

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Office of Youth Ministry hails new director

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend has announced a changing of the guard in the Office of Youth Ministry and Spiritual Formation this year. August 1 marked the beginning of a new direction for the office as it welcomes Cindy Black as its new director. Black, lifelong member of St. Vincent Parish in Fort Wayne, leaves seven years of involvement in that parish youth ministry, six of them as director.

Born the oldest of four siblings to Linda McAbee and Tom Jasper, Black attributes much of her faith formation to her grandparents, Ron and Nancy Jasper, whom she stayed with on weekends as a child. In addition to attending Mass and praying the rosary with her grandparents, she reports, "When I felt lost as a teen, grandpa told me, 'Everything we need to know is in the 'Sermon on the Mount.' So I read it."

Her enthusiasm for youth and faith in God's providence are evident as she describes her introduction into youth ministry. Following a Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) retreat, Black says, "It (the retreat experience) challenged me to live my faith and serve the church."

Soon after, Father Mark Gurtner, associate pastor of St. Vincent at the time, invited her to join the Life Teen core team supporting the youth there. Though she had no experience with teens, she readily joined the team. Her passion and focus on youth ministry grew that first year as she interacted with the prayerful youth of her parish, and she was soon asked to direct the program.



KAY COZAD

Cindy Black became the new director of the Office of Youth Ministry and Spiritual Formation on Aug. 1. She leaves seven years of youth ministry at St. Vincent Parish.

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PRECIOUS FIRSTS



DON CLEMMER

Father Joseph Gaughan makes his pledges to the church, Bishop D'Arcy and his new parish during his installation as pastor of Most Precious Blood Church in Fort Wayne. Father Gaughan's installation marked his first assignment as a full pastor and the first ever appointment of a diocesan pastor to the church, which was operated by the Missionaries of the Precious Blood for most of its 110-year history.

Priest martyr relics make stop at St. Adalbert

Bring sense of renewal to South Bend

BY JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

For their faith they stood firm. For their faith they were tortured and martyred.

Canonized in 2000 by Pope John Paul II, six Knights of Columbus Priest Martyrs of Mexico were killed from 1926 through 1937 for refusing to denounce the church or God during a revolution in Mexico that brought the persecution of Catholics.

In 2005, relics of the Knights of Columbus Priest Martyrs of Mexico pilgrimage began in Mexico, commemorating the centennial of the Knights of Columbus in Mexico.

And on July 20, the relic pilgrimage made a stop at St. Adalbert in South Bend for six hours before traveling to Chicago.

"We're thrilled to have them for that long," said Father Christopher Cox, pastor of St. Adalbert.

The relics — bone fragments from each of the martyrs — are housed in a silver reli-

quary that was brought to the altar of the church for visitors to venerate and offer prayers.

"I hope the martyrs call into question all of the fascinations of the age," said Cox.

He said the martyrs "turn upside down" all of the cares people in the United States think they have.

"The martyrs gave their lives for the renewal and transformation of Mexico," just like there are people who are standing up for the renewal of the west side of South Bend, Cox said.

"They stood up against violence with non violence," he went on.

The visit of these martyrs relics to St. Adalbert means a lot to a parish, whose parishioners had parents and grandparents in Mexico at the time the priests were killed, Cox said. These priests are their brothers in faith, Cox said.

The relics, he explained, call on Catholics to remember the martyrs' lives and the sacrifices of their lives. And they call on Catholics to put their faith before their public lives.

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Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday, Aug. 15, is
a holy day of obligation

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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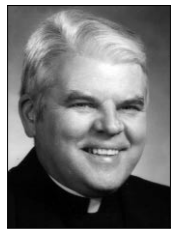
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Priests and laity invited to canonization of Indiana saint



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Splendid news

So now we have our very own saint. An extraordinary woman who knew suffering and lived in Indiana for only 18 years, Mother Theodore Guerin will be canonized on Oct. 15, 2006 at St. Peter's in Rome. I was not able to go for the beatification, but it is my intention, along with the other bishops of Indiana, to be present at this event and concelebrate with the pope. We are already making plans, and we intend to open it to the laity in our diocese so they can be joined with the pilgrimage, which will be going to Rome under the direction of Archbishop Daniel Buechlein, OSB, of Indianapolis. It is my hope that a number of priests, especially in those parishes where the Sisters of Providence worked, will go to Rome as well.

Down the road, as we did at the beatification, I intend to have a Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne. We will invite the Sisters of Providence who have served here and the leadership of the congregation and all those, and they are many, who have been influenced by this marvelous congregation and who prayed for the canonization of Mother Theodore. She worked in Fort Wayne and came here at the request of the saintly Msgr. Julian Benoit. She can be considered the foundress of the Catholic schools in our diocese. We must pray to her for our young people and for our schools. More information will be coming later.

A future full of hope

How could you think otherwise after several recent events, two of them with the University of Notre Dame and two others with the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend?

Shortly after returning from a wonderful vacation, I was off to the Basilica of the Sacred Heart for the missioning of the new teachers of the program of the Alliance of Catholic Education. This effort, known as ACE, has trained close to 1,000 young men and women, most from Notre Dame but some from other colleges and universities. They serve in various dioceses throughout the country where it is difficult to recruit Catholics to teach in schools. Working for a small wage and returning in the summers for further education, this program has been a blessing on Catholic schools in our country. We are blessed in having ACE teachers at St. Adalbert School in South Bend as well as at Saint Joseph's High School.

This year, Cardinal Edward M. Egan from the great Archdiocese of New York came to mission these young people and it was a joy to concelebrate with him at this annual event.

A program called ECHO

This new initiative, under the guidance of the Center for Church Life and its director, John Cavadini, was missioning its very

first students. There were 13, I believe, from three dioceses. It is a little different from ACE because they are being trained to be catechists or, more accurately, catechetical leaders. Many of these young people have majored in theology at Notre Dame. They have worked two years in parishes, taking courses in the summer in theology and catechetics. Four served in parishes in our diocese.

No less an observer of the Catholic scene than Cardinal Avery Dulles, SJ, has written that a central need for the renewal of our church is the training of catechists. ECHO is hands-on training. In addition to courses, the young people learn from pastors and catechetical leaders how to form other catechists and how to develop a program of religious instruction in the parish. They are very well trained in Catholic theology. This was the first class, soon to be known as ECHO I. This initiative, along with ACE, shows that Notre Dame is substantial and clear in its link with the church in all its reality. These two programs are a credit to the University of Our Lady. It was a joy to be a part of both of them in my first days back from vacation.

Another event

I was at two Andrew Dinners this week. In the Gospel of John, we read that Andrew brought his brother, Peter, to the Lord. A number of priests from the diocese brought young men who are interested in the priesthood. I will later give you a full report on our seminarians, but I have already accepted five young men for the coming year, and there are more to be interviewed. These two events held at Holy Family Parish, South Bend, and St. Joseph Parish, Fort Wayne, showed the keen interest in the priesthood by young men in our diocese.

A new initiative

But there is more. Last winter when I visited our seminarians at the Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio, Matt Coonan shared with me two important pastoral matters. He had put together a program of youth ministry for a parish. It was very sound and focused on the Eucharist, the Scriptures and religious instruction. Matt came out of such a program at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne.

But he had another initiative. He had learned from other dioceses, especially Peoria, about retreat experiences held during the summer with a focus on vocations to the priesthood. He adapted these for our diocese and shared with me a program. "Go ahead, Matt," I said. "Push ahead." Although time was short, I wrote to all our priests and suggested that they call or mail names to Matt. As a result, 13 young men, all high school graduates, met with our seminarians at Noll Hall. The seminarians did all the work of preparation. They gave some of the talks, while others were given by priests. Confessions were heard. Next year, we hope to double the numbers, and we will need to find a larger place. Matt's dad gave an excellent talk on the vocation of marriage, a sure help in assisting the young men in their discernment.

All of these things certainly show that Christ is touching the young people. Pope John Paul II predicted this and even, under God's grace, has helped to bring it about. It is up to us, however, to carry it on and reach ever more and more young people, not only for vocations to the priesthood and

consecrated life, but for various Christian vocations.

Work continues

Each summer, I have a personal visit with each of our seminarians. Also, I have begun the installation of new pastors. What a joy it was on Saturday evening to be at Immaculate Conception Parish, Auburn, where I had the installation of Father Babasino Fernandes. He comes to us from far away India and has been joyfully received by the people.

Over, then, to Precious Blood Parish, Fort Wayne, on Sunday morning for the installation of Father Joseph Gaughan. Father Gaughan was very beloved wherever he has been, especially in his most recent assignment at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne. Many parishioners from St. Vincent Parish were present and the beautiful old Precious Blood Church was almost filled. Father Joe received a standing ovation. It was a joy that his father, John, and his mother, Pat, were there. Indeed, many of the Precious Blood parishioners knew John from his years at Bishop Dwenger High School, and a few also from his time many years ago as coach and teacher at Bishop Luers High School. John is still helping part-time (almost full-time) in the Catholic Schools Office. He is a blessing for us, with his long experience of over 50 years in Catholic secondary education. Father Gaughan is the first diocesan priest to be pastor of this parish.

Can it be 20 years?

This week, we began our 20th Annual Bishop's Appeal. I remember the committee of 10 priests and six laity who recommended it to me. This week we saw our video for the first time. As always, it is well prepared. St. Paul, in his Letter to the Corinthians, a portion of which we have been reading recently in our Liturgy of the Hours, raised a collection among the Corinthians for those in need. So, we are in a great tradition as we pick up this effort again. More about this as we move along.

Woman of courage

That describes my sister, Mary. Named after Our Lady, she has always been an inspiration to me with her strong faith. Gripped now by a serious cancer, I was able to spend significant time with her on vacation. The strength, joy, courage and faith with which she has undertaken the various therapies is an inspiration to me. Her presence at daily Mass and the recitation of the rosary with her husband, Vito, continues to sustain her. May I ask all of you to keep her in your prayers.

As to vacation

A delight. A chance to visit my sisters and their families. Is there anything in the world more precious than family, especially as we grow older? Also, I had some time with brother priests whom I have known for over 50 years. "The friend of your youth is your friend forever." Two good swims in the Atlantic Ocean.

Three games at Fenway Park, although I think my team is beginning to fade out of the pennant race. Too many injuries. Too poor pitching. Always the Yankees.

It is great to be home again. See you all in two weeks.

Indiana bishops release new statement, DVD on death penalty

INDIANAPOLIS — In response to the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops' Nov. 2005 statement calling for an end to the death penalty, the Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC) has released a new death penalty statement and a two-part DVD entitled "Talking About the Death Penalty and The Death Penalty: No Justice, No Healing, No Closure."

As spokesman for the five bishops in Indiana, Indiana Catholic Conference Executive Director Glenn Tebbe said, "Because all human beings are created in the image and likeness of God, each person has an inherent dignity. The church has consistently upheld the dignity of all life from conception to natural death. It is out of this consistent life ethic that we address public policy issues — the death penalty being one of them, he said. "This statement from the Indiana bishops echoes the U.S. Catholic Bishops' campaign to end the death penalty," said Tebbe.

The statement reads, "We cannot teach that killing is wrong by killing. The death penalty not only affects the person executed by denying him or her the opportunity for repentance and rehabilitation, but it also perpetuates the cycle of violence ... It neither promotes authentic healing for the victims or families of the victims of crime, nor deters criminal behavior..."

The statement continues, "In seeking to end the use of the death penalty, we do not dismiss the evil and harmed caused by people who commit horrible crimes, especially murders ... Yet, the pain and loss from one death cannot be wiped away by another. The death penalty does not bring healing, reconciliation or justice."

The Catechism of the Catholic Church # 2267 asserts "the church does not exclude the recourse to the death penalty, if this is the only possible way of effectively defending human lives against the unjust aggressor." Pope John Paul II reiterates this teaching in his encyclical "Evangelium Vitae" ("The Gospel of Life") but notes that such cases of absolute necessity are "very rare, if practically non-existent."

Largely due to the teachings of John Paul, II, in "Evangelium Vitae" ("The Gospel of Life") and the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops' Campaign, the ICC statement notes that attitudes on the death penalty among Catholics are changing. Fifty-three percent of Catholics ages 18-28 oppose the use of the death penalty. While fifty-six percent of Catholics who attend Mass weekly oppose its use.

The single, two-part DVD presents interviews with family members of murder victims who talk about why they are against the death penalty, along with interviews from clergy and religious who minister to those on death row. The video also pres-

ents perspectives on the death penalty from academia as well as from those serving on death row. "Part one of the DVD explains the church's teaching on the death penalty. While part two of the DVD emphasizes the pastoral approach of dealing with the death penalty," said Tebbe.

Bill Pelke, president and co-founder of Journey of Hope, an organization composed of murder victims' families who are against the death penalty said, "After all the arguments for the death penalty are blown out of the water, people ask 'what about the victims' families? Shouldn't the person get the death penalty for what they've done to the victim's family?'" he said.

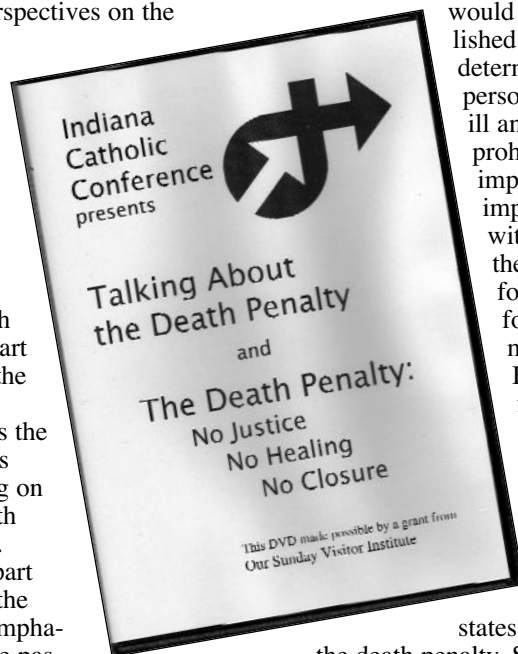
"That's where we as an organization step in. Because we can say we've had a member in our family who's been killed," Pelke said. "And taking another person's life is not going to bring the healing that the family needs." Pelke's grandmother was brutally stabbed to death by 15 year old, convicted killer Paula Cooper.

"When Jesus said to forgive 70 times seven, he knew what he was talking about," said Pelke. "Forgiving Paula Cooper did more for me than it did for Paula Cooper."

Juan Mendez, International Human Rights Advocate said, "The United States is the only highly-developed country, which uses the death penalty. No other developed country in world uses the death penalty as means to deal with crime."

"Our hope is the statement and the DVD will serve as a catalyst to educate the faithful about the harmful effects our society bears as a result of the death penalty," said Tebbe. "The DVD is designed to be used as part of parishes' religious education programs during the upcoming calendar year. It is designed for group study, reflection and discussion," said Tebbe.

During the 2006 session of the Indiana General Assembly, the ICC supported two measures aimed at chipping away at Indiana's death penalty. Senate Bill 48 would have prohibited a court from imposing a death sentence when the jury is unable to agree on a sentencing recommendation. Current law allows a judge to impose a death sentence when a jury cannot agree on a recommendation. Senate Bill 66



would have established a procedure to determine whether a person is mentally ill and would have prohibited the imposition of life imprisonment without parole or the death penalty for a person found to be mentally ill. Both measures failed.

Thirty-eight states including Indiana have the death penalty. Twelve states do not have the death penalty. Since 1976, when Indiana reinstated the death penalty, 17 persons have been executed. Ten of those executed by the state of Indiana have occurred since 2001. Only three of the 92 persons sentenced to death in Indiana received commuted sentences. Gov. Joe Kernan commuted two death sentences to life in prison without parole, and Gov. Mitch Daniels commuted the death sentence of Arthur Baird to life in prison without parole.

Malcolm Lunsford, a permanent deacon from the Gary Diocese, works as a volunteer chaplain at the Indiana State Prison in Michigan City. Lunsford visits, listens to and brings Communion to those on death row and has witnessed one execution.

"The death penalty accomplishes nothing," said Lunsford. "For some it may give a sense of revenge, but not closure. Closure comes only through forgiveness."

Earlier this year, the Indiana Catholic Conference hosted a legislator luncheon entitled The Costs of the Death Penalty. During the luncheon, Most Rev. Daniel Buechlein, Archbishop of Indianapolis, Father Tom McNally, CSC, and Malcolm Lunsford spoke candidly with state lawmakers from firsthand experience with death row inmates about the harmful effects of the death penalty.

New death penalty legislation is expected to be considered before the Indiana General Assembly during the 2007 session.

Death Penalty Web resources:

- Bishops Campaign to End the Death Penalty at www.ccedp.org
- National Death Penalty Information Center at www.deathpenaltyinfo.org
- Indiana Public Defenders Council at www.in.gov/pdc/
- Indiana Catholic Conference www.indianacc.org
- The Journey of Hope www.journeyofhope.org
- Murder Victims Families for Human Rights www.murdervictimsfamilies.org

Father Frank Kronewitter, 69, dies in Fatima

FORT WAYNE — Father Frank E. Kronewitter, 69, chaplain at St. Anne Home, died Monday, July 31, while on pilgrimage in Fatima, Portugal, with fellow diocesan priest Father Adam Schmitt. Father Kronewitter reportedly suffered a massive heart attack.

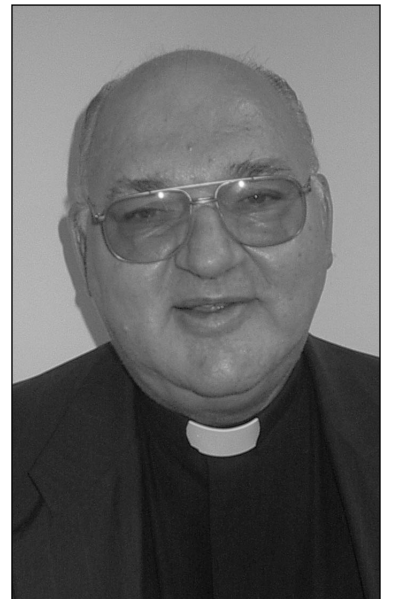
A native of Mishawaka, Father Kronewitter was born there May 26, 1937 to Mr. and Mrs. Eugene H. Kronewitter. He grew up in St. Monica and St. Anthony de Padua Parishes. He attended St. Monica School, Mishawaka; the old Central Catholic High School, South Bend, and Saint Joseph's High School, South Bend, after a merger of schools his junior year.

With the encouragement of Father Mike Vichuras at Saint Joseph's and his home pastor, Father Jerome Bonk, Father Kronewitter transferred his senior year to Our Lady of the Lake Seminary, Syracuse, and remained there for three years. He completed his seminary training at Mt. Saint Mary of the West Seminary in Norwood, Ohio. He also earned a bachelor's degree from the Athenaeum of Ohio.

Father Kronewitter was ordained to the priesthood alongside Father Edward Ruetz and two Holy Cross priests in St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend, on Dec. 23, 1962, shortly after Bishop Leo Pursley returned from participating in the first session of the Second Vatican Council. The ordinations were the first to be held in St. Matthew Cathedral and were held early as it was believed Bishop Pursley's involvement in the second session of Vatican II would interfere with spring ordinations.

After returning briefly to the seminary, Father Kronewitter received his first assignment, associate at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, from June to August 1963. In August, he moved to St. Mary Parish in Huntington, where he served as assistant to Father James O'Connor for the next five years. He next served as assistant to Msgr. John Szabo at Our Lady of Hungary Church and was also appointed assistant master of ceremonies of the South Bend deanery, working closely with Bishop Pursley and later describing the bishop as "a very gracious man."

While serving as master of ceremonies, he also served as assistant at St. Anthony de Padua, South Bend, and from 1970 to 1976 was assistant at St. Monica, Mishawaka. In 1976, he was appointed pastor of St. Patrick Parish, Ligonier, and Blessed Sacrament mission, Albion. He also served for 13 years as chaplain of the Northern Indiana Council of Catholic Boy Scouts, helping Scouts earn merit badges, providing some religious education and working with troops at various parishes. Between October



FATHER FRANK KRONEWITTER

of 1986 and December of 1991, Father Kronewitter served as associate pastor at St. Mary Parish, Huntington.

In Jan. 1, 1992, he began his final assignment, as chaplain of St. Anne Home in Fort Wayne. Living in an apartment in the nursing home, Father Kronewitter was available to residents around the clock, offering daily Mass, officiating at funeral Masses and enjoying the interaction with residents, administering his wit as well as the sacraments.

Father Kronewitter enjoyed playing tennis and basketball for a number of years with Father James Seculoff, in more recent years substituting them with golf.

In July of this year, Father Kronewitter accompanied Father Adam Schmitt along with a group of 73 pilgrims on a trip to Fatima, Portugal. Twelve days into the journey, as the group was preparing to leave their lodgings, the Domus Paces, Father Schmitt found Father Kronewitter in his room, dead of an apparent heart attack.

According to Father Schmitt, the pilgrim group had planned to go out celebrating that evening, but upon Father Kronewitter's passing, cancelled those plans and gathered for Mass. In his homily, Father Schmitt noted that Father Kronewitter had passed from one Domus Paces — house of peace — to a greater Domus Paces. Father Schmitt had known Father Kronewitter since the latter's ordination and held him in high regard.

"If I was as good a man as he was, I wouldn't be afraid of meeting our Lord," Father Schmitt told *Today's Catholic*.

Father Kronewitter is survived by two sisters, Mary Stastney of Fremont, Neb., and Charlotte Wolz of South Bend, an older brother, Ralph Kronewitter of Tampa, Fla., as well as several nieces and nephews.

Final arrangements and Mass of Christian Burial were pending at press time.

YOUTH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Success with St. Vincent Life Teen

After much prayer, in July of 2000, she agreed. Black has, for the past six years, expanded youth outreach to include a 15-member core team, Life-nights for youth every Sunday, spring and fall retreats, "Mass and breakfast" events and a junior high Life Night on Mondays, for seventh and eighth graders. The institution of Ministry Hour on Wednesday nights met the additional needs of youth who were in leadership roles in the parish as well.

Outside activities that encourage participation from both Catholic and public school teens range from mission trips to creating care packages to be sent to college students.

It was important, says Black, for her to attend their teens' school and sporting activities, as well. "It means a lot to them to see us there. Their parents get to know us, too."

Parish support, she adds, is phenomenal, with adults who volunteer to pray for the special intentions they receive from the monthly prayer letter she mails out. "The most important part of the program is prayer," she says adding that every youth event begins with prayer.

Vision for the diocese

With the fruits of Black's labor being four seminarians from St. Vincent youth, Father Gurtner along with Bishop John M. D'Arcy invited Black to take over the helm of the diocesan youth ministry this year. The Office of Youth Ministry and Spiritual Development staff works to serve the parishes and schools across the diocese through parish youth ministry consultation and training, and offering retreats. They seek to advocate the needs of youth through national, regional and diocesan events, as well.

Black again turned in faith to prayer as she discerned this new adventure. "After praying and speaking to my husband and others, I decided I would do my best. I never thought I'd be here. It's humbling to sign up. It's not you doing this, you're just God's tool," she says.

Black brings a rich academic background to the Office of Youth Ministry including undergraduate and graduate degrees in communications. She has taught at Manchester College and Indiana-Purdue Universities at Fort Wayne (IPFW) and is currently enrolled in the masters in theology program at Notre Dame.

As for the future of the diocesan youth ministry, Black has big plans. "I want to be of support to the people in the parishes and help provide resources and suggest ways to reach teens and meet individual needs," says the new director.

She is already investigating new programs to introduce to the church youth ministries within the diocese, including XLT, a program of adoration, praise and worship. The annual junior high rally and Faithfest will continue under her tutelage, giving youth exposure to the larger church.

"Sense of community is important to the youth and they are hungry for the church. We are responsible to provide that in a way that competes with the secular flash," she says.

Training the adult leaders is essential to the ministry as well, Black adds. She, in partnership with seminarian Matt Coonan, hopes to complete a comprehensive approach to youth ministry with practical manuals that include ideas for the ministry. Additionally, she plans to develop ways in which to pool the resources of smaller parishes so the needs of those youth can also be met.

There is nothing timid about this spirited, yet prayerful woman who has chosen to meet the challenge of leading the diocesan youth ministry as she says, "If we want to light this diocese on fire, we start with prayer." The future of youth ministry seems to be turning in a promising new direction.

Black and husband Phil with their two children, Edison and James Phil, better known as J.P., are members of St. Vincent Parish.

EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT PRIESTHOOD



DON CLEMMER

Seminarian Terrence "Tink" Coonan, right, answers a question at the Fort Wayne Andrew Dinner held at St. Joseph Church on Brooklyn Ave. while priests, other seminarians and guests listen. This event, which allows young men to learn more about the priestly vocation, included talks by seminarians Drew Curry and Deacon Jason Freiburger, priests Father John Pfister and Father Larry Kramer, as well as Bishop John D'Arcy.

RELICS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Christine Bella, a parishioner of Holy Family in South Bend, said seeing the relics are a special grace.

"For someone to give up his life for the faith is astounding," Bella said after spending time in prayer before the relics.

Irene Wiskotoni, a parishioner of St. Adalbert, said it's difficult to put into words her feelings about the relics and the martyrs except to say that it was brave of them to sacrifice their lives.

The martyrs, according to information from Knights of Columbus, include:

- Father Luis Batiz Sainz asked Mexican soldiers readying to execute him and three laymen to free one of the laymen with children. The layman refused, was given absolution by Father Sainz and told, "See you in heaven."

- Father Jose Maria Robles Hurtado was arrested while preparing Mass and hung from a tree the next day. He placed the

noose around his own neck so that none of his captors, whom he'd forgiven, would be considered a murderer;

- Father Mateo Correa Magallanes was executed after he refused to report confessions of fellow prisoners;

- Father Miguel de la Mora de la Mora was shot while praying the rosary after he signed a letter opposing the government's anti-religion laws;

- Father Rodrigo Aguilar Aleman was hanged after being asked three times by soldiers, whom he forgave publicly, "Who lives?" He replied each time "Christ the King and Our Lady of Guadalupe." He had been caught by the soldiers burning the names



JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

J.R. Burger, left, and Ed Rodriguez, hold the reliquary, which house the relics of six Knights of Columbus Priest Martyrs of Mexico. Burger and Rodriguez, both from the Knights of Columbus in Plymouth, traveled with the relics to St. Adalbert in South Bend.

of seminary students so their identities would remain secret;

- Father Pedro de Jesus Maldonado Lucero was beaten to death for distributing ashes to the faithful on Ash Wednesday in 1937.

Father Jose Trinidad Rangel Montano and Father Andres Sola Molist were beatified in 2005. They were both executed for their faith.

Diocese invited to attend canonization of Mother Theodore Guérin

FORT WAYNE — People from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will join a tour group from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis to attend canonization ceremonies of Mother Theodore Guérin in Rome on Oct. 15. Mother Theodore Guérin is the foundress of the Sisters of Providence at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods and, with Msgr. Julian Benoit, is attributed to starting the first Catholic school in Fort Wayne.

The trip will be led by Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, OSB. Bishop John M. D'Arcy also plans to attend the canonization with priests from parishes with schools that were served by the Sisters of Providence. He plans a diocesan gathering in Rome with people from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

The Archdiocese of Indianapolis has extended its invitation to include diocesan pilgrims from Fort Wayne-South Bend. The pilgrimage to Italy is scheduled from Oct. 11-19. An advertisement is located on page 23 of this week's *Today's Catholic*.

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St. Patrick, Arcola, breaks ground for parish hall on beautiful day

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

ARCOLA — Parishioners enjoyed a festive occasion for tiny St. Patrick Church in Arcola Sunday, Aug. 6, as ground was officially broken for a new parish hall. St. Patrick CCD teachers and their students took part in the groundbreaking with other parishioners observing the ceremony, which followed the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass.

Pastor Father Cyril Fernandes is thrilled at the prospect of the 15,000-square-foot addition to the existing church, one that will house eight classrooms as well as new confessionals, administrative offices, conference rooms, a large area for parish gatherings and modern, accessible restrooms. The new space will be connected to the church itself, making it much more convenient for parish activities than the aging, outmoded school building on the grounds. The Knights of Columbus will take over and maintain that facility, says Father Cyril.

Early on, the pastor organized a committee of active parishioners to explore the needs of the parish and they formulated several plans before settling on the current one. Father Cyril says he was a bit reluctant at first. "Let's do what we have," he advised them. But finally he was persuaded that people would be supportive of the effort.

Father Cyril's good-natured plea to parishioners during fundraising was typical of his sunny disposition. "Give it smilingly — not with a grumpy face — and it will multiply," he told them. But still, "I couldn't believe it," he said of their generosity, as the funds multiplied just as he hoped they would.

Weigand Construction has begun work and expects to complete the job by February of next year. Total cost of the project is \$951,573 and Father Cyril happily reports that the church already has \$700,000 in the coffers and the balance in pledges so no bank loan was necessary for the immense undertaking. He points out that his parish family also recently funded a new \$210,000 rectory to replace one in serious disrepair. He credits Ed Rice, chairman of the fundraising committee, and Alex Pursley, chairman of the building committee, for their diligence and hard



PROVIDED BY ST. PATRICK PARISH, ARCOLA

A happy Father Cyril Fernandes, right, is joined by Larry Weigand of Weigand Construction, at groundbreaking ceremonies for a parish hall at St. Patrick Church in Arcola on Sunday, Aug. 6. Parishioners, including the youth of the parish, joined Father Fernandes, first in prayer, and then to turn over the first shovels of dirt.



work.

Roberta Davis, who along with Patty Denihan teaches CCD classes on Sunday mornings between the 7:30 and 10 a.m. Masses, is excited about the project. She says their current quarters in the old school are far too cramped and noisy for students to think or concentrate. They're just "not productive," she says. And it's difficult for teachers as well, who have to "take their classroom in a box" as they work.

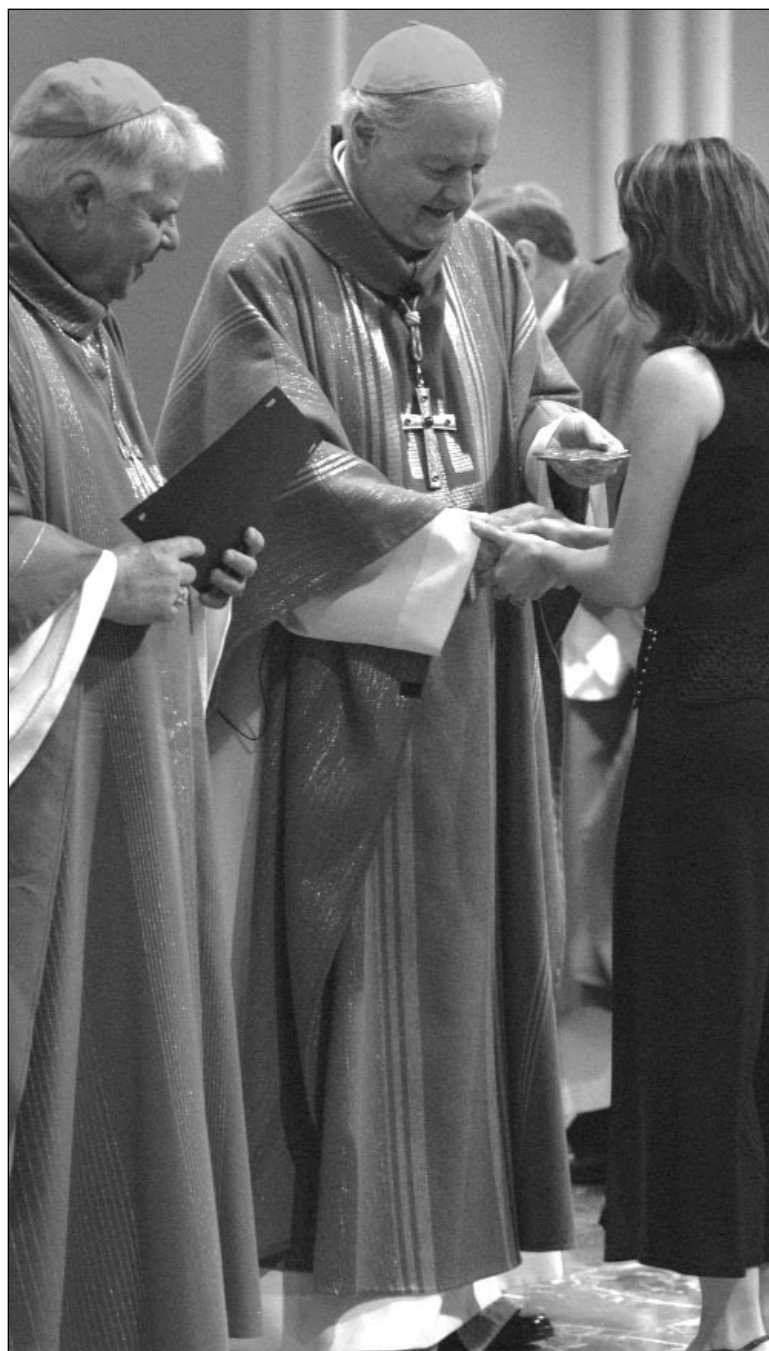
With 110 pre-kindergarten through 12th grade CCD students

last year and more expected this year due to the burgeoning parish family, Davis is anxious for new digs.

Pursley says that Father Cyril's dedication to the children and his emphasis on providing more adequate space for educational needs is really what has driven the project. "That shows what our effort is all about," he says.

Father Cyril can't say enough about St. Patrick's parishioners. "People have been very generous," he exclaims. "It's a miracle for me."

BISHOP D'ARCY JOINS CARDINAL EGAN FOR NOTRE DAME ACE MISSIONING MASS



WES EVARD

Bishop John M. D'Arcy and Cardinal Edward Egan, archbishop of New York City, receive over 200 ACE (Alliance for Catholic Education) teachers and administrators during the missioning Mass on Friday, July 28. These teachers and principals formed through the Alliance for Catholic Education will serve in more than 40 dioceses across the country.



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Retired Illinois bishop led 'culture of secrecy,' says report

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (CNS) — Retired Springfield Bishop Daniel L. Ryan "engaged in improper sexual conduct and used his office to conceal his activities" when he headed the diocese, said an investigative report released by the diocese Aug. 2. It said Bishop Ryan, Springfield's bishop from 1984 to 1999, fostered "a culture of secrecy ... that discouraged faithful priests from coming forward with information about misconduct" by other clergy in the diocese. The investigation did not address sexual abuse of minors by church personnel, for which the diocese has a separate process. But it found evidence of other misconduct in a few parishes and of inappropriate use of church-owned computers. The report recommended policies and procedures for dealing with criminal and non-criminal misconduct by clergy, holding parishes to tighter standards of financial accountability and creating a model diocesan policy for computer and Internet use. It stemmed from an investigation commissioned by Springfield Bishop George L. Lucas and conducted between February 2005 and July 2006.

Pope says he's disappointed about ignored Middle East peace calls

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI renewed his appeal for peace in the Middle East and said he was deeply disappointed that calls for an immediate cease-fire in Lebanon had been ignored. Peace is both a gift of God and the product of political commitment, and all people of good will have a duty to work for an end to hostilities, the pope said at a Sunday blessing Aug. 6. Several hundred pilgrims applauded the pope as he spoke from the balcony of his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo outside Rome. In a talk that marked the feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord, the pope said Christ's salvation was sorely needed in a world threatened by the "shadows of evil," including fratricidal conflict in the Middle East. "We well know that peace is first of all a gift of God, to implore with insistence in prayer, but at this moment I also want to recall that peace is the task of all people of good will. Let no one shrink from this duty!" he said. Pope Benedict donated two ambulances and emergency medical supplies to Caritas Lebanon.

Former nuncio to U.S. dies at age 76

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Colombia-born Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo, who served for seven years as the Vatican's nuncio to the United States, died Aug. 2 in Rome in a hospice run by the Sisters of Mercy of Alma, Mich. Announcing his death, the Vatican said Cardinal Angelo Sodano, Vatican secretary of state, would preside over his Aug. 5 funeral Mass in St. Peter's Basilica. Archbishop Montalvo, 76, was reported to have been suffering

NEWS BRIEFS

ORLANDO BISHOP CELEBRATES MASS FOR KNIGHTS' 124TH ANNUAL GATHERING



CNS PHOTO/VALETA ORLANDO, THE FLORIDA CATHOLIC

Bishop Thomas G. Wenski of Orlando, Fla., celebrates the opening Mass of the Knights of Columbus 124th Supreme Council Meeting in Orlando Aug. 1. More than 80 prelates joined the more than 1,000 Knights and family members at the convention.

from lung cancer. A career Vatican diplomat, the archbishop arrived in Washington in January 1999 after six years of service as the president of the Pontifical Ecclesiastical Academy, which trains priests to become Vatican diplomats. Conversant in Spanish, French, English, Italian and German, his background included service in countries torn by violence and in nations where church-state tensions were high. Before stepping down this past February as nuncio to the United States, Archbishop Montalvo had traveled throughout the country, not simply participating in the liturgies marking the installation of new bishops, but also getting to know U.S. Catholics and the situation of the church in the country. His tenure in the U.S. included a period of great challenges to the Catholic Church in the U.S., particularly as the clerical sex abuse scandal unfolded. In addition, the United States and the Vatican had serious differences over the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq.

Diocese says women excommunicated in 'ordination' ceremony

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Risking excommunication from the Catholic Church, eight U.S. women participated in a riverboat ceremony near Pittsburgh that they said constituted ordination to the priesthood. At the July 31 ceremony, another four women said that they were ordained to the diaconate. "They have excommunicated themselves by walking away from the church and by not following church teaching on this matter," Father Ronald Lengwin, Pittsburgh diocesan spokesman, told Catholic News Service Aug. 1 in a telephone interview. A July 31 statement by the Pittsburgh Diocese called the

ceremony "an invalid ritual" because of church teaching that only men can be ordained to the priesthood and diaconate. It also said those "attempting to confer holy orders" were removing themselves from the church. Father Lengwin told CNS that Catholics in his diocese have been asked to pray for the reconciliation of these women with the church and that the church was ready to welcome them back. One of the women who said she was ordained to the priesthood told CNS that the ceremony strengthened her ties to the church. "I never felt more Roman Catholic or more devoted to the church" than during the ceremony, Bridget Mary Meehan told CNS Aug. 1 in a telephone interview.

Cardinal, pioneer in ecumenism, dies at 96

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Dutch Cardinal Johannes Willebrands, a driving force behind improved Catholic relations with other Christians and with Jews, died in Denekamp, Netherlands, Aug. 2 at the age of 96. Pope Benedict XVI offered his prayers for the late cardinal, saying he humbly served Christ and worked tirelessly to fulfill Christ's will that all his followers would be one. "I give thanks to the Lord for all the work accomplished by the cardinal in ecumenical relations, of which he was an ardent promoter from the beginning of his priesthood and in an eminent way following the Second Vatican Council," the pope said in an Aug. 2 telegram to Cardinal Walter Kasper, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity. Attracted to the topic of ecumenism while still a seminarian in the 1920s, Cardinal Willebrands was named the first secretary of the Vatican's office for promoting Christian unity in 1960 and served

as president of the office from 1969-1989. Before, during and after the Second Vatican Council, he also was instrumental in fostering improved relations with Jewish leaders. When the Pontifical Commission for Religious Relations With the Jews was established in 1974, he was appointed president. Simultaneously, Cardinal Willebrands served as archbishop of Utrecht, Netherlands, in 1975-83. He was the oldest member of the College of Cardinals; his death leaves the college with 190 members, 120 of whom are under age 80 and therefore eligible to vote in a conclave.

FDA move toward approving over-the-counter sales of Plan B criticized

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A move by the Food and Drug Administration toward making the morning-after pill available over the counter could damage women's health and put more pressure on pharmacists conscientiously opposed to dispensing the drug, according to the U.S. bishops' pro-life spokeswoman. The FDA announced July 31 that it would work with Duramed, a subsidiary of Barr Pharmaceuticals that manufactures the drug marketed as Plan B, to develop a "framework for moving emergency contraception medication to over-the-counter status" for women 18 and older. Deirdre McQuade, director of planning and information for the bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, criticized the FDA's decision in a July 31 statement. Plan B uses large doses of birth-control pills to prevent conception up to 72 hours after unprotected sex. "But even its proponents admit

that it works both before and after conception," McQuade said, adding that many women are "unaware of (the pills') abortifacient action." McQuade also said FDA approval of over-the-counter sales would "place additional pressure on pharmacists who conscientiously object to dispensing drugs that kill humans at their earliest stages of development." Barr Pharmaceuticals originally had sought approval for over-the-counter sales of Plan B to anyone 16 or over.

Bishop: Positive changes evident between China's church communities

SEOUL, South Korea (CNS) — Hong Kong Auxiliary Bishop John Tong Hon said positive changes are already evident in relations between China's open and underground Catholic communities, but China should stop ordaining bishops illicitly. "If the Chinese government wants to hold dialogue with the Holy See, they should" not interfere with the church with illegitimate ordinations, Bishop Tong told 35 bishops, priests, religious and laypeople at a July 18-20 seminar just south of Seoul. His remarks were reported by UCA News, an Asian church news agency based in Thailand. The seminar, "The Search for Christian Unity: Where We Stand Today," was organized by the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity and the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences. The church in China ordained two bishops without papal approval earlier this year: Father Joseph Ma Yinglin of Kunming Diocese, April 30, and Father Joseph Liu Xinhong of Anhui Diocese, May 3.

Cardinal George has cancer surgery, second operation to stop bleeding

CHICAGO (CNS) — After five hours of surgery to remove his cancerous bladder July 27, Chicago Cardinal Francis E. George was brought back into the operating room late that night to repair a small blood vessel in his pelvis that was bleeding. A notice from his medical team July 28 said, "Although the episode of postoperative bleeding represents a complication ... it is not an unusual occurrence and is not expected to have a significant impact on Cardinal George's recovery." The notice was posted on www.luhs.org — the Web site of Loyola University Medical Center, where the surgery took place. The second surgery, which began shortly before midnight, lasted two hours, the notice said. It said Dr. Robert Flanigan, who conducted the first surgery, also did the second with the assistance of Dr. Fred Luchette, chief of Loyola's Surgical Intensive Care Unit. It said the decision to return to the operating room was prompted by signs of unstable blood pressure and a drop in blood count even though the cardinal had received blood transfusions. After the bleeding was stopped, "the cardinal stabilized," it said. "He tolerated the operation well and is resting comfortably this morning."

Monroeville school applies tuition policy to children of all faiths

MONROEVILLE — St. Joseph School, the parish school of St. Rose de Lima Church in Monroeville is registering new students.

New policies recently put in place make St. Joseph School a K-8 grade school. It has an open door policy and is accepting students of all faiths. Tuition is assessed the same for parishioners and non-parishioners. Tuition reduction incentives are available to help with the cost of tuition.

East Allen County Schools transportation is available through transfers at Heritage High School in rural eastern Allen County.

At St. Joseph School "together we can make a difference in the lives of children of all faiths."

For more information about St. Joseph School, call Theresa Renninger, marketing director, at (260) 623-2310.

Society promotes Invitation to Serve

SOUTH BEND — Throughout the month of September, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of St. Joseph County will be holding its first annual diocesan-wide Invitation to Serve. The goal of Invitation to Serve is to invite caring people to give hope to the hopeless by supplying love, food, clothing, rental assistance, utility assistance and other emergency needs, and to come together to pray with fellow society members, seeking to connect their experiences to their lives of Catholic faith.

The society hopes to gain both new members and new friends who will come together and grow spiritually through compassionate, direct encounters with the poor and suffering of St. Joseph County.

The society is active in most parishes in the diocese, nearly every state in the nation and in 131 countries. It is one of the largest Catholic lay organizations in the world. It was founded by Blessed Frederick Ozanam, a 19th-century Frenchman whose dream was to "embrace the world in a network of charity." It was named after St. Vincent de Paul because St. Vincent was a legendary hero of poor to the French, much like Mother Teresa in our own time.

The society is not a professional social service agency. It is a person-to-person Christian ministry that sees the face of Christ in the faces of those who are poor and suffering.

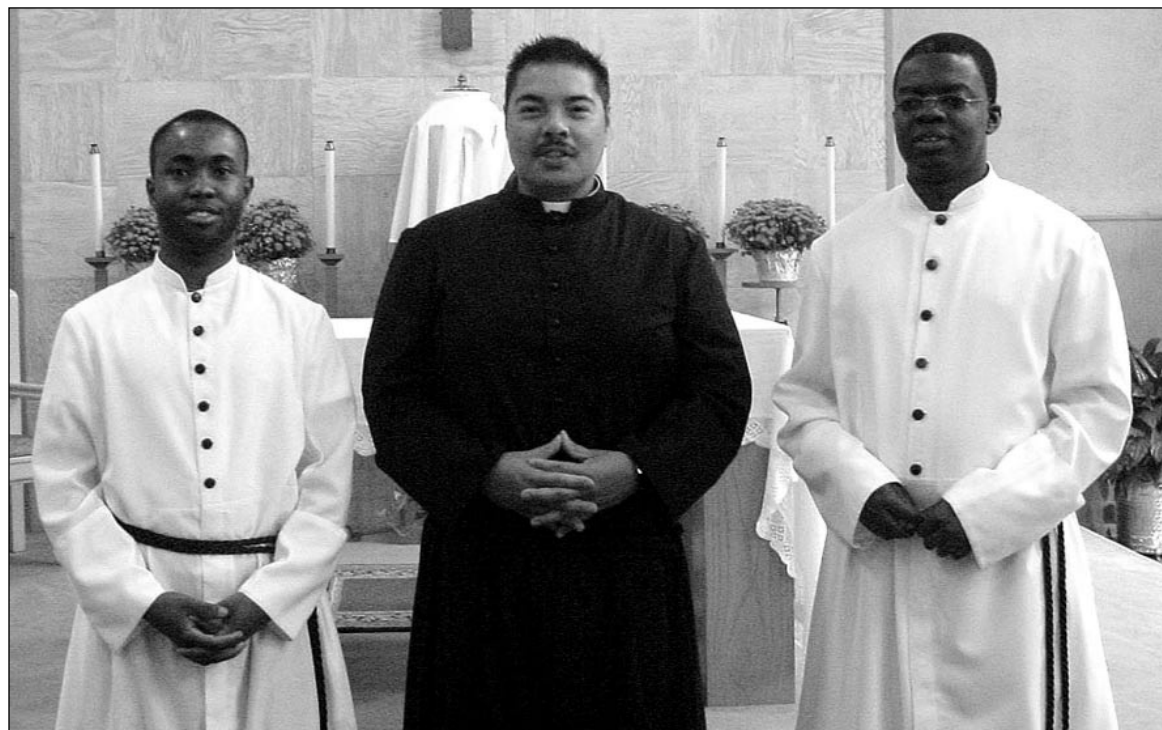
For more information contact Patrick McGowan at (574) 251-4903.

Father Ted Hesburgh documentary to air on PBS

ELKHART — "God, Country, Notre Dame: The Story of Father Ted Hesburgh, CSC," a one-hour

AROUND THE DIOCESE

HOLY CROSS BROTHERS RENEW VOWS



BROTHER CHARLES MCBRIDE, CSC

Three Brothers of Holy Cross renewed their religious vows at the chapel of Columba Hall, Notre Dame, on Saturday, July 29. Brothers renewing their vows, from left, are the following: Brother John Badu Affum, CSC, student, Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, Illinois; Brother Christopher Torrijas, CSC, rector at Holy Cross College, Notre Dame; and Brother Patrick Osei-Bonsu, CSC, teacher in one of the brother's schools in Cape Coast, West Africa. Next year Holy Cross will celebrate its 50th year serving Ghana, West Africa.

documentary about the life of one of this country's most respected educators and public servants who played an influential role in national and international affairs over the past 50 years, will air on public television station WNIT, Elkhart, serving South Bend, at 8 p.m., Aug. 23.

Shot in true high definition with Dolby 5.1 Surround Sound, the documentary features reflections by Father Hesburgh and all of the living former U.S. Presidents: Jimmy Carter, George H.W. Bush, Gerald Ford and Bill Clinton, as well as Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, former Notre Dame football coach Ara Parseghian, Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, retired-archbishop of Washington, D.C., and others.

The narrators are TV personality and Notre Dame alumnus Regis Philbin and actors Sean Astin (Sam in "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy and star of "Rudy" about a Notre Dame football walk-on) and Clarence Gilyard (co-star of "Walker Texas Ranger" and "Matlock").

Family Theater Productions, a Catholic production company in Hollywood, produced this in-depth biography of the man who led the University of Notre Dame for 35 years and was a confidant of popes, presidents and academic leaders around the world, and yet considered himself simply a priest.

Servant of God Father Patrick Peyton, a Holy Cross priest, Catholic media pioneer and now

sainthood candidate, founded Family Theater Productions in 1947. It is a member of Holy Cross Family Ministries, Easton, Mass.

The program aired on Fort Wayne's WFWA on Aug. 9.

Mattingly begins novitiate at Saint Meinrad

ST. MEINRAD

— In a brief ceremony at the monastery entrance on Aug. 5, Todd Mattingly was clothed in the Benedictine habit at St. Meinrad Archabbey, St. Meinrad. He now begins a year of monastic formation, including study of the Rule of St. Benedict and monastic history.

Novice Todd, 31, was born in Evansville, where he attended Memorial High School and was a member of St. Benedict Parish. He earned a bachelor's degree in marketing management from Indiana University in 1997. After college, he spent nearly 10 years in the home improvement industry, most recently at Do It Best Corp. in Fort Wayne where he was a retail development manager for seven years.

As a novice, he takes a year off from formal studies or trades. The

novitiate is a time of prayer and learning intended to help a novice discern his vocation as a monk. At the end of this year, a novice may be permitted to profess temporary vows of obedience, fidelity to the monastic way of life and stability in the community of St. Meinrad.

Dulcet attends international conference

SOUTH BEND — Elaine Dulcet, regent of the Notre Dame Circle of Daughters of Isabella, officially represented the organization at the International Convention of the Daughters of Isabella last weekend in Toronto, Canada.

Living and Sharing the Good News was the general theme of the convention. The biennial convention will be presided over by the international regent, Joan Breton of Maine.

Dulcet said discussions included an exchange of ideas, reflection, a workshop on motivation conducted by Mariette Guilotte of the St. Andre Circle from Ontario. — EJD

Holy Cross College raises \$1 million and meets the Lilly Endowment challenge

NOTRE DAME — The Holy Cross College family has pulled together and made their donation dollars double. As they've been giving, Lilly Endowment has been matching, and now the students of

Holy Cross College will reap the \$2 million reward.

"We are truly blessed to have loyal and dedicated benefactors. Through their generosity we were able to meet and exceed the challenge set forth by Lilly Endowment, and do it early!" says Patricia Falvey, vice president for advancement at Holy Cross College.

The \$1 million given by the Holy Cross College family goes to whatever the individual donor has designated, but the \$1 million match from the endowment has been designated to go toward building a student recreation center. The college plans to build a \$5.5 million facility, and after the endowment match, is only about \$1.5 million from reaching the funding goal.

Building the facility is a top priority for Holy Cross College administrators because the college kicks off an athletic program this fall and has joined the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. The first teams, men's and women's cross country, begin competition this fall. A men's and women's soccer program is scheduled to launch in fall 2007.

Sisters of Providence to take registry of names to canonization of Blessed Mother Theodore Guerin

SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS — The Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods are extending an invitation to everyone to join with them in spirit for the canonization of the congregation's foundress, Blessed Mother Theodore Guerin.

The sisters who will attend the ceremony Oct. 15 at the Vatican will carry with them a registry of names for anyone who wants to be included. This book will become a historic document that will be returned to Saint Mary-of-the-Woods for archival preservation.

"We have many, many friends, alumnae, companions and donors who may not have the time or the ability to make the trip to Rome for Mother Theodore's canonization. We thought this might be a good way that they could join with us in spirit. The registry is open for anyone who wants to participate. We welcome people of all faiths to join us," said Sister Ann Margaret O'Hara, general superior.

"The public's increasing interest in Mother Theodore has been very inspiring to us and we want to be able to include as many people as possible by offering them a variety of ways to participate in the celebration," she added.

Plans also are being developed for a local celebration in the Terre Haute area.

Anyone wishing to be included in the registry of names should visit the congregation's Web site at www.sistersofprovidence.org and complete a form available there. Those without access to a computer should call the Office of Congregational Advancement at (812) 535-3131, ext. 2800.

God and athletics drafted into the life of NFL football punter

BY MICHELLE CASTELMAN

FORT WAYNE — "It's going to take a miracle." That's what Eric Dorman was told two years ago when he began to inquire about how to get new uniforms for his son's football team. Logan Dorman was a St. Therese fifth grader then and just starting to play Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) football.

Eric had volunteered to help coach the "JAT" team — made up of boys from four different parishes — St. Joseph, St. Elizabeth, St. Aloysius and St. Therese. So, that's four different parish priests, three different sets of parent school boards and athletic directors trying to pay for a huge expense that's not exactly in the budget.

An answer to prayers

One day early in the season, family friend, Jason Baker stopped by the Dormans for his usual haircut by Ali Dorman. He asked Logan how his season was going and noticed the small hole in the knee of his uniform pants. Baker said he'd like to help take care of that and from there things began to fall together.

Jason Baker just happens to be an NFL punter for the Carolina Panthers. And the NFL just happens to sponsor a very generous youth equipment match program. Baker's agent, Frank Murtha, and other friends like Mark Andorfer and Eric Kennerk, a St. Aloysius graduate and sales rep for Riddell (football) equipment, got involved, and this season, the JAT team will be sporting brand new uniforms and a bunch of new helmets, shoulder pads, etc.

On July 21, players got a chance to show off their new uniforms and thank Jason Baker for making it all possible.

Baker was born and raised on the south side of Fort Wayne and has been a lifelong member at St. Therese Parish. He was home doing his personal workout at Homestead High School and took a break to sign autographs and hang out with the team.

When asked about the event, sixth-grade quarterback Drew Morken reported, "It was great. He (Baker) didn't even seem like an NFL player. I mean he was ripped and everything, but he didn't have an attitude."

Dorman, who has known Baker since he was a young boy, has always felt the same way about Baker, "Jason would much rather be in the shadows than the limelight. He is just a great guy — a very Christian young man, obviously very giving and humble. He is definitely interested in helping people. When he's home, you'll see him every Sunday at St. Therese, just sitting somewhere in the middle."

Baker played four years of baseball and led Wayne High School to a 1995 football state championship. A punter, he received a football scholarship to the University of Iowa where he was All-Big 10 and set several



PROVIDED BY DAN MORKEN

NFL football punter for the Carolina Panthers, Jason Baker, signs a football after meeting with youth in Fort Wayne. Baker, a lifelong parishioner from St. Therese Church in Fort Wayne, recently sponsored a youth equipment match program for the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) JAT (St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Aloysius and St. Therese) combined parish football team.

school records. He received a business administration degree and also a certificate of entrepreneurship. Like most punters, he went into the NFL as an undrafted free agent.

Baker has played for the San Francisco 49ers, the Chiefs, Colts and Broncos before being traded to the Carolina Panthers where he hopes to stay for a long time. He felt last year was his personal best in the league setting a franchise record for net punting (length of punt minus length of return) and making it just one game away from the Super Bowl. Baker was also voted as first alternate to represent the NFC in the Pro Bowl (only one punter gets to go).

Contributions off the field

Aside from his many successes on the field, Baker is just as concerned with his contributions off the field. Whether the Lord blesses him with 10 more years in the NFL or just one more year, his main goal is to bring whatever positive attention he can to Fort Wayne.

Baker said the NFL has a ton of resources, which he feels obligated to tap into. Like the equipment match program, he hopes to research other programs that will benefit people in Fort Wayne.

Currently, Wayne High School

is a pilot for the NFL's "Play it Smart" program, which helps student-athletes better prepare for college by placing an additional full-time counselor in the high school. Baker has also recently set up the "Catie B Foundation" in honor of his sister, Catherine who was diagnosed with a brain tumor in 1999. He plans to raise money through the foundation for various causes including brain tumor research.

Over the years, Baker has supported the Boys and Girls Clubs of Fort Wayne and will continue to do so through the foundation. He wants people to fall in love with the cause and not the fact that an NFL player is involved. Baker feels this is the key to the longevity and success of any foundation.

God's will be done

Baker has always felt the Lord directing his life. He believes God is in control and that he has a plan for him. He has always lived by, "Your will be done." He would tell God, "I don't dig it, but I'll go with it." It hasn't always been easy.

Being in the NFL brings blessings and opportunities as well as challenges. During his first five years, he was released, cut and traded. He's in an occupation

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MASS IN THE PARK FOLLOWS WITH PICNIC



MICHELLE DONAGHEY

Parishioners from St. Dominic Parish in Bremen gathered together for their annual parish Mass and picnic at Sunnyside Park. The Mass was bilingual and was held inside the pole barn building at the park where food was also served. Outdoor games were also a popular part of the picnic and include water balloon tosses for children and adults, a sack race, egg toss and a circle game similar to duck-duck-goose.

Knights install new officers

SOUTH BEND — Dedication to God and country as American patriots was the stirring message of Indiana Master Robert Lynch of Indianapolis, who formally installed new officers of the Father Nieuwland Assembly, Fourth Degree of the Knights of Columbus, at installation ceremonies held in the Archbishop John Carroll Council.

William Niezgodski of South Bend was installed as the 42nd faithful navigator since 1943, following a Mass celebrated by Father Charles Herman, associate at Holy Family Parish and recently named faithful friar of the assembly.

“All of you as members of the patriotic degree of the Knights have a special duty to focus on making our country as the best in the world and especially with the freedoms we have, including freedom of religion,” said Lynch.

Other newly-elected officers installed were John J. Lehner, Faithful Pilot; Raymond Sommers, Faithful Controller; Larry Landy, Faithful Purser; William Szajko and Joseph Ortega, Faithful Sentinels; Stephen Elek Jr., Faithful Admiral, and Thomas Lesniak, Faithful Trustee.

The assembly was first organized in 1904 as the South Bend Assembly and then in 1943 adopted the name of Father Julius Nieuwland, professor of organic chemistry at the University of Notre Dame and a developer of synthetic rubber, as its patron.

The assembly will also have a special exhibit of patriotic memorabilia at the St. Joseph County Fair during the first week of August — EJD



ELMER J. DANCH

William E. Niezgodski of South Bend, left, receives congratulations from Indiana Master Robert Lynch of Indianapolis after formally being installed as the 42nd Faithful Navigator of the Father Julius A. Nieuwland Assembly, Fourth Degree, Knights of Columbus. Also installed were, from left, Stephen Elek, Jr. of South Bend as Faithful Admiral and Father Charles A. Herman of Holy Family Parish in South Bend as Faithful Friar.

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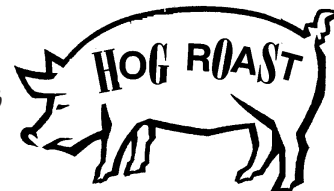
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The spiritual journey of emptiness

BY GINNY KOHRMAN

Opening prayer

Dear loving Father, "... what-ever I can desire or imagine for my comfort, I do not expect here but hereafter. If I alone should have all the comforts of this world and could enjoy all its pleasures according to my own desire and without sin, it is certain that they could not last long. Therefore, my soul can never be fully comforted, nor be perfectly refreshed except in God, the comforter of the poor in spirit and the refuge of the humble." Lord, help me eagerly await and receive all that YOU generously and fully desire to give me. Amen. — adapted from "The Imitation of Christ," Thomas Kempis.

Scripture reading: Mt 11: 28-30

Commentary

There seems to be within most of us times of emptiness and frustration. It may hit us after "coming down from the mountain" of a great accomplishment, or it may be the disappointment of dreamed expectations. We feel locked up in ourselves, confined to the ordinary routine of our lives and surroundings. The daily grind seems to have little meaning, and our energies seem to be used up. There is a sense of being stifled or blocked in the mundane of the present. We may dislike how we feel or who we are ... a bit lonely and somewhat difficult to live with. Tolerating others with whom we live can be a challenge, and our emotional fuses can become quite short. We want to be alone, yet we long for the compassion and comfort of others ... on our own terms. Even in the warmth of the summer months or

the crispness of the fall air, we may find ourselves in this state. For a moment, we may think that God has abandoned us because we can't feel God's loving presence. This misconception of God's love may fill us with a sense of powerlessness — or even despair.

A good spiritual director once said that it is only when we allow ourselves to be emptied that God is able to fill the holes within our hearts and souls. Times of emptiness, although quite uncomfortable, can accompany a very normal, healthy spiritual journey. It may be a sign of growing sensitivity and good emotional health if we can remember that, in the silence of our emptiness, God IS present.

Entering the darkness

Father Jean-Pierre De Caussade, a French spiritual writer of the 17th century, in "Abandonment to Divine Providence" wrote, "... there is a kind of holiness in which all the messages from God are bright and clear, but there is also that state of utterly quiescent faith in which all that God tells us is wrapped in the impenetrable darkness which veils his throne, and all we feel is confused and shadowy." (p. 99)

The sacred Scriptures, especially the psalms, reveal our human spiritual journey through these two pathways. Psalm 23 refers to the path of "green pastures" and "safe waters" in one verse and then later on alludes to walking in the "dark valley." In Psalm 13, David prays, "How long, Lord? Will you utterly forget me?" and at the end of the psalm says, "I trust in your faithfulness."

As with all relationships, our journey with God brings with it a

combination of emotions and feelings ... some pleasant, others more uncomfortable. Our faithfulness, however, is not measured by how it feels, but by our decision to follow God's designs and to trust in God's faithfulness even when the spiritual going gets tough. In Ps 69: 1-3, David desperately prays, "Save me, God, for the waters have reached my neck. I have sunk into the mire of the deep, where there is not foothold." And yet David knows that God is with him as later he says, "Answer me, Lord in your generous love; in your great mercy turn to me." (Ps 69:17) If we remain focused on God in these empty moments, we can find comfort in the persistence of God's continual presence. Our hearts are made for God, but God's designs are not always clear. However, he can use the struggle of emptiness to help us grow in holiness. God humbles us in our emptiness in order to transform us.

Father Caussade writes: "For those who have surrendered themselves completely to God, all they are and do has power. Their lives are like sermons. They are apostles. God gives a special force to all they say and do, even to their silence, their tranquility and their detachment, which, quite unknown to them, profoundly influences other people." (p. 60.)

"Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." — Mt. 5:3.

Feelings of emptiness can really be a disguise for a deepening intimacy with God. Thomas Merton identified several reasons for spiritual emptiness but wrote that spiritual transformation involves emptying ourselves of everything, so that, in this state of poverty ... and in our hidden interior meeting with God, our true self can be freed ... to be for God,

for others, and for all that God wills for us.

It is very human of us to try to avoid transformation because it involves letting go of our egos and wills in order to allow God to work within us. Letting go of worldly and spiritual attachments often results in a great deal of personal suffering and darkness.

Jesus preached, in the Sermon on the Mount, that those who are "poor in spirit" would inherit the kingdom of heaven. Acceptance of our own moments of spiritual emptiness can be a blessing because God allows us to see the truth of who we are in light of the fullness of truth, Jesus Christ. As we come to acknowledge and understand our spiritual poverty, we open ourselves up to receive the great gifts that God is eager to share with us.

Spiritual wealth and fullness can only come from the Creator who wants to give us himself and all the joys of eternal life, but we must first empty ourselves so that God can then fill us with every heavenly grace and blessing.

Reflection and connection

How do you describe spiritual emptiness? What might you do to both appreciate and overcome spiritual emptiness? Do you recall any great saints who endured these times of suffering?

Evangelization and action

For interior renewal

Take some time alone to pray. Look for a new experience of God, either through a new friend, a new place or a good book.

Reaching out to others

Connect with good friends and family or a special mentor or teacher who might bring the best from you ... or you from him or her. Look for, or affirm in others, signs of unexpected hope and encouragement.

Transforming society

Become a source of light to others who may not feel the presence of God in the ordinariness of life. Try to do all things with enthusiasm and joy, regardless of how you feel and be a conduit of God's love to all you meet.

Closing prayer

I pray to you, Lord, for the time of your favor. God, in your great kindness answer me with your constant help. Rescue me from the mire; do not let me sink. Do not let the floodwaters overwhelm me, nor the deep swallow me, nor the mouth of the pit close over me. Answer me, Lord, in your generous love; in your great mercy turn to me. Amen.

Ps 69:14-18

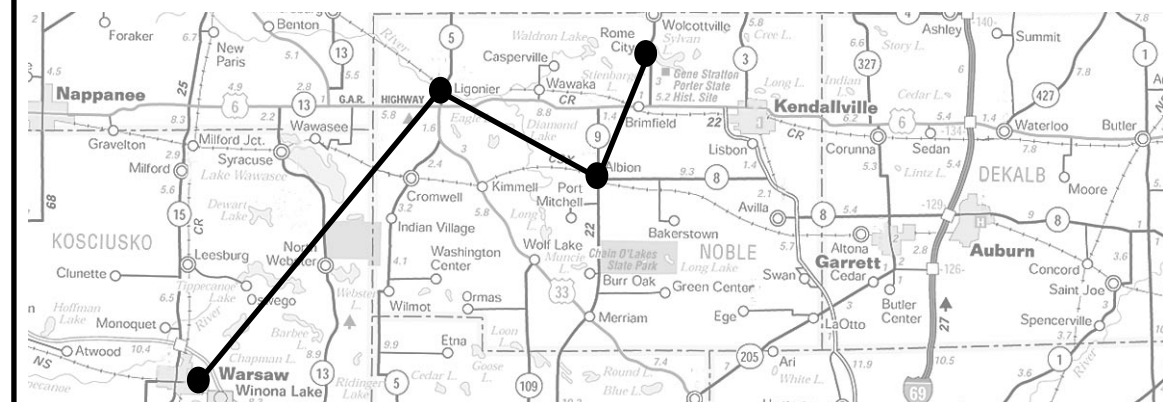
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Family Faith

TAKE 5: A GUIDE TO SPORTS SAFETY FOR PARENTS AND TEENS Back-to-school time is also the start of cheerleading tryouts, football practices and other activities for the millions of children and teens who participate in organized sports. Not taking proper precautions while participating, however, could result in dehydration, injury, skin damage and burnout. For information about health and safety issues, visit www.aap.org.

Play Like a Champion Today Sports as Ministry Initiative ready to impact youth sports

BY ANN CAREY

NOTRE DAME — A new initiative developed at the University of Notre Dame is ready to impact the atmosphere of Catholic grade school sports across the country.

The Play Like A Champion Today™ Sports as Ministry Initiative (PLC) is a program to train coaches, parents and parish communities to run youth sports programs like a ministry that promotes Christian values. PLC emphasizes the concept that youth sports should be an enjoyable activity that helps children grow morally and spiritually, as well as physically.

Notre Dame psychology professor Clark Power, along with Greg "Dobie" Moser, director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry and CYO (Catholic Youth Organization) for the Diocese of Cleveland, created and co-direct the initiative. Power told *Today's Catholic* that most psychologists are concerned that today's children have less unstructured playtime than did previous generations. The playtime children do have is often overseen by adults who tend to place so much pressure on the children that their sports experience becomes more like work than play.

That adult pressure also leads to un-Christian behavior at sporting events like coaches yelling at players, spectators belittling officials, parents shouting at their children, and players taunting opponents or teasing less accomplished children.

Power and Moser, who are athletes, fathers and volunteer coaches themselves, want to put the fun back into youth sports, while at the same time ensure that children's sports experience enhances their moral and spiritual development. And so, after consulting with Notre Dame theologians and coaches and surveying over 1,000 children in Notre Dame sports camps, they created the Play Like A Champion Today™ educational series.

Notre Dame fans will recognize

the phrase "Play Like A Champion Today," for that phrase hangs over the doorway exiting the Notre Dame football team locker room, and players traditionally touch the sign as they leave the locker room to enter the stadium. Power told *Today's Catholic* that the phrase, created by Notre Dame employee Donald Padgett, was a perfect fit, because "Even young kids recognize that a champion has qualities of character."

Indeed, the program teaches that a champion is not necessarily someone with extraordinary athletic ability. Rather, a champion is a person who displays the cardinal virtues of prudence, justice, fortitude and temperance. Practicing those virtues thus leads players to respect themselves, their teammates and their opponents; to give all of their effort; to strive to reach their potential; to sacrifice for the team; to be passionate about the sport; to desire to win the right way; and to care for others.

Instilling these virtues in children is the job of parents, coaches and other adults in the parish community, and the PLC educational series helps the adults accomplish that goal. This philosophy means that all members of the team get playing time, that children who are struggling get support, that players have a chance to develop skills and a sense of confidence, and that the children enjoy playing the sport.

As Moser told *Today's Catholic*, when the emphasis is on doing the sports activity on behalf of the parish community, "The whole win-lose thing goes into the background."

This summer, the first leadership conference for Play Like A Champion Today™ took place at Notre Dame and was attended by 30 people who are leaders of youth sports in dioceses all over the country. The training they received enables them to direct training workshops for coaches, which they can adapt to the needs in their home dioceses and parishes. This

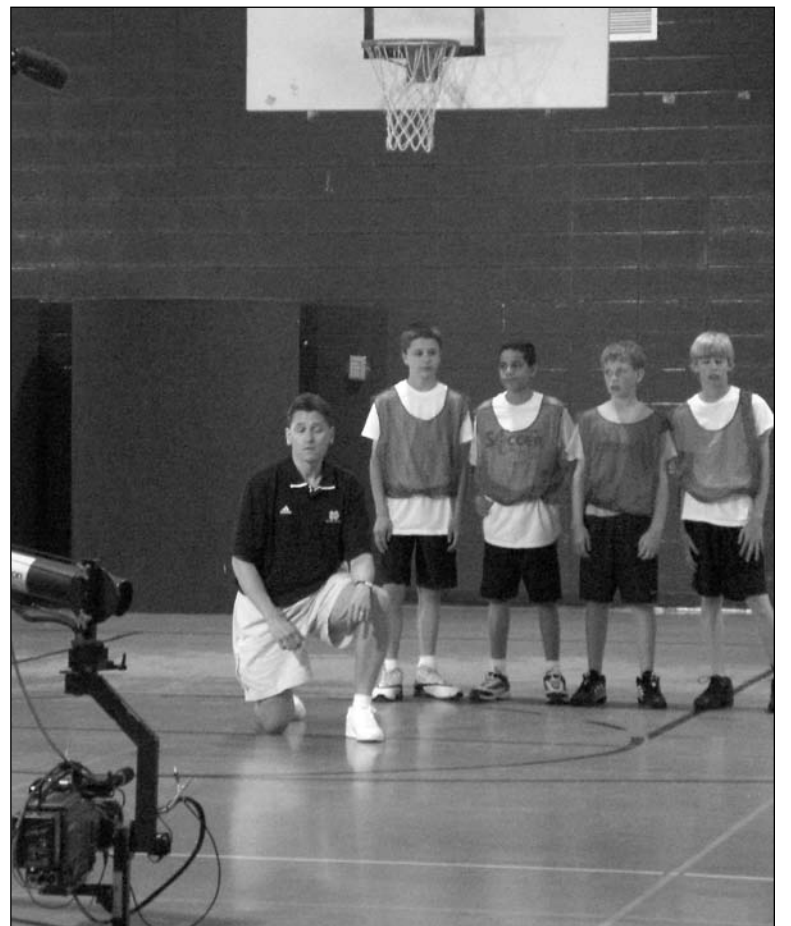
fall, the program will go into effect in the Dioceses of Los Angeles; Dallas; Rochester, N.Y.; Erie, Pa.; and Columbus, Ohio. A parent and athletic board curriculum is also being prepared by the PLC team.

St. Joseph Parish in South Bend piloted the PLC program last year, and will further implement the program this year, according to Mike Favorite, president of the St. Joseph Athletic Association. Coaches were invited to training sessions during the past school year, Favorite said, but coach training will become required. St. Joseph also intends to add parent training in the spring.

Favorite said that the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) already is doing many of the things recommended, but he would like to see the program in place for the entire league.

"When Clark [Power] talked to our athletic board, the thing that really wakes you up is when he says we need to look at our sports program as a form of youth ministry," Favorite said. "When you put it in that context, all of a sudden you get it. You get why we have to do this the right way and get everybody on board doing this the right way."

For more information, call the Play Like A Champion Today™ headquarters at (574) 631-9981 or visit the Web site at www.PlayLikeAChampion.org.



PROVIDED BY DAVID DERANEK

Students at St. Jude School in South Bend helped in the production of Play Like A Champion Today™ coaching video, which was produced in the late spring by Notre Dame's Center for Ethical Education. St. Joseph Parish in South Bend was one of the pilot parishes to implement the Play Like A Champion Today™ Sports as Ministry Initiative that trains coaches, parents and parish communities to run youth sports programs like a ministry that promotes Christian values.

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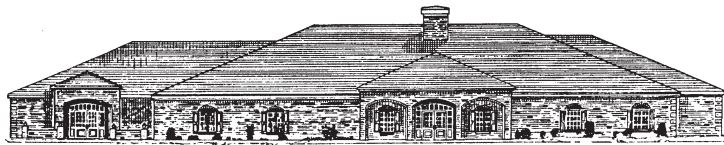
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Prayer fortifies Catholic identity to ICCL games

BY ANN CAREY

SOUTH BEND — The many diverse grade school sporting events of the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) in South Bend, Mishawaka, Elkhart and Plymouth will have something new in common this upcoming school year: A prayer written by ICCL moderator Father Michael Heintz that will be recited aloud before every game by teams and coaches. Spectators at the events also will be encouraged to participate.

ICCL president Tony Violi told *Today's Catholic* that most ICCL teams already prayed on their own, but he liked the idea of everyone at an event praying together as a group before the game, as they do at Marian High School football games. And he liked the idea of a common prayer for the entire league.

So, Violi asked Father Heintz, rector of St. Matthew Cathedral, to compose a suitable prayer. Then, as president of the ICCL, Violi directed that the prayer be used before every ICCL event.

Father Heintz told *Today's Catholic* that he was happy to supply the prayer, for “The most important part of the ICCL is the Catholic part, and we can use sports to cultivate people’s faith.” Father Heintz included St. Sebastian in the prayer, as he is the

patron saint of athletes.

Violi said that the home team will be designated to read the prayer aloud before a game begins, “And maybe we’ll all remember why we’re there.”

“We all want to compete,” Violi explained. “I want to win, but sometimes we, as coaches and maybe parents and fans, don’t give a good example to the kids, and I don’t like that to happen. I think if we have a prayer, we’re all going to remember that we’re Catholics and should act like it in front of our children.”

Mike Favorite, president of the athletic association at St. Joseph Parish in South Bend, told *Today's Catholic* that he’s also hopeful the prayer will impact behavior positively, and he believes the prayer will remind people of “who we are serving, and what place this has in building up our kids in the whole framework of Catholic education.”

Prayer

God our Father, help us to put forth our best effort, to represent our school with class, to respect our opponents, and to grow as disciples of your Son, Jesus. Keep us safe from injury and harm through the intercession of Our Lady, the mother of your Son and our mother, too. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen. St. Sebastian, pray for us.

BAKER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

with just 32 positions worldwide (only one punter per team). There is someone on staff who is paid to find his replacement.

People think you don’t have any issues because of your “assumed” income. As a 23-year old professional athlete, Baker was put into a situation where he had to make financial decisions that would be difficult for a mature, experienced investor. Baker has always prayed to make good decisions and been concerned with being a good steward of all that God has given him.

At the same time, the Lord has placed special people along Baker’s path — other professional athletes, like Colts punter Hunter Smith and Denver’s field goal kicker, Jason Elam, who has challenged his faith, even challenged him to tithe. He always knew the Bible asked us to give back 10 percent. But it was hard to imagine writing that check right off the top. However, Baker has had nothing but blessings since he made the decision to tithe.

Baker now knows it was no accident he landed in Carolina. With the help of Panthers teammate John Casey, Baker has learned to take leaps of faith and to lose the grip of materialism and trust in God. Casey always tells Baker, “You’ll never be more generous than the Lord. He never runs out when returning to you.”

Another strong Christian influence in Baker’s life has been his high school coach from Wayne,

Dave Mohr, who is now coaching at Woodlan High School. “This guy has the neatest story of how God has blessed his life with children. He also has been more valuable to me as a coach than anyone else. He still calls me on the phone after my games and tells me something I can do to improve. He knows me inside and out as a punter and a person.”

When mentioning other special people in his life, Baker could not leave out his parents, Bishop Luers graduates, Jeff and Mary Baker. The Bakers were a hard-working, blue collar family. Sacrifices were made so that Jason could enjoy the sports he loved to play. “Growing up, my parents logged the hours and went to all my games. They never forced me to do anything, (except get a job when I wanted a car) they just walked with me whatever path I was going down. They have been nothing but supportive.”

God has blessed Jason Baker with a particular skill set: the ability to kick a football. “Quite trivial” in the real world, but Baker believes God has bigger plans for him than just using this ability to play in the NFL. With God at the helm, Baker plans to continue making small miracles happen whenever he can.

An NFL sponsored Punt-Pass-Kick

Competition will be held at Homestead High School on Sunday, Sept. 17, at 10 a.m. All proceeds will benefit the Boys and Girls Clubs of Fort Wayne. All CYO students age 8-15 are encouraged to attend. For more information contact Sofia Rodriguez at sofia@visionsmkt.com or (260) 466-3600.

Fall SPORTS



Full line of fall sports on tap at Bishop Dwenger High School

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

FORT WAYNE — With autumn on the horizon, preparation for fall sports is well underway at Bishop Dwenger High School.

Athletic director Andy Johns will oversee a full complement of activities including football, girls' cross country, volleyball, soccer and golf, and boys' cross country, soccer and tennis.

Football

As usual, the fall sports season is heralded by the return of Dwenger football. Last year's team went 8-1 in the conference, losing in the sectional championship game for an overall record of 10-2, says coach Chris Svarczkopf, so the prospects for this year could be favorable.

Svarczkopf will see some returning offensive standouts, including "two good quarterbacks," senior Kevin Merz and junior John Goodman. With two additional backups at QB the coach says, "I feel really good about that position." First team all-conference senior Sean Bushey, senior wide receiver Nick Dykhuizen, senior offensive tackle Andrew Mansaray and offensive guard Brad Hilts will also head up the roster.

However, a majority of experienced players will return to the defensive side of the ball. Along with Bushey, Mansaray and Hilts who play both ways, are senior linebackers Mike Brown and Stefan Coonan and junior linebacker Nick Mentzer; junior defensive ends Alex Cuttitta and Aaron Hendricks; senior defensive backs Kevin Fogler, John Michael Boger and Scott Zeigler and junior defensive back Nick Yates. Merz, Bushey, Brown and Mansaray will lead the team as co-captains.

The regular season kicks off Friday, Aug. 18 at Harding High School, preceded by a "controlled scrimmage" at 6 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 11 at University of Saint Francis' Bishop D'Arcy Stadium. In the popular pre-season event all players will see action and have the opportunity to showcase their talents. Svarczkopf likes the format. "As a player you don't get any better by sitting on the bench," he points out.

Coach Svarczkopf modestly declines to make any predictions. "The conference is so tough," he says. "We just want to be competitive."

Girls' soccer

By contrast, girls' soccer coach Jason Wisniewski has pretty lofty expectations for

Saint Joseph's teams expect 'some good things this year'

BY JOE KOZINSKI

SOUTH BEND — As the mid-summer sun's rays drew a heavy bead on the crowns of the student-athletes of Saint Joseph's High School here, their perseverance, dedication and determination bravely conquered the elements as they kicked off the first of the season's practices.

Staying cool and hydrated was almost as important as conditioning, timing and running plays for these ready participants, as water stations and scales were used to combat the 90-degree weather.

"We are really expecting some good things this year," commented Eric Gohlke, athletic director. "We have some young teams with talent and have put together an exciting fall schedule."

Football

While there may be some talented young athletes the football team boasts some pretty impressive returnees.

"Right now I believe we have some very good individual players, but we are still trying to build a team identity," claimed head Coach Kevin Downey. "We return a 1,000-yard rusher in Jordan Taylor, a 1,000-yard passer in Louie Ruszkowski and our leading tackler at middle linebacker in Tucker Floria.

"Defensively we return Ray Winkler and Mike Shaffer in our backfield and up front the trio of Marcus Arsenault, Chris Kosinski and Mitch Speer solidify our line," said Downey. "Our special teams are wide open for the kids to compete for kicking positions that were formally occupied by two athletes playing college football.

"Experience is what we have on the offensive line. We have five linemen with varsity time in — Eric Roof, Montana Knapp, Colin Kirwan, Drew Neeser and Marcus Arsenault," explained Downey. "You add tight end Joey McClintock and Ray Winkler in the backfield and we have nice options.

"The team really needs to get off to a good start offensively to help take the pressure off our younger guys on defense," said Downey. "The intangibles that I feel I can count on from this group are character and work ethic."

Cross country

As the football team suited up in heavy equipment the cross country runners seemed at home in the warm climate donned in their

Marian Knights await another fall campaign

BY JOE KOZINSKI

MISHAWAKA — The grass is freshly cut, the courts swept and newly refinished and the rumbling of the 110 football players can only mean one thing at the corner of Logan and Dragoon Trail, the Marian Knights are ready for another fall campaign.

The training regiments for the Knights have taken on new directions this season with the football team training Marine Corps Boot Camp style at Camp Atterbury and the cross country team conquering the dunes in Northwest Indiana.

"Our coaches and student-athletes are all working hard to improve on last year's records," explained Reggie Glon, athletic director and head football coach. "We all have common goals of winning in the Northern Indiana Conference and the Bishop's All-Sports Trophy."

Football

"The football team returns 15 starters from last year's 8-1 regular season and number five ranking," commented Glon. "I feel we have a solid foundation to build on and our senior class has done a good job in the off season program.

"Our offense will return six starters including all-state lineman Jacob Jaworski and running back Blake Powell," said Glon. "On defense we return seven starters led by All-State back Cassidy Laux, honorable mention all-conference linebacker Brannon Parker and DB Blake Powell.

"Participation is up, we have great team chemistry and we have the kids competitive across the board," Glon added. "The mix of experience, youth and talent should make for a good season."

Cross country

While heavy pads and helmets garnish the football team, the cross country team simply brandishes shorts, tee-shirts and dripping sweat for first year head coach Natalie Sandoval.

"I have been with the kids throughout the summer workouts, and I couldn't be more excited or happy with them," said Sandoval. "We have big numbers coming out and in our case it means good depth.

"Our boys return our leaders in Dane Rigney, Matt Lafortune and Sean Kronewitter," said Sandoval. "Alejandro Villanueva has greatly improved and we have others that are stepping up, we should be very competitive."

Bishop Luers gears up for students, fall sports

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

FORT WAYNE — The last few weeks of summer bring local high schools closer to opening their doors as student athletes officially begin gearing up for fall sports. On tap at Bishop Luers High School, under the direction of longtime athletic director Matt Lindsay, are football, which he coaches, as well as boys' cross country, soccer and tennis and girls' cross country, soccer, volleyball and golf.

Football

The Luers football season will kick off with the usual fanfare on Aug. 18 against Wayne High School, says Coach Lindsay. Last year's record was 8-5 with many underclassmen playing varsity so he has high expectations for this season.

Returning defensemen include senior linebackers Mike Morrison and Dan Kiermaier, junior defensive back Adrien Spencer and sophomore linebacker Tyquan Hammock.

Returning on offense will be experienced starters like senior running back Tony Basquez, senior tackles Rob Quackenbush and Aaron Myers, and junior linebacker Isaac Baker, as well as junior receiver Steve Williamson.

Early tryouts saw a full complement of 60 junior varsity and varsity players and 25 freshman hopefuls, surely enough to make a coach optimistic. But Lindsay says it's too early to make predictions about the upcoming season. With so many young players "we'll be learning and adjusting on the fly," he says.

Boys' tennis

Tennis coach Brady McArdle expects to welcome about 15 boys to fill out his reserve and varsity rosters this season and says he has some good young players coming back as well. Leading the attack on the courts will be returning seniors Brian Barker, Casey Beaver and J. T. Sabine.

It's a short season, with 15 matches beginning with an Aug. 17 opener against South Adams High School and ending just before sectional play gets underway on Sept. 28.

Now in his second year as head coach, McArdle's expectation for the upcoming season is straightforward. After finishing sixth in the Summit Athletic Conference (SAC) last year, this year's goal is "to improve and to have them improve as players," he says. Luers has such exceptional student athletes that it's a pleasure to work with them, he adds.

DWENGER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

this year's team. After all, they're reigning state champs so they're highly favored at the start of this season. "We had a very young team last year," says the coach, and the experience of those returning players will be invaluable.

Soccer camp in June hosted 45 prospective players, a larger than normal turnout, but Wisniewski has no definitive team number in mind and will "find a way" to keep talented players, he says. Returning seniors Erin Jacobson, Megan Killion, Danielle Parr, Katie Coonan, Christina Kline-Quiroz and Lauren Ottenweller will head up the roster.

The soccer season kicks off Aug. 16 vs. Elmhurst, then continues Aug. 17 vs. last year's semi-state opponent, Snider High School. In his ninth year as head coach, Wisniewski is clear about the prospects for success. The girls "know what to expect and know

what it takes" to be winners, he says.

Girls' volleyball

The girls' volleyball team went 24-8 last year, losing to Belmont High School in sectional play, so head coach John Minnick says he's "chomping at the bit" to get started this season. He has a good nucleus of returning players including senior and outside hitter Shannon Voors, a first team all-SAC player and early winner of a full athletic scholarship to Xavier University in Cincinnati. Other returning seniors are conference honorable mention defensive player and "very vocal" team leader Nicki Stone, and Carly Fuelling, who also showed "great leadership" in open gym this past summer. Junior Emily Meyers, also first team all-SAC as a middle hitter, and junior Ashley Dillon, probable outside hitter, will round out the roster.

A preseason scrimmage against DeKalb is slated for Aug. 12. Then the regular schedule kicks off, "bam," against team nemesis Belmont on Aug. 15, says Minnick, and continues with an

SAC preseason tourney Aug. 17.

Despite the rigorous start, he has big plans for the rest of the year. I expect to win the conference, says Coach Minnick, so "they'll all be gunning for us."

Boys' tennis

Fifth year boys' tennis coach Anne Schenkel says 20 to 30 hopefuls will try out for the 2006 team, a number she'll need to pare down to 18 or 20 for the junior varsity and varsity squads. Schenkel expects good things from junior singles players Keith Welch and Nick Maxwell, as well as returning senior Doug Eber and doubles players Sam Snyder and Dan Langston.

"It's a quick season," she points out, with 12 dual matches and three invitationals leading up to sectionals in late September and regionals on Oct. 3. Though she'd like to win the SAC, Schenkel declines to speculate on the prospects for doing so. First she wants to see other teams, see their players and see their depth. So much depends on your depth for winning points, she notes, and

she'll set the team's goals after she makes that assessment. It's all about good sportsmanship and having fun but she'll expect all her players to "give 100 percent and try their hardest and most of the time they'll win," she says.

Girls' cross country

Girls' cross country coach Jessica Hayes says she had about 20 runners in summer conditioning, most of them juniors and seniors, so she expects that experience to pay off when the season begins on Aug. 15. Last year's team competed at the semi-state level and did its best in 10 years, she says, so her expectations are high. Returning seniors Clare McVey and Mary Andorfer are sure to be an asset in helping the squad place as well as it did last season, says sixth-year head coach Hayes.

The cross country schedule begins Aug. 15 with the Hokem Karem Relays and continues a week later with the blockbuster five-school Luers Invitational.

Boys' soccer

Coach Michael Khorshid expects 45 players to try out for boys' soccer this week but will have the tough task of reducing that number to about 36 for his varsity and junior varsity teams. Twice-a-day practice will be rigorous before the opening match against New Haven High School on Aug. 17, he says.

With eight seniors and 10 juniors returning this year, Khorshid is sure to have some great leadership. Though he stresses that soccer is a "whole team" rather than an individual sport, he looks forward to some outstanding play from seniors Jake Capito and Chase Jones, as well as juniors Danny Khorshid, Dan Nix, Daniel Wilter and Steven Roberts.

Before last year, the boys' soccer team had taken the SAC title four years running. No doubt they will be hungry to return to victor status this season.

Boys' cross country

The boys' cross country team won the SAC conference for the first time ever and advanced to the state finals last season, says second year coach Eric Ade, so he's "looking forward to starting up ... and seeing where it all settles out."

Though an experienced high school and college runner himself, he says it will be a mental challenge for him as a coach to elicit the best from each of his athletes, a large complement of more than 40 this year.


"Our bright spot" will be returning senior and all-state track star Ben Reifenberg, says Ade. Also returning will be senior Joe Ryan, a "pretty good contender and probable second man," along with Javier Mercedes who, though plagued by injuries, "will definitely be up there. Those are our leaders," states the coach.

The season-opening Hokem Karem Relays on Aug. 17 will give them a chance to shine and for the team to show their coach what he can expect this year.


Girls' golf

Girls' golf coach Kurt Leffers, who begins his second year in the position, has high hopes for his small squad of nine this season. Winning third place in the SAC last year and sending one golfer to state competition was a highlight of the season. This year's first match was Aug. 1, with five tournaments scheduled before the start of classes Aug. 16 and sectionals beginning in mid-September.

This year Leffers will welcome back to his lineup senior Emily Brown and juniors Megan Ryan and Ashley Gross. If the players are "willing to put some effort into it," they are sure to improve individually and as a team and enjoy success on the links this season, he says.



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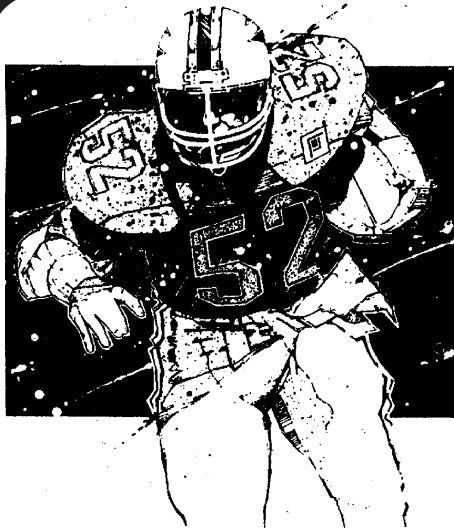
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JOSEPH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

shorts and tee-shirts.

"We have had big numbers running all summer long, 35 boys and 28 girls," said Jerry Hoffman, cross country coach. "We have a solid core with our boys in only losing two from last season and we return Philip Langthorne who has run a 17:26.

"The real key is our depth with 10 back that have run under 18:30," continued Hoffman. "It should be very competitive for the top spots."

"As far as our girls' team, there are a lot of question marks," remarked Hoffman. "We do return Alison Sweeny that ran a 15:46 last season and the other girls have been working very hard during our conditioning."

Boys' soccer

While the girl's cross country team looks for depth, the boys' soccer team is bursting with returning players.

"We return seven or eight starters from last season's team," explained Alberto Verteramo, boys' soccer coach. "It is a core that we can definitely build on and incorporate younger players.

"We have three key players that are being looked at by colleges in James Urbany and captains Dustin Mares and Pete Sabo," exclaimed Verteramo. "The have played during the summer on travel teams and we add a big strong defender, Sean Leahy.

"Even our goalie, Mike Korman worked his way into the starting spot last year," Verteramo said. "With our nucleus and leadership we should jell into a pretty good team."

Girls' soccer

The girls' soccer team has a problem any coach would love; they have 48 girls competing for spots in the program.

"We have such a nice group of young dedicated women that enjoy playing soccer," commented Johan Kuitse, girls' soccer coach. "We will really depend on our more experienced players to work with our younger girls.

"We return five senior starters — Lizzy Gerald, Lindsey Hyduk, Meg McQue, Maghan Rerick and Kelly Roberson," said Kuitse. "The leadership that they bring with them should help our huge junior class and talented freshmen class understand that it takes so much hard work to be successful.

"We shared the Northern Indiana Conference crown last season and we are aiming for the same goals this year," Kuitse added. "The work ethic is definitely there."

Girls' golf

While the return of talent will carry the girls' golf team, the weather may be the one thing that stands in their way of another 18-3 season.

"We have already started competitions and the first outing, we had two girls get sick because of the heat," explained Andy Troeger, girls' golf coach. "Once the weather cooperates, we return six of our seven letter winners from last season."

"Kimberly Lipinski and Shannon Folley were all-conference last year, and Collen Hughes won the South Bend City Tournament," Troeger continued. "We add transfer Anne Ormson who finished sixth in last year's state tournament and Becca Jones who has gotten off to a great start and three or four others competing for time and we have a pretty good group."

Boys' tennis

As the girl's golf team enjoys their depth and experience the sectional winning boys' tennis team seems to going in the same direction.

"We have quite a few returning and I think we will be a pretty strong team," exclaimed Eric Mahone, boys' tennis coach. "We lost our one and two singles players but we have returnees Griffin Jaques and Tommy Krcmaric that are fighting for those spots.

"I also expect good things from our other returnees Eli Lenard in singles and James O'Connor and Oliver Temple in doubles," continued Mahone. "With our depth and newcomer freshman Antonio Thundy we should be very competitive again."

Volleyball

While all the teams suffered under the ozone action days, there was one coach with a big smile on her face and a dry shirt on.

"Our gym floor was being refinished so we went one mile down the road to the air conditioning of Saint Mary's College," smiled Mary Kay O'Connell. "We have had some other good news recently.

"Alex Hunt, our six-foot lefty, was one of 12 players in the country to play for the United States in an international tournament that the USA won," O'Connell added. "It was a great experience for her

and great for Indiana Volleyball.

"We will add a veteran team with Jill Johns a three-year varsity player and two senior middles in Kristin Kawalewski and Shelby Dzierla," explained O'Connell. "With a strong defender in Meghann Rose, we have very good chemistry, maybe even better than last year.

"Northern Indiana is so strong in volleyball we had five teams in the top 10 in the state last year," explained O'Connell. "We have great kids with a very good work ethic and we are going to give it our all."

Soon the hot days of summer will turn into the chill laced days of fall and the Indians of Saint Joseph's High School will battle their rivals and foes with pride and purpose.

"Several of our teams should be in the mix for sectional honors," claimed Gohlke. "We are really expecting good things from our students not only athletically but with character and poise."

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MARIAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

"Our girls who are returning from a trip to the state finals have our top five coming back," Sandoval quipped. "Mary Cate Quiett, Caitlyn Koscielski, Elizabeth Majewski, Katie Gerghty and Liz Marquart are back and we have some girls right on their heels.

Girls' soccer

The girls' soccer team with 53 girls trying out for spots on three teams and 10 starters back from a team that shared the NIC crown and ranked eighth in the state have

the market cornered on depth and talent.

"We have six players that are already deciding on what colleges they will be playing for next season," said Carlos Reynolds, girls' soccer coach. "I think we have a very good team, it's almost scary.

"They girls all know each other, we have great communication skills on and off the field and all understand the game," explained Reynolds. "We have spent so much time on fundamentals that the girls are ready to start focusing in on the finer points of tactics.

"The heart of our team lies within our three captains," added Reynolds. "Erin Davis is recovering from an injury, Rachel Byron is a solid leader and scorer and Taryn Zimmerman completes the trio."

Boys' soccer

The girls' team won't be the only ones using the beautiful new state-of-the-art facility across the street, the boys' team also calls the pristine site home.

"Our soccer team will be young but very competitive," explained Ben Householter, boys' soccer coach. "He have brought in some top notch teams and will have our toughest schedule ever.

"I think you have to play the best to become the best," added Householter. "We have three seniors that promise experience and good leadership in Joe Cappanari, Andy Gaboury and Nico Probst.

"We are looking forward to a very good season," said Householter. "The team will represent Marian High School well."

ball coach. "Our defensive specialist from last year, Clare Farkus, grew four inches and is now a front row attacker.

"Both Katie Britton and Stephanie Kruger our middle hitters are returning," Anderson said. "Third year starter Emily Libertowski and Meeghan Miller added with Libero (back row specialist) Kathleen Chelminiak round out our core players.

Golf

"We have five golfers that lettered returning from last season's squad," claimed Connie Vandenburg, girls' golf coach. "We have lost our number one and two golfers to graduation but we should be able to play bogey golf and be in the mix.

"Our returning seniors are Kelly Murray and Sara Niedbalski, we have a returning junior, Annie Brennan and two sophomores, Caroline Trippel and BreAnna Zilm," said Vandenburg. "If we can continue to work hard and improve each match, I think it will be another successful season."

Volleyball

Another traditional Marian power, has reloaded and is ready to take on all comers.

"We have some huge numbers and we have only lost two from last season's solid team," exclaimed Dan Anderson, volley-

Boys' tennis

The newest member of Marian's coaching staff, Sarah Stanchin, has the honor of directing the boy's tennis team on their new home court.

"I'm really excited about the opportunity to coach the boy's tennis team and to play on the great facilities at Marian," commented Stanchin. "I have coached some of the athletes before and am glad to work with them again.

"We lost three starters from last year but our number one singles player, Michael Koscielski is back," explained Stanchin. "We have some depth with returning letter winners — Andy Krizman, Kyle Shirk, Sean Julien, Mike Patty and Shiva Thinakel.

"We will also have some J.V. players trying to get onto the court," said Stanchin. "Their positive experience is my goal."

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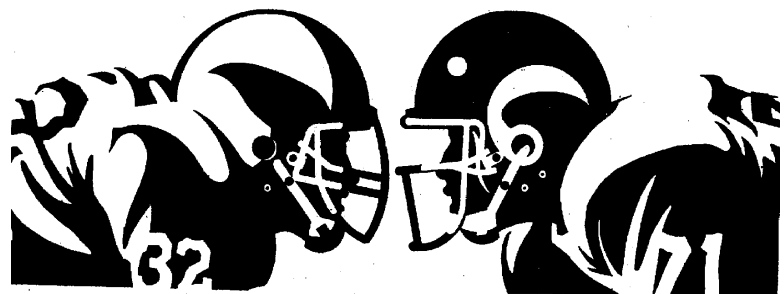
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LUERS

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Girls' volleyball

Second year girls' volleyball coach Scott Shipman will host try-outs early this month with about 50 players vying for spots on the freshman, junior varsity and varsity squads. "I'm pretty happy with that," he says, but admits it's also a tough situation because some cuts will be necessary to pare down the numbers.

The team will welcome back six very talented seniors and "some pretty outstanding players," says Shipman. Outside hitter Jenny Eckrich, along with 6-foot middle blocker Kristen Dirig, both seniors, will return, as well as opposite center Melanie Huhn, a junior, and setter Andrea Kleber.

Last year's team won fourth place in the conference and beat Northrop High School for the first time in several years. Ten players attended volleyball camp at Purdue University this summer and did very well, so "I'm very optimistic," says Coach Shipman. The season opens Aug. 15 against Homestead High School.

Girls' soccer

Girls' soccer coach Chuck Graham says his team will face "five tough games right off," with an opening match against Carroll High School Aug. 16, followed by a tourney in South Bend and a head-to-head meeting with Bishop Dwenger High School, last year's state champs.

Pumped by a near win in the 12-team preseason Knight Invite tournament two weeks ago, Graham's girls are ready for a demanding season. "For a small school we play a pretty tough schedule," he says, but with 18 players who can start at any time he has confidence in the strength of his bench and is looking for a good year.

Senior sweeper Katie Christian, who was voted one of the top players in the state by "Hoosier Futbol," is expected to turn in a strong performance this season, along with junior midfielder Kaitlin Hire. Sophomore stopper Kara Baumgartner made second team all-region as a freshman and is also "one to watch," says Graham.

Boys' soccer

The Luers boys' soccer team is coming off a disappointing four-win season, but one which saw a number of young players gain experience. This year, with seven seniors on the roster, second-year head coach John Myers says, "We're looking forward to a good season."

He has a large contingent of 36 players including 12 or 13 freshmen, "a good boost for the program," he says. Overall, he notes that Luers soccer has been stepped up in recent years with a strong middle school feeder program, additions to the schedule and several off-season tournaments. He's looking forward to next month's annual Irish Fest, an Indianapolis tourney, which pits Luers against two of that city's Catholic high schools.

The season kicks off Aug. 21

against Belmont High School and Coach Myers says his team's "good, positive attitude" should produce results. Leading the attack will be senior forward Dominic Galuoppo, along with senior midfielders Eric Proegler and Andrew Myers and junior goalie Brad Drysdale. Off and on the field, Myers will receive "big help" from assistants Dan Drysdale and Joe Strack.

Cross country

Though the numbers are down this season, cross country coach Linda Keuneke still has high expectations for the 30 runners who make up her boys' and girls' teams. Though separate, at Luers the two teams have traditionally trained together under the same coach. Keuneke assisted former head coach Tracy Edgerton for many years, taking over as solo head coach just last year. But while the two teams work out as a group, Keuneke says that she structures the workouts differently because the boys' and girls' events are different. She admits that the girls fared better last year, however.

Keuneke credits Edgerton for authoring the Luers Invitational, a popular Catholic five-school pre-season tournament hosting Mishawaka Marian, South Bend Saint Joseph's, Fort Wayne Bishop Dwenger and Lafayette Central Catholic High Schools.

Keuneke says she is really excited to have injury-free senior Daniel Judge back in the lineup for the boys. But since practice officially began just last week, she says opportunities on the girls' team are still open to anyone who meets the challenge. The squads will be headed up by co-captains Judge and Laura Krumanaker.

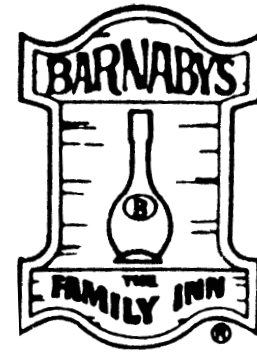
Keuneke enjoys the team spirit and camaraderie she sees among her players. As a coach and Luers math teacher, she says, "I truly like working with the kids."

Girls' golf

The girls' golf team, coached by A. J. Kalver, boasted better than a .500 record and finished high in the SAC conference last year, he says. And with three var-

sity players back, he expects their fortunes to improve throughout the 16-event season.

Returning varsity players include top golfer Kristi O'Brien, who shot even-par 36 in the opening match last week, along with Heather Hendrickson and Haylee Eckert. Junior varsity players are Erin Springer, Mia Hannah and Morgan Tobias. Chelsea Prichard, who played last year, may yet be returning to the links. Though Kalver says he could use more depth on the squad, he is still optimistic about his golfers' ability to score well this year.



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ICCL prepares for 61st season of events

BY ELMER J. DANCH

SOUTH BEND — Football coaches of six varsity boys teams and seven junior varsity clubs are now in the process of finalizing their rosters in preparation for official practice next month for the Inter-City Catholic League. On Sunday, Sept. 3, the ICCL will open its 61st consecutive season. Three games will be played at Mishawaka Marian High School field and three at Saint Joseph's High School.

Volunteering organized in the fall of 1945 to help provide a recreational program for Catholic grade school athletes in the South Bend metro area, the ICCL has continued without a miss ever since. Today it continues to supervise 18 leagues in eight sports. Among the programs are softball, soccer, football, wrestling, volleyball, basketball, baseball and track.

Foremost among its core of executives and directors is William Sorukas, ICCL treasurer, who is now rounding out his 40th year. He is currently the baseball director. A member of the Indiana Football Hall of Fame, Sorukas is a High School Football Official and a member of the Notre Dame Chain Crew. In the ICCL, he has served as director of the baseball program as well as helping with logistics of

other sports.

Another executive in the ICCL is Anthony Violi of Mishawaka, an accountant, who has served for 23 seasons as a football coach and for the past nine years as president of the league.

"It is remarkable how these young athletes at the grade school level look forward to competition in various sports of the ICCL," said Violi. "They also realize they have to meet academic requirements to participate, which is very important. Even at the fifth and sixth grade levels, their spirited participation has been so keen that we had to establish a football league for the fifth and sixth grades in 1974," added Violi.

Violi credited both Saint Joseph's and Mishawaka Marian High Schools for making both of their fields and gymnasiums available for both football and basketball, as well as baseball in the spring. Assisting Violi, vice president of ICCL for nine years is Jeff Booher of Holy Family Parish. He has also served the ICCL as a coach and the athletic director of Holy Family.

League championships for both football and basketball are provided by the Father Nieuwland Assembly, Fourth Degree, Knights of Columbus.

COLOR GUARD OPENS SOCCER TOURNAMENT



MARK WEBER

Girl Scouts Nancy McNamara, Kaitlyn Baumgartner, with flag, and Keirsten Baumgartner representing St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School in Fort Wayne, presented the colors at the opening of the 2006 Bishop Luers High School Knights Invite soccer tournament at the Fort Wayne Sport Club on July 22 and 23.

St. Jude teacher hosts a clinic to cheer about

BY MICHELLE CASTELMAN

FORT WAYNE — St. Jude students that see Theresa Yoder during the summer months may not recognize her. Outside of her fifth grade classroom, Yoder wears many hats.

This summer she has been busy leading cheerleading clinics for the Allen County Public Library. The clinics are part of the library's summer reading program, "Read Around the Campfire."

During the clinics, Yoder read a story to the children, made pompoms for the craft and taught them basic cheers.

Yoder started with the library during her college summers to help pay for her

tuition while she was home from St. Joseph College, Rensselaer, where she cheered at the college level. She majored in elementary education and received performance scholarships, which motivated her during her four years there.

A former gymnast at Bishop Dwenger High School, Yoder also coaches gymnastics at Summit Academy of Gymnastics.

She once ran into one of her students there from St. Jude who couldn't figure out who she was. "I guess I look different to them when I'm not at school," Yoder said.

Yoder attended Queen of Angels School in junior high. She is one of four children and her family attends St. Mary Parish, Avilla, where her mother teaches.



MICHELLE CASTELMAN

Theresa Yoder, a former St. Joseph College, Rensselaer, cheerleader and a teacher at St. Jude School in Fort Wayne, poses with a group of girls at a cheerleading clinic held at the Monroeville Branch of the Allen County Public Library earlier this summer.

Volunteers contribute to the success of ICCL sports

BY ELMER J. DANCH

SOUTH BEND — Dedicated volunteer coaches have been the secret to the operation of the 62-year-old Inter City Catholic League (ICCL), which will formally open the season in September with a varsity and junior varsity football season.

"When the program was launched in the fall of 1945, there were literally no playing fields available except public gridirons in

both South Bend and Mishawaka and virtually the same could be said for basketball," said Anthony (Tony) Violi, current president of the circuit, now in his ninth year as president. The fifth and sixth grade football league was established in 1974.

"Thanks to the many volunteer men and women who offered their services to a program of athletics in parish schools, we now have five programs for boys and five for girls," Violi said.

"Both Saint Joseph's High

School and Marian High School in Mishawaka have made their football fields and gymnasiums readily available to the ICCL, and as a result, we are looking ahead to our most successful year in history," Violi added.

Chairmen for the various programs include the following:

- Boys football, varsity and junior varsity, is headed by Violi.
- Boys basketball is chaired by Joe Kozinski for varsity, and is chaired by Greg Schultheis for

junior varsity.

- Boys wrestling is chaired by John Glon.

- Boys baseball is chaired by William Sorukas for varsity and is chaired Mark Kopinski for junior varsity.

- Boys and girls soccer is chaired by Jeff Deitchley.

- Girls softball is chaired by Jim Elliott.

- Girls basketball is chaired by Ann Russell for varsity and is chaired by Mike Timm for junior varsity.

- Girls volleyball is chaired by Emily Stauffacher for varsity and is chaired by Pat Gring for junior varsity.

- Track is chaired by Mark Kopinski.

Jeff Booher is vice president and assistant director of all sports. He has just completed his ninth year of service to ICCL. He has also served in the ICCL for many years as a coach and the athletic director of Holy Family.

EDITORIAL

Is autumn far behind?

Interleague trading ended with the end of July. Major league baseball has taken on a different look. After the all-star break, teams have settled into a pattern that will likely carry to the end of the season.

It isn't as though there were no signs of life or of interest. But many fans have somewhat given hopes for their respective teams and are just looking for "next year," and the teams are helping them fulfill that dismal prospect by trading off important players in favor of getting some young hopefuls who may suddenly become stars the next season. Despite the continuing crowds, a certain malaise has entered in for the major sport of the summer for most Americans — major league baseball.

Fans are beginning to look forward to the fall, and the 800-pound gorilla, football, has begun to make its appearance. All the other sports, important they may be to some portion of the populace, have a secondary place in the attention of the media and the devotion of fans at every level.

From the professional ranks through college, high schools and the elementary schools, the footballs are whizzing through the air, and very serious players to be are running to get in shape, and all the signs of a vigorous season are beginning to sprout up with increasing attention.

It is not that the Catholic parent should deny an interest in whether or not Notre Dame will have a national championship team. But, the more far reaching question is whether or not the fall sports can really have a positive effect in the lives of family members.

Sports can have a positive result in the lives of young men and women when they enable the participant to be stimulated to take care of the God-given physical abilities that grace each one of us. Healthy exercise, an awakened sense of sharing with teammates the common goals of winning, the objectives of humility in winning and of a spirit of doing better the next time when one loses. These and many of the other virtues that one can find in sports can really contribute to the growth of the young to full manhood and womanhood. We must remember that the girls have taken their rightful place in sports and can reap all the benefits that sports can offer them.

This brings us to an important point. The present atmosphere of substance abuse in certain sports to attain greater goals or to reach higher records is something that can have disastrous effects on our young unless we all are watchful to see that the problems of a Barry Bonds and others may not obtain a foothold in the athletic endeavors of our young. Constant vigilance is the word on the part of parents, coaches and sports administrators of every kind and level.

This must have a firm basis in all of our attitudes to the sense of what sports are about. The desire to excel, to win, should not become obsessive in destroying all the values that sports can give. Moderation is best.

It is important that we do not stress football over all other sports. Healthy outlets for youthful energy can be found in many others sports that grace the fall sports scene. It is difficult to put one's finger on exactly which sport will be offered in our schools during the fall season.

In some places tennis is in the spring; in other schools it is a fall sport, etc. However, we can see that the great variety of sports available helps us to select what sport best fits the abilities and the interests of our sons and daughters. It could be soccer, cross country running, golf, among other sports that may have prominence in your particular area. Some sports emphasize individual improvement and excellence, and others emphasize the team sport idea.

St. Paul speaks of great efforts athletes of his day take as they train for the races they engage in. He uses these as examples of how we should be willing to sacrifice and work hard to win the only race that really matters, the race to eternal salvation.

It is important for us to let our sports programs give access to all students in the school. In one of our elementary schools, there is a very healthy atmosphere where anyone who wants to can join a team. They will be given a fair chance to increase their skills and always to enjoy the help and assistance given the student in the growth of physical skill, but equally important in those skills that come from being a member of the team.

We should care for our health no matter what age we might have. There are many sports that one can engage in as one grows older. Golf is a lifetime sport one can engage in, so likewise is swimming and probably tennis.

The true Christian must take good care of his body, created by God, made the bearer of the human person through one's time on earth, our companion into eternity. This kind of dedication makes our sports program worthwhile and helps speed us on our way to the kingdom that God has in store for us.

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

Central Catholic alumni gather for all-school reunion

Who would have guessed my husband and I, both adamantly opposed to class reunions — after all, why would we want to see a bunch of old people neither of us would remember — would have such a wonderful time at the June 2006 all-class reunion for Fort Wayne's Central Catholic High School?

Last May, Yvonne Wagner Stanski and I met up with Mary Lou Thieme Morris and several other classmates from the class of 1965 at a local restaurant. Mary Lou's "shoot the cow" favorite phrase brought back some fond memories of the marching band and the gang of kids we hung out with. When Mary Lou promised to provide me with a bell lyre to play at the all-school reunion, I was intrigued enough to consider attending.

It took a little convincing, but my husband of 35 years, Jim O'Dwyer (class of 1965) and I and Judy Dodane O'Dwyer drove from our home in Newark, Ohio, to join Mary Lou and 300 other CC alumni for the second annual all-class reunion held at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum.

It was an amazing experience. First of all, cheers to Mary Lou and her wonderful team. The event was a well organized, thoughtfully designed opportunity for everyone to have a good time. Attendees had a chance to mingle, renew friendships,

view Central Catholic pictures, purchase memorabilia, attend a special Mass, eat some great food in air-conditioned comfort, win some door prizes, dance to some great tunes, sing some class and school favorites and have a wonderful time.

The oldest attendee, John Griffith (class of 1929) was all smiles when Mary Lou presented him with a certificate of attendance.

As for "Back To The Future," what better way to see what the future holds than to have the opportunity to interact with folks who are both older and younger. While I was "jamming" with Agnes Hart, class of 1950 (electric piano), I realized what a blessing it is to be part of an alumni event that celebrates the range of ages, experiences and wisdom of the people whose values were shaped by the common thread of our CCHS experiences.

A CCHS Alumni Association has been formed, an office has been set up, and all CCHS graduates are invited to send their \$15 dues to Tony Martone at 3005 Whitegate Dr., Fort Wayne, IN 46805.

Alumni officers are the following: president, Mary Lou Thieme Morris (1965); vice-president, Leanne Oddou Mensing (1956); secretary, Sylvia Allen Tjaden (1965); treasurer, Tony Martone (1951); historian, Susan Berghoff Prowant (1954); membership, Patty Hartman Hoepfner (1962); and office manager, Phil Charais (1963).

To ensure that you receive an invitation to the next reunion, send your updated contact information

including mailing address and e-mail address to Tony Martone, or call the alumni office at (260) 471-7649.

Leanne Mensing
Fort Wayne

Garrett reunion yields success

Another successful, fun-filled reunion has come and gone for alumni of St. Joseph School, Garrett. The reunion was held July 15 in Bennett Hall with 5 p.m. Mass following. Former students and graduates from 1936-1968 attended.

The smiles, laughter and some tears gave each alumnus a sense of pride to have been a student and/or a graduate of St. Joseph's and its history of nearly 140 years.

The alumni reunion committee organized in 2002. The next reunion will be in 2009. Reunions are held every three years.

Thank you to the committee members who contributed time, talent and donations and encouragement since 2002. You're the best.

I cannot forget to thank Father Thom Lombardi, our pastor during our alumni reunions of 2002-2005, for his attendance at our event, his thoughts and prayers and Masses.

To Father Ted, welcome and thank you for the Mass and your kind words.

It has been a pleasure and honor to have been on the committee since 2002. As of this year, I have voluntarily retired. Thank you for the memories.

Mary Rose (DePaolo) Kimmel
Garrett

Moderation and civility

Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, recently retired archbishop of Washington, D.C., sent the following letter in response to George Weigel's July 30 column, "Truth at the 50-yard line?"

There are times when it probably is better not to reply to articles that unfairly or even irresponsibly distort one's own teaching on issues, lest one gives more importance to the misinformation than it deserves.

Sometimes, however, it truly is important to set the record straight in the face of half-truths or innuendos, lest the old axiom that silence presumes consent gives the impression that one has no reply, and the field is left to those who manipulate words into fanciful concepts with little relevance to the facts.

A recent column by George Weigel that ran in this newspaper is a case in point. The column incorrectly equates my repeated calls for civility in public life and in the church with a lack of uncompromising commitment to the doctrine of our faith. Nothing could be further from the truth, as anyone who has taken the time to read my many talks and columns would know.

Not only that, the column goes on to describe the positions of three Catholics from other nations — people I don't know — as if their erroneous views were my own. That is, at the minimum, deceptive journalism, if not worse. It is an old trick of debaters to create a straw man and then demolish it, giving the false impression that one is thereby proving a point.

Therefore, let me be clear once again. I will continue to call for moderation and civility, and to reach out and talk with everyone, regardless of what side of the aisle they are on. That doesn't mean compromising our faith and our teachings, but it does mean that we treat each other with respect as befits the dignity

of our brothers and sisters, avoid name calling and personal attacks and be careful that what we say is always true both in its expression and its implication.

I have no desire to enter into a long controversy on this question, but I do believe this newspaper's readers at least deserve the facts.

Let us pray for each other that soon it may be said again of us what was said in days of old: "See these Christians, how they love one another!"

Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick
Former archbishop of Washington, D.C.
July 26, 2006

Weigel's response to Cardinal McCarrick's letter to the editor

I fear that Cardinal McCarrick has misread the plain meaning of my column, "Truth at the 50-Yard Line?" My point — which seemed clear enough to the many people, from all states of life in the church, who have thanked me for what I wrote — was that a pastoral strategy that encourages priests and bishops to stand "in the center of the aisle" may serve certain purposes, but cannot be effective when core doctrinal issues are at stake. That is what I wrote and that is what I meant — period. A fair-minded reading, or perhaps re-reading, of the column will, I hope, demonstrate that.

The cardinal and I are agreed that there is no 50-yard line to be sought on matters of settled church doctrine, and I am gratified that that point, which suggests the limits of the "center of the aisle" image of pastoral strategy, has been well-clarified. Now Cardinal McCarrick and I can, I trust, return to the business of advancing Catholic truth, each exercising his distinct vocation.

George Weigel

How much of your social life revolves around your parish?

Some parishioners think of their parish as family. For them, the parish is a community where they meet people who are important parts of their lives. Their social lives also revolve others in their parish. In addition to meeting with friends for coffee and donuts after Mass, they also are likely to get together with them in other settings, including their homes and local restaurants.

Yet, there are other people who belong to a parish and attend Mass from time to time, but do not know other people in the parish. They do not mingle with other parishioners after Mass. Nor do they attend social functions the parish sponsors. They also do not have other parishioners over to their home for dinner. Their parish has little or nothing to do with their social life.

Of course, many parishioners fall somewhere in between these two groups. Some of their best friends belong to their parish, and some of their social life includes fellow parishioners.

I have often wondered how parishioners are distributed along this continuum. So, in my most



RESEARCH FOR THE CHURCH

JAMES D. DAVIDSON

recent national survey, I asked a random sample of parishioners the following question: "How much of your social life involves people who you have met through the parish?"

Fifteen percent said that "a great deal" of their social life revolves around people from their parish. Twenty-nine percent said that "some" of their social life does. Thirty percent said "not much," and 24 percent said "none at all." Two percent did not answer the question.

Of course, I then wondered which parishioners were most likely to say their parish is an important part of their social life, which ones were least likely to say that, and which ones were in between? So, I examined a number of demographic factors and reached three conclusions.

First, as one might expect, proximity and longevity make a difference. People who belong to parish that is closest to where they live are more likely than people who belong to one that is further away to say that their social lives revolve around people in their parish. Also, as one might expect, the longer people have belonged to their parish, the more likely they are to report that other parishioners are an important part of their social lives.

Second, as one also might expect, marital status and family circumstances also are important. Single people, married couples and widows are most likely to say that "some" or "a great deal" of their social life involves other parishioners. Divorced Catholics and

DAVIDSON, PAGE 21

Jesus as bread of life has great impact



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jn 6:41-51

The First Book of Kings provides this weekend's first reading. The name of the Books of Kings implies that they are about the kings of Israel. Certainly the earliest kings are mentioned. However, the purpose of Kings is to chronicle the faithfulness of the people to God during the reigns of the early kings.

Since the religious experience of Israel was the ultimate interest, these two books refer to prophets. Such is the case in this reading. The central figure is Elijah.

While no general rule pertains for all the prophets whom we know by reading the Bible, as often as not they were poor. At least, their earthly livelihood was completely secondary to their vocation to be prophets. Nothing else mattered.

It is not difficult therefore to imagine that Elijah was on a journey without provisions. As this reading reveals, God provided for him. He slept for a while. When he awakened, a cake and water jug were beside him. An angel announced that the nourishment was from God.

For the second reading, the

church this weekend gives us a passage from the Epistle to the Ephesians. It was an appeal to the Christians of Ephesus to live peacefully and lovingly with each other. The New Testament is filled with lessons that the church is a special community, identified by the fact that its members all have accepted Jesus as Lord and have been blessed by the Holy Spirit.

The epistle reminded the Christian Ephesians that they should live as if they were members of the one, holy community of Christ.

St. John's Gospel furnishes the last reading. The Fourth Gospel is the longest of them all. While each of the synoptic Gospels is a literary work of art, each skillfully revealing aspects and events of the Lord's person and mission, John's Gospel literally soars in its eloquence and imagery.

Such is the case in the lesson from John for this weekend. Jesus is the bread of life. He declares this, despite the bewilderment and impatience of some in the audience. To them, such a description seemed foolish. After all, they knew Jesus. He appeared just as anyone else. They knew the origins of Jesus. Galilee was a small, close-knit society, like an extended small town. The Lord's assertions of coming from heaven defied what many in the audience knew of Jesus.

Yet, in this powerful statement, Jesus insisted upon the divine mission, proceeding from God the Father. The Father sent Jesus into the world. Jesus alone can give eternal life.

In the Lord's time, options for food were very limited. There was no parallel in the least between what pertained then and what most Americans, for example, know today in a time of plenty and quick

and easy access to many food products.

Bread was much more important in their diets than it is modern menus. So, bread itself was seen as a necessity. To be deprived of bread meant that a person was in genuine danger of starving.

Thus, the statement about "bread of life" had great impact.

Reflection

Human beings always have been tempted if not to ignore God altogether, then to treat relating to God, or obeying the law of God, as mere options.

In these readings the church tells us that there is no alternative to living with God, in truth and in fact. To employ again the imagery of food, knowledge of God, through Christ, is not a garnish. It is vital. Jesus is the "bread of life".

For Catholics, the reference to the Eucharist is strong. It is not out of order. Jesus alone is God among us. He is the source of eternal life. He is the source of strength in this life.

READINGS

19th week of ordinary time

Monday: Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c Ps148:1-2, 11-14 Mt 17:22-27

Tuesday: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab Ps 45:10bc, 11-12ab, 16 1 Cor 15:20-27 Lk 1:39-56

Wednesday: Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22 Ps 1134:1-6 Mt 18:15-20

Thursday: Ez 12:1-12 Ps 78:56-59, 61-62 Mt 18:21-19:1

Friday: Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 (Ps) Is 12:2-6 Mt 19:3-12

Saturday: Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32 Ps 51:12-15, 18-19 Mt 19:13-15

CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Camplisson

On Aug. 1, the church remembers St. Alphonsus Liguori, bishop and doctor. This quiz looks at doctors of the church.

1. What is a doctor of the church?

- a. a bishop who has a doctorate
- b. any cleric who is an M.D.
- c. a saint with this special title

2. What (amongst other things) do you have to be to be a doctor of the church?

- a. licensed
- b. a male
- c. dead

3. What does the designation "doctor" actually mean?

- a. The person lived a saintly life.
- b. Their teachings or writings are determined by the church to have value.
- c. They are known to have performed miracles.

4. How does time play a factor in the process of being named doctor of the church?

- a. The person must have been declared a saint at least 50 years before becoming a doctor of the church.
- b. It does not, as time is relative, and many clergy have no relatives.
- c. Their writing or preaching is determined to have value to any age of the church.

5. How infallible are the writings of a doctor of the church?

- a. They may include infallible teaching, but the status of doctor does not confer that.
- b. As infallible as the pope's, only harder to prove.
- c. Not at all, in fact the writings contain any truths at all.

6. Are there doctors of the church who are not saints?

- a. No
- b. Yes
- c. Only if they are so voted by acclamation by the College of Cardinals.

7. In the Middle Ages only this many doctors were recognized:

- a. four
- b. six
- c. 12

8. Which of these men were amongst them?

- a. Jude the Obscure
- b. Augustine
- c. Julian the Apostate

9. Which of these men were not included in the medieval doctors?

- a. Abelard
- b. Ambrose
- c. Jerome

10. When other doctors were added, this 3rd to 4th century apologist was added:

- a. John the Evangelist
- b. Justin Martyr
- c. Athanasius

11. Which doctor is referred to as the Syrian?

- a. St. Assad
- b. St. Ephraem
- c. St. Joppa

12. This doctor is named for the birthplace of the church:

- a. St. Cyril of Jerusalem
- b. Jeffrey of Nazareth
- c. Francis of Rome

13. This doctor even has his own adjective:

- a. Carulus Theis (theistic)
- b. Thomas Aquinas (Thomistic)
- c. Leo the Munificent (Leonine)

14. Catherine of Siena is part of a minority among church doctors; why?

- a. Most are gentiles.
- b. Most were single.
- c. Most are male.

15. Despite dying very young and living a mostly sheltered life as a nun, this saint was named doctor of the church in the 20th century:

- a. Mother Teresa of Calcutta
- b. Maria Young of Salt Lake City
- c. St. Thérèse of Lisieux

ANSWERS:

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

Reverent silence before Mass is always recommended

Is reverence for the Blessed Sacrament still expected by the laity when they arrive early for Mass? Desiring to share the awesomeness of the chrism Mass with our younger children, I was stunned at the visiting that occurred prior to the Mass. Even when the beautiful prelude music began, people talked louder so they could be heard over the music. Attending a Sunday Mass in South Bend, my husband and I were again appalled by the conversation that took place behind us by two retired couples prior to Mass. Are we missing something by still expecting a reverential silence in the church itself prior to the beginning of Mass?
A.B., Avilla

I commend you and your family for attending and witnessing first hand the beautiful Mass of Chrism. At this Mass the bishop blesses the oils that will be used at the parish in the coming year for the anointing of the sick, and for anointing those to be baptized. In addition he consecrates the sacred chrism which is used for confirmation and at the ordination of priests

and bishops as well as anointing new altars and churches. Many of those attending this Mass come from the other parishes from around the diocese. They may not be aware that the Blessed Sacrament is in the sanctuary. Reverence for the Blessed Sacrament is expected by all of the faithful at all times. As to silence before Mass the General Instruction of the Roman Missal suggests as follows: "Even before the celebration itself it is commendable that silence to be observed in the church, sacristy, in the vesting room ... so that all may dispose themselves to carry out the sacred action in a devout and fitting manner." If you feel that at your parish this issue is more than confined to just a few people perhaps you could politely ask those around you to speak quietly as you are trying to pray or you should speak with your parish priest and perhaps with a little catechesis he can address it directly with those involved or he may choose to preach on this issue or speak about it in the parish bulletin.

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

Before the offertory, why does the priest only add water to his cup and omit the others after the wine is poured into each? Previously, water was added to the wine prior to it being poured. Some other churches in the diocese do it the latter way and some do it the former. According to what I have read up on and inquired, the omission of adding the water to the entire volume of wine to be distributed at Mass prior to the offertory is wrong. What goes?
C.J.V., Decatur

The essential elements of the Mass consist of two parts; the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. The

Liturgy of the Eucharist begins with the preparation of the gifts also known as the offertory. The altar is prepared and the gifts of bread and wine that will be transformed into the body and blood of Christ as well as the gifts from the faithful for the sustenance of the church are gathered, brought forward and placed on the altar. The deacon, or in his absence the priest, prepares the chalices. Historically, the mingling of the water and the wine symbolized the union of Christ and his church. In fact the prayer that is silently said by the priest or deacon who prepares the chalice further exemplifies this: "By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity." With the advent of the newest document on the liturgy, "Redemptionis Sacramentum," the filling of the other chalices for the distribution of holy Communion changed from being done during the breaking of the bread while the Lamb of God was recited or sung,

to the preparation of the gifts or the offertory. This document did not clear up the issue of mingling the water and wine with all of the chalices or just the priests or principal chalice. We could infer from the documents that water need only to be added to the chalice used by the priest since it is not a requirement to have Communion distributed under both kinds. Water is required to be added to at least one chalice; therefore what you have seen is not wrong. **Today's Catholic** welcomes questions from readers to pose to Father Richard Hire, Father Michael Heintz, Father Mark Gurtner and 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. Include your name, city and an e-mail address or phone number so we can contact you if necessary. Anonymity will be preserved upon request.

What Mother Teresa can teach a suburban housewife

Like most suburban housewives, I have never been to India. I never witnessed Mother Teresa as she ministered to the world's "poorest of the poor." Like many others, however, I devoured books and articles about this dynamic and simple nun who pulled the dying off Calcutta's streets, and gave dignity to those suffering. She literally helped change the world.



EVERYDAY CATHOLIC
THERESA A. THOMAS

At first glance, an American mother's life seems so unlike the life Blessed Mother Teresa had. She lived amidst poverty. We live in a country full of wealth. She wore a simple sari. Most of us have a closet full of clothes. She chose a consecrated life of poverty, chastity and obedience as a sister. We have vocations as a wives and mothers. Our lives seem worlds apart, yet Blessed Mother Teresa's spirituality can be instrumental in teaching us to know how to live our vocation and raise our children well. Here's how:

- Mother Teresa teaches us to accept what we get from the hand of God. Biographers tell us that Mother Teresa, whose given name was Agnes, admired St. Therese the Little Flower and her "little way" very much, so much that she wanted to take the name Therese upon professing as a sister. However, another postulant also wanted that name and spelling. Quietly, without a fuss, Agnes took the Spanish spelling of the name, Teresa, relinquishing the spelling she desired most. In this simple action and attitude, Mother Teresa teaches us to accept what life deals us with calm resolution that God himself guides all happenings, large or small.
- Mother Teresa teaches us there is holiness in doing small things with great love. With a smile on her face she quietly and

tenderly cleaned the maggot-filled sores of a dying man, ignoring the stench and fighting the human urge to turn away. She did this again and again and again each day — small things with great love. When I tie my child's shoe patiently or wipe his nose gently I am doing a small thing with great love. When I serve my husband who has had a difficult day his favorite meal with a smile (even though my day has been filled with uncooperative children and minor emergencies myself) I am doing a small thing with great love. When I lead my sick child to the bathroom to throw up for the third time during the night and I clean him and the floor with calm resignation, I am doing a small thing with great love. Life is full of these opportunities.

- Mother Teresa teaches us not to fret about the tasks before us. When she was alive she did not wake up in the morning anxious and stressed about the day. She didn't say, "Oh my goodness! I have so much to do! There are so many poor and I can't handle this ..." She simply looked at the task before her, tackled it, then moved on. We should follow this example in our daily living.
- Mother Teresa teaches us it is good to rest. Biographers tell us Mother Teresa took naps. There was a point in time when I thought it was a sign of weakness if I rested during the day or went to bed early. I now see how silly that is. If our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit then taking care of

those bodies is a serious responsibility. Besides, refreshed, we can accomplish more.

- Mother Teresa teaches us that every person has worth and dignity. The annoying soccer coach, the impatient clerk at the store — these people were made in the image and likeness of God just as much as the friendly parish priest or sweet, elderly grandmother. Sometimes it would be easier to love a beggar dying in the street than the neighbor who growls at my children if a stray ball rolls in their yard. Mother's actions showed we are to respect everyone.
- Mother Teresa started her day with prayer and arranged her day in an orderly way. She had a schedule. When we do this we prioritize our life towards God and keep focused.

Most likely I will never tend to wounds of people ravaged by disease or scarred emotionally by severe rejection. But as a mother I will daily tend little wounds many times — a scraped knee after a trip to the playground, my child's hurt feelings over rejection from a playmate, the fatigue of my spouse over the daily troubles of work and family living. By remembering Mother Teresa's example and living the spirituality she demonstrated, I can be an instrument of God, bringing peace and healing in my little part of the world.

For more information on Blessed Mother Teresa, visit her Web site: www.motherteresa.org/layout.html

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for August 13, 2006

John 6:41-51

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: resistance to Jesus' Bread from Heaven teaching. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

THE JEWS	MURMURED	THE BREAD
HEAVEN	SON OF JOSEPH	FATHER
MOTHER	ANSWERED	NO ONE
UNLESS	RAISE	LAST DAY
TAUGHT BY GOD	COMES	FROM GOD
SEEN	ETERNAL LIFE	MANNA
MAY EAT	FOREVER	MY FLESH

TAUGHT BY GOD

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

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DAVIDSON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

those who are cohabiting are least likely to say that. Catholics with four or more minors living at home are more likely than other Catholics to say that their social life revolved around fellow parishioners (quite likely other Catholics with young children).

Finally, parishes are especially important social units for Catholics who are marginalized in terms of race, ethnicity, household income and social prominence. African-American and Hispanic Catholics are more likely than others to say their social lives revolve their parishes. Also, the lower

parishioners' incomes, the more likely their social lives are to revolve around people they have met through their parishes. Higher income parishioners' social lives are more likely to include people who do not belong to their parish. Catholics in the South and West (where there are fewer Catholics) are more likely than Catholics in the Northeast and Midwest (where Catholics are more numerous) to say their social lives involve other people from their parish. Under these circumstances, Catholics tend to seek out other Catholics, and parishes are important vehicles for doing so.

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

Grieving our losses



THE CUTTING EDGE

SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

When we think about the losses we have experienced in our lives, most of us would probably think of the death of loved ones. Death, of course, is a major loss but there are other losses that also need to be grieved.

This topic is foremost in my mind right now as I prepare to move out of Our Lady of Hungary Convent where I have called home for over 10 years and our congregation for 12 years. Fifteen Sisters of the Holy Cross have fond memories of life lived there and so do many others who came to dinners and other celebrations. Since I am the only remaining community member it is time to move on. It is not without strong feelings of loss that we do so. The feelings are similar to those I felt when we closed our family home in New Jersey.

Years ago I read an excellent book by Judith Voigt entitled "Necessary Losses." She focuses on the need to grieve the many losses we experience in our lives in order to be whole persons. She points out the tendency for many people to ignore or not to think too much about the pain they cause. Too many people have the tendency to go from one thing to another with little thought about the affect the new experience can have on their lives.

Losses are big and small. Death, divorce, moving, losing a job, breaking off with someone you love are to name a few. Even changing schools or parishes or the death of a pet are losses. So too are not being able to do things we once could because of poor health or aging.

Some smaller, but not insignificant losses, would be not getting picked for the sports team or the school play or not being asked to the prom or someone's birthday party. All of these things can cause us pain.

As happy as graduation is for most students, it is also a loss. It means letting go of the familiar and facing a new situation whether it is a new school or a new job. High school is different from elementary and college is different from high school. And life in the work world is not like that

of a college or university.

Transition takes energy and is not always easy-actually, it never is. Letting go is hard. It just doesn't happen overnight. It is a process that takes time and can be very stressful. Ignoring our losses can wear us down. If we don't grieve well we can never really let go and enter fully into the new phase of our lives.

When we do not grieve our losses we can get stuck in the past and never move ahead. An example would be the first year student in college who always talks about what they used to do in her high school or the new employee who is always comparing his new job with the one he just left. It is okay when someone is in transition but it can be unhealthy when it goes on and on. The person can never enter fully into the present. When people refuse to give up the past they get stuck and can't move on with their lives.

Sister Joyce Rupp wrote a book entitled, "Praying Our Goodbyes." It always reminds me of how important it is to ritualize our losses and to bring God into these situations. In fact, we don't have to bring God into any part of our lives we just have to remember that God is already with us in all of our transitions and will continue to be with us, loving us at every



YOUNG ADULT PERSPECTIVES

moment, in whatever new situation we find ourselves.

I will keep trying to remember that as I pack each box and say my farewell to the old convent on West Calvert Street and to the wonderful neighbors and people of Our Lady of Hungary.

Sister Margie Lavonis, CSC, a former campus minister and vocation director, works for the Sisters of the Holy Cross communications department. mlavonis@cscsisters.org.

Ecumenical 'Seeds of the Spirit' spiritual formation at Lindenwood

BY JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

DONALDSON — Five years ago Judy Wilson was searching for something.

"I desired an opportunity to grow more deeply into God," Wilson said via e-mail.

She said later, "I felt that there was 'something more' for me, and I had a longing for whatever that 'something more' was."

What she finally found — an expanded image of God and a life of prayer she had never experienced — she discovered over the course of two years in "Seeds of the Spirit," a Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center spiritual formation program.

Seeds of the Spirit was created five years ago as an ecumenical spiritual formation program for Christians wanting to further their relationships with God, according to Loretta Peters, director of Lindenwood.

Lindenwood itself, a sponsored ministry of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ in Donaldson, is designed to help people to grow spiritually.

According to Rev. Dr. David Moffett-Moore, one of the founders of the Seeds program, Lindenwood has been a part of his spiritual journey since the 1980s.

At the time the Seeds program was formed, Moffett-Moore was pastor of the First United Church of Christ in Plymouth and bringing members of his congregation to Lindenwood for group retreats. He and the previous director of Lindenwood talked about wanting to create a long-term spiritual formation program. Moffett-Moore and others investigated other spiritual formation programs around the country and came up with on for Lindenwood.

"From the beginning this has



JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

Loretta Peters, director of the Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center, is taking registrations for a two-year spiritual formation program called Seeds of the Spirit at the retreat center in Donaldson, just west of Plymouth. Lindenwood is a sponsored ministry of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ.

been uniquely Lindenwood," Moffett-Moore said. "It's not borrowing or copying, and it's welcoming to all Christians."

Moffett-Moore said it was important that the program be ecumenical because they wanted it to be inclusive of the Christian experience.

And, too, Moffett-Moore said, that's been the desire of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ, who are inspired by Mary, the first handmaid, and PHJC founder Blessed Catherine Kasper.

"They pride themselves on their openness of the Christian experience," said Moffett-Moore, who is now pastor of St. Peter's United Church of Christ in Frankfort, Ill. "The sisters want to host and to be open to all with the Christian experience. The first 1,500, we were all Catholic and many Protestants don't know that."

The Seeds spiritual formation classes, which meet once per month over two years are not designed to convert others to a different brand of Christianity, Moffett-Moore explained. Rather, they're designed to help people grow along in their own Christian tradition; hence, the program logo — a Celtic knot — titled "Many paths, one center."

While the two-year commitment to the program may seem daunting, the first year of monthly meetings on Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. are centered around foundational elements of spirituality like "Who is God," "Images of God" and several classes on types of prayer. The second year of classes touch more on historical surveys of Catholicism, the Reformation, Protestantism and how our Christianity plays out in social justice and ecological issues.

The 2006 through 2007 session begins meeting on Sept. 16 through May 19, with a break during the summer. The 2007 through 2008 session begins meeting Sept. 15 through May 17.

Part of the spiritual formation program sees members form seed groups, which Moffett-Moore said are the "heart of the experience" and where spiritual transformation is likely to happen. These seed groups ask, "how goes it with our souls," Moffett-Moore said and allow participants to be vulnerable to one another to experience spiritual companionship.

"This isn't just informational," Moffett-Moore said of the spiritual formation program. "We're hoping people use it as an opportunity to look within."

He said he has personally witnessed changed lives through the program.

"We have seen the weak made strong and the broken made whole and the thirsty given drink," Moffett-Moore said. "I think it has touched lives and helped people grow in their faith. In the smaller

seed groups it can be frightening to be utterly honest and transparent, but that's how transformation happens."

Wilson, who is from South Bend, said she was challenged by the program with the idea that her image of God likely reflects the way she treats others.

"I was stretched to expand my own image of God," Wilson said. "Another important session that first year was one on centering prayer, but I had never heard of this way of praying, of being silent before God and listening to the Spirit speak. My relationship with God has changed, has grown deeper."

The cost of the program is \$750, though three \$125 payments may be made and are due each September, November and February. The price includes lunch, materials and teaching from experts in their fields.

For more information, contact Loretta Peters at (574) 935-1780, visit the Web site at www.lindenwood.org or e-mail at lw@lindenwood.org.

Part-time Immigration Caseworker

Catholic Charities seeks an individual to provide assistance in completing required documentation/paperwork for immigrants in Allen County and surrounding counties. The qualified applicant will have a Bachelor's degree in a human services or business-related field, be detail-oriented, be comfortable working with various government agencies, and have the ability to work under minimal supervision. Excellent written and verbal skills are a must. Bilingual is preferred. A working knowledge of word processing, spreadsheet, and e-mail applications (prefer Microsoft Office) is desirable. This position will require some travel in a 9-county area, plus mandatory out-of-town training. Please send resume to:

Attn: Operations Director - Catholic Charities
315 East Washington Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46802
e-mail: dkrabach@ccfwsb.org

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.

GAP group meets at St. Elizabeth

Fort Wayne — "The GAP" a new faith-based social group for widowed, divorced and single men and women who range in age from the 40s to the 60s, will hold a game night on Friday, Aug. 18, at 7 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Parish. Those attending are encouraged to bring a snack or beverage to share. The group meets the third Friday of each month. The mission of this ministry outreach is to provide a safe environment where mature single Catholic-Christian men and women can enjoy Christian fellowship within group activities. For information e-mail gap4565@msn.com or call (260) 432-7346.

Free sports physicals

Grabill — Christian Community Healthcare Clinic, 13410 Main St., will offer free sports physicals on Tuesday, Aug. 15, from 8:30 a.m. to noon and from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and on Wednesday Aug. 16 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Bring your school physical exam form. Donations accepted. Call (260) 609-9190 for information.

Back to school clothing sale

Bristol — St. Mary's Parish, 411 W. Vistula, will have a back to school clothing sale on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 11 and 12, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. All clothing priced 75 cents or lower.

Home schoolers to meet

South Bend — Catholic Home Schoolers Michiana will hold their annual planning meeting for the 2006-2007 academic year at 7 pm on Monday, August 21 at the Francis Branch Public Library on Ironwood Road in South Bend. New members welcome! Call Amy McInerny for more information 574-247-4592.

Jewels from the treasure chest

Fort Wayne — A bookclub will meet at a local coffee house once a month beginning Sept. 18, and discuss and read excerpts from "The Treasury of Catholic Wisdom," by Father John Hardon, SJ. Call (260) 224-2959 or e-mail justadorehim@hotmail.com for information.

Music boosters need vendors for craft bazaar

Fort Wayne — The Bishop Dwenger Music Boosters have openings for the craft bazaar to be held on Saturday, Nov. 11. Call Terry Luebke at (260) 483-5750 for information.

Family picnic and Mass in the park

South Bend — Father Tom Jones, CSC, will celebrate an outdoor Mass in St. Patrick's Park on Sunday, Aug. 27. Mass will be followed by a picnic and games. Tickets are \$5 per person or \$10 per family and must be purchased in advance. Tickets available after all Masses beginning Aug. 6.

Centering prayer

South Bend — Centering prayer is held every Tuesday from 4 to 5 p.m. at Little Flower Chapel, 54191 N. Ironwood.

Legacy luncheon held

South Bend — The St. Vincent de Paul Society will celebrate its 100th anniversary with a Legacy Luncheon to be held at the University of Notre Dame Joyce Athletic and Convocation Center on Thursday, Sept. 7, from 11:30 a.m. till 1 p.m. The guest speaker will be Rev. Edward 'Monk' Malloy, CSC, president emeritus of the University of Notre Dame. Unique items will be available at a silent auction. For information contact Sean Wendlinder at (574) 251-4908.

Hog roast fund raiser

South Bend — Sacred Heart of Jesus, Lakeville, will have a hog roast on Sunday, Aug. 13, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sacred Heart of Jesus Church is located at 63568 U.S. 31. Call the parish office for tickets at (574) 291-2826. Adults and carry-out \$8. Children age 6-12 \$3. Children 5 and under free. Tickets also available at the door.

Rummage sale planned for August

Kendallville — Immaculate Conception Parish, on Oak and Diamond streets, will have a rummage sale on Friday, Aug. 11, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturday, Aug. 12, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. \$1.50 bag sale on Saturday.

Hannah's House announces ND football ticket raffle

Mishawaka — Hannah's House will raffle off a pair of 2006 Notre Dame football season tickets through Aug. 31. Tickets are 1 for \$5, 3 for \$10 and 7 for \$20. Call (574) 254-5309 to purchase tickets or for more information.

REST IN PEACE

Culver

John Joseph Deery, 59,
St. Mary of the Lake

Decatur

Celeste R. Peterson, 84,
St. Mary of the
Assumption

Elkhart

Joseph A. Spancik, 74,
St. Vincent de Paul

Carlos Mendez, 69,
St. Vincent de Paul

Ever A. Bonilla, 20,
St. Vincent de Paul

Timothy D. Casey, 59,
St. Vincent de Paul

Suzanne Keene, 80,
St. Thomas the Apostle

Thomas R. Keene, 86,
St. Thomas the Apostle

Fort Wayne

Rita M. Hixon, 83,
St. Jude

Rosemary L. Didier
White Berghoff, 80,
St. Vincent de Paul

Orval E. Gibson, 85,
St. Therese

Loretta M. Dodane, 87,
St. Therese

Rose Mary Perkins, 89,
St. Jude

Father Frank E.
Kronewitter, 69,
St. Anne Home

Eloise Crosby Gamble,
St. John the Baptist

Timothy M. Castle, 42,
St. Elizabeth Ann
Seton

Granger

James H. Boehnlein,
72, St. Pius X

Mishawaka

Stanley Wrobel, 89,
St. Hedwig

New Haven

Thomas A. Rondot, 50,
St. John the Baptist

Jesse L. Murua, 80,
St. John the Baptist

Notre Dame

Sister M. Laurus Slee,
CSC, 75, Our Lady of
Loretto

Plymouth

Benny J. Wielgus Sr.,
86, St. Michael

Roanoke

Ethel M. Driver, 91,
St. Joseph

South Bend

Eugene F. Stankiewicz,
89, St. Anthony de
Padua

Alfred G. Kazmierczak,
92, Christ the King

Elma M. Valvo, 83,
Our Lady of Hungary

Irene M. Kruyer, 81,
Christ the King

Margaret E. Holmes,
96, St. Patrick

Belen Cruz, stillborn,
St. Casimir

Virginia M.
Waldschmidt, 78,
St. Patrick

Waterloo

Charles F. Gass, 95, St.
Michael the Archangel



Archdiocese of Indianapolis Pilgrimage to Italy for the Canonization of Blessed Mother Theodore Guérin October 11-19, 2006

Led by Most Reverend Daniel M. Buechlein, O.S.B.

ITINERARY: Tour of Siena, including site of the Eucharistic miracle, the Piazza del Campo, Siena's main square. San Gimignano, the historic city of towers. In Rome, visit the Basilicas of Santa Maria Maggiore and St. John Lateran and the Catacombs. Vespers in the Church of the Gesu. Canonization Mass of Blessed Mother Theodore Guérin. Sightseeing walking tour of the city center including the Trevi Fountain and Pantheon. Thanksgiving Mass in St. Paul's Outside the Walls. Tour of the Vatican Museum, Sistine Chapel, and St. Peter's Basilica. ASSISI DAY TRIP: Full day tour to Assisi. Celebrate Mass in the Basilica of St. Francis. Have free time for shopping. Wednesday: General Audience with the Holy Father. Afternoon free. Farewell dinner. Optional afternoon tour to Monte Cassino with visit to the Abbey. Cost: 40 Euros.

TRIP INCLUDES

- Round Trip, economy class, non-refundable air transportation from Indianapolis to Italy. •Deluxe air-conditioned and rest room equipped motor coach transportation while in Italy. •First class hotel accommodations in Rome and best hotel in Siena.
- 12 meals - 7 breakfasts - 1 lunch - 4 dinners
- Hotel baggage handling for one suitcase. •Sightseeing per itinerary.
- Daily Mass. •Participation in Vespers service at the Church of the Gesu in Rome October 14. •Ticket to the Canonization of Blessed Mother Theodore Guérin in St. Peter's Square in the Vatican.
- Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Paul's Outside the Walls, Rome, October 16. •Tickets for General Audience with Holy Father, Rome, October 18. •Local English speaking tour guide. •Insured and bonded. •Price is based on exchange rate of \$1.25 per Euro.

TOUR PRICES: Double \$3,089 - Single \$3,769

For more information, contact Carolyn Noone
Archdiocese of Indianapolis • Telephone 317-236-1428
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THE Young Voice

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST SCHOOL is located in South Bend. The school has 175 students in grades preschool through eighth. Mrs. Janet Wroblewski is the principal. Additional information is available at sjbcs5@hotmail.com or by calling the school at (574) 232-9849.

Years of experience at St. John's

BY ABBIE GODELLEI, EIGHTH GRADE

I have attended St. John the Baptist School for eight years. This year will be my ninth. For some of my classmates, this will be their 10th year here.

St. John's is a wonderful school and parish. St. John's offers schooling for preschoolers to eighth graders. The classes are small but this allows us more attention from our teachers, which helps us learn more.

St. John's also has a terrific sports program. We can play football, softball, volleyball, basketball, baseball and track. Even if we lose (this doesn't happen often), we all have a blast just being on the field or court. Girls can also join the cheerleading squad.

This year we are starting a school newspaper. Last year, we started a quiz bowl team, which we are continuing with this year, and did well for being our first time doing it.

When you get into fifth grade, you have a chance to get elected to be on our student government. Students on student government get to help make choices involving our school.

St. John's also has a faith partner program. All of the classes are paired up with another class for the year.



JIM MAZURKIEWICZ

All the students from preschool through eighth grades show their school spirit by forming the SJ.

Once a month we get together with our faith partners for a fun activity. This program gives us the chance to learn about and help each other. The class that pairs up with kindergarten enjoys a Thanksgiving feast dressed as pilgrims and Indians and later celebrates a walrus wedding when learning the letter W. My favorite part of St. John's is

probably our teachers. All of our teachers are fun and you can tell that they care about each and every one of us. They also have fun and creative ways of teaching.

I like St. John's, and I know my schoolmates do too.

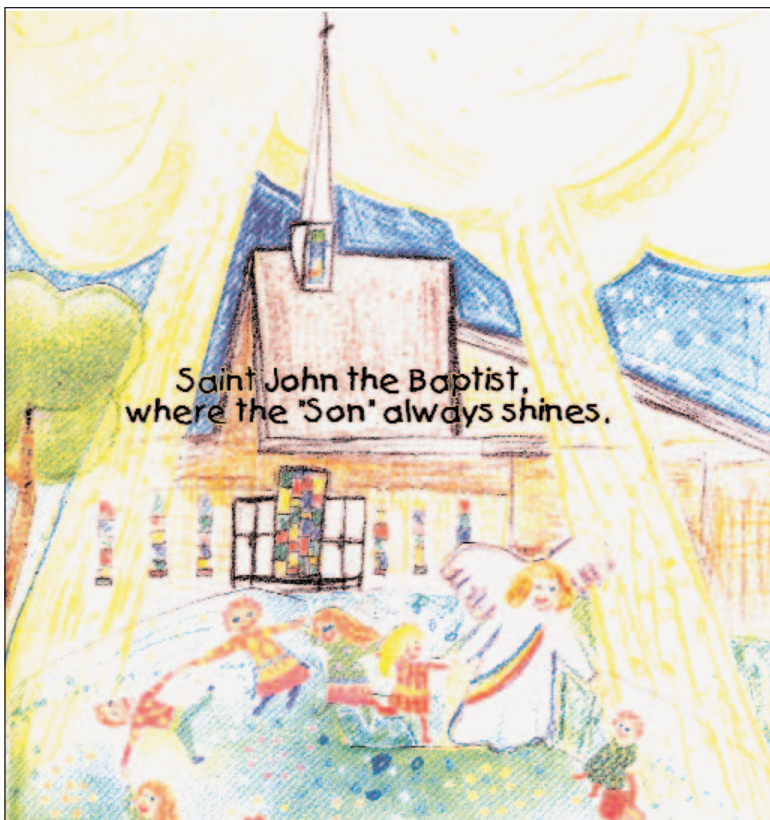
A Unique Family

BY JOSH WROBLEWSKI, SEVENTH GRADE

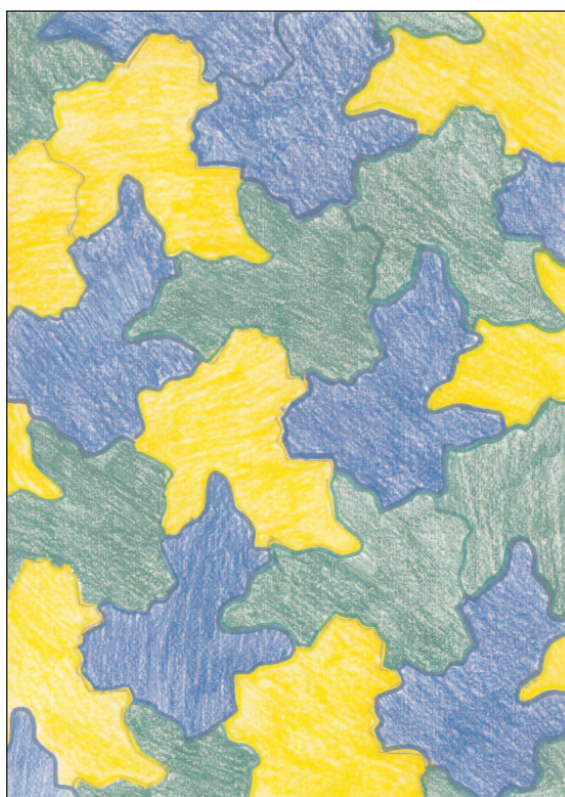
At the beginning of each school day many kids get out of their parents' cars and wave goodbye. I say goodbye to my mom too except I go wait in line with my classmates while my mom goes in the school. My mom is the principal of St. John's.

Mrs. Wroblewski, (my mom) is not only our principal but also a former student of St. John's. She likes to joke about being "the boss" to her former eighth grade teacher, Mrs. Redman. Mrs. Redman is now teaching fifth grade and will be starting her 37th year at St. John's. Three other teachers also attended St. John's. Mr. Maz teaches P.E. and computers, Mrs. Hagedorn is in fourth grade, and Miss Woltman is the kindergarten teacher.

Our connection to St. John's is also strong. My mom and my brothers and I were all baptized, made our first Communion, and are parishioners at St. John's. Many other students have parents who also attended St. John's. I think all of this makes my family and St. John's a unique family.



This depiction of St. John's Church and students was created by Bailey Williams for the St. John Yearbook cover.



Ashley Zielinski created this tessellation in her pre algebra class.



BRIAN WROBLEWSKI

Angelica Olivarez and Becca Zakowski are good friends as well as teammates for St. John's softball team.



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