

# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

## Pope urges a religious values revival for society going 'deaf' to God



CNS PHOTO/PAWEL KOPCZYNSKI, REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI blesses pilgrims during a Mass at a fairground in Munich, Germany, Sept. 10. Some 250,000 people gathered at the fairground in Munich, where the pope served as archbishop from 1977 to 1981.

BY JOHN THAVIS

MUNICH, Germany (CNS) — On the first leg of a six-day visit to his Bavarian homeland, Pope Benedict XVI urged a revival of religious values in a society that he said risks going “deaf” to God.

“Put simply, we are no longer able to hear God — there are too many different frequencies filling our ears,” the pope said at a Mass in Munich Sept. 10.

“Along with this hardness of hearing or outright deafness where God is concerned, we naturally lose our ability to speak with him and to him. And so we end up losing a decisive capacity for perception,” he said.

The pope spoke to some 250,000 people gathered at a fairground in Munich, where he was archbishop from 1977 to 1981. Arriving for the liturgy, he was cheered as he rode a popemobile through a crowd that waved German, Bavarian and Vatican flags.

The pope told reporters on his plane that he was making the Sept. 9-14 visit in part to see and thank the people who made a difference in his life and to join fellow German Catholics in celebrating their faith.

But the pope also took aim at secularization in his homeland, explaining at an airport welcoming ceremony Sept. 9 that he worried whether the centuries of Christian values were being transmitted to younger generations of Germans.

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## Fallen firefighters honored in Fort Wayne memorial

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — With the approach of 9/11, the Fort Wayne Fire Department paid honor to the families of its own 16 firefighters who lost their lives in service to the community. The memorial service, held Sept. 9 at the downtown fire station, included an invocation by Bishop John M. D’Arcy.

The fire department is dear to Bishop D’Arcy. His brother-in-law, Hugh Sheridan, is a firefighter. Before the invocation, Bishop D’Arcy recalled how his brother-in-law, at the rededication of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Dec. 8, 1998 in Fort Wayne, wanted to know if the cathedral had a standpipe. It does. And within a year, the fire department responded to a fire at the cathedral when a candle on the Advent wreath caught fire.

Bishop D’Arcy noted that the firefighters responding thought they had another St. Mary’s situation. But that was not the case, and the bishop praised the department for their quick response. He also praised the department for their efforts to save what could be saved from St. Mary Church in Fort Wayne when a fire caused by lightning

destroyed the grand church Sept. 2, 1993.

The bishop said these brave people run towards the flame willing to risk and give their life. Blessed is he who is willing to lay down his life for a friend.

The bishop also noted the fire department’s activities to visit school properties and make sure the properties as well as the children are safe.

In his prayer, Bishop D’Arcy mentioned the heroic efforts of the 9/11 emergency responders who gave their lives.

Fort Wayne Mayor Graham Richard talked about how, as a child, his father taught him not to ever take for granted how people such as the firefighters have to prepare to serve the public.

And Fort Wayne Fire Chief Tim Davie said he was thankful that the department did not lose any firefighters in a very dangerous magnesium fire that hit an industrial plant on Fort Wayne’s north side in August.

Lynn Rager, the widow of the firefighter Michael Rager — the last Fort Wayne firefighter to lose his life while on duty March 22, 1972 — spoke of the fraternal relationship of the firefighters even 34 years after her husband’s death. Firefighter Rager’s

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## 9-11 REMEMBERED



DON CLEMMER

Bishop John M. D’Arcy gives the homily at a Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne commemorating the fifth anniversary of 9/11. Bishop D’Arcy said that Christians need only look to the example of the cross of Christ to see that evil does not ultimately triumph in the world.

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## TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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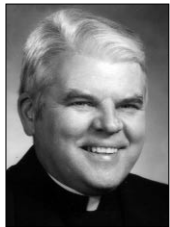
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# Migrant workers, firefighters and birthdays fill a bustling week



## NEWS & NOTES

**BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY**

### A special night in Geneva

Not Geneva, Switzerland, but Geneva, Ind. Every year, those known as migrant workers come to Indiana. Formerly, I found them near Bluffton and would celebrate Mass in their camps. In recent years, they work for the Red Gold Company near Geneva. Traditionally, they worked in the fields picking tomatoes. Some still do in other parts of the country. Here they work mostly in the canning factories. So, early on a Sunday evening, with the help of our outstanding director of ministry to Hispanic Catholics, Enid Roman-DeJesus, I celebrated Mass with them at St. Mary of the Presentation Church in Geneva. There were 35 to 40 in attendance at this small country church.

It is always special to go to Geneva for several reasons. It is one of our smallest parishes, about eight miles off the main road. Take a left at the blinking light and you will find it. Founded in 1883, it has always meant a great deal to the farmers in the area. Many come from Ohio to attend Sunday Mass.

Also, it is St. Mary of the Presentation Church. I grew up in a parish called Our Lady of the Presentation, now, sadly, closed. No Mass has been celebrated there for over two years.

This night was joyful. I celebrated Mass in Spanish, with Isaac McDonald, the deacon reading the Gospel in Spanish. Two women from among the migrant workers did the other readings. Remember, these are United States citizens who come from south Texas, deep in the Rio Grande Valley not far from Brownsville. Their children go to school here while they are in this area. It was a joy to celebrate with them. Next year we must do more for them, including religious education for their children.

Deacon Isaac brought clothes from the parish of St. Mary, Decatur, and they were gathered up immediately. After the Mass, our diocese presented them with a lovely Mexican dinner. I saw again some Geneva parishioners, my friends, Gene and Nancy Subler and their sons, Eric and Nathan. Nathan's wife, Mary Lou, a native of Peru, is expecting her first baby. I also saw Mary Agnes and Gary Muhlenkamp. They are dairy farmers, and the Sublers run a cement business. I had supper with them and also with several of the workers. In response to my question, the migrant workers told me that they work seven days a week, 12 hours a day. One man I spoke to receives \$9.50 an

hour. Some receive less. Yet, this money is important to them and helps them to raise their children.

How important it is that they meet the church in their journey. In my homily, I told them that Christ wanted to walk with them throughout the country, and that is why the bishop was there. I also told them that Christ identified with them very much because he spoke about his own travels saying "the Son of Man does not have any where to lay his head."

Enid is lining up priests who are fluent in Spanish so that every Sunday night there will be a Mass at St. Mary of the Presentation Parish. Father Bosco Perera, OMI, was our very gracious host.

Everyone enjoyed the dinner. What little was left over, our guests took home. I felt a sense of great joy as I wound down the country road back to Route 27 and north toward home.

### The men who run toward the fire

We should say the men and women because women also now serve. It was a

In response to my question, the migrant workers told me that they work seven days a week, 12 hours a day.

One man I spoke to receives \$9.50 an hour.

Some receive less. Yet, this money is important to them and helps them to raise their children.

privilege to be invited to the annual memorial of the Fort Wayne firefighters on a warm and sunny day and, along with the mayor of Fort Wayne, to lead a prayer. It was for all the firefighters in that community who have died in the line of duty. A special talk was given by Lynn Rager. Her husband died in a fire in 1972 and was the last firefighter to give his life in the line of duty. She read letters from his children, boys and girls grown now with families of their own. One was only 7 years old when his father died. They told how much they missed him over the years. It moved us all.

I thanked the firefighters for their work at St. Mary Church fire many years ago, and also for saving the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception when a serious fire broke out there shortly after its restoration.

### Working together

Throughout the country, parishes with schools in urban areas are in distress. The recent Legacy of Faith will give us the ability to help our parishes with schools. What is necessary is close collaboration between these parishes and the diocese. Joe Ryan, our gifted and devoted chief financial officer, has set aside 10 parishes which need attention. Joe and I have just completed meeting with five of them. We have also

begun to include our very competent new superintendent of schools, Father Steve Kempinger, CSC. Father Bob Schulte will join them to meet with the five other parishes.

What makes these meetings effective and helps set the parish on the right financial course is when parishioners attend, especially members of the Parish Finance Council or the Parish School Board. These are usually men and women with backgrounds in finance. Recently, we had a lady who is CFO of a company. They understand finances, living within a budget and doing things properly. When these meetings take place, the diocese emerges as a helper, not as an adversary. I find these meetings encouraging and helpful. Parishes have to pay their bills and live within a budget if the parish is to grow.

### A special feast day

My mother's birthday was Sept. 8. She used to speak of it in the Irish language "Lo Mush a Mor." Literally translated, she said it meant "The Big Lady's Day." My mom and dad had only a few words in Irish, but they loved to hear it spoken or — even better — sung.

I thought of her while celebrating Mass in the downtown chapel in South Bend on the feast day. Mary was so real to her. Who was the human instrument of this? Was it her own mother? Her father died when she was a baby. Her mother raised the children and drove the cattle many miles to the town of Belmullet to sell them. Mom knew sacrifice, love and unselfishness at an early age, and

I thought of her and my dad on her special birthday. I think she would be 110 years old. She often talked about carrying her shoes in her hand over the mountain and then putting them on when she went into church. She is in heaven praying for her children and grandchildren.

### Odds and ends

Like a good citizen, I had my time at the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles renewing my license. It took an hour and a half. From what you read, that was small compared to some. Fortunately, I brought some reading with me.

I celebrated Mass on the Sunday of Labor Day weekend at St. Martin de Porres Parish, Syracuse. What a joy to see the beautiful extension of the church and the new catechetical center. Congratulations to Father Terry Place who has overseen all of this despite his serious illness.

The Irish looked strong against Penn State and the legendary Joe Paterno. Now comes Michigan. I hope to be there.

See you all next week.



A nun holds up a picture of Jesus and Mary as the helicopter carrying Pope Benedict XVI flies over Bavaria's spiritual center of Altotting, Germany, Sept. 11. The German-born pontiff's visit to Altotting was a mixture of private prayer, personal reminiscences and liturgical celebrations with flag-waving believers.

CNS PHOTO/WOLFGANG RATTAY, REUTERS

# Bishop tells migrant workers that Christ walks with them

BY DON CLEMMER

GENEVA — Bishop John M. D'Arcy told migrant workers gathered for Sunday evening Mass that he had come to St. Mary of the Presentation Parish so that they might believe that it was Jesus Christ who welcomes them, both to the parish and to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

The bishop's annual Mass welcoming the migrant workers and their families to the diocese is a tradition that has gone on for most of Bishop D'Arcy's time in Fort Wayne-South Bend. Mostly from Texas, the group of roughly 300 workers travels the country throughout the season, the months of August through mid-October bringing them to the far Southeast corner of the diocese to work at the Red Gold tomato factory in Geneva. According to Enid Roman-DeJesus, coordinator of the Diocesan Office for Hispanic Ministry, the Mass is a way for the diocese to "let them know we're here for them."

In his homily, translated into Spanish on site by Roman-DeJesus, Bishop D'Arcy said that since the workers were far from home, working long hours for little pay and living in difficult conditions, that Christ was particularly close to them, as the Scriptures emphasized Christ's preferential love for the poor and disadvantaged. He also noted that Scripture says, "The Son of Man has no place to lay his head," another way in which Jesus identifies with the migrant workers.



DON CLEMMER

Bishop John M. D'Arcy enjoys a Mexican dinner with the migrant workers following the Sunday evening Mass at St. Mary of the Presentation Parish in Geneva. The Mass is an example of what Bishop D'Arcy calls the church's responsibility to show the migrant workers that Christ walks with them in their plight.

Unfortunately, only a fraction of the migrant workers were able to make it to the Mass because the 12-hour shifts they work kept some of them from attending.

After Mass, Bishop D'Arcy joined the workers, their families and members of the parish community for a Mexican dinner in the parish hall. Also available at that time were food and clothing items that had been collected as part of a summer youth project at St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in Decatur. Deacon Isaac McDonald, of that parish, brought the items and celebrated Mass with Bishop D'Arcy. Deacon McDonald is originally from Lubbock, Texas, but has

been ministering to the migrant community in this diocese for about five years.

"It's to show that the church cares and is with them," Bishop D'Arcy said of the Mass. "It's like the pope said, that the church can no more neglect the ministry of charity than it can the word of God or the sacraments, but in this little visit you're able to do all three — the word of God, the sacrament of the Eucharist and also the mission of charity, to feed them."

Masses for the migrant workers will continue at St. Mary of the Presentation Parish every Sunday night through Oct. 15.

# Pope visits sanctuary where he prayed as child

BY JOHN THAVIS

ALTOTTING, Germany (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI retraced his childhood pilgrimage steps, visiting Bavaria's most famous Marian sanctuary and saying Mass for more than 60,000 people.

The pope's visit to Altotting Sept. 11 was a mixture of private prayer, personal reminiscences and liturgical celebrations with flag-waving believers.

In a sermon, he said the essence of true prayer is giving God a place "in the world, in our lives and letting him enter into our time and our activity."

Pope Benedict has said some of his most beautiful memories were those of his family pilgrimages to the Altotting sanctuary.

He returned there for the first

time as pope, stopping in an octagonal chapel to pray before a much-venerated statue of the "Black Madonna." The small linden wood statue, darkened by candle soot and surrounded by votive medallions, has been revered for more than 500 years.

The Altotting sanctuary is known as the "heart of Bavaria," in part because the hearts of Bavarian kings and princes are preserved in silver urns inside the church. Through the centuries, all of them swore special allegiance to Mary.

The image of Mary, decorated with jewels, was later moved to an outdoor altar platform where the pope celebrated Mass.

He dedicated his homily to the figure of Mary, saying she inspires

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# MUNICH

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The next day at the Mass, which was broadcast across Germany, the pope focused on liturgical readings that spoke of God as the center of all reality and the center of personal life.

When people lose the ability to communicate with God, he said, they also lose a capacity for perception. This "dangerously curtails the range of our relationship with reality," he said.

The pope said belief in God is not something that removes people from the world, but draws them closer to a sense of responsibility and justice in society. Christians in particular reflect Jesus' concern for the poor and marginalized, he said.

"We are not asking for something off in the distance," he said. "We pray that justice and love may become the decisive forces affecting our world."

Dressed in brilliant green vestments, the pope celebrated Mass on a platform decorated with yellow and white flowers, beneath a sky that matched the blue of the Bavarian flags.

Martin Strasser came to the Mass from a nearby village with the rest of his volunteer firefighter

unit, including several Protestants. He said he was paying particular attention to the sermon, "so I can find out something of the motivation of the pope and the issues he considers important."

Others said the pope's Bavarian connection made the Mass special.

"It sends shivers down your spine to hear the Bavarian pope speak. His words were good, but you never agree with him 100 percent," said Juergen Schwarz.

Seated near the pope were Germany's bishops, and the pope praised their efforts and the German church's generosity toward poorer areas of the world.

The pope also expressed a gentle criticism. He said some African bishops have told him that German church organizations are happy to open purse strings for social projects, but are less than enthusiastic about funding evangelization initiatives.

These Third World bishops, he said, understand that evangelization comes first.

The pope said Christ must be known and hearts must be converted "if progress is to be made on social issues and reconciliation is to begin, and if, for example, AIDS is to be combated by realistically facing its deeper causes."

"Social issues and the Gospel are inseparable. When we bring people only knowledge, ability,

technical competence and tools, we bring them too little," the pope said.

The pope drew on his experience in dealing with African and Asian bishops to make a wider point: that Western secular trends worry many in the developing world.

"They are frightened by a form of rationality that totally excludes God from man's vision, as if this were the highest form of reason and one to be imposed on other cultures, too," he said.

He said these people feel threatened by the "contempt for God" and by a cynicism that considers "mockery of the sacred to be an exercise in freedom."

While Western societies often preach tolerance, the pope said what the world really needs is a tolerance that "includes the fear of God" and respect for what others hold sacred.

The theme of the papal visit was "He who believes is never alone," and the pope emphasized that liturgies and prayers are what bring the Catholic community together in a special way.

But the pope said he was also thinking of other Christian communities, particularly Lutherans and Orthodox, during his visit.

In a welcoming speech at the airport, President Horst Koehler, a Protestant, made a point of underlining the strong desire of many

Germans for ecumenical progress. His words were greeted by strong applause among the several hundred people who sat in bleachers and watched the brief ceremony.

The pope departed from his prepared remarks to respond, telling the president that while the church cannot simply erase 500 years of separation it is committed to working toward Christian unity "with our hearts and our heads."

The pope went from the airport to Marienplatz (Mary's Square) in the heart of Munich to pray before a gilded bronze statue of Mary.

He rode his Mercedes popemobile down streets lined with thousands of well-wishers, and, stepping out in the square, he spread his arms to the crowd and smiled broadly at their applause. Residents packed the downtown area and watched from every window.

The pope recalled that he had prayed at Marienplatz when he was named archbishop of Munich and Friesing and when he left Munich in 1981 to serve as head of the Vatican's doctrinal congregation.

Then he told a story about a bear. According to Bavarian legend, the first bishop and patron saint of the Diocese of Freising, St. Corbinian, was on his way to Rome when a bear attacked and killed his horse. St. Corbinian punished the bear by making him

carry the saint's belongings the rest of the way to Rome.

The pope, who put the bear on his papal coat of arms, said he's always found in this image the encouragement to carry out his ministry with confidence and joy, like a beast of burden. He noted that St. Corbinian set his bear free in Rome.

"In my case, the Lord decided otherwise," he said.

The pope met privately on the first day of his visit with German political leaders at the Residenz palace in Munich. Afterward, Koehler told reporters the pope had inquired about dialogue with German Muslims and their situation in the country.

The pope also met with German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Minister-President Edmund Stoiber of Bavaria.

In his final pastoral event in Munich, the pope celebrated an evening prayer service in the city's cathedral with young first communicants.

One sour note came early Sept. 10 when vandals threw balloons filled with blue paint against the house where the pope was born in Marktl am Inn. The pope was scheduled to visit the house the next day. The Vatican said it was a minor, secondary incident.

# St. Vincent School students look back 125 years

BY KRISTI WARD

ELKHART — Girls in beribboned bonnets and long dresses giggled and chattered as they stood in circles. Boys in knickers and caps chased each other around the playground. A teacher stepped forward and rang a large hand bell — and lines formed as children started another school day ... with a historic twist.

"This day is in remembrance and celebration of 125 years of education at St. Vincent School," said Donna Quinn, principal for eight years and a teacher at the school for 27 years. "We started Sept. 5, 1881, in an old rookery on this property."

To mark the anniversary, current students and staff dressed in 1881-style clothes and reenacted teaching activities from that era, even using slate boards and chalk.

Past students and former teachers and administrators were honored at a breakfast before the ribbon cutting, where the St. Vincent devotees laughed and shared stories of former school days.

"I have really happy memories of St. Vincent," said Sister Joan Elizabeth Johnson, CSC, who taught sixth and seventh grades at St. Vincent School from 1956-59. "One person told me what they remembered about me was they knew I really loved them — and I said 'oh, that's the nicest thing anybody ever said' because you really don't know what kids remember."

The trip to the past brought

to mind other things from the days of nuns in full habits. "Paper plates, fried eggs, rising sun — we had all kinds of names," Sister Johnson said with a chuckle.

Bonnie Master was principal of the school from 1976-87. She remembered how St. Vincent School families would pull together — especially the time code regulations required every classroom in the three-story school to be moved to a different floor.

"That was a wonderful thing that the parents did — in two days they moved every one of the classrooms," Master said.

Quinn said that family sense of cooperation and love is still part of St. Vincent.

"It's a wonderful place," said Quinn. "When you walk in, I think you can feel the spirituality — a lot of people still say when they walk in they can feel this place is full of love."

As students gathered at the front steps of the school, St. Vincent pastor Father Phil DeVolder gave thanks for the school and asked God's continuing blessings.

Then Elkhart Mayor David Miller stepped forward to speak to the students.

"Thank God, he raised up a father and some sisters to come to this place and care about children like you," Miller said. "On behalf of the city, thank you for caring for the children and investing so much of your time and energy for their future — not just their minds, but their hearts."

And then as the students, teachers and honored guests



PHOTOS BY KRISTI R. WARD

Students at St. Vincent de Paul School in Elkhart dressed in clothing styles from 1881 and reenacted teaching activities from that era as part of the school's 125th anniversary celebration.

looked on, Ed Wenzel — graduate of St. Vincent in 1933 and past Alumni of the Year — cut the golden ribbon with the help of student Matthew McDonough.

And another year of love and learning at St. Vincent School began.



Ed Wenzel, graduate of St. Vincent de Paul school in Elkhart in 1933 and past Alumni of the Year, cuts the golden ribbon to celebrate the school's 125th anniversary with the help of student Matthew McDonough as Principal Donna Quinn looks on.



Kathleen Anderson is one of more than 30 Barnes & Thornburg attorneys providing legal services to their fellow parishioners in the Diocese of Fort Wayne - South Bend.

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# Catholicism Revealed on tap at St. Vincent de Paul Parish

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

FORT WAYNE — A unique new adult program, which is the brainchild of parishioner Kathy Fean, is slated to begin early next month at St. Vincent Parish in Fort Wayne.

Fean emphasizes that Catholicism Revealed will not be adult education, catechesis or formation, but the revelation of the Catholic faith by excellent speakers in conjunction with active participants.

The six-session series will kick off Monday, Oct. 9, with "Are You Catholic Enough?" Speaker for the evening will be prolific local author and reviewer of "The DaVinci Code," Amy Wellborn.

Fean notes that the discussion will begin where the participant is in his faith life, whether that person is a fallen-away Catholic looking to reconnect with the church, a brand new Catholic seeking further instruction in the faith or a good Catholic wanting to deepen his faith.

Planning for the series began several months ago when Fean approached St. Vincent pastor

Father John Kuzmich with her program idea, unsure what type of venue would be appropriate. The parish boasts such a strong youth program, says Fean, that she hoped for something similar for adult Catholics. He told her to put together a team, flesh out the idea and present it to him for consideration. With the assistance of core committee members Dorothy Schuerman, Rose Hillman, Ann Gray, Howard Fischer and Marilyn Fech, all of whom Fean calls "well-rounded in their faith," the approval of Father John was won and work began in earnest to bring their plans to fruition.

After the series opener, St. Vincent RCIA and Bishop Luers High School teacher Marilyn Fech will lead a discussion on "Mary and the Saints" and how they relate to our humanity. "She's wonderful," and is a well known and respected speaker, Fean says of Fech.

Fech will also be moderator for "Weapons of Our Faith," slated for Monday, Oct. 23, "Your Death — What's Next?" on Nov. 7 and "What Do You Want for Christmas?" on Nov. 13.

Guest speaker Michael Dubruel will present "Stand, Sit, Kneel — Why?" on Monday, Oct. 30, in a lively discussion geared to getting the most out of our participation in Holy Mass.

Catholicism Revealed will be both informational and inspirational, says Fean enthusiastically. "Just try it," she urges St. Vincent parishioners and others who are interested.

No registration is needed and the format will be casual, with breaks and time for questions. Each session is independent of the others, she says, so people may attend as their schedules permit. The program will run for six Mondays beginning on Oct. 9 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at St. Vincent's Spiritual Center. An optional prayer time will be held each week at 6:30 p.m.

Then in a pre-Lenten series beginning Monday, Jan. 8, Catholicism Revealed will resume for another six weeks. Fean confides that one speaker who has already confirmed his participation is the popular Father Michael Heintz, rector at St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend.

## MARY

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by leaving "everything to the Lord's judgment." He said that was exemplified in the Gospel account of the wedding at Cana, where Mary pointed out the lack of wine — but didn't demand a miracle from Jesus.

"She doesn't tell Jesus what to do," he said.

"This is how she teaches us to pray: not by seeking to affirm our own will and our own desires before God, but by letting him decide what he wants to do," he said.

Mary shows Christians how to be confident that "whatever (God) says in response will be best for us," he said.

The pope's older brother, Msgr. Georg Ratzinger, was among those concelebrating the Mass in the open area in front of the shrine. The crowd spilled into the side streets of the town, where photos of the pope and Vatican flags decorated shop windows.

When Bishop Wilhelm Schraml of Passau greeted the pope on the

altar with the words "Welcome home," the crowd erupted in applause. Many of the pilgrims had arrived in the early hours of the morning, starting at 2 a.m., to see the pope.

After the liturgy, the pope led a procession to a new chapel at the sanctuary, where the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for continual adoration. Pope Benedict spent several minutes praying there.

As he left the chapel, the crowd sang one of the pope's favorite and most beloved songs of Bavaria, "Segne Du, Maria" ("Bless You, Mary").

In an afternoon prayer service with priests, religious and seminarians, the pope made a plea for vocations and warned against "empty activism" among modern priests.

Speaking in the Basilica of St. Ann in Altotting, he said the church today faced a "lack of people willing to become laborers for God's harvest."

People in the Third World in particular are waiting for "heralds" to bring them the news of the Gospel, he said. But also in the West and in "the vast lands of

Russia," he said, a "great harvest" could be reaped.

Everywhere, he said, troubled times need preachers of the Gospel.

The pope said modern priests, because of their many duties, sometimes find themselves allotting less and less time for prayer. For all their heroic activity, they lose the inner strength that sustains them, he said.

"Their activity becomes an empty activism," he said.

As a model of a religious vocation, the pope held out St. Conrad, a Capuchin lay brother who served as doorman of the Altotting sanctuary for 41 years. St. Conrad would pray in his porter's cell, and when someone would knock — sometimes mischievously, in order to provoke him — he always responded kindly, the pope said.

St. Conrad was canonized in 1934, and a great celebration was held in Altotting. Among those attending was 7-year-old Joseph Ratzinger, the future pope.

During the Sept. 11 service at St. Ann's, Pope Benedict left his cardinal's ring as a gift to the "Black Madonna," which was moved to the basilica while he was there.



TIM JOHNSON

**Bishop John M. D'Arcy, at the podium, leads the invocation at the Fort Wayne Fire Department's Fort Wayne-Allen County Fall Firefighter Memorial Service on Sept. 9 in downtown Fort Wayne. The families of 16 fallen firefighters were honored for their sacrifice and loss of a family member. In the photo seated are Captain Casey Cassidy and chaplain Bishop Vince Cuestas. The last firefighter who lost his life while on duty was firefighter Michael Rager on March 22, 1972. His widow, brother and sister-in-law made a presentation at the memorial. The event is an annual memorial held near the anniversary of 9/11.**

## MEMORY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

three children sent letters read by their mother giving stirring testimonials about losing their father at such young ages.

All 16 firefighters were honored with a carnation placed at a

plaque, followed by a bell ceremony and a medley of bagpipes. These are rich traditions in the fire department.

Fort Wayne Fire Department Captain Casey Cassidy reminded all that while the methods of firefighting change, the goal of the fire department remains the same — to save lives and to protect property.

## Pope prays for world peace on Sept. 11 anniversary

ALTOTTING, Germany (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI prayed for world peace on the fifth anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the United States.

The reference to the attacks came during the prayer of the faithful at a papal Mass in the Bavarian pilgrimage center of Altotting.

"Five years after the terror attacks on the World Trade Center in New York, we pray for peace in the entire world," said the prayer intention read by a German laywoman.

The prayer intention also asked for peace among countries, families and generations.

The pope, on a six-day visit to his native Germany, did not directly mention the Sept. 11 anniversary during his Mass for about 65,000 people in Altotting.

Pope Benedict has condemned terrorism in all its forms on several occasions. Last year on Sept. 11, he paid homage to all victims of terrorism and appealed for an end to hatred and for renewed dedication to peace.

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## Council members question ethical aspects of prenatal gene testing

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Prenatal testing for gene-transmitted diseases raises problems of “toxic knowledge,” “micro-eugenics” and “eugenic abortion,” said several members of the President’s Council on Bioethics. Another issue raised is whether prenatal gene testing violates the rights of an unborn person who, by such testing, is deprived of the right to make the decision for himself or herself once old enough to understand what is at stake, they said. The members were commenting on some of the ethical issues raised by gene testing, especially when it involves diagnosing an illness that normally does not occur until late in a person’s life. The bioethics council, which advises President George W. Bush, discussed genetic testing for diseases at its Sept. 8 meeting in Washington.

## Chilean church criticizes guidelines authorizing free contraceptives

SANTIAGO, Chile (CNS) — Chilean Catholic Church leaders have criticized government guidelines authorizing public health centers to distribute free contraceptives, including the morning-after pill, to minors older than 14 without parental consent. In a statement Sept. 7, the Chilean bishops’ conference said promoting contraceptives “will lead to the downfall of motherhood.” The bishops said, “These regulations remind us of public policies imposed during totalitarian regimes that had the state regulate people’s private lives with authoritarian ... criteria” without their consent and “disregarding people’s dignity.” The Health Ministry resolution was announced Sept. 2 and immediately criticized by Catholics, the conservative opposition and the Christian Democratic Party, a member of the ruling coalition. Those opposed to the morning-after pill consider it equivalent to abortion. The guidelines make the morning-after pill Postinor-2 available for free, but require a prescription after counseling in primary health centers.

## Tennessee artist commissioned to paint Pope Benedict’s portrait

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (CNS) — Looking out the front picture window of his home, Igor Babailov takes in the sweeping view of the rolling green hills below. “The best artist in the world is God; look at this beauty,” he said. “The design of all this is total harmony.” Babailov, a Russian native and Tennessee resident who has been commissioned to paint a portrait of Pope Benedict XVI, said his goal is to project truth and beauty through his realist paintings. “Art should carry a strong message beyond just pretty pictures,” he said. “Without a message, art is no more than a candy wrap; there’s plenty of candy wrap all over the place.” To capture the

# NEWS BRIEFS

## INTERRELIGIOUS PRAYER MEETING FOR PEACE CONCLUDES IN ASSISI



CNS PHOTO/DANIELE COLARIETI, CATHOLIC PRESS PHOTO

The 20th annual Interreligious Prayer Meeting for Peace concludes in Assisi, Italy, Sept. 5. Sponsored by the Sant’Egidio Community, the meeting was attended by more than 150 religious leaders and included numerous round-table discussions and separate prayer rituals. A joint appeal for peace was delivered in front of the Basilica of St. Francis, seen in this photo.

essence of his subjects, Babailov will spend up to a year completing a portrait. With a few rare exceptions, Babailov insists upon an in-person sitting with his subject, where he will draw pencil sketches and take photographs for reference. In his studio, he will complete a series of compositional studies before starting the final oil painting.

## Milwaukee settles 10 cases; Davenport to go to trial in bishop’s case

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Milwaukee Archdiocese has reached a \$16.65 million out-of-court settlement in 10 child sex abuse cases in California involving two former archdiocesan priests. The Diocese of Davenport, Iowa, meanwhile, has decided to go to trial in civil suits, one of which involves a retired bishop, rather than negotiate settlements. Davenport Bishop William E. Franklin said mediation efforts so far had failed because plaintiffs were making monetary demands that would deplete diocesan resources. About half of the Milwaukee settlement, \$8.25 million, will be paid by the archdiocese with \$8.4 million paid for by insurance companies. With the settlement, the archdiocese avoids going to trial in the civil suits. The first trial had been scheduled for Nov. 6. The settlement also avoids the possibility that the Milwaukee Archdiocese would declare bankruptcy protection if juries returned hefty awards to the plaintiffs.

## Retiring secretary of state’s book illustrates Vatican’s world role

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Nearly one week before Italian Cardinal Angelo Sodano was to retire, he published a book highlighting key addresses he made during 15 years of service as the Vatican secretary of state. Titled “The Leaven of the Gospel: The Presence of the Holy See in the Lives of Peoples,” the 138-page hardcover volume is a sort of memoir meant to show the Vatican as an advocate promoting and protecting human dignity and trying to save souls. The book, released Sept. 7 at a Vatican press conference, is written in Italian and contains 12 speeches the Italian cardinal made representing the pope and the Vatican at various national and international venues, including the United Nations. The book is dedicated to Popes John Paul II and Benedict XVI, the popes under whom Cardinal Sodano, 78, served. The author also gives a word of welcome to his successor, Italian Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, who takes over Sept. 15.

## Bishop urges civil debate in South Dakota abortion referendum

RAPID CITY, S.D. (CNS) — Bishop Blase J. Cupich of Rapid City has called for civil, reasoned public debate as South Dakota voters face a Nov. 7 referendum on legislation that would outlaw most abortions. “The coming referendum presents an opportunity

for South Dakota to model for the nation the manner in which substantial public debate regarding this volatile moral issue can be carried on with respect, honesty and conviction,” Bishop Cupich wrote in the Sept. 11 issue of *America*, a national Catholic magazine published by the Jesuits in New York. The referendum was initiated by supporters of legalized abortion after the South Dakota Legislature adopted a law that would ban all abortions except those necessary to save a mother’s life. Gov. Mike Rounds signed the legislation in March. In mid-June, less than two weeks before the law was to take effect, it was suspended because enough voters had signed petitions to force a popular referendum on it.

## Leaders should be humble, compassionate servants, pope says

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Church and government leaders should be humble, compassionate servants for their people and they should be capable of being both contemplative and proactive, Pope Benedict XVI said. St. Gregory the Great, even though he lived in the Middle Ages, is still an important example for today’s priests and public administrators, the pope said before praying the noonday Angelus prayer Sept. 3, the feast day of the sixth-century pope and doctor of the church. The early Roman saint was unique, the pope said. Early in his life, when he was prefect of the city of Rome, he stood out for his “administrative

ability and moral integrity,” said the pope. Despite holding an important and prestigious public office at only 30 years of age, St. Gregory decided his calling was monastic life, the pope said. On Sept. 3, 590, however, St. Gregory was torn away from his life as a monk and abbot when — much against his will — he was consecrated pope. “He tried everything to avoid his election, but in the end he had to surrender,” the pope said.

## Capuchins elect Swiss provincial to head order for next six years

ROME (CNS) — Representatives of the Capuchins overwhelmingly elected the Swiss provincial, Father Mauro Johri, to head the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin for the next six years. The 59-year-old friar replaces Canadian Father John Corriveau, who is leaving as Capuchin minister-general after serving the maximum tenure of two six-year terms. More than 170 representatives of the religious order took part in the Sept. 4 vote during their three-week general chapter in Rome. Father Johri garnered 157 of 173 votes in the final election round. Born in the Swiss canton of Grison in 1947, Farther Johri entered the Capuchin novitiate when he was 17 years old. After being ordained a priest in 1972, he completed his doctorate in theology at the University of Lucerne, Switzerland. He taught religion at a public school and later taught dogmatic and fundamental theology at the University of Lugano in southern Switzerland. He also served as president of the Swiss bishops’ conference commission on pastoral planning and as superior of the Capuchins’ Italian region of Switzerland.

## Tanzanian bishop tells religious to share heritage with Americans

COLLEGE PARK, Md. (CNS) — Tanzanian Bishop Augustine Shao of Zanzibar encouraged African clergy and religious to share their heritage and traditions with the church in the United States. Bishop Shao emphasized that sharing the characteristic of community, found in many African cultures, was crucial for the ministry of African nuns and priests. “In the family there is the meal, in the church there is the Eucharist, in the world there is the sharing of bread and the exchange of cultures,” he said. “We are part and parcel of an interchange (of cultures) that will happen at this point in time,” he told members of the African Conference of Catholic Clergy and Religious in the United States. Bishop Shao spoke Sept. 1 to African clergy and religious at their seventh national convention at the Holy Redeemer Parish compound in College Park, Md. The convention brought together African priests and nuns working and studying in the United States.

## ND remembers 9/11 attacks at Grotto Mass

NOTRE DAME — The fifth anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks was observed at the University of Notre Dame with a Mass in the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes on campus.

Notre Dame's president, Father John I. Jenkins, CSC, presided at the Mass, and Father Robert A. Dowd, CSC, assistant professor of political science, gave the homily. Members of the University's Folk and Liturgical choirs provided sacred music.

Five years ago, an estimated 7,000 students, faculty and staff gathered on the South Quad for a special Mass the afternoon of Sept. 11. By late morning, the Notre Dame community had absorbed the news, all classes and activities had been canceled, and a day of prayer had been declared.

At the Mass five years ago, Father Edward A. Malloy, CSC, then Notre Dame's president, began by saying: "All I know how to do on these kinds of occasions is simply draw from the well of our faith, that death does not have the final word, that God will make all things new, that we can learn the capacity for love in the hope of faith. This is not a time for recriminations, for misdirected blame, but rather for prayer, sympathy comfort and support."

## Five years later: Reflections on the 9/11 attacks

NOTRE DAME — The approach of the fifth anniversary of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 has led many Notre Dame faculty members to think aloud about those terrible events. Here is what some of them have to say:

Asma Afsaruddin, associate professor of the classics and fellow in the Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies:

"I do not believe that we have come that far along after five years. A so-called war on terror continues in Iraq, which is exacting a high toll on civilian life and property. The Iraqi people are nowhere near the political stability and normalcy that they were promised by the U.S.-led coalition forces, although they are well rid of a brutal dictator.

"The recent showdown between the Lebanese Hezbollah and Israel proves that the Middle East remains a highly volatile area, greatly susceptible to violence as long as all sides are not equal partners in negotiating their futures.

"On a more optimistic note, and speaking as an educator, I think at a more subterranean level we are achieving some progress in educating people, especially our students, about the complexities of the world situation and in encouraging them to take into consideration notions of social and political justice when assigning political and historical guilt.

"The Sept. 11 attacks have forced many of us to tackle the misguided notion of a so-called 'clash of civilizations,' which would posit a monolithic Western world against a monolithic Islamic world. Instead, many of us are encourag-

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## KNIGHTS OFFICERS INSTALLED AT GARRETT MASS



PROVIDED BY FATHER DANIEL LEEUW

Installation of officers, Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, took place at a Mass celebrated Aug. 17 at St. Joseph Church in Garrett. Father Daniel Leeuw was celebrant and installed as Faithful Friar, along with new Faithful Navigator Gaylor Campbell. Pictured left to right are Earl Regen, Lady Pat, Gaylor Campbell, Father Daniel Leeuw, Lady Dottie and Robert Lynch, master of Fourth Degree, State of Indiana.

ing our students, and anyone else who will listen, "to reflect on the many commonalities and shared history between the two. More academics have been thrust into the public arena feeling obliged to share our expertise about Islam and the Middle East with the public and with government officials and policy makers, whenever we are given a chance. I like to think that we are slowly but surely making a difference."

## Worldwide day of prayer upholds the sacredness of human life Oct. 8

FORT WAYNE — Again this year, the World Apostolate of Fatima is promoting a worldwide prayer day for the sanctity of human life. This event will take place on Sunday, Oct. 8.

People from all over the world are invited to pray for this intention, so that they may offer God, through the intercession of Our Lady, one billion prayers. Last year, they offered 100 million prayers.

Catholics around the world are asked to pray the rosary on Oct. 8 for the sanctity of life, and non-Catholics are also encouraged to pray according to their faith for 20 minutes. This is a small request for each individual but for many thousands it will be the first step to understanding Our Lady's message of hope and her plan to save souls and achieve peace. Touching enough people to offer a billion prayers to heaven in one day would be an impossible task if Our Lady had not opened the doors to make it very possible.

Please, register the promise made to pray on the World Apostolate of Fatima's Web site: [www.worldfatima.com](http://www.worldfatima.com).

## Walk in Beauty, Walk in Balance workshop slated at Victory Noll

HUNTINGTON — The Victory Noll Ministry Center will offer a workshop for the public from 1 to 4 p.m. entitled Walk in Beauty, Walk in Balance on Saturday, Oct. 7. Sister Mary Baird, a Sister of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ from Donaldson, will facilitate the workshop.

This workshop will engage in courageous dialogue about critical issues facing humanity and discuss how as individuals and together we can make a difference in the earth's balance and our own. What will the air, the land, water, earth's resources be like for other generations to come?

Sister Mary Baird is an environmentalist, an artist and naturalist and worked for a time as an interpretive naturalist at Potato Creek State Park in Indiana. She has led several workshops at Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center in Donaldson and most recently taught a course for their Elderhostel program on the topic of the web of life and what we eat matters. She is a member of the Flat Lake Water Shed Committee and also is on the Ecological Relationship Committee at the campus in Donaldson. She currently is building a cob cottage. She is a true lover of earth and demonstrates it by what she does and how she lives.

A \$10 offering for the workshop is appreciated, which also includes snacks, refreshments and handouts. Preregistrations are recommended. Registration forms may be obtained at the Victory Noll Ministry Center, 1900 W. Park Dr. and the Huntington County Visitors & Convention Bureau, 407 N. Jefferson St.

For more information or to register by phone, please call Jan Parker at (260) 356-0628 ext. 128 or e-mail at [ministryctr@olvm.org](mailto:ministryctr@olvm.org).

## Dedication of earliest symbol of Catholicism in midwest preserved and restored log house

BARDSTOWN, Ky — Archbishop Thomas C. Kelly dedicated the preserved and restored Bishop Flaget Log House on Sept. 10. This dedication took place at the house, which is located on the property of St. Thomas Parish, 870 St. Thomas Lane, Bardstown, Ky. This is the earliest structure related to the Catholic faith still standing in the midwestern United States.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, this house was built in 1795 by Thomas and Ann Howard. The house, along with \$5,000 and 369 acres of land, was willed to the Catholic Church in 1810. This structure became the first home of St. Thomas Seminary, the earliest seminary established west of the Alleghenies, and from 1812 to 1819, the log cabin was the residence of Bishop Benedict Joseph Flaget, the first bishop of the Diocese of Bardstown (now the Archdiocese of Louisville). In

1812, it also became the founding site of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth.

The Diocese of Bardstown was created on April 8, 1808, along with three other dioceses (Boston, New York and Philadelphia). These were the third dioceses founded in the United States; only Baltimore (1789) and New Orleans (1793) came before them. The Diocese of Bardstown (later the Diocese of Louisville in 1841 and the Archdiocese of Louisville in 1937) was the first inland diocese. The Diocese of Bardstown covered territory that would become 44 other dioceses in Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana (including the region that now comprises the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend), Iowa, Arkansas, Illinois and Missouri.

In 1999, the Log House Restoration Project was formed to oversee the development and restoration of this structure. Since that time the committee has conducted studies and archaeological digs; collected artifacts; and established a long-range plan for the use of the structure. The mission is to preserve the site for religious, historical, and educational purposes. Future plans including establishing an endowment to fund the ongoing maintenance of the log house and building a visitors' center for groups who wish to learn more about early Kentucky history and early Kentucky Catholicism. The restoration of the log house was the first phase of this project.

The original fabric of the structure is nearly 100 percent intact and has been restored to authentically demonstrate early life in the house. All of the structures that were replaced (roof, chimneys, clapboard siding) have been matched with period elements from disassembled buildings of the same era. The renovated log house contains furnishing consistent with those that were used in the early 19th century.

## Air time changes for basilica's televised Mass on Hallmark Channel

NOTRE DAME — Beginning Sunday, Sept. 3, the televised Mass at Notre Dame's Basilica of the Sacred Heart will air Sundays at 8 a.m. EDT/EST on the Hallmark Channel.

Since Hallmark began its Notre Dame Mass programming five years ago, the 10 a.m. Sunday Basilica Mass has been aired live on the channel. Because of the change in schedule, the 8 a.m. broadcast now will most often be taped during the basilica's 5 p.m. Saturday vigil Mass. On the weekends of home football games, the basilica's 8 a.m. Sunday Mass will be aired live.

Notre Dame's Women's Liturgical Choir, directed by Andrew McShane, provides sacred music for the 5 p.m. Saturday vigil Mass, and the Basilica Schola, directed by Gail Walton, provides sacred music for the 8 a.m. Sunday Mass. Elaborate technical efforts are made to capture the choral voices as they are heard by worshippers inside the basilica, and six discreetly placed robotic cameras attempt to capture the visual experience. Every effort is made to minimize disruption and to safeguard the solemnity of the liturgy.

# The sacrament of MARRIAGE

## Smoothing the way

### Wedding coordinators make wedding day smooth as silk

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Who doesn't love a wedding? Most in attendance are deeply moved by the ceremony steeped in beautiful church tradition. But few know the effort required for preparing this special day. Few, but the bride and groom, and at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Fort Wayne, the wedding coordinators.

Three charming and enthusiastic women there are known as the wedding coordinators. They each joined the wedding team for different reasons and each brings her own style to the mix.

Veteran Martha Stefanek has been assisting brides with their special day as coordinator for nine years at St. Charles, where she and husband Joe and their three children are parishioners. She came to the job quite naturally.

"Joe and I were married in 1996 and the coordinator of our wedding asked me if I would be interested in doing it. I'm very

detail oriented," she says with a smile.

She adds unabashedly that initially she was not happy to learn it was required to enlist the services of the planner to be married at St. Charles. But after discovering all the intricacies involved in putting her ceremony together, she was pleased to have the coordinator by her side. The church initiated the requirement of enlisting a wedding coordinator in 1995.

Six years ago, after the birth of her second child, Pam Ley was encouraged by her husband to try the position offered through the church. She enjoys working with the other coordinators and finds it fun to help the brides as they prepare for the big day. She and her husband Larry and two children have been members of St. Charles since 1995.

The rookie of the team is Kathy Steenport, who joined the others two years ago at the request of friend Stefanek. Hailing from Ohio, Steenport and husband Davis with their two children have

been parishioners of St. Charles for six years.

The three wedding coordinators work together two times each year, in August and February, when they host the planning meetings open to all parishioners who are anticipating a wedding within the year. Weddings at St. Charles must be scheduled six months in advance and the three coordinators are provided with a quarterly schedule from which they divide the wedding dates between them. For each coordinator, some years require planning for up to 10 weddings. Following the initial meeting with the parish priest, each couple is given a wedding pamphlet, which is investigated in detail at the planning meeting.

"We take questions and give the couples hints at the meeting," says Stefanek.

Understanding the time consuming preparation and stress associated with planning a wedding the St. Charles coordinators reassure each bride that most of the church planning can be done



KAY COZAD

St. Charles wedding coordinators, from left, Martha Stefanek, Kathy Steenport and Pam Ley stand in the church sanctuary where they assist with all the details of the weddings held there. The coordinators, who receive a stipend from the newly married couples, work with specifics involving rehearsals, florists and photographers and are a requirement in the planning of a wedding at St. Charles.

via the phone.

"We don't want to take any more of the bride's time than is necessary," says Stefanek.

So three to six months before the wedding date, the coordinator, with check list in hand, records specifics, such as, wedding party numbers and seating arrangements. During the phone conversation, questions are fielded concerning Catholic tradition on appropriate music, altar candles and other arrangements. A final phone call is made the Wednesday before the wedding to verify the details.

Amidst all the preparation Stefanek and her team offer some sound advice for the couple saying, "Keep it simple. It is a sacred day."

In addition to assisting in the planning of the wedding day, these coordinators are in charge of the rehearsals as well. Church policies involving location of the photographer and understanding the solemnity of the occasion are discussed along with placement of attendants, floral arrangements and other instructions. Focus on details is paramount to the job, but it's also important to understand people, suggests Stefanek, referring to knowing when to "lighten the mood or just be present in quiet" during the preparation.

On the wedding day itself, these women attend to details ranging from holding crying babies to running out in search of new shoes after an all important heel has bro-

ken. Checking on the bride and the groom is part of the job in preparation to set the procession in line and signal the commencement of the ceremony. Working with florists and photographers also keeps the day running smoothly.

St. Charles priests are most grateful for their assistance. Msgr. John Suelzer, pastor, feels the coordinators are extremely helpful, saying, "For years I did the rehearsals and the weddings by myself. These women take care of the nitty-gritty of the weddings. We are blessed to have them. They are wonderful!"

It's evident, after all is said and done, that these three women take great pride in their work as they express their deepest hearts concerning their role in the wedding preparation process. "I love when it all comes together and I get to share the sacrament of marriage with the couple as if I were invited to the wedding.

It rekindles the memory of my own wedding," says Steenport. Ley agrees saying, "I hope for each couple what I have in my own marriage. It pleases me to play a little part in helping them get their marriage started."

Stefanek adds thoughtfully, "We think it's important to balance the thought of the wedding, with all its details, as only one day and marriage as a commitment made up of many years of joys and sorrows."

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# Exuberant wedding connects continents

BY JILL BOUGHTON

SOUTH BEND — Susan Ranaghan, director of Dungarvin, interviewed the soft-spoken young man, recently arrived from Kenya to join his family. Little did she imagine that hiring Matthew Gichohi Kiai to care for people with disabilities would be the first step in a courtship that culminated last May 7 in an exuberant wedding liturgy incorporating many colorful elements of Kikuyu culture. Mass lasted one-hour and 45 minutes.

After dating for three years, Matthew visited “Papa Susan” and “Mama Susan,” Kevin and Dorothy Ranaghan, to ask for her hand. Kevin, a permanent deacon assigned to St. Bavo, Mishawaka, gave Matthew his blessing. Since Matthew’s father is deceased, he also had to ask permission of his older brother and the tribal elders to marry before his brother. Matthew’s four older sisters had also strictly observed this rule, with the eldest getting married first.

Matthew and Susan became engaged in Mishawaka’s Japanese garden on Sept. 11, the 10th anniversary of Susan’s first departure for a l’Arche house in Rome, where she lived in community with persons with disabilities.

The wedding took place at Little Flower Church in South Bend. Not only had Susan and Matthew joined that parish, where Matthew’s mother Mary was already a member, but it’s where Kevin and Dorothy and Susan’s two older sisters, Anne Linczer and MaryFaith Hall, were married.

Their vows were witnessed by Holy Cross Father Tom Smith. Father Smith had served as a missionary in Kenya for 15 years, and he is also president of the board of l’Arche. The bride and groom recruited two men with disabilities as altar servers for the wedding Mass. Sure enough, Father Smith was able to keep his cool when one of the nervous servers upset a vase of flowers.

Before the wedding, a large group of Kenyan women and children showed up at the Ranaghan home singing and inviting the bride to come out.

Traditionally on this occasion, the bride’s family demands more dowry before releasing her. For example, they may say they’ve lost the key to the house and need money for another before the bride can get out. Or they may pretend not to be able to hear the singing. “This is to show how precious Susan is,” explains her new husband.

At this time, it is also the best man’s responsibility to make sure to fetch the intended bride and not let her family substitute a sister. Matthew’s cousin altered the tradition by asking Susan if she was fully willing to come.

After singing outside for half an hour, Matthew’s mother and aunt danced in, blessing the Ranaghan home before leaving. They spread a carpet of less cloth from the house to the car so



PROVIDED BY SUSAN GICHOHI

**Susan Gichohi is shown on her wedding day to Matthew.**

Susan’s feet wouldn’t have to touch the ground.

When the bride’s parents and attendants were safely in the limo, the women hurried to arrive at Little Flower ahead of them, where the singing and dancing began again before anyone could get out of the limo. They surrounded Susan and danced her all the way into the church.

After the mothers were seated, the procession began, with everyone singing “Come, Let Us Sing.” First came 16 nieces, nephews and young cousins, ringing bells, then six bridesmaids in rich red gowns in different styles. The reading from Jer 29 — “I know the plans I have in mind for you ...” — was proclaimed in English by Charlotte from l’Arche, while 2 Pt 1:3-7 — “Supplement your faith with ... love” — was read in Swahili, the language common to all the tribes in Kenya. The wedding Gospel was Mt 6:25-34 — “Consider the lilies ... Seek first the kingdom.”

After the couple exchanged vows and rings, there was another joyous Kikuyu song punctuated by clapping. There was also a special song after the formal signing of the marriage license. It included gemi, a sound the women make with their tongues on the roof of their mouths. Traditionally this sound is used to communicate news of a birth to the men waiting outside, who respond with more guttural noises. At childbirth, four clicks announce a daughter and five a son, so there were four clicks at this part of the wedding ceremony to welcome Susan as a new daughter in the family.

In the old days, once the dowry was paid, the bride was owned by the groom’s family. Father Smith made sure everyone understood that this is mutual in Christian marriage. After the wedding ceremony, everyone gathered around to pray over the couple.

At the offertory, the older nieces and nephews who hadn’t taken part in the entrance procession brought forward gifts symbolic of the life-giving fruitful-

ness, joy and hospitality desired by the couple — colorful fruits, flowers and a gourd of water brought by one of the guests from Kenya. It was not done at this wedding, but sometimes a baby is also carried forward at this time. Matthew and Susan personally received these gifts.

At the reception, the singing and dancing were repeated. Everyone surrounded the newlyweds singing about the goodness of God in making them husband and wife. At one point there was a mugithi, or train, led by the couple, with directions from the Kenyan deejay.

The feast for about 500 guests was prepared by South Bend’s Kenyan community, which includes several hundred members. Susan explained that a Kenyan reception isn’t the responsibility of the bride’s parents but of a wedding planning committee. Hers met three times to plan all the details, including the roasting of goats and the preparation of stews and pilaus. Matthew’s “nanny” baked 400 chapatis, flat breads, sometimes staying up all night to cook and pray for the couple.

After the Gichohis cut the cake and fed each other, they

brought cake to their parents to symbolize their willingness to care for those who nurtured them. Later there was a formal presentation of symbolic gifts. Susan was wrapped in a cloth symbolizing modesty in her home, and a basket for carrying food from market was draped over her forehead. Matthew was seated on a three-legged stool with a leather seat embossed with jungle animals, as Susan was instructed about waiting on him.

Both Matthew and Susan currently work for Dungarvin, although they do not work together. Susan says Matthew’s gentleness is particularly effective

to the Kenyan custom, which preserves the (maiden) names of all four grandparents. As exemplified in their wedding festivities, both place a high value on family, hospitality and celebration.

Susan hopes to visit the rest of Matthew’s family in Kenya, and to take Matthew to visit Rome, where she lived in a l’Arche residence.

Planning their wedding provided Matthew and Susan a microcosm of the blending of cultures that will be their marriage. They tried to honor the traditions and expectations of both families as well as their own preferences.

Their parents and friends were very supportive, although they admit things might have been different if their grandparents were still alive. Objections? One person asked Susan’s father if this would be a “green card marriage.” One of Matthew’s nieces was surprised to learn

*At the offertory, the older nieces and nephews who hadn’t taken part in the entrance procession brought forward gifts symbolic of the life-giving fruitfulness, joy and hospitality desired by the couple.*

in drawing out people with autism, and both feel a vocation to minister with those with disabilities.

While they cannot predict the specifics of their life together, the Gichohis hope to have children, whom they will name according

that they were dating. “But you’re taller than he is,” she observed.

Friends and family had questions, but when they saw Matthew and Susan interact, it was obvious they belong together.



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# Calm seas part of anniversary celebration

BY MAY LEE JOHNSON

**SOUTH BEND** — A stroke a few years ago means he can't do fast dancing anymore, but Wilbur (Mac) McDougal still was able to keep up with the group on a recent cruise he and his wife took.

Mac and Mary McDougal have been married 34 years. They are both retired — Mary from the South Bend Public Library and Mac from the South Bend Community Schools Corp., as an engineer.

In June they celebrated their anniversary by taking a Royal Caribbean Alaskan cruise.

"It was an enlightening, unforgettable experience I'll never forget," said Mary. "It was one of the best and most restful times in our lives and the scenery was just beautiful."

The week-long cruise was special for the McDougals for many reasons. They had a chance to take the trip while both are able

to be up-and-about.

They really enjoy traveling. And members of their parish, St. Augustine Church in South Bend, were able to celebrate with them. In fact, Father Charles Lavelly, CSC, their pastor, celebrated a special Mass for them on the ship with more than 200 people attending.

"We had a wonderful time together, and having members of our church present made it seem like we were all one big happy family," Mac said. "Mary looked the most beautiful I have ever seen. Everything was great."

The McDougals were married June 17, 1972, at Sacred Heart Church at Notre Dame.

Mary remembers someone saying "that a black man and white women marrying at Notre Dame was a first." Nevertheless they still have a strong and loving marriage.

They have a son John who is a budding movie actor and is finishing up his degree in communication at Indiana University



PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE ROYAL CARIBBEAN CRUISE LINE

Wilbur (Mac) and Mary McDougal celebrated their 34th anniversary on June 17 by taking an Alaskan cruise on the Royal Caribbean. They were joined on the cruise by members of the McDougals' parish, St. Augustine in South Bend, including Father Charles Lavelly, CSC, who celebrated a special Mass for them on the ship with more than 200 people in attendance.

South Bend, and Mac has three adult children from his first marriage.

Mac laughed when he was asked what advice they would give a couple hoping for a long marriage.

He said he learned all he need-

ed when he was a young man — that's when his mother taught him to treat women with respect.

But here are the other pieces of advice they were happy to share:

- Pray your way through your problems, or you won't make it.

- Give and take, forgive and forget. Both partners have to do a lot of that.

- Don't stay mad long.
- Be dedicated and love each other.

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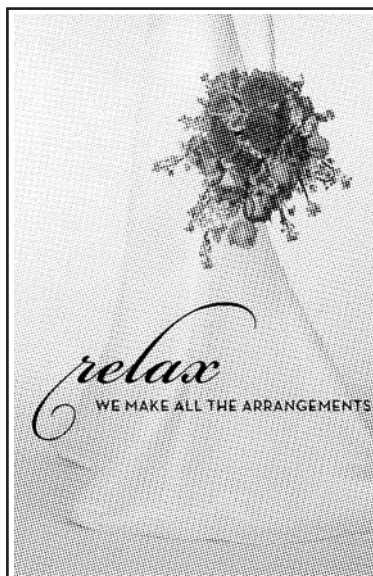
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# Marriage matters to children and the common good

BY MAGGIE GALLAGHER

For Catholics, marriage is a sacrament, revealing Christ's indestructible love. The Catholic tradition has always recognized that marriage is also a natural relationship. People of any faith or none can marry, and their marriages matter to God, to each other, to their children and to the community. A group of respected marriage and family scholars recently met to document the social science evidence that marriage matters. While there are, of course, single parents who do a splendid job of childrearing under very difficult circumstances, the scholars reached these conclusions among others:

- Marriage reduces the risk of poverty for children and communities. The majority of children whose parents don't marry or don't stay married experience at least a year of poverty. Fatherless households increase crime. Boys whose

parents divorced or never married are two to three times more likely to end up in jail as adults.

- Marriage protects children's physical and mental health. Children whose parents marry and stay married are healthier and much less likely to suffer mental illness, including depression and teen suicide.

- Both men and women who marry live longer, healthier and happier lives. On virtually every measure of health and well-being, married people are better off.

- Cohabiting is not the same as marriage. Couples who just live together without the commitment of marriage do not get the same boost to health, welfare and happiness, on average, as spouses. Children whose parents cohabit

are at increased risk for domestic violence, child abuse and neglect.

- Parents who don't marry or stay married put children's education at risk. Children whose parents divorced or never married have lower grade-point averages,

and are more likely to be held back a grade, and to drop out of school.

- When marriages fail, ties between parents and children typically weaken, too. In one large national survey, 65 percent of adult children of divorce reported they were not close to their fathers (compared to 29 percent of adults from intact marriages).

Any development that weakens the norms of the married family will increase all these risks to children and to the communities in which these children live. An impressive number of studies confirm that individual children are more likely to engage in criminal conduct when raised in fatherless households.

Relatively little is known from a scientific standpoint about how children fare when raised by same-sex couples. After reviewing several hundred studies, University of Virginia sociologist Steven Nock concluded: "Not a single one of those studies was conducted according to generally accepted standards of scientific research."

Children raised by same-gender couples remain a social experiment, about which we can say little with scientific certainty.

## Marriage matters for the good of society

Reconnecting marriage with its great historic cross-cultural task of encouraging men and women to beget and raise the next generation



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has never been a more urgent priority. On the one hand, a large majority of modern democracies are now experiencing very low birthrates, amid increasingly urgent concern about the social, economic and political consequences.

As the eminent legal scholar and religious historian John Witte notes:

"Procreation ... means more than just conceiving children. It also means rearing and educating them for spiritual and temporal living. ... The good of procreation cannot be achieved in this fuller sense simply through the licit

union of husband and wife in sexual intercourse. It also requires maintenance of a faithful, stable and permanent union of husband and wife for the sake of their children."

Marriage is also important for the intergenerational transmission of faith. Getting married, staying married, building loving marriages and having children are the principle means through which a community propels itself into the future. When a nation or faith community succeeds in transmitting a powerful vision of marriage to the next generation, the result is not only good for children, it is vital to the future of the whole community.

Is it possible to do a better job building a stronger marriage culture among Catholics?

Yes. We can take inspiration from other religious groups who are fighting the same deconstructing forces in the public culture.

The family is the prime evangelizer, one of the most powerful incubators of religious faith and identity. Christianity grew from a tiny group in Jerusalem to the faith of the Roman Empire in just 300 years. Playing no small part in this rise was Christian sexual ethics which, unlike secular Roman ethics, forbade infanticide, contraception, and non-marital sexuality and discouraged family disruption and desertion.

MARRIAGE, PAGE 12

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## MARRIAGE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

If the church community succeeded in finding the energy and means to transmit a Catholic vision of marriage and family only to churchgoing Catholics and their children, so that they became 10 percent more likely to marry, stay married, and have children who grow up with a similar commitment to building families, both the church and the public square would be transformed within 30 years.

We can and must inspire, re-educate, serve and protect those Catholics who want to recommit to a Catholic vision of marriage and family. The next generation is

watching. They need to see us confidently defend marriage in the pews and in the public square.

In this context, the three most urgent tasks for the church are to:

- affirm the value of children in the mind of the Catholic community

- develop ministries and programs to help distressed couples avoid divorce and rebuild loving marriages

- help, support and teach

Catholic parents seeking to transmit their marriage vision to their own children, in the face of an increasingly confused and hostile public square.

The task in renewing marriage is no less than to renew, for this generation and the next, faith in love. Human beings desperately want to believe that our deepest drives and longings have a pur-

pose, that they are directing us toward love, goodness, renewal. In marriage, men and women come together in faith to make the future happen. These are not private and personal matters, but the shared urgent business of the entire community.

**Maggie Gallagher** is president of the Institute for Marriage and Public Policy and a coauthor of "The Case for Marriage."

This material was provided by the Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C.



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## Pope talks to Ontario bishops about false sense of freedom, culture

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In a speech to bishops from Ontario, Pope Benedict XVI lamented the false sense of freedom and tolerance in Canadian culture that has led to “disturbing” trends, such as a law allowing same-sex marriage.

While the pope praised Canada for its generous commitment to justice and peace, he said “the split between the Gospel and culture, with the exclusion of God from the public sphere,” has severed basic human values from their moral roots.

The pope made his remarks during a Sept. 8 audience with the Canadian bishops at the papal residence in Castel Gandolfo, outside Rome, during their “ad limina” visit, required of all heads of dioceses every five years. The Vatican released a copy of the pope’s remarks Sept. 8.

Referring to Canada’s same-sex marriage law, the pope said, “In the name of ‘tolerance’ your country has had to endure the folly of the redefinition of spouse.”

He also criticized the continued legality of abortion, saying, “In the name of ‘freedom of choice’ (the country) is confronted with the daily destruction of unborn children.”

He urged the bishops and the Catholic community to continue to be a strong, united and vocal presence in public and political debate.

He cautioned them to stick to “the truth of human nature” and not succumb to the push and pull of “social trends and spurious demands of opinion polls.” Some Catholics, including politicians, had promoted Canada’s redefinition of marriage.

He assured the bishops that paying witness to and defending Christ and the church’s teachings can be a bridge to dialogue, not an obstacle, because one’s Christian faith “brings together reason and culture.”

The pope reminded them that the church’s mission is “to make God visible in the human face of Jesus” and to help people “recognize and experience the love of

Christ.”

Any watering down of the Gospel message will only weaken Christian identity and debilitate “the church’s contribution to the regeneration of society,” he said.

Also, when Christians find themselves too intent on doing or talking about issues and not enough on “believing” and paying witness to Christ, then “there is an urgent need to recapture the profound joy and awe of the first disciples,” said the pope.

Education, even Catholic education, needs to fight the tide of relativism and uphold the love of truth, he said.

Relativism, which abandons a sense of there being one eternal truth, not only snuffs out “the sublime goals of life,” but it results in “lowering the standards of excellence, a timidity before the category of the good, and a relentless but senseless pursuit of novelty parad-

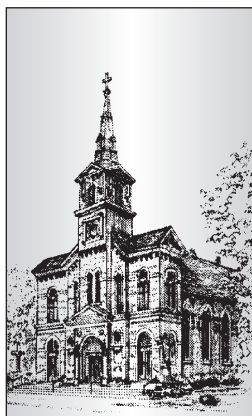
ing as the realization of freedom,” said the pope.

The president of the Ontario bishops’ conference, Bishop Richard Smith of Pembroke, told the pope that the bishops and Catholic lay groups would remain active in promoting life issues and defending the traditional definition of marriage.

The church was working to block attempts to legalize assisted suicide and euthanasia, he said, and would be ready when the Canadian Parliament considers reopening the debate on the definition of marriage this fall.

Bishop Smith said the bishops were especially concerned about poverty in Ontario, especially among children and native peoples. He also pointed to the need to help Catholics deepen their faith and help them be more active in church life.

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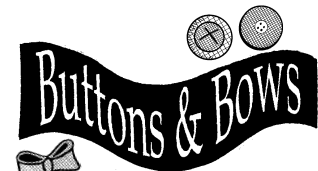
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## EDITORIAL

# International Day of Peace needed more than ever

As the world and the United States remembers 9/11, a day that one could say changed the thinking of most Americans — yes, we are vulnerable to attacks by terrorists — and its aftermath, it's easy to recognize that the United Nations International Day of Peace, celebrated Sept. 21, is a good day to reflect on how we can be peacemakers.

Sister Jolene Heiden, a School Sister of Notre Dame who serves the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend as the director of the Office of Spiritual Development and Evangelization, alerted Today's Catholic that her order will join millions of people the world over to observe a day of peace and nonviolence. "Let us recommit ourselves to the work of transformation '... to be transformed and to transform our world, bringing all to the oneness for which Jesus Christ sent,'" explained the material Sister Jolene provided.

The United Nations actually established the day to be devoted and commemorate and strengthen the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and peoples in 1981. Sept. 21 was designated as the official celebration after the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the United States in 2001.

The School Sisters of Notre Dame list as their first thing we can do to celebrate International Day of Peace is to pray for peace.

Interestingly, Father John Corapi, a popular television and radio priest-personality, mentions the connection between the Blessed Mother and Islam in his September 2006 newsletter. In speaking of 9/11, Father Corapi says, "These are not ordinary times, and this is not business as usual. We are at a crossroads in human history and the time for Catholics and all Christians to act is now. All evil can ultimately be traced to its origin, which is moral evil.

"All of the political action, peace talks, international peacekeeping forces, etc. will avail nothing if the underlying sickness is not addressed. This is sin," Father Corapi wrote. "One person at a time hearts and minds must be moved from evil to good, from lies to truth, from violence to peace."

He says Islam is an Arabic word defined as "to make peace" and that violent extremists are living a contradiction today by resorting to evil and terrorism.

He asks everyone to pray for peace by praying the rosary. That was a promise made to the shepherd children at Fatima. Interestingly, Father Corapi mentions that the Islamic world has a great love for Mary. She is listed 30 times in the Koran. "No other woman's name is mentioned, not even that of Mohammed's daughter, Fatima," Father Corapi writes.

As we honor Our Lady this October, the month of the rosary, let us be reminded that the rosary draws us closer to Mary's Son, Jesus. Through the intercession of Mary, may we become bearers of peace in our own lives and to the world. Let us also pray for the sanctity of life — that all life will be garnered with dignity from the moment of conception through natural death.

## Introducing Today's Catholic Podcast

So often we hear from those who do not renew their subscriptions to *Today's Catholic* that "we don't have time to read." We know that many live their lives in a state of "information overload." It is necessary, however, to weed through the materials and focus on helpful materials. We hope that you give value to what is going on in the world, nation and at home in our diocese.

To reach these people, *Today's Catholic* has begun to offer Today's Catholic Podcast, a 15-minute newscast that is downloadable through iTunes to your computer and may also be heard on the diocesan Web site, [www.diocesefwsb.org](http://www.diocesefwsb.org). The newscast is playable on iPods, many MP3 players or on your computer.

Today's Catholic Podcast gives brief capsules of the news in the weekly issue and also includes a few features.

We're hoping that people on the go can find a few minutes to catch up with the diocesan news while they are running, working out in the gym or running errands. We know many log onto the Internet while at work, so why not listen in?

This form of online broadcast, or podcast, is becoming a popular tool of communication and is a revolutionary new tool of evangelization for the diocese. Obviously, our podcast cannot contain the news in the same depth as the newspaper. Therefore, for detailed information and comprehensive coverage, the *Today's Catholic* newspaper is still the official source for news and events in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

**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](mailto:editor@fw.diocesefwsb.org)

## National Religious Retirement Office sends thanks

Dear Bishop D'Arcy,

Thank you for your diocesan check for \$149,079.23, which has been deposited in the Retirement Fund for Religious account. This brings your total diocesan contributions for all of the years of the collection to \$2,238,576.65. The money has been recorded as part of Appeal XIX for 2006.

Your generosity surely helps religious address the many challenges religious face as they age. Religious today, as always, continue to make an impact on our society. Even as they age, their commitment to the ministry of their community, their prayer and spiritual life are vibrant testimony to the faithfulness they promised so many years ago. Your commitment to them is a heartfelt testimony to their faithfulness. Each religious, young and old, are grateful for your support!

Your support and the support of your Retirement Fund for Religious coordinator, pastors, parish priests and deacons are essential to the fund's continued success. We are most grateful for all you do! You can surely rely on the prayers of the over 37,000 religious now over age 70 and the ever increasing numbers of religious who will be retiring very soon. May God bless you as only he can!

Gratefully,

**Sister André Fries, CPPS**  
Executive Director  
National Religious  
Retirement Office

## The healing hand of God

One's life can change in the blink of an eye. Ours did.

After several weeks of flu-like symptoms and then some bruising, our daughter went to the family doctor on the morning of Aug. 7, 1998 at 11 a.m. By noon our family's lives changed forever.

Deb was diagnosed with Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia, which normally attacks children. Deb was a 35 year old, single mother of two sons, Eric 13 and Tom 12. Their father had been killed in an auto accident due to drunk driving in 1996. What a blow for the children.

Deb was admitted to the hospital that afternoon, and the process began — bone marrow biopsies, chemo, semi isolation (we had to wear gowns and masks because her immune system was nil).

I explained to the boys that their mom would loose her hair and eye-lashes, but for every hair that was lost, that was a cancer cell that was dead. They understood that explanation.

Months of protocol of bone marrow biopsies, daily chemo treatments and most importantly of all — lots of prayers. We had prayers from all over the world.

In February of 1999, my husband found out he had prostate cancer. This meant a month of radiation in May and then the radioactive seed implant on July 14, which was the three-year anniversary of my mother's death. I knew she was watching over him.

Deb went through many months of more chemo, bone marrow biopsies, central lines, remission twice, and relapse into the central nervous system. Usually there is a 3 percent chance of this happening, and she did it twice.

The local doctors sent her to Chicago to the doctor who wrote her protocol, and there was nothing more to do. We had been told about a bone marrow transplant as a last resort. Now it wasn't being discussed. So, I went on the Internet and found the top 10 university hospitals and showed it to the doctor and said, "Do you call, or do I?"

They called Anderson in Houston, Texas. In December of 2000, Deb and her dad went to Houston for a workup. One doctor said yes. One said no.

On March 2, 2001, Debbie had a bone marrow transplant and her donor was her brother, Bob. Her sister, Liz, wasn't a close enough match. She wanted to do it, but it wouldn't have worked. The doctor told me the day of transplant that Deb wouldn't make it.

I put all my trust in God and held on to that.

After a long battle, four months in Houston, learning to walk all over again, some short-term memory loss, whooshing in her ear and great determination, we (I had to stay with her as caregiver) came back home.

It has been a battle to keep her alive, but it has strengthened our family and made us extremely close as we protected Deb and fight the enemy, cancer. We all have been very active with the Leukemia/Lymphoma society.

The healing hand of God has led Deb to return to college with the help from the disability act to study

computer graphics. Her boys will be going on campus at a university.

The power of prayer and support of family and friends has brought us to this happy place. A public thank you to God for all of his blessings.

**Donna M. Carteaux**  
Fort Wayne

## Bishop Luers scholarship winner thanks Msgr. Lester

Dear Msgr. Lester,

I am happy to have been selected to receive your scholarship to go towards my school tuition at Bishop Luers High School. I'm sure it was very hard to pick one essay, out of all the students that entered their essays. I feel very blessed that my essay was chosen and thank God for it. I know this means very much to me and to my family.

I am the sixth child in a family of 10. Three of my older siblings attended Bishop Luers. I'm really glad to be attending Luers, and your scholarship has really helped.

As I stated in my essay, I still plan to run track, and I can't wait until Key Club starts. I already love Luers, and it's only the first couple of weeks. I have a lot to look forward to, and I can't wait to get started with everything.

I just wanted to thank you for giving me the opportunity to write my essay. Thank you.

**Nichole Martin**  
Fort Wayne

## Blessed Mary of Jesus

1560-1640

feast — September 13

Born in Spain, Maria Lopez de Rivas was brought up by her paternal grandparents. She had a Jesuit spiritual director, and at 17 entered the Discalced Carmelites. Despite concerns about her health, she professed vows in 1578 after being championed by St. Teresa of Avila. In her long, productive life as a Carmelite, she served more than once as mistress of novices, subprioress and prioress. St. Teresa recognized the inner strength of Sister Mary of Jesus, who had special devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. She was beatified in 1976.



# Voter sign-ups lag, rallies shrink as hopes for immigration bill fade

WASHINGTON (CNS) — After a summer of sometimes vitriolic immigration debate, the massive rallies that drew hundreds of thousands of people to the streets of Washington, Los Angeles, Chicago and Phoenix in the spring seemed a distant dream as Congress returned to work in September.

Momentum from the Senate's passage in May of a comprehensive immigration reform bill appeared to lose steam over the summer after the House and Senate failed to reconcile their vastly different bills. A series of largely one-sided field hearings around the country gave headlines and TV coverage to opponents of comprehensive legislation who are pushing for a bill that only deals with enforcement.

Leaders of both the House and Senate held out little hope that any kind of immigration legislation would pass before Congress adjourns for final election campaigning.

Pro-immigrant rallies around Labor Day in the same cities that had drawn half a million or more people earlier attracted but a fraction of the optimistic throngs that

gathered in March, April and May. Participants and organizers of the campaign to pass comprehensive immigration legislation said this time around many people were afraid to come.

But Jaime Contreras, chairman of the National Capitol Immigration Coalition, said although it was much smaller than April's, the Washington rally Sept. 7 still showed important strides were made in bringing people together. The event drew people from as far away as Florida and Massachusetts, he said.

Meanwhile, ongoing programs to register immigrant voters have been slow to bear fruit, according to an Associated Press review of registration figures from a handful of major cities. After the spring rallies and the passage of the Senate bill, a coalition of organizations backing comprehensive reform announced plans to seek 1 million new voters by 2008.

The AP review of voter registration in major cities with large immigration rallies in the spring found no sign of a boom in new voters. It found a slight uptick in some places over 2005, a nonelec-

## WASHINGTON LETTER

PATRICIA ZAPOR

tion year, but no particular increase in new voters over 2004, when there were political party-run drives leading up to the presidential election. In most places, the AP review found no evidence that Latinos are registering to vote at higher rates.

Contreras pointed out it's a time-consuming process for legal residents to become naturalized citizens and register to vote. He encouraged those who aren't eligible to "knock on doors and get out the vote."

Leo Anchondo, national manager of the Justice for Immigrants campaign of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said voter registration is not specifically part of the church's immigration cam-

LETTER, PAGE 16

# Peter responds, 'You are the Messiah!'



## THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

### 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mk 8:27-35

This passage is one of several similar sections in Tristo-Isaiah. These sections together are called the Songs of the Suffering Servant. Poetic and expressive, they figure in the liturgies of Holy Week and Good Friday because historically Christians have applied them to Christ, the Lamb of God.

Who was in the mind of the author of Tristo-Isaiah as these songs were written? Was it the author? Was it another loyal and devotion follower of the covenant who faced many difficulties? Was it the Chosen People, the servant being a collective symbol for them?

In any case, the picture is complete. The servant is steadfast. Hardships and obstacles abound in the servant's path to fidelity. But, God provides strength and guidance unflinchingly.

Assured of God's help, and resolute in faith, the servant is undaunted in obeying God.

For its second reading, the church this weekend gives us a passage from the Epistle of James. At the time of the Reformation, the differing opinions regarding texts such as this reading literally caused wars. It affirms the classic

Roman Catholic interpretation of Revelation. God gives us the healing and empowering grace so that we can believe.

However, we must ratify our belief in our worthy Christian conduct. It is not a question simply of following rules and regulations. Rather, it is to conduct ourselves so that in everything we replicate Christ.

In the story from St. Mark's Gospel, Jesus and the Apostles have gone to the region of Caesarea Philippi. This region is often in the news even today, and it has been the scene of much violence in the past 30 years. In general, it is the region now called the Golan Heights, territory claimed by modern Syria but taken militarily by Israel about 40 years ago. Parts of it still are under Israeli control.

At the origin of the Jordan River, it is picturesque and placid.

Such was the setting for this powerfully revelatory reading. Jesus questions the apostles. His identity is the issue. They respond by reporting the various proposals people put forward as to the Lord's identity. "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, others one of the prophets."

Then Jesus bluntly asks the apostles about their thoughts as to the identity of the master. Note that Peter speaks for the group. Also note Peter's firm answer. "You are the Messiah!"

Jesus then gives the Twelve Apostles a special lesson. It is one of many occasions within the New Testament in which the apostles appear as special students. They heard from Jesus lessons not given to the rank and file. They were special.

When Peter interjects his own, human thinking into the discussion, Jesus reprimands him.

Then Jesus tells the crowd that discipleship means carrying personal crosses. It is frank and somber. To follow Christ means the willingness to sacrifice even earthly life itself.

## Reflection

Living the Christian life by active acts of love and faith, in reflection of Jesus, always has been challenging. Certainly the martyrs, from those who died in ancient Rome to those dying today in Sudan, know very well this aspect of discipleship.

Blessedly, Americans do not face this test of discipleship. But, they face everyday the mighty attacks to the Gospel from our culture. We too must sacrifice if we wish to follow the Lord.

The fact is that, however the challenges come, overcoming opposition and being loyal to Christ results in peace in this life and joy in the life eternal.

Our example is Jesus, the crucified, the risen, so beautifully depicted as the Suffering Servant. His story is of victory, not defeat, life not death.

## READINGS

24th week of ordinary time

**Monday:** 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33 Ps 40:7-10, 17 Lk 7:1-10

**Tuesday:** 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a Ps 100:1-5 Lk 7:11-17

**Wednesday:** 1 Cor 12:31-13:13 Ps 33:2-5, 12, 22 Lk 7:31-35

**Thursday:** Eph 4:1-7, 11-13 Ps 19:2-5 Mtr 9:9-13

**Friday:** 1 Cor 15:12-20 Ps 49:6-10, 17-20 Lk 8:1-3

**Saturday:** 1 Cor 15:33-37, 42-49 Ps 50:10-14 Lk 8:4-15

## CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Camplisson

Sept. 19 is the feast of St. Janarius. He is most famous nowadays for his blood. This sanguinary quiz looks at blood.

### 1. The term blood occurs in the Bible

- a. rarely, as Jews tended to avoid mention of it
- b. at least 400 -500 times (depending on the translation of terms)
- c. never

### 2. As early as Genesis, Jews were forbidden to eat meat

- a. which had the blood still in it.
- b. which was emptied of blood.
- c. which had at one time included blood.

### 3. As well as commenting on animal blood, the Lord stated "... If anyone sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed." This is generally thought to refer to

- a. ritual suicide.
- b. causing the death (not just bleeding) of another person.
- c. ritual scarring as preparation for warfare.

### 4. This aspect of blood was apparently unknown to the Old Testament Jews:

- a. the fact that blood is red.
- b. the link between blood and life.
- c. the circulation of the blood.

### 5. In Deuteronomy, who do references to "the avenger of blood" refer to?

- a. the next of kin of a person accidentally killed
- b. the government official, known as the Avenger for short
- c. the first known serial killer

### 6. In Jewish sacrifices the blood was normally

- a. poured around the base of the altar, or in some cases sprinkled or smeared on the horns of the altar.
- b. heated and baked into blood sausages and distributed to the non Jews (aliens).
- c. used in the preparation of vestments and articles used in the temple.

### 7. In most cases the animal whose blood was to be let, had to be without this

- a. a brain
- b. any blemish
- c. any value

### 8. The Letter to the Hebrews makes reference to ... "how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal spirit offered himself unblemished to God ..." Why do scholars think that here again blood refers to sacrificial death, not just actual blood?

- a. Because as a divine being, Jesus would not have had actual blood.
- b. Because crucifixion was not especially bloody, but was fatal.
- c. Because blood was seen as unclean and would not be mentioned in the Bible.

### 9. Why was Jesus' requirement to the Jews that they had to drink his blood (the Bread of Life Discourse) particularly shocking?

- a. Jews were expressly forbidden to consume blood by their religion, not just as a custom.
- b. Blood was only included in foods, which were for higher caste priests, not Jesus' followers.
- c. The blood references 1 Hebrew were misunderstood by the Greek Speaking Jews as referring to the death penalty, which they unanimously opposed.

### 10. Jesus was reported to have sweated blood while contemplating this:

- a. the disloyalty of his disciples led by Judas
- b. the might of the Romans in Judea
- c. his imminent passion

### 11. When the Roman soldier pierced Jesus' side to verify that he was dead, blood flows out, but also this:

- a. wine
- b. vinegar or "gall"
- c. water

### 12. The blood of Jesus continues to be present in

- a. the Holy Grail, on display in the Vatican Museum.
- b. the Eucharist.
- c. the Mandala, kept in an unknown location by the secretive Templars.

### 13. What conclusions have been drawn about this phenomenon?

- a. It is clearly a miracle since no other explanation is possible.
- b. It is an obvious trick using oil and dye to fool the gullible.
- c. Opinions differ, some believe it to be supernatural, others natural, and some others a natural phenomenon with a supernatural cause.

### ANSWERS:

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

# Couple is at odds with contraception

**Please pray for my wife and me. We both acknowledge each other's stance on family planning, but unfortunately we are on opposite sides of the NFP fence. Do you know of any tools for working through the differences my wife and I have? We have a strong marriage ... we pray together every day ... but we keep coming up at odds on the issue of contraception. We both recognize this as the major issue of our marriage at the moment. In a sense it has made us both focus more on the marriage, which is good, but neither of us likes that we disagree on this issue. We are currently expecting our fourth (planned) child, so we have a few months left before the issue of NFP has an opportunity to be put into practice again. My wife is from the medical community; as such, she regards NFP as a completely shoddy form of family planning. "A house divided against itself cannot stand." This quote scares me so. My wife and I are committed to working through this issue and to never let his "prophecy" come true in our lives. We have both asked for intercession from the Holy Spirit in our marriage regarding this. Is there anything else we can do? Thanks for listening. God bless. Anonymous**

There are many good books, tapes and pamphlets on what is wrong with contraception. You can find them easily at One More Soul ([www.OMSoul.com](http://www.OMSoul.com)). Here is a brief list I would recommend to you and your wife:

"Birth Control and Christian Discipleship," by John Kippley (Couple to Couple League); "Contraception: Why Not?" A tape or CD by Dr. Janet Smith; "New Perspectives on Contraception," by Donald DeMarco Ph.D. (DeMarco explains how contraception separates people from their spouses, from God, and even from their own best interests); "Physicians Healed" (personal stories of 15 physicians who do not prescribe contraception); and "Rethinking Reproductive Medicine."

Your wife does not seem to be well informed about the advanced stage of the art of NFP. I suggest that she contact the Pope Paul VI Institute for the Study of Human Reproduction: 6901 Mercy Rd., Omaha, NE 68106-2604; telephone: (402) 390-6600.

To understand the moral evil of contraception, it requires a little reading and reflection. I am convinced that contraception and sterilization is the taproot of the culture of death.

## THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

**In our Scripture study class I said that when couples contracept by artificial means, many children were not permitted to come into being. Because of this, some people do not exist that God intended to be conceived. The opposition said that, yes, life begins at conception and some people do abort. But other than that, God does cause all those to be born that he had planned to be born. I think that God planned to create many more children, but he does not go around the barriers of contraception, or against the parents' will. What do you think? Anonymous**

At conception, God gives life to a new human person, who will live forever. It is the intention of God that a newly conceived person has the opportunity to pursue a full normal course of existence on this earth, and then to be received into heaven with him for all eternity.

Abortion destroys the physical life of the unborn. Many forms of contraception are also abortifacient. When a mother decides to abort her child, she is clearly thwarting God's plan for the life of her child. The soul of the aborted child continues to live.

God planned for every conceptus to be born and to move along the trajectory of life. Once God gives life, he does not take it back. This applies also to stillborn babies and miscarriages. Only God understand these mysteries, and all life is ultimately in his control. He seems to allow defects of physical nature to have their natural consequences. God provides for these premature deaths. Their souls continue to live.

Contraception prevents God from creating the full number of children he has always intended to give to a given couple. God knows how many children he has planned for every married couple. One of the evils of contraception, perhaps the greatest evil is that it prevents God from being God, from being able to create new persons. The contracepting couple wants to be masters over life, instead of servants of life.

From all eternity God has planned to call each of us into

existence at a given time, from a given set of parents. We are very special to him, and there are no accidents involved. He has numbered the very hairs on our head.

God decided to allow us to cooperate with him as pro-creators, as bodied-persons who are fertile. That always involves free will on our part. God allows us to abuse our freedom, as in the case of contraception and sterilization. But that is exactly the nature of sin: the abuse of our freedom.

**These questions were answered by Benedictine Father Matthew Habiger. He may be reached at [mhabiger@kansasmonks.org](mailto:mhabiger@kansasmonks.org)**

**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](mailto: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.

## Zinedine Zidane vs. Jackie Robinson

Having a decided preference for sports that recognize that God gave us opposable thumbs for a reason, I tried to ignore the first phase of this past summer's World Cup. As luck would have it, though, I spent most of the elimination round in Europe, where absorption into the quadrennial madness that besets most of the globe is unavoidable, unless you lock yourself up in the deepest cell of the strictest Carthusian monastery you can find — and then outfit yourself with Bose noise-reduction earphones. So I watched the World Cup final in Cracow with my students in the Tertio Millennio Seminar on the Free Society (who hailed from nine different European countries and, with virtual uniformity, cheered for Italy over France — which might tell President Chirac ... something). And I witnessed, live and in color, The Head-Butt Shown 'Round the World, when Zinedine Zidane, the French captain, took offense at comments by Italy's Marco Materazzi and got ejected from overtime by sending Materazzi to the ground with a sharp application of French cranium to Italian sternum.

A few days later, Bernard-Henri Levy, the French philosopher and political provocateur, took to the op-ed pages of the *Wall Street Journal* with a faux-Homeric encomium to Zidane as "a man more admired than the pope, the Dalai Lama, and Nelson Mandela put together," a "man of providence, a savior who was sought out, like Achilles in his tent of grudge and rage, because he was believed to be the only one who could avert his countrymen's fated decline."

Why, then, did the brilliant Zidane, the finest soccer player of his generation, melt down at the crucial moment? "The only explanation," according to M. Levy, "is that there was in this man a kind of recoil, an ultimate inner revolt, against the living parabola, the stupid statue, the beatified monument" into which he had been transformed by his brilliant performance in the 2006 World Cup. This was, Homer-Levy continued, "the man's insurrection against the saint. A refusal of the halo that had been put on his head and that he then, quite logically, pulverized with a head-butt, as though saying, 'I am a living being not a fetish; a man of flesh and blood and passion, not this idiotic hologram, this guru ... which soccer-mania was turning me into.'"

To which the only sensible reply is a French noun that begins with "m" and ends with "e" and rhymes with "scared."

Sport grips us precisely because of its Homeric qualities: sport tests character as well as skill. Sport loses its profound human meaning, however, when its moral texture gets warped. Ted Williams, the Red Sox Hall of Famer, was the American Achilles precisely because he was flawed and ill-tempered and vulgar and great, and no one made excuses for his vulgarities and crankiness: they were recognized, and criticized, for what they were, even as we applauded the man who was quite possibly the greatest hitter ever, the patriot who sacrificed five years of his career to the service of his country. Pity Zidane, then, for being put onto M. Levy's psychiatric-existentialist couch, where bad



GEORGE WEIGEL

## THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

sportsmanship is analyzed into an exercise in noble self-assertion, and a great but flawed athlete is rescued from disgrace in order to become ... what? A paladin of "authenticity"?

It's unlikely that we'll ever know with certainty what Marco Materazzi said to Zinedine Zidane — but it doesn't matter, finally. Fifty-nine years ago, in the course of breaking baseball's color line, Jackie Robinson heard racial slurs and death threats throughout a 154-game season — and kept his mouth shut and his fists to himself. The man who arguably did more for civil rights in America than any other African-American, with the sole exception of Martin Luther King, Jr., didn't take a Louisville Slugger to the heads of Ben Chapman, Alvin Dark or other racist taunters. He played the game fiercely and proudly, and conquered by winning, not by whining.

Bad sportsmanship is bad sportsmanship, period. If we try to explain it away, the nobility of sport is lost, and we're left with psychobabble tarted up as the mock-heroics of the "self."

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

## SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for September 17, 2006

Mark 8:27-35

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: the hard teaching about the coming Passion. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

JESUS	DISCIPLES	CAESAREA
THE WAY	HE ASKED	WHO DO
BAPTIST	YOU SAY	THE CHRIST
SON OF MAN	BE REJECTED	ELDERS
PRIESTS	SCRIBES	BE KILLED
THREE DAYS	PETER	BEHIND ME
DENY	CROSS	FOLLOW ME

## FOLLOW AFTER ME

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

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## LETTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

paign. Though many dioceses have long-established voter registration drives, they're usually connected to the bishops' political responsibility program.

Where immigration is concerned, the church's efforts instead will continue to focus on educating Catholics and the general public about the whole range of concerns, he said.

In Washington Sept. 7, participants offered a variety of explanations for the diminished crowd at an afternoon rally and march near the Capitol. The hundreds of thousands who stretched for blocks on the Mall in April had shrunk to far less than even 10,000.

Preparations had clearly been

made for a much larger gathering, with loudspeakers set along several blocks of the Mall, a large video screen looming over an empty stretch of lawn and stacks of unused American flags and signs piled up near the stage.

Some in the crowd said their friends were afraid of losing their jobs for taking time off work. Others didn't want to come to the attention of immigration authorities for fear they'd be arrested and deported. A few from the Washington area cited rumors of immigration arrests a day earlier in parking lots where day laborers gather in nearby Langley Park, Md.

Still others suggested there had been too little notice of rallies which occurred close to a holiday and the start of the school year or the growing sense that Congress will not pass an immigration bill this term.



# Sports

**BISHOP DWENGER HOSTS TAILGATE PARTY** Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne will celebrate homecoming on Friday, Sept. 15, at Zollner Stadium. A tailgate party will begin at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$7 per person or \$5 for children under 10 years old. The kickoff will be at 7 p.m. for the game between Dwenger and South Side.

## Cougars, Panthers remain as the undefeated ICCL teams

BY ELMER J. DANCH

**SOUTH BEND** — After two weeks of intensive play in the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL), both St. Anthony-St. Joseph football Panthers and the Corpus Christi Cougars popped up as the undefeated co-leaders in the schoolboy gridiron season.

Corpus Christi nipped Mishawaka Catholic in a 14-8 nail biter behind the two touchdown scoring of Mario Navarette and Robbie Canul. Navarette broke away on a 23-spring. Canul tallied on a 10-yard in the closely-fought contest. Cody Webber kicked the extra point. Ben Brewers scored on a 30-yard run for the Saints in the third period and Andrew Davidson added the two-point conversion. The fourth quarter was a nip-and-tuck tussle and neither team was able to get within scoring distance.

St. Anthony-St. Joseph staved off a desperate St. Matthew attack to prevail in a typical defensive struggle, 12-7.

Sean Hart rifled two touchdown passes of 20 and 17 yards to Peter Gillis who snatched the ball from two defenders. Chase Parker electrified the crowd with a 65-yard touchdown dash for the Blazers in the second half.

Holy Cross-Christ the King won over Holy Family, 40-12, as Max Matthew tossed two touchdown passes to Andrew Presnal of 37 and 40 yards. Conner Demarais, Nick Matthews and Jonathon Daniel also scored for the victors. A.J. Fitzpatrick kicked five conversions for the Crusaders.

Collin Skodinski scored on a 15-yard run for Holy Family. Zachary Fozo closed out the scoring with a 5-yard touchdown run.

### Standings

Team	Record
St. Anthony-St. Joseph	2-0
Corpus Christi	2-0
Mishawaka Catholic	1-1
Holy Cross-Christ the King	1-1
St. Matthew	0-2
Holy Family	0-2

## CYO action heats up with cross country, volleyball and football

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

**FORT WAYNE** — This week, Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) sports includes a report on the cross country success of the Cardegles. With games beginning Sept. 9, CYO volleyball is in full swing.

### CYO cross country

This year the Cardegles, made up of boys and girls from St. Charles and St. Jude, have 42 cross country runners in grades 5-8. They are coached by Dan Kaufman, Scott Reiling, Dan Leffers, Chris Kaufman, Brian Kaufman and Tim O'Connell.

With three meets under their belts, the Cardegles have been doing a fine job. Both the boys and the girls finished runner up in a Leo four-way invitational. In a dual meet with Lane Middle School, both the boys' and girls' teams came out on top. This past weekend in Columbia City at a 20-team invitational hosted by Indian Springs Middle School Invitational, the boys finished sixth and the girls placed seventh.

To date, the top five runners for the boys are Andrew Eckrich, Phil Schroeder, Billy McManus, Josh Underwood and Jacob Malmstrom. Kate Kinley, Jenny Colone, Gabrielle Ferro, Natalie

Kocks and Emma Satterthwaite hold the top spots for the girls. The Cardegles are preparing to compete at the Huntington Catholic Invite and the Wabash Invitational yet this month.

### Volleyball opens

CYO volleyball is now in full swing. Matches started in the area on Saturday, Sept. 9. Games were held at four locations for the seventh and eighth grade girls in three different leagues — the white (large school), blue (small school) and green (7).

In her first season as varsity coach, Jacqui Buckmaster has 11 players on her PB (Precious Blood) roster. This includes eight eighth graders and three seventh graders. In their first blue league game

against Benoit, PB lost in two close games, 20-25 and 17-25. Claire Cochran had four aces in the loss and Haley Smith two. Aryssa Shank-Anspach had a block.

Buckmaster said, "We are working on it." Her father and aunts all attended Precious Blood where one of her aunts is currently the athletic director.

### Week 2 football wrap-up

In CYO football action, the Eagles from St. John, Fort Wayne-Benoit Academy-St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel (2-0)

defeated Holy Cross (0-2) by a score of 30-14 in the final game of the day on Sunday, Sept. 3, at Zollner Stadium.

D'Angelo Fincher had a pair of touchdowns as did Marquel Cooper. Alex Stroncsek scored 3-4 extra points. After two weeks of play, three teams remained unbeaten: St. John, Fort Wayne, St. John, New Haven, and St. Vincent. But that all changed with the games from Sept. 10 at Bishop Luers field.

The Panthers lost a close one to St. John, Fort Wayne 14-8. In the loss, Evan Feichter threw 55 yards to Greg German for a touchdown on a wide receiver screen. Conner Friesner kicked the extra point for St. Vincent (2-1). Eagles' touchdowns were scored by Stephen Kiermaier on an 80-yard run and seventh grader James Knapke on a 40-yard fumble recovery. Alex Stroncsek hit the extra two. The Eagles are now 3-0.

St. Charles beat Holy Cross 22-16 in a double overtime thriller. Nick Taylor had two touchdowns in the victory. Ryan Taylor blocked a punt and returned it for the other touch-

down.

The Raiders from St. John, New Haven, remain undefeated as they downed a scrappy JAT team 8-0. The touchdown came in the first quarter on a 6-yard run by Nick McCarthy. Greg McCarthy scored the point after and Mike McCarthy had an interception late in the game to seal the victory.

### CYO scoring leaders after three weeks of play:

Name	School	TDs
Evan Feichter	St. Vincent	6
Nick McCarthy	St. John NH	5
D'Angelo Fincher	St. John FW	4
Marquel Cooper	St. John FW	3
Mike McCarthy	St. John NH	3

Team	Record
St. John FW	3-0
St. John NH	3-0
St. Vincent	2-1
St. Charles	2-1
St. JAT	1-2
St. Jude	1-2
Queen of Angels/	
Precious Blood	0-3
Holy Cross	0-3



**CYO coaches are requested to e-mail fall sports scores to sports writer Michelle Castleman at [mmcastleman@aol.com](mailto:mmcastleman@aol.com)**

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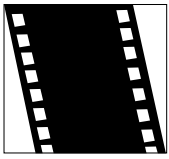
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**MOVIE CAPSULES**

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

**"Crank" (Lionsgate)**

Noisy and endlessly unpleasant action film about a Los Angeles hit man (Jason Statham) who must keep in perpetual motion after he finds out that a rival thug (Jose Pablo Cantillo) has poisoned him with a substance designed to kill

him within seconds if his heart rate drops. Co-writers and directors Mark Neveldine and Brian Taylor load on the bloody video-game-style action in an empty and mindless exercise. Excessive and graphic violence and gore, lewd sexual content, vulgar humor, recurring partial nudity, drug use and pervasive rough and crude language and profanity. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is O — morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

**"Hollywoodland" (Focus)**

Dark speculative story about the mysterious death of George Reeves (a convincing Ben Affleck), the actor who played Superman on TV

in the 1950s, as a fictional private eye (Adrien Brody) tries to determine whether the death was indeed suicide, or murder at the hands of his opportunistic starlet girlfriend (Robin Tunney), or by a studio executive with mob connections (Bob Hoskins) married to his paramour (Diane Lane). Director Allen Coulter's film (from Paul Bernbaum's fanciful script) will be of interest to fans of the "Superman" series and those intrigued by Hollywood lore, but there are no conclusive answers, and the anachronistic expletives (the f-word and s-word were not used so commonly in the 1940s and '50s), and overdone sleazy milieu will be a turnoff to many. Strong sexual themes, nongraphic sexual encounters including adultery, pervasive rough and crude language

and profanity, some discreet violence with blood and partial shadowy nudity. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is L — limited adult audience, films whose problematic content many adults would find troubling. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or guardian.

**"The Wicker Man" (Warner Bros.)**

Uninspired remake of the 1973 cult thriller, here transposed from Scotland to the Pacific Northwest, about a policeman (Nicolas Cage) who, investigating the disappearance of a young girl, becomes entangled in the strange goings-on of a secretive island community of modern pagans led by a mysterious matriarch (Ellen Burstyn).

Following the basic outline of the original, minus the eroticism and adding a feminist twist, director Neil LaBute generates some suspense in his cerebral approach, but overall the film is a bland and unnecessary retread, more hokey than creepy as the story progresses. Some disturbing images, including a burning human sacrifice, pagan rituals, an instance of rough language and scattered crude expressions and profanity. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

**St. Thomas Aquinas series**

Huntington — Ss. Peter and Paul Parish will begin a series of talks to deepen their faith on Sunday, Sept. 17. The Art of the Rosary: Teaching the Faithful to Pray" by Dr. Esperanca Camara (from the University of Saint Francis) will speak at 5 p.m. in Gollner Hall with refreshments to follow. The talk is free. This talk will focus on the history of the rosary and the use of images in its dissemination and practice during the Middle Ages and Renaissance. It will examine how artists used their creative abilities to assist the faithful in prayerful meditation. For information call Jerid at (260) 358-0411.

**Rummage sale planned**

South Bend — The St. Matthew HASA will have a rummage sale on Saturday, Sept. 23, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the school gym located at 1015 E. Dayton St. For information call Michelle Quinn at (574) 233-4331 or Lisa Brammer at (574) 231-9293.

**Light Weigh orientation meeting**

New Haven — A Light Weigh orientation meeting will be held at St. John the Baptist Parish Center Monday, Sept. 18, at 6:30 p.m. Come learn how you can become spiritually and physically fit. For information call Pat at (260) 493-6355.

**Polish heritage dinner to be held**

South Bend — The Central Polish-American Organization (CENTRALA) will have a Polish heritage dinner on Sunday, Oct. 8, at 1:30 p.m. at the Z.B. Falcon Hall, 323 S. Sheridan St., for the benefit of providing medical help for Polish children. Tickets are advance sale only by Friday, Sept. 22. Adults \$12.50 each and children up to age 12 years \$6.00. For information contact Dolores Liwosz, at (574) 259-7001.

**St. Aloysius scrapbook fundraiser**

Yoder — St. Aloysius will have a scrapbook fundraiser on Sunday, Oct. 22, from 7-10 p.m. at the parish. \$5 admission.

**Day of Reflection**

Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) on Wednesday, Sept. 27, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme is "Francis: Beyond the Bird Bath Image." The cost of the day is \$15 and includes lunch. Register by Friday, Sept. 22, to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

**First annual fall fest**

Decatur — St. Mary of the Assumption Church will have a Fall Fest on the church parking lot located at Fourth and Monroe Streets on Saturday, Sept. 30 and Sunday, Oct. 1. On Saturday, Mass at 4 p.m. will be followed by fajita dinners (\$7 presale call Abby at (260) 724-8794, limited quantity at door \$8), food tents, beer/wine available, Texas Hold'Em (5:15-6:15 registration), a silent auction and music by "Main Street Jazz" at 5 p.m. and "Endgame" from 7-10 p.m. On Sunday, Mass at 11 a.m. will be followed by pulled pork dinner, food tents, beer/wine available, children's games, bingo and music by L and L Karaoke from noon to 4 p.m. and "Popple" at 4 p.m.

**Singles to meet at St. Elizabeth**

Fort Wayne — The GAP, a Catholic-Christian singles group for men and women in their 40s through 60s will meet on Friday, Sept. 15, at 7 p.m. in St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parish hall for group dancing. Partners are not required. There will be clogging and line dancing lessons provided by a professional dancer. Please bring a snack or drink to share. For more information call (260) 432-7346 or e-mail gap4565@msn.com.

**Office of Youth Ministry hosts XLT evening**

Fort Wayne — The Office of Youth Ministry will host its first diocesan-wide XLT (exalt) on Thursday, Sept. 28, at 7 p.m. at St. Mary Church in downtown

Fort Wayne. Come experience "The Real Thing" with Bishop John M. D'Arcy, Frankie and the Holy Rollers, Father Mark Gurtner and Catholic friends from all around. XLT is praise and worship music, reflection and time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament with more praise and worship. XLT appeals to high school and college age Catholics to draw them into deep worship, but everyone is welcome and encouraged to come. Seeing the young people's energy and enthusiasm for their faith is inspiring and contagious.

**Fish fry and salad bar**

South Bend — St. Adalbert Parish will have an all-you-can-eat fish fry and salad bar on Friday, Sept. 22, from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Heritage Center. Adults and carry-out \$7, children (5-12) \$3, children under 5 free.

**Basic tenants of Islamic faith presented**

Fort Wayne — The adult education committee of St. Jude Parish, corner of State and Randallia, will sponsor Sabah Al-Saud, of the Islamic Center to speak on the Basic Tenants of the Islamic Faith on Monday, Sept. 25, at 7 p.m. in the south hall.

**Little Flower Holy Hour**

Fort Wayne — Father Ron Rieder, OFM, Cap., pastor of Ss. Peter and Paul Parish, will celebrate the holy hour at MacDougal Chapel on Tuesday, Sept. 19, at 7:15 p.m.

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# Catholic Charities worker takes first hand look at refugee camp

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Burma, a country located in southeastern Asia that is no larger than the state of Texas, is home to over 47 million people. Sixty-eight percent of the population is Burmese and include smaller ethnic groups such as the Karens and Shans. The government, a military junta, is an oppressive military dictatorship and many ethnic Karens flee to the border country of Thailand to escape the civil war fighting between the rebels and the Burmese troops.

According to the World Factbook, in 2005, Thailand sheltered 121,000 Burmese refugees, but was unable to accept them permanently. Several United States agencies have played a vital role in the resettlement of these refugees, including Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

The Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Program (RRP) of Fort Wayne offers refugees services ranging from reception and placement to job development and advocacy. Nyein Chan, once a Burmese refugee himself, is director of RRP and has worked diligently to establish between 160 and 250 refugees each of the past several years from countries like Bosnia, Vietnam, Africa and his homeland, Burma.

## Travels to Thailand

After working with so many Burmese refugees, Chan chose to travel back overseas to Thailand this past July to visit a refugee camp in hopes of gaining first hand knowledge of the conditions under which the Karen refugees

live. Chan recalls his own life as a refugee but reports the camp he visited, Maela Refugee Camp, was much larger than the one he was retained in. Maela stands about five miles from the Burma border in hilly, Thai territory. Reportedly the largest of nine refugee camps, it shelters 48,000 of those in exile.

Upon arrival and following required security procedures, Chan was transported to Maela Camp by the Karen organization. The conditions, he reports, were far worse than he had anticipated. Row upon row of one-room bamboo huts lined the dirt streets, each divided into two areas, one specified for cooking, the other for living and sleeping. The refugees slept in hammocks or directly on the bamboo floors of the cramped huts. No water or sewer systems were in place.

The stench, he says, was overwhelming. According to the testimony of Resettlement Director of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Anastasia Brown, "much of the assistance in the camps is provided by a coalition of non governmental organizations known as the Thailand Burma Border Consortium (TBBC)." Water for consumption was brought into camp for distribution once a day. A well with a pump provided the water rationed for washing clothes and bathing. Central to the area was a dirt yard designated for the children's play. And although almost 90 percent of the Burmese nation embraces Buddhism, the camp had established a bamboo, Christian church complete with a bamboo cross.

The refugees, both young and old, survive on fish caught from the nearby river and cooked on open fires fueled with handmade charcoal. Rice, onions and other



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY NYEIN CHAN

Nyein Chan sits with refugee children during his visit to Maela Refugee Camp in Thailand. The children there weave cloth to earn money to buy food for their families.

staples brought in by the TBBC are sometimes purchased at the local camp store, with money sent from resettled relatives or earned from selling the cloth the children weave, to supplement the lean diet of these displaced people.

But, Chan says, these are the lucky ones, as thousands of other Burmese try to survive without work, housing, food or water outside the camps in hopes of gaining refugee status from the United

Nation's High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHRC). Currently 3,000 refugees wait to enter Maela Camp.

Chan was able to meet with some relatives of resettled Burmese refugees he is acquainted with in the Fort Wayne area. Their question, along with the others' in exile, was the same: "When will we be resettled in the United States?"

Following the terrorist attacks of 9/11 the government refused all resettlement. A one-time waiver from the U.S. government last year finally allowed 9,300 refugees from one of the smaller camps to resettle here.

"I feel badly for these people," says Chan. "I can't answer their questions." He can, however, provide them with the reassurance that Catholic Charities and other worldwide organizations will continue to supply food and water as they work toward empowering the government to allow more refugees to come to America.

Approximately one third of the refugees in the nine camps along the western border of Thailand are unregistered. Chan made it clear to the families he met with at Maela Camp that they must be registered to gain resettlement status,

explaining the importance of filling out each affidavit of support form with the utmost accuracy.

Many, whose family members are already in the U.S., wish to file for family reunification. This, says Chan, requires different forms than resettlement and may provide a better chance for their acceptance into the U.S.

Chan continued to encourage the refugees to remain in the camps where their basic survival needs are met and vocational training for the children is provided, with reminders of all those who live outside the camps with little hope.

Upon returning to his home in America, Chan took time to reflect on all that he had seen at Maela Refugee Camp. The memory of the oppressive poverty these people endure has inspired him to begin the process of soliciting donations specifically for them. He is hopeful to partner with area churches and ministries in creating ways to ship donated clothes and other items to the displaced families there.

And Nyein Chan, once a refugee himself, is praying. "I've seen them with my own eyes, how difficult it is for them to survive. I am praying for them."



Nyein Chan, center, director of the Refugee Resettlement Program at Catholic Charities, visits with families in their one-room bamboo hut located in Maela Refugee Camp in Thailand.

Maela stands about five miles from the Burma border in hilly, Thai territory. Reportedly the largest of nine refugee camps, it shelters 48,000 of those in exile.