



Happiness is ...

The making of a family comes in all shapes and sizes

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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Celebrating the saints

Community rallies around the Bishop Dwenger Saints girls soccer and boys cross country teams

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Counting the entire Bishop Dwenger student body and staff, special guests — Bishop John M. D'Arcy, Father Stephen Kempinger (superintendent of schools), John Gaughan (assistant director of diocesan high schools and former Bishop Dwenger principal), a host of parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, little Zoe Wisnieski, the Fort Wayne media — nearly 1,200 fans packed the house to celebrate the Saints. And celebrate they did.

In a Friday, Nov. 3, afternoon pep session, Bishop Dwenger fans rocked the house as the band, flag bearers and cheerleaders energized the crowd with the school fight song, "When the Saints Go Marching In."

First, each member of the 11th-place boys cross country team was announced one by one. The boys were escorted through the smoke (dry ice) to their places of honor. The incredible, Ben Reifenberg was last to be recognized for his ninth-place individual finish at the Terre Haute state meet.

As the 2006 IHSAA (Indiana High School Athletic Association) state champion girls' soccer team was called from the stage by Bishop Dwenger Spirit Club emcees Ben Hecke and Rachael Patrick, a thunderous applause erupted as each of the Saints entered the gym to the tune of "We are the Champions."

The beloved Coach Jason Wisniewski was next to arrive and the noise continued. He commented on how proud he was to be part of the Bishop Dwenger family. He thanked and commended the crowd for their overwhelming support the entire season, but most especially in Indianapolis. He said the Saints were better represented than their opponents, North Central, a school three times Dwenger's size.

Classmate "KK" Earnest was called to the microphone to read a poem she was inspired to write the morning after the Saints won their second straight state title entitled "Two Years in the Making." She spoke of her love for these girls and how she watched



DENNIS FECH

Bishop Dwenger High School soccer players were congratulated by Bishop John M. D'Arcy Nov. 3 at an assembly on Nov. 3. This was the second consecutive year the Saints took the state trophy, a feat preceded only by Carmel High School. Presenting the trophy to the school are soccer team members Megan Killion, Erin Jacobson, Danielle Parr and Lauren Ottenweller with school Principal Fred Tone.

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TURKISH POLICE WALK PAST BULLET CASINGS



CNS PHOTO/REUTERS

A Turkish police officer walks past bullet casings marked by forensic police outside the Italian Consulate in Istanbul Nov. 2. A man fired a weapon in front of the consulate to protest Pope Benedict XVI's Nov. 28-Dec. 1 visit to the predominantly Muslim country.

Journey of mind and heart 'Making Disciples' second edition guides conversion process

FORT WAYNE — The second edition of "Making Disciples: A Comprehensive Catechesis for the RCIA Catechumenate" published through Our Sunday Visitor may be brand new, but for its editor, Sister Jane Carew, director of the Office of Catechesis for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, the ideas and principles in the book represent work and a vision of the subject of catechesis that reaches back to 1987, when Sister Jane started as director of catechesis.

Bishop John M. D'Arcy was relatively new to the diocese at that time, but he saw the need of the Office of Worship and the Office of Catechesis to work collaboratively. The Office of Worship would be responsible for the liturgical rites and the Office of Catechesis would be responsible for a comprehensive catechetical instruction.

By 1993, work had begun to compile an RCIA catechesis that reflected the concerns of the bishops of the United States. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults 75 #1

addresses the desired formation. This is "a suitable catechesis planned to be gradual and complete in its coverage, accommodated to the liturgical year and solidly supported by celebrations of the word." Thus, "Making Disciples" has fulfilled this vision, respecting the need of the conversion of mind and heart as it would lead those in formation to a profound sense of the mystery of salvation.

The challenge that existed was the popularity of a lectionary-based catechesis. Based on each Sunday's reading, the lectionary provided the direction. However, there was no guarantee that a catechumen would be exposed to the full spectrum of what a person should know as they desire entrance into the Catholic Church. It is a matter of justice that people be exposed to all the church teaches, for example in the areas of Catholic morality. Keeping the bishops' vision, "Making Disciples" also provides a learning objective,

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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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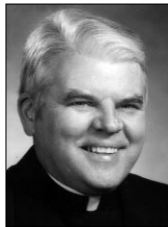
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Before Baltimore conference, bishop installs Goshen pastor



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

A day on the road

Off early on a cloudy Sunday morning up U.S. Route 33 to Saint John, Goshen, for the installation of Father Chris Smith. He has been pastor there since August, but this is the first day of mutual convenience. It was a pleasure and a joy to be in this lovely Indiana town. Among the attractions is Goshen College. The town has a large population of Mennonite, a group of Christians devoted to world peace.

St. John's was packed. Father Chris, at the appropriate time, received a standing ovation. Many people thanked me for assigning this fine young priest and spoke positively about his homilies and the joys that they have found in working with him. It was a pleasure to visit with his parents and relatives. Before leaving it was my privilege, with the help of a translator, to address the Hispanic Catholics at the beginning of their 1 p.m. Mass. Once again, the church was full. The associate pastor is Father Constantino Rocha, who has come to us from Mexico. The Goshen area has exploded with newcomers; newcomers whose native tongue is Spanish, mostly from Mexico. They represent a blessing for us, and I was privileged to have some time with them. I also received warm appreciation of the service of Father John Delaney in this parish.

I was off quickly to find Elkhart Memorial Hospital to visit one of our great priests, Father Phil DeVolder. Father Phil has experienced some severe back problems and has been out of commission for several weeks. I was pleased to connect with him, and hope that he is finally on the track to recovery.

Saint Mary's College

In the evening, I celebrated my annual Mass at Regina Chapel on the grounds of Saint Mary's College. I have been blessed with a fine relationship with Judy Fean and her campus ministry staff. There was Judy to greet me with Sister Betty Smoyer, SND, an excellent musician. After the Mass we had a question-and-answer session. The young women raised many of the questions that are contemporary today; such as, church teaching on homosexuality, the relationship between a Catholic institution of higher learning and the diocese and the importance of the study of theology. There were also questions about the war. They were asking whether or not it was just. The position of the Catholic Church on immigration represented a question as well. Relating to young people on campus has been one of my joys as bishop in this diocese. That was a pretty full day.



KAY COZAD

Father Tony Steinacker, ordained into the holy order of priests on Oct. 29 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, offers a special blessing to Mary Caprio, Bishop John M. D'Arcy's oldest sister, at the reception following the ordination Mass, held at the Grand Wayne Center. Caprio hosted several of the seminarians, including Father Steinacker, who studied at St. John's Seminary in Boston, to meals and an occasional baseball game at Fenway Park.

The Brothers of Holy Cross

The following day I celebrated Mass at the downtown South Bend chapel. It was then a joy to drive to the property on which the Holy Cross brothers have lived for 160 years. They came to teach and evangelize and to serve this diocese and the worldwide church with heroic spirituality during all those years.

On this day I came to bless a new chapel. I was quite taken at what has happened to the land around Holy Cross College. On the one end there is erection of new residences for students as well as classrooms. There are also a large number of homes in what is called Holy Cross Village. It has become a retirement community. There is a chapel there with Father Ken Grabner, CSC, serving as chaplain. The chapel is located in a central place. Proper care for the elderly and finding a good place to live in the afternoon of life have become problems in our society. As they have done so often in the past, the Holy Cross Brothers are addressing this problem. It was easy to see the close bond of community between the brothers and the senior citizens who are there. This one person told me, "We have Mass here every day and it is a delightful place to live. We are near our family, and what could be more important than this?" I will be back at the same residence in a few more days for a meeting with the religious superiors who reside in our diocese.

A visitor from Poland

The Catholic University in Lublin, Poland is famous. Pope John Paul II taught there and in his document on Catholic education he looked back with affection to those days when he was privileged to inspire the young in pursuit of what he called Gaudium de Veritate — the joy of truth or the joy of the search for truth. The present archbishop of Lublin, Josef

Zycinski was at Notre Dame invited by Rabbi Michael Signer, a member of the theology department at Notre Dame. He gave several lectures, and one which is of particular interest is the question of Catholic-Jewish relations in Poland. Although I could not attend the lecture, I visited the campus and spent some time with the archbishop. He is a man of great education, and I presented a short statement read by Nancy Cavadini our liaison with the Jewish community.

Off to Baltimore

By the time you read this, I will be in Baltimore for the annual meeting of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. I am delighted with the change of venue. For the 31 years I have been a bishop, our annual meeting has been in Washington, D.C. Baltimore, however, is the first diocese of this country, and the first bishop was John Carroll, whose relative Charles Carroll of Carrollton was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Among the joys this week will be the rededication of Bishop Carroll's church, the celebrated basilica, which has been restored by Cardinal Keeler. It will be dedicated on Sunday night. Cardinal Stafford, a Baltimore native, will represent Pope Benedict.

We have a number of important things to speak about at our meeting. I will attend a workshop on youth. Also, we are discussing and seeking further guidance on the aftermath of the painful crisis the church went through a few years ago. We will be discussing a statement on homosexuality and also on conditions necessary for the reception of holy Communion. I am sure there will be much about this in the press. I will do my best to keep you informed.

I also hope to get a few hours of rest and some walking around Baltimore. I plan to see you all next week.

Indiana Catholic Conference releases education statement on parental choice

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana Catholic Conference identifies a lack of parental choice in educating Hoosier children and urges parents, grandparents and interested citizens to contact lawmakers and ask them for a policy change that supports parental choice in education, in a new statement called "Educational Dilemma in Indiana: A statement on Parental Choice in Education," which was released October 2006 by the Indiana Catholic Conference.

The statement reads, while "parents have the primary responsibility to care ... for their children ..." and ... "although the parents are the first teachers of their children, they cannot educate and socialize their offspring alone. The state shares this common burden... The state also has the right and duty to insist on basic standards of education, whether private or public institutions, in order to promote the economic and social well being of all."

The statement continues, "The state recognizes the right of parents to choose the most appropriate educational opportunity best suited to the needs of their children and in keeping with parental values, whether in elementary and secondary schooling or in college or graduate level. The state should also protect that right."

Education policy and practice in Indiana mandate parents to be responsible for their children's education in elementary school and high school and also mandates local civic entities provide funding for public schools. A public school's funding is determined by the number of pupils attending a given school often times called a school's enrollment. In essence, the state dollars follow the students. As the bishops' statement points out, ... "Students, not institutions, are the primary element of state funding. Hoosiers students attending church-sponsored schools do not receive state assistance, but this need not be the case. In *Zelman vs. Harris*, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of an educational choice-tuition assistance program in Ohio that included religious schools."

The statement also addresses the issue that Indiana current public policy supports funding for programs serving individuals and communities, which are administered by private, church-sponsored entities including "health care programs, child care outside of a school setting and social services for the young, elderly and the impoverished."

"While Indiana legally upholds parents' 'right' to choose elementary and secondary school settings, in practice, ordinary, hard working parents in Indiana have great difficulty exercising their primary right to choose educational opportunities for their children... of school age."

The statement adds, "... only those parents who can afford to pay (both) taxes to support public schools and also to pay tuition for private schools are 'in fact' free to choose educational opportunities..." ... "This means that, except

for the wealthy, Indiana parents do not have a meaningful right to choose schools for their children."

During the 2005 session of the Indiana General Assembly, an effort was waged by Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC) and the Indiana Non-Public Schools Association (INPEA) for the passage of legislation to provide non-public school scholarships and education tax credits for Hoosier families but the measure failed.

The school choice bill, Senate Bill 281, authored by Sen. Teresa Lubbers (R-Indianapolis), which was defeated by a narrow margin of (45-54) in the House on April 11, 2005, would have provided tax credits to low and middle income Hoosier families who wanted to send their children to a nonpublic school of their choice.

Because of the narrow margin, Glenn Tebbe, ICC executive director said, "With just a few more 'yes' votes, school choice in Indiana could have become a reality during 2005 session. We need

the Catholic community to continue writing letters, making calls or even visiting their state elected representatives to let them know how important the nonpublic school choice issue is to families and children in Indiana."

In 2006, the Indiana General Assembly considered a kindergarten tax credit, HB 1381, which passed the House education committee on a partisan vote (6-5). If passed, the bill would have provided a refundable income tax credit for education expenditures for qualified dependents enrolled in kindergarten at a school of choice, including a nonpublic school that is voluntarily accredited or a public school where the child is required to pay transfer tuition. The tax credit would have been available to families who qualify for free and reduced price lunch program. The bill was defeated on the floor of the Indiana House of Representatives in a (46-52) vote.

Tebbe says that nonpublic school choice will be a priority issue for the Indiana Catholic Conference during the upcoming 2007 session of the Indiana General Assembly and that a grassroots effort is needed for a school choice measure to pass in the future.

Currently 12 states offer educational programs for parental choice including Arizona, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Minnesota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Vermont and Wisconsin.

As spokesman for the five bishops in Indiana, Tebbe said, "In most cases, Indiana's policy and practice is to respond to individuals' and families' needs for fundamental services. The state of Indiana should do the same for Indiana students attending church-sponsored schools," said Tebbe. "Nonpublic school choice is an issue about promoting the common good and giving parents, the first teachers of their children, a choice in where they send their children to school."

The Indiana Catholic Conference Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC) is the statewide coordinating body for the five Roman Catholic dioceses in Indiana. Its basic purpose is to serve the spiritual, moral and material well-being of the people of the state; by serving as the official spokesperson for the bishops and Catholic faithful regarding state and national matters; by representing the church and developing cooperative relationship where common public policy interests exist with religious and civic, social and governmental units; and by serving as liaison between the Catholic Church in Indiana and national Catholic groups in areas of common public policy interests.

The Indiana Catholic Conference board consists of the five Indiana bishops and five lay members appointed by the bishop.

The new statement called "Educational Dilemma in Indiana: A statement on Parental Choice in Education," may be viewed on the Indiana Catholic Conference Web page at www.indianacc.org.

Parental Choice Web resources: www.friedmanfoundation.org

Change is Possible — How can I help improve parental choice in education in Indiana?

- Ask public officials and candidates for public office to support parental choice in education.
- Write or e-mail my state legislators urging their support.
- Tell my legislator this is an important issue for Hoosier families and good for Indiana.

(Information to identify legislators and how to contact them can be found at the Indiana Catholic Conference Web site at www.indianacc.org)

To become part of the Indiana Catholic Conference's Action Network, (The I-CAN Network) e-mail the ICC directly at icc@archindy.org for more information. Indiana Catholic Conference Web page www.indianacc.org E-mail address: icc@archindy.org

The following Web site can help people identify their legislator and provide some easy ways of making contact with them: www.in.gov/apps/sos/leg-islator/search/

How to contact your state legislator

House phone number
(800) 382-9842
Senate phone number
(800) 382-9467

House of Representatives

Indiana House of Representatives
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2786
(317) 232-9600;
(800) 382-9842

Senate

Indiana State Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2785
(317) 232-9400;
(800) 382-9467

Bishop encourages Gift of Warmth

Bishop John M. D'Arcy issued the following letters on Oct. 24, for a special collection the will help pay heating costs for the poor in St. Joseph or Allen counties.

To pastors in St. Joseph County:

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Once again this year, many of our neighbors in St. Joseph County will be without heat for their homes. In the last 10 years, through the generosity of our parishes, we collected over \$147,000 for the Gift of Warmth program. This was distributed through the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County.

How important it is to all of us to rise each morning and come home in the evening to a warm house during the cold winter months.

Through participating in this Gift of Warmth program, you and I can make it possible for our neighbors and their children to have a warm home. Your parish will provide a means for collecting funds in your parish, and I hope you will do whatever you can, recalling the words of our Savior: "Whatever you do to the least of these is done unto me".

With every best wish and prayer, I remain

Sincerely yours in our Lord,
Most Reverend John M. D'Arcy

To pastors in Allen County:

My Dear Brother Priests,

I am writing to you once again to ask your support for the Gift of Warmth program, an effort to assist low-income families struggling to meet rising utility costs. This is a joint effort made every year by Catholic Charities and NIPSCO. Catholic Charities meets with families who cannot make their utility payments. After determining the need and exhausting other possible government support, Catholic Charities will assist with payment. For every dollar contributed by Catholic Charities, NIPSCO will match one dollar.

As you know, the cost of natural gas has greatly increased over the years. For low-income families, this is a great burden and this program will be a significant benefit to them.

Catholic Charities is responsible for providing approximately \$33,000 for this program. To reach that goal, they need your help. Our parishes have participated in this program over the years. For parishes involved in stewardship, this is a most appropriate contribution.

In the winter of 2005, Catholic Charities assisted 114 families, and in the winter of 2006, we have already assisted 130 families. Each year, Catholic Charities goal is to assist as many families as possible, depending on the amount of the bill and financial ability.

Parishes can contribute in different ways. This can be done through a second collection, a basket could be placed at the back of the church or a parish can simply send a check. While this is voluntary, it is my hope that every parish will make a significant contribution. What could be more in keeping with the will of Christ than helping to provide heat for poor families? The diocese will also make a contribution. Please send your parish check directly to Catholic Charities.

For those who qualify for Gift of Warmth, the match from NIPSCO will be used. The agency will be able to determine need and direct the person to the resources. Thank you for your assistance in this important work on behalf of the poor and vulnerable in our community.

Sincerely yours in our Lord,



Most Reverend John M. D'Arcy

Vatican official says death penalty for Saddam would be wrong

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The head of the Vatican's justice and peace office and an editor of a Vatican-approved Jesuit journal said it would be wrong to carry out the death penalty against Saddam Hussein.

The former Iraqi president was sentenced to death by hanging Nov. 5 in a case involving the deaths of 148 Iraqis in 1982.

Cardinal Renato Martino, president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, said, "For me, to punish a crime with another crime, such as killing out of vengeance, means that we are still at the stage of 'an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth.'"

In a Nov. 5 interview with ANSA, the Italian news agency, the cardinal said both Pope John Paul II's 1995 encyclical, "Evangelium Vitae" ("The Gospel of Life"), and the Catechism of the Catholic Church teach that modern societies have the means to protect citizens from the threat of a murderer without resorting to execution.

"God has given us life, and only can God take it away," the cardinal said, adding, "the death sentence is not a natural death."

"Life is a gift that the Lord has given us, and we must protect it from conception until natural death," he said.

"Unfortunately," he said, "Iraq is among the few countries that has not yet made the choice of civility by abolishing the death penalty."

Father Chris Smith installed at St. John the Evangelist

BY DENISE FEDOROW

GOSHEN — Bishop John M. D'Arcy celebrated a special Mass at St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen on Nov. 5 and officially installed Father Chris Smith as pastor. Father Smith is the 33rd pastor to serve St. John the Evangelist, but this is Father Smith's first parish.

Father Smith has been serving St. John the Evangelist since September, and Bishop D'Arcy told the congregation it was not a trial period, this was just the first opportunity in his schedule to conduct the official installation, which he called "time of blessing for Father Chris and the parish."

The Mass was a bi-lingual service with standing room only, and Father Constantino Rocha, associate pastor, was also present. During the homily, Bishop D'Arcy talked about Pope Benedict's first encyclical that spoke of God's love.

"And comes now a priest, a shepherd, who lives on the same street with you and someone so young," Bishop D'Arcy said. "The ordination of a priest is an act of love — not for the priest, but for you."

"Please pray for your new pastor, your gifted young priest sent to you by Christ through the blessing and pray for more good



DENISE FEDOROW

Father Chris Smith with Bishop John D'Arcy and Father Constantino Rocha celebrating Mass during an official installation ceremony. Father Smith renewed his ordination promises during the ceremony.

men, quality men and only such to come forth to serve," Bishop D'Arcy requested of the parishioners.

Father Smith renewed the promises he made on the day of

his ordination as part of the installation ceremony. Bishop D'Arcy asked the staff, teachers, members of the pastoral council and others who served the parish to stand and Father Smith promised to work beside them and seek their guidance as the parish moves forth together.

A standing ovation by the congregation after the installa-

tion ceremony brought tears to the pastor's eyes. The prayers of the faithful included prayers of continued blessings upon Father Chris. Father Smith introduced his parents, Tom and Becky Smith and several uncles, aunts and godparents who came from Huntington and Indianapolis for the special service.

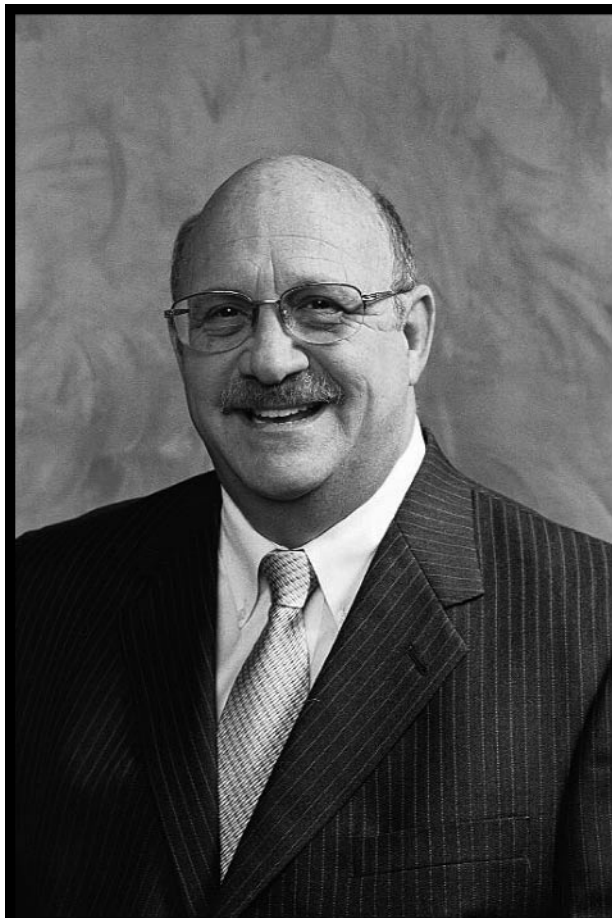
On behalf of the Knights of Columbus, who were present in full regalia, Vince Traxler presented Father Smith with a key to the parish, which he said represented the Trinity.

Father Smith told the congregation, "I'm honored and pleased to be your pastor. Thank you for the warm welcome I've received. I feel part of the family already."

A reception was held in the parish center following Mass. A later reception was also planned following the Spanish Mass.

"I feel part of the family already."

FATHER CHRIS SMITH



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RCIA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a hymn, Scripture and prayer from which each of the teachings flow.

The chapter on How to Use "Making Disciples" gives guidance on how adults learn. In addition, each lesson covers the necessary components of the teaching. An example is the session on Mary. She is found in three different places in the catechism; however this lesson conveniently pulls together these components.

While undeniably more rigorously outlined than lectionary-based catechesis, Sister Jane points out that "Making Disciples" still has a flexibility to the liturgical year, one that allows RCIA candidates to enjoy the same inclusion that they would in a lectionary-based program.

For example, the lesson on the Last Things could be pulled from the regular sequence and used at the beginning of November. Or the lesson on Mary could be saved for Advent or October.

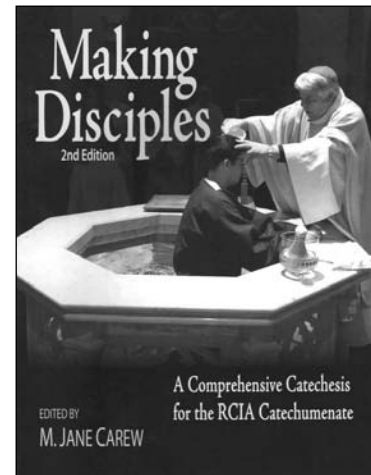
The whole design of "Making Disciples" can be best exemplified in a quote from St. Cyril of Jerusalem, who likened catechesis to the building of a house:

"...Catechesis is like a building. Unless we methodically and carefully assemble the whole structure, we will have problems with both leakage and dry-rot. No stones must be put one on top of the other sequentially, until the whole structure rises from the foundation: you are like stones of

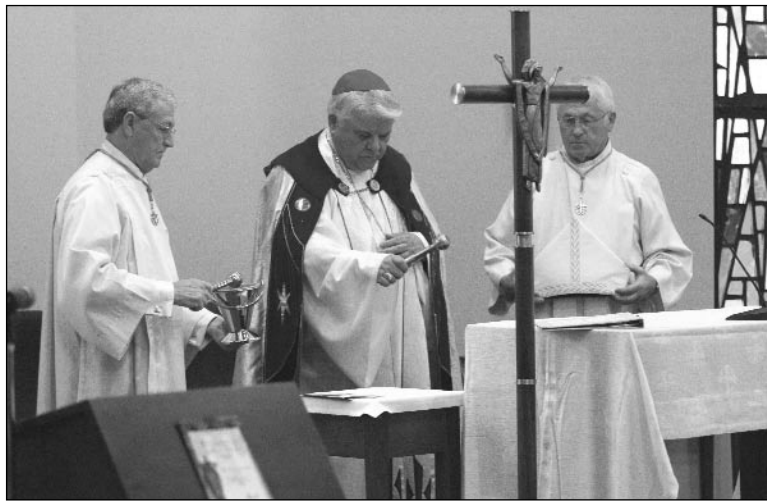
knowledge and you must be instructed in the doctrine of the living God, of the Judgment, of Christ, and of the Resurrection; these things are mentioned now in a kind of random way, but eventually the entire structure will fit together in a harmonious way. Unless you grasp the unity

of the whole design, holding the parts together in your mind in an orderly way, your house will be a ruin, despite the best efforts of the builder."

"Making Disciples" provides a formation in the Catholic faith that is foundational, ensuring completeness in coverage of the beautiful truths that capture the mind and heart of a believer seeking Catholicism.



BLESSING OF HOLY CROSS CHAPEL



PROVIDED BY BROTHER CHARLES MCBRIDE, CSC

Our Lady of Holy Cross Chapel, Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame, was blessed Monday, Nov. 6, by Bishop John M. D'Arcy. The chapel is the first of four buildings currently being constructed at Holy Cross Village to be completed. The chapel will serve the residents of both Schubert Villa and Dujarie House. In the photo is, from left, Brother Donald Fleischhacker, CSC, acolyte, Bishop D'Arcy and Brother Joseph Fox, CSC, master of ceremonies. A reception followed the blessing in Schubert Villa.

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Spence, Msgr. Campion named to Vatican communications council

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has named Anthony J. Spence, director and editor in chief of Catholic News Service, and Msgr. Owen F. Campion, associate publisher of the Catholic publishing firm Our Sunday Visitor, to five-year terms on the Pontifical Council for Social Communications.

Both new appointees have served as president of the Catholic Press Association and editor of the *Tennessee Register*, diocesan newspaper in Nashville, Tenn.

Spence, 53, has headed the Washington-based CNS since February 2004. Before taking that post, he was in charge of more than a dozen publications as executive director of Advancement Communications at Vanderbilt University in Nashville. Prior to that he had been director of alumni publications at the university.

Before going to Vanderbilt in 1998, Spence had been editor in chief and general manager of the *Tennessee Register Inc.*, which publishes the newspaper, since 1989. He also served as the diocese's communications director in 1992-98.

Msgr. Campion, a priest of the Diocese of Nashville, Tenn., was editor of the *Tennessee Register* for 17 years until joining *Our Sunday Visitor* in Huntington, Ind., in 1988 as associate publisher and editor of *The Priest* magazine.

Among his other positions and honors, he is a past recipient of the St. Francis de Sales Award, the highest honor given by the CPA; was the Vatican's ecclesiastical adviser for the International Catholic Union of the Press; and served as a member of the Synod of Bishops for America and on the U.S. bishops' Committee on Communications.

Msgr. Campion was CPA president from 1984 to 1986 and Spence from 1994 to 1996.

The Pontifical Council for Social Communications has its roots in the 1948 establishment of the Pontifical Commission for the Study and Ecclesiastical Evaluation of Films on Religious



CNS PHOTO/COURTESY OUR SUNDAY VISITOR

Msgr. Owen F. Campion, associate publisher of the Catholic publishing firm Our Sunday Visitor in Huntington, has been appointed by Pope Benedict XVI to a five-year term on the Pontifical Council for Social Communications. He is pictured in an undated file photo.

or Moral Subjects, renamed later that year as the Pontifical Commission for Educational and Religious Films.

Headed by U.S. Archbishop

Americans who recently completed terms on the council include Russell Shaw, a contributing editor at *Our Sunday Visitor*, and Thomas N. Lorscheid, former CNS

director and editor in chief. Also completing his term is Msgr. Francis J. Maniscalco, a priest of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, N.Y., who recently left his post as secretary for

communications for the U.S. bishops to return to his diocese.

John P. Foley, the council now deals with a wide variety of topics, including advertising, the Internet, pornography and violence, and communications ethics.

Among his other positions and honors, he is a past recipient of the St. Francis de Sales Award, the highest honor given by the CPA.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development awards grants

BY VINCE LABARBERA

FORT WAYNE — The local Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), the Catholic Church's domestic anti-poverty program, has awarded grants totaling \$12,500 to five local and area institutions who demonstrated an ability to attack the causes of poverty by empowering the poor.

Founded by the Catholic Bishops of the United States in 1970, the campaign is the nation's largest private-funding source of projects that empower the poor, and work to eliminate poverty and injustice in the United States. An estimated 37 million Americans live in poverty — more than the population of California.

Those receiving grants and the amount of the awards are:

In South Bend

- St. Augustine Church — a \$3,500 education grant for its African-American tutor program offering neighborhood children and their families an after-school educational enrichment opportunity.

- Center for Basic Learning, Inc. — a \$3,000 educational grant for its basic education GED program.

In Fort Wayne

- Catholic Charities — a \$2,500 community organizing grant for its refuge health advocate program providing professional immigration services to the immigrant population in Elkhart, La Grange, Kosciusko, Marshall and St. Joseph counties.

- Vincent House, Inc. — a \$2,000 community organizing grant to provide support to its tenant council assisting with proper representation and decision-making power, and providing a forum through which members can voice concerns, complaints and make recommendations for their well being.

In Goshen

- Chain Reaction Community Bicycle Project — a \$1,500 community organizing grant toward funds to strengthen the Chain Reaction Community Bicycle Project, which hires and supports homeless or low-income people.

The annual CCHD collection will be taken-up on the Nov. 18-19 weekend in all parishes of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. A total of 25 percent of the donations stay in the diocese for local/area distribution through selected grant applications, approved by Bishop John M. D'Arcy. Grants are awarded based on need, not religious affiliation.

According to Ann Helmke, director of the CCHD program for the diocese, two types of CCHD funds are available in the diocese: organizing grants — those engaged in empowering the poor and working to bring changes in policies, institutions and laws; and education grants — those which build solidarity between poor and non-poor, and educate Americans about the root causes of poverty.

For 36 years, CCHD has distributed more than \$300 million in grants to self-help projects nationwide. This year, CCHD is supporting 315 local projects in 45 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

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Pope asks Jesuits to continue making Gregorian University a priority

ROME (CNS) — Although it may tax their resources, Pope Benedict XVI asked the Jesuits to continue making the Pontifical Gregorian University a priority in their service of the church. The pope visited the university Nov. 3, addressing students, professors and benefactors, then holding a private meeting with some of the 89 Jesuits who work at Gregorian University, the Pontifical Biblical Institute and the Pontifical Oriental Institute. In his public remarks, the pope spoke about his many visits to the university, beginning with a visit during the Second Vatican Council and including his service as a visiting professor in 1972-73. As he did in late October speeches at the Pontifical Lateran University and to Rome university students gathered at the Vatican, Pope Benedict focused his remarks on the importance of a life of prayer for students studying theology or other subjects in preparation for a life of service to the church.

Wisconsin bishop warns priests not to support same-sex marriage

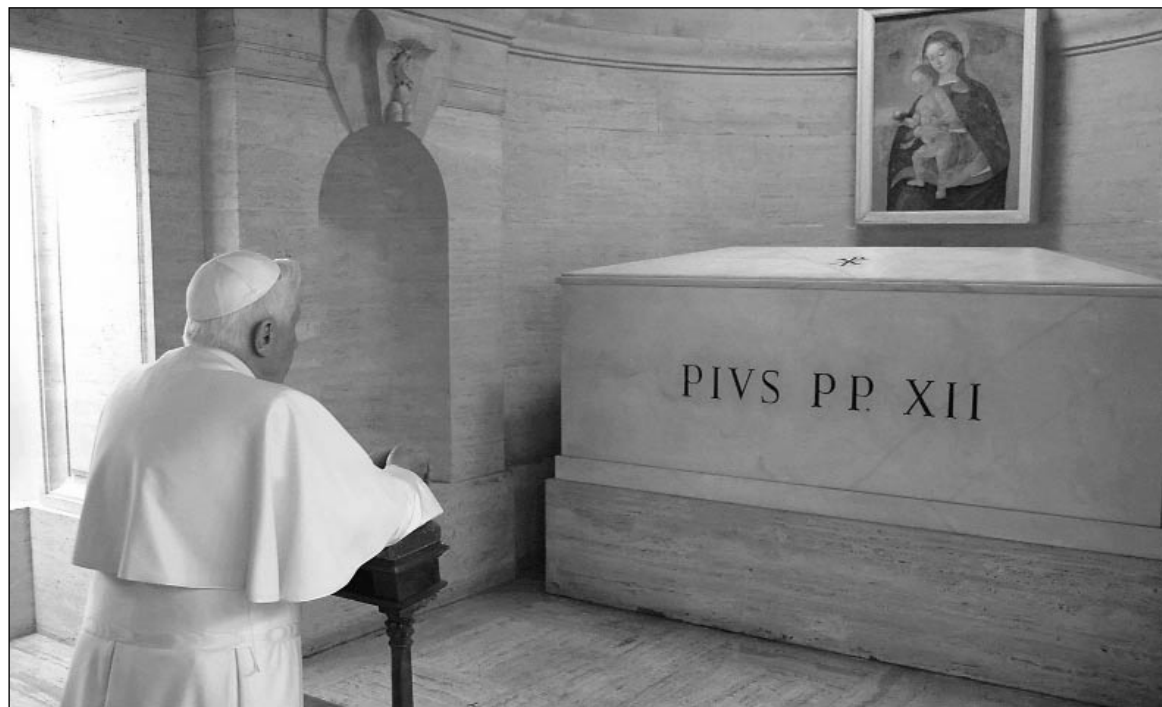
MADISON, Wis. (CNS) — As the Nov. 7 election approached, Bishop Robert C. Morlino of Madison warned his priests that he would consider “any verbal or nonverbal expression of disagreement” with church teaching on same-sex marriage “as an act of disobedience, which could have serious consequences.” The bishop directed that each Mass during the Nov. 4-5 weekend include a 14-minute tape-recorded message from him in place of the homily. The message urged Catholics to support traditional marriage and to oppose the death penalty and embryonic stem-cell research. A constitutional amendment that would ban same-sex marriages and an advisory measure asking whether capital punishment should be reinstated were before Wisconsin voters Nov. 7. Bishop Morlino said his office had received reports “that in isolated cases priests have refused to cooperate with my requests in terms of preaching in defense of marriage and have even expressed disagreement with my clear wishes in this matter.”

Restored basilica a gift to church, nation, cardinal says

BALTIMORE (CNS) — The \$32 million restoration of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a gift not only to the Baltimore Catholic Church and community but to the entire nation, Cardinal William H. Keeler of Baltimore said Oct. 30. The cardinal, seated in a wheelchair as he recovered from a broken ankle, spoke about the importance of the basilica as the first Catholic cathedral in the United

NEWS BRIEFS

POPE PRAYS IN FRONT OF POPE PIUS XII'S TOMB



CNS PHOTO/L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO VIA REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI kneels as he prays in front of Pope Pius XII's tomb on All Souls' Day, Nov. 2, at the Vatican.

States and as a symbol of religious freedom in the fledgling nation at a media preview less than a week before the basilica reopened Nov. 4. He said the reopening would fulfill “a long-held dream of sharing (the basilica) with the nation” as both a beautiful place to worship and as a reminder of a time, until the American Revolution, when Catholics were “persecuted as a devout minority.” When the cornerstone was laid for the new church in 1806, it represented “the rights of Catholics and other faiths to worship openly,” Cardinal Keeler said. At that time, Bishop (later Archbishop) John Carroll of Baltimore was the only Catholic bishop for the entire country.

Pope names Brazilian cardinal as new prefect of clergy congregation

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has named Brazilian Cardinal Claudio Hummes of Sao Paulo, a Franciscan, to be the new prefect of the Congregation for Clergy. The 72-year-old Brazilian-born son of German immigrants, Cardinal Hummes will succeed Colombian Cardinal Dario Castrillon Hoyos, according to an Oct. 31 Vatican announcement. Although Cardinal Castrillon is retiring at the age of 77 from the clergy congregation, he continues to serve as president of the Pontifical Commission “Ecclesia Dei,” which ensures pastoral care to former followers of traditionalist Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre, who was excommunicated in 1988 after ordaining bishops without papal approval. The Congregation for Clergy, in addition to promoting initiatives for the ongoing spiritual, intellectual and pastoral formation of diocesan priests and permanent dea-

cons, also is responsible for the promotion of religious education through Catholic parishes.

Cardinal says late president caused problems for church

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (CNS) — Former South African President P.W. Botha, who died Oct. 31 at the age of 90, “created enormous difficulties for the church” when he led South Africa from 1978 to 1989, said Cardinal Wilfrid F. Napier of Durban. “I have so many memories of his harshness and hard-headedness,” Cardinal Napier said in a Nov. 1 telephone interview from Durban. Pieter Willem Botha, commonly known as P.W. or the “Groot Krokodil” (Big Crocodile) for his uncompromising stance on white rule, wagged his finger in warning at the late Cardinal Owen McCann of Cape Town in 1986, Cardinal Napier said. In a meeting with representatives of the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference, Botha “told Cardinal McCann, who was questioning him, to get out of the room if he didn't like what he was hearing,” Cardinal Napier said. “I think he (Botha) felt that he had the whole Afrikaner nation behind him so he could take on anyone,” he said, noting that Botha was “notoriously difficult to talk to.”

Bishops' president joins other faith leaders in condemning torture

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Declaring that “the soul of our nation” is at stake, the head of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and other religious lead-

ers have called for an end to the use of torture and inhumane treatment of prisoners. Bishop William S. Skylstad of Spokane, Wash., was among leaders joining in a statement coordinated by the National Religious Campaign Against Torture. “Torture violates the basic dignity of the human person that all religions hold dear,” the statement said. “It degrades everyone involved — policymakers, perpetrators and victims. It contradicts our nation's most cherished values.” Signers of the statement included Jewish, Muslim, Orthodox and other Christian leaders. Although Bishop Skylstad was the only Catholic signer of the statement made public Nov. 2, other Catholic organizations have signed on to the National Religious Campaign Against Torture. Participating members, with representatives on the campaign's coordinating committee, include the Holy Name Province of the Franciscan Friars, Pax Christi USA and the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns.

Group wants eBay to enforce ban that would prohibit sale of relics

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A California group is advocating a boycott of eBay unless the online auction house enforces its own rules against selling body parts to prohibit the sale of saints' relics. “They've had opportunities to stop the sales, and they don't even enforce their own regulations,” said Tom Serafin, founder and president of the International Crusade for Holy Relics. According to Serafin, even a “curious search” of the popular online auction site will turn up dozens of relics “often purporting to be the bones of saints” for sale. A call by

Catholic News Service to an eBay representative for a response to Serafin's call for a boycott was not returned. Serafin said he had tried over the years to convince eBay through its former general counsel and customer service representatives that relic auctions should be taken down from the auctioneer's pages but to no avail.

Vatican Latinist starts gratis academy for students eager for Latin

ROME (CNS) — In the heart of ancient Rome, tucked between the Pantheon and the Roman Forum, a new Academy of Latin has been established by the Vatican's chief Latinist. On Nov. 2, U.S. Carmelite Father Reginald Foster announced “festive ac jucunde,” or “joyously and delightfully,” the opening of a new “Academia Romae Latinitatis” for all English speakers interested in learning or brushing up on their Latin. The Milwaukee-born priest, who works in the Latin-language section of the Vatican's Secretariat of State, told Catholic News Service Oct. 31 that he had been itching “to start something new.” When his enormously popular Latin courses were canceled at Rome's Pontifical Gregorian University in mid-October for a lack of registered, paying students, Father Foster took that as a sign to branch out on his own and start up his own school. Interested students were to meet Nov. 6 at the academy's new venue on Via della Gatta in Rome's Piazza Venezia in order to “sign up” for his free classes starting Nov. 7.

French bishops say expanding use of Tridentine Mass threatens unity

METZ, France (CNS) — The possibility of a papal indult expanding permission to use the Tridentine Mass and the recent establishment of a traditionalist religious community in France threatens the unity of the church, said a statement from 10 French bishops. An Oct. 30 statement said the bishops from the archdioceses of Besancon and Strasbourg and the Diocese of Metz expressed “their concerns” over wider use of the Tridentine Mass, the pre-Vatican II rite favored by traditionalist groups. The old rite is celebrated in Latin and follows the Roman Missal of 1962, which was replaced in 1969 with the new Roman Missal. “The bishops fear that the extension of the use of the Roman Missal of 1962 makes the direction of the Second Vatican Council relative,” said an Oct. 30 statement released on the Web site of the Diocese of Metz. Moves to extend its use “would also risk harming unity among priests as well as among the faithful,” it said. The statement, signed by 10 bishops from the eastern French region, came after a provincial meeting of bishops in the city of Lons-le-Saunier Oct. 25.

Notre Dame panel ponders the faith and theory of evolution

NOTRE DAME — Is there a conflict between the Catholic faith and the theory of evolution? This question was the focus of a panel discussion at the University of Notre Dame last week that featured five Notre Dame faculty members and the archbishop of Lublin, Poland.

Archbishop Jozef Zycinski, who is an expert on the philosophy of science and author of the soon-to-be released book "God and Evolution: Fundamental Questions of Christian Evolutionism," agreed with the five Notre Dame professors that no conflict exists between the faith and the theory of evolution. Any conflict perceived by people is more "psychological" than based in fact, the archbishop said.

People who accept the principles of other sciences like mathematics can still be good Christians even though there is no mathematical proof of God's existence, Archbishop Zycinski noted. The same is true of the science of evolution, he said, but he emphasized that the sciences have their limitations and cannot explain spiritual factors in life.

"Scientific interpretation isn't enough in everyday life," he said. "What would you explain to your students if they looked for a scientific definition of love, for instance?"

When a loving father observes his child, the archbishop continued, for him the child is not just a physical object to the father, for there is a place for feelings and emotion that can't be characterized in the language of science.

"We have to go beyond purely scientific interpretation to discover this reality," which could be discussed only in terms of metaphysics or philosophy or theology, Archbishop Zycinski said. Thus, he concluded, there is no conflict between God and the concept of evolving nature.

In the panel discussion, Gary Belovsky, Professor of Biology and Gillen Director of Notre Dame's Environmental Research Center, explained that as a Catholic, his faith is based on beliefs that can't be addressed by science.

"What we believe we can't always prove," he said. But on the other hand, "We can't believe what we know to be false."

Kristin Shrader-Frechette, O'Neill Family Professor of Philosophy and Concurrent Professor of Biological Sciences, told the mostly-student audience that there is no reason to fear scientific advancement because God is truth, and "Truth can't contradict truth." — AC

Consecration renewed

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The papal nuncio to the United States, Archbishop Pietro Sambini, will officiate at the renewal of the consecration of the United States

AROUND THE DIOCESE

MONROEVILLE STUDENTS REMEMBER ALL SOULS



PROVIDED BY ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL, MONROEVILLE

Students of St. Joseph School in Monroeville celebrated All Souls Day at the St. Rose Cemetery on Nov. 2. The students huddled together with other parishioners to share in the Eucharist on the windy day. Afterwards, the students visited the grave sites of their deceased loved ones. Nick Bosler, Ashton Castle, Abby Heimann (lector), Madison Smith (server) and Father Steve Colchin listen to the word of God.

to the Blessed Mother under her title of the Immaculate Conception, the patroness of the United States, on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, at noon (EST) at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

Sister Mary Karl celebrates 100 years

HUNTINGTON — Sister Mary Karl, a member of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters, celebrated her 100th birthday on Nov. 5 at Victory Noll, Huntington.



SISTER MARY KARL, OLVN

Sister Mary was born in Peoria, Ill., in 1906 and entered Victory Noll in 1933. During her many years of missionary service, she worked in California, Indiana and Texas. She worked at Victory Noll with the associates program from

1979 until she retired there in 1994.

The birthday celebration was a festive occasion and was attended by relatives, all the sisters and co-workers at Victory Noll.

Father John Joseph Sigstein, a Chicago priest, had a driving love for poor and oppressed people. Distressed by the needs of the people in the Southwest for religious education, social services and health care, in 1922 he formed a religious congregation to meet those needs in a personal, non-institutional way. Today the Victory Noll Sisters are in 34 mission centers in the U.S. and Bolivia doing a variety of ministries to empower others through: religious education in collaboration with the laity; neighborhood outreach; programs for seniors; advocacy for low-income families; active involvement in peace and justice issues; pastoral coordination in parishes; and pastoral care in a variety of settings. To learn more about the Congregation, visit their Web site at www.olvm.org.

Ditchdigger's daughter grateful for her education

SOUTH BEND — Over 750 people gathered on Nov. 2 at the Century Center in South Bend for Saint Joseph Medical Center's Eighth Annual Faithful Lives Dinner. This yearly event celebrates those who acknowledge and appreciate the blessings in their lives and face the challenges of living with faith, spirit, hope and devotion.

Before the dinner and the speaker's presentation, Kathy Malone Beeler, who chaired the steering committee for this year's event, said she took on this role for three reasons that she called the "three P's." First was her passion for Saint Joseph's and the people who work there. The second was her personal experience of witnessing the healing of many of her family members and lastly, the pride she has in the care Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center has for all the people, regardless of their ability to pay, in the community.

Nancy Hellyer, president of Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, spoke with gratitude that the \$140,000 raised at the event would go towards the \$12.5 million needed to build the new hospital. She also announced that capital campaign had already reached half its goal.

After the dinner, the featured speaker, Yvonne Thornton, M.D., was introduced. The author of the Pulitzer Prize-nominated book, "The Ditchdigger's Daughters," and the first black American woman board-certified physician specializing in high-risk pregnancy, Thornton captivated those present when she spoke of her life growing up with five sisters and parents who valued education and self-discipline. Her parents, poor themselves, knew that education was the only way to rise up out of poverty and they were bound and determined that their daughters would go to college.

Thornton recalled how her father often had three jobs in order to give his children what they needed and wanted. She also spoke of her mother who supported her daughters' desire to play musical instruments and how they eventually became a group known as the Thornton Sisters who performed in many states throughout the country.

Music was one thing, but education was their main goal. Thornton said that her parents always warned them not to "let anyone define who you are." Being black and women was not going to hold them back from achieving greatness. All six children became highly educated people.

As in former years, Saint Joseph invited young adults from local Catholic and public schools, who are interested in healthcare, to attend the dinner and benefit from the wise words of Dr. Thornton. Hopefully some will someday work at the new hospital and help carry out its mission.

With the help of its patron St. Joseph on the Journey, Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center will continue to be "here for life."

— ML

Faithful navigators honored

SOUTH BEND — The Father Nieuwland Assembly, 4th Degree of the Knights of Columbus, honored seven past faithful navigators at a special dinner at St. Pius, Granger.

The honorees were Stephen Elek, Jr., Thomas Lesniak, Martin Moorman, George Resnik, Joseph Szalaly, Clem Trytko and Elmer J. Danch.

William Niezgodski, current navigator of the 10-council assembly that includes members from St. Joseph, Marshall, Elkhart and Kosciusko counties, said, "We honor these distinguished navigators for their outstanding devotion to church, civil and patriotic commitments." — EJD

Today's Catholic is looking for unique, ethnic family traditions surrounding holiday recipes to feature in a special Advent issue. If you or someone you know has a special holiday recipe with a family story or special heritage behind it, please email

kmcozad@msn.com or call (260) 432-7346.

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Father Tom O'Connor 'Light of Christ Award' created

FORT WAYNE — St. Mary Church, Fort Wayne, in cooperation with Bishop John M. D'Arcy and the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, has announced the creation of the "Father Tom O'Connor Light of Christ Award."

To be presented annually on March 17, the feast of St. Patrick, the award will be given to an individual whose work reflects the strong values exemplified by Father Tom in one of the following areas: peace and justice, nonviolent resolution of conflict, racial reconciliation, education, food for the hungry and shelter for the homeless. One of these categories will be designated each year for nominations. The category for 2007 is peace and justice.

The award will carry with it a gift of \$1,000 given in the name of the recipient to his or her designated project, faith community or nonprofit organization. Bishop D'Arcy said the award has been created to encourage "the next generation of Father Toms."

Father Tom, who died on March 17, 2004, at the age of 74, served as pastor of St. Mary Parish for 34 years. Many consider the humble priest to be a model of Catholic faith in action in both justice and charity. He was instrumental in the creation of the St. Mary's Soup Kitchen, which has operated nonstop since opening on Jan. 22, 1975, and serves nearly 1,500 bowls of soup to hungry people every day. He also is credited for beginning the Matthew 25 Health and Dental Clinic, St. Mary's Thanksgiving Day dinner for the hungry, and the annual Christmas box distribution, which assists more than 500 families yearly.

After the death of Virginia Schrantz, who operated Miss Virginia's Mission House, Father Tom continued her assistance to the poor under the St. Mary Parish umbrella. Also, he was co-creator of the national award-winning "East Side, West Side" program for children and families from diverse racial, cultural and economic backgrounds. In addition,

How to apply

- Nominations are to be made by letter from someone who knows the nominee well.
- Nominees must come from a strong faith background and be of good character. Nominations are open to persons of all faiths.
- The nomination must include the following information in the order listed:
 - Nominee's name
 - Contact information
 - Age and school or occupation
 - Faith affiliation
 - Where the cash award is to be directed, should the nominee receive the award
 - Name and contact information of the person submitting the nomination
 - Names and contact information of three references
 - A brief narrative no more than two pages in length explaining why the nominee should be considered for this award
- Letters of nomination for 2007 should be sent to Father Tom O'Connor Award Committee, St. Mary Catholic Church, P.O. Box 11383, Fort Wayne, IN 46857-1383, to be received no later than Jan. 7, 2007.
- E-mail submissions (Word document attachment) also will be accepted to jan.stmarys@verizon.net and must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. Jan. 7, 2007.

Nomination guidelines

Each year the "Father Tom O'Connor Light of Christ Award" committee will seek nominations of persons of faith, high-school age or older, whose activities serve as an example and encouragement to youth in the areas of peace and justice, nonviolent resolution of conflict, racial reconciliation, education, food for the hungry or shelter for the homeless. One category will be designated by the committee each year in which to receive nominations, and only one nominee in that designated category will be selected to receive the award. The committee may, should it desire, defer selecting a winner in any given year. Application information is available online at www.diocesefwsb.org and from the St. Mary Church office, (260) 424-8231.

For the 2007 award, the committee is seeking nominations in the area of peace and justice.

Father Tom was a member of the original steering committee for establishment in Fort Wayne of Vincent House, offering transitional shelter and affordable housing for homeless families. He also worked to secure Catholic school scholarships for central city youngsters through the Bells of St. Mary's project.

Father Tom was involved actively in ecumenical and interfaith activities, and was a strong advocate for peace, both locally as well as in the wider community. During his lifetime, he was honored with many awards and accolades, including the prestigious national Catholic Extension Society's Lumen Christi Award, described by the society's president as the "church's equivalent of the Nobel Prize."

Because Father Tom always said his work was rooted in his Catholic faith, in the Scriptures and in his priestly vocation, "Light of Christ" Award nominees also must be firmly rooted in their own faith tradition.

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Christmas events at University of Saint Francis bring tradition

FORT WAYNE — Members of the community are invited to participate in a variety of events during the Christmas season at the University of Saint Francis:

• **Breakfast with St. Nicholas** — Learn about the life and legacy of St. Nicholas with family and friends at breakfast in Hutzell Athletic Center. Also included is a tour of eight areas of the Bass Mansion decorated for Christmas. Admission is \$15 for a family of up to four people; \$20 for a family of five or more. Call (260) 434-3275 for reservations. The event will be held Saturday, Dec. 2, from 8:30 to 11 a.m.

• **Living Nativity** — In 1223, Francis of Assisi led a group of worshippers in the Italian village of Greccio in their celebration of our Lord's birth by reenacting the first Christmas. Thus began the tradition of a Christmas crèche. The character of St. Francis will narrate the Christmas story and the gathered crowd will sing "Silent Night." The Living Nativity will be staged next to the Pope John Paul II Center on the shore of Mirror Lake. Parking is available off Leesburg Road. No charge for admission. A petting zoo with the animals for the Living Nativity will be available for children from 5 to 6 p.m. at the Living Nativity site. The event will be held Sunday, Dec. 3, at 6:30 p.m.

• **Lighting of the Lake** — Vigil

candles will encircle the segment of Mirror Lake closest to Spring Street for a shining symbol of Christmas for the Fort Wayne community. A candle may be dedicated at a cost of \$10 per candle to a loved one, in memory of someone special, in recognition of a special occasion, or just to wish a student good luck with final exams. Local choirs and the University Singers will perform. Call (260) 434-3275 to order candles. No charge for admission. The event will be held Sunday, Dec. 3, at 6:15 p.m.

• **Choral Music Concert** — A concert featuring the University Singers will highlight traditional carols and classical arrangements by a variety of composers and arrangers. The concert is in Gunderson Auditorium in the Achatz Hall of Science off Leesburg Road. No charge for admission. The event will be held Sunday, Dec. 3, at 7 p.m.

• **Fair Trade Alternative Shopping Bazaar** — Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) present high-quality, fairly traded handicrafts from disadvantaged producers all over the world at the Fair Trade Alternative Shopping Bazaar in the Commons at the Pope John Paul II Center. The bazaar will be held Saturday, Dec. 3, from 3 to 6 p.m.

• **Christmas in the Castle** — Eight areas of the historic Bass Mansion

have been decorated for Christmas by local florists and designers. View the exterior of the building and visit the foyer, Bass's study, the kitchen, the conservatory, the dining room, the library and the parlor. Local choirs and the University Singers will perform. The Maumee Valley Railroad Club, Inc. will provide a room-sized model train display. The mansion is located near Mirror Lake on the Spring Street side of campus. Admission is \$5 per person, \$10 maximum per family.

Hours are Friday, Dec. 1, from 4 to 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 2, from 4 to 7 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 3, from 1 to 7 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 8, from 4 to 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 9, from 4 to 7 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 10, from 1 to 4 p.m.

• **Contemporary American Craft Exhibit** — The School of Creative Arts presents the sixth annual exhibit and sale of crafts in six media: fiber, ceramics, wood, metal, glass and stone by more than 70 professional artists from across the United States. The exhibit is located in the Weatherhead Gallery in the Rolland Center off Leesburg Road. No charge for admission. The event will be held Saturday, Dec. 2, from 6 to 9 p.m. for an opening reception; Sunday, Dec. 3, from 1 to 7 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 8, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 9, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday,

Dec. 10, from 1 to 5 p.m. The exhibit continues until Jan. 21 except for Dec. 22 through Jan. 1, when the university is closed. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. Call (260) 434-7591 for more information.

• **Star of Bethlehem 2006 at the Schouweiler Planetarium** — Under the Mid-Eastern sky of 3 B.C., star gazers can follow the star of the Wise Men. During the live portion of the show, planetarium staff will guide participants to the wonders of this winter's Fort Wayne night sky. The Schouweiler Planetarium

is located in Achatz Hall of Science on the Leesburg Road side of the USF campus. Admission is adults \$4, senior citizens and children under 18 \$3, \$14 maximum per family. Call (260) 434-3255 for more information. The show is slated Saturday, Dec. 2, at 3 and 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 3, at 3 and 7:45 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 9, at 3 and 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 10, at 5 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 16, at 3 and 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 17, at 5 p.m.

SISTERS' HABITS DISPLAYED AT THE CATHEDRAL MUSEUM



TIM JOHNSON

All of the religious sisters orders who ministered in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend are displayed in doll-form in full habit in the Cathedral Museum. In a letter honoring St. Mother Theodore Guérin in the Oct. 15 issue of Today's Catholic, Bishop John M. D'Arcy said, "... I think of all the religious, especially the women religious, the sisters who have labored in this diocese. There is no question that they constitute one of the very greatest human instruments that Divine Providence has used to build up this local church, as we prepare to embrace the 150th anniversary of our diocese." The Cathedral Museum is located on the garden level of the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, 915 S. Clinton St., Fort Wayne. The hours are, Tuesdays through Fridays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free parking is available in the parking garage for museum visitors.

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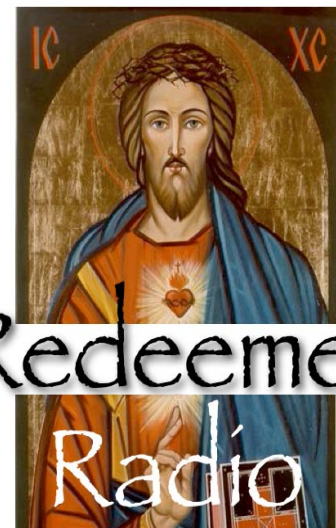
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Mother knows best

BY MARK WEBER

LaGRANGE — As you watch your child ready to kick the ball into the net, that soccer goal each of you intently focus on, may actually be a metaphor for a barrier preventing a deeper enrichment from entering into your lives.

In other words, "children are over-programmed," says Rachel Stroop, a guidance counselor for Lima-Brighton Elementary School in Howe. If kids could articulate their number one need and desire, it would be, according to Rachel Stroop, more one-on-one time with a responsible adult. She sees one example of this when she enters a classroom to "borrow" a child; a term she uses when she picks up one student for testing our counseling. "I say borrow, because I always bring them back." As a result, she hears the cry, "Borrow me, borrow me!" regularly.

Stroop suggests that to get the most out of one-on-one time is to

do something simple; shoot baskets, hunt for bugs, build a snowman ... the idea is to get outdoors and away from TV and computer games.

Rachel Stroop, who was once a kid herself, grew up in LaGrange, attended the public schools there and attended Saint Mary's College at Notre Dame, where she played varsity basketball and was graduated with a major in elementary education. She taught sixth grade in the Lima-Brighton system in Howe for four years and then got a master's degree in elementary education with an endorsement in counseling, which she now does full-time.

As a counselor, she works with individuals, small groups and in the classroom. Typical subjects covered are study skills, conflict resolution, how to think before acting or speaking and the importance of knowing that decisions have consequences.

That's her day job, which she emphasizes must be just that since

the confidential nature of her work prevents her from discussing it away from school.

At home, where she does shoot baskets and hunt for bugs with daughters Rebecca, 7, and Elizabeth, 4, she schedules her parish activities at St. Joseph Parish in LaGrange where she is an active member.

Rachel's husband Andrew endorses the idea of family togetherness to the point that he left a traveling job, which kept him away from home too much, and became self-employed as an irrigation specialist.

As a lifetime member of St. Joseph Parish, Rachel became further involved as a preschool CCD teacher and when, with friends, started a summer Bible school, it for them sparked a dream to form a parish preschool, which is now in place and called St. Joseph Preschool.

The preschool, open to the public, serves the community as well as the parish, and as such, does not



MARK WEBER

Rachel Stroop, a lifelong member of St. Joseph parish, LaGrange is a cantor, a CCD teacher and one of the organizers of St. Joseph's new preschool.

have any religious classes other than expressing a Christian environment. St. Joseph pastor, Friar Mark Weaver, comes in once a

month to tell a Bible story.

Classes are from 8 to 11 a.m., with 4 and 5 year olds in school on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. Three year olds attend on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There is one teacher and one assistant, who is bilingual. For the older children, the fee is \$55 per month and \$45 for the three year olds. Class size limited to 15 children per class.

Now that the preschool dream of Rachel Stroop and her friends has taken shape, their next goal is to have a full time enrollment of 60 children in the next two years.

At a time when the attention of the diocese has been focused on the achievements of Hoosier St. Mother Theodore Guerin and her five companions, none of whom could speak English, and who began teaching with a borrowed cabin and log benches, their goal should be within easy reach. The hidden ingredient, shared by both faculties, is, of course, the love of children.

Medically challenged orphans find loving home with Bittners

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Walk into the Bittner home and you will be greeted with squeals of laughter and constant motion, this from Brian and Michelle's two young children, Luke and Mari. You may notice a difference between the light features of the parents and the smooth, dark skin of the children. They may not look like family by blood, but it becomes clear they are family by heart.

Luke and Mari are only two of many children, orphaned in the Philippines, who experience serious, life threatening medical conditions. The country, known for its beautiful terrain and smiling native inhabitants, struggles with underdeveloped medical technology and is unable to provide the services needed to treat these children. One local group, For the Children International Medical Mission Foundation, Inc., is working to give these children a fighting chance.

The foundation, developed and directed by Kathryn Davis, works to match medically needy children with host families in the U.S., while they receive needed medical care. The children are brought to live in a host home where they receive food, clothing and lots of love and attention. Expenses are covered by the privately funded foundation and Davis says, though there is no obligation to adopt, each of the 87 children placed with



KAY COZAD

Brian and Michelle Bittner lovingly hold their adopted children, Luke and Mari. Both children were medically challenged orphans living in the Philippines when For the Children International Medical Mission Foundation, Inc. matched them with the Bittner family, who hosted them during medical treatment provided in the U.S.

a host family since 1997 now has a new home.

The Bittners, married seven years, were introduced to the foundation's work following the death of their 13-month-old son, Reese, who died of a medically challenging genetic disorder in 2001. After meeting with representatives of the foundation, the Fort Wayne natives signed up to host a child.

Following a rigorous interview process, the Bittners soon found themselves on the approved host list and waited for a match. Before long they received background

information on a three-year-old boy who suffered from frontal nasal encephaloseal, a condition involving the brain. "The information on the little guy was sent. Luke's age was the same as Reese's. We accepted him immediately," says Michelle. Three months later, with the help of Catholic Charities, in April of 2003, the boy arrived.

Though the couple was aware they were only required to care for the boy as he received medical treatment and adamantly repeats that there was never an obligation

to adopt, they fell in love with Luke right away. "We wanted him the day we got him," says Michelle.

Of the language barrier, dad, Brian says, "We would pantomime at first." He adds that the little boy learned English quickly through immersion. The Bittners bonded over the months and the child, whose given name was Brian, soon called him Luke so as not to confuse him with his host father's name, began to feel safe.

Luke's medical treatment consisted of a grueling neurosurgery that lasted nearly 10 hours. One of his ribs was used to create the bridge for his nose. The Bittners stayed by Luke's side throughout the five-day hospital stay and were amazed at the child's stamina.

When asked about his surgery, Luke shrugs his shoulders. He knows the "bump on his nose" was fixed and that brings a smile to his handsome face.

But it's much more than just his appearance that is so winning. "He is kind and compassionate," says his mom. "He is always the first to help a child who is hurt."

This well mannered, intelligent and happy lad says he enjoys first grade with all his friends and hopes to be a veterinarian or Marine when he grows up. He likes to watch cartoons when he can, but would rather be playing soccer on the "orange team." The sparkle in his eyes speaks volumes as he cuddles with mom and dad, and says "I love you!"

Luke's adoption was nearing completion in July of 2005 following the two-and-a-half years of home studies, background checks and interviews by Catholic Charities. The last step in the adoption process was a return trip to the Philippines, where as divine Providence would have it, the family of three, met a tiny child named Mari, who was deaf. Needless to say, she is thriving following her arrival to the U.S., after receiving medical treatment and loving care from the Bittners.

Mari, who will be two in January, can hear now and her adoption is pending.

The Bittners are strong advocates of adoption, both domestic and international.

But Brian cautions those who are interested in the medically-challenged orphans, saying, "Some go for adoption and don't want a broken child. We recommend this opportunity to the right people. There are risks involved, and no guarantees."

He adds quickly, as a smile warms his face, "But with the medical mission foundation you get the opportunity to save a child's life, not just adopt them. These kids have made our lives so wonderful!"

For more information on hosting a medically challenged child e-mail Kathryn Davis at forthechildren@lightningnet.net.

THE Young Voice

ST. ALOYSIUS SCHOOL is located in Yoder. The school has 92 students in grades kindergarten through eighth. Charles Grimm is the principal. Additional information is available at www.staloyusiuscatholicchurch.org, staloyusius@starband.net or by calling the school at (260) 622-7151.

Celebrating 130 years of Catholic education

YODER — When students of St. Aloysius School walked into their school Oct. 9, they entered their school that has been a part of southern Allen County Catholicism for 130 years. On Oct. 9, 1876, Father Ferdinand Koerdt opened the school and, according to the “Diocese of Fort Wayne” history book, the pastor himself taught for some time at the school he founded. By the turn of the former century, three Sisters of St. Agnes and later the Sisters of St. Joseph taught at the school. Today, a committed force of laity build Catholic identity and help the students excel spiritually, academically and socially.

St. Aloysius School is in a setting where rural meets urban sprawl. To the north is Interstate 469, Fort Wayne

International Airport and warehouses. To the south is the farming community that brought many families to the area back in 1859 when the parish was founded.

The two-room school built in 1876 was torn down and replaced by a new structure with four classrooms in 1956. Five classrooms, a library, offices and a parish activity center were added at the turn of this century.

Just as Father Koerdt taught classes at St. Aloysius, Father Dominique Carboneau, pastor, teaches religion classes and art classes to all grades.

St. Aloysius students excel in academics and its graduates enjoy success at Bishop Luers, Wayne, Norwell, Homestead and Heritage high schools.

Also, the school offers many opportunities in athletics, Scouting, school choir and student council. Last year, the Yoder students supported St. Aloysius School in Baton Rouge, La, which offered refuge to people displaced by Hurricane Katrina. The students raised over \$200 on Sept. 11 and donated it to the Southwest Allen County Fire District as a token of thanks for keeping us safe in all that they do. This November, the students are collecting items to donate to the St. Vincent Sack Lunch Ministry, which operates out of the former Sacred Heart School building in Fort Wayne.

The smallness of St. Aloysius School, about 90 students, has its perks. All the students know each other. They care about

each other. All the parents know one another.

The Catholic identity of the school has been passed through the generations for 130 years. It’s not uncommon to find first generation students intermixed with students whose parents, grandparents, even great-great grandparents attended St. Aloysius School.

From horse and buggy transportation to computers and satellite connections, St. Aloysius School’s first and foremost mission is to teach and live the faith through the sacraments and to build a community where love of family creates a strong tie to the community.

The school and faculty celebrated Oct. 9 with cupcakes and milk in the afternoon, but every day is a celebration of the faith, its history and the future at St. Aloysius School.

“C-Ball” and “Faithopoly”:

The rules to the games that promote the faith

C-Ball (Catholic Ball)

1. Batter answers question, pitcher asks the question.
2. If you get the question wrong, you get an out.
3. If you get the question right you get to hit the ball.
4. If it doesn’t land in a slot it is an out.
5. Go to the base that the ball lands in.
6. There are three outs per person/per inning and there are five innings.

Game created by Matt Byrd and James Wyss, grade 8

Rules for Faithopoly

1. Start out with \$500.
2. You can only have up to two houses for each property you own.
3. Start out on GO!, roll die and move spaces shown.
4. There are only four players at a time.
5. When you pass GO! collect \$100.

6. If you land on “Charity Donation” give \$50 to the middle of the board.
 7. If you land on “Go To Church,” go directly to church and do not collect \$100. You may leave church by paying \$50 or rolling an even number on your next turn.
 8. If you land on “Church Offering,” or “Catequiz’ em” draw a card, follow the directions and then put it on the bottom of the pile, and if you have to give money, put it in the center of the board.
 9. If you draw a “Catequiz’em” card, answer the question and have the other players check the answer sheet to see if you are correct. If your answer is correct, collect the amount of money shown.
 10. The game is over when everyone runs out of money.
- Created by Katie Burkhart and Kourtney Freiburger, grade 8

Questions are created from the current week’s edition of the *Today’s Catholic*. The eighth graders do this as a part of their religion class for both games.

Respect life essay winners

BY BROOKLYNN THOMPSON, GRADE 2

Everyone should be treated as a gift from God. We need to be kind and caring because if we don’t we are being mean to Jesus. We don’t want to hurt Jesus.

So, let’s not harm him at all. Let’s make people good friends. That makes us happy too.

I love being a gift from God. Let’s follow the Ten Commandments.

BY ALAYNA KELTY, GRADE 7

God made all children in his image, and we should remember that we’re not all the same and we don’t have the same needs and responsibilities. When we are mean to other people we are actually hurting God. We should all think before we say or do something.

I try to reason with myself before I act. I help out and once in a while I mess something up. My parents or brother will get mad and I want to talk back, but I know that it’s disrespectful. We are all children of God and we should all be treated like it.

Every time you think about how much God loves us, don’t you wonder what he feels like when we ridicule each other and spread rumors. If you see someone picking on someone else you should stop it. So, every time you whisper about someone remember what God wants you to do. He wants you to treat others how you would like to be treated.

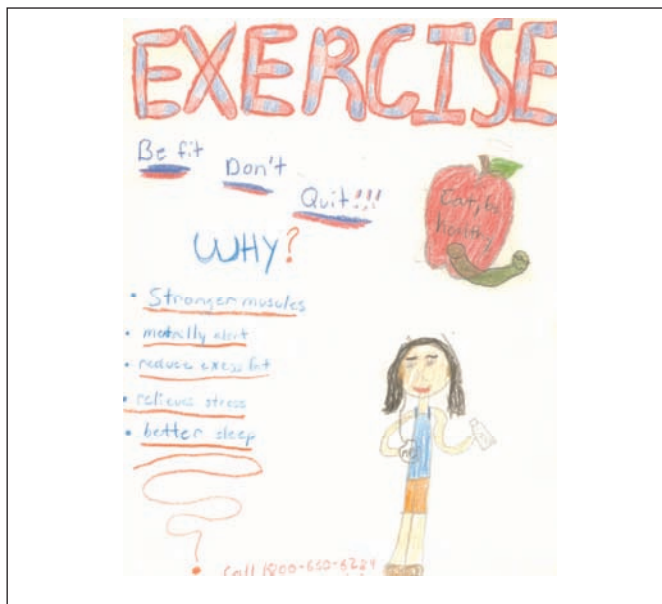
God created man equal and that’s how we should treat each other. Just because we don’t wear the same clothes, have the same skin color, or have the same religion doesn’t mean anyone is a bad person. Every child deserves to be treated as a gift from God.

Back to School Night



PROVIDED BY ST. ALOYSIUS SCHOOL

Auston Mills, left, and Bailey Shimer, both fourth graders at St. Aloysius Catholic School, share their new funny faces at the Back to School Night family picnic in September.



POSTER BY MARIA ZAREMBA, GRADE 6

As a part of physical education and health class, students learned about good health and exercise. Students made posters and placed them throughout the school so that others could know the importance of good diet and exercise.



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Catholic Charities offers pregnancy, adoption services

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend has been serving northeast Indiana for over 80 years. Among the many services available is the pregnancy and adoption program, where assistance is offered not only to families with untimely pregnancies but perspective adoptive families as well.

Pregnancy and adoption specialist, Linda McGahey, who heads the program, reports that in pregnancy planning, parenting and adoption information is provided and the decision is always voluntary. "We provide the information and explore the process with them. If they choose to make an adoption plan it is a voluntary decision. It is a life long commitment," she says. Once the adoption plan is chosen, the process of selecting the right family begins.

Catholic Charities adoption program offers infant, international, self-referred and special

needs adoptions and foster care for children in need. The three types of adoption offered to a birth mother include: closed, semi-open and open adoptions. During a closed adoption, the birth mother does not participate in the matching process. Though Catholic Charities does not practice closed adoptions, it does provide services to those who have closed adoptions.

The semi-open adoption offers the birth mother the opportunity to choose the adoptive parents without personal disclosure. She then has the option to stay in contact with the child's adoptive family through the agency.

The most frequently chosen type, the open adoption, allows the birth mother to select and meet perspective parents with personal disclosure. Catholic Charities reports that approximately 95 percent of birth mothers chose the couple themselves. This type of adoption offers the option of ongoing personal contact. The two families work together to make the adoption successful for the benefit of all.

Catholic Charities adoption guidelines

- Attend adoption information meeting
- Complete application and pay fee
- Complete adoption education series
- Complete family assessment
- Receive approval of the adoption review committee
- Placed in profile book and waiting pool
- Selection by birth family
- Attend match meetings
- Child placed
- Petition filed with court
- Six months supervision
- Agency files report and consent for adoption
- Adoption finalized
- Continual contact with birth family follows

Becoming prospective adoptive parents involves the in-depth process of participating in information and education classes, interviews, profiles, background checks and more. Initially, the couple attends an adoption information meeting followed by completion of the application and process fee payment of \$2,000. The additional placement fee of \$8,000 is due within six weeks of placement.

The couple is required to attend the adoption education series of classes offered through Catholic Charities as well as par-

ticipate in a home study and rigorous interview process.

Following approval of the review committee the prospective adoptive parents' information and photos are then added to the Catholic Charities Parent Profile Book. Most couples have a child placement within one to three years following home study approval.

Linda McGahey, who has worked with pregnancy and adoption for 15 years, employs her background in social work to assist the clients who seek services at Catholic Charities. "It's interesting to help people get the

information they need to make good decisions," says McGahey. She adds that adoption is a wonderful thing and enjoys being a part of the process. Seven children have been successfully adopted through the program since January.

In addition to traditional adoptions, Catholic Charities has partnered with For the Children International Medical Mission Foundation, Inc. to provide international adoptions of children with medical needs. The foundation matches approved couples with orphaned children from the Philippines who are in need of medical care. The prospective couple hosts the child in their home while medical treatment is provided with no obligation but to provide transportation and loving care. During the time the child is treated, the family has the opportunity to adopt, enlisting the services of the Catholic Charities program. Catholic Charities and Medical Missions reports 100 percent adoption rate with these special children.

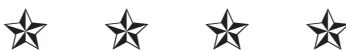
Catholic Charities is licensed by the state of Indiana and accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children, Inc.

For more information on adoption call (260) 432-5625 or e-mail lmcahey@ccfwsb.org.



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Foundation brings hope to medically fragile orphans

BY KAY COZAD

AUBURN — Adoption programs seek to match children in need, both locally and internationally, with adoptive parents. Many infant, international, self-referred and special needs adoptions are finalized right here in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Kathryn Davis has founded For the Children International Medical Mission Foundation, Inc., which serves to place orphaned children from the Philippines with host families in the U.S.

Kathryn and husband Dr. Gary Davis, an emergency room physician at DeKalb Memorial Hospital, came to Fort Wayne 15 years ago for Gary's medical residency. She left her nursing work at Riley Children's Hospital to follow and together they planned

their future, agreeing that they would raise natural and adopted children in their home. After finding they were unable to have their own biological children, they worked with an agency to adopt a child from China. That's when Providence stepped in.

During the 18-month wait for their new daughter, the couple received a request from the agency. Would they be interested in hosting a 14-month-old child from the Philippines while he underwent medical treatment? Their response was a resounding "yes!"

The boy, who suffered from frontal nasal encephalceal, underwent surgery and returned to the couple's home where he was provided with loving medical care from the two. As they bonded, the Davises began adoption proceedings. Two months later their daughter arrived from China and

the family of two soon became four. Less than two years later, their second medically challenged child, a three-year-old boy from the Philippines arrived. He recovered from surgery for subglottic stenosis and was legally adopted. The children, Kathryn reports, are very close.

Medical Missions is funded by private donations that help defray the cost of the child's travel expenses and acquisition of a visa and other necessary documents, which can range from \$900-\$1,200, depending on the child's age. Kathryn reserves children's clothing and cribs for host families to assist in minimizing cost. However, once adoption proceeding begin, the adopting couple accepts the financial responsibility for the child.

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend works in tandem with Associated Catholic Charities of Baltimore to process these international adoptions.

Of the mission Kathryn says it's a true calling for her. "For years I asked myself, what's my purpose here? Nurse? Mother? Now I know it's the mission, the way it came about and how it keeps working," she says, adding, "It has made such a difference in my life. We're able to offer 87 children a chance at normal healthy lives with families who couldn't have their own children."

For more information on hosting a child with medical needs e-mail: forthechildren@lightningnet.net.



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Anthony J. Garascia, M.S.

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EDITORIAL

Safe Havens cry out for attention

A news article in last week's *Chicago Tribune* was horrific: A 14-year-old high school freshman had hidden her pregnancy from her family, gave birth at home, and wrapped a blanket around the baby's face to stop her from crying. A relative found the dead baby in a plastic bag in the trash later that day.

There are many tragedies in this story: the tragedy of the death of a helpless, innocent infant; the tragedy of a young teenager facing an unwanted pregnancy all by herself; and the tragedy of the mother now being charged with first-degree murder.

The greatest tragedy, however, is that this sad scenario did not need to happen. Illinois and Indiana, like most other states, have "Safe Haven" laws that allow a mother to hand over an infant she does not want without fear of prosecution.

In Indiana, the law allows a mother to give a baby up to 45 days of age to personnel at a hospital, fire station, police station or health care provider's office. The woman will not be prosecuted for abandonment or neglect if the baby is not harmed. She does not even have to give her name, and can just walk away.

A baby left at a Safe Haven location receives medical attention and is placed in a foster home by an appropriate social service agency. If the parent does not reclaim the child, the baby will then be placed for adoption with one of the many families on adoption waiting lists.

Some critics of the Safe Haven laws charge that they encourage abandonment and irresponsibility. We don't agree. We support the Safe Haven laws as an important way to safeguard newborns, and we believe the laws give desperate mothers a responsible option for providing a safe environment for babies they feel they cannot care for.

However, a huge problem is inhibiting the Safe Haven laws. There is little to no public funding available to make people aware of the laws. Sometimes public safety officers are not even well informed, as evidenced by a recent Indiana case in which police attempted to locate a mother who had handed over her baby in full compliance with the Safe Haven law.

We would like to see a state-funded educational effort to inform all citizens that this Safe Haven option exists. This education must include all the public safety personnel and medical workers who may be called upon to accept a baby from a mother.

An educational thrust in the schools also is crucial to reach young mothers and friends to whom they might turn for advice. A school education program could be handled through health classes, school counseling centers and even posters on bulletin boards. Public service spots on television and billboards also could help spread the word.

We applaud state lawmakers for passing the Safe Haven laws, but it simply is not enough to enact a law without providing the means to make a vulnerable population aware of their options. As more people learn about the Safe Haven laws, more infants will find loving homes, and more young mothers will know that they have an acceptable way of relinquishing a child they are unable or unwilling to care for. And hopefully tragedies like the one in Chicago won't be repeated.

Church condemns the killing of human embryos

Now that the elections are over and the political wrangling has quieted down, it's tempting to forget about the hotly contested issues that were highlighted in many of the campaigns.

However, as responsible Christians, we need to be aware that some of the issues that sparked political debates are still very much in play, and we need to keep ourselves informed. For example, the debate over stem cell research rages on, and misinformation on the topic circulates daily.

Some of the talking heads on television have claimed that the Catholic Church is opposed to stem cell research. This is not true, for the church supports stem cell research when the origin of the cells is moral and does not harm the donor, as with bone marrow and umbilical cord cells. The stem cell research the church condemns involves the killing of human embryos.

Ironically, the only successful treatments using stem cells have been derived from cells taken from sources like bone marrow and umbilical cords, while not one successful treatment has been developed from embryonic cells. But even if the opposite were true, we must remain steadfast in condemning immoral research, whether it's an election year or not.

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

Reader disappointed by editor's note

The *Today's Catholic* article from the Oct. 22 issue that Bonnie Elberson wrote about the ninth annual Allen County Right to Life banquet co-hosted by Bishop D'Arcy was informative. She captured the flavor of the evening. However, I was disappointed with the disclaimer that followed the article.

Those of us who have worked tirelessly in the right-to-life movement over the past 30-plus years have received many disappointments, generally feeling that we have not always received the support this issue deserved from the church.

When the playing field is leveled

making the value of the gift of life the same as the death penalty, war, care of the poor and vulnerable, economic and social justice, the rights of workers, the environment, family life and global solidarity it is possible to rationalize any human behavior. Without the gift of life none of these other causes even exists. The number of lives lost daily to abortion in comparison to the lives lost due to the other issues obviously throws the equation out of proportion. That is what compels us to keep up the fight.

One of our local residents who has been faithful throughout this fight was asked why he "didn't get a life and get off of abortion." His answer was something like this — "I would like to do many other things, but as long as this killing continues I can't give up." That

thinking is reflected throughout the pro-life community. Nothing would please us more than for abortion to be illegal, but until that day comes we have to continue in this battle.

I am certain the reason the previously mentioned disclaimer was added to the article, is because of politics. Many of us are not comfortable working in the political scene, but it was because of politics that abortion was legalized. Until that decision is reversed we must be involved in politics.

The Right to Life movement invites all politicians to be pro-life. It is unfortunate that most of the legislators who are willing to work to reverse *Roe v Wade*, are from only one political party.

Susan Landrigan
Fort Wayne

Knights' sponsored Lourdes journey: A pilgrimage to remember

BY JILL BOUGHTON

Through the generosity of the Knights of Columbus Santa Maria Council 552, my 17-year-old daughter April was able to make a pilgrimage to Lourdes in October. Although her genetic disability is a "hidden" one, she was eager to seek Mary's help.

My husband John and I accompanied April and had the joy of reconnecting with a friend who has been living in France for more than 25 years.

April was highly motivated to take full advantage of all the prayer opportunities available to us in Lourdes. We each bathed twice in the healing water from the spring, and she brought back bottles of blessed water for several classmates with disabilities more serious than her own. We went to daily Mass, concelebrated by priests from every part of the English-speaking world, from South Africa to Australia. We also went to confession, which many call the place where Lourdes' most profound miracles occur.

For April, prayer has to be "complete" in order to be valid. For her, praying the rosary meant praying a decade for each of the 20 mysteries, including the luminous mysteries added by Pope John Paul II. She wanted to make sure the Stations of the Cross included the essential 15th station, the Resurrection. We prayed these each day before larger-than-life copper tableaux located on the mountainside. "I felt like I was actually there with Jesus," April says.

The day we arrived, we headed down to the grotto right after supper. Since it was near the end of the "tourist" season, it was not

crowded. We were able to linger by the spring Bernadette uncovered, to touch the rocks our Lady touched, and April plopped herself right down on the spot where Bernadette knelt to begin her recitation of the rosary.

The next day, we took advantage of large, powerful paintings of each mystery, walking from one to the next.

We prayed in several of the large churches built to accommodate pilgrims. Because April had memorized a short monologue from Shaw's "St. Joan" for her theater class, she was eager to photograph the statue of St. Joan of Arc in a chapel that was unlocked especially for her.

We also participated in the candlelight rosary procession and in eucharistic adoration and blessing of the sick with the Eucharist. At Lourdes, all formal prayers like these are led in many languages. I was struck by how accessible is the healing water of

Lourdes, a powerful metaphor for the abundance of grace poured out on us. Water bubbles up from the spring, fills a series of pools in which individuals can plunge themselves, and even comes out of a series of spigots at which people can wash, drink or fill bottles to bring home and share with others.

Another thing that impressed me was the kindness and patience of the volunteers who answered questions, and who helped the pilgrims undress and bathe. They were so solicitous for our mod-

esty, and they invited us so simply into this bodily form of prayer. Although they must welcome scores of individuals each day, they surrounded each one of us with attentive concern.

I was also touched by the warmth of those who welcomed us into the special places where Bernadette spent her life: the mill where she was born and enjoyed 10 happy years, the one-room hovel in which her family was living at the time of the apparitions, the hospice where the Sisters of Charity of Nevers taught Bernadette to read (at age 14) and prepared her for her long-desired first Communion. An elderly Sister of Charity led us into the chapel where

"I felt like I
was actually there
with Jesus"

APRIL BOUGHTON

Bernadette received Jesus for the first time in holy Communion, showed us the kneeler she used and some of the things she wrote while she was learning French, different from the local dialect in which Mary addressed this child. Simple

objects like her worn shoes and a chasuble she embroidered made this saint so much more real to us, as she was real to this religious, who called her "my sister" despite the century separating the two.

After several days of formal prayers, it was important for me to find the chapel where adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is available, to sit silently and let the graces of Lourdes wash over me.

Truly a pilgrimage to remember.

What's in a name? In Italy, probably a saint

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Perhaps it is not so unusual that the Vatican, surrounded by Italy, named a parking garage after a saint.

A recent nationwide study by the Milan Chamber of Commerce showed that some 21,000 Italian companies are named after saints — 1,000 more than in 2005.

The study was published on the Nov. 1 All Saints' Day and showed that 65 Italian businesses have "ognissanti," Italian for "all saints," in their name.

Several of these establishments around the country are funeral homes. In Florence there are a condominium and a hardware store called All Saints, but the names are more a matter of location than devotion, since they are both in the All Saints neighborhood.

Although it is the place where all saints have been made since at least the 1500s, the Vatican does not have a church, a building, an office or a parking garage named All Saints.

The Vatican chooses more carefully.

With the exception of the

Vatican's annual feast day, the June 29 feast of Sts. Peter and Paul, only the Swiss Guard chapel — the Church of Sts. Martin and Sebastian — has a double-barreled name.

In addition to the St. Rose parking garage, the Vatican features the St. Pius IX Ramp, St. Pius X Street, St. Mark Boulevard, St. Benedict Boulevard, the Tower of St. John and the St. Charles Palace.

Besides St. Peter's Basilica and the Swiss Guard chapel, there are churches inside the Vatican walls dedicated to the Holy Savior, St. Anne, St. Stephen, St. Egidio, St. Peregrinus and St. Mary.

Of course, the names one hears most at the Vatican are those of Jesus and his mother.

In his homily for the feast of All Saints, Pope Benedict XVI said, "In truth, he — Jesus — is the blessed one par excellence."

And he described Mary as the "mirror of every holiness."

While people have saints they invoke when they have a special need, like calling on St. Anthony to help them find something, Pope Benedict said Christians should

VATICAN LETTER

CINDY WOODEN

invoke the saints first of all to ask their help in living holy lives as the saints did.

The pope's focus on Jesus and Mary was underlined in reaction to the results of an Italian poll on saints.

Some orthodox feathers were ruffled when the poll, conducted for the Italian Catholic magazine *Famiglia Cristiana*, reported that 31 percent of those surveyed said they had invoked the help of St. Padre Pio, 9 percent said Mary and only 2 percent said they had prayed to Jesus for help.

But Father Tonino Lasconi, religious education expert, told Vatican Radio it was not fair to condemn the majority who responded to the poll; in fact, those

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Generous with God also means being generous in trusting God



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

32nd Sunday Mk 12:38-44

The First Book of Kings furnishes this weekend with its first reading from the Scriptures.

Political governance, in the minds of the ancient Hebrews, was not the chief function of their kings. Rather, assuring the nation's faithfulness to God, and to the law of God given through Moses, was the primary demand upon kings. Nothing was more important than the people's fidelity to God.

Since this religious function was so vital, it is not surprising that many stories in the Books of Kings revolve not around the monarchs, but around the prophets who were active at the time.

Such is the case this weekend. The central figure in the story is Elijah, the prophet. In this story, Elijah appears at the gate of a city and encounters a woman collecting twigs and branches to use as firewood.

She obviously is quite poor. First, she must forage for fuel, although this was not uncommon. Secondly, she told the prophet when he asked for food that she had only a handful of flour and a little oil. She also told him that she had to feed her son. The impres-

sion left is that she was a widow, and her son was a child.

In fact, she is so poor that she tells Elijah that after she and her son consume whatever she can bake using the meager amount of flour and oil on hand, she and the son will die. There is nothing else.

Elijah tells her that she and the son will not die. He says that if she will feed the prophet, then God will provide. The story ends by telling us that she prepared food for Elijah, and her flour and oil never ran out.

For its second reading, the church this weekend gives us a passage from the Epistle to the Hebrews. Scholars do not know precisely who the author of this epistle was. Regardless of identity or personal circumstances, the author knew the history and traditions of Judaism, and the author was a skillful writer.

Building upon Jewish themes, the author writes about Jesus in the most soaring language.

The reading declares that God has ordained that all people must die, but God also has ordained that all may live if they turn to Jesus. This is possible because of the sacrifice of Jesus on Calvary, and because of the reality of Jesus as a human and as the Son of God, in the mystery theologians call the Incarnation.

St. Mark's Gospel offers us the last reading. It is a familiar story, appearing also in Luke, but not in Matthew.

The message is clear. The poor widow who gave to the temple a small donation, but great for her in her poverty, is the paragon of love for God and trust in God. Jesus spoke of her as such.

Reflection

The widow's mite, read in this selection from Mark, often is used either to urge generosity in giving to worthy causes, or to define the motive for giving to the church or to another activity for a noble cause.

Also, although less often mentioned, it is a story of trust in God.

These interpretations are correct. However, the lesson is not just about money and about being generous. It also is about trust. We must trust in God despite the false warnings and contrary directions sent us by the world, the flesh, and the devil.

Being generous with God also means being generous in trusting God. It is much easier to donate to the church or to charity, if we are so able, that to dismiss the conventions of our culture, or our own instincts, and trust in the law of God and in the eternal life awaiting those who truly love Jesus.

READINGS

32nd week of ordinary time

Sunday: 1 Kgs 17:10-16 Ps 146:7-10 Heb 9:24-28 Mk 12:38-44

Monday: Ti 1:1-9 Ps 24:1-6 Lk 17:1-6

Tuesday: Ti 2:1-8, 11-14 Ps 37:3-4, 18, 23, 27, 29 Lk 17:7-10

Wednesday: Ti 3:1-7 Ps 23:1-6 Lk 17:11-19

Thursday: Phlm 7-20 Ps 146:7-10 Lk 17:20-25

Friday: 2 Jn 4-9 Ps 119:1-2, 10-11, 17-18 Lk 17:26-37

Saturday: 3 Jn 5-8 Ps 112:1-6 Lk 18:1-8

CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Camplisson

On Nov. 10, the church remembers St. Leo, pope and doctor. This quiz looks at the Leonine aspects of Scripture and the church.

1. As early as Genesis, the lion is used to symbolize strength. Jacob describes this son as like a young lion:

- a. Simeon b. Daniel c. Judah

2. In the Old Testament, who was thrown into the lion's den?

- a. Joshua b. Androcles c. Daniel

3. In connection with that Old Testament figure, lions were often painted in these Christian refuges in Rome:

- a. The forums
b. The catacombs
c. The Circus Maximus

4. That same person (2 above) described this empire as a winged lion:

- a. Rome
b. Byzantium
c. Babylon

5. That symbol is still often found in these types of Catholic churches, associated historically and culturally with that empire (3 above):

- a. Chaldean
b. Ruthenian
c. Celtic

6. According to 1st Kings 13, who was slaughtered by a lion?

- a. King Lionlunch
b. a prophet who did not follow God's commands
c. the bad Samaritan who robbed the traveler

7. This man killed a lion and then based a riddle on the aftermath of the act:

- a. Samson b. Judas c. David

8. What peculiar circumstance led to him (q. 7) asking his guest to explain how sweetness came from strength?

- a. His wife Delilah was sweet while he was strong.
b. The lion had eaten sugar cane.
c. Bees had swarmed in the lion's carcass and produced honey.

9. David told Saul he had killed a lion and one of these animals to protect the flocks:

- a. A pig b. A dog c. A bear

10. Many leaders, including Christ, have been described as Lion of Judah. This Christian African ruler came to a sticky end, but is still regarded as the true lion of Judah by many Rastafarians:

- a. King Alfonso of the Cote D'Ivoire
b. Haile Selassie, Emperor of Ethiopia (family name Ras Tafari)
c. Bishop Abe Mugambe of the indigenous Congolese church

11. In the New Testament leonine imagery abounds. Which evangelist is often symbolized by a Lion?

- a. Matthew b. Mark c. Luke

12. In the New Testament, who walks around like a lion seeking whom he may devour?

- a. The devil
b. Judas
c. Herod the hungry

13. This soggy Italian city has a lion for a symbol:

- a. Milan b. Goriza c. Venice

14. This lionhearted Anglo-French monarch was a famous crusader who fought to keep Jerusalem open to Christian pilgrims:

- a. Leo the Fat Cat
b. Richard
c. Robin Hood

15. Pope Leo negotiated with this notorious invader:

- a. Attila the Hun
b. Genghis Khan
c. Fidel Castro

16. In C. S. Lewis' tale about this land, the lion is a Christlike figure

- a. Utopia
b. Lowland Scotland
c. Narnia

ANSWERS:

- 1.c, 2.c, 3.b, 4.c, 5.a, 6.b, 7.a, 8.c, 9.c, 10.b, 11.b, 12.a, 13.c, 14.b, 15.a, 16.c

Saving death and resurrection of Christ is a once-for-all event

Why does the Apostles' Creed say "on the third day Jesus rose again from the dead?" Does this mean Jesus rose more than once? Anonymous, Fort Wayne

The common English translation of the Apostles' Creed does say Jesus rose again from the dead. Likewise the English translation of the Nicene Creed currently used at our Sunday Mass reads "on the third he rose again."

However, when we look at the original Latin of the Nicene Creed in A.D. 325, we read "passus est et resurrexit tertia die" or Jesus "suffered and rose on the third day." The Nicene Creed was further amplified at the Council of Constantinople in A.D. 381. It is this Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed that we say at Sunday Mass. In Latin it reads "passus et sepultus est et resurrexit tertia die secundum Scripturas" or Jesus "suffered and was buried and rose on the third day according to the Scriptures."

Later on the Creed of the Council of Trent in 1564 reiterated the same Latin words as the Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed. But a current English translation of the Trent creed reads Jesus "rose again the third day." In the original

Latin of the creeds of Nicea, Constantinople and Trent we do not see the word "again."

The new Catechism of the Catholic Church in English quotes the common English translation of the Apostles' Creed, namely "on the third day he rose again." But when the catechism treats the resurrection of Jesus, it uses the heading "on the third day he rose from the dead," omitting the word "again."

When we consult the English dictionary, we see there are many meanings of the word "again" that goes all the way back to the 13th century. We are used to using the word "again" to mean another time or once more, as in William Shakespeare's phrase "I shall not look upon his like again." But "again" can also mean in addition or besides, as in the phrase "again, there is another matter to consider." So concerning the creed, Jesus suffered, died, was buried and besides this, he rose from the dead on the third day.

The Catholic Church believes that Jesus died once, was buried once and rose once. The Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem is built over the place of the stone quarry where Jesus died, was buried and rose. St. Paul, writing

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

to the Corinthians in Greece in A.D. 56, says "Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; he was buried in accordance with the Scriptures; he rose on the third day."

The saving death and resurrection of Christ is a once-for-all event. It is applied to people of future generations through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Here the saving death of Christ is made present on the altar in an unbloody manner so the people present can receive the grace of Christ. All seven of the sacraments are a participation in the death and resurrection Christ. Thus at baptism, when the person is lowered into the font, pool or river, this shows his or her going into the tomb with Christ to die to sin. As he or she is lifted up from the font, pool or river, this signifies rising with Christ to the new life of grace.

The new catechism says this paschal mystery has two aspects: 1) by his death, Christ liberates us from sin and 2) by his resurrection, he opens for us the way to a new life. This new life makes us holy and just and reinstates us in God's grace. St. Paul says to the Romans: "As Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too walk in newness of life."

The new catechism also mentions that Christ's resurrection is the source of our future resurrection at the end of the world. St. Paul says to the Corinthians: "Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive." Thus at the end of the world our body will rise in an incorruptible state and be reunited with our soul. Thus in heaven we will live with both a body and a soul. Our body will be beautiful

and so will our soul, for in heaven we will not sin, but only do the good. The Blessed Virgin Mary is already in heaven with both body and soul, as a special privilege for being the Mother of Christ.

Today's Catholic welcomes questions from readers. Please e-mail your questions to editor@fw.diocesefwsb.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 Richard Hire, pastor of Queen of Peace Parish, Mishawaka, answered this week's question.

From Rottweiler to dunce

A few days after the election of Pope Benedict XVI, some friends and I gathered for a celebratory dinner at Rome's Taverna Giulia — a favorite haunt of journalists, due in part to the fact that it serves the best lasagnette col pesto on the planet. I arrived a bit early and, as I walked through the restaurant, I spied the leadership of the *National Catholic Reporter*, including publisher Sister Rita Larivee, editor Tom Roberts, and the *NCR's* ace Vatican reporter, John Allen, with whom I had been swapping stories and rumors for years. Being in a somewhat ebullient mood, I went over to the *NCR* table and invited them to "join the victory party" upstairs. They had the good taste to laugh, although it was clear that some of their company were not altogether thrilled by the conclave's outcome. Would a papal bull condemning the *NCR* and all its works soon be forthcoming from the Apostolic Palace?

I doubt that my *NCR* friends imagined that, a mere 16 months later, they would run an editorial positively chortling over what they assumed to be my discomfiture, and that of my colleagues among the dread neocons/theocons, over the course of the pontificate to date. There was, of course, no more evidence for this than there was for latent fears, on that lovely Roman evening in April 2005, of a new Benedictine inquisition. But, then, journalism is not an exact science, and editorializing is the least exact part of journalism.

Further evidence of which was provided by yet another *NCR* editorial, in the paper's Oct. 13 issue, which seemed to argue that

the man so many on the Catholic Left had long taken to be "God's Rottweiler" had suddenly become God's Dunce. In his recent Regensburg lecture, the editorial suggested, Pope Benedict XVI may have trafficked a bit "too much in theological abstraction," while failing to weigh sufficiently "the complicated historical, political and social factors" bearing on the Islamic world's (admittedly "dismal") record on religious freedom. "Focusing exclusively on theological difference between Christianity and Islam — whether real or imagined — therefore runs the risk of oversimplifying a complex situation," the editors warned. So what should Benedict XVI do? Appoint a group of retired and semi-retired cardinals — men who "understand the complex argot of politics and international diplomacy" — as roving ambassadors to the worlds within worlds of Islam.

Which would seem to suggest that the 264th successor to St. Peter doesn't know how to talk the talk, much less walk the walk. From Rottweiler to dunce in two months: fast work, indeed.

And completely preposterous. In the weeks immediately following the Regensburg lecture, Iranian television described "Pirates of the Caribbean — Dead Man's Chest" as a tool of the "Zionist lobby" and "capitalist weapons companies," and informed its audience that Pepsi is a devious acronym standing for "Pay Each Penny Save Israel." At about the same time, the interior minister of Saudi Arabia, Prince Nayef bin Abd Al-'Aziz, urged an audience to "cut off the tongues" of the "transgressors," i.e., Muslims "who are trying to distort Islam with their claims of



GEORGE WEIGEL

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

reform and their corrupt progress." In the same speech, broadcast on Al-Majd TV, Prince Nayef also claimed that Osama bin Laden is "an agent of foreign intelligence agencies."

What, do you suppose, will a roving band of aged cardinals sent on what the *NCR* proposes as a "listening tour" of Muslim states learn from all that — or from Iranian president Ahmadinejad's claim that Iran today is "a perfect model of splendid, humane and divine life"?

At Regensburg, Pope Benedict XVI did the world an immense service by giving believers and non-believers alike a language with which to deal with the threat of jihadist ideology: the language of rationality and irrationality. Far from being an exercise in "theological abstraction," the Holy Father's Regensburg lecture was a courageous attempt to create a new public grammar capable of disciplining and directing the world's discussion of what is arguably the world's gravest problem.

It's a shame the *NCR* missed that. Let's hope the Congress we elected this week doesn't.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for November 12, 2006

Mark 12:38-44

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: a lesson about humility in leadership. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

BEWARE	SCRIBES	LIKE
LONG ROBES	MARKETPLACES	SEATS
PLACES	HONOR	BANQUETS
DEVOUR	WIDOWS	PRAYERS
SAT DOWN	TREASURY	MONEY
RICH	PEOPLE	PUT IN
LARGE SUMS	COINS	ALL SHE HAD

GREED

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

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

who answered Jesus or Mary were the ones who probably did not understand the question.

The list provided by respondents also included St. Anthony, St. Francis, St. Rita, St. Joseph and Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

The survey also asked, "Do you have an image of a saint in your home or car?"

"Yes," said 71 percent of those polled.

Again, and by a larger margin of 48 percent, respondents mentioned their pictures of St. Padre

Pio first, then St. Anthony, Mary, St. Francis and St. Rita.

The polling company said there were "significant differences" depending on where the respondents lived.

"In the northwest, images of St. Francis prevail; in the northeast and on the islands, it is the Blessed Virgin; in central regions it is St. Rita; and in the south, it was Padre Pio with 71 percent" of respondents saying they had his photo in their car or home.

If the survey had been limited to Roman shopkeepers and Roman taxi drivers, Padre Pio still would have come out on top — his figure is a fixture near cash registers and on dashboards.

Sports

INDIANA WESLEYAN TRICKS COUGARS, TREATS ITSELF TO MCC VOLLEYBALL TITLE The University of Saint Francis volleyball team arrived at Indiana Wesleyan sweet for a Mid-Central Conference championship on Halloween night. The Wildcats had other ideas, however, and took the title for themselves in a 3-1 result. USF finishes conference play 6-2 tied for second place and will the likely No. 3 seed in the upcoming league tournament.

St. Therese wins the CYO volleyball Blue League crown

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — For the past nine years, the St. Therese Crusaders have dominated the Blue League Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) volleyball tournament. They have won the championship match seven of those years and 2006 was another one of them to be marked down in the record books.

The girls finished the regular season in first place with a 7-0 record. They played St. Mary-St. Joseph in the first round beating them 25-7 and 25-18. In the semi-finals against St. Rose-St. Louis they won 25-8 and 25-11. And they beat Queen of Angels 25-15 and 25-22 for the championship.

An excited coach Lisa Palmer felt her team played the best volleyball they had played all year in the first match for the championship against Queen of Angels.

She said, "The games were awesome! Our passing game was great, which led to a lot of good set ups and hits. We moved well and as a team did not have any dropped balls."

The second game was much closer. Queen of Angels played very well and took the lead at one point. The Crusaders "kept their head in the game, didn't get down and managed to pull out the win" after it was tied at 22.

Molly Dimit and Liberty McCartney led St. Therese in serving in the championship.

McCartney had five aces and Dimit was 9-9. Setter, Abby Bireley, had five assists and four kills. Emily Burrows also had four kills in the match. Kaitlin Hofrichter (three kills) played consistently well all around and always hustled.

Alyssa Shaffer played outstanding defense and had many digs. Shaffer was the back row specialist and Kayley Colvin (front row) was a good, consistent hitter for the team all year. Palmer added that Maria Beck, Kim Davis and Sarah Dirig have contributed to the success of the team in many ways and were always ready to come in and play wherever needed.

Palmer has coached volleyball at St. Therese since 1983 (except for three years at Bishop Luers). She has a love and passion for the game and for coaching. Each year she gives out a special mental attitude award at their athletic banquet in memory of her daughter, LeighAnn Marie Palmer (who died in 1995 at the age of 3-1/2).

"This group of eighth graders is going to make it very difficult to



PHOTO COURTESY OF EUNICE NAVARRO

The St. Therese Crusaders took the CYO volleyball championship for the eighth time in the past nine years. The team is composed of the following: from left to right, Kim Davis, Abby Bireley, Mic Palmer, Kaitlin Hofrichter, Asst. Coach Jamie Uecker, Maria Beck, Emily Burrows, Coach Lisa Palmer, Asst. Coach Sheryl Nevers, Kayley Colvin, Liberty McCartney, Alyssa Shaffer, Molly Dimit, Matt Palmer and Sarah Dirig.

decide who to give the award to. They have a very strong work ethic and have been great leaders and role models to my seventh grade," said Palmer. Assistant coaches this year were Andrea Allphin, Sheryl Nevers and Jamie Uecker.

St. Therese teacher Vickie Lortie agrees this team is a special group of girls. During a skit at a recent pep rally celebrating the victory, she asked them who they were playing for. They shouted back unanimously, "We're playin' for the Lord!"

5th grade action

The Queen of Angels fifth grade volleyball team recently beat St. Vincent to win the CYO tournament championship match. The Royals had an impressive record of 10-1 in the regular season.

This year's Queen of Angels roster included Anna Bauer, Liz Brown, Alli Dennie, Sarah Goodwin, Picabo Kimes, Darby McFann, Olivia Myers, Kayla Rice, Natalie Roberts, Monica Ross, Alex Urban and Laura Weldon. The Royals were coached by Katie Ryan, Sydney Hall and Shari Dennie.

St. Aloysius

Each year she has been coaching, the St. Aloysius girls' volleyball team has improved says Coach April Wyss. St. Aloysius finished fifth, fourth and now third place in the CYO league for 2006. In her third season, the 2003 Ball State graduate coached a "phenomenal group of girls."

Wyss says her eighth graders have done a "180" since sixth grade. She adds that she has really enjoyed watching them progress

over the years and during this season. The team also had four seventh graders on the roster. Her main goal is to prepare her team to play at the high school level. "We work on transitioning, position serving and other things the girls will need to know at the next level".

Wyss had coached fourth-and-fifth-grade volleyball at St. Mary in Muncie, prior to moving back to this area. Wyss' mother happened to be the athletic director at St. Aloysius when the volleyball position became open.

Wyss was a former player at St. Aloysius and also Bishop Luers High School, so it was a natural transition for her to take the coaching spot. Wyss' sister Sarah was the assistant coach this season. St. Aloysius lost to eventual runner-up, Queen of Angels, in the Blue League Tournament.

2006 Blue League regular season finish

1. St. Therese
2. Queen of Angels
3. St. Aloysius
4. St. Rose-St. Louis
5. Benoit
6. Precious Blood
7. St. Joe Hessen Cassel
8. St. Mary-St. Joseph

Holy Cross and St. John the Baptist take diocesan playoffs

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — The Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) and Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) football officially wrapped up the 2006 season with the Fort Wayne-South Bend diocesan playoff games at the University of Saint Francis' Bishop D'Arcy Stadium on Nov. 5.

Holy Cross-Christ the King Crusaders were victorious over St. Vincent's 24-16 in the ICCL vs. CYO diocesan Division II game.

St. Vincent scored first, before the Crusaders scored 24 straight points. St. Vincent scored 10 points late in the fourth quarter, on a safety and touchdown pass and 2-point conversion to close the gap. The ensuing on-side kick was recovered by Conner Demarais and the Crusaders ran out the clock to secure the victory.

The Crusader's were lead by Max Matthews three touchdown passes, two of which went to Pat Kowalewski for 30 yards and 40 yards. Connor Demarais caught the last one for 13 yards. The defense was lead up front by the fine play of Thomas Davis, Garret Libertowski, Pat Manion and Tom Brown. A.J. Fitzpatrick added two interceptions, one he returned 55 yards for a touchdown.

Russell Coonan's 11-yard run in the first quarter put six on the board for St. Vincent. They did not score again until the fourth quarter when Patrick Ryan hit Greg Kaiser on a 40-yard pass. Coonan's PAT was good. Tony Springman also scored another two points on a safety. But it was not enough to catch the Crusaders. Russell Coonan and Greg German each had interceptions in the loss. The Panthers finished the season 8-3.

In the final game, the unbeat-

en St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, CYO champs ran the score up with the first place South Bend ICCL team to take the diocesan title for the third straight year.

The Eagles scored late in the first half on a 5-yard run by De'Angelo Fincher. Alex Stroncsek hit the two-point conversion to make it 8-0 at the half.

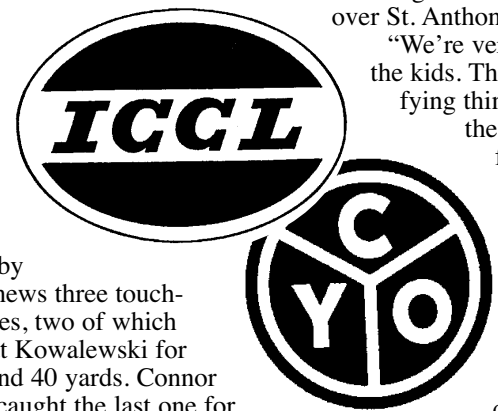
On their first possession of the second half, De'Angelo Fincher scored again on a 70-yard sprint. Stroncsek booted the PAT. On their next possession the Eagles controlled a drive that Steve Kiermayer completed with a 4-yard plunge off tackle. On their third possession, Liam Fazio had a 20-yard pass reception from James Knapke. Stroncsek hit the PAT. Scoring was capped off by Kevin Gorman on a 20-yard scamper. Brian Nichter hit this

PAT making the final score 38-0 over St. Anthony-St. Joseph.

"We're very proud of the kids. The most satisfying thing through the volunteering for all of us is just interacting with the individual student-athletes and watching them develop weekly through small, positive steps.

Whether we're joking around or getting after them, it's great to see them respond. It's more fun than golf," summarized Coach Jim Carroll.

This was the St. John's team's 33rd straight victory, and the Eagles finished their 2006 season with a perfect 11-0 record.



Tony Violi contributed to this story.

SAINTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

them "play their hearts out" all 80 minutes of every game, several times a week, all season long.

Senior captain and standout goalkeeper Erin Jacobson took the floor next as the lights dimmed to view her video of the "Road to the Repeat" showing highlights from the season and special moments to remember for a lifetime.

The invited guests were then introduced and Bishop John M. D'Arcy presented the huge championship trophy shaped as the state of Indiana to senior captains, Danielle Parr, Megan Killion, Lauren Ottenweller, Jacobson and the rest of the Saints team. The bishop said what a joy it was for him to be present at this event and explained that because there are no classes in soccer, he understood that these girls were the best, No. 1, in the entire state in their sport. He congratulated the team on their outstanding accomplishments and finished with a prayer.

The bishop asked that each reverence his or her every gift, whether it is in music, the arts or athletics. "God bless this wonderful team. God bless Bishop Dwenger High School," the bishop concluded.

The "extraordinary" Principal Fred Tone took the microphone last and said, "These girls won the state championship because of their poise, their mental toughness and their team unity. They dealt with pressure in a positive way all sea-



2006 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM FROM BISHOP DWENGER

son long."

The "pressure" Tone referred to was created by winning the state title in 2005. Every team the girls' faced during season play wanted to beat the defending champs.

"It made this year's win even better. We were out to prove last year was no fluke," said Parr, a graduate from Most Precious Blood School along with junior Mallory Schon.

The Saints responded to the challenge and finished the 2006 regular season undefeated, captured a sectional, regional and semi state title. They proved their point by dominating Portage 3-0 in the semifinals and finally North Central 2-1 at Kuntz Memorial Stadium in Indianapolis on Saturday, Oct. 28. The victory put the Saints soccer program in the state record books with Carmel as back-to-back champions.

Michelle Pray was the assistant

coach for the Saints this year and Stephanie Woodrum was the manager.

Jason Wisnieski is a St. Therese and 1989 Bishop Luers graduate. In his ninth season as head coach, Wisnieski said he has not changed his coaching style to warrant the repeat. "We just had a great group of girls. I am very grateful to be their coach," he said.

Megan Killion said she will always remember how Coach Wisnieski would gather the team in prayer around Mary's statue outside the Bishop Dwenger campus before every game. On the "Road to the Repeat" he would remind them, now there are 16 teams left ... now just eight. Finally, we were the only ones left. We have an awesome coach."

Can the Saints make it a triple crown? Only time will tell. For now, they will continue to celebrate the glory of a sweet repeat.

SERRA CLUB PRESENTS BISHOP'S TROPHY TO BISHOP DWENGER



DENNIS FECH

Nick Gray, second from left, of the Fort Wayne Serra Club presents the Serra Club Bishop's Trophy to Bishop Luers team captains, from left, Sean Bushey, Michael Brown (holding the trophy), Kevin Merz and Andrew Mansaray. The trophy was presented at an all-school Mass and assembly on Oct. 26. The trophy builds a friendly rivalry between Bishop Dwenger and Bishop Luers high schools in Fort Wayne in the area of competitive sports.

Redeemer Radio to carry Notre Dame and high school basketball

FORT WAYNE — Fort Wayne's Redeemer Radio, Catholic Radio AM 1450, has obtained the exclusive rights to broadcast Notre Dame men's basketball on radio in the Fort Wayne Marchet. Redeemer Radio will air live Notre Dame's full schedule, including playoff games. The station also announced that it will broadcast approximately 16 Bishop Dwenger and Bishop

Luers boys and girls high school basketball games during the regular season, as well as additional playoff games.

The Notre Dame basketball season begins at 8 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 10, with Notre Dame hosting Fort Wayne IPFW.

For high school basketball, Redeemer Radio's schedule will feature an approximately even number of girls and boys games,

from both Bishop Luers and Bishop Dwenger. The high school basketball season on Redeemer Radio is scheduled to debut on Tuesday, Nov. 28, with the Bishop Dwenger girls hosting Columbia City at 7:45 p.m. The following is a preliminary schedule for the season:

Preliminary schedule of Bishop Luers and Bishop Dwenger basketball

Tuesday, Nov. 28	Columbia City at Dwenger girls	7:45 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 30	North Side at Luers girls	7:45 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 1	Southwood at Dwenger boys	7:45 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 2	SB Riley at Luers girls	7:45 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 5	Luers girls at Warsaw	7:45 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 8	South Side at Luers boys/girls	6:15 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 15	Luers boys at Concordia	7:45 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 29	SAC Tourney Championship	
Friday, Jan. 5	Bishop Dwenger boys/girls at Luers	6:15 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 16	Elmhurst at Dwenger boys	6:15 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 27	Snider at Dwenger girls	7:45 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 2	Dwenger girls at Harding	7:45 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 10	Girls Sectional	
Wednesday, Feb. 14	Dwenger boys at Leo	7:45 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 16	Luers boys at Blackhawk	7:45 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 17	Girls Regional	
Friday, Feb. 23	North Side at Luers boys	7:45 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 24	Girls Semi-State	
Saturday, Feb. 27	Boys Sectional	
Friday, Saturday, March 2-3	Boys Sectional	
Saturday, March 3	Girls State	
Saturday, March 10	Boys Regional	
Saturday, March 17	Boys Semi-State	
Saturday, March 24	Boys State	

Redeemer Radio's high school coverage will include pre and post game shows, special on-air guests, and updates of the scores of other high school basketball games in progress from across the region.

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PRESIDENT and PRINCIPAL

Peoria Notre Dame High School, a Catholic, diocesan, co-educational high school with 800 students, in Peoria, Illinois, is changing to the president-principal administrative model and therefore, seeks qualified persons for the position of **President** and for the position of **Principal** beginning July 1, 2007. Candidates for both positions must be practicing Catholics, have secondary school administrative experience, and hold at least a Masters Degree. Please visit www.cdop.org (click on Catholic Schools) for the official job description as well as application materials or visit the Peoria Notre Dame website www.peorianotredame.com. The application deadline for the President position is January 5, 2007. Interviews will take place in February. The application deadline for the Principal position is February 15, 2007. Interviews will take place in March. Interested individuals may also call the Office of Catholic Schools, Diocese of Peoria at (309) 671-1550 to obtain materials.

CYO coaches are requested to e-mail fall sports scores to sports writer Michelle Castleman at mmcastleman@aol.com
ICCL coaches are requested to contact Elmer Danch at (574) 234-0687 or email editor@fw.diocesefwsb.org.

Respecting God's presence in one another can change the world



THE CUTTING EDGE

SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

The sisters in my community have a beautiful ritual they use at the rite of peace during Mass. They fold their hands in a gesture of prayer and bow to one another. It means that "the God in me recognizes and honors the God who is in you."

Reflecting on this practice, I can't help but wonder how different our world would be if we really believed that God is present in every human being and that each person is sacred and loved by God. And even better that we would act upon that belief!

Like many Catholics of my generation, I was taught that we are temples of the Holy Spirit and God dwells in us. Not only is the Spirit inside us, the Spirit also works through us.

Ask yourself if you really believe this? Do

you believe that the Holy Spirit is in you and that you are an instrument of God's love? Do you believe God is also in others and that no one has a monopoly on God's presence?

This belief should influence our behavior. When we get right down to it, the ordinary way God's love becomes real is when we love. One of the saints, I think it was Teresa of Avila, who said that God has no hands but ours, etc.

At the closing ceremony of each Cursillo, a Christian renewal movement in the church, participants receive a cross. One of the spiritual directors on the team conducting the weekend says, "Christ is counting on you." The participant replies, "And I on him." Just what is Christ counting on us to do?

St. Benedict stated it this way in the rule he gave to the monks in the order he founded. He directed them to "Greet each person as you would Christ." We should all practice this rule. If we believe that God loves and dwells in each human being, not just the ones we like or are attracted to, we will strive to respect God's presence in each person we encounter.

Most of us believe this in theory, but practicing it consistently is sometimes difficult. It just doesn't happen. Often we have to make a conscious decision to love some people and

need to look very hard to find God in them. That is when we have to ask Jesus for help. Chances are that Jesus did not always find loving easy either. Even so, he carried out his mission to reveal God's love, even to the point of death.

If each of us would really strive to see God's presence in one another, in those we know and don't know, like and don't particularly like, our world would be a much different place. Violence would decrease and we would have the peace we long for. People would share their abundance, and the gap between the rich and the poor would shrink. There would be no need for a war on terrorism. People would take their problems to the negotiating table. Countries would join together to alleviate the great suffering in our world. We would help others to carry their crosses. We would not rest until problems like those in Darfur and other suffering countries were solved.

On a smaller scale, there would be no scapegoats or outcasts at school and work. Families would try to work out the differences between the members and seek reconciliation. We would strive hard to be inclusive in the way we live. We would not see any person as an alien, but as a brother or sister.



YOUNG ADULT PERSPECTIVES

You may think I am an unrealistic dreamer or romantic or maybe even crazy, but I believe that with our individual efforts to change our behavior, and with God's help, we can make a difference in our world. Let's start today right where we live and work!

If we think it is impossible, then it will be. On the other hand, like the angel said to Mary, with God all things are possible.

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

Soul food: Finding nourishment amid empty calories

She was ready to walk down the aisle — primed, primed and powdered.

The bride was moments away from her tuxedoed groom, minutes from their vows exchange and hours from their honeymoon.

And she was discussing the joy of Ranch dressing. She had been on a diamond-induced diet that began when she breathlessly exclaimed "Yes!" and involved months of hunger pangs leading up to this day.

Now the slim bride was waiting for her cue, making the case for Ranch as a complete substitute to ketchup.

Food has a strange hold on us, prompting us to entertain twisted, guilt-ridden head games.

Feasting on a bowl of Halloween candy, my friend Mike recently told me he eats Milk Duds because they take longer to chew, thus they slow his caloric consumption.

When my classmate Tanya splurges on ice cream, she buys the flavor with her boyfriend's name in it, so at least she's not "cheating" on him.

And when my seventh grade science teacher buys Girl Scout cookies, she once confessed, the Scouts on the box taunt her, pleading, "Eat me!"

Americans' excuses keep getting more creative — and our waistlines keep expanding. It seems we can't stop ourselves, so we ask food suppliers to impose limits: 2006 became the year of the 100-calorie snack pack.

With the holidays approaching, health experts soon will be cautioning us about empty calories — foods that contain little nutritional value, induce weight gain and don't really fulfill.

Our problem runs deeper than chips and chocolate, though. We're surrounded by cultural empty calories. We binge on reality TV, celebrity magazines, instant messages and gossip.

They may marginally entertain, but they never stimulate nor satisfy. That's why we linger in front of the TV so long; we keep waiting for something worth watching.

But true fulfillment is being served every day. It satisfies our deepest hunger. The Eucharist is the source and summit of Christian life.

When I analyze that language, it's hard to wrap my mind around. An origin of life. A peak of life. Mind-boggling.

And that's the idea. There's no way human minds can fathom the work of our genius God who created the small intestine and photosynthesis and the Milky Way.

"Truly the Eucharist is a mystery fidei," Pope John Paul II wrote, "a mystery which surpasses our understanding and can only be received in faith."

He loved the sacrament so much that he proclaimed the last full year of his pontificate the Year of the Eucharist.

The Eucharist holds special relevance to young people. It's the most powerful antidote to all the ugly emotions that accompany



TWENTY SOMETHING

BY CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

young adulthood: alienation, anxiety, confusion, doubt. It transmits hope. We're not worthy, yet healed.

Pope John Paul linked young Mary's "yes" to the "Amen" each of us utters after receiving the body of Christ. She was asked to believe she had conceived the son of God through the Holy Spirit. "In continuity with the Virgin's faith," he wrote, we are asked to believe the same Lord is present in the consecrated bread and wine.

And each time we receive Communion, we gain grace. We come to resemble Christ a little more.

That's my humble prayer each Sunday: "Make me a little more like you, Lord. A little more patient. A little less proud."

I just pick a trait or two I need to work on. I know I have much progress to make. But I'm being nourished along the way.

Christina Capecchi is a graduate student at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. E-mail her at christinacap@gmail.com.

Go organic: The scientific case for Catholic sexual ethics

BY JENNIFER ROBACK MORSE

The Catholic Church has taken more heat over its teachings about sex than any other topic. You may be surprised then to learn that modern science is on the church's side.

So, here is a quick quiz. **Which demographic group has the most sex? The best sex? What kinds of relationships face the most sexual violence?**

Answers: Married people have more frequent and more satisfying sexual relations than the unmarried. As for sexual violence, marriage is by far the safest kind of sexual relationship, both for women and their children. Rates of domestic violence for cohabiting and for dating couples are higher than for married couples. Children are more likely to be abused by their mothers' boyfriends than by their mothers' husbands, even when the boyfriend is their own biological father.

The key to understanding these politically incorrect facts is to get past the modern vision of sex that I call "Consumer Sex." That view holds that sex is a private recreational activity with no moral or social significance. Sex is just for fun. Don't take it too seriously. Just stay safe and don't get pregnant.

I call the alternative vision "Organic Sex." This view of sex, which happens to be the Catholic view, is that sex is an organic reality, with two natural purposes written into the human body. The first purpose is procreation. The second is to build up and solidify the couples' relationship.

The procreation part of this

equation ought to be self-evident. The widespread acceptance of contraception and abortion has obscured the reproductive purpose of sex for many people. Since even Planned Parenthood calls the sexual aspect of our bodies "the reproductive system," let me not dwell upon it.

Biblical authors and church fathers recognized that sex has a procreative purpose and a unitive purpose. Now, science can show that they knew what they were talking about.

This biological tendency to bond with each other means that, in a very real sense, casual sex isn't even possible. There is a reason guys come unhinged when they find out their "friend with benefits" has another "friend." There is a reason girls sit by the phone, wondering whether the guy they hooked up with the previous night will ever call them again.

When we treat sex as just recreation, our sex partners become means to that end — they become consumer goods. And we all know what we do with consumer goods that don't satisfy us: we get rid of them.

The cohabiting relationship enshrines a "use and be used" consumer approach to dealing with each other. Once again, social science validates church wisdom. Cohabitation is a bad idea.

For two millennia, Holy Mother Church has been trying to tell us that marriage is the only appropriate context for sexual activity and for child-rearing. The church has been trying to tell us that Organic Sex is the path that will make us happy. Today, science shows that she has been right all along.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

Turkey bingo supports school
Fort Wayne — St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School will hold a turkey bingo on Sunday, Nov. 19, at St. Joseph Parish from 1-3 p.m. Win a Thanksgiving turkey, gift certificates or cash. Regular bingo cards are 25 cents. Special game cards are \$1.

Christ Child Society hold cookie walk
Fort Wayne — The Christ Child Society will have a holiday cookie walk on Saturday, Nov. 18, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul parish hall located at Wallen and Auburn roads. Homemade Christmas cookies will be sold by the pound.

Fashion show at holiday benefit for Christ Child Society
South Bend — The Christ Child Society will have a fashion show by Judee's of LaPorte at the holiday benefit luncheon on Nov. 30 at 11:30 a.m. in the Great Hall at Century Center. Raffle baskets and a silent auction will also be available. Tickets are \$40 per person. Reservation needed by Nov. 16, to Marie Brady, 16122 Baywood Lane, Granger, IN 46530. All checks are payable to the Christ Child Society.

Drama department presents 'Grease'
Fort Wayne — The Bishop Luers High School drama department will present "Grease" in the café on Friday, Dec. 1, at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 2, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 3, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$7 and can be purchased from any cast member or by calling (260) 456-1261 ext. 3114. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Enter the building through door #3 from the back parking lot.

Day of reflection
Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across for Marian High School) on Wednesday, Nov. 29, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is "Praying

with Scripture." Please bring your Bible. The cost is \$15 and includes lunch. Register by Friday, Nov. 24, by calling Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

Turkey bingo supports youth activities
Fort Wayne — St. John the Baptist, 4500 Fairfield Ave., will have turkey bingo on Sunday, Nov. 19, in the Pursley Center. Doors open at 2 p.m. Hotdogs, brats, chili, chips, beer and soft drinks. A cash raffle. Free admission.

Concert of praise and thanksgiving planned
Fort Wayne — Precious Blood Parish, 1515 Barthold St., will have a concert on Sunday, Nov. 19, at 7 p.m. featuring the Precious Blood choir and handbell choir. Free will offering will be taken.

Advent retreat planned
Fort Wayne — An Advent day of recollection will be held Saturday, Dec. 2, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Parish. Lunch will be served but

participants are asked to bring a dish to share, a Bible and pen or pencil. Register by Dec. 1 to Bob Deck at (260) 490-9571.

Christmas boutique
Fort Wayne — St. Jude Catholic Church will have a Christmas boutique on Saturday, Nov. 25, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Over 100 vendors of handmade crafts. Food will be available.

Holiday craft bazaar
Mishawaka — The St. Bavo Home and School Association, the corner of Eighth and West streets, will have a holiday craft bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 18, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Over 40 booths, a piggy raffle and a concession stand.

XLT continues
Fort Wayne — XLT will meet for "What do you want?" on Tuesday, Nov. 28, at 7 p.m. at St. Mary Parish. All ages welcome to lift voices to the Lord with praise and worship music by Frankie and the Holy Rollers. Spend time close to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

REST IN PEACE

Culver Kevin Lee Cox, 45, St. Mary of the Lake	Gramger Mary L. Sieradzki, 76, St. Pius X	Lurentha Wright, 88, St. Augustine
Fort Wayne Robert E. Lerch, 84, St. Jude	Mishawaka Dorothy Jean Bonk, 63, St. Joseph	Margaret E. Govek, 88, St. Jude
Patricia J. McMaster, 61, St. Jude	Mary A. Howland, 85, St. Monica	Josephine Grzeskowiak, 94, St. Hedwig
Marceil Erin Baker, 90, St. Charles Borromeo	Notre Dame Father Patrick Foley, CSC, 80, Sacred Heart Basilica	Frank J. Mezykowski, 92, Holy Cross
Ernst J. Johnson, 85, St. Patrick	Plymouth Mary E. Yates, 60, St. Michael	Antoinette R. Jackmovich, 69, Christ the King
Richard J. Diebold, 87, St. Jude	South Bend Robert M. Tomaszewski Sr., 78, St. Adalbert	Irene Kaminski, 87, St. Casimir
Leah C. Fetzer, 83, St. Patrick		Waterloo Donald Dean Ford, 79, St. Michael the Archangel

Singles to meet
Fort Wayne — The GAP invites all Catholic-Christian men and women within the 40-60ish age range to share fun and friendship at game night on Friday, Nov. 17, at 7 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann

Seton Parish. Please bring a finger food snack or drink to share. For more information call (260) 432-7346 or e-mail gap4565@msn.com.

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS
SESQUICENTENNIAL
THE DIOCESE OF FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

BY MARK WEBER

St. John the Baptist, South Bend, Est. 1956

Early in June, 1956, Father Joseph Jacobs stood in an empty field about one square block south of the 3500 block of Lincoln Highway West and one block west of Iowa Street. In his hand, Father Jacobs had a letter from Bishop Pursley telling him to build a church and form a parish where he stood.

Uncertain of the parish boundaries and exactly how to proceed with such an order, he knew that it was his privilege to name the parish and that he would do so to honor his father and his dad's patron saint, St. John the Baptist.

After meetings with pastors of neighboring parishes Holy Cross and Holy Family to establish parish boundaries, the word went out, and on Sept. 2, 1956, the Armore School was the site of the first two Masses offered for the parishioners of the new parish. About 400 showed up and contributed \$164.95.



St. John the Baptist School opened in September 1957 with an enrollment of 185 in the first four grades including a double first grade. The faculty consisted of two

Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration and several lay teachers.

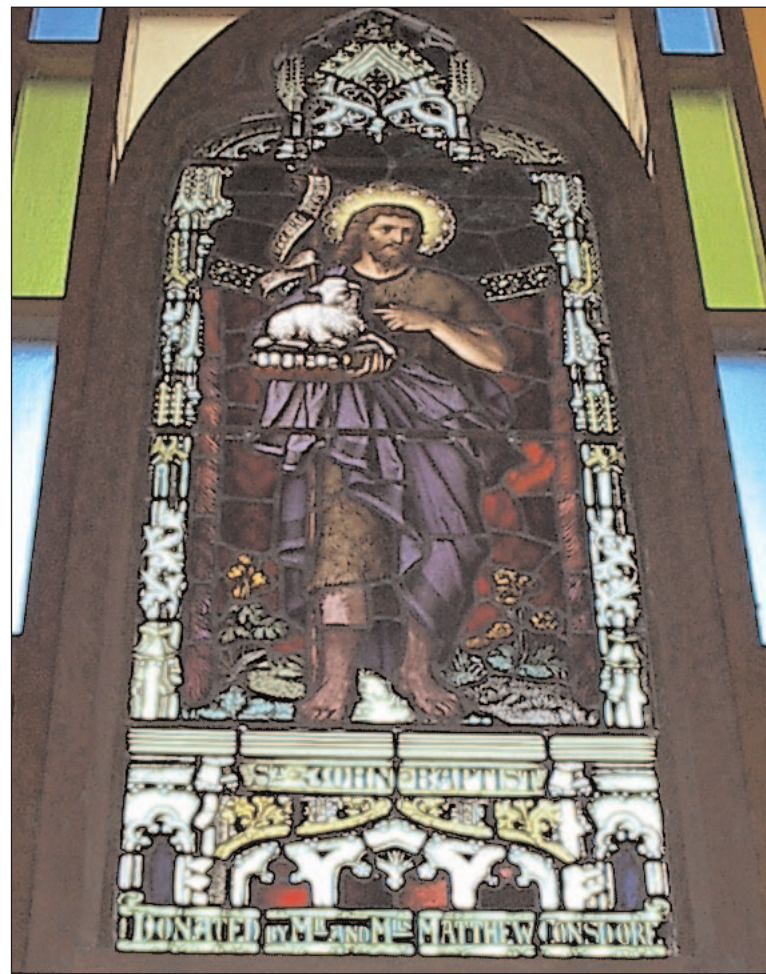
In October, Bishop Pursley blessed the church and school.

Fire has struck twice at St. John's. In January 1957 the Community Building in Beacon Heights was set up as a temporary rectory. Father Jacobs lived there one week before an early morning fire caused heavy damage forcing the pastor to return to his first temporary residence.

On April 23, 1969, a daytime three alarm fire, discovered by a group meeting in the school, destroyed the pews, floor and roof. Everything was reduced to ashes.

Recovery from this disaster was in large part brought about by the 730 families that made up the parish. While the main part of the reconstruction was put in the hands of a professional crew, the determined parishioners plastered, painted, laid down tile and did general clean up amounting to 3,000 hours of loving labor. As a fitting and final touch to great effort, the eighth-grade class voted to give up their class trip and use the money for an altar for the new church.

The present principal of St. John the Baptist school is an alumnus. Janet (Kwiecinski) Wroblewski was baptized at St. John, was eighth-grade class president in 1980 and installed as principal in 2003.



MARK WEBER

St. John the Baptist in stained glass stands above the main entrance of the church. Above, left, shows the interior of the church after a fire in April of 1969.



MARK WEBER

Christ the King stands by the church honoring his name and is seen by thousands who pass the "little cathedral by the highway" each day.

Christ the King, South Bend, Est. 1933

At the time of its founding in the Depression year of 1933, the name of Christ the King may have sounded a bit regal and overreaching for a parish that began in a former dance hall with membership less than 150 families.

Today however, with a K-8 school enrolling 523 including students from Africa, the Netherlands, Korea, China and Vietnam, the term upscale does not do justice to the academic levels sought and the scholastic goals achieved at Christ the King School.

The design and conditions of this splendid school may be somewhat responsible; all classrooms are bathed in natural light, a large art classroom with so much friendly color that it appears to have captured a rainbow. An elevator in the school and a hallway leading directly to an inside entrance to the church are added conveniences.

Early childhood faith formation receives special emphasis at Christ the King Parish. A program called Catechesis of the Good Shepherd using materials made to scale for small children introduces them in a hands-on way to Scripture, the sacra-

ments, the Eucharist and prayer.

Thus launched, religious experience is enriched by liturgy preparation, all school Masses, monthly eucharistic adoration plus the prevailing Catholic classroom atmosphere.

This parish, which has been under the permanent care of priests of Congregation of Holy Cross, with a present parish census of 1,500 families had humble beginnings when ground was broken in 1934 when parishioners prepared the site and dug the cellar hole with a team of horses and a skid.

The first Mass was said in the basement of the structure on Epiphany (Jan. 6) and the first solemn high Mass was said in the finished building on Feb. 24, 1935. That occasion is recalled by the fact that the draperies for the new church caught fire on the truck just as it arrived on Saturday morning. The supplier sent new fabrics from Chicago and women of the parish sewed until 1 a.m. to get the new drapes up in time for Mass.

A graphic illustration of how religion reaches out today is provided by the Web site of Christ the King Parish, which includes a picture of the church, an introduction to the staff, a list of parish activities, a description of the school, and most importantly, a warm and friendly message to Catholics who have drifted from the attendance for one reason or another and how they can make cordial inquiries about returning. This particular invitation is presented in such a reassuring manner that it seems not the voice of Christ the King, but that of the Good Shepherd.



PROVIDED BY TIM POLEGA