue in middle school and high school, she continued, and also includes not just pressure to participate in sexual activity, but what she calls "smaller steps along the way," like immodesty in dress, dance or speech, using pornography, and viewing inappropriate movies, books or magazines. These issues are all addressed in the skits put on by the college students.

Schools, parishes or youth groups interested in scheduling a "Chastity: Love without Limits" presentation should contact Mary Twetten at Notre Dame-Saint Mary's Right to Life, 314 Lafortune, Notre Dame, IN 46556 or mtwetten@nd.edu.

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sion." Many of the attendees responded to the invitation to stand up in their places as a sign of their committing their lives to Jesus Christ. Many also received reconciliation and there was strong participation at the closing Mass, celebrated by Father Neil Wack, CSC.

The event had an ecumenical dimension in that the keynote speakers, Joel and Casey Johnson are evangelicals, but the Johnsons demonstrated respect for the Catholic tradition. Joel urged the participants to go to Mass and to bring their friends. He referred to Pope John Paul II's hope for a "new springtime of Christianity if believers are docile to the Holy Spirit."

Under the topic of "real passion," Jan said "youth were challenged to take a serious look at their relationship with Jesus. It's not enough to believe in him. You need to make him the Lord of your life. This naturally flowed into 'real purity' not just in the area of sexuality but in all dimensions."

The Johnsons told the story of their courtship and the specific decisions they made to keep purity in their relationship. Dave Torma said, "They never said 'this is a talk on purity.' They just told their personal story and let the students connect the dots and draw their own conclusions."

In the area of "real relationships" the Johnsons conveyed the satisfaction and joy of pursuing wholesome and pure, Christ-centered relationships.

Addressing the cultural moral climate, a separate session led by Joel was held for the young men, dealing with the difficult struggle for purity. Casey led a session for the young women, which were engaged in a conversation on the importance of modesty. The students responded to Joel and Casey's honesty, transparency and their love for youth.

Another component of the event was a multimedia presentation by Joel on the state of society today. Citing statistics, Joel chronicled the culture's slide away from Christ and into destructive behavior. Most importantly, he impressed on the young people the strategic position they find themselves in as part of the "Millennium Generation" which is even larger than the "Baby Boomer



BRIAN NOLAN

Joel Johnson encourages youth to respond to the signs of the times by rising up to the challenge.

Generation."

With a video backdrop quoting Jesus on the signs of the times, Joel challenged the young people to be leaders and stand up for Christ in their own time, not waiting till they are adults, but here and now among their own peers.

Nathan Sergio, a parishioner of Christ the King, South Bend, said he was shocked at the statistics detailing the destructive effects of drugs, premarital sex and violence on his generation. This motivated him to want to do something to help turn the situation around. The retreat, "renewed my faith in God." He had an opportunity to have a conversation with Joel whom he found to be "an awesome guy."

The conference drew participants from as far away as LaGrange and Avilla.

Youth group leader Bob Deyo from St. Mary, Avilla, noted that the conference "challenged the teenagers to set higher goals for themselves" and that he personally "walked away with a resolution even for myself. It broadened my horizons and challenged me to live a holy life."

Bob's wife Bridgette cited a young man who said the conference deepened his respect for himself and the mutual respect between the young men and young women. "Hearing about Joel and Casey's relationship made them realize they should not be concerned so much with their boyfriend-girlfriend relationships but should be caring more about what Christ wants from them, where they are right now."

LUERS HOLDS CELEBRATION OF UNITY



DON CLEMMER

Ed Reef addresses the student body at Bishop Luers High School on Scottish heritage as part of the school's Diversity Day. The assembly also featured a tribute to Rosa Parks, a dance lesson from the IPFW (Indiana-Purdue Universities at Fort Wayne) Hispanos Unidos group, a skit recounting the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Luers students performing in a gospel choir under the direction of Gordon Martin.

BILOXI

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

when Eula and friend Arrion returned, and after she inspected all we had accomplished, her joy was obvious. We could actually see hope returning to the face of this gracious woman. ...”

Eula gave Bobay a gift of a couple small starter shoots from her aloe vera plant, which he had discovered under the back of her house, and replanted for her. “She said I could take it home as a souvenir from the experience,” wrote Bobay.

When the St. Jude group went to the Gulf Coast in November, all they could do for Eula was demolition — removing the lower four feet of all of her walls, and removing ruined lower cabinets — and they desired to do something more positive for her this time.

“Eula’s home stands about three feet above the ground, and the storm surge from Katrina came another four feet above that threshold, flooding Eula’s house, and ruining her walls, her major appliances, her lower cabinetry, her furniture, her clothing, and pretty much everything else she owned, except for the items high in closets and upper cabinets.”

The other St. Jude crews spent the day installing and mudding drywall at houses selected by the diocese. Those presently at the top of the list are the elderly and handicapped.

Friday, Feb. 10.

Many St. Jude parishioners supported the mission trip with cash and gift cards. On the final day of work, Art Renninger and crew did demolition work at two separate homes.

Bobay wrote, “They worked in Biloxi at Robert’s place, and in Pass Christian for Erlene. This was the first crew ever to help Robert in the many months since the disaster. Erlene, in her mid-70s, has so much mold in her home that her health is seriously declining, yet she has not received her FEMA trailer (she’s approved and is on a waiting list).”

Art “and Julie checked in on a woman named Betty, whom they met on an earlier mission. After seeing how Betty was faring, the Renningers visited a Willie and Willie Mae Cook and their four children. ... On this mission to Mississippi, the Renningers drove their pick up truck down and donated the truck to Willie and Willie Mae, who lost their only transportation to Katrina.

“Julie describes the Cook family as ‘the best witnesses for Jesus Christ anyone could ever want to meet.’ She explained that Willie and Willie Mae are actually thankful for the hurricane, because of the many wonderful people who have responded to God’s call to help his children in this devastated area.”

At Eula’s home, the additional building materials and supplies were purchased to complete the drywall work. “Two other crews joined us at Eula’s today to wrap up our work there, including ... new friends from Oregon and Natchez, (Miss.)”

Bobay told about two retirees, Fred Voss and Fred Maier, from Natchez, Miss., who worked with

the St. Jude group.

Voss told Bobay that “his grandchildren’s Catholic school in Natchez, which has existed for well over 100 years, has added about 150 New Orleans refugee students to the school, which had a pre-Katrina enrollment of about 350. He had done some relief work in New Orleans a few months ago, and said the biggest difference between the two devastated places was the awful smell of rot and mold down in New Orleans.” The Natchez retirees cut and installed insulation for Eula’s walls before the drywall was hung.

“Also joining us for most of the week was a couple from Oregon, Bob and Chris Adelman. Bob and Chris drove 3,000 miles from Oregon to work down here for three weeks.” Joining the St. Jude team at Eula’s, “the 10 of us installed all of the remaining drywall and insulation in the house. ... We worked with added urgency, knowing that today would be our last opportunity there, at least for awhile.

“Dan and Eula purchased a new washer and dryer. ... She was very happy to have us unload it into her almost-renovated home. ...”

The team also “replaced Eula’s mailbox, which had been knocked off of its post, and had been temporarily rehung to her chain link fence by a section of wire. ... “



anytime soon.”

The work remaining to be done is the installation of the cabinets and the (salvaged) sink and countertops, the drywall finishing (tape and mud compound) and painting. Although this work remains, the home is nearly ready for Eula’s return. ... We very much hope that Eula will connect with another crew to complete the work.

“As Eula expressed her sincere thanks for our work, she wished she could do something for us in return. We simply asked her to keep us in her prayers, as we will her. Of course she said she would. It was very gratifying to spend the week helping to restore hope to this woman. ...

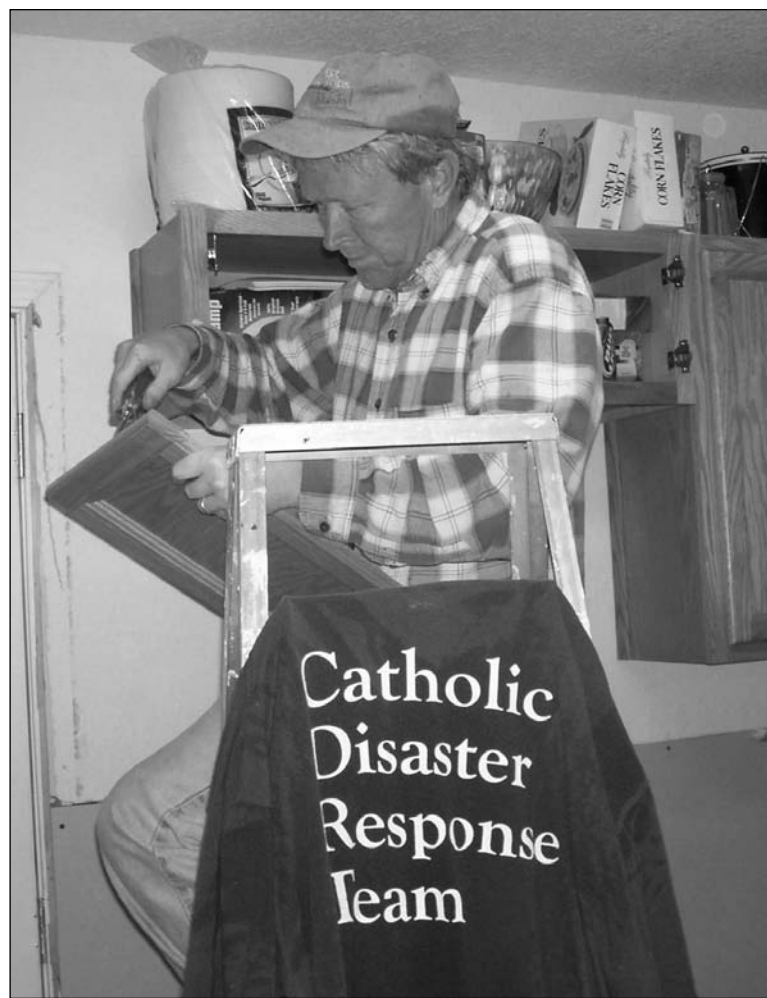
“The overwhelming need for help is obvious,” wrote Bobay. “The widespread breadth of the storm’s destruction means an unprecedented effort of many years will be required to rebuild this coast. At this point, now five months after the August hurricane, the recovery has barely begun.”

This T-shirt representing St. Jude Parish joins others from mission response teams that have stayed at the retreat center in Biloxi, Miss.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CRAIG BOBAY AND DAN LEFFERS

Carol Blauvelt and Enid Laisure prepare the walls for drywalling and at right, Craig Bobay finishes up some cabinet installation.



HOW TO ASSIST

• **The Diocese of Biloxi, Miss.**, accepts volunteers to help with the recovery phase of the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. The Diocese of Biloxi’s Long Term Disaster Recovery, Volunteer Coordinator Deanna Misko, at (228) 701-0555 or 1450 North St., Gulfport, Miss. 39507.

• Dedeaux Retreat Center, Director Billy Ray Dedeaux at his e-mail address: Dedeaux05Favre@aol.com.

• **The Sacred Heart Catholic Church**, Dedeaux Center, are located at 14595 Vidalia Rd., Pass Christian, Miss. 39571 Phone: (228) 586-9003. Donations are also accepted as these two above addresses.

• **Art Renninger**, (260) 493-1804, may be contacted to provide information for local Fort Wayne or South Bend area groups.

• **Contact the local American Red Cross Chapter** to learn how to volunteer for the ongoing hurricane relief efforts, or log on at www.redcross.org for online information. Other organizations that you may contact include 1-800-Volunteer.org (www.1-800-volunteer.org) or the National Volunteer Center Network www.pointsoflight.org/centers/find_center.cfm.

With the drywall cut and being hung, efforts turned to insulation. “Much of that blown-in insulation had been carried away with Katrina’s winds. ...

“As late afternoon became early evening, we had to put away our tools for the final time. We all made one last inspection of our work, and gathered outside on Eula’s porch. Arrion had let it slip that tomorrow would be Eula’s 69th birthday, so we all sang Eula ‘Happy Birthday’ as we ended the week.”

The team needed three more days to get the house in shape for Eula to move in, still “we definitely restored hope to this woman, who before we arrived, had not much prospect of returning home

EDITORIAL

Father Charles Curran vs. Pope John Paul II

There is no doubt that we live in a time of exploding issues that have resonance in the moral lives of all of us. It affects a wide range of issues, extending from the war in which we find ourselves to all the issues of life from beginning to end.

We look to the church for guidance in seeking moral guidelines and insights that enable us to lead lives of Christian commitment and development.

It is not possible that the church can give absolute dicta about certain kinds of problems of modern life until they have been clarified as to all that is involved in many of the modern scientific explorations. But there remains a solid corps of beliefs and teachings that are valid for all of us, and we must cling to these with great strength and stability.

It makes it more difficult when controversies arise in the church that involve church leadership in difficult areas, and among protagonists of substantial character, both clerical and secular.

The promulgation of "Humanae Vitae" was the cause of spectacular dissent on the part of some moral theologians. One of the most controversial persons was Father Charles Curran, then professor on the theological faculty at Catholic University of America. The Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith, in 1987, deprived Curran the right to teach as a Catholic theologian because of his dissenting views on morality with regard to sexual issues. Curran was dismissed from the faculty of Catholic University of America because of this.

This perspective is important for those who are attempting to sort out authentic voices of the church in whom one may place their trust. This same Father Curran has mounted a strong attack against the moral theology of our beloved Pope John Paul II.

The attack is mounted in the book "The Moral Theology of Pope John Paul II," written by Father Curran and published by the Georgetown University Press in the spring of 2005. The burden of Curran's book is to discredit Pope John Paul II as a moral guide.

This book may have a persuasive effect on many dissenting moral theologians for whom Father Curran is a standard bearer. Forewarned is forearmed. It is difficult reading in many parts and probably is not for the novice.

Dr. William E. May, professor of moral theology at Catholic University of America has written an exacting point-by-point rebuttal of Curran's book in the March issue of *Homiletic and Pastoral Review*. It is a persuasive and authoritative piece. It lays bare the many false interpretations of sacred Scripture that he asserts, as well as the false reading he has given to critical areas of the encyclical, "Veritatis Splendor."

Dr. May has given us a faithful interpretation of Pope John Paul II's "Veritatis Splendor." Here, indeed, is the splendor of truth.

How is your Lenten journey?

The 40 days of Lent have now passed the midway mark. As you walk this journey with your fellow Catholics, you may find that your path has a taken a different direction from those of others. This should not be a cause for alarm. Different people find their faith may be enriched by various practices and expressions. Fortunately, our faith offers many options.

For example, some may find their faith enriched by daily Mass, additional eucharistic adoration, participating in the Way of the Cross and praying the rosary. Others find meditation of Scripture, group Bible study or small Christian faith-sharing communities as their preferred expression. Our church also emphasizes participation in penance services and receiving the sacrament of reconciliation during Lent.

Seeking a deeper and personal relationship with Christ is the goal of our Lenten journey. All the above practices are good and worthy — acceptable by the Catholic Church. They all hold special value. It's not too late to incorporate any of these in your Lenten journey.

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

Finding someone to love

Five years ago, my world crumbled before my very eyes. My marriage of 21 years collapsed. My two grown kids were going through unpleasant times. My job, which gave me financial support, lost its satisfaction. I was facing the dreaded 50s mark in my life. The list of unpleasantness was long, and I did not know where and how to focus.

Five years ago, I turned around and surrendered wholeheartedly my life to the Lord. I prayed and asked for guidance, signs, love, support and a new me. There was total surrender. While praying at a church in a monastery that I visit frequently for my meditation, I felt God's presence as never before. And God opened my eyes toward his greatness. His love and concern were present all along. I just had to be awakened to them. In return, for all that he has done and still doing for me, I wanted to honor him by spreading this wonderful blessing he had bestowed on me.

In March of 2004, I got a call from my mother in California, who

informed me that my sister had a baby but could not care for her. She informed me that the baby was in a foster home. She also said that she gave my name to the social worker so she could talk to me about adopting the baby.

The social worker did call; we had a long interview over the phone. The foster parent called as well; we had a long conversation. That week was rather full of surprises. I had to make a quick decision as to whether I should adopt the baby. While the love for that child was at once present, the decision to care for her required a lot of thinking, planning and praying. After all, she has a series of medical conditions, which required special care, time and effort.

I remember asking "Lord, when do I get some rest?" Of course, as long as we are here on earth, the job continues.

The paperwork was finalized, and on Nov. 19, 2004, the foster mother and her daughter, who flew all the way from California, delivered Abigail Faith Munoz to me.

That Sunday, I had Abigail baptized at St. Monica Church with her foster mother as one of the main

sponsors. The day-to-day care for Abby is difficult, physically exhausting and mentally draining. Without the support team of physical therapist, developmental therapist, the social worker, the service coordinator and all the other spiritual friends around us, the job would have been heavier.

Meanwhile, more paperwork was signed, mailed, sealed, notarized and finalized. On Dec. 16, 2005, the final adoption court papers arrived, approved, sealed and signed by the judge naming Ernestina Munoz Young as mother of Abigail Faith Munoz.

God is indeed wonderful. At age 51, I am finally getting it right with God. My hope and dream is that anyone reading this might be inspired to start something like this, even if they think they are too old to do so.

Just think, every 30 seconds, two children are orphaned. With God's wisdom, love and blessings, everything will just be fine, and that's a good thing. I am just starting to live with someone to love.

Tina M. Young
South Bend

The face of love

BY THERESA NOTARE

The world says a lot about love. Most of it silly — "Love to go fishing?" "You'll love our prices!" "I love NY." Many of our everyday notions of love have more to do with "like" or "hype" than real love. That's why the Holy Father wanted to talk about love in his first encyclical, "Deus Caritas Est" (DCE). He wants us to think about what it means that God is love, that he loves us, and that we should love him back and love one another.

Sounds simple, but in today's world, it's not so easy to do.

There are so many messages about love that its face can be greatly distorted. This is especially true in

regard to marriage. Pick up any women's magazine for a few lessons. Articles from keeping romance alive and ensuring sexual satisfaction to maintaining self-identify and splitting household chores are all covered as ways to strengthen marital love. The common denominator is usually that the individual (be it the man or the woman) has to find a way to make the marriage "happy" for him or her with the subtext insisting on "great sex" throughout. Is something wrong with this picture? Yes and no.

It is normal and good to want to be happy. In fact, the Holy Father tells us that the nature of purely human love is such that it "searches for" personal happiness. The ancient Greeks, he says, called this kind of love "eros." It is good, but needs direction. On its own, "eros" is unstable. Without guidance, without interfacing with divine truth, human love can, as an old song says, have a person "looking for love in all the wrong places." Rather than ultimate happiness, it can lead to selfishness and isolation. Marriage provides a lesson:

Our human search for happiness will be fulfilled when we give ourselves to others.

if spouses only make themselves happy as individuals, trouble is sure to brew.

"Love," says Benedict XVI, "promises infinity, eternity — a reality far greater and totally other than our everyday existence." (DCE, #5) That's why, by its nature, love involves the divine. God, who is love, is eternal. What God has revealed in Jesus is that divine love gives to the other — to the point of losing the self. The early Christians called this love agape. It is love that "becomes concern and care

for the other." (DCE, #6) It is "not self-seeking ... it seeks the good of the beloved." (DCE, #6) It is prepared for and willing, says the Holy Father, for renunciation and even sacrifice. (DCE, #6)

The face of love can be clearly seen when eros and agape join. Our human search for happiness will be fulfilled when we give ourselves to others. In marriage it will have a healthy glow as it shows itself in the spouses' every day "give and take." In families its quiet beauty is revealed in a mother's nurturing of her baby, in a son's care for his ailing parent, and in brothers and sisters rushing to aid one another. In friendship it provides reassuring support in hard times. In a neighborhood, it makes sure no

one goes hungry or homeless. In a world, it ensures peace.

If we fail to see love's face, or even at times forget, we have only to lift our eyes from ourselves to Christ — he shows us the face of love.

Theresa Notare is the assistant director of the Diocesan Development Program for Natural Family Planning, Pro-Life Secretariat, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

JPII often wanted to put off treatment

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — As a medical patient, Pope John Paul II was cooperative, insisted on being fully informed, but very often put off treatment if there was a chance it would take him away from his pastoral commitments.

In fact, according to his personal physician, Dr. Renato Buzzonetti, even when Pope John Paul was having major breathing crises the month before he died and was told he needed a tracheotomy, he asked if it could wait.

"The patient gave his consent, but not without having asked with moving simplicity if it would be possible to wait until the summer holidays," the doctor said.

Buzzonetti's account of Pope John Paul's health problems and the pope's April 2, 2005, death is included in the Italian book, "Let Me Go: The Strength in Weakness of John Paul II."

The title of the book comes from the last words, murmured in Polish, by the pope, "Let me go to the house of the Father."

Released March 15, the book also featured reflections by the pope's longtime secretary, Cardinal-designate Stanislaw Dziwisz of Krakow, and by Archbishop Angelo Comastri, papal vicar for Vatican City State.

Buzzonetti, who was Pope John Paul's physician for almost 27 years, wrote that when the pope was not feeling well, he would describe his symptoms concisely "with the aim of simply enlightening his doctor and accelerating his treatment so he could get back to work."

Buzzonetti's contribution to the book opened with an account of the medical care Pope John Paul received immediately after being shot May 13, 1981, in St. Peter's Square.

The pope underwent emergency surgery, which lasted five hours and 35 minutes, the doctor said.

Seventeen days after being released from the hospital, the pope, suffering from a high fever, had to return to Gemelli hospital for treatment of an infection contracted from blood he received during the operation.

Buzzonetti, conveying a sense of surprise, said the pope sat in on a meeting of his doctors and specialists called in for consultation, including a discussion about when to operate to close the colostomy, or intestinal bypass, performed immediately after the shooting.

"He was in great form and, while recognizing he was not competent in medical questions, he affirmed the right of a patient —

his right — to be the subject and not a passive object in managing the illness," the doctor wrote.

The pope asked the doctors not to delay the second operation "so as not to further postpone his many planned commitments, including 'ad limina' visits" with bishops from around the world, Buzzonetti wrote.

The doctor's brief account of his years as Pope John Paul's personal physician is filled with references to the pope's determining the timing of treatment based on his pastoral commitments.

When the pope first began having trouble speaking and breathing in January 2005, Buzzonetti said, his symptoms were not alarming and did not hint at "such a rapid deterioration weighted with such dangerous complications."

Hospitalized Feb. 1-10, the

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CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Campilsson

The Annunciation is celebrated on March 25. This quiz looks at that feast.

- 1. What does annunciation mean?**
 - a. ascending into heaven
 - b. same as transubstantiation
 - c. an announcement
- 2. According to tradition (not mentioned in the Bible), how old was Mary thought to be at the time of the Annunciation?**
 - a. 12 to 15 years old
 - b. 25 to 30 years old
 - c. 45 to 60 years old
- 3. According to Luke, the Annunciation was made by**
 - a. an angel
 - b. Joseph
 - c. Anna
- 4. What was this messenger's appearance?**
 - a. It was an obelisk.
 - b. It appeared to be a man.
 - c. It was in the form of a dove.
- 5. Mary was addressed in these words:**
 - a. Woman, behold thy son
 - b. Take heed
 - c. Hail, Mary
- 6. Which Latin title for a prayer does this relate to?**
 - a. Tantum Ergo
 - b. Ave Maria
 - c. Pater Nostre
- 7. Mary was troubled at the arrival of a messenger. Why?**
 - a. She thought the messenger was a tax collector.
 - b. She did not at first understand what was going on.
 - c. She had prepared only five loaves and two fishes, so did not want more guests.
- 8. What unsettling message was announced?**
 - a. that Mary would marry a man called Joseph
 - b. that Mary's boy child Jesus Christ was born on Christmas day
 - c. that Mary would have a son
- 9. Why was Mary's reply puzzled?**
 - a. She was not living with her betrothed yet so wasn't sure how she could have a baby.
 - b. She thought it was strange that a Palestinian was speaking in Latin.
 - c. She was expecting the milkman, not a divine messenger.
- 10. The messenger's reply reassured her that this would all be done by**
 - a. Jehovah
 - b. the Holy Spirit
 - c. the New Adam
- 11. The messenger also mentioned Elizabeth's pregnancy. Why was this notable?**
 - a. Elizabeth was married to a Gentile.
 - b. Elizabeth was never married.
 - c. Elizabeth was old.
- 12. What connection was Mary to Elizabeth?**
 - a. They were not related, but their sons would cross paths in ministry.
 - b. They were cousins.
 - c. Elizabeth was Joseph's sister.
- 13. Mary's "Fiat" refers to her**
 - a. early version of the Lamborghini chariot, then being sold in Israel.
 - b. acceptance of God's will, indicated by her saying "let it be done."
 - c. initial refusal.
- 14. Why do theologians not see the Annunciation as a violation of Mary's free will?**
 - a. Mary's consent, they decided, was foreseen, but not preordained by God.
 - b. Mary was the only human born without free will.
 - c. Because in Aramaic, no and yes were fairly close in meaning.
- 15. Why is the Annunciation commemorated in March?**
 - a. Because it replaced the pagan feast of the Ides of March.
 - b. Because Mary's diary had the following entry "March 25: an Annunciation."
 - c. Simply because it was nine months before the celebration of the Nativity.

ANSWERS:

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

The glory of heaven awaits



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Fourth Sunday of Lent John 3:14-21

This weekend, the church celebrates "Laetare Sunday," the name drawn from what is the first word in Latin of the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice!" Lent is well under way. Easter is not that far in the future.

It is not so trivial as a day to rejoice that the drabness and penance of Lent will soon end. Rather, it is a lesson about life. The drabness and trials of earthly life someday will end. The glory of heaven awaits.

Once the church required, and still allows, celebrants at Mass to wear vestments of a rose color. It is not as if the more somber violet of Lent today is diluted. Rather, the violet is brightened by the sunbeams of the approaching dawn. That dawn, of course, will be the brilliant flash of the Resurrection.

The Second Book of Chronicles supplies this weekend with its first reading. Once Chronicles was in a single volume. As time passed, and as editors and translators had their way, it was separated into two volumes. Thus it has remained, and thus it exists in all modern translations of the Bible.

It is part of the Bible's historical set of volumes. While these volumes tell of the history of God's people, their purpose is not

to report history, but to reveal developments in the people's religious experience.

This reading recalls the bitter events that led to the Chosen People's defeat by the Babylonians and the removal of many Hebrews, their numbers now unknown, to Babylon. In Babylon, they were not exactly enslaved. Nor were they hostages, in the sense that they were not held to prevent rebellion by their kin people back home. But they led an unhappy life in a foreign and unwelcoming culture. Through the human instrument of Cyrus, the Persian king who overwhelmed Babylonia, God freed these people.

The Epistle to the Ephesians is the source of the second reading. It is an eloquent proclamation of God's mercy. The epistle declares that before Christ, humans were doomed to everlasting death. Then, through and by salvation in Christ, they were able to attain everlasting life.

St. John's Gospel furnishes the last reading. This reading recalls a moment in the Exodus, that long march by the Hebrews from Egypt, where they had been slaves, to the Promised Land. The march took them across the stark and unforgiving Sinai Peninsula. Trials were many, hunger and thirst among them. They lost their way. But another trial was the presence of venomous snakes.

Again, God supplied relief. He told Moses, the leader, to lift a snake on a staff and to hold this staff high. God promised that all who looked upon this staff, with the impaled snake, would survive.

The implication of the Crucifixion is clear. The Gospel subtly reminds us that all who look upon the cross of Jesus in faith will live.

The Gospel continues. It is a

moving description of God's mercy. Humans can find joy, and they can find eternal life. But only in and through Jesus can they find joy and life.

Reflection

The church gently, but firmly, leads us onward through Lent. It reassures us that Easter is not far into the future. In fact, it will come in only a few more weeks.

If Lent has been productive, Easter should be a moment of joyful, personal resurrection. In faith, we then also should rise, ourselves being raised by our identity with Christ from the death of sin.

Lent's productivity and effectiveness, however, depend upon us. We ourselves, by our commitment to God, and then by our prayer and penance, decide the outcome for Lent personally for ourselves.

The church today urges us to continue to make Lent effective, to look ahead to resurrection.

READINGS

Fourth week of Lent

Monday: Is 65:17-21 Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12 Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15 Ps 145:8-9, 13c-14, 17-18 Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14 Ps 106:19-23 Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22 Ps 34:17-21, 23 Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20 Ps 7:2-3, 9b-12 Jn 7:40-53

An apostle is one sent on a mission, disciple is one who learns

What is the distinction between an apostle and disciple?, C.K., Fort Wayne

The word "apostle" comes from the Greek verb "apostellein," meaning to send away. So an apostle is one sent on a mission. Jesus established his church on the Twelve Apostles. These were the first bishops of the church. As Jesus was sent by God the Father, so the apostles were sent by Jesus into the world to preach the Gospel and baptize the people. The apostles traveled throughout the known world establishing churches and making converts to Christianity. The Twelve Apostles are also referred to as simply the Twelve. These include St. Peter, the head of the apostles and the first pope who eventually went to Rome; St. John, who worked in Ephesus or ancient Asia Minor in what is now Turkey; St. James the Greater, who is said to have gone to Spain; St. James the Less, the first bishop of Jerusalem; St. Matthew, who is said to have preached in Ethiopia; St. Thomas, who is said to have traveled to Persia or Iran and even southern

India; St. Bartholomew, who may have reached upper India; St. Andrew, who is credited with preaching in Greece, Macedonia and Russia; St. Philip, who reached Hierapolis in Asia Minor or Turkey; St. Jude, who went to Syria; St. Simon, who may have journeyed to Persia or Iran and Babylonia or southern Iraq; and finally Judas Iscariot who betrayed Jesus and committed suicide. St. Matthias was chosen to take the place of Judas as an apostle, and legend says he preached in the East.

These Twelve were a select group especially close to Jesus. The number "twelve" reminds us of the 12 tribes of Israel. Jesus says these Twelve will sit on 12 thrones to judge the 12 tribes of Israel.

Although these Twelve are called apostles, the word "apostle" has a wider meaning. Father John McKenzie defines an apostle in the New Testament as one who had seen the risen Jesus and had a personal commission from Jesus to proclaim the Gospel. Some of the early Christian mis-

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

sionaries or coworkers of the Twelve are also called apostles, such as Barnabas from Cyprus, Junias from Rome, Andronicus from Rome and Apollos from Alexandria.

St. Paul also claims to be an apostle because he saw the risen Christ in a vision on the road to Damascus in Syria. Michael Schmaus says that probably this extended meaning of the word "apostle" was first used in Antioch in Syria for the authorized missionaries who went out to preach Christ.

F. Cross says it is possible that the term "apostle" was used in the second generation of Christians of a wider circle of church officials. In modern

usage, the word "apostle" is sometimes applied to the leader of the first Christian mission to a country. Thus St. Patrick is called the apostle to Ireland, St. Boniface is the apostle to Germany, and Ss. Cyril and Methodius are the apostles to the Slavic nations.

The Epistle to the Hebrews even calls Jesus himself an apostle, because he was sent, commissioned and authorized by God.

The Mormons used the word apostle to designate one of the twelve men on their administrative council. The Eastern church uses the word apostle to designate an epistle read in their liturgy, which is a portion of an epistle of one of the apostles or part of the Acts of the Apostles.

The word "disciple" means a student or one who learns. Jesus gathered a group of disciples around him in the form of a small rabbinical school, which was familiar in the first-century Palestine. Personal allegiance to Jesus held the group together. St. Luke mentions 72 disciples of Jesus. The disciples were wit-

nesses of the life, passion, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Father Raymond Brown says the keynote of discipleship is the close following of Jesus, whereas the keynote of apostleship is service.

Today's Catholic welcomes questions from readers to pose to Father Richard Hire, Father Michael Heintz, Father Mark Gurtner and the Liturgical Commission of the Office of Worship. Please e-mail your questions to editor@fw.diocese-fwsb.org or mail them to *Today's Catholic*, That's A Good Question, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN 46856. Please include your name and city and an e-mail address or telephone number that we can contact you if necessary. Anonymity will be preserved upon request.

Catholic Democrats and abortion: same old same old

It's 1964, and Congress is debating the Civil Rights Act. For years, the Catholic bishops of the United States have taught that segregation is an offense against the moral law. For years, Americans of various religious and philosophical persuasions have argued that segregation violates the Constitution's promise of equal justice for all. A sizable number of Catholic members of Congress, squirming under the bishops' pressure, have tried to counter the integrationists' arguments by appeals to the "primacy of conscience" in relating moral principle to public policy.

Now, prior to a vote on the Civil Rights Act, a group of Catholic members of Congress issues a public statement. They "agree with the Catholic Church about the value of human life" and the "undesirability" of segregation. They pledge themselves to advance policies that encourage justice, including racial comity. "As legislators in the U.S. House of Representatives," they aver, "we work every day to advance respect for life and the dignity of every human being." They believe, as the bishops believe and the church teaches, that "government has moral purpose," and they claim to "seek the church's guidance and assistance."

Then 80 percent of the signatories of this statement go out on the House floor and vote against the Civil Rights Act.

What would we say about that? That these were politicians trying to have it both ways? That, whatever their assertions, those who voted against recognizing the full legal and political rights of African-Americans clearly did not believe that segregation constituted a fundamental injustice? That, their protestations notwithstanding,

these legislators took neither the teaching of the church nor the logic of justice seriously?

I think that's what reasonable people would say. And I think that's what ought to be said about the latest attempt to finesse the abortion issue, which came in the form of a statement signed by 55 House Democrats, all Catholics, which was released on Feb. 28 by Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-Conn.). The citations above are all taken from the DeLauro statement — which also pledges the members to some good things, like "promoting alternatives to abortion, such as adoption, and improving access to children's health care and child care, as well as policies that encourage paternal and maternal responsibility."

But here's the rub, or, better, the rubs.

Thirty-three of the 55 signatories of the DeLauro statement (including Rep. DeLauro) voted to support the legality of partial-birth abortion. Forty-one of the signatories (again including Rep. DeLauro) voted to make abortion legal in Defense Department clinics and hospitals abroad. Thirty-seven of the signatories (including — you guessed it — Rep. DeLauro) voted against efforts to constrain the courts from compelling hospitals and doctors to perform abortions. How do any of these votes square with the signatories' statement that they "agree with the Catholic Church about the value of human life and the undesirability of abortion — we do not celebrate its practice"?

This is the same old same old — "I'm personally opposed, but ..." — tarted up in new vesture. One cannot speak credibly about the "undesirability of abortion" and then vote to protect and expand the abortion license. One



GEORGE WEIGEL

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

cannot credibly claim to believe what the Catholic Church believes "about the value of human life" and then ignore the central question posed by *Roe v. Wade*: is the willful taking of innocent human life compatible with a free and virtuous society? One cannot appeal to the "primacy of conscience" to defend the unconscionable — any more than one could make that appeal in denying full legal and political rights to Americans of African descent.

It's the bishops' prerogative responsibility to decide what is to be done, within the church's discipline, about Catholic legislators whose votes support the willful taking of innocent human lives. That's a matter internal to the church's life, to be addressed by the church's pastoral authorities. What everyone, irrespective of creed, ought to find disturbing is the obtuseness of the DeLauro statement. Legislators who, having vowed their respect for African Americans and their distaste for segregation, then voted against the 1964 Civil Rights Act would be thought duplicitous — at least. The same conclusion applies here.

George Weigel is a senior fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for March 26, 2006

John 3:14-21

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Fourth Sunday of Lent, Cycle B: John's account of the plan of salvation and redemption. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

MOSES	LIFTED UP	SERPENT
SON OF MAN	BELIEVES	ETERNAL
LIFE	FOR GOD	SO LOVED
WORLD	ONLY SON	DID NOT
INTO	CONDEMN	BE SAVED
ALREADY	LIGHT	DARKNESS
EVIL	EXPOSED	CLEARLY

LIGHT & DARKNESS

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

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LETTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

pope returned home and was assisted by members of the Vatican medical team 24 hours a day, the doctor said.

The recurrence of spasms and swelling in his throat, which made it impossible for the pope to breathe, required further hospitalization and that the pope undergo a tracheotomy with the "permanent positioning" of a tube in his throat, the doctor said.

Once the doctors convinced the pope it would not wait until sum-

mer, the operation was performed.

When the anesthesia wore off, Buzzonetti said, "the pope asked for a piece of paper" and scribbled in Polish, "Look what you've done to me! But ... 'totus tuus' ('all yours')!"

"It was an expression of surprise and frustration over the new condition in which he brusquely found himself, but immediately purified by the act of entrusting himself to Mary," the doctor said.

The pope died in his bedroom at the Vatican after explicitly affirming he did not want to return to the hospital and expressing his desire to be with God, Buzzonetti said.

No tubes for me

When discussions about end of life treatments come up, people will often say something like this: "I don't want to be a burden to anyone. No tubes for me. I just want to go quickly and peacefully."

People are attracted by technology and what it offers when they are sick, but they also have fears about it when they are in a weakened or vulnerable state. They imagine becoming trapped in a situation where they aren't allowed to die but are held in a kind of suspended animation by machines.

They also worry that their pain may not be managed well. Sometimes they may feel pressure from family members that they shouldn't "stick around" too long. These kinds of fears and concerns, however, need to be scrutinized carefully because they can prompt us to act rashly and think unclearly when it comes to making concrete treatment decisions.

In making end of life decisions, the important question is whether a proposed treatment is likely to be ordinary or extraordinary. Ordinary treatments are required as part of our duty to take care of our health. Extraordinary treatments, on the other hand, are optional. The process of weighing whether a treatment is ordinary or extraordinary was concisely summarized back in 1980 in a passage from the Vatican's Declaration on Euthanasia:

In any case, it will be possible to make a correct judgment as to the means by studying the type of treatment to be used, its degree of complexity or risk, its cost and the possibilities of using it, and comparing these elements with the result that can be expected, taking into account the state of the sick person and his or her physical and moral resources.

Thus ordinary treatments will offer a reasonable hope of benefit to the patient, are not excessively costly and are not unduly burdensome. Taking antibiotics to fight an infection would generally be an ordinary treatment, since it would be effective in combating the infection, would not be unduly burdensome or expensive and would be a low-risk procedure.

In order to decide whether a treatment is ordinary, we must also look at the particulars of the patient's condition, and not merely focus on the treatment, the medical device or the medicine itself. So if a person were imminently dying from cancer, with but a few hours of life remaining, and the

physician discovered that he had an infection in his lungs, the use of antibiotic medications would generally be extraordinary and optional in these circumstances, since their use would be largely ineffective to the patient's real-life situation.

Weighing and determining whether a treatment is ordinary or extraordinary is not always a simple and straightforward task. It often requires some struggle and searching. I recall once helping a woman whose 82-year-old mother was in a nursing home with Alzheimer's. We spoke by phone every few weeks as the condition of her mother would change. She would ask, "Do I have to put mom into an ambulance and take her to the hospital every time something goes wrong? It causes such stress and anxiety at her age." One time when her mother got a urinary tract infection, she ended up sending her to the hospital for treatment. After some discussion, it had become clear that making that ambulance trip would mean providing a bridge to healing for her mother, bringing her to another plateau in her condition and hence would be ordinary treatment. When the urinary tract infection came back again a few months later, she had her taken to the hospital a second time.

But after several more months passed, her mother's condition suddenly deteriorated further. She had several small strokes, in addition to a serious bowel obstruction and kidney problems. I remember how at a certain moment during one of our phone conversations, as we were reviewing her mother's condition, it became clear to both of us that we had crossed a line into new territory. We saw that it was becoming an extraordinary intervention to put her elderly and demented mother into the ambulance again and try to treat her more recent and more serious maladies. Whenever we would discuss her mother's health on the phone, she would say, "I want Jesus to take her at the time he chooses, and I want to be a good daughter to my mom up to the end." It was becoming clear that her mother was in fact reaching the end of the line and further interventions would no longer be obligatory, that Jesus was indeed ready to take her. She felt able to let her go at the proper moment.

The whole process of figuring out when her mother had reached the point where further interventions and hospital visits were extraordinary had been nested in a lot of prayer, consultation and struggle on the part of her daughter.



MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

BY FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

Precisely because of that prayer and effort, as the end approached, she knew she had taken the appropriate steps along the way and had no regrets after her mother passed on.

At the end of our own lives, each of us should have the liberty of spirit to be a "burden" to our loved ones and our family. That's what love means. When each of us was born, we were a "burden" to our parents for many years. Our parents and grandparents should feel no pressure about "quick exits."

They should know that their family and friends will be there for them, loving them and journeying with them into the mystery of death. Our parents and grandparents should never feel constrained to decline ordinary treatments. When tubes will serve as an ordinary bridge to healing for them, they shouldn't feel pressured to declare: "no tubes for me." Tubes can sometimes be required as part of our duty to take care of the health and life, which we have received as a gift from God.

Each of us would like to have an easy, peaceful death. Each of us is entitled to good health care and pain management as we die. But giving in to an undue fear and concern about tubes, suffering and pain can cause us to fail to appreciate the graces that come at the end of life. Above all, we must be willing to accept, to surrender and to turn ourselves over to the Lord's plan, knowing that he will grace us in our final days and hours through any sufferings we may have to endure before our journey comes to its completion in him.

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, Mass. and serves as the director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

The Blacksmith of Johnnycake Hollow

BY FATHER WILLIAM HODDE

His name was George Adam Klein. His story is typical of so many thousands of 19th century Americans, the children of immigrants. They came searching for a better life, land of their own, freedom from tyranny. They filled eastern cities and flowed westward. They cleared forests, built roads and farms, practiced all the trades necessary for a more comfortable living. They were farmers, stonemasons, carpenters, farriers, storekeepers, and when need be, soldiers.

In the 1830s and later, Catholic Hessians from the region of Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, settled in Portage County, Ohio. Some of them were descendants of Hessian soldiers in the American Revolution, sold by their prince to the British as mercenaries. Many who survived went home and told their families what a wonderful place America was, and some decided to come to America.

Other Germans from Alsace-Lorraine joined them, to become the nucleus of German Catholic congregations of Randolph County. Many of them were formed into St. Joseph Parish in 1831 by Father John Martin Henni, later Bishop of Milwaukee.

Some settled nearby in Rootstown in the parish of St. Peter of the Fields. These, our German forebears, brought their strong Catholic Faith, their deep

faith in Jesus Christ, his church, with its sacraments and way of life. They were of sturdy, hard-working farmer stock, looking for land and independence, which they were denied in their homeland. They found these in America.

George Klein was born in 1867, the son of Adam Klein, whose parents, John and Elizabeth brought him to Ohio about 1837. George's wife, Anna Lansinger, was the daughter of immigrants Adam Lansinger and Nancy Biltz, whose father became a stonemason and bridge builder in Portage County.

Adam Lansinger came in 1858, worked as a farmer, served in the Civil War. His unit was captured by Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest in middle Tennessee. Adam spent several months in the infamous prisoner of war camp at Andersonville, Ga. His health was wrecked, though later he made a precarious living as a farmer to support his family.

George Klein was "rather short in stature, but strong and wiry. He shod the horses and did the metal work for farmers in the area. He was recognized as a good worker and also a bit cranky at times, especially toward the end of a hard day, when the customer would hold the lantern, while he nailed on another shoe or two. He knew his metals, hot or cold, and also the woodwork that went with many of his repair jobs. Boys were thrilled to watch him work, and to

know his gentle and knowing touch with animals." (From "Growing Pains in Johnnycake Hollow" by Albert Paulus. Johnnycake Hollow was a kind of early industrial park in Portage County. The site took its name from the "johnny cake" that most workers ate as a lunchtime staple. It is described as a cake or bread made of cornmeal and water or milk, usually cooked on a griddle.)

Sadly, George Klein died while still in his prime, in 1913, at the age of 46. He was helping to move a schoolhouse, when the building slipped, and he was killed. He had hoped to start the first Ford agency in Portage County. His wife died three years later — very painfully of cancer. They left eight children, one of whom became my mother.

George and Anna's story can be duplicated scores of thousands of times in our country's history. They were admirable people, deeply attached to their Catholic faith. They pioneered the land, built businesses, educated their children, living the strong Catholic family values that have helped to make our country great.

People always look for heroes to admire. We might forget entertainers and sport stars and take a longer look at our own ancestors.

Father William Hodde is a retired pastor of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, now residing at St. Anne in Fort Wayne.

We can all use a prayer at the gas pump

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

Every week, sometimes twice a week, I take time to pray a decade or two of the rosary. While it may not seem to be such a big deal or effort on my part, the location of prayer, I believe, is.

I pray at the gas pump.

No, my prayers are not being offered due to the price increase — "please help the gas companies understand my budget" — or in thanksgiving — "thank you for bringing the price down so I can buy a latte too."

This little habit of praying while I stand waiting for the gas pump started long ago. So long ago I don't remember. Maybe I started praying a decade when the price of gas started rising above \$2 a gallon. Does it really matter?

Everyone seems to be rushed, no matter what they are doing, even when they are pumping gas. As a person who finds little time to pray, praying at the pump just seemed to be, and is, something I could do. Actually, it's something everyone can do.

I don't know if I pray the decade fast or slow, but it always works out that I get one full decade in during the time my pump is filling up. Rosaries are not included in this ritual.

Luckily most of the time my attention deficit disorder is usually in check while I am praying and I keep track of what number of the

decade's Hail Mary's I am on. At the times when I am distracted by the wind or a pump that goes too fast, slow or stops, I don't worry but trust the "bead" number I thought I was on. I figure, if I say one extra "Hail Mary," it won't hurt.

Praying out loud is something I have never done while saying the rosary in private, so at the pump, my prayers are said in my head.

Most of the time, I offer up the prayers for my church prayer chain. Each member of our group says a decade a day, so I can offer this decade if I like. Otherwise, I pray for intentions of people I know are in need of prayer or for general intercessions.

Prayer is not limited to the pump, however. I pray whenever I encounter a wait, whether it be at a grocery store, the doctor's office or for a train. The grocery store is another good place. I have found there are a lot of frustrated, much-too-hurried people in such places. It helps me get back to where I need to be spiritually when I stop to think and pray.

While praying at those places I do not keep track of the prayers as I may do at the pump. Lately I have been wondering whether or not my prayer habit will change when I get a different car? My '94 Dodge Caravan's full tank is just right for a decade. What is going to happen when we get a newer car?

Instead of MPG (miles per gallon), should I ask for the DPT (decades per tank) I wonder?

Sports

BISHOP DWENGER GYMNASTS TAKE STATE TITLE Bishop Dwenger High School will honor its 2006 state championship gymnastics team at a school assembly on Monday, March 27 at 10:30 a.m. This marks the second straight state title for the Dwenger gymnasts and the school's third title in the past four years. Since 1993, Bishop Dwenger has been runner-up five times and state champions four times.

St. Joseph Mishawaka wins B-League championship

BY ELMER J. DANCH

SOUTH BEND — The boys basketball stalwarts from St. Joseph School of Mishawaka dominated the post-season tournament of the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) by winning both the B-League fifth and sixth grade championship.

During the regular season, St. Joseph-B (Mishawaka) won the St. John Bosco B Division, St. Anthony-A of South Bend won the St. John Bosco A Division, St. Pius-B1 Gold of Granger won the sixth grade division of the St. Martin de Porres B Division, and St. Jude-A won the St. Martin de Porres A Division.

Thirty-seven B-League teams participated in this year's hard-wood action, setting a tremendous pace for next year's compe-

tion, said director Greg Schultheis.

In a hair-raising finish, the fifth-grade St. Joseph team nipped St. Thomas of Elkhart when Chris Ross tossed in the game-winning basket with 1.6 seconds to play, 31-30.

The two teams also played an overtime game during the regular season, which St. Joseph also won when Michael Whitfield pumped in 19 points, including the winning basket.

In the sixth grade tournament finale, St. Joseph made a successful defense of its crown by St. Jude of South Bend in a double overtime, 44-40. Coley Schulteis and Anthony Rice both tallied the winning points.

Tim Singleton of St. Anthony scored a record number of 31 points in a losing semifinal game to St. Joseph.



CYO basketball teams profiled

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — As the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) said good-bye to another great season of play and looks forward to spring sports, a few teams, St John the Baptist in Fort Wayne and the St. Rose-St. Louis girls in Monroeville and Besancon, are left to be profiled.

St. John, Fort Wayne, boys 8

Hailing from Dayton, Ohio, Coach Glen Rawlins has coached baseball and volleyball for many years. This was his rookie season for basketball.

His son, Patrick, a graduate of St. John School, Bishop Luers and Indiana University, assisted him.

The team listed 13 eighth graders on their roster and posted a fifth-place finish in the Gold League. They were beat in the first round of the tournament by St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth, 45-59.

"Our goal was to make our team more competitive throughout the season. We did that by playing 8-10 different offenses and a variety of defenses," said Rawlins.

Neil Rawlins, Jordan Crates and Joe Chambers were the offensive leaders for St. John.

St. John, Fort Wayne, boys 7

"Every boy in the seventh grade came out for basketball this year," reported head coach John Fazio.

"They started out as a bunch of football players, but were playing team basketball by the end of the season," he said.

The Eagles had just two victories this season, but improved steadily and were a "great group of kids, very respectful," stated Fazio. He feels it is okay to play multiple sports at this level, but encourages his players to play basketball more than just three months out of the year.

"Basketball takes a year-round commitment," he stresses.

The black and gold lost to St. Joe, Decatur, in the first round of the White League tournament.

Mike Teeders, Mike Stroncsek and Scott Ruse volunteered their time as assistants.

St. Rose-St. Louis girls

Coaching basketball has been a part of the Meyer family for many years. Melissa (Meyer) Harris once played for the green and whites herself and has been holding the head coaching spot for the girls seventh-and-eighth grade for the past five years.

Harris had strong play and



The Blue League boys winners, the St. Aloysius eighth grade team.



The Blue League girls winners, the St. Therese eighth grade team.

leadership from eighth graders, Kristy Gerardot and Andrea Martin who led the Twins scoring attack. Lexy DeVido pulled down the most rebounds for the team which finished with a 9-8 record overall (3-3 in CYO).

They also finished second place in two different holiday tournaments.

"This was a fun group of girls who gave 110 percent all season," concluded Harris.

Her assistants were her mother, Ava Meyer, and sister, Mindy Castle.

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Monday, March 27 - "RECONCILIATION" - Father Bill Kummer

The Sacrament of Reconciliation available this evening.

Tuesday, March 28 - "PRAYER" - Father David Voors

**Wednesday, March 29 - Concluding service with Mass
"EUCHARIST" - Bishop John M. D'Arcy**



Morning Sessions begin at 9 a.m. - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

"Morning Prayer and Reflection Session"

with Ginny Kohrman - Knights of Columbus Hall

Morning Sessions follow 8 a.m. Mass



Refreshments following all sessions.

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HOLY FAMILY GIRLS TAKE THE SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP



PROVIDED BY HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Holy Family's varsity girls basketball team in South Bend were the regular season Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) champions. The team consists of the following: front row, from left, Lauren Szymanski, Ashleigh Bousquet, Anna Catanzarite, Ashlee Smith, Alexandra Bousquet and Rachel Briggs; and back row, Coach Tom Smigielski, Mollie Gillean, Grace Costello, Symone Tripodis, Alina Skwarcian, Tori Budzinski, Coach Pat Catanzarite.

Cub Scouts find their own style of 'March Madness'

FORT WAYNE — Cub Scout from Pack 3019 of St. John the Baptist in Fort Wayne will tell you the real (March) "Madness" takes place on a wooden race track and not on a wooden gym floor.

For over 53 years, the St. John the Baptist Cub Scouts of Pack 3019 have whittled away blocks of wood, shaping and painting miniature racing cars that swoop down a sloping wooden track in response to the law of gravity.

On March 19, each Scout competed for the fastest car within their age group. Over 80 cars entered this year's race. As an entry fee, each racer had to bring a new toothbrush or tube of toothpaste that will be distributed to those in need.

The top three contenders from each of the dens moved on to com-

pete in Pack-wide Grand Prix event.

This year they will be joined by area businesses in a special Corporate Challenge Race. Local companies are building and sponsoring race cars to raise money to buy a state of the art computer tracking program to time the races down to 1/10,000th of a second.

Winners in the Grand Prix Race were Nathan Grabner, first place; Jonathan Brecht, second place; and Nick Steffen, third place.

Winners of the den races were the following: fastest Tiger Cub: Gareth Brouwer; fastest Wolf: Jonathan Brecht; fastest Bear: Michael Sturm; and fastest Webelos: Ben Gust.

Winners in the Corporate Challenge were the following: fastest car: Abby Rock LLC, driven by Bill Berghoff; best of show:

Gouloff Jordan Survey & Design, Inc., driven by Tim Gouloff.

"The pinewood derby is a valuable part of our Cub Scout program. By participating in this event, our boys learn the carpentry skills necessary to make the racing vehicle, the value of fair play and the importance of good sportsman-

ship," said Roger Grabner, Cub master of Pack 3019. "Derby Fever is an event that transcends generations. Many of our Corporate Challenge Racers competed in the pinewood derby as kids, and they are thrilled to have a chance to finally build their own race cars without the help of an

overzealous dad."

There was also an open "Hot Wheels" race, where siblings, parents and the general public could bring in a new Hot Wheels race car that is still in the package and race it in a single-elimination event. The winner of the Hot Wheels Race was Billy Berghoff.

In the footsteps of Father Junipero Serra CALIFORNIA MISSIONS Sonoma Valley - July 31 - August 8, 2006



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April 19, 2006



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Counselor

Regional social service agency seeks a part-time, self-starting individual to provide counseling services in our Fort Wayne office. This person will be responsible for providing assessment and counseling services to individuals, couples, and families, developing and implementing treatment plans, and providing advocacy and community referral services for clients. The ability to speak Spanish is a plus. Qualifications include a Master's degree in Social Work, Counseling, Psychology, or related mental health area and licensure for LCSW, LMFT, or LMHC in the state of Indiana.

Send resume and salary requirements by March 31, 2006 to:

Attn: Operations Director - Catholic Charities
315 East Washington Blvd.,
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

email: dkrabach@ccfwsb.org

EOE

Director of Music and Liturgy

Vibrant city parish of 700 families served by Holy Cross priests, with K-8 school, seeks full-time director of music and liturgy to coordinate balanced parish music program as part of pastoral team. Parish has well-established cantor program, adult choir, school children's choir, youth ensemble and tradition of full and active community participation. Candidates must possess a bachelor's degree in music performance or education. Preferred that candidates also have training in theology, liturgy and pastoral ministry and ability to play a keyboard instrument. Please send resume with references by April 3, 2006 to:

Search Committee, St. Joseph Parish
211 N. St. Louis Blvd., South Bend, IN 46617
or email: nwills@stjoeparish.com

Principal Pre-Kindergarten - 8

Applications are being accepted for the leadership position of Principal at Saint Mary's Catholic Community School in Crown Point, Indiana. Crown Point is a popular residential community in northwest Indiana, a short one-hour drive to the cultural and recreational opportunities in nearby Chicago, Illinois.

Saint Mary's School has served the Catholic community since 1872 and presently serves 540 children in pre-Kindergarten through 8th grade.

The preferred candidate will be humanly competent and competently human - one whose life is in harmony with the Catholic Faith Tradition at its best. Candidates will document their experience of leadership in an educational setting and their capacity to manage a nearly two million dollar operating budget. Professional licensing is a must. Letters of application should be accompanied by a resume, transcripts, and three letters of recommendation and sent to:

Kim Pryzbylski, Ph.D. - Superintendent of Schools
Diocese of Gary - 9292 Broadway - Merrillville, IN 46410

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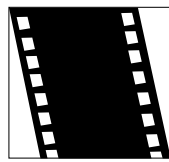
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MOVIE CAPSULES

NEW YORK (CNS)

— Following are recent capsule reviews of movies issued by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Office for Film and Broadcasting.

"She's the Man" (DreamWorks)

Breezy if uneven modernizing of Shakespeare's comedy of mistaken identities, "Twelfth Night," about a teenage tomboy (Amanda Bynes) who poses as her twin brother (James Kirk), enrolls in his coed boarding prep school to play soccer, and winds up falling in love with his/her jock roommate (Channing Tatum), who has

a crush on a pretty student (Laura Ramsey), who, in turn, is smitten with the new "guy," leading to predictable romantic complications. Director Andy Fickman cleverly updates Shakespeare's plot devices — mixed-up lovers, triangular attractions, and gender-bending deception — to mostly good effect, and the film overcomes forced humor in large measure due to Bynes' effervescence, though its occasionally crude comedy makes it best suited for older teens and up. Some sexual humor and innuendo, a bathroom brawl between three girls, brief implied nudity, sports roughness, a few crass expressions, as well as an instance of profanity. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cau-

tioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

"V for Vendetta" (Warner Bros.)

Provocative futuristic thriller based in London about a masked antihero (Hugo Weaving) who enlists the aid of a young office worker (Natalie Portman) to undermine a totalitarian government headed by an Orwellian dictator (John Hurt) and his cowering advisers (Stephen Rea, Rupert Graves, Tim Pigott-Smith). Director James McTeigue, working from a Wachowski Brothers adaptation of Alan Moore (uncredited by choice) and illustrator David Lloyd's graphic novel, has crafted a reasonably intelligent political allegory, with emphasis on character development, ideas and even a bit of romance, rather than simple mindless violence, the

performances are first rate, and the film's theme of the individual's responsibility in standing up to tyranny — while questioning the moral limits of opposition — is worthy, and stops short of imparting a universal anti-authoritarian message. Some discreetly handled violence with bloodshed, a hanging, scattered profanity, rough and crude language and expressions, minor lesbian-themed flashback and implied gay male character, corrupt Anglican clergyman, attempted rape, sexual innuendo, drug use. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is L — limited adult audience, films whose problematic content many adults would find troubling. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

First Saturday devotions

Fort Wayne — The World Apostolate of Fatima will have First Saturday devotions of reparation on April 1, at St. Joseph Parish, Brooklyn and Hale, and at St. Patrick Parish, Arcola. Confession begins at 7:15 a.m., meditations on the rosary at 7:30 a.m. with the rosary beginning at 7:45, Mass at 8 a.m.

First Sunday rosary for families

Fort Wayne — The first Sunday rosary for families will be at MacDougal Chapel, Sunday April 2, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. with Father Tom Shoemaker from St. Jude Parish, and Sister Jolene Heiden, SSND, from the Office of Spiritual Development attending.

Lenten vespers held during Lent

Fort Wayne — St. Henry Church, 2929 E. Paulding Rd., will have vespers during Lent every Sunday at 6 p.m.

Day of Reflection

You are invited to attend a Day of Reflection at St. Francis Convent, Mishawaka (across from Marian High School) on Wednesday, March 29, from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is "Praying the Our Father." The cost of the day is \$15 and includes lunch. Register by Friday, March 24, at (574) 259-5427.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

NFP session planned

South Bend — A natural family planning session will begin Sunday, March 26, at St. Anthony de Padua School from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Cost is \$15. Call (574) 234-5711 or e-mail nfpstjoseph@catholic.org for information or to register.

Sisters' auxiliary bakesale planned

South Bend — The St. Adalbert Sisters' auxiliary bake sale will be Saturday, April 8, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Heritage Center. Lamb cakes, sweet-sour cabbage and baked goods for Easter will be available. Lamb cakes may be pre-paid and ordered by calling (574) 288-5708.

Saints Alive host moving sale

Fort Wayne — The Saints Alive office will have a moving sale on Saturday, March 25, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Featured will be collectibles, artwork and home decor items from the Atlanta Merchandise Mart.

Rummage sale

Kendallville — Immaculate Conception Parish, corner of Oak and Diamond streets, will have a rummage sale on Friday, March

31, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday, April 1, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. \$1.50 bag sale on Saturday.

Dinner theatre

Avilla — St. Mary Parish in will have a dinner theatre on Saturday, April 1, 6 p.m. in the school hall. Tickets are \$10 for a single and \$20 for a couple. Dinner includes a appetizer buffet, beef, pork chops, side dishes and a dessert bar. A cash bar will be available. Entertainment will include a local recording artist, talent from the parish, and a DJ with dancing. Call Mike Hudecek at (260) 318-0262 for information or to reserve tickets.

Live chalk drawing

Fort Wayne — Queen of Angels Parish will host Mary Hilger for a chalk drawing on Friday, April 14, at 6 p.m. Stations of the Cross will follow at 7 p.m.

Bishop Luers Marketing Committee sponsors chicken dinner

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School marketing committee will sponsor a Nelson's chicken dinner at the Jefferson Pointe Wal-Mart on Saturday, April 29, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dinners are \$6.50. Advance tickets are available after April 10 by calling (260) 436-1493 or the day of the sale. Proceeds benefit the Luers Marketing Committee.

Cathedral youth group to host last pancake breakfast

Fort Wayne — Angels Inc. will host the last pancake breakfast of the season on Sunday, March 26, from 10:30 to noon. Adults \$5, children (10 and under) \$3, families \$13. Proceeds fund YCLI tuition.

Leukemia benefit

Fort Wayne — A benefit for Mark Johnson, who was diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia in November 2005, will be held at the Queen of Angels activities center, 1600 W. State Blvd., Saturday, March 25, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. This event includes a dinner, bake sale, silent auction, art and music with proceeds helping to defray medical costs and lost family income.

FISH FRIES

Knights plan fish fry

Granger — The Knights of Columbus Council 4263 will have an all-you-can-eat fish fry on Friday, March 31, from 4 to 7 p.m. at St. Piux X Church. Adults \$7, children (3-12) \$3.75 and children under 3 free.

Fish Fry at St. Matthew Cathedral

South Bend — St. Matthew Cathedral, 1701 Miami St., will host an all-you-can-eat fish fry on Friday, March 24, from 4 to 7 p.m. the school gym. Carry-out and drive-through available. Adult tickets \$7, seniors \$6, children (4-12) \$4, children under 4 free.

Arts and enrichment host fish fry

Fort Wayne — St. John the Baptist Parish will host an all-you-can-eat fish fry on Friday, March 24, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Pursley Activity Center, 4500 Fairfield Ave. Adults and carry-out \$6.75, children (6-12) \$3.50 and children (1-5) \$1. Drive-through service available.

Luncheon planned by K of C ladies

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus, 553 E. Washington

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Elkhart

Miriam J. Monschein, 86, St. Thomas the Apostle

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Mary M. (Finan) Kintz, 84, Most Precious Blood

C. Virginia Amstutz, 85, St. Vincent de Paul

Bertha L. McConnehey, 91, St. Anne Home

Claire A. (Bueter) Clemens, 71, St. Jude

Henrika Debets, 88, St. Vincent de Paul

Norbert H. Herber, 85, Queen of Angels

Vincent G. Heredia, 81, St. Peter

Joan Mary Hoskins, 74, St. Jude

Keith Edward Wall, 63, St. Charles Borromeo

Eleanor E. Jaehn, 87, Most Precious Blood

Gerald M. Gavin, 75, St. Vincent de Paul

New Haven

Colleen L. Poncin, 59, St. John the Baptist

South Bend

Shirley A. Hoffman, 54, St. Matthew Cathedral

Irene V. Magyar, 92, St. Matthew Cathedral

Theodore E. Kruszka Sr., 82, St. Casimir

Charles Collner, 85, Little Flower

Violet H. Wirth, 88, St. Patrick

Sister Ann Lucille Mortell, 93, Church of the Immaculate Conception, St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Ind. Sister served at St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne.

Sister Angela Rose Halpin, 94, Church of the Immaculate Conception, St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Ind. Sister served at St. Catherine, Fort Wayne.

Bld. will have a soup and salad luncheon on Monday, March 27, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Donation \$5.

Card party and salad bar planned

New Carlisle — The Altar and Rosary Society of St. Stanislaus Kostka Church will have a card party and deluxe salad bar on Sunday, March 26, at 11:30 a.m. Tickets are \$5 and must be purchased in advance by calling (574) 654-3364 or (574) 289-2986.

Fish fry at St. Hedwig

South Bend — St. Hedwig Parish will have an all-you-can-eat fish dinner on Friday, March 24, from 4 to 7 p.m. in the Memorial Center. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$3 for children 6-12. Children under 5 free.

Fish fry at St. Joseph

Fort Wayne — A fish fry will be held Friday, March 24, at St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel. All-you-can-eat fish with broasted potatoes, homemade coleslaw, applesauce, homemade dessert, roll and drink. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$5.50 for children ages 6-11, age

5 and under free. Carry-out also available. For information, call (260) 639-3580.

St. Henry hosts fish fry

Fort Wayne — St. Henry Parish will host a fish fry on Friday, March 31, from 4 to 7:30 p.m. at St. Henry Parish. Adults \$7, seniors \$6.50, children (6-11) \$5.50, children 5 and under free.

Drive through fish dinner

New Haven — St. Louis Academy seventh and eighth graders will host a drive-through fish dinner on Friday, March 31, from 4 to 7 p.m. Cost per meal is \$6.50.

TV MASS GUIDE FOR APRIL

DATE	FEAST	FORT WAYNE		SOUTH BEND	
		CHANNEL 33 - WISE 10:30 A.M.	Msgr. Owen Campion Our Sunday Visitor Huntington	CHANNEL 16 - WNDU 10:30 A.M.	Father William Schooler St. Pius X Granger
April 2	Fifth Sunday of Lent		Father William Hodde Retired Fort Wayne		Father William Seetch, CSC Notre Dame
April 9	Palm Sunday		Bishop John M. D'Arcy Diocese of Fort Wayne- South Bend		Father David Porterfield, CSC Notre Dame
April 16	Easter Sunday		Father James Stoyle Cathedral of Immaculate Conception		Father Michael Heintz St. Matthew Cathedral South Bend
April 23	2nd Sunday of Easter		Msgr. John Suelzer St. Charles Borromeo Fort Wayne		Father Kevin Rousseau, CSC Notre Dame
April 30	3rd Sunday of Easter				

"Catholic Comment" airs every Sunday at 7:05 a.m. on WOWO 1190 AM in Fort Wayne and at 7:30 a.m. on WSBT 960 AM in South Bend

"Radio Rosary" airs Sundays at 8:30 a.m. on WGL 1250 AM

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1857



2007

BY MARK WEBER

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS SESQUICENTENNIAL

THE DIOCESE OF FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

St. John the Evangelist, Goshen, Est. 1840

Surrounded by a busy traffic pattern and set square in the center of downtown Goshen, the alluring colonial church, the modern combination school and parish office building equipped with high-tech tools for education and business needs, plus a large playground area with colorful, compelling play equipment belie the fact that it is all connected by a thin tread through time to such ancient figures in diocesan history as Fathers Badin, Sorin and Julian Benoit.

St. John the Evangelist is the third oldest parish in the diocese and was established as a mission of St. Augustine Church (later named the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception) in Fort Wayne.

Its beginnings were so primitive that the first congregation consisted of 30 families scattered widely over Elkhart County and, in its first school, the desks were boards nailed to church pews.

Today, St. John is a successful 50/50 blend of approximately 1,000 Hispanic and Anglo families with Hispanic and English ministries covering traditional services such as cantors and liturgical ministers to specialties such as photography, Vacation Bible School, and



Catholic Campus Ministry, which allows Catholic students at nearby Goshen College to feel welcome at St. John the Evangelist Parish. Another unusual ministry, known as Chefs for a Week provides evening meals for up to one week to parishioners back home from a hospital stay.

Of the many pastors who have served here, Father Herman Miller, who was pastor from 1935 to 1949, is recalled as one far ahead of his time with the spirit of ecumenism. His relationship with the Protestant ministers in town and their people did much to overcome the barriers, which existed in this predominantly Protestant community and area.

The dividends of good will he created are exemplified today by the significant presence of St. John's priests celebrating holy Mass at the annual Elkhart County Fair, the third largest county fair in the United States, and the appearance of spectacular floats sponsored by St. John in the fair's grand parade that rolls right by that striking colonial style church at Main and Monroe in Goshen that is St. John the Evangelist.



MARK WEBER

The baptismal font designed and cleverly built by long-time parishioner Vince Traxler, appears as a solid cube but has hidden plungers to open its doors and make it a useful cabinet.

St. Martin de Porres, Syracuse, Est. 1966

Overflow seems an appropriate term to apply to this church which appears as an inverted ship and lies about the length of the Queen Mary from the shores of Lake Wawasee. Since its founding in 1966, St. Martin has experienced standing-room-only attendance for Sunday Masses during the extended lake season; May through October.

It was for the summer lake visitors that the parish came to be. Prior to that time summer visitors, and all others, drove to Pierceton or Ligonier to attend Mass.

Now, St. Martin's is well along in a \$2 million expansion to handle the summer overflow, provide more religious education classrooms, parish offices, a multipurpose room, library, more parking, and quite importantly, access for all to an expanded parish hall, by elevator and a below-ground level entrance. Future plans call for a new rectory.

Year-round registration at St. Martin's is 325 families. The lake season brings this figure up to 550 registered and contributing families plus the unnamed pilgrims who are on hand for weekends.



The founding pastor of St. Martin de Porres Parish was Father Eugene Zimmerman, followed by Fathers Robert Hammond, Richard Urbine, Edward Erpelding and Terry Place, the current pastor.

Father Dominique Carboneau, pastor of St. Aloysius, Yoder, has the only known religious vocation from St. Martin de Porres Parish.

Above the front entrance to this church stands an impressive bronze figure of St. Martin de Porres. One wonders how many who pass through the shadow cast by this statue know that Martin de Porres was an illegitimate child who as a Dominican lay brother, founded an orphanage, a founding hospital and distributed food to the poor.

He was canonized in 1962 by Pope John XXIII and is the patron of interracial justice.



MARK WEBER

The wood-carved Holy Family stands neatly tucked in a tree on the grounds of St. Martin de Porres. The church at right, is designed to appear as a capsized ship and is shown with work in progress as the building is enlarged.