

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Room to grow

Queen of Peace celebrates the expansion of school

BY JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

MISHAWAKA — The 236 students at Queen of Peace School in Mishawaka won't have to study in modular classrooms any longer.

On Wednesday, Sept. 13, school officials unveiled a completed expansion project that added 7,600 square feet to Queen of Peace School.

The addition opened four extra classrooms, a science laboratory, a combined media center and library and a study area for children. Staff will now be parked in new administration offices and teachers' lounge. A new roof and an outdoor education center capped off the project, which cost \$832,000, according to a news release from the parish.

As members of the student council cut the ribbon at an open house celebration Wednesday, students and family poured into the school out the rain to take in the school's new look.

Mary Ann Middlestadt, mother of fourth-grader Merisa had one word for the new digs: "wonderful."

She said the new space will give kids "more elbow room, and the science lab is awesome."

In particular, Middlestadt said, the science lab will give students hands on experience and will enhance the students' overall educational experience at Queen of Peace.

"We love it here," Middlestadt said. "It's a wonderful school and parish, and the teachers are wonderful."

Anne Oliva, whose daughters Marie and Catherine both attend the school and whose daughter Sarah will start preschool next year, is pleased with the expansion.

"It's nice to have all the kids in one building," Oliva said. "And it's nice to know we will have room to grow if classes grow."

She's also happy that her girls will be able to go to school at Queen of Peace through eighth grade. The new expansion will continue to allow the growth to pursue middle school academics for students.

According to Father Richard Hire, pastor at

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JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

Molly Jones, left, a seventh grader at Queen of Peace Catholic School in Mishawaka, and Erin Myers, an eighth grader at the school, cut the ribbon on a school expansion project. On Sept. 13, the school hosted an open house and ribbon-cutting ceremony for parents and students.

GOD'S AXEMEN



DON CLEMMER

Dr. Dan Quinn and Ken Jehle demonstrate a chord sequence at the third annual guitar workshop for liturgical guitarists at St. Joseph Church in Fort Wayne. This year's workshop focused on chord mastery and included demonstrations by Quinn, Jehle and Fred Rothert of St. Mary Church in Fort Wayne.

Diocesan clergy participating in national USCCB project

BY VINCE LABARBERA

Bishop John D'Arcy and several priests from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend are participating in a new Web site audiovisual project by the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC) of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

Currently, if one visits the USCCB Web site, usccb.org, and selects "Readings" from the various categories, the readings from the Mass of the Day are available in printed form. A visitor can choose either "Today's Reading" or click on any day of the month. In fact, readings from the Mass liturgy are available from the current month and the three months that follow.

Scheduled to begin late this month, however, when a visitor to the USCCB Web site

clicks on "Readings," he or she not only will be able to read the text but eventually hear the readings and also view an (arch)bishop or priest give about a two- to three-minute reflection on them. The local diocese will help kickoff the special project and be represented on Fridays beginning in October and running through Easter 2007.

The USCCB Web site also can be accessed through the diocesan Web site www.diocesefwsb.org by clicking on the "Our World" heading.

The idea for the project originated with Ellen McCloskey, director of production for the CCC staff, and Christopher Salvador, partner-producer-director of NewGroup Media (NGM), of South Bend, creators and

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Renewal of marriage vows

South Bend area couples celebrate

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LaGrange and St. Monica parishes in spotlight

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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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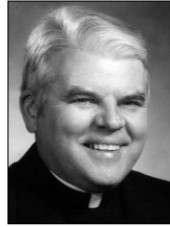
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Grants from Annual Bishop's Appeal fund charitable works



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

A historic parish

St. Joseph Parish, South Bend was founded by the intrepid French missionary priest, Father Edward Sorin, CSC, in 1854. We think of him, and rightly so, as the founder of the University of Notre Dame, but he was an evangelist, a preacher, and the Congregation of Holy Cross was still in its formative years when he came here in 1842 to work, he thought, among the Indians. God had more expansive plans. He founded St. Joseph Parish and St. Patrick Parish, and preached the Gospel as far as Goshen, Ind., and other places throughout the area. So, it was a special privilege to do a parish visitation at St. Joseph's in response to the request of Father John DeRiso, CSC, the exemplary pastor, and to visit with him and Father Nate Wills, CSC, ordained a priest less than a year.

We had a beautiful liturgy, with our hearts raised to God in prayer. It was a privilege to bless and commission the catechists led by the outstanding principal of St. Joseph School, Suzanne Wiwi. Also, at the conclusion of Mass, I presented grants to the various groups in South Bend, such as Catholic Charities, St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Women's Care Center, the Center for the Homeless and so many others, which are listed on page 4. Pope Benedict XVI has reminded us that the church can no more neglect the service of charity than it can neglect the word of God, or the sacraments. These various grants were made possible by the Annual Bishop's Appeal. A new grant this year was given to the Logan Center, which does such excellent work among handicapped children, including those with various degrees of autism. Altogether we gave out \$62,000 to a total of 13 agencies.

At the end of Mass, each recipient spoke a few words. Always special is Sister Marita Stoffel, OSF, who works with those who cannot read. Imagine going through life being unable to read. Sister is in her 90s. She works out of the former rectory of St. Augustine Parish. Each year, we give her \$1,000. Most of those whom she teaches are former prisoners, recently released from jail. She said she never fears for her safety, believing that the good Lord will protect her. We will give similar grants in Fort Wayne in a few weeks.

Two special priests

We give thanks to Father David Tyson,

CSC, provincial of the Congregation of Holy Cross, and his associate, for the wonderful priests who are taking care of several parishes in South Bend. Father John DeRiso, CSC, is a native of Long Island, New York. I was privileged to meet some of the team he has put together, including Theresa Slott, his director of music, and Maryellen Kottenstette, the youth minister. This is an important parish located in downtown South Bend. The school opened this year with over 447 students. Many of them come from quite a distance. There is evident a spirit of joy and service, and the worship of God is sincere and prayerful, but also joyful. Father DeRiso deserves much credit for his leadership. Father Nate Wills, CSC, recently ordained, is a real gift — and also helps at Saint Joseph's High School. It was a joy to spend this Sunday with him and his flock.

A follow-up brunch

I joined these two priests and another good friend and extraordinary pastor, Father Michael Mathews, CSC, at the famous

**Pope Benedict XVI has reminded us
that the church can no more neglect
the service of charity
than it can neglect the word of God
or the sacraments.**

Tippecanoe Restaurant, along with our diocesan master-of-ceremonies, Jim Fitzpatrick. Now you are talking about a major league brunch with waffles, pancakes and all kinds of sweet rolls. Unlike these three priests, I stayed with the roast beef and away from the rolls and pancakes. Of course you remember, they are athletes. They run for five or six miles several days a week. In fact, the indefatigable Father Mathews runs marathons and sometimes even makes the finish line without fainting. They were quite capable of devouring the high calories without repercussions. My running days are over, but I walk when I can.

A joyful day at St. Joseph Parish. After that, I drove to St. Matthew Parish where I celebrated the annual jubilee Mass for those couples celebrating 25 or 50 years of marriage. This is always special and is arranged by Fred and Lisa Everett of our Office of Family Life, along with Helen Austgen.

A life well lived

One of the questions that sometimes lingers in the human heart is, "What is the meaning of life and how does one live it well?" Then, we notice someone who has lived life well, and we are moved from the theoretical to the concrete when we say, "There is the answer. There is a life well

lived."

We buried Tom Jehl last Saturday from St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne. After serving his country in the Cold War, and in marrying his sweetheart, Margie Bougher, in, of all places, Killarney, Ireland, while still in the service of his country, he returned home and set out on his vocation within a vocation. Tom built hundreds of homes and later shopping centers. He gave work to countless tradesmen and helped them to support their families. Surely his greatest gift was building his own home with six children, 22 grandchildren and one great grandchild.

There is a psalm prayed by Jews and Christians for centuries, which includes these words, "Unless the Lord build the house in vain do the builders labor." Tom lived close to the Eucharist and, in all those years of business, lived by the same code of ethics which he had learned at St. Peter School, Central Catholic and Loras College. "He was our quarterback," one classmate told me about his time at Central Catholic. Later in life, he helped to establish a Lifetime Sports Academy, where children could learn to play tennis, golf, basketball and other sports. He was a great contributor to the University of Saint Francis, and helped to establish the football program there.

Tom was devoted to Bishop Dwenger High School, the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and to his family.

It was all done quietly. A good business man makes work for others; in this case, tradesmen, such as carpenters and electricians, helping them to build their own homes and raise their own children. It was all done ethically

and according to God's law. So, although there was pain in the Mass at St. Jude, there was also gratitude in contemplating the life of a good man. A sense of a life well lived.

Many moments ahead

I look forward to several events. A Mass for our jubilarian priests — those who have served 25, 40, 50 and even 60 years — as shepherds of Christ. Celebration of the Red Mass for lawyers and public officials at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, asking God's blessing upon the new term in our courts. The first meeting of the year with our Council of Catholic School Teachers. An evening of prayer and worship with our young people at St. Mary, Fort Wayne. Continuing education days with our priests presented, in this case, by the Notre Dame School of Business, under its extraordinary dean, Carolyn Woo.

Alas, the painful loss to Michigan. But the year is young and our coach is strong. Good can be brought from this performance. Perhaps a touch of reality for us all.

See you all next week.

Pope deeply regrets that his comments offended Muslims

BY JOHN THAVIS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI said he was “deeply sorry” that Muslims were offended by his reference to a historical criticism of Islam, which he said does not reflect his own opinion.

The pope’s remarks to pilgrims at his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo Sept. 17 were his first public reaction to a wave of Muslim indignation over a university lecture he delivered in Germany.

“I am deeply sorry for the reactions in some countries to a few passages of my address at the University of Regensburg, which were considered offensive to the sensibility of Muslims,” the pope said.

“These in fact were a quotation from a medieval text, which do not in any way express my personal thought,” he said.

The pope said he hoped his explanation and earlier Vatican statements would serve to “appease hearts and to clarify the true meaning of my address, which in its totality was and is an invitation to frank and sincere dialogue, with great mutual respect.”

Several Muslim leaders reacted positively to the pope’s comments, which were carried live on some Arab TV networks. Other Islamic groups said a fuller apology was needed.

In Somalia, authorities were investigating whether the killing of an Italian nun, Sister Leonella Sgorbati, was related to the controversy over the papal speech. She and her bodyguard, who was also killed, were shot as they entered a children’s hospital where the nun worked.

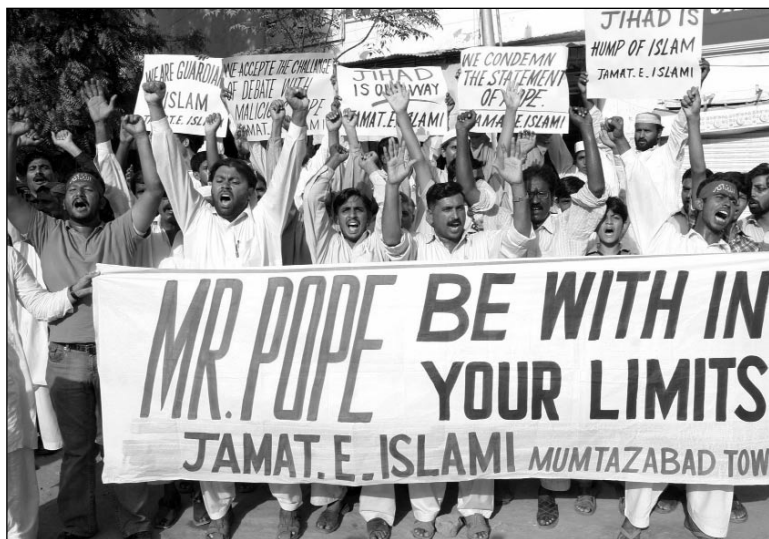
“We hope this remains an isolated act,” said the Vatican spokesman, Father Federico Lombardi. Without directly linking the killing to the papal speech, he said the Vatican was “following with concern the consequences of this wave of hatred, hoping that it does not lead to serious consequences for the church in the world.”

In Turkey, where there had been harsh criticism of the papal speech, Foreign Minister Abdullah Gul said there were no plans to change the government’s plans to host Pope Benedict during a planned visit to Turkey this fall. It would be the pope’s first trip to a Muslim country.

In his talk at the University of Regensburg, Germany, Sept. 12, the pope’s main theme was how reason and faith must be reconciled in the West, but he introduced it by quoting the 14th-century Byzantine Emperor Manuel II Paleologus on the errors of Islam and jihad, or holy war.

Most of the Muslim negative reaction has been based on the erroneous assumption that the pope agreed with the quoted material, including the line that Islam had brought “things only evil and inhuman.”

Criticism came from Muslim leaders and representatives in



CNS PHOTO/MIAN KHURSHED, REUTERS

Pakistani Muslims chant slogans to condemn Pope Benedict XVI for making what they regard as derogatory comments about Islam during a rally in Multan, Pakistan, Sept. 15. The Vatican responded to a wave of Muslim indignation over recent remarks by the pope, saying that the pope did not intend to “offend the sensibilities of Muslim faithful.”

many countries, including Egypt, Pakistan, Iran and Indonesia. In the West Bank, fire bombs were hurled at several Christian churches, apparently in reaction to the pope’s speech; no injuries were reported.

The pope’s decision to directly confront the controversy came after the Vatican issued two statements clarifying his speech, saying it had been misinterpreted.

A few hours after the pope returned from Germany Sept. 14, Father Lombardi said that while the papal speech contained a “clear and radical rejection of the religious motivation for violence,” it was not meant to be a critical assessment of Islam. On the contrary, Father Lombardi said, the pope’s talk focused primarily on the religious shortcomings of the West.

The Vatican’s new secretary of state, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, issued another statement Sept. 16 saying the pope respected Islam and its followers, and was unequivocally in favor of interfaith dialogue. The cardinal said that in Germany the pope had been arguing in favor of religious values in modern cultures — a point that should be welcomed by Muslims.

“Indeed it was (the pope) who, before the religious fervor of Muslim believers, warned secularized Western culture to guard against ‘the contempt for God and the cynicism that considers mockery of the sacred to be an exercise of freedom,’” Cardinal Bertone said.

Much attention was focused on the pope’s planned trip to Turkey Nov. 28-Dec. 1. Cardinal Bertone said he hoped the Turkey trip would take place and added, “For the time being there is no reason why it should not.”

Ali Bardakoglu, the head of Turkey’s directorate of religious affairs, who had earlier denounced the papal speech, welcomed the clarifying remarks.

“(The pope) says that he respects Islam and didn’t want to offend Muslims. That’s a civilized position,” Bardakoglu said.

But elsewhere the pope’s words

drew a less enthusiastic response. In Iran, a government spokesman said Sept. 18 that the pope’s explanation was not enough, and that “he should say that what he declared was wrong.” In the Iraqi city of Basra the same day, some 150 people joined a protest organized by a Shiite cleric, burning the pope’s effigy along with U.S., Israeli and German flags.

Several Vatican officials expressed deep dismay that Muslim reactions were based on distorted news media accounts of the papal speech.

Cardinal Paul Poupard, who heads the Vatican council that dialogues with Muslims, said a careful reading would show that the pope had offered to Islam “an outstretched hand” in the battle against an oversecularized global culture.

“I invite our Muslim friends of goodwill to take the pope’s text in hand and read it in its entirety and meditate on it. It will be clear that this can in no way be considered an attack on Islam but is rather an outstretched hand, because it defends the value of humanity’s religious cultures, including Islam,” the cardinal said in an interview with the Italian newspaper *Corriere della Sera*.

The secretary-general of the Central Council of Muslims in Germany, Aiman Mazyek, said he did not see the lecture as an attack on Muslims.

Mazyek told the German newspaper: “Against the background of the bloody forced Christianization in South America, the Crusades in the Muslim world, the co-option of the church by the Hitler regime, even the invention of the expression ‘holy war,’ which originally comes from the mouth of (Pope) Urban II, it would fill me with some concern if the church would come and take a superior attitude to the extremist activities of other religious communities.”

He said he was sure the pope had not meant that.

Today’s Catholic now available as podcast

BY TIM JOHNSON

Podcast, what’s a podcast? That’s a question that the staff of *Today’s Catholic* has been hearing often as we tell our friends and family about a new communications tool the newspaper has begun to use for spreading the good news.

A podcast is an audio broadcast. It can be downloaded to your computer from an Internet source called iTunes or — in the case of *Today’s Catholic* — it can also be found on the diocesan Web site, www.diocesefwsb.org. *Today’s Catholic Podcast* is 15 minutes long and includes a sampling of news and features stories from each week’s issue of *Today’s Catholic*.

In a day and age when people are on the go, many tell us they don’t have time to read the newspaper in depth. The podcast takes news stories and delivers the highlights in a style similar to National Public Radio or another news broadcast. The stories are time-efficient and do not go into the detail as the stories in the newspaper, but the podcast still provides a good general glimpse of diocesan, national and world stories.

We view offering the podcast as an extension of our audience. We are offering our message, news from the official publication of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, to an audience that may rely solely on secular sources for Catholic news.

The podcast can be downloaded and listened to at the listener’s convenience through an iPod or MP3 player or right at the computer. If a listener subscribes through iTunes, the podcast is automatically downloaded to the computer on a certain day of the week or when the subscriber opens the iTunes program after the podcast is uploaded from the *Today’s Catholic* office.

The iPod or MP3 player offers individuals the opportunity to listen to the newscast at their convenience — at the gym, while walking, running errands, driving.

With the 150th anniversary of the diocese just around the corner with special events associated such as the Wells of Hope, Mercy Day, regional anointings and confirmations, the Eucharistic Congress at the University of Notre Dame in August of 2007, we think it is very crucial to share the news through this exciting new technology.

Today’s Catholic and Redeemer Radio are also work-

ing out details of offering the podcast on the air in the future.

For the visually impaired, the diocesan Communications Office puts the podcast on cassette tape and sends it to those signed up for the service.

The staff of *Today’s Catholic* produces the podcast each week, usually on Wednesday morning. Announcers include Tim Johnson, editor; Don Clemmer, assistant editor; and Kay Cozad, staff writer. Vince LaBarbera, director of communications, and Mark Weber, graphics design, also assist. Francie Hogan uploads the podcast.

Diocesan staff also contribute with pieces. Ginny Kohrman and Sister Jolene Heiden, SSND, from the Office of Spiritual Development and Evangelization, create the prayer or evangelization tip.

The podcast is assembled in the editorial offices of *Today’s Catholic*. After the vocal pieces are assembled, background music and effects are added.

Today’s Catholic encourages you to subscribe to the podcast and please encourage your friends to subscribe.

Today’s Catholic directly to your e-mail

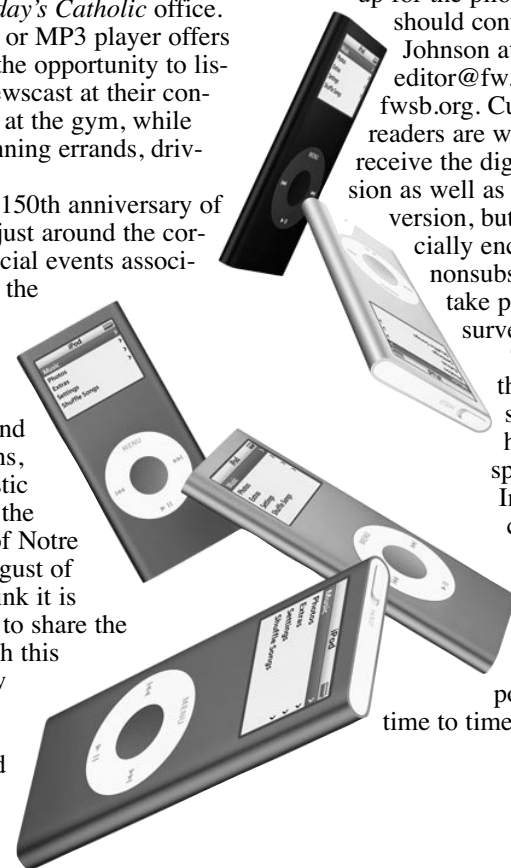
In addition to the podcast, *Today’s Catholic* is conducting a pilot study on digital delivery of the newspaper. The paper currently sends the newspaper, exactly as it appears in print, to pilot study members who were solicited to take part in the survey through the Office of Campus and Young Adult Ministry. So far, the digital version has been popular with this small group.

We are interested in expanding the pilot study, which will take place through February 2007. Those interested in signing

up for the pilot study should contact Tim Johnson at editor@fw.diocesefwsb.org. Current readers are welcome to receive the digital version as well as the print version, but we especially encourage nonsubscribers to take part in the survey.

Those in the study should have a high speed Internet connection and be willing to answer questions posed from

time to time.



Annual Bishop Appeal checks disbursed

BY DIANE FREEBY

SOUTH BEND — Gift-giving abounded at the 10 a.m. Mass celebrated by Bishop John M. D'Arcy, Father John DeRiso, CSC, and Father Nathan Wills, CSC, at South Bend's St. Joseph Church on Sept. 17.

After blessing a large group of parish catechists and teachers, Bishop D'Arcy pulled out some envelopes. "We are happy to award grants to those who work for the poor and needy in our community," said Bishop D'Arcy. "In the neediest, they have found Jesus Christ, our savior."

Thirteen South Bend organizations were on hand to receive grants made possible by the Annual Bishop's Appeal.

Head counselor Ellen Summer talked about a young woman who came into the Women's Care Center, determined to have an abortion. "But when she saw her baby moving and kicking on the ultrasound screen, her heart melted and she immediately decided to chose life for her baby."

Amounts disbursed were the following:

- \$23,000 Catholic Charities (Fort Wayne-South Bend combined)
- \$10,000 Women's Care Center
- \$3,000 Hannah's House
- \$9,000 Center for the Homeless
- \$9,000 Chapin Street Clinic
- \$2,000 South Bend Christ Child Society
- \$1,000 Little Flower Food Pantry
- \$1,000 Center for Basic Learning Skills
- \$1,000 St. Vincent de Paul Society
- \$1,000 St. Augustine's Soup Kitchen
- \$1,000 Logan Center
- \$500 Life Athletes
- \$500 Chiara House



DIANE FREEBY

Charities with their representatives receiving funds Sept. 17 at St. Joseph Church, South Bend, from the Annual Bishop's Appeal include the following: front row, from left, Steve Camilleri, director of Center for the Homeless; Nicole Taulbee, Catholic Charities; Sister Marita Stoffel OSF, Center for Basic Learning Skills; Paula Giver, Little Flower Food Pantry; middle row, Bill Killilea, board president of Hannah's House; Ellen Summer, head counselor of Women's Care Center, and top row, Dr. Steven Anderson, Chapin Street Clinic; Peter Smith, St. Augustine's Soup Kitchen; Sean Wendlinger, executive director of St. Vincent de Paul Society; Dan Harshman, CEO of Logan Center and Mike Szymanski, Chiara House. Not present for the photo is Chris Godfrey of Life Athletes.

In addition to the distribution of checks from the Annual Bishop's Appeal, Sept. 17 was also Catechetical Sunday. Catechists received a special blessing from Bishop John M. D'Arcy at the Mass at St. Joseph Church in South Bend.



RALLY CALLS FOR END TO GENOCIDE



DON CLEMMER

Bishop Luers senior Aaron Ware works a table at the rally for Darfur held Sept. 17 on the courthouse lawn in downtown Fort Wayne. Attended by natives of Darfur, hundreds of Fort Wayne residents and even groups from Illinois and Ohio, the rally called for an end to the ethnic cleansing, which has claimed hundreds of thousands of lives in the Darfur region of the Sudan. Speakers at the rally included Darfur natives, area political figures, as well as religious leaders in the community including Msgr. Peter Kumaraki, a Uganda native, of St. Charles Borromeo Parish.

EXPAND

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Queen of Peace, last school year was the first year an eighth grade graduated from the school.

The growth the school has experienced since it reopened in 1999 has been encouraging.

According to Mike Portolese, Queen of Peace School Board president, the school closed down in 1969 and was stagnant until the late 1990s. The school was closed when the sisters who staffed the faculty couldn't continue, and the parish couldn't afford to pay outside teachers.

Since then, there's been a boom.

"The growth is beyond what we expected," said Portolese.

And with the growth in the student population, the school buildings can be expanded to accommodate that growth, according to Father Hire.

But in the near future, Father Hire is hoping to use much of the land surrounding the school for athletic fields for students including soccer and softball.

"We have oodles of land," Father Hire said.

The area is set up well for school use, he explained. And he expects that once the loan for the current school expansion is settled, the parish will begin working on building athletic fields.

While Father Hire is ever looking toward the future, he is confident the current school expansion will help give Queen of Peace students a better education in all areas of academics.

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All ages invited to XLT

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — When XLT takes place Thursday, Sept. 28, at St. Mary's Church in Fort Wayne, high school, young adults and even older adults will find an opportunity to deepen Catholicism, the real thing.

XLT (pronounced exalt) is a popular event at St. Vincent de Paul Parish and Our Lady of Good Hope in Fort Wayne, and diocesan Youth Director Cindy Black has made XLT a diocesan-wide event.

According to Black, XLT "is a time for young people, families, adults of all ages to come together, lift their voices, praise the Lord, spend time with him, listen to his word and to adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament."

Bishop John M. D'Arcy and Father Mark Gurtner, pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope, will preside over the celebration.

Black's connection with XLT extends back to retreats she attended. "There would be 100 teens worshipping the Lord, spending time in adoration and just on fire with the Holy Spirit, and so energetic, and so excited about their faith." Black said she wanted to do that more often, not just twice a year. And she wanted other Catholics to get excited about their faith along with the young people.

Frankie and the Holy Rollers, known as the Life Teen Mass

musicians at St. Vincent, will provide the uplifting contemporary rock Christian praise music to lead the praise and worship.

Black says she would particularly like to attract the parishes in the diocese to XLT that may not have the resources to bring in a Frankie and the Holy Rollers and "to expose their young people to a form of Catholic music that they

"There would be 100 teens worshipping the Lord, spending time in adoration and just on fire with the Holy Spirit, and so energetic, and so excited about their faith."

CINDY BLACK, OFFICE OF YOUTH MINISTRY

may not see every day or every Sunday in their church."

Similar XLT experiences are taking place in the South Bend area — one at St. Bavo and one at Holy Cross College.

There's praise and worship music, but then there's silent time, Black says. "That's why, at the end, these teens are so fired up. Their hearts have been filled with

Jesus."

The evening consists of a few praise songs, a talk on the theme, "It's the real thing," a praise song that leads into more of a worship time, exposition, a period of silence, Scripture or a short meditation, a time to reflect, benediction — all producing what Black calls, "a Jesus high."

"It is geared toward young people, but people of all ages come together and praise the Lord. They do it with such energy and enthusiasm that it is just contagious," Black adds.

XLT will be held Thursday, Sept. 28, at 7 p.m. at St. Mary Church in downtown Fort Wayne.

HOMILY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

producers of the Annual Bishop's Appeal video and other diocesan projects. NGM will videotape the reflections of all the (arch)bishops and priests involved throughout the country. Patricia Garcia, director of distribution for the CCC staff, is producing the audio portion of the readings.

The (arch)bishops from the participating (arch)dioceses will reflect on the Sundays readings.

Bishop D'Arcy will lead the diocesan contingent with reflections on the Sundays of Sept. 24, Oct. 15 and Nov. 19. The other local reading reflections include:

- Father William Schooler, pastor, St. Pius X, Granger — first Fridays in October, November, December

- Father Christopher Cox, CSC, pastor, St. Adalbert and St. Casimir, South Bend — second Fridays in October, November, December

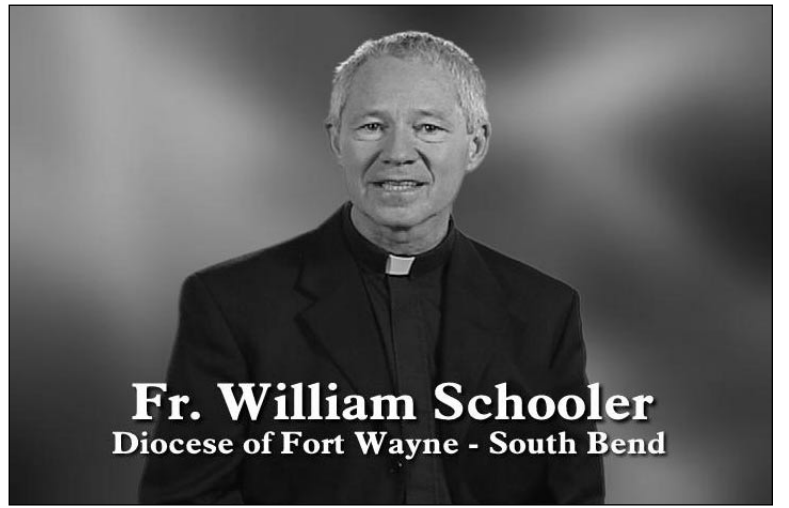
- Father Mark Gurtner, pastor, Our Lady of Good Hope, Fort Wayne — third Fridays in October, November, December

- Father Robert Schulte, vicar general and rector, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne — fourth Fridays in October, November, December

- Father Michael Heintz, rector, St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend — fifth Fridays in September and December

- Father Michael Mathews, CSC, pastor, Holy Cross and St. Stanislaus, South Bend — first Fridays in January, February, March

- Father Lawrence Kramer, pastor, St. Paul of the Cross, Columbia City — second Fridays in January, February, March.



Fr. William Schooler
Diocese of Fort Wayne - South Bend

PHOTO PROVIDED BY NEWGROUP MEDIA

Father Bill Schooler is among the diocesan priests who provide the homily of the day from the daily readings on the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Web site, www.usccb.org.



VINCE LABARBERA

"Lights, camera, action," are the familiar words to Bishop John M. D'Arcy and seven priests who serve at parishes in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and will provide some of the homilies for the daily readings on the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Web site, www.usccb.org. Father Christopher Cox, CSC, prepares before going under the lights at his taping in South Bend by NewGroup Media.

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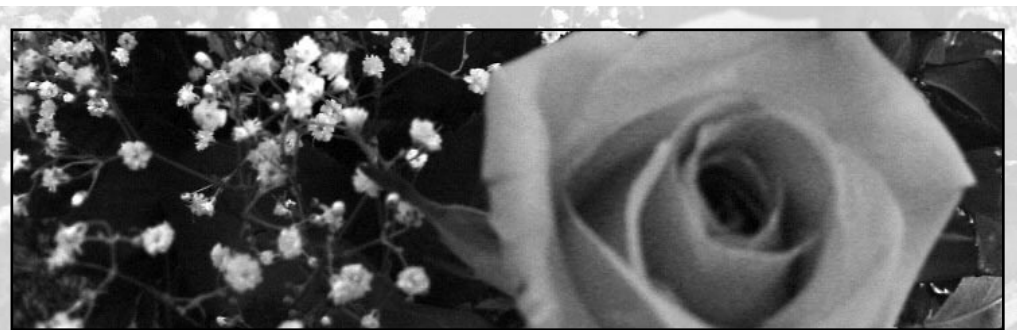
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Church leaders join pleas for action to save Darfur population

WASHINGTON (CNS) — As people around the world joined peace rallies, concerts, prayer vigils and even a “yogathon” to press for action to bring peace to Darfur in Sudan, the head of the U.S. bishops’ international policy committee and others pleaded for more efforts to “end the killings, rape and wanton destruction.” Events in dozens of cities drew tens of thousands of people on or around Sept. 17, which was designated by peace groups as Global Day for Darfur. Bishop Thomas G. Wenski of Orlando, Fla., the committee head, said despite hopeful signs of a peace agreement in the spring conflict has been mounting among rebel groups, the Sudanese military and its proxy militias, known as the Janjaweed. The offensive “has trapped innocent and defenseless civilians in the middle of the fighting,” Bishop Wenski wrote in a statement released Sept. 15 in Washington. And with the deteriorating situation, it has become “a deadly challenge” to deliver humanitarian aid to the 2.5 million people who have fled their homes and another million who are at risk of starvation, he said.

Priests reconcile with Vatican, establish new religious community

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A group of traditionalist priests and seminarians has reconciled with the Vatican and established a new religious community in southwestern France. Five priests and a number of seminarians, the majority of whom were members of the schismatic Society of St. Pius X, founded the Good Shepherd Institute, a society of apostolic life that will use the traditional Mass in Latin according to the Tridentine rite. On Sept. 8 the Vatican approved the society, located within the Archdiocese of Bordeaux, France. Cardinal Jean-Pierre Ricard of Bordeaux said that the decision was made by Pope Benedict XVI who “has wanted to make a sign of welcome” to those who once belonged to the schismatic society. In a Sept. 8 statement on the archdiocese’s Web site, the cardinal said that ever since “the beginning of his pontificate, Pope Benedict XVI has been concerned about the return to full communion of those who followed Archbishop (Marcel) Lefebvre,” who was excommunicated in 1988 after ordaining four bishops against papal orders.

Democrats introduce legislation aimed at reducing abortions

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A group of Democrats in the House of Representatives introduced legislation Sept. 14 that they say will reduce the number of abortions in the country, but the bill’s emphasis on expanded contraception access has already drawn objections from the U.S. bishops’ pro-life spokeswoman. The proposed Reducing the Need for Abortion and Supporting Parents Act was announced during a news confer-

POPE SAYS FAREWELL TO BROTHER AT AIRPORT



CNS PHOTO/WOLFGANG RATTAY, REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI says farewell to his brother, Msgr. Georg Ratzinger, at the airport in Munich, Germany, Sept. 14, at the conclusion of a six-day visit to his homeland.

ence in the U.S. Capitol. Rep. Tim Ryan, D-Ohio, a member of the Congressional Pro-Life Caucus, and Rep. Rosa DeLauro, D-Conn., a member of the Congressional Pro-Choice Caucus, are the lead sponsors of the bill aiming to prevent unintended pregnancies, support pregnant women and assist new parents. Deirdre McQuade, director of planning and information for the bishops’ Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, told Catholic News Service Sept. 15 she objects to the legislation’s emphasis on contraception.

Pope endorses adult stem-cell research

ROME (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI endorsed stem-cell research and therapy utilizing stem cells harvested from adults and umbilical-cord blood. He also called for researchers and doctors to work more closely together in applying the latest research. “The possibilities opened up by this new chapter in research are in themselves fascinating” because adult stem-cell studies have pointed to actual and potential cures of degenerative diseases that would otherwise lead to disabilities or death, the pope said at a Sept. 16 audience of about 260 scientists, doctors, scholars and bioethicists, who met in Rome Sept. 14-16 for an international conference sponsored by the Pontifical Academy for Life and the World Federation of Catholic Medical Associations. “How can I not feel compelled to praise those who dedicate themselves to this research and those who support it and its costs,” the pope said.

Nun killed for sheltering Jews is beatified in Hungary

OXFORD, England (CNS) — A nun executed for sheltering Jews

during World War II was remembered for her feminine example of holiness during her beatification in Hungary. Cardinal Peter Erdo of Esztergom-Budapest, Hungary, said the martyrdom of Sister Sara Salkahazi of the Sisters of Social Service is “close to us, and her example is within our reach. She is someone of modest circumstances, who lived through the storms of 20th-century history and gave us an example of the feminine way to holiness.” Sister Sara “dedicated special attention to the dignity of women” and recognized the burdens of the working class, Cardinal Erdo said at the beatification Mass Sept. 17 in front of Budapest’s St. Stephen Basilica. The Mass was attended by about 20,000 people. “It was her love for Christ which urged Sister Sara to welcome and shelter those persecuted for their political views or because they were Jewish,” Cardinal Erdo said.

Sex abuse expert says church raised abuse prevention bar for everyone

NEW YORK (CNS) — The U.S. Catholic Church’s response to its child sexual abuse problem has raised the bar on sex abuse prevention for all U.S. organizations that serve children, said Monica Applewhite, an expert in abuse prevention strategies. Writing in the Sept. 25 issue of *America*, a national Catholic magazine published by Jesuits, Applewhite said that when the U.S. bishops issued their “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People” in June 2002 “the ‘industry standards’ for child protection changed.” “Formerly unwritten rules, like not allowing a sexual offender to work with children and defining specific boundaries for ministry relationships, were now clearly articulated — not just for the Catholic Church, but for everyone,” she wrote.

Applewhite is president of the religious services division of Praesidium, a Texas-based organization that provides abuse-prevention training programs for churches, schools and other organizations that serve children and youths.

Moscow archbishop calls for prayers for Catholic-Orthodox dialogue

OXFORD, England (CNS) — The archbishop of Moscow urged Catholics to pray for Catholic-Orthodox dialogue meetings, scheduled to begin Sept. 18 in Belgrade, Serbia-Montenegro. Saying the dialogue will inspire hope for relations between the churches, Archbishop Tadeusz Kondrusiewicz said: “In defending moral values against the challenges of secularism, moral relativism and an ever more threatening liberalism, our churches should confirm their desire for unity in practice. It would be a potent testimony to the possibility of resolving the problems of today’s troubled world by way of dialogue.” In a letter published Sept. 13 by KAI, Poland’s Catholic information agency, the archbishop said representatives from the churches would be debating “problems which need settling on our path to unity.” He added that Catholics should pray “that the time will soon come when we can say, ‘How good and fine it is when brothers live together.’” However, he said, “With such complex problems, it would be naive to believe these resumed talks will easily settle all the difficulties in our relationship.”

Chinese security officers break into compound, take bishop by force

HONG KONG (CNS) — A young bishop whose episcopal ordination is not recognized by the Chinese

government was taken away by plainclothes security officers who broke into the cathedral compound. Bishop Joseph Wu Qijing of Zhouzhi was taken away by force and his whereabouts remain unknown. Since May, officials have taken the young Vatican-approved bishop a few times for questioning and to attend classes on the religious affairs regulations that took effect last year. Witnesses said the incident occurred at 10:15 p.m. Sept. 11 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Cathedral in Zhouzhi. A couple of men reportedly jumped over the wall of the compound. Then a group of about 20 security officers entered the compound, made their way to the room of the bishop and knocked on his door without disclosing their identity. When Bishop Wu opened the door, he was taken immediately to one of the vehicles parked outside the compound.

Newer priests are older, more culturally diverse, study finds

WASHINGTON (CNS) — According to a new study, the current generation of recently ordained priests is older and more culturally diverse than 15 years earlier. The major theological influence on newer priests’ lives was Pope John Paul II. German Jesuit Father Karl Rahner, who easily ranked at the top in a similar survey 15 years earlier, dropped to a distant tie for third in the new survey. The study, “Experiences of Priests Ordained Five to Nine Years,” was written by sociologist Dean R. Hoge of The Catholic University of America’s Life Cycle Institute and published in September by the seminary department of the National Catholic Educational Association. Hoge’s findings were based on a 2005 survey to which 1,000 U.S. priests ordained between 1996 and 2000 responded. Many of the questions replicated a similar study Hoge conducted in 1990 with 1,500 priests ordained between 1981 and 1985.

Cuban cardinal asks for peace in wake of Castro’s ceding of power

HAVANA, Cuba (CNS) — As Marian processions took place across Cuba, Havana Cardinal Jaime Ortega Alamino called for domestic peace during Cuba’s “new political situation” caused by President Fidel Castro’s temporary ceding of power. The cardinal also opposed “foreign interference” in Cuban affairs and said Catholics would continue praying for people in Castro’s jails. The cardinal’s prayers for respect of Cuban sovereignty, for peace and for prisoners came Sept. 8 during a Mass to celebrate the 90th anniversary of Our Lady of Charity of Cobre as Cuba’s patroness. The Mass started after 2,000 people filed down several Havana streets behind an image of Our Lady of Charity that Pope John Paul II had crowned during his 1998 visit. Accompanied by a band, they sang, prayed and shouted “vivas” to Mary. The outdoor processions in Havana and 68 other places across Cuba are signs of some of the relaxed state restrictions on outdoor religious events as a result of the papal visit.

Serra Club to host regional conference at Notre Dame

SOUTH BEND — Over 300 people from eight states are expected here next month for a Midwest regional conference of the Serra Club. Serra International is an organization with 24,000 members worldwide, whose purpose is to pray for, foster and promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life. It is named after Blessed Junipero Serra, an 18th-century Spanish Franciscan missionary who was a major figure in spreading the faith in Mexico and the western United States.

The Oct. 26-29 conference is being hosted by the Serra Club of South Bend, which will welcome Serrans from Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota. Most of the conference will take place on the campuses of Saint Mary's College and the University of Notre Dame.

The theme of the conference is "Thirsting for Knowledge, Truth, Charity and Christ."

On Saturday, Oct. 28, the 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. conference program in O'Laughlin Auditorium on the Saint Mary's campus will be open to the public for a one-day fee of \$25 for adults and \$20 for students, which includes a box lunch.

Guest speakers on Saturday include Holy Cross Father Theodore Hesburgh, a president emeritus of Notre Dame; Dick Lyles, an author and the chief executive officer of Relevant Radio, the largest Catholic talk radio network in the United States; and Charles Rice, Notre Dame law professor emeritus and author. Bishop Alexander Sample of the Diocese of Marquette, Mich., the youngest bishop in the United States, will be celebrant and homilist for the 8:30 a.m. Mass in St. Mary's Church of Our Lady of Loretto.

Various workshops and panel discussions on vocations also will take place that day that will feature Bishop Sample; Holy Cross Sister Mary Ellen Johnson, co-coordinator of vocations for Sisters of the Holy Cross; and Fred and Lisa Everett, co-directors of the Office of Family Life for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

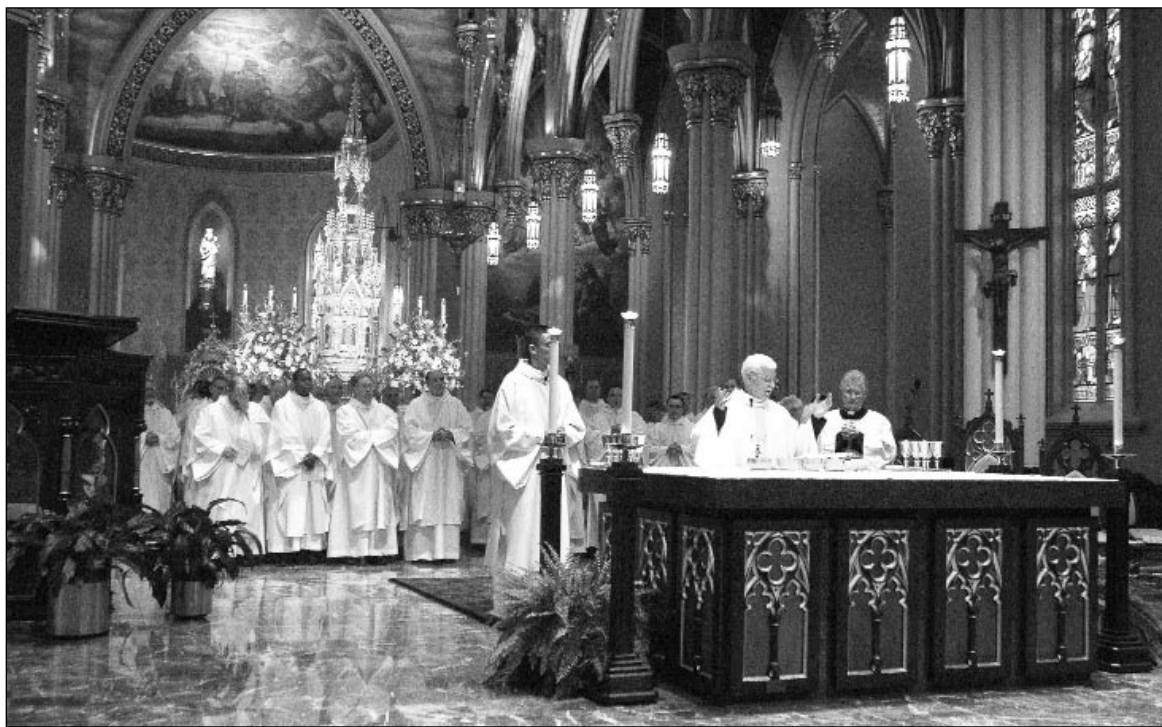
The other days of the conference will feature a leadership session and special programs and entertainment for Serra members, including an Oct. 27 Serra Golf Classic at the Notre Dame Burke Golf Course.

Dick Dornbos, past president of South Bend Serra, told *Today's Catholic* that the conference also will present the opportunity to share "success stories" like the Diocese of Saginaw, Mich., which has seen a marked increase in the number of seminarians since Bishop Robert Carlson came to the diocese in 2005.

Dornbos is hopeful that if this year's conference is successful, a second regional conference will return to South Bend in 2008, and Serra International possibly could choose South Bend for its 2009

AROUND THE DIOCESE

YEAR OF REJOICING AND RENEWAL BEGINS



BROTHER CHARLES MCBRIDE, CSC

The priests and brothers of the Congregation of Holy Cross along with three groups of Holy Cross Sisters began a year of rejoicing and spiritual renewal in preparation for the naming of their founder, Venerable Basil Moreau, to be named "Blessed" in 2007 in LeMans, France. Father Kenneth Molinaro, CSC, the first assistant provincial of the Indiana Province of Holy Cross Priests was the celebrant and homilist at a vigil Mass for the solemnity of Our Lady of Sorrows, patroness of the Congregation of Holy Cross, at Sacred Heart Basilica, Notre Dame, Sept. 14. The Mass was concelebrated by Holy Cross priests with readings by a Holy Cross brother and a sister of The Holy Cross.

conference.

Serra members wishing to register for the Midwest regional conference or guests wishing to attend the Saturday, Oct. 28, session may contact Dick Dornbos at (574) 271-7853; George Resnik, Serra district governor, at (574) 292-9193 or Renikga@aol.com; and Deacon Ron Moser, South Bend Serra president, at (574) 277-2535 or Deek20jmj@aol.com. — AC

K. of C. wives officers installed

SOUTH BEND — Ann Slominski has been formally installed as president of the K. of C. Wives of Santa Maria Council, the area's first and oldest auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus. She is a member of Christ the King Parish.

Other officers installed were Cathy Riodrdan, Christ the King, vice president; Barbara Kozmer, St. Matthew Cathedral, secretary; Doris Towner, Christ the King, treasurer; Rosie Braunsdorf, St. Stanislaus, financial secretary; Marilyn Toepf, St. Matthew Cathedral, Joan Fahey, St. Jude, and Barbara Wincek, Corpus Christi, all trustees.

Plans are underway for a comprehensive fall and winter program. Meetings are held in conjunction with the Santa Maria Council men on the second Monday of each month. — EJD

Memorial service for aborted babies scheduled

FORT WAYNE — The 14th annual memorial service commemorating the deaths of the 699 babies killed this year in Fort Wayne by abortion will be held on Sunday, Oct. 1, at 2 p.m. at the Catholic Cemetery in Fort Wayne located at 3500 Lake Ave.

The service remembers the children aborted in Fort Wayne at the Women's Health Organization between Sept. 1, 2005 and Aug. 31, 2006.

The nondenominational service gives all a chance to pause and reflect on the tragedies caused by the sin of abortion in the United States.

Breast cancer benefit held at Saint Mary's College

NOTRE DAME — The Saint Mary's College Department of Athletics invites members of the Michiana community to help raise money for breast cancer research while raising their heart rates. The Oktoberfest run/walk fundraiser takes place on Sunday, Oct. 1, at 2 p.m.

The 5K run and 3K walk begins in front of the Angela Athletic facility on campus. Registration is necessary, and a form can be found at www.saintmarys.edu/~athletic. Participants can also register on campus the day of the event beginning at 1 p.m. or by contacting Erin

Sullivan at (574) 284-4910. Top performers in both the run and the walk will receive t-shirts, and prizes will be raffled after the event.

Registration is necessary, and donations will be accepted. All proceeds go to the local Young Survivors cancer support group.

Little Flower to host prayer and film

SOUTH BEND — Little Flower Church will hold a Taize prayer and the film "An Inconvenient Truth," about the earth on Tuesday, Oct. 3, the eve of the feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

The Taize prayer service will be at 6:30 p.m. The film will be shown at 7:15 p.m.

A discussion will be held on how are we called to be stewards of the earth, a gift of God to humanity and all creation.

The event will be held in the Little Flower Chapel and in room 2 of the parish center. The church is located at 54191 N. Ironwood Dr., in South Bend. Please park in the upper parking lot.

Knights establish first Hispanic council

SOUTH BEND — Establishment of a Hispanic Knights of Columbus Council became a reality Sunday in St. Adalbert Parish, where 20 Roman Catholic men gathered to form the San Mateo Correa

Magallanes No. 14113.

Indiana State Deputy Norm Stoffel granted the state K. of C. charter for the first Hispanic council to be formally organized in the South Bend area. All members of the council, with a single exception, are Hispanic members of St. Adalbert Parish.

Claudio Bueno will be serving as the grand knight of the council.

The new council will be the fourth in the city of South Bend. Others are Santa Maria Council, Ave Maria Council and Archbishop John Carroll Council. Others in the immediate area include Notre Dame Council, Mishawaka Council, Queen of Peace Council in Mishawaka and St. Pius Father Badin Council in Granger.

Father Christopher Cox, CSC, pastor of St. Adalbert Church, will serve as chaplain. He was instrumental in the council's formation. — EJD

Hessen Cassel students pray for peace at 9/11 rosary

FORT WAYNE — On the morning of Sept. 11, the fifth anniversary of the World Trade Center, Pentagon and Pennsylvania terrorist attacks, the students and staff of St. Joseph Hessen Cassel School filed into the activity center to join together in prayer. Their invocation for peace took the form of a living rosary, with each class leading a decade in unison, and the eighth grade students forming the cross.

Before reciting the rosary, fifth-grade teacher Pat Wyss read to the students a story from her journal, particularly significant on this day. Five years ago, on Sept. 11, her daughter Amy had been working in New York City the day the Twin Towers were fatally hit by the airplanes piloted by the terrorists.

"There are so many students who were too young to remember what happened on Sept. 11, 2001," Wyss said, "so I want to share with them the events, the emotions and the sadness that filled the air on that fateful day."

Tony Johnston, father of third grader Jack Johnston and full-time Air National Guard member, joined the students of St. Joseph School in praying the rosary.

Johnston has served one tour of duty in Qatar and two tours in Iraq. After the rosary, everyone went outside around the flagpole.

Johnston, assisted by fifth grade student Jacob Burns, raised the flag. Students sang "The Star Spangled Banner," recited the Pledge of Allegiance, and sang "God Bless America."

Johnston said that the day, 9/11, was very emotional for him. He feels that many have an unclear picture of what our military has done for Iraq. In less than a year, Johnston's unit will return to Iraq.

Catholicism Revealed moved to church

FORT WAYNE — The Catholicism Revealed sessions will meet in St. Vincent de Paul Church in Fort Wayne for the six Monday evening sessions from 7 to 8:30 p.m. beginning Monday, Oct. 9. This has been relocated from the spiritual center, which is under construction. The Oct. 9 speaker is Amy Welborn.

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Couples renew their marriage vows at St. Matthew Cathedral

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

SOUTH BEND — Around 30 couples gathered together to renew their marriage vows and to celebrate with a reception at the parish gym all had different advice on how they have made and what helps makes a good marriage. The couples gathered for the annual celebration have been married for 25 and 50 years of marriage at St. Matthew Cathedral on Sunday, Sept. 17.

"Respect and be considerate of the person in the good and the bad times," said Michael Beutter of Little Flower who was celebrating 25 years of marriage to his beloved, Bridget. Their anniversary date is Oct. 24.

"With God's help and the grace of the sacrament," agreed Barb and Steve Fralish of St. Matthew Cathedral whose 25th will be on Nov. 14.

"Look after one another," said Doris Mitchell who was married 50 years to Bill on May 12. The couple is from Holy Family Parish.

Kidding, Ladd Lovach, married to Virginia for 50 years Oct. 20 of Christ the King Parish said that he is "still serving time" but would "still sign up" if asked again. Seriously, he added that to have 50 wonderful years it took "a lot of patience, love and understanding."

"Be a good listener," said Frank Lakner, celebrating 50 years of marriage with his wife, Janet. The two are parishioners at St. Dominic Parish in Bremen. Lakner noted that doing that as well as other challenges in married life "is not always easy."

Jerald and Michele Warrell of St. John the Baptist, South Bend, married 25 years Nov. 7, said it was imperative that they "pray together, communicate with each other," said Jerald. "There were a lot of red-eye conversations in the middle of the night," adds Michele.

Bishop John M. D'Arcy in his homily noted that in married life couples help to make the Lord present in their families by the way that they live.

"When we experience unselfishness between two people, it helps us to believe what God is like. God is totally giving, understanding and caring. We are all called to make it visible in our home to our own children. But remember we are not alone in this. In married life, everyday offers opportunities for selflessness, for caring, understanding, forgiveness as well as asking for forgiveness. If you try to love and care and do the right thing, you affect three to four generations and your love continues," said the bishop.



PHOTOS BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

Celebrating 25 and 50 years of married life at St. Matthew's Cathedral, around 30 couples renewed their vows at a special celebration Mass that included a reception following in the parish gym. Renewing their vows in front are Jerald and Michele Warrell of St. John the Baptist, South Bend, whose 25th anniversary is Nov. 11.



Doris Mitchell, touched by her husband's words when renewing their vows, closes her eyes, intently listening. The couple, married 50 years May 11, was at St. Matthew Cathedral for the annual celebration. Their daughter, Vicki, and husband, Gary Vukovits, came to share in the celebratory Mass.

St. Thomas Center has new life

BY KRISTI WARD

ELKHART — Through the years it's been a family home, a convent and a deacon's residence. Today, the building across the street from St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Elkhart glistens in its bright new siding — a signal of its new life as the center for two important ministries.

The building is actually two houses joined by a common breezeway and is shared by director of youth ministry, Jackiejo Brewers, and pastoral associate Vickie Bayer. Both were on hand to welcome visitors at the building's recent open house.

The idea for the open house came from St. Thomas' pastor, Father Bill Sullivan.

"He wants people to see the inside because most people have not been in here at all," Bayer says. "Some people haven't been in here since they were in elementary school to come over for a special function with the nuns — so it's mainly so people can see the facility."

As St. Thomas' first pastoral associate, Bayer will have an office in the "south house." The south will also house small group meetings and have reading rooms

available on the second floor. Bayer says she hopes to hold retreats and bring in special speakers on topics where she sees a need.

"Theology of the body and parenting — those two seem to stick out first to me," she says. "Young adult education is probably the next thing I'll work on."

The "north house" is the youth ministry portion of the building. At the open house Brewers shared her plans for the building and the ministry to young people.

"I'm not trying to do just a youth group," she says. "I have seven different activities planned throughout the month just to get kids to come to anything and any time they want."

Brewers is the mother of five boys and she says her own experience led her to design the unique program for teens.

"Because I know my own children — the sports practices, and they have to do homework — I know lots of kids out there are the same as they are," Brewers explained. "So it kind of grew out of my own experience."

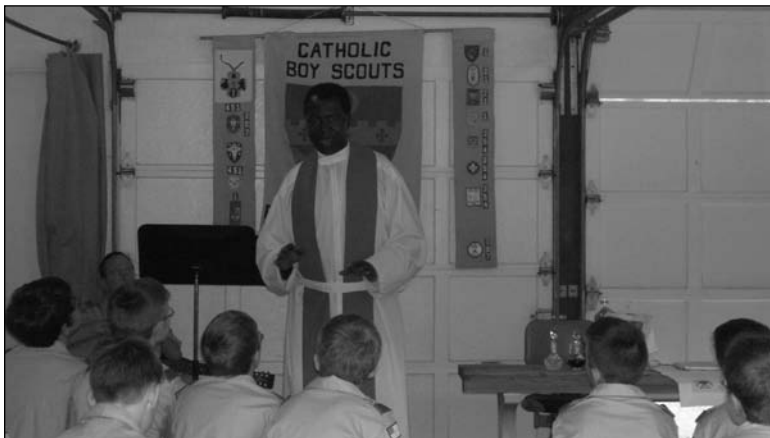
The St. Thomas building has had a long history of successful ministries — and these new ministries look to follow right in their footsteps.



KRISTI R. WARD

St. Thomas parishioners attending the recent open house of the Pastoral Center and Youth Ministry Building got a chance to tour the renovated convent and to meet pastoral associate Vickie Bayer and director of youth ministry Jackiejo Brewers. Pictured above, from left, are Steve Spretnjak, Vickie Bayer, Bill Teague, Delores Spry and Jeanne Longbrake.

SCOUTS HOST AUGUST CAMPOREE



PROVIDED BY FRANK SERRANI

The Anthony Wayne Area Council Scout Reservation at Pleasant Lake was the host site for the annual Catholic Camporee sponsored by the Fort Wayne Catholic Committee on Scouting. The theme was "The Holy Family and Our Family." The young men worked on the "Ad Altare Dei" religious emblem, Family Life Merit Badge, and discussed how our earthly family compares to the Holy Trinity and the Holy Family. Mass, shown above, was celebrated by Father Ted Uwakwe from St. Joseph in Garrett. The evening concluded with campfire, song and skits. For information on Scouting in your area contact Frank Serrani at (260) 432-9593 or Gary Weaver at (260) 489-7800.

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Kathryn Chandler, 90, has enjoyed Donaldson and Marshall County all her life

BY IDA CHIPMAN

DONALDSON— Kathryn Chandler has spent every summer of her life on her family's farm near Donaldson.

Ninety years old on May 14, she is one of Donaldson's oldest residents. The third of six generations to enjoy the locale, she has lived year-round for the past 27 years on Union Road in a 105-year-old home — one of the oldest — in West Township.

"Growing old in Marshall County has been a wonderful experience for mother," her son, John J. Chandler, of Chicago, said. "She has experienced life on a farm, enjoyed the change of seasons and made lifelong friends in Marshall County. It has been the best of both worlds."

Kathryn loves to read and look at pictures despite a debilitating stroke that has left her unable to speak. Fiercely independent, she comprehends everything. Her bright blue eyes speak volumes even when her lips cannot.

Born into a strong German enclave in Chicago in 1916, Kathryn Victoria was the only child of John and Marie (Mey) Weccard. She was only one year old when she was sent to her grandparents' farm in Donaldson to live for an entire year to escape the Spanish flu pandemic of 1917-1918.

Her grandparents, Victor and Clara Mey, had emigrated from Germany in 1883. In the dairy business, incorporated now into Dean Foods, they lived in Chicago, but, as was the custom for urban Germans to have a place in the country, they would spend several weeks in the summer with other German families at the Lake Gilbraith resort now known as Convent Ancilla Domini.

Marshall County reminded Victor of his native village in Germany. His friend, Philip Henrici, owned a large restaurant chain in Chicago. He had an uppity wife who hated Indiana and despised going out to the countryside.

In 1901, Henrici finally got fed up with his wife's complaining and when Victor made an offer to buy his 640 acre farm, he sold.

A gentleman farmer, Victor grew grain and hops for the Berghoff Brewery in Fort Wayne.

Every summer granddaughter Kathryn came to visit. She helped

the hired family with the chores and played hostess to the extended families who would visit "The Farm" on weekends. Among those visitors were the Oscar Mayers, the Berghoffs and the Glunzes. She learned horseback riding and became an accomplished equestrian in Chicago and Marshall County horse circles.

At six years old, her grandfather taught her how to drive a horse and buggy.

Kathryn became the designated driver.

It was during Prohibition, and Victor would often visit his friend Kasper Kohlbecker who lived down the road. The two men would sit on the porch, reminisce about their fatherland and drink homemade wine or beer.

When she'd come down from Chicago — against all rules of the Pennsylvania railroad — she would pack her toy collie, Prince, in a picnic basket. When the train stopped in Donaldson, the conductor would look the other way when she — and her furry passenger — got off.

The summer that she was 12, she was the only family member who learned how to drive their 1928 Packard automobile. A chauffeur usually did the honors.

"You didn't need a license back then," John said. Kathryn would pick up her friends in Plymouth and she would drive to the Philadelphia Ice Cream Shoppe in South Bend for their nickel ice cream specials.

Her best friend was Virginia Soice who later married Harvey Phillips, a longtime Marshall County sheriff. Lowell Peterson, son of the Plymouth postmaster, was also a friend and one whose path she crossed years later when he was a medical doctor practicing in Chicago.

Kathryn graduated from Mercy High School in 1934, the same year that her family built the former Divine Heart College and Seminary on part of the farm property. She went to work in her father's business, the American Detective Service with offices in Chicago and New York City.

The agency specialized in industrial security. Kathryn became a private eye.

An expert marksman, she learned to shoot everything from a derringer to a rifle.

She was assigned to do undercover work, riding the trains between Chicago and New York.



IDA CHIPMAN

Kathryn Chandler, 90, enjoys the porch of her home on Union Road in Donaldson. Her son, John J. Chandler, left, from Chicago, is a frequent visitor.

"No one would suspect a woman doing detective work," John said. "It was unheard of in those days."

In 1944, her father died and the business was sold to the Pinkerton Detective Agency. Kathryn then went to work for the Franciscan Relief Service, providing help to refugees of WWII.

It was in 1947, when a friend said, "Boy. Have I got a man for you."

A blind date was arranged. Kathryn was to meet the young man in the Boulevard Room of the Stevens Hotel in Chicago.

She told him that she would be wearing a hat with multicolored plumed feathers. Unfortunately, that afternoon every woman in the room was wearing a hat with multicolored plumed feathers.

Kathryn — after all, she had been a detective — looked around and spied a fellow that she determined must be the Joseph Chandler she was to meet. Then at St. Louis University, he was a decorated Army veteran of five years who had served his country in the Pacific theater.

She was correct. They courted for a year and were married in St. Philip Neri Church on Nov. 27, 1948.

It was sort of amazing how events in her life kept bumping

into Plymouth and Donaldson. Could God be telling her to come home?

Joseph was an accountant with the Arthur Grant Company. Among his first assignments he was to audit the Ross Hotel on LaPorte St., and the Weidner Pickle Company on Western Ave. in Plymouth.

Kathryn retired from her job to raise a family.

Very much wanting children, she miscarried babies twice. The second time, in the emergency room of a Chicago hospital, her attending physician was Dr. Lowell Peterson, formerly of Plymouth.

He told her that she would never be able to bear children and that the couple's best choice was to adopt. Before they could make those arrangements, she found herself pregnant again and in 1951, John, her first child was born. Robert and Mary Ann (Jack) followed, each one was 15 months apart.

The Chandler family continued to come to Donaldson. They often spent time on Pretty Lake. Later, young John even bought a cottage at Pretty Lake off of Quince Road that they still enjoy.

After raising her family — all of whom spent their summers at

the Donaldson farm — Kathryn and Joseph restored the homestead to its original beauty and retired on the property in 1979, dividing their time between traveling to and from Donaldson and Chicago.

After her husband's death in 1983, Kathryn traveled extensively to visit family in Germany, in Europe and throughout the United States.

She attends Mass every Sunday morning at the Catherine Kasper Home at Ancilla Domini Convent.

Kathryn enjoys her home with the assistance of two wonderful caregivers — Barbara Blacejck and Marcella Heet. She is always ready to welcome friends and family for visits.

Her son, John, a former teacher, is the vice-president of St. Ignatius High School in Chicago. He expects to retire to Donaldson. Already involved in the community, he serves as the president of the board of trustees of Ancilla College and is a member of the Plymouth Country Club. A historian, he has bought and restored a number of old buildings in Donaldson.

"That's my hobby," he said. "I very much enjoy this community and I look forward to living here."

"There are a lot of wonderful memories."

Mom finds calling to religious life

BY KAY COZAD

Calling to religious life is a special vocation to serve God and man. Some who answer the call come to it in unusual ways, as in the case of Sister Alice O'Brien.

O'Brien grew up in Amarillo, Texas, where as the middle child of John and Dora Birkenfeld, she and her four siblings led a typical life that included formation in the Catholic faith. She began to think of a religious life in her eighth grade year with her parents' devotion to the church as her strongest influence.

"My folks were very faithful," she recalls. She was, however, encouraged by her teachers to finish high school before discerning a commitment.

As life would have it, Alice met and married Daniel O'Brien in 1963, shortly following her high school graduation. O'Brien welcomed her new life as stay-at-home mom as their family grew exponentially with the birth of four children within six years. Their fifth child was born following a transfer from their home in Ohio to South Bend. There the family became active members of St. Matthew Cathedral. Another job change led the O'Briens to Elkhart, where the youngest of the O'Brien clan was born and for the last 23 years they have called it home.

O'Brien continued to work to provide a religious formation for her children as members of St. Thomas the Apostle. "I made an effort to keep the kids in touch with their faith," she says.

In addition to running a children's day care in her home, she was a lector, eucharistic minister, president of the rosary society and facilitator of the pro-life group there.

She eventually worked outside the home and sadly, in 1983, after 20 years of marriage, she and her husband separated and eventually divorced. She, then, took the opportunity to attend nursing school and graduated with a diploma from Memorial Hospital School of nursing in 1986 and began work at Elkhart General Hospital the following year.

Of her calling, Sister O'Brien recalls, during those early years she was "too busy raising kids to think of a religious life." But the thought never left her, and she experienced a renewed calling as her children grew up and she became more active in the church.

After seeking spiritual direction from a local priest, she began the process of annulment, and it was

soon granted. It was then, O'Brien says, that she began serious discernment to religious life.

O'Brien began to investigate the religious orders in her area and discerned with her sister, Sister Rose Marie Birkenfeld, 13 years her senior, who is a Benedictine Sister. After speaking with her children, she made the decision to enter the order of the Benedictine Sisters.

Her children, she says, were apprehensive at first. "What is this going to make us?" she recalls them saying. But her reassurance that they would continue to be "her kids" helped them appreciate her decision.

Daughter Tammy says, "This makes mom happy, so I'm happy for her. I support her 100 percent."

Son Steve agrees, adding, "I'm very proud that she decided to serve God and her church. I admire her for her devotion and dedication to doing something she believes in and following the Lord."

The Order of the Benedictine Sisters embraces a monastic way of life, says O'Brien, where the sisters follow the way of St. Benedict. This entails living under the prioress, who is elected from the congregation every four years. There are 17 monasteries in the Federation of Gertrude across the country. Sister O'Brien's congregation is a community of 10 sisters, ranging in age from 55 to 92, some of whom work outside the monastery, in nursing and home health care, pastoral care and counseling.

The process of formation began for Sister O'Brien before she joined the monastery, when she discerned the community as an affiliate. Following discernment, she moved in to the monastery and for a year lived as a postulant. During that year she studied Bible history and liturgy, along with the rules of St. Benedict. She became a novice then and taking a sabbatical from nursing, O'Brien continued her studies, prayed and discerned her calling under spiritual direction from other religious. During her second year of her novitiate, Sister O'Brien worked part-time and continued her studies.

On Aug. 15, 2003, Sister O'Brien made her profession of vows for the next three years. The vows are to stability, obedience and fidelity to the monastic way of life as practiced at Our Lady of Peace Monastery, which follows the norms of the Federation of St. Gertrude. She is also a member of an organization called "Sister-moms," a group of women who are mothers and called to the religious life. They meet annually for support and remain in contact by e-mail.

Sister O'Brien will practice the monastic way of life for three years, nursing and living in community with the other sisters there. She may then renew her vows for up to seven years.

"If I still feel God calling me to this place then I make final vows," says the sister. Final vows means a celebration with the bishop and priest, with friends and family in attendance.

As for now, Sister O'Brien feels at home and content as a Benedictine Sister in Columbia, Mo., an area she has come to love. She says her relationship with God continues to change and grow. Currently she holds the vocations director position within the monastery, a job that leads her to the schools and university Newman Center. Sister O'Brien continues to visit her family, but her first obligation is to God and the community now. "I feel God has blessed me, giving me two vocations in life. I can't think of anything I have missed," says this sister-mom, servant of God.



KAY COZAD

Sister Kathy O'Brien, mother of six grown children and seven grandchildren, found her second calling fulfilled when she joined the order of the Benedictine Sisters in Columbia, Mo. There she works as vocations director, nurse and fills other positions while staying in contact with her family.

CARDINAL SODANO POSES WITH NEW VATICAN SECRETARY OF STATE



CNS PHOTO/L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO

Cardinal Angelo Sodano, the former Vatican secretary of state, poses with his successor, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, at Pope Benedict XVI's summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, Sept. 15. The pope welcomed the new Vatican secretary of state at a Sept. 15 ceremony and thanked Cardinal Sodano for his 16 years of service. The pope cited Cardinal Sodano's "good sense, prudent wisdom and indefatigable zeal" in serving the church.

Forever Learning enrolls record number

SOUTH BEND — An all-time record number of more than 700 students representing more than eight parishes in the South Bend area enrolled for the 31st annual Forever Learning Institute at Little Flower Parish.

The classes this year were moved from St. Patrick Parish center to Little Flower Parish. The record enrollment exceeded

all preliminary expectations, said Joan Loranger, executive director. Assisting her is John Chapleau.

A record number of 87 subjects are available to the students, all of whom are over 55. The school will operate five days a week, and a number of students will be enrolled in more than one class. — EJD

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Father Miller makes couple's 50th Anniversary special

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

MISHAWAKA — Pat and Al Skwiercz had a special priest officiate their renewal of vows for their 50th anniversary this year.

It was the same priest who married them — Father Elden J. Miller.

"I suppose a major reason for this is because Al and I married before a fairly young priest," said Pat who noted that, when they were married, he officiated at St. Joseph Church in Mishawaka where he was first assigned and remained for 17 years.

While Father Miller served at various parishes in the diocese, he eventually came back to the South Bend area, being assigned to the Queen of Peace Parish in Mishawaka where "it just so happened" the couple had settled not long after they married in Osceola. During that time, they became reacquainted with Father Miller who they kept in contact with even after his retirement in 2003.

"Because we remained in contact with Father Miller, we thought it would be special to have him say Mass for our 50th wedding anniversary," noted Pat who added that despite Father Miller's health problems, he came to help with their special celebration.

Pat said that while their dinner



Pat and Al Skwiercz on their wedding day 50 years ago at St. Joseph Church in Mishawaka.

celebration at a local restaurant was special, having Father Miller officiate was the "highlight of this special occasion. Father made everything so personal, and during the Mass, he incorporated a renewal of vows and gave Al and me a special blessing."

The Skwiercz have four children, Deborah Buckley of Avon, Colo., Andrew of Elkhart, Janice Cook of Osceola and Arthur of Monroe Township, N.J.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY THE SKWIERCZ FAMILY

Father Elden J. Miller, the priest that married Al and Pat Skwiercz 50 years previous, officiates at a renewal of wedding vows held on Aug. 19 at Queen of Peace Church in Mishawaka.



Pat and Al Skwiercz pause for a moment during their special 50th anniversary dinner. The couple celebrated their 50th anniversary, which included a renewal of vows with Father Elden Miller, the priest that married them 50 years ago, officiating.

Visits with newly disabled need not be awkward

Don't let uncertainty keep you away

BY LISA M. PETSCHÉ

Spending time with someone who has an acquired disability — such as a speech disorder or mobility impairment from a stroke — can be awkward at first. You may not know what to say or do.

The following guide can help to ensure a positive visit, no matter what kind of disability the person may have.

Speech impairment

- Choose subjects of special interest, to motivate the person in case they are self-conscious about engaging in conversation.

- Encourage them to slow down if necessary, in order to pronounce each syllable.

- Be patient and remain calm, allowing extra time for the person to get their words out. Don't interrupt or try to finish sentences unless they become visibly frustrated.

- Be attuned to nonverbal language that can give clues to the factual or emotional content of the message.

- Summarize the message to check if you heard it right.

- Ask them to repeat or rephrase the message if you could not make it out. Don't pretend you understood.

- Ask questions that require a yes or no answer so they can simply nod or shake their head.

- Don't correct every error.

- If the person is able to write, have a notepad and pen handy as a backup.

Keep in mind that your understanding of their speech will improve with repeated contact.

Hearing impairment

- Pick a location with good acoustics — rooms with carpeting and curtains are best.

- Choose a quiet area to minimize background noise.

- Limit the number of participants. One-to-one conversations are ideal.

- Ensure you have the person's full attention before initiating conversation. Sit close by, facing them.

- Sit with your face to the light and be careful not to cover it with your hands.

- Ask if one ear is better than the other, and speak to that side.

- Lean in when it's your turn to speak.

- Use a low-pitched, loud voice but avoid shouting. Speak slowly and clearly, but don't exaggerate.

- Be succinct about expressing yourself, and use short sentences.

- Read the person's nonverbal expressions, since some hearing-impaired people are hesitant to ask others to repeat themselves. If it looks as if they didn't pick up what you said, rephrase it.

Low vision

- Let them know when you are entering or leaving the room.

- Offer a hat or visor (to reduce glare) when accompanying them outdoors on a sunny day.

- When you're on an outing together, describe the view as you are driving, as well as any unfamiliar environments you enter. Ask what the person can and cannot see; don't make assumptions. If they are nervous about navigating in public, suggest they hold on to your elbow and walk half a step behind you (never grab their arm).

- When planning to eat out a restaurant, choose a place with good lighting. Otherwise, offer to read aloud the menu; include ingredients of entrees and prices.

Lisa M. Petsché is a medical social worker and a freelance writer specializing in health and senior issues.



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EDITORIAL

Lecture on 'reason' leads to unreasonable reaction

Pope Benedict XVI has come under fire by some Muslims for a lecture that the Holy Father delivered to the academia, "Faith, Reason and the University: Memories and Reflections." The lecture was a meeting with representatives of science at the University of Regensburg where the pope, then Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, once lectured.

The pope chose to focus on faith and reason. And the thrust of the pope's lecture was that human reason is analogous to divine reason and understanding. Because reason is universal, it can serve as or be the basis for intercultural dialogue. It's the one commonality with everybody.

The controversy, which served as a starting point for the pope's reflection and was taken out of context by the Turkish media from the six-page, single spaced document, arose from a quote the pope used from Professor Theodore Khoury, who studied the dialogue of the Byzantine emperor Manuel II Paleologus and an educated Persian on the subject of Christianity and Islam. The emperor's quotes were from a perception that pervaded in the late 1300s and early 1400s — that God was sometimes seen as arbitrary, capricious and unreasonable.

The emperor, on the central question about the relationship between religion and violence in general, says in the dialogue, "Show me just what Mohammed brought that was new, and there you will find things only evil and inhuman, such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he preached." The emperor, the pope discussed, "after having expressed himself so forcefully, goes on to explain in detail the reasons why spreading the faith through violence is something unreasonable. Violence is incompatible with the nature of God and the nature of the soul."

The pope, at no point in the lecture, said he endorsed the emperor's viewpoint. And the pope went on in his lecture to discuss how faith and reason are essential in the scientific world. "A reason which is deaf to the divine and which relegates religion into the realm of subcultures is incapable of entering into the dialogue of cultures," the Holy Father added.

If those upset by the comment actually read the lecture, rather than relying on a soundbyte from Turkish television, before jumping to an unreasonable conclusion, they would have discovered the pope was talking about a long-ago perception and how these perceptions have changed throughout the ages — including the separation of faith and reason in the scientific world.

It is ironic that some Muslims demand the pope to apologize. Some say the pope should not pursue his travel plans to Turkey in November. Some burned an effigy of the pope.

One Turkish official accused the pope of trying to revive the spirit of the Crusades. The official added the pope will go down in history "in the same category as leaders such as Hitler and Mussolini."

The reaction is owed to inattentiveness to the context of the lecture — an unwillingness to read the lecture in full and purposely relying on a soundbyte, which was taken out of context from the speech.

All this, from a speech, whose true message is how human reason is analogous to divine reason — where Christianity and Islam find a commonality. Our reason and understanding are a reflection of God's capacity. If humanity can come to reason, that can serve as dialogue with human nature.

Knowing the whole story

There is a lesson in this for us all. Often we jump to conclusions without knowing the whole story. We can see where jumping to conclusions with only a soundbyte taken out of context can lead to unreasonable reactions.

The lecture is a bit philosophical and difficult to understand for many of us, but in no manner should it be construed as an insult to Islam. You can find a link to the speech on the diocesan Web site, www.diocesefwsb.org or the Vatican Web site, www.vatican.va and follow the speeches of the Holy Father.

Rather than insult, it is a celebration on how we can utilize reason and faith, and the pope encourages the scientists at Regensburg "to rediscover it constantly is the great task of the university."

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

Peace and love vs. conquer and convert

All Christians are under attack from fanatic Islamists whose narrow political and restrictive religious and social views are philosophically positioned in the seventh century.

Radical Muslims are determined to change the world's cultures and establish a world Islamic theocracy. Radicals have a supreme goal to convert every Christian in the world to Islam. Radicals are told and believe it's acceptable to murder any and all infidels who won't convert to Islam. Radicals are convinced that there's only one true religion and will not tolerate co-existence with any other religion. And radicals actively promote conflict and terrorism and view martyrdom as a virtue.

How does the non-Muslim world combat such a barbaric philosophy and deal with radical Muslims' ongoing history of violence, war and expansionism?

The root of the problem is perhaps fanatic Mullahs who teach a radical form of Islam in classrooms and at Friday prayers. Indoctrination to hate Christians starts in some

cases as early as first grade. Hatred text is found in schoolbooks in most Muslim countries. Indoctrination continues through high school, on college campuses and even in the prison system. Muslims are taught and encouraged to wage jihad against all non-Muslims wherever in the world they may be located.

Radicals teach their followers that Allah gave the Koran to man and that the Koran directs all devout Muslims to live by Sharia law, which dictates that members actively and even forcefully seek conversion of all non-Muslims and death to infidels. Furthermore, the law states that no religion, except Islam, is acceptable to Allah. Strict Sharia law states that a good and loyal Muslim can't even make friends with a Christian.

As Catholics, we can't stick our heads in the sand and hope the problem will go away because it won't. Our government won't do much for us unless we make enough "noise" and demand changes. This very disturbing situation must be addressed and now is the time to get active before it's too late.

Many non-Muslims and especially Catholics and Jews are considered infidels and likely targets of radical

Islam. This means that we should become proactive and prepare for the long struggle that we suspect lies ahead.

With the exception of 9/11, most of the chaos caused by radical Muslims is taking place in foreign lands where these fanatics are destroying Christian churches and killing infidels. Unfortunately, a large percentage of United States citizens think nothing will happen on our own turf. This is a false assumption because something terrible can happen at any moment and the threat seems to be getting worse with every passing day.

Radical Muslims are adamant in their quest to conquer and convert all people of the world to Islam by all means available. By contrast, all other major religions, and especially the Catholic faith, teach peace and love.

There's only one answer. Each Catholic has an obligation to become aware of the facts right now, and speak out to repel this bold attack on our religious freedom or suffer the consequences of our own apathy.

**John Shields
Huntington**

'Grumpy' seniors

BY VINCE LABARBERA

Many may have enjoyed viewing the 1993 Warner Brothers film, "Grumpy Old Men," followed by the sequel two years later titled, "Grumpier Old Men." Both starred the exceptional duo of Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau, two neighbors engaged in a feud since childhood, which only gets worse when joined by a new female neighbor, played by Ann-Margaret, who moves in across the street. The trio makes for a funny and charming film.

But what if these "grumps" lived in your neighborhood? We all know what it means these days to encounter a "grumpy old man" or "woman," or perhaps be fast becoming one. Membership is not restricted by age or, indeed, sex. Part of that role is to be outspoken on the million irritations of living in today's world. Usually, however, the griping begins in earnest as one becomes a senior member of society because, as we have heard so many retirees say, they reach a point where they become impatient with things that either are not getting accomplished or being done with common sense.

Interestingly, what is irritating to mature members of one sex is not equally annoying to the other. For men it may be airport delays, highway signage, traffic, commercials, politics, sports coverage, shopping (too much of), repair work and customer service. On the list of what mature women find a source of concern might be body

image, visitors, children, animals, shopping (not enough of), careers, parties, holidays and yes, grumpy old men themselves.

Most "grumpies," if you will, find the rigors of life not so rigorous, but just darn annoying and so deeply frustrating they have to share a moan or have a groan. But when life gets less tolerable due to failing health, high medical expenses and other serious problems, a fussy, eccentric disposition can turn into contrariness, crankiness and even crotchiness. It is this latter disposition that is most difficult with which to deal regardless of age.

C. Leslie Charles, author of "Why Is Everyone so Cranky?," says there are people who consciously choose to live a life of harmony, inner peace and happiness. There also are those, however, who unconsciously create a life filled with chaos. "You can see the visible consequences of the different kinds of choices people make," she says. "Those who create harmony and inner peace live with a sense of optimism and an open heart. Their decisions are based on trust.... Their confidence is evident in the risks they take and their willingness to accept responsibility. Their life isn't perfect, but they shrug off small annoyances and bless the little gifts that come their way. When bad things happen they work toward acceptance and ultimately recover. Sometimes these composed, centered people make it all look so easy."

The cranky ones approach their day almost as if it were a battle; they compete, struggle and react,

she relates. "They keep an eye out for anyone who might try to take advantage while attempting to protect their backside. They play their cards close to their chest in fear they might disclose too much; after all, it might be used against them. Their world is filled with little annoyances and flaws that push their Cranky Quotient into the Hot Zone. And while they keep waiting for the one big break that will make things better — the Lotto, retirement, their stock splitting — they are convinced the other shoe is about to drop at any moment. When something bad does happen, it's perceived as confirmation of how difficult life can be. Cranky people make life look so hard," she says.

We've met both of these types; maybe you have, too. These descriptions are a good reminder that the true test of life is all in your mind: what you believe affects what you expect, and what you expect, you manifest.

"Many of us spend our lives searching for happiness but never finding it. This is because looking for happiness chases it away. Happiness comes to us when we quit searching for it and just start being it. The life we want comes to us when we just start living it instead of waiting for it. This sounds so simple and in a way, it is," Ms. Charles concludes.

Proverbs 16, verse 20, succinctly states: "...Happy is he who trusts in the Lord!"

Vince LaBarbera is the director of communications for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Vatican revisits issue of whether brain death means total death

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — After years of study and debate, the question of whether an individual declared brain-dead is really dead has been resuscitated once again.

The Pontifical Academy of Sciences, along with the vast majority of the scientific community, has repeatedly upheld that brain death is “the true criterion for death, given that the complete cessation of cardio-respiratory functions leads very quickly to brain death,” said Bishop Marcelo Sanchez Sorondo, the academy’s chancellor, in a 2005 written statement.

Just months before his death in April 2005, Pope John Paul II had asked the academy to restudy the signs of death and get scientific verification that those signs were still valid.

Pope John Paul, in a 2000 speech to an international congress on transplantation, had agreed with the consensus of the scientific community that “the complete and irreversible cessation of all brain activity (in the cerebrum, cerebellum and brain stem) if rigorously applied, does not seem to conflict with the essential elements of

anthropology.”

But the arguments of some that complete cessation of brain activity does not mean death were apparently enough to persuade Pope John Paul to reopen the debate five years later.

And Pope Benedict XVI has asked that the debate be revived.

The question is crucial since brain-dead people may be suitable organ donors. If a brain-dead person weren’t really dead, then removal of vital organs for transplant would be synonymous to homicide.

Specifically, Pope Benedict asked the Vatican academy to gather top-notch neurologists and other experts together to present statistics on cases of brain death. The pope wanted to know if the growing science of transplantation had influenced the ascertainment of brain death. He also asked to see how the criteria determining brain death were applied.

The Vatican academy invited some 20 neurology experts from all over the world to take part in a Sept. 11-12 working group on “The Signs of Death” to go over the latest evidence. The closed-

THE VATICAN LETTER

CAROL GLATZ

door meeting brought doctors and researchers renowned for their work on brain damage resulting in coma, persistent vegetative states and brain death.

Bishop Sanchez told Catholic News Service Sept. 14 that while accurately diagnosing a patient’s level or degree of coma can prove to be tricky, determining whether a person’s brain is dead “is a very simple thing.”

“There are gradual differences in the extent of loss of consciousness,” he said, citing some states such as being awake, asleep, having amnesia, being in a coma, deep coma or permanent vegetative state.

“These are all forms of consciousness of a living brain that

LETTER, PAGE 15

Following Jesus means confronting evil



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mark 9:30-37

The Book of Wisdom furnishes the first reading for this weekend. This book was written in an effort to say that being faithful to God, and indeed worshipping the one God of Israel, represent the greatest human wisdom.

To be convincing, the book obviously had to face the fact that evil exists in the world, because humans turn away from God and succumb to evil.

In this reading, the book describes intrigue. The evil conspire against the good. The evil in the world especially detest anyone who devoutly obeys God. If nothing else, the devout challenge evil-doers. The devout prove that holiness is possible.

Christians often assume that this passage, and others similar to it in the Old Testament, directly refer to Jesus of Nazareth, Son of God.

From the theological point of view, from the standpoint of a broader message in divine revelation, this passage and others prefigure the identity and mission of Jesus like it. However, when Wisdom was composed, centuries before Jesus, the Incarnation had not yet occurred.

Nevertheless, all the details

apply. Jesus was not without enemies. He personally was disliked. His Gospel was scorned. He was victorious, however.

For the second reading, the church this weekend turns to the Epistle of James. This epistle never gives the name of its author. As four persons with the name of James appear in the New Testament, and possibly others by this name existed in the circle around Jesus, biblical scholars are unwilling to say who exactly wrote this work of Scripture.

This is unimportant. The test of inspiration does not in the last analysis rest on the identity of the writer alone, but rather how the Christian community long, long ago accepted the writing, and how the church officially has regarded it. The church teaches, and has taught, that James is a divinely inspired work.

The reading is clear and practical. It too refers to wisdom. True wisdom shares in, and reflects, the divine knowledge. Therefore true wisdom is innocent, because God is innocent of all malice. It seeks to resolve conflicts. It seeks to respect others. It seeks truth.

St. Mark’s Gospel supplies the last reading. This reading actually has two points. The first is that essential to the personal mission of Jesus was a confrontation with evil in which the most powerful of earthly realities, namely death itself, came to Jesus. Then Jesus overcame death and all human evil. He is the victor. He lives.

The apostles, while the Lord’s special students, still were humans. Human ambition and shortsightedness trapped them. They accepted that the kingdom would come, as Jesus taught, but they wanted to rank high when the kingdom and its glory arrived.

Jesus warned them that life in

the kingdom would not be automatic. It surely would not be thrust upon them. They would have to deserve the kingdom by resembling in every sense in their lives the life and sacrifice of the Master.

Reflection

Tragedies, personal such as illnesses, or those involving societies such as hurricanes or wars, remind us that human nature is flawed, that humans are vulnerable, and that evil people can, and terrifyingly do, work their will. None of this happens because “God allows it”. God gives us the freedom to obey the divine will. When we disobey, disaster follows. Even the flaws of human nature, pain and death itself, developed because of voluntary human sin.

These readings remind us of these facts. We defeat evil, and survive magnificently despite our human limitations, when we model our lives on the life of Jesus. This seems very attractive, until we realize that living in the example of Jesus means confronting evil, rebuking evil, but then of being victorious.

READINGS

25th week of ordinary time

Monday: Prv 3:27-34 Ps 15:2-5 Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday: Prv 21:1-6, 10-13 Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34-35, 44 Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday: Prv 30:5-9 Ps 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163 Lk 9:1-6

Thursday: Eccl 1:2-11 Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17 Lk 9:7-9

Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 Ps 138:1-5 Jn 1:47-51

Saturday: Eccl 11:9-12:8 Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17 Lk 9:43b-45

THE BIBLE

On Sept. 30, the church remembers St. Jerome, the famous translator of the Bible into Latin. This quiz looks at the origin and journey of the Bible.

1. Where did the term “bible” come from?

- From the Latin Bibilo, meaning a library or study hall.
- From the Greek Biblia, meaning books.
- From the Hebrew Biblia, meaning a scroll.

2. Why did Jesus not reference the Bible or the Gospel?

- There was no Bible as we understand with a New Testament, and no Gospels during his life.
- Jesus spoke Aramaic so would have called it by its Hebrew name Torah.
- Jews neither mentioned the name of God nor of the Bible, out of respect.

3. What were the New Testament figures referring to when they mentioned Scripture?

- the four Gospels and letters of Paul only
- only the sayings of Jesus
- only the Jewish Scriptures (Old Testament)

4. Somewhat surprisingly, the composition of Jewish Scripture was not settled by rabbinic authorities until this time:

- Around 456 BC
- Around 100 AD
- Around 1948 (founding of a Jewish state)

5. Despite their Hebrew origin, at the time of Christ, the Old Testament writings were most commonly used in a translation into this language:

- Latin
- Aramaic
- Greek

6. Why was this the language used?

- Because most Jews were Roman citizens and preferred Latin.
- Because the language of Palestine had changed to Aramaic.
- Because many of Jews in the Diaspora spoke Greek, the common of the East.

7. What was the most common version of that form of the Old Testament?

- The Didache
- The Septuagint
- The Vulgate

8. The first Christians were Jews, but why did their versions of Scripture differ from other Jews over time?

- The early Christians, in an effort to appear holier, used larger fonts.
- The early Christians were excluded from the synagogues and rabbinic decisions, so their scriptures tended to diverge as the Jews update their versions.
- The early Christians included pagans, who brought their own texts into the Bible.

9. The first works that make up the New Testament tended to be regarded as Scripture during this century.

- The first century BC
- The first century AD
- The second century AD

10. However, although the New Testament canon was formed around then, it was not given an official sanction until this year:

- 121
- 254
- 382

11. One of the tasks entrusted to Jerome by the pope was to

- produce a standard Latin text based on as good a translation as he could.
- identify the proponents of undesirable books and arrest them.
- explain in footnoted the apparent conflicts between the Christian and Jewish versions.

12. Jews eventually declared some Old Testament books as non-canonical. In the Christian Bible some churches did likewise. What are these books usually called?

- The Apocrypha
- The Law
- The 70 texts

13. The Catholic canon of the Old Testament was not confirmed until this council:

- The Council of Trent
- Vatican I
- Vatican II

14. The differing attitudes between Catholic and Protestants means that today

- Catholic Bibles often have fewer books than Protestant Bibles.
- Catholic Bibles often have more books than Protestant Bibles.
- The works are the same, but interpretations differ.

ANSWERS:

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

Prayers for the dead have long history in Catholic tradition

Please explain the tradition of Memorial Masses, intentions, for the deceased, came about? What if the person is already in heaven or hell?
Anonymous

There is an ancient Christian practice of remembering the dead (this can be traced even earlier to late Judaism, as is evidenced in the Books of the Maccabees). In fact, in his Confessions, St. Augustine mentions his dying mother's wish that he not fret about funeral arrangements but rather should, wherever he happened to be, remember her at the altar of the Lord (i.e. the eucharistic celebration). Of course, implicit in this is a sense that the dead can somehow benefit from our prayers and that there is some possibility of reform or healing possible post-mortem. Our remembering the dead at

Mass is then quite ancient. That our prayers can benefit the dead is a matter of Catholic faith. How our prayers benefit the deceased is, however, a matter of speculation and opinion. Those who are already in heaven don't need them, and those in hell cannot benefit from them.

Can you offer some tips on praying the rosary? My mind wanders and I lose my place. Should I concentrate on the prayers or on the mystery?

Distraction is a common problem in all prayer, not simply the rosary. Thomas Aquinas taught that in prayer what mattered is our intention, not our attention. That, of course, does not absolve us from trying to focus. The fact is, the rosary (and other "formula" prayers) are of great benefit because we don't have to concoct

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

them or make them up — they are fundamentally something "given." These kinds of prayers can be a refuge when we don't know what to say to God or how to pray. Further, the rosary is a great help in meditating on the events in the life of our Lord. So first of all, don't let distraction dissuade you from praying; if your mind wanders, refocus and keep going. Second, the words of the prayers are meant to function as a "mantra," (repeated words or phrases used in prayer to create

the condition for meditation and contemplation) and our attention is supposed to be on the mysteries themselves. If you lose your place, there is no need to go back and "re-do" them — just refocus. And don't be afraid to begin all prayer with an act of faith that prayer is fundamentally God's work (the action of his Spirit within us) rather than simply something we do, make or produce.

How should parents, siblings, address a family member who is a priest in a causal or public setting? Anonymous

Family members know a priest long before he is a priest. Respect for his ordination does not mean they cannot or should not call him by his given name, "John," or "Bob," or "Ralph," or whatever the case may be.

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

Father Michael Heintz, rector of St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend, answered this week's questions.

When a sure thing gives way to defeat

There's no such thing as a sure thing. How do I know that? Because I thought Charlie Weis was as close to a sure thing as there could be in the coaching world.

One awful performance like the one Notre Dame graciously offered to Michigan on Sept. 16 can happen to anyone. In reality, it not only can happen to anyone but it happens to everyone that coaches.

There's a high school football team in the area in which I live that has strung together 135 straight conference victories. There's an exception to every rule.

But as we observe all these games, professional and amateur, and as I go deeper into my high school baseball-coaching career, I realize just how difficult it is to win a game sometimes.

Take Weis. He has such an air of confidence about him, an aura of invincibility that when Michigan beats Notre Dame by 26 points and makes it look like a complete and total mismatch, you realize there is no such thing as a sure thing. Winning, or rather, winning all the time, is a very difficult to do.

That's a very easy concept to forget these days. Talk radio, blogs and message boards have empowered the masses to vent their anger toward their rooting interest. Our society has created a nation of sports aficionados, and now we have ample venues in which to share our newfound expertise.

Let me assure you, for those who haven't spent any time around a high school sporting event recently, there is no shortage of experts at the games our kids play. There are many who believe they know more about the team they're watching than the coaches that are with that team every day. I know this is true because I'm the baseball coach, yet I have very strong opinions about the football and basketball programs.

And now, for the first time to this degree, Charlie Weis suddenly looks very vulnerable, not the all-knowing, NFL-bred genius that he has been portrayed to be.

One could make a legitimate argument, without much opposition, that Weis was out-coached twice within a four game span — versus Ohio State in the Fiesta Bowl and by Lloyd Carr against Michigan in the third game of the 2006 regular season. In both instances, Notre Dame looked out-manned and a bit unprepared, most especially against the Wolverines.

Does that mean Weis is a poor coach? Does that mean Weis is messing up what should be a sure thing considering the Irish were among the preseason favorites to win the national title?

Whether it's on the high school, college or professional level, the head coach is ultimately responsible for the performance of the team. A team that gets blown out in a game in which it should win is a team whose coach did not capitalize on a fortuitous opportunity.

But winning is hard! The other teams practice, have capable talent, teach great ideas, are motivated to succeed, and have coaches who are smart, too. Sometimes, even when a team has several more advantages than the other team, it still loses. Why? Well, because players and coaches sometimes make mistakes that sway the outcome to the other team. Other times the human emotions involved in athletics may shift the momentum to the underdog and before you know it, an upset has occurred.

Usually, it comes down to this: the best team that day wins.

The most overlooked aspect of sports is that at the end of the day, regardless how many games have been played, the number of teams that won is equal to the number of teams that lost.

Notre Dame does not have the most talented college football team in the country. I can assure



FROM THE SIDELINES

BY TIM PRISTER

you after standing along the Notre Dame sideline for the final eight minutes of the Michigan game that the Wolverines had more imposing athletes physically than the Irish. That should change as Weis stocks his roster with his recruits, but Michigan put it all together and tattooed Notre Dame.

Notre Dame has enough talent and enough quality football coaches, led by Weis, to win the rest of their games ... at least until the trip to Southern California to conclude the 2006 season. That will be a tad more difficult.

Games are won and lost every week that seem to defy logic. We as fans tend to point the finger of blame, usually at the head coach. That's fair, particularly for somebody like Weis, who makes a handsome penny to have his football decision-making scrutinized by the general public.

Yet what can never be forgotten is that in athletics, there is no such thing as a sure thing. Bad coaches lose. So do good coaches. They just don't lose as often.

Tim Prister is a 1978 graduate of Marian High School and a 1982 graduate from the University of Notre Dame, where he was the starting third baseman in 1981-82. Prister also is in his third year as head baseball coach at Marian.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for September 24, 2006

Mark 9:30-37

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: leading with the ways of a child. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

GALILEE	ANYONE	SON OF MAN
THREE	WILL RISE	UNDERSTAND
AFRAID	HOUSE	SILENT
GREATEST	SAT DOWN	TWELVE
BE FIRST	LAST OF ALL	SERVANT
CHILD	MIDST	ARMS
MY NAME	NOT ME	SENT ME

SERVANT OF ALL

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

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

has different degrees of cerebral activity," he said. Pinpointing the level of consciousness a patient is at can sometimes generate much doubt and debate, he added.

In September scientists in the United Kingdom were astounded to find that brain scans of a woman in a vegetative state suggested awareness. Earlier this year, news reports documented cases in South Africa where a common sleeping pill temporarily revived people thought locked in a permanent vegetative state.

Cerebral death, or brain death, however, is not so ambiguous and it is certainly irreversible, Bishop Sanchez said.

Bishop Sanchez said that as a result of its September meeting, the academy has reaffirmed Pope John Paul's position on brain death being equivalent to the death of the person.

For the Vatican academy, he said, "there are no reasons to again go over" the criteria accepted by the overwhelming majority of the world's scientists.

However, the bishop said he will have "to wait and see from the Vatican."

Whether the seminar's results get buried or not, the debate will certainly beat on.

Guilt-free pluripotent stem cells?

"Much ado about nothing" could describe the recent hype and flurry of news reports about an "ethical" way to get stem cells out of a human embryo without harming that embryo. Scientists have proposed pulling off one of the eight cells of an early embryo in order to create stem cells, while allowing the seven remaining cells to continue developing into a baby. On first hearing, the proposal sounds attractive to many. Scientists from a small biotech company called Advanced Cell Technology published a paper in the journal *Nature* in August, 2006, describing the technique.

They implied that they had done the procedure and that the embryos they used for biopsy had survived. Following public scrutiny of their claims, however, it came to light that none of the 16 embryos they operated on actually ended up surviving. Importantly, even if the experiment had worked, and even if all the embryos had survived, the approach would still sputter and stall in ethical terms because young humans would end up being directly subjugated and violated in laboratory settings, in order to mine their desirable cells and parts.

Other new techniques, which rely either on de-differentiation or on the use of germ cells, offer genuinely novel ways to get stem cells without any ethical objections at all.

The "embryo biopsy" approach fails to deliver because of at least four serious moral objections:

- A non-therapeutic intervention is performed on a human embryo. At least 10 percent of its body mass is removed for research, not for purposes of treating that specific embryo-patient for a known medical condition. The embryo is instead employed as a starting source for harvestable raw materials, in a gesture that reduces young humans to commodities or manipulable products.

- Embryonic humans should not be generated in laboratory glassware. They do not belong inside test tubes or petri dishes. The only fitting home for human embryos is in the warmth and shelter of their mother's womb, not in the open lights of the laboratory where they can be prodded, invaded and violated.

- In order to get the single cell that is removed out of the embryo to turn into a stem cell, scientists have to "coat" it with a layer of human embryonic stem cells (taken from another, previously destroyed, human embryo). Thus, the procedure still relies on the prior destruction of young humans.

- The extracted single cell may itself be totipotent, that is to say, it may be a new human being, now able to grow into an adult on its own. Early embryos are so flexible that occasionally when a cell breaks off from them, an identical twin can form. While this can certainly occur at the two- and four-cell stage of the embryo, it may even be possible at the eight-cell stage, though there is ongoing debate about this question.

- A fifth problem could also be mentioned, namely that the remaining seven cells of the embryo may not necessarily grow to produce a perfectly healthy baby as is commonly assumed. Many babies have been born after a procedure called preimplantation genetic diagnosis (PGD), where a single cell is removed from the embryo for genetic testing. When testing indicates that the embryo is not affected by a genetic disease, it can be implanted into its mother to grow. What remains unclear is whether babies born after PGD testing are really as healthy as those born without PGD testing. Long-term follow-up studies have not been carried out on these PGD children, so it certainly premature at this time to argue that removing one of the eight cells of an embryo has no future effects on that individual.

Can pluripotent stem cells (the most highly flexible variety), be obtained from sources other than human embryos, and without crossing any moral lines? Absolutely. There are an expanding number of ways to derive such cells. For example, in March of 2006, German scientists published a paper in the journal *Nature* describing a new way to derive pluripotent stem cells. They removed special cells called germ cells from the testicles of mice, and transmuted them into pluripotent stem cells. Shortly afterwards, a biotech company in California called PrimeCell Therapeutics reported the same results in humans. No embryos were required at any point in the process. Another example: In August of



MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

BY FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

2006, scientists from Japan published results in the journal *Cell* indicating that by adding a combination of four different protein factors to adult mouse cells, they could change them into pluripotent stem cells. This kind of direct conversion of adult cells into embryonic-type cells is called dedifferentiation or reprogramming, and is a very promising direction for future research.

Another important source for obtaining pluripotent stem cells would be from certain mature body tissues including the bone marrow and the umbilical cord. Normally, stem cells from bone marrow and umbilical cord are not pluripotent, but multipotent (somewhat restricted in their possibilities for differentiation). However a growing number of researchers are finding that there may be a rare subpopulation of genuinely pluripotent cells that are also present in these adult sources. That is to say, stem cells as flexible as the ones that come from embryos may be naturally present at very low levels in bone marrow and umbilical cord, or at least may be derivable from such sources.

The argument that we must offer up young humans on the altar of scientific sacrifice, while always objectionable in moral terms, is becoming continually less tenable in medical terms as well.

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

Queen of Sheba has roots in Yemen

Is there any truth to the story of Solomon and Sheba?

Solomon was the second king of Israel (c. 970-930 B.C.). The Queen of Sheba heard of Solomon's fame and traveled about 1,000 miles to visit him in Jerusalem c. B.C. 950 H. Vos says the Queen of Sheba's visit to Solomon had something to do with the threat posed to her commercial activities by the launching of Solomon's navy. Solomon had a fleet of Tarshish ships that were large strong vessels for long voyages to sail to mines and refineries. They would carry gold, silver, ivory, apes and monkeys. Tarshish was ancient Tartessus, a Phoenician colony in southern Spain and a center for silver, iron, tin and lead.

Sheba was the leading principality in what is now Yemen on the south Arabian peninsula below Saudi Arabia. Eighth-century B.C. inscriptions from Assyria in northern Iraq mention five queens by name among the Arabs. Bilqis is the Yemeni name for the Queen of Sheba. Arab tradition speaks of the beautiful young Queen Bilqis and her love for Solomon.

G. Robison says the earliest known civilizations in southern Arabia existed more than 1,000 years before Christ, the time of David and Solomon. These kingdoms based their existence on agriculture and trade. Their most important products were the aromatic gum resins called frankincense and myrrh. These products grow only on the southern coastlands of Arabia and the northern coast of the Horn of Africa. They were valued for the pleasant

odors they released when burned as incense. Convoys also carried gold and other precious items that came to southern Arabia by sea from India.

Just before the time of Solomon, the land routes through Arabia vastly improved with the introduction of camels, for they could walk much longer distances without requiring as much rest or water as donkeys. So the routes could be plotted through dry lands with only a few stops for food, water and lodging. One could travel from the coast of the Arabian Sea to Egypt in two months.

The Bible says the Queen of Sheba arrived in Jerusalem with a very numerous retinue and with camels bearing spices, gold and precious stones. Gold, frankincense and myrrh were also carried by the Three Kings to Jesus in Bethlehem. These three gifts were customary in the Orient as signs of homage. King Solomon, in return, gave the Queen of Sheba presents from the royal bounty.

The kingdom of Sheba or modern Saba began about B.C. 1000 and endured at least 14 centuries. The capital of Saba was Maryab or Ma'rib on a strategic natural land route. The Sabaeans controlled the trade routes connecting with Palestine and Syria. The agricultural wealth of Saba was based on the dam in Ma'rib built in the 8th century B.C. between two mountains to catch the waters of the wadi caused by storms and flash floods. The dam provided irrigation for the fields sustaining up to 50,000 people. In A.D. 570 this dam was washed away, so only a few families



FATHER RICHARD HIRE

HIRE HISTORY

remained in Ma'rib. In the 1980s, a new dam was built, and oil production too, so now Ma'rib is a thriving town.

In the old village of Ma'rib today, you can see impressive small-windowed mud buildings with stone basements with ancient Sabaeans inscriptions. Outside of Ma'rib are Sabaeans temples called the Queen of Sheba's palace. Nearby stand five and a half remaining pillars of the Temple of the Moon called the throne of the Queen of Sheba. Further on is the Sun Temple or the temple of the Queen of Sheba built c. B.C. 400 Assyrian annals record heavy tribute from the Sabaeans in the 8th to 7th centuries B.C. showing the prosperity of this kingdom of Sheba.

Father McKenzie says the visit of the Queen of Sheba to the court of Solomon was mainly a trade mission. The expansion of Sabaeans trade was simultaneous with the expansion of Israelite trade through Solomon's Red Sea fleet and his port at Ezion-geber lying at the head of the Gulf of Aqaba precisely at the point where the Wadi Arabah opens into the gulf.

Meet The Priest

Father William J. Kummer

Ordained to the priesthood:
May 31, 1975

Pastor, St. Michael, Plymouth



What was the primary influence in your decision to become a priest?

My family, and oddly, the parish church where I grew up. It seemed the place I should be.

Why do you like being a priest?

For me the most rewarding things are celebrating Mass, and how the people of God allow the priest into their hearts.

What are your hobbies?

I enjoy reading history and biographies.

Do you have any pets?

No pets, but I like petting other people's dogs.

What do you do for relaxation?

For relaxation, I enjoy a spirited game of cards with my friends.

What are your favorite reading materials and authors?

Like above, I enjoy history writings, both church and secular. Authors: Foote and Bookhiser.

What do you like the most about being Catholic?

The surety of meeting Jesus Christ in the sacraments is the best of being a Catholic.

What is your favorite prayer?

Without question it would be the "Hail Mary."

What is your favorite Scripture passage?

Jn 21:15-19 (Peter, do you love me? Follow me!)

What is your favorite food?

Spaghetti and sausage at Casa D'Angelo. Thank you, Katie Zuber.

What is an interesting fact that most people might not know about you?

I once emceed a bridal fashion show.

How do you prefer to be addressed by the laity?

I am usually called "Father Bill," and that is just fine. Since my school days, many use the moniker "Uncle Bill."

Sports

USF TO NAME FOOTBALL FIELD IN HONOR OF COACH KEVIN DONLEY Sister M. Elise Kriss, OSF, president of the University of Saint Francis, has announced that the university's football field will be named Kevin Donley Field in honor of Coach Kevin Donley. Donley developed the USF football program, which began in 1998, the first collegiate football in Fort Wayne. Under his leadership, the team has won seven league championships and accomplished four consecutive unbeaten regular seasons, including back-to-back runner-up finishes for the NAIA Championship in 2004 and 2005.

ICCL soccer reports scores for first three weeks

SOUTH BEND — Inter-City Catholic League soccer is now entering its fourth week of games. The following information was obtained from the ICCL Web site. The following are the seventh and eighth grade teams scores from the boys' soccer for Aug. 27, Sept. 10.

Aug. 27 games

- St. Michael 6, St. Anthony 0. Zach Bridgeman, Gabe Vervynckt, Eric Blake and Karl Faulstich all scored one goal each.
- St. Joseph South Bend, eighth, 1, Christ the King 0
- St. Thomas 3, St. Matthew 7
- St. Matthew 3, St. Joseph, South Bend, seventh, 0

Sept. 10 games

- St. Joseph, South Bend, seventh, 5, St. Anthony 0
- St. Joseph-Corpus Christi seventh grade goals were scored by Jeremy Doyle (two goals), Alex Scholtes, Danny Rennbarger and Alec Fullenkamp. Shutouts were by goalies Patrick Bruneel, Nicholas Hall and Thomas Labuziowski
- St. Jude 6, St. Thomas 2. Goals were scored by Olkowski (three), Henry (two), Downs (one). Solid defense was provided by David Borntrager.
- St. Matthew 4, St. Michael 2. Hank Blum had three goals for the St. Matthew's Blazers, Troy McGovern had one. Zack Bridgman scored two goals for the St. Michael Crusaders.
- St. Joseph, South Bend, eighth, 1, St. Matthew 2. Hank Blum and Addison Wilk scored for St. Matthew.
- Christ the King 2, St. Joseph, South Bend, seventh, 2.
- St. Joseph, South Bend-Corpus Christi seventh grade goals were by Danny Rennbarger and Matt Emo.
- Mishawaka Catholic 1, Christ the King 2.

St. Anthony Panthers keep winning streak

BY ELMER J. DANCH

SOUTH BEND — St. Anthony's football Panthers took over the undisputed leadership of first place in the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) midway in the young season and virtually appeared as the top squad in the current campaign.

The Panthers notched a 17-8 victory over a tight Corpus Christi team whose defense kept St. Anthony-St. Joseph at bay most of the way except for two outstanding scoring plays.

In the first half, Sean Hart came up with a 40-yard touchdown strike to Matt Canter who outdistanced two defenders in his race to the end zone.

Peter Gillis brought the crowd to its feet in the third period by breaking through center and outmaneuvered half a dozen would-be tacklers on a 55-yard romp to the end zone. Tyler Sorocco kicked an extra point and a 30-yard field goal. Scott Coppa scored on a 2-yard run, and Cody Weber kicked an extra point for Corpus Christi.

Mishawaka Catholic moved into a deadlock for second place by edging Holy Family, 14-6, in another tough defensive struggle.

Two spectacular touchdown scores featured the Saints victory. Ben Brewers snared a 58-yard

touchdown pass from Andrew Olena. Then Coley Schultheis later picked up a loose fumble and raced 45 yards for what turned out to be the winning score. Andrew Davidson added the two-point kick.

Dominick Romans caught a 5-yard pass from Tate Borlik for the Holy Family Trojans.

Holy Cross-Christ the King Crusaders defeated St. Matthew, 18-7. Max Matthew broke over center for 16 yards and a touchdown, then later threw a 48-yard pass to Colton Pulaski for another one. Nick Matthews added the third score for the Crusaders on a 10-yard slant. Thomas Krueger completed a 50-yard pass to Chase Parker for St. Matthew.

In the boys B-team division, Holy Cross-Christ the King beat St. Matthew, 36-0. St. Anthony-St. Joseph nipped Corpus Christi, 6-0, and Mishawaka Catholic beat Holy Family, 27-0.

Current standings:

Team	wins, losses
St. Anthony	3-0
Mishawaka	
Catholic	2-1
Holy Cross	2-1
Corpus Christi	2-1
St. Matthew	0-3
Holy Family	0-3

Eagles remain the only unbeaten CYO football team

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — As week four of the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) ended Sept. 17, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, Eagles remain the only undefeated team.

St. Vincent topped the undefeated Raiders from St. John New Haven in the first game of the day 28-12. Both teams are now 3-1. In the loss, Nick McCarthy scored on a 65-yard run in the first play of the game. Later in the final quarter, quarterback Kyle Sovine threw a 55-yard pass to Leighton Painter.

Panther touchdowns were scored by Brian Bowers (1-yard run), Russell Coonan (1-yard run and 30-yard run), and Evan Feichter (20-yard run). Conner Friesner had two extra points. Defensive highlights for Andy Lebamoff's boys include an interception by Evan Feichter and another by Michael Karp. Karp's was key in that it set up the second touchdown for the winners.

In a big win over St. Charles, the defensive line play was much improved for the JAT team. "We worked on several things this week and the boys carried it over to the game," said a very pleased Coach Jerry Niezer. Carl Deiser and Dan Rodenbeck led the victors on both sides of the ball. Deiser had a huge interception and big run in the final minutes to seal the 8-0 win while Nick Schenkel kicked the extra point. Niezer also noted that Austin (Fish) Fisher did a fine job in his first starting role as center. Both teams now have a 2-2 record.

St. John Fort Wayne continued to dominate the league as they downed St. Jude 22-0. Hughie Baldus had an interception for the Eagles. Scoring came from Nick Shaw on an 8-yard run, Alex Stroncsek with a 3-yard keeper and Marquel Cooper for his fourth touchdown on the year. Alex Stroncsek also made 2-3 PATs.

The scoreboard

- St. Vincent beat St. John, New Haven, 28-12
- Holy Cross beat Queen of Angels-Precious Blood
- St. John, Fort Wayne, defeated St. Jude 22-0.
- Sts. JAT defeated St. Charles 8-0


Sixth grade action

On their home field, JAT nipped St. John FW 20-16 in recent sixth grade gridiron action. JAT's hard hitting defense recovered three fumbles in the win. Both teams ran the ball well. Later in the same week, the JAT fifth graders blanked St. John, Fort Wayne, by a score of 20-0. Nic Morken scored three touchdowns in the victory.

Week 3 wrap-up

The score from last week 3's game between St. Jude and Queen of Angels/Precious Blood was 30-0 with St. Jude coming out on top. Andrew McGuire scored for the first time this season, not once, but three times. Aaron Dykhuzien also had a touchdown for the winners. Sam Nussbaum led the defensive unit with two interceptions.

CYO coaches are requested to e-mail fall sports scores to sports writer Michelle Castleman at mmcastleman@aol.com



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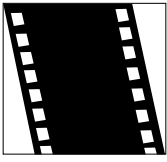
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MOVIE CAPSULES

"Aurora Borealis" (Regent)

Overly long tale of unmotivated Minnesota man (an appealing Joshua Jackson) who takes on a maintenance job at an assisted living facility to be near his ailing grandfather (Donald Sutherland) and falls in love with his grandfather's home health aide (Juliette Lewis), while allowing his philandering brother (Steven Pasquale) to use his apartment for extramarital trysts. James Burke's downbeat film scores points for its compassionate portrayal of the elderly and their need for care and the acting is generally good, but the result is not terribly interesting. The script goes beyond empathizing with the grandfather's fervent wish to be spared a debilitating decline into almost making a case for euthanasia, despite a morally sound ending on all fronts. Pervasive rough and crude language, euthanasia theme, adultery, acceptance of premarital sex, some heavy groping and innuendo, a couple of violent

brawls and a drug reference. 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.

"The Black Dahlia" (Universal)

Adaptation of James Ellroy's novel built around the never-solved, true-life case of a young Hollywood hopeful (Mia Kirshner) — whose mutilated body was found in a vacant lot in 1947 — focusing on two L.A. cops (Josh Hartnett and Aaron Eckhart) who are involved in the case. The Hartnett character finds himself in a platonic menage with his partner and the latter's long-time girlfriend (Scarlett Johansson), then falls under the sway of a seductive rich girl (Hilary Swank) who resembles the murder victim. Brian DePalma's film-noir homage is uneven as drama (with its overly complex script), despite his customary stylish flourishes and good, if occasionally over-the-top, performances, but the pileup of sordid revelations, though expected in the noir genre, and sundry other lurid plot elements preclude

recommendation. Rough and crude language, general decadence, sexual situations and innuendo, much violence, a couple of brutal boxing matches, some grisly imagery, a re-creation of the lesbian underworld, pornography, adultery, incest, rear nudity, murder, suicide and drug use. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is O — morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

"Everyone's Hero" (20th Century Fox)

Charming Depression-era animated tale about a young boy (voiced by Jake T. Austin) who sets out — with the help of a magical talking baseball (Rob Reiner) — to recover the stolen lucky bat (Whoopi Goldberg) of his idol Babe Ruth (Brian Dennehy) during the 1932 World Series. Directors Daniel St. Pierre and Colin Brady — building on work started by Christopher Reeve before his 2004 death — hit a home run with this visually delightful fable that has heart and a simple but winning message about familial love and perseverance. A mildly gross sight gag. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-I

— general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is G — general audiences. All ages admitted.

"Little Miss Sunshine" (Fox Searchlight)

Immensely likable film about an Albuquerque, N.M., couple — gung-ho motivational speaker (Greg Kinnear) and his wife (Toni Collette) — who, with their alienated son (Paul Dano), the wife's gay brother (Steve Carell) who's recovering from a suicide attempt, and the husband's crusty, drug-addicted father (Alan Arkin) in tow, trek to Los Angeles in a creaky van so their daughter (Abigail Breslin) can compete in a beauty pageant. Despite an unfortunately high quotient of expletives and some sexual references (mostly courtesy of the Arkin character), husband-and-wife team Jonathan Dayton and Valerie Faris have directed a refreshingly off-beat tale that, underneath the zaniness, comes over as an extremely positive validation of family and genuine values. Rough and occasionally profane words, sexual references, suicide element, a minor gay plot element, a sight gag involving adult magazines and brief drug use. The USCCB Office

for Film & Broadcasting classification is L — limited adult audience, films whose problematic content many adults would find troubling. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

"Gridiron Gang" (Columbia)

Inspiring truth-based sports drama about a juvenile detention camp probation officer (Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson) who organizes a football team from among the teen inmates (including Jade Yorker and David Thomas) to teach them discipline and teamwork, and through his tough-love determination succeeds in instilling self-esteem and turning their lives in a positive direction, while competing for the regional high school championship. Despite formulaic plot elements, director Phil Joanou's uplifting movie shows the heart of a winner, with emotional performances and a surprisingly strong redemptive theme of second chances. Some parents may feel the worthy message makes it acceptable for older adolescents. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned.

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

Rosary for Life commemorates Respect Life Sunday

South Bend — The diocesan Office of Family Life invites you to come pray a Rosary for Life to commemorate Respect Life Sunday, Oct. 1, at 3:45 p.m. (after the Life Chain) at the Women's Care Center garden on Ironwood Circle. Music and meditations will accompany the rosary. Pro-life bumper stickers, brochures and other resources will be available. A collection will be taken up to benefit the work of the Women's Care Center.

Dignity and vocation of women lecture at University of Saint Francis

Fort Wayne — The diocesan Office of Family Life is cosponsoring a lecture by Dr. Pia de Solenni on "The Personalism of Pope John Paul II and the Dignity and Vocation of Women" at the University of Saint Francis on Wednesday, Oct. 4, from 7-8 p.m. in the Doermer Center, room 156. De Solenni is a noted lecturer, media commentator and winner of the Pontifical Prize of the Academies. A reception will follow in the Atrium of the new Pope John Paul II Center.

Bristol parish hosts Franciscan Friars of Renewal at October retreat

Bristol — St. Mary of the Assumption Parish will have the Franciscan Friars of Renewal on Oct. 23-25 for a parish renewal retreat. The renewal will include talks and opportunities for eucharistic adoration, Mass and confession. For more information, contact Father Robert Van Kempen at (574) 848-4305.

Ed Fox fish fry

Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 12417, from Our Lady of Good Hope will have a fish fry on Friday, Sept. 29, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. in the church auditorium, 7215 St. Joe Rd. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$4.50 for children. Children under 5 are free.

Breakfast brunch on tap

Fort Wayne — St. Peter Church, will have a breakfast brunch Sunday, Oct. 1, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the new pavilion at the corner of DeWald and Warsaw streets. Egg casserole, pancakes, sausage, fresh fruit, coffee, milk and juice will be served. Tickets are \$5 for adults, ages 12 to 16 are \$3 and under 12 are free.

Gift gathering luncheon planned

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School will be having it's ladies luncheon gift gathering party for LuersKnight on Sunday, Oct. 1, at Orchard Ridge Country

Club, 4531 Lower Huntington Rd., at 12:30 p.m. with lunch served at 1 p.m. Call Bishop Luers High School office at (260) 456-1261 to make a reservation.

Notre Dame Club plans admissions information night

Fort Wayne — The Notre Dame Club of Fort Wayne will have an information night on Tuesday, Oct. 3, at 7 p.m. in the Bishop Dwenger High School library at 1300 E. Washington Center Rd. Katie Cawley from the Notre Dame admissions office will conduct the presentation followed by a question-and-answer session. High school students and their parents are invited to attend. For information contact Dave Devine of the Notre Dame Club of Fort Wayne at (260) 481-6857.

Tailgate party, class of 1981 reunion and brat dinner planned

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School will host a tailgate party Friday, Oct. 6, outside of the Luers cafeteria from 5:30 to 7 p.m. All Bishop Luers alumni and their families are invited. Cost is \$3 per person or \$12 per family. Food and beverages will be available before the homecoming game against Elmhurst. Bring a lawn chair and a memory to share. The Bishop Luers class of 1981 will hold a reunion Saturday, Oct. 7, at Catablu Restaurant. Contact Jenny Andorfer at (260) 436-1493 for reservations. A chili and bratwurst dinner will be held Friday, Oct. 13, from 5 to 9 p.m.

at Luers football field as part of the Bishop Luers vs. Bishop Dwenger football game.

St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel fall festival

Fort Wayne — St. Joseph will have a fall festival on Saturday Sept. 23, starting at 8 a.m. with slow pitch baseball and concessions. At noon there will be a country store, entertainment store, kid's carnival, beer tent, bingo, raffle and log saw tournament. BBQ chicken will be served from 2 to 7 p.m. A live auction starts at 4 p.m. and Borrowed Time band plays from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m.

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Mishawaka

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Rose Mary Olinger, 83, St. Robert Bellarmine

South Bend

Michael M. Rutkowski, 83, St. Stanislaus

Caroline M. Senger, St. Matthew

Michael C. Timm, 43, Holy Family

Patricia A. Keusch, 81, Little Flower

Charles A. Vanatta, 36, St. John the Baptist

Louis D. Pruett Jr., 20, Little Flower

First Saturday devotions scheduled

Fort Wayne — The World Apostolate of Fatima will hold devotions of reparation at St. Joseph, corner of Brooklyn and Hale on Saturday, Oct. 7. Confessions will be heard beginning at 7:15 a.m., meditation at 7:30 a.m., and the holy rosary at

7:45 a.m. with Mass at 8 a.m. First Saturday devotions are also held at St. Patrick, Arcola; St. John the Baptist, New Haven; St. Rose, Monroeville; Queen of Angels, Fort Wayne; and others in the Fort Wayne-South Bend area. All are welcome.

TV MASS GUIDE FOR OCTOBER

DATE	FEAST	FORT WAYNE	SOUTH BEND	"Catholic Comment" airs Sundays at 7:05 a.m. on WOWO 1190 AM in Fort Wayne and at 7:30 a.m. on WSBT 960 AM in South Bend. "Radio Rosary" airs M-F at 11 a.m. Saturday and Sunday at 7:30 a.m. on Redeemer Radio WLYV 1450 AM
		CHANNEL 33 - WISE 10:30 A.M.	CHANNEL 16 - WNDU 10:30 A.M.	
Oct. 1	26th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Msgr. John Suelzer St. Charles Fort Wayne	TBA	
Oct. 8	27th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Father Dan Leeuw Provena Sacred Heart Avilla	Father Christopher Cox, CSC St. Adalbert/St. Casimir South Bend	
Oct. 15	28th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Father John Stecher University of Saint Francis Fort Wayne	TBA	
Oct. 22	29th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Father Daryl Rybicki St. John the Baptist Fort Wayne	Father Patrick Maloney, CSC Notre Dame	
Oct. 29	30th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Father Thomas Shoemaker St. Jude Fort Wayne	Father Thomas Jones, CSC Christ the King South Bend	

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BY MARK WEBER

St. Monica, Mishawaka, Est. 1915

Among the first wave of Irish immigrants who came to Mishawaka was iron molder Edward Mulligan who, in 1836, built a home at First and Spring streets and for the next 12 years, his parlor table was frequently converted to an altar for the celebration of Mass said by Holy Cross priests.

In 1848 a tiny house at 815 Elm St. became Mishawaka's first Catholic church building and was called Holy Angels. This name gave way to St. Joseph's when a new brick church was built, which was followed by the formation of a second parish, St. Bavo.

In 1908 Bishop Alerding was approached on behalf of Mishawaka Catholics who wanted a church on the north side of the St. Joseph River. With the bishop's approval, \$5,000 was raised but the project stalled until 1915 when Father John Bleckmann, stationed in Michigan City, was

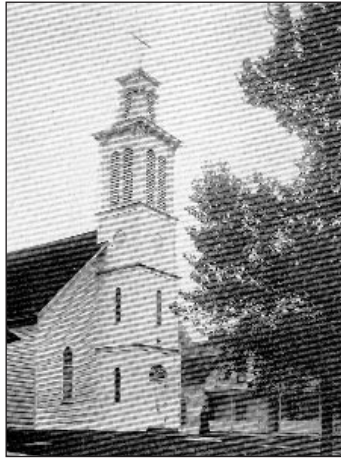
assigned as pastor and purchased an old Baptist church property at 108-16 Mishawaka Ave. for \$9,500.

On Oct. 17, 1915, societies from the south side churches crossed the river and lent solemnity to the dedication of the first St. Monica.

As soon as the congregation was settled in, it became necessary to plan for larger quarters and by 1917, a two-story school, with church in the basement was ready on West Grove Street. School enrollment was 264.

Ten years later, the present St. Monica was dedicated in style on Oct. 2, 1927. A parade including a police honor guard, Knights of Columbus, Holy Name dignitaries and other church societies marched to the front door of the new church on Mishawaka Avenue. Pastor was Father John F. Kohl.

As St. Monica celebrated its 90th anniversary in 2005, parish records listed a significant number of religious vocations — 15 sisters, one of whom, Sister Jean Christianson, returned to St. Monica as principal of the school. There were five priests, one brother and one deacon. Father Frank Kronewitter, who died recently on a pilgrimage to Fatima, attended St. Monica School.



MARK WEBER

Since 1929, St. Monica's has been home to many Italian families; their Marie DiLoreta Society donated this statue of the saint to the parish.

St. Joseph Parish, LaGrange, Est. 1933

Only the ghosts of those present know about the first Mass said in LaGrange County, Indiana. Picture a Jesuit in boots with his back to a fireplace as one family looked on ... or perhaps it was a summer day with an altar of planks under a tree with kneeling livestock present as seen in crib scenes, with Indians replacing the shepherds. There is nothing on record; but what is known is that LaGrange was the last county in Indiana to establish a Catholic parish, and the last to build a pioneer Catholic church ... and when it happened, folks arrived by automobile.

In 1932, Father William J. Ehrman, pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Kendallville was a guest speaker at the LaGrange Methodist Church as part of a lecture series on major Christian denominations. He spoke to an overflow crowd and at the conclusion of the program, asked the 25 or 30 Catholics present, to make themselves known. This group became the seedlings of LaGrange County's first missionary parish.

In August 1933, Father Francis A. Sheridan, chaplain at the Wainwright Summer Band Camp at Oliver Lake agreed to remain in LaGrange to pastor the small parish named for St. Francis Xavier,

which met each Sunday in the second floor lobby of the Bir Hotel.

The following April, Father Sheridan died unexpectedly and at the request of Bishop Noll, Father Clement Orth, pastor of St. Anthony of Padua in Angola and superior of the Franciscan community there, agreed to celebrate Mass in LaGrange on a regular basis and became the first in a long line of Franciscans who would serve the Catholics in the LaGrange area.

With growth, the need for a permanent church building presented itself and with combined funds from the diocese, donors and parishioners totaling \$5,000, plans moved ahead with one barrier; one donor's offer was made on the condition that the parish be named for St. Joseph. Thus, with the parishioners' agreement, the new church had its first Mass on the feast of its patron, March 19, 1937.

Forty years later found the parish at a new location not far from the city in a brand new church and friary celebrating the first Mass on Christmas Eve 1978.

Although the site of the first Mass in this area remains unknown, perhaps the machinery of fate dictated that St. Joseph's Church today is on the very ground of a humble cabin where the cross first came to LaGrange.



MARK WEBER

St. Joseph the carpenter and family man is located in the activity area of St. Joseph Parish, LaGrange.