



TODAY'S CATHOLIC

A Journey for Christ

Seminarians lead pilgrim group across the diocese



MARK WEBER

The pilgrim group of seminarians and friends stop at Sacred Heart Parish in Warsaw one afternoon of their journey across the diocese. The hospitality of parishes along the way played a central role in the success of the June 9-17 journey.

BY MARK WEBER

The old saying that a long journey begins with a single footstep took on a realistic meaning for a group of diocesan seminarians and some friends when they made a walking pilgrimage from South Bend to Fort Wayne in honor of the 150th anniversary of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Seminarians involved in this journey included Deacon Drew Curry, Andy Budzinski, Deacon Jason Freiburger, Matt Coonan, Tink Coonan, Matt Soberalski, Zachary Barry, Jacob Meyer, Cristian Reyes, Ben Muhlenkamp and Gabriel Hernandez.

On Saturday, June 9, the group went to Mass at St. Matthew Cathedral and then walked to nine parishes in South Bend and spent their first night as guests of the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration in Mishawaka.

The daily routine began with morning prayers, Mass, breakfast and a look eastward. The pilgrims were led by a seminarian carrying a crucifix — Jesus leads us, followed by another bearing a small banner of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Daily prayers included the rosary, the Sesquicentennial prayer, periods of silence and prayers honoring patron saints of parishes visited.

A support vehicle visited the group each hour with ice and water. During these breaks, the spiritual intention of the next hour was mentioned and the journey resumed. Upon arrival at each parish in the afternoon, the men rested (some had the energy to play basketball) and had evening prayers at 6 p.m.

Some nights the pilgrims slept in sleeping bags on a parish gym floor. Other nights were spent with host families.

On the road, the group was met with acts of

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With liberty and justice for all

Visit a variety of Americans
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Our Lady of Guadalupe Church the focus at national conference

BY ALEX SCHEIDLER

NOTRE DAME — Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish and Diocesan Shrine in Warsaw took special recognition at a national conference hosted by the University of Notre Dame Center for Liturgy June 11-13.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish was a Jubilee 2000 celebration initiative of Bishop John M. D'Arcy.

The liturgical conference special event began with Sister Joan Hastreiter, a Sister of St. Joseph and pastoral minister at Our Lady of Guadalupe introducing each panel member and a description of how they have been involved in the parish.

Panel member Genoviva Brito is a charter member of the parish, a catechist and head of the cooking committee, which has been an indispensable part of parish life.

"When we first came to Indiana, we were delighted to find a Catholic church," Brito said.

People came from as far as Michigan and Ohio. Since it was the only Spanish Mass in the area, the number of participants kept increasing.

Brito described the Mass in her aunt's trailer where they often had difficulty finding a Spanish-speaking priest to preside. She also recounted the way they approached Bishop D'Arcy requesting a Spanish-speaking priest and were fortunate to have one assigned to them.

Brito also fondly described the special family meals that always followed.

"The whole thing of the kitchen started," explained Brito, "because people would ask, 'Is there a place where we can eat before we head back?'"

"There were no McDonalds or anything in the area," she said.

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VICTORY NOLL CELEBRATES BUILDINGS RENOVATION



TIM JOHNSON

Bishop John M. D'Arcy presided at the rededication ceremony at the motherhouse for the Sisters of Our Lady of Victory Missionaries in Huntingon on Sunday, June 24. Above, sisters prepare to take blessed water to each building that was renovated.

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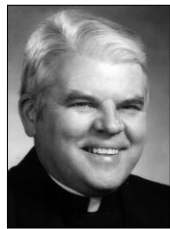
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Seminarians offer witness to prayer, pilgrimage and evangelization



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Pilgrimage extraordinaire

I tip my hat to our seminarians. Under the leadership and guidance of Drew Curry, they planned and executed a walking pilgrimage from one end of the diocese to the other. They undertook this as a component of our Jubilee Year. Beginning at St. Matthew Cathedral Parish, winding through several South Bend parishes and up to the historic chapel where Father Sorin set out his sanctuary lamp over 160 years ago, and then to the Basilica of the Sacred Heart and then on to an overnight with the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration where they took part in the Corpus Christi procession. They stopped everywhere. They gave a humble and visible manifestation of the importance of prayer and pilgrimage.

I told them that the breakfast that they received from the Franciscan Sisters was hardly the material of fasting that has been traditionally a part of ancient pilgrimage. However, they are young and in need of nourishment when one prepares to walk over 100 miles. Then they were off on a warm Sunday to Elkhart. Then to Goshen and Warsaw. At every parish, they attended Mass and prayed Morning and Evening Prayer together, often with parishioners.

Usually, they slept in the parish halls. But as they moved to towns like Pierceton, Columbia City and Arcola, they stayed in homes of parishioners where they told me they received questions about why they were becoming priests and did they think priests should be allowed to marry.

So as they gave reasons for their vocation in support of church teaching, they were evangelizing as they went.

A visible manifestation

As they proceeded, they were led by a crucifix and a banner of Our Lady of Guadalupe who was declared by Pope John Paul II as the patroness of the Americas — that is, of all countries of our hemisphere. Most greeted them with warmth and joy as they traveled, but there were a few negative cries as well. They were experiencing the culture as it is.

Finally, from Arcola to Fort Wayne where I joined them for a short walk between St. Patrick and St. Peter, two of our beloved old churches. Finally, to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception where they prayed Evening Prayer together and attended the 5 p.m. Mass, after which I introduced them to those present. They finished with a great sense of satisfaction and a sense of offering something very special to the Lord, as well as people of our dio-

cese. How wonderful it was for me as their bishop, and for our priests with whom they visited along the way, to see their joy and energy and, above all, their sense of purpose and vocation. This was entirely their initiative, and they told me the purpose was not only to manifest the church's need for more young men of good quality to offer themselves as priests but also to highlight the call to personal holiness and purity of heart and the call of everyone to follow the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Celebrating joyfully with them over pizza, I thought of the following words presented recently to the whole church:

"Families should generously embrace the gift of life and help their children be open to doing God's will. In a word, they must have the courage to set before young people the radical decision to follow Christ, showing them how deeply rewarding it is."
— Pope Benedict XVI, "The Sacrament of Charity"

More to come

This very weekend there is to be a retreat at Donaldson for young men, high school graduates, who are discerning a vocation, thinking about the priesthood. Once again, the initiative for this came

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from the candidates themselves in collaboration with Father Bernard Galic, our devoted director of the Office of Vocations. Nearly 100 names have come in from our priests, and each has received a personal letter from me and a call from Matt Coonan who is coordinating this effort. We shall keep in mind the words of the Holy Father concerning the shortage of priests:

"The situation cannot be resolved by purely practical decisions. On no account should bishops react to real and understandable concerns about the shortage of priests by failing to carry out adequate vocational discernment, or by admitting to seminary formation and ordination candidates who lack the necessary qualities for priestly ministry. An insufficiently formed clergy, admitted to ordination without the necessary discernment, will not easily be able to offer a witness capable of evoking in others the desire to respond generously to Christ's call."

— Pope Benedict XVI, "Sacrament of Charity"

This is our great pastoral responsibility, and we must do it well.

Moments of prayer with consecrated women

On two occasions recently, I had the joy of visiting some of the historic religious congregations in our diocese. First, it was the Jubilee Mass with the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration in Mishawaka, high on a hill overlooking Marian High School. This is an annual event that means a great deal to me. This congregation, so devoted to prayer and apostolic life, shows that Jesus Christ is still calling young women to a life of consecration and mission.

More recently, I drove to Huntington for an afternoon with the Victory Noll Sisters. This is a congregation founded under the direction of my legendary predecessor, Archbishop John Francis Noll, and a Chicago priest, Father John Sigstein. These women went out, two by two, as catechists to teach the faith in impoverished areas. Mostly, they went to counties that had no priests. They were referred to simply as "the catechists." With simple attire, they catechized and evangelized all over the country, but especially in the Southwest.

Many people of the areas in which they served had never seen a Catholic sister. Indeed, one member of the community told me she never met a sister until she got off the train in Huntington. Advertisements about Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters would be placed in *Our Sunday Visitor*, which at that time had a circulation of nearly 1 million. So they often came from poor areas of the South and Southeast. Many of these missionaries, now retired, live at Victory Noll, a beautiful site purchased by Archbishop Noll; it is also where he is buried.

These intrepid missionaries have been a blessing to our diocese, and I saw this visit as part of my responsibilities during our Jubilee Year.

A journey to Brighton

If all goes well, I will be heading east on Monday, July 2, to visit my sisters and their families. The visit will include a baptism of a grandniece, Judith Lillian Sheridan. A visit with priest classmates. Possibly a celebration of Mass at St. Mary Star of the Sea Parish, Beverly, Mass., where I served as a priest on my first assignment 50 years ago. Also, I think there will be a reunion of my classmates at Cohasset, a lovely village along the ocean. Also, some precious times on my back porch and walking along the Atlantic Ocean. And, of course, a game or two at Fenway Park.

So far, no call from the Red Sox to pitch batting practice. But there is still time.

I thank God for all the good things in which I have been privileged to take part these past 12 months. I look forward, as always, to my return on July 24.

May God bless you all.

Pastoral assignments announced

Bishop D'Arcy has accepted the recommendation of Father David Tyson, CSC, provincial of the Congregation of the Holy Cross, and has made the following assignments.

• **Father Cornelius Ryan, CSC**, administrator of Little Flower Parish, South Bend, has been appointed pastor of Little Flower Parish. The effective date of this appointment was May 27, 2007.

• **Father Neil F. Wack, CSC**, has been appointed pastor of Christ the King Parish, South Bend. The effective date of this appointment is July 1, 2007.

• **Father David J. Scheidler, CSC**, has been appointed associate pastor of St. Adalbert and St. Casimir Parishes, South Bend. The effective date of this appointment is July 1, 2007.

• **Father Michael D. Couhig, CSC**, from associate pastor of St. Adalbert and St. Casimir Parishes, South Bend to associate pastor of Christ the King Parish, South Bend. The effective date of this appointment is July 1, 2007.

• **Stephen A. Lacroix, CSC**, after ordination to the diaconate on Aug. 26, has been appointed deacon at Christ the King Parish, South Bend. The effective date of this appointment will be Aug. 27, 2007.

Bishop D'Arcy has announced the following personnel assignments:

• **Father Manuel Evangelista** from associate pastor of St. Michael Parish, Plymouth to pastor of St. Patrick, Ligonier and Blessed Sacrament, Albion. The effective date of this appointment is July 10, 2007.



• **Father Daniel Scheidt** from associate pastor of St. Pius X, Granger to pastor of Queen of Peace, Mishawaka. The effective date of this appointment is July 16, 2007.



• **Father John Klimczyk** from pastor of St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, New Carlisle to associate pastor of St. Hedwig Parish and St. Patrick Parish, South Bend. The effective date of this appointment is July 17, 2007.



• **Father David Ruppert** from associate pastor of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort



Wayne to pastor of St. Therese Parish, Fort Wayne. The effective date of this appointment is July 2, 2007.

• **Father James Seculoff** from pastor of St. John the Baptist, South Bend, to pastor of St. John the Baptist, New Haven. The effective date of this appointment will be July 17, 2007. The new pastoral leadership at St. John the Baptist, South Bend, will be announced.



• **Father Andrew Nazareth** from administrator of St. Martin de Porres Parish, Syracuse to administrator of St. Joseph Parish, Garrett. This appointment will be effective on Aug. 2, 2007.



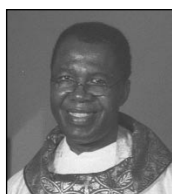
• Bishop D'Arcy has accepted the retirement of **Father Terry Place** as pastor of St. Martin de Porres Parish, Syracuse — for reasons of health. This was effective June 11, 2007.



• **Father Richard Hire** from pastor of Queen of Peace, Mishawaka to pastor of St. Martin de Porres Parish, Syracuse. The effective date of this appointment is Aug. 2, 2007.



• **Father Thaddeus Uwakwe** from pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Garrett, to pastoral assistant at St. Mary's Parish and the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Fort Wayne. This assignment will be effective Aug. 2, 2007.



• **Father John Delaney** has been appointed pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Lakeville. This appointment will be effective July 18, 2007. Father Delaney will continue as pastor of St. Jude Parish, South Bend, thus having the pastoral responsibility for both parishes.



• **Father Paul McCarthy** from pastor of St. John the Baptist, New Haven to pastor of St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, New Carlisle. The effective date of



this appointment will be July 17, 2007.

• **Father Chau Pham, SVD**, from associate pastor of St. Patrick Parish, Fort Wayne, to pastor of St. Patrick Parish, Fort Wayne. This appointment was effective June 20, 2007.



• **Father John Overmyer** from pastor of St. Patrick Parish, Fort Wayne, to chaplain of Saint Anne Home and Retirement Community. This appointment was effective June 20, 2007.



• **Father Benedict Kakwezi** from associate pastor at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Fort Wayne to associate pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Decatur. The effective date of the assignment was June 20, 2007.



• **Deacon Bob Lengerich**, who is scheduled to be ordained to the priesthood in October, has been assigned to St. Pius X Parish, Granger. The effective date of this assignment was June 20, 2007.



• **Deacon Jason Freiburger**, who is scheduled to be ordained to the priesthood in October, has been assigned to St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne. The effective date of this assignment was June 20, 2007.



The two deacons who have one year remaining in the seminary have been given summer assignments. They are:

• **Deacon Kevin Bauman** has been assigned to St. Michael's Parish, Plymouth. The effective date of this assignment was June 13, 2007.



• **Deacon Andrew Curry** has been assigned to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne. The effective date of this assignment was June 20, 2007.



STATEMENT FROM BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Concerning Saint Joseph's High School, South Bend

At the present time, there are four Catholic high schools in our diocese, two in each of our major urban areas. These present a great blessing and have been entrusted to us from the past. All four schools are flourishing and are engaged in either planning or carrying out major building programs.

Saint Joseph's High School, South Bend, for several years has been undergoing long-range strategic planning and has looked at two possibilities:

- 1) The restoration and renewal of the present site with new facilities, such as a second gymnasium;
- 2) The building of a new school if a site became available.

Recently, Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, South Bend, came forward with a most gracious invitation to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and to Saint Joseph's High School to give some of the land where they are now located to the diocese for Saint Joseph's High School once the Regional Medical Center's move is completed.

Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center has shown, in this gesture, concern for the South Bend community and a desire to help Catholic education and young people. This is also the tradition of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, the founders of the hospital.

This offer places on the diocese the responsibility to make a careful inquiry and examine all possibilities.

Estimates by the Saint Joseph's High School administration indicate that the cost of a new building would be \$43 million. This in itself represents a serious concern to the diocese.

While some of our high schools have debts to the diocese, they are paying on these debts. The diocese is able to loan to parishes and high schools, at a low interest rate. Where does the money come from? It is money belonging to all the parishes of the diocese that have savings on deposit. So we must be careful with these funds.

We have approved the request of Saint Joseph's High School for an immediate feasibility study to ascertain if sufficient funds could be raised for the restoration of the present building, with an estimated cost of \$26 million done in phases over several years as funds are raised, or for the erection of a new school. The study is expected to take six months, concluding by Dec. 31, 2007.

We have generally found that our high schools are able to raise between \$4 million and \$8 million. To raise \$43 million is well beyond the reach of any high school so far. It has also been presented that funds can be raised through the sale of the present property. This also must be investigated.

In all four high schools, we have been able to fund major improvements in phases. This is our policy. High schools and parishes must have at least 50 percent in cash and 50 percent in pledges for a project to proceed.

Some concerns that the bishop and Saint Joseph's High School need to address with the help of the feasibility study include the possibility of raising such substantial funds without incurring a debt that neither the high school nor the diocese can handle; the impact on the other institutions of the diocese, especially Marian High School, Mishawaka, and the relinquishing of the present site, which is in the midst of a great Catholic educational complex and at a place of high visibility in the community.

The prospect of a totally new building is exciting to many, and Saint Joseph's High School deserves credit for considering it. The feasibility study will seek to determine which of these two possibilities is more realistic. Which one is affordable? Which one will assure the stronger future for Saint Joseph's High School? Which project can be fully integrated into the diocesan school system?

I thank Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center for offering this site for a new building. I also thank the leadership of Saint Joseph's High School for the careful planning they have already done, and for their willingness to take up this initiative in order to ensure the continuance and growth of this splendid school in South Bend.

I assure the leadership of Marian High School that they will be closely consulted before any decision is made. It is my responsibility to strengthen all our Catholic institutions for the future. The diocese is committed to two outstanding Catholic high schools in the South Bend area and two in Fort Wayne. That commitment will not change.

We are entering a phase now of investigation, inquiry and prayer for light and guidance. Our diocesan staff will continue to work with all four Catholic high schools so that plans for the future will be sound and so that generations to come may be assured of a splendid Catholic elementary and secondary education.

Cardinal praises Bush for vetoing embryonic stem-cell bill

BY JERRY FILTEAU

WASHINGTON (CNS) — President George W. Bush June 20 vetoed a bill to expand federal funding for medical research on human embryonic stem cells, saying it “would compel American taxpayers, for the first time in our history, to support the deliberate destruction of human embryos.”

Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, praised the veto. “This bill would not actually enhance stem-cell research, but divert federal funds from legitimate research toward avenues requiring the destruction of innocent human life,” he said. “The cause of science is not enhanced but diminished when it loses its moral compass.”

In conjunction with the veto, Bush issued an executive order calling on federal agencies to strengthen the nation's commitment to research on pluripotent stem cells.

Adult stem cells from a variety of sources, including bone marrow, the placenta and umbilical-cord blood, have led to successful treatments for a number of diseases. Adult stem cells are called pluripotent because they have the power to turn into many of the 200-plus types of differentiated cells found in the body.

Embryonic stem cells are called omnipotent because they can turn into any of those differentiated cells.

Cardinal Rigali welcomed the executive order. “Adult stem cells continue to produce new clinical advances on a regular basis, most recently showing benefits for



CNS PHOTO/KEVIN LAMARQUE, REUTERS

U.S. President George W. Bush hugs stem-cell patient Kaitlyne McNamara after speaking about embryonic stem-cell research from the East Room of the White House in Washington June 20. The president vetoed a bill to expand federal funding for medical research on human embryonic stem cells, saying it “would compel American taxpayers, for the first time in our history, to support the deliberate destruction of human embryos.”

patients with juvenile diabetes,” he said.

He said a recent research breakthrough has shown that ordinary adult cells can be reprogrammed to become pluripotent stem cells, showing that “science not only raises new ethical questions but at times can help address them.”

“Tragically, some embryonic stem-cell advocates in Congress have dismissed such advances or even greeted them with suspicion, as though medical progress were less genuine or praiseworthy when it respects early human life,” the cardinal said.

Archbishop Charles J. Chaput of Denver said that the church always supports scientific research “that genuinely serves the human person.”

“Stem cells harvested from adults or umbilical cords pose no moral problems and have great value for medical research,” he said, but the “killing of human embryos is never justified, even for the advancement of scientific research.”

The vetoed bill was titled the Stem-Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2007. It passed in the Senate April 11 by a 63-34 vote and in the House June 7 by a vote of 247-176. Neither vote reflected the two-thirds majority that would be needed to override a veto.

The day before the House voted to relax the funding restrictions on human embryonic research, Cardinal Rigali had urged it to defeat the bill.

In a letter to all House members, he said, “Embryonic stem-cell research has been as disappointing in its results as it has been divisive to our society. Pursuit of this destructive research will almost certainly require you to embrace more and more egregious violations of moral norms in the effort to bring its ‘promise’ to fruition.”

“Ethically sound research using nonembryonic stem cells has continued to advance, helping patients with over 70 conditions in clinical trials,” he added. “Since Congress debated this issue last summer, further evidence has emerged on the versatility of adult stem cells and on the ability of adult cells to be reprogrammed to rival the flexibility of embryonic cells.”

Democratic leadership had made the bill a top priority when the

Democrats gained control of Congress this year. It would have ended the Bush administration's six-year-old policy limiting federal funding of human embryonic stem-cell research to projects that relied only on colonies of embryonic stem cells created before Aug. 9, 2001, the date that policy was announced.

Democratic National Committee Chairman Howard Dean sharply criticized the veto, saying, “Bush once again put political posturing ahead of sound science, turning his back on the overwhelming majority of Americans who support stem-cell research and the 100 million Americans suffering from debilitating diseases who could benefit from this life-saving science.”

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York, a contender for the Democratic presidential nomination next year, accused Bush of putting “ideology before science, politics before the needs of our families.”

White House press spokesman Tony Snow responded, “This actually is putting science before ideology. There are many people who

believe that you have to force taxpayers into making a choice of destroying human life — destroying an embryo in order to proceed with embryonic stem-cell research. That would be an ideological position.”

“The president does not believe it's appropriate to put an end to human life for research purposes,” he said. “That's a line he will not cross.”

In his veto message to the Senate, Bush said since 2001 his administration “has made more than \$130 million available for research on stem-cell lines derived from embryos that had already been destroyed. We have also provided more than \$3 billion for research on all forms of stem cells, including those from adult and other nonembryonic sources.”

The president's new executive order directs the Department of Health and Human Services and the National Institutes of Health to ensure that any human pluripotent stem-cell lines produced in ways that do not create, destroy or harm human embryos will be eligible for federal funding.

BLUFFTON PASTOR CELEBRATES SILVER JUBILEE



MARK WEBER

Father Dale Bauman, pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Bluffton, celebrated his silver jubilee of priesthood on Sunday, June 24, in the embrace of family, close friends and an overflow crowd of parishioners. At the altar, he was joined by 13 priests, a seminarian and two deacons. As he thanked all who participated, Father Bauman quoted Bishop John M. D'Arcy, who at his recent 50th jubilee Mass, said, “The gift of the priesthood is not given to an individual, but to those whom he serves.”



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FOCUS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

A next door neighbor suggested they provide a hot meal for the visitors and, in the process, get acquainted. That is exactly what happened. Different families met, became community and eventually moved to the area to be closer to each other.

"To this day, that's what we have ... a big family," Brito said.

The practice of gathering for Mass and sharing a meal afterward has endured, and people continue moving to town, growing the parish size significantly.

Another panel member at the conference was Manuel Gutierrez, who joined the parish in its fledgling state and is the current choir director. He enjoys diocesan work with a particular focus on Hispanic life and liturgy.

"I saw that the community was very special," said Gutierrez, who agreed with Brito's description of people coming from neighboring states — Ohio and Michigan.

"We were giving a real welcome to everybody," Gutierrez said. "We shared the Eucharist, food and music."

Gutierrez described with emotion the way of celebrating liturgy and community after which they would eat and dance. He compared it to the way it was done in Mexico. "I felt sorry for the neighbors because there was a lot of noise until three or four in the morning. This place was very special for us," he said.

Gutierrez went on to carefully explain the value and importance of that fledgling church and how they soon outgrew their space. They needed a place to educate their children and to prepare for the sacraments. That's when their campaign for a larger facility began.

Conference panelist Alfonso Ochoa was also present during the community's initial stages. However, he came to the growing parish only on occasion. The pastor approached him and asked Ochoa to start a youth group. Not only did Ochoa start a youth group, but he also got involved in other parish ministries and activities.

The last person to speak on the panel was Jessica Brito, Genoviva Brito's daughter. She spoke about the parish from an active youth's perspective, where she grew up. Today, she is very thankful for the new building and continues her active involvement on the cooking committee and teaching catechism.

Linda Furge, coordinator of the Jubilee 2000 and

Sesquicentennial committee and director of the Office of Campus and Young Adult Ministry, and Robert Amico, professor of architecture at the University of Notre Dame, both spoke at the conference focusing on the committee that helped the parish fund, plan and build Our Lady of Guadalupe Church.

During a steering committee meeting brainstorm, someone recounted a story of driving past a simple sign on Indiana Highway 15 that read, "Future home of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church." The committee was very intrigued and decided to build Our Lady of Guadalupe Church for Jubilee 2000. Their purpose was to demonstrate the diocese coming into the new millennium.

"The idea was the diocese would come together to bridge both millenniums — the old and the new," said Furge.

"We would begin the project in '99, and hopefully complete it in 2000 or 2001."

The committee also wanted to bring the diocese together through volunteer efforts and donated materials.

Through this effort, the diocese hoped to not only recognize the changing face of the Hispanic community in the area, but also to help and support them.

Furge recalled how Pope John Paul II declared Our Lady of Guadalupe the Patroness of the Americas in order to emphasize one hemisphere, one people in faith and one people in solidarity.

Professor Amico was a part of the Jubilee Solidarity Project Committee when he created the Jubilee 2000 International Design Competition for Our Lady of Guadalupe Church and diocesan shrine.

"I'm a firm believer in design competitions," said Professor Amico. "They give you a lot of ideas for a very modest amount of money."

According to Professor Amico, most international competitions would yield 200 applications at most. However, the Jubilee 2000 International Design Competition received more than 600 applications and over 250 completed designs. The designs came from 31 countries around the world and 32 U.S. states.

An international judging committee, along with parish members and Bishop D'Arcy, reviewed finalist designs before making the winning selection.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish was dedicated in October of 2005.

St. Mary's Heritage Fund awards grants totaling \$189,850

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend has awarded 36 grants totaling \$189,850 from the St. Mary's Heritage Fund to various organizations from throughout the diocese, including parishes, schools and agencies. The following were awarded grants upon the approval of Bishop John D'Arcy:

Parishes, Fort Wayne

- St. Henry — \$10,000 subsidy for students attending Benoit Academy
- Most Precious Blood — \$3,000 to begin Life Teen program at the parish
- St. Joseph — \$5,000 for tuition assistance for Hispanic members in need
- St. John the Baptist — \$3,000 for financial aid to non-parishioner families

South Bend

- St. Casimir — \$2,500 for adult-education program
- St. Patrick — \$5,000 for tuition subsidy of religious education for parish children

Area

- St. Vincent, Elkhart — \$5,000 to help offset expenses involved in operating Hispanic programs and salary for Deacon Ramiro Reyes

Schools, Fort Wayne

- Bishop Luers High School — \$20,000 for tuition assistance
- Most Precious Blood — \$5,000 for financial assistance to low-income families
- Benoit Academy — \$7,500 for financial assistance to families
- Queen of Angels — \$10,000 for financial aid
- St. John the Baptist — \$2,000 for workshop/seminar fee for diversity training for school faculty and staff

ty and staff

- St. Joseph Hessen Cassel — \$5,000 for tuition assistance

South Bend

- St. Adalbert — \$25,000 for scholarship aid
- St. Jude — \$2,000 for financial aid
- St. John the Baptist — \$5,000 for tuition assistance
- Holy Family — \$5,000 for tuition assistance
- Our Lady of Hungary — \$7,000 to retain part-time resource teacher
- Holy Cross — \$3,000 to partner with Freedom 22 Foundation scholarships

Area

- St. Joseph, Garrett — \$5,000 for tuition assistance
- St. Patrick, Walkerton — \$1,000 for tuition assistance
- St. Monica, Mishawaka — \$5,000 for financial assistance for minority families and single-parent families in need
- Marian High School, Mishawaka — \$5,000 for minority scholarships
- St. Vincent, Elkhart — \$8,000 for tuition assistance to Hispanic and African-American families
- St. Michael, Plymouth — \$5,000 for financial aid
- St. Mary of the Assumption, Avilla — \$2,500 for tuition assistance

Agencies, Fort Wayne

- Vincent House — \$3,000 for homeless children to attend summer camps
- Catholic Charities — \$5,000 to provide case-management services for refugees
- The Franciscan Center — \$1,000 to purchase food and other

items for St. Peter's Sack Lunch ministry

- Matthew 25 Health & Dental Clinic — \$1,350 for educational DVD for Spanish-speaking population
- Women's Care Center — \$1,000 for prenatal vitamins, Crib Club supplies and prenatal education

South Bend

- St. Vincent de Paul Society — \$1,000 to provide emergency food and assistance for hungry adults and children in St. Joseph County
- Christ Child Society — \$1,000 for Layette of Hope program
- St. Joseph Health Center — \$1,000 for early detection of children's vision problems

Area

- National Black Catholic Congress, Fort Wayne-South Bend — \$10,000 to represent diocese at the 19th National Black Catholic Congress in New York

The \$3-million endowment fund was established in 1997 at the groundbreaking for the new St. Mary's Catholic Church in downtown Fort Wayne to help provide financial assistance to the poor and needy throughout the diocese. The St. Mary's parish complex was completed in October 1998 and dedicated on May 2, 1999, after a fire destroyed the church and soup kitchen in 1993. The St. Mary's Heritage Fund was created through the collaboration and planning of the late St. Mary's pastor, Father Tom O'Connor, and parishioners using money received from fire insurance on the historic church. Since its inception, the St. Mary's Heritage fund has awarded annual grants totaling \$2,082,764 from interest gained on the fund's principal.

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Pope names French Vatican official to head interreligious council

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI named a French cardinal with extensive diplomatic experience as the Vatican's new coordinator of interreligious dialogue. Cardinal Jean-Louis Tauran, 64, will become president of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue Sept. 1, the Vatican's main liaison agency with Islam. Cardinal Tauran, a 28-year veteran of the Vatican's diplomatic service, is known as a savvy and sometimes outspoken specialist in international affairs. For 13 years, he was Pope John Paul II's "foreign minister," the official who dealt with all aspects of the Vatican's foreign policy. Pope Benedict announced the appointment during a June 25 visit to the Vatican Library and the Vatican Secret Archives, two institutions Cardinal Tauran has headed since 2003. In his new role, the cardinal will be responsible for overseeing the Vatican's dialogue efforts with representatives of other faiths, including Muslims.

House passes bill reversing Mexico City anti-abortion funding policy

WASHINGTON (CNS) — An amendment reversing the federal government's Mexico City policy banning federal aid to groups that promote abortion as a family planning method passed 223-201 in the House June 21, although the bill to which the amendment was attached could face a veto from President George W. Bush. "I will veto any legislation that weakens current federal policies and laws on abortion, or that encourages the destruction of human life at any stage," Bush said in a letter to Democratic leaders in both houses of Congress. The Mexico City policy does not allow federal funds to go to agencies that perform and promote abortion as a family planning method in developing countries.

Papal preacher won't lecture in Medjugorje after bishop nixes plan

MOSTAR, Bosnia-Herzegovina (CNS) — The preacher of the papal household has withdrawn from plans to deliver a series of lectures in Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina, after the local bishop denied him permission to speak there. Capuchin Father Raniero Cantalamessa, who has been the pope's preacher since 1980, was to be the keynote speaker at the 12th International Seminar for Priests July 3-5 in Medjugorje, the site of thousands of alleged appearances of the Blessed Virgin Mary. He was expected to have given three lectures at the event, titled "With Mary, in Anticipation of the Holy Spirit," but he pulled out after Bishop Ratko Peric of Mostar-Duvno, whose diocese covers Medjugorje, informed him that he did not have his permission to attend the event. "My principle is not to preach, especially not to

NEWS BRIEFS

PRIESTS WALK TOGETHER IN CANDLELIGHT PROCESSION



CNS PHOTO/DEBBIE HILL

Father Faysal Hijazen of Our Lady of Fatima Church in Beit Sahour, West Bank, and Greek Orthodox Father Saba Kheir walk together in a candlelight procession for peace in Beit Sahour June 22. The vigil called for unity and peace among Palestinians.

the clergy, without the permission of the local bishop," Father Cantalamessa wrote in a letter to Bishop Peric June 13.

Vatican issues 'Ten Commandments' for drivers

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican has issued a set of "Ten Commandments" for drivers, saying motor vehicles can be an "occasion of sin." A document titled "Guidelines for the Pastoral Care of the Road" said driving can unleash road rage and other immoral behavior, including excess speed, reckless passing, cursing and just plain rudeness. "Cars tend to bring out the 'primitive' side of human beings, thereby producing rather unpleasant results," the document said. The warning about driving came in the first part of the 59-page instruction, released June 19 by the Pontifical Council for Migrants and Travelers. The document said drivers need to remember that even when there is no one sitting next to them, they are never alone. "Driving a vehicle is basically a way of relating with and getting closer to other people and of integrating within a community of people," it said.

Brain surgery for Cardinal Keeler called a success

BALTIMORE (CNS) — Shortly after undergoing brain surgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore June 18, Cardinal William H. Keeler was cracking jokes with a family member, which officials from the

Archdiocese of Baltimore said was a sign the procedure went well. In the surgery — which archdiocesan officials confirmed began around 12:30 p.m. and was completed around 2 p.m. — neurosurgeon Dr. Benjamin Carson inserted a tube into Cardinal Keeler's brain to drain excess cerebrospinal fluid into his abdominal cavity. Head trauma the cardinal received during an October car accident in Italy is believed to be the cause of the accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid in the brain ventricles, otherwise known as hydrocephalus, archdiocesan spokesman Sean Caine said.

Pope meets Orthodox archbishop, calls for prayers for unity

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Perseverance and prayer are needed as Catholics and Orthodox work toward full unity, Pope Benedict XVI said, welcoming Orthodox Archbishop Chrysostomos II of Cyprus to the Vatican. The head of the Orthodox Church of Cyprus spent five hours with Pope Benedict June 16; his visit included a private meeting, a ceremony to sign a joint declaration of ecumenical commitment, a midday prayer service in the Vatican's Redemptoris Mater Chapel and a two-hour lunch. While both the pope and the archbishop underlined the importance of the theological dialogue involving the Catholic Church and all the Orthodox churches, Archbishop Chrysostomos also insisted that it was essential to improve relations between the Vatican and the Russian Orthodox Church. "I think I could be use-

ful," the archbishop told reporters. He said he would visit Patriarch Alexy II of Moscow in early July and urge him to move toward a meeting with Pope Benedict.

Italian Cardinal Felici, longtime Vatican official, dies at age 87

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A longtime Vatican diplomat and former head of the Vatican's Congregation for Saints' Causes, Italian Cardinal Angelo Felici, died June 17. He was 87. Pope Benedict XVI praised the late cardinal for his "precious collaboration" in working on behalf of the Vatican. In two separate telegrams, one to the dean of the College of Cardinals, Cardinal Angelo Sodano, and another to Bishop Vincenzo Apicella of Velletri-Segni, the pope expressed his sadness over Cardinal Felici's death. The pope highlighted the late cardinal's "generous dedication and recognized competence" in the offices in which he served. Cardinal Felici headed the saints' congregation between 1988 and 1995. From 1995 to 2000, Cardinal Felici headed the Pontifical Commission "Ecclesia Dei," which cares for Catholics who were followers of excommunicated French Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre.

Vatican official: Christians must live faith in context of culture

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The fact that Jesus became human challenges Christians to live and express their faith while staying within the context of their own

culture, said the head of the Pontifical Council for Culture. French Cardinal Paul Poupard, head of the council, said the Catholic faith "cannot be lived outside the boundaries of, or parallel to, daily life and the culture of a population or a nation." At a June 13 gathering to mark the council's 25th anniversary, he said, "The dynamic of the Incarnation asks that the faith be lived and expressed while fully inserted in the culture and reality that surrounds us."

Vatican's nuncio to Poland urges clergy to stop politicizing homilies

WARSAW, Poland (CNS) — The Vatican's ambassador to Poland has called on Catholic clergy to stop preaching politicized homilies. "I wish liturgical services in Poland would not turn into public rallies and just dispose people to be more human and more Catholic," said Archbishop Jozef Kowalczyk, the Vatican's ambassador, or nuncio. "We need priests, not politicians — and if politicians, then politicians of God's word," said the archbishop, whose sermon was carried by Poland's Catholic information agency, KAI. "We also need evangelists, not economists — we have enough of those already in Poland to do the job. Let's work on their spirit and conscience so they'll become true professionals in serving all society. This is the mission of a priest."

Madison cathedral nearly destroyed by fire to be rebuilt on same site

MADISON, Wis. (CNS) — Bishop Robert C. Morlino of Madison said June 10 that St. Raphael Cathedral would be rebuilt on the current site of the church in downtown Madison. Bishop Morlino made the announcement at the conclusion of a eucharistic procession celebrating the feast of Corpus Christi. He has spent more than two years listening, consulting and praying about the cathedral future. "I truly believe in my heart that the decision at which I have arrived is what God wills," Bishop Morlino said. Much of the church was destroyed in an arson fire March 14, 2005.

Knoxville bishop named to succeed Archbishop Kelly in Louisville

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has accepted the resignation of Archbishop Thomas C. Kelly of Louisville, Ky., and named Bishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Knoxville, Tenn., to succeed him. The changes were announced June 12 by Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States. Archbishop Kurtz, a 60-year-old priest of the Diocese of Allentown, Pa., was named bishop of Knoxville Oct. 26, 1999. He was to be installed as archbishop of Louisville on Aug. 15, the feast of the Assumption and the 30th anniversary of Archbishop Kelly's episcopal ordination.

Victory Noll Sisters support initiatives for just and humane immigration reform

HUNTINGTON — Over 75 members of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters Congregation took part in a community meeting, June 14-17, at Victory Noll to discuss issues pertinent to the ministry of the sisters.

An issue that is of great concern to the Victory Noll Sisters is immigration reform. As missionaries in ministry with the poor and oppressed, many sisters have worked with immigrants and migrant workers and are aware of the injustices they experience. Thus, attention was given to immigration reform and actions that could be taken.

The sisters support legislation that is humane and just, one that upholds family unity and presents a realistic process for attaining citizenship. They also recommend a temporary worker program that contains worker protections, assures a living wage and provides workers the means for a safe return to their homeland.

Since Congress is now debating legislation for an immigration program, the Victory Noll Sisters commit themselves to pray and work for just and effective legislation that recognizes and respects the dignity and humanity of immigrants and migrant workers.

Furthermore, the sisters will seek opportunities to promote access to healthcare, protective and emergency services and education for immigrants and their children.

As sisters return to their mission centers throughout the United States, they will continue — in collaboration with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and ecumenical and social justice groups — to take part in local and state initiatives for just and humane immigration reform.

New shopping club includes giving aspect

SOUTH BEND — A new shopping club that makes you feel good about shopping — because you'll be giving, too — is forming at the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County.

"Sister Rosalie's Gateway to Heaven Shopping Club" is for men, women and children of all faiths who love to shop.

By donating the material goods to St. Vincent's, they'll receive paperwork immediately for the tax write-off on their donations.

They'll also receive weekly notification of sales coming up in area stores, and a list of all food, clothing or other items the agency needs for the poor or to resell in St. Vincent's Thrift Store at 3408 Ardmore Trail.

There will also be membership in a club that has no dues, no required meetings, no officers, and no "You're in or you're out" because of lack of participation.

"You do what you can, when you can," says Cecilia Cunningham, a coordinator for the club and a member of the St. Vincent de Paul board of directors.

Club members can bring their donations to the thrift store every

AROUND THE DIOCESE

BISHOP D'ARCY DONATES BLOOD



FRANCIE HOGAN

Bishop John M. D'Arcy chats with fellow donor Rabbi Mitchell Kornspan of the Congregation B'nai Conservative while donating blood on Monday, June 25, to help "kick off" the Red Cross promotion of encouraging people to consider donating blood during the summer. Earlier, Bishop D'Arcy sent a letter to be read at all diocesan parishes this month. In it he states, "I myself, these past four years, have donated blood; and it is my hope that you will also donate. Even if you have never given blood, I encourage you to spend an hour of your day saving a life," he said. "If you have donated blood in the past, may I remind you how rewarding and appreciated this generous act of charity can be for you as well as the recipient," Bishop D'Arcy concluded.

other Thursday, from 10 a.m. to noon, to receive paperwork for the tax write-offs.

There will be a junior division to give parents and guardians opportunities to teach children about the personal rewards of giving. Its first project will be to start and maintain a "school supply shelf" for needy students.

And, there will be opportunities for non-shoppers to use their talents as well, says Cunningham, who is a local artist. "I have a friend, for example, who has special skills with dried flowers. She can arrange them in ways you would not believe, and they can be resold."

There will also be a monthly newsletter, "le News" with information about stores willing to help and other news about sales.

And, lastly, the club will have an eBay component, where items can be resold through the popular, worldwide auction on the Internet.

The club will have two general meetings a year: One in January to set goals, train new members and trade techniques. The other, in December, is to celebrate and reflect on accomplishments.

For more information, or to register for the club, contact Cunningham at portacoeli@choiceonemail.com.

Matthew Vigneault hired as new director for St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County

SOUTH BEND — Matthew J. Vigneault (pronounced Vee-no) has been hired as the new executive director for the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County. He began work on June 18.

Vigneault, 43, comes to the society with many years of public service in the nonprofit sector, local government and financial planning.

In recent years, he has worked as a financial advisor for a local financial services firm.

Before that, he served as executive director of the Greater La Porte Economic Development Corp., bringing new businesses and jobs into the community.

He has also served as city manager of New Buffalo, town manager for Syracuse, executive director of economic development for



MATTHEW VIGNEAULT

Bremen and city planner for Lafayette.

Vigneault said he is excited about working to help low-income families and individuals in the community by heading an organization with a strong presence and historical track record for doing so.

"One of the things that attracted me to St. Vincent's was its wonderful reputation, both here and worldwide. I've been an occasional contributor, of both material goods and money and have admired the work of the society," he said.

The society is a Catholic lay organization that serves the poor with emergency food, clothing and financial assistance.

In 2006, the society gave \$179,142 worth of clothing, furniture and household items away so that 5,524 people could have the everyday items they need to live.

Last year, the society also gave away \$24,347 worth of free clothing to residents of the Center for the Homeless, Hope Rescue Mission, the YWCA, the Life Treatment Center and the Work Release Center.

Some 62,991 pounds of food were distributed from the food pantry last year, and \$51,000 in financial aid helped 297 families pay rent, get medication or keep

their homes warm.

Locally, the effort is supported financially by the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store located at 3408 Ardmore Trail in South Bend.

Vigneault also looks forward to working in his hometown again. A Marian High School graduate, he also attended St. Matthew School and Monroe Elementary School. He holds a master's degree in public affairs from IUSB, and a bachelor's degree in public and environmental affairs, also from IUSB.

Vigneault is a parishioner at St. Matthew Cathedral, in South Bend.

"I wanted to get back to helping people," said Vigneault, "and this will be a nice opportunity to get back into the things I was meant to do. It's a mission to fill in a different part of our society."

Vigneault replaces Sean Wendlinger, who moved to Spokane, Wash., after three years with the organization.

Novena honors Venerable Solanus Casey's anniversary of death

DETROIT — Parishioners in Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, New York and Minnesota are being asked to participate in a special novena in honor of the 50th anniversary of Venerable Solanus Casey's death. The novena will start July 23 and end on July 31, the actual day of his death.

"Solanus Casey's rich life spanned many cities. We are taking the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his death to ask parishes in these cities to pray for nine days, beginning July 23 and ending the day of Solanus' death, July 31," Capuchin Friar Richard Merling explains. "We will be praying the Litany of the Blessed Virgin and also a prayer for Solanus' beatification efforts."

Cities that the Venerable Solanus lived and served include Detroit, Milwaukee, Appleton, Harlem, Yonkers and New York City. Also included are Hudson, Wis., Prescott, Wis., Huntington and Stillwater, Minn.

Prayer cards will be available through the Solanus Guild at the Web site www.solanuscasy.org.

Solanus Casey was a beloved Capuchin Friar credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel.

In 1960, the Father Solanus Guild initiated the Cause of Solanus Casey for sainthood. In 1995, Pope John Paul II promulgated the Decree of Heroic Virtue for Father Solanus and declared him "Venerable." Efforts continue to move forward as miracles attributed to Solanus are studied in Rome. One miraculous cure attributed to the intercession of Venerable Solanus will advance the cause to beatification and the title of "blessed." Another approved miracle after that will advance the cause finally to canonization or sainthood.

The Father Solanus Guild, a Capuchin ministry, is part of the Province of St. Joseph of the Capuchin Order headquartered in Detroit which serves Capuchin ministries worldwide.



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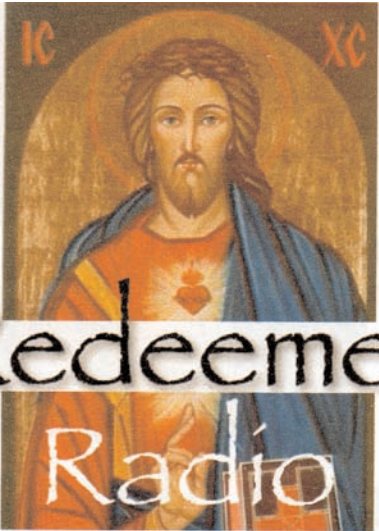
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Fatima breakfast speaker centers on Sacred Heart, Immaculate Heart of Mary

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — Diocesan Catholics gathered for physical and spiritual nourishment at the World Apostolate of Fatima's breakfast at Fort Wayne's St. Mary's Church, Saturday, June 16.

The midmorning breakfast followed the sacrament of reconciliation and a Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Adults and children alike listened attentively to Colin Donovan speak about the theology of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the mystery of Fatima.

Donovan is vice president at the global Catholic television network, Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN). A layman, he has the licentiate in sacred theology, with a concentration in moral theology, from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum) in Rome. Prior to coming to EWTN in 1995, he taught for three years at Aquinas College in Nashville, Tenn.

Donovan began the lecture by stressing the importance of the commitment to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, what he described as "a very solemn thing."

As members of the faithful of the World Apostolate of Fatima, he explained, we vow to uphold the commitment to Mary.

"We wish to be faithful to something we've given our word to," he said.

This devotion to the Blessed Mother is much larger than ourselves and we must see the big picture. "These things (Mary's requests) are not hanging out on their own," he said.

The theologian continued by elaborating on the significance of the two hearts — the Sacred Heart (of Jesus) and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

According to Donovan, the union of these two hearts is at the forefront of the mystery of Fatima. Just as Mary requests devotion, "Jesus is asking for these (acts of devotion) too," he said.

Although the talk was primarily about Marian devotion, Donovan tied in Jesus' theological significance in the Fatima story. The child Jesus appeared to Sister Lucia before Mary, Donovan reminds the faithful. Echoing Father Adam Schmitt's homily, he said "it was Jesus himself who came first."



LAUREN CAGGIANO

Colin Donovan, a vice president of EWTN and a theologian, was the guest speaker at the World Apostolate of Fatima's breakfast at St. Mary Church in Fort Wayne on June 16. The breakfast followed the rosary, reconciliation and Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Moreover, Donovan reminded Catholics the goal of earthly existence is the union of Christ with his church.

According to Donovan, the Fatima message from nearly a century ago still relates to our lives today — "to family, society, nation and world. The message never really concluded," he said.

"This is simply the message of the Gospel, he said. "It is the communion of the two hearts that is the goal of the Fatima message."

To fully live the Fatima pledge, Donovan contends Catholics should immerse themselves in the Gospel message and pray the rosary. Per Mary's request, Catholics should meditate on Jesus' life through the mysteries of the rosary, he said.

"Please pray your rosaries devotedly and attentively," he encouraged.

Donovan concluded his lecture by emphasizing the message of

Fatima is not over; rather it is a perennial message that takes time. This message is two-sided, however, he said.

"God offers grace," he said. "We have to respond. People must want to love God and neighbor."

Likewise, Fatima should not be just a personal devotion, for all are called to spread the good news to everyone.

In closing, Donovan suggested the triumph of Fatima can be the panacea for the trials and tribulations of modern society. Christians must pray for peace, especially for improved relations with the Muslim faith.

For further reading that reinforces the message of Fatima, Donovan recommends Pope Benedict's new book, "Jesus of Nazareth," and Desmond Birch's "Trial, Tribulation and Triumph: Before, During and After Antichrist."

Kloska speaks to South Bend Serrans

SOUTH BEND — Campus ministry is playing an important part of spreading the faith on college campuses these days and even more so when high school graduates are making their marks as freshmen students.

At Holy Cross College, the campus ministry program is to involve students as part of a mission team, said Robert Kloska, campus ministry director for the past 10 years. He recently spoke to the Serra Club members of South Bend.

"At Holy Cross College, we are

serious about our Catholic mission. We can trace this devotion back to Father Basil Moreau, founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross. So it's not surprising that we have a team of individuals whose entire purpose is promotion to this mission," Kloska said.

He continued that this team forms a critical mass of faith-filled students.

Kloska pointed to a reference by Bishop Daniel Jenky, CSC, bishop of Peoria and former auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, in which he

said, "Namely that the pervasive culture of 21st-century America is basically at war with Jesus and living in opposition to the truth of the Gospel and aggressively hostile to his church."

Kloska continued that in an age in which the world commitment means little, key members defy the norm. As a result, the mission team is not for everyone. But for those who choose this path, it is sure to be worthwhile. "We need these students to join the rebellion," Kloska said.

— EJD



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We need you, grandma and grandpa

BY GINNY KOHRMAN

Opening prayer

Dear Anne and Joachim, pray for all parents and grandparents so that they may raise up faithful children who love the Lord and follow his ways. Amen.

Scripture: Ps 78: 1-7

Commentary

July 26, 1982, will always be a special day in the Kohrman house. Twenty-five years ago, God blessed us with our son Christopher. Nearly losing him at 20 weeks and remaining on bed rest and limited activity throughout the remainder of the pregnancy, we often turned to Mary in prayer for protection and strength. At the time of his delivery, we did not know that the day was also special within the tradition of the church. Later on, my husband and I noticed on our Catholic calendar that Chris had been born on the feast of Ss. Anne and Joachim. I cannot explain how special we felt when we realized that God had so beautifully answered our many prayers by permitting Chris to be born on the feast day of Mary's parents. No one will ever convince me that this was coincidence or luck. I firmly believe in my heart that not only Mary but also Anne and Joachim were praying for our family.

Jesus' Grandma and Grandpa: St. Anne and St. Joachim

Most of what we know about Ss. Anne and Joachim is recorded in an apocryphal work, written around 150 C.E. called the Protoevangelium of James. This

apocryphal writing is non-canonical, meaning it is not included in our Scriptures. However, the church honors Anne and Joachim because they teach us something about the family life of Mary, the mother of God.

According to this apocryphal work, Anne and Joachim were exceedingly rich farmers and owned great herds. They were faithful people, loving God and giving generously, despite the fact they were childless. Both Anne and Joachim grieved their childlessness and the cultural and religious humiliation of their condition. But they remembered the blessings bestowed on Abraham and his wife Sarah in their old age; and so, in hope and with prayer and sacrifice, Anne and Joachim asked the Lord for a child. God answered their prayers, and Anne conceived and gave birth to Mary.

Mary is our model for Christian living, and so the church honors the parents of Mary, the ones who nurtured, taught and prepared her to be the mother of Jesus. They laid the foundations of faith that helped Mary accept God's will. They gave Mary an example of parenting from which she would draw as she raised her son, Jesus. The story of Anne and Joachim reminds us of the importance of family, especially grandparents, in passing on the beauty of our religious heritage.

Today's amazing grandparents

Today because of working moms and dads or the reality of divorce, many times grandparents take on greater responsibilities in the care of their grandchildren. Grandparents are often called upon to be an "extra listening ear" or a "safe haven" to children of blended families. Even if they do not partic-

ipate in the direct care of the grandchildren, grandparents can be a spiritual anchor or reliable presence in the extended family. Like Anne and Joachim, grandmas and grandpas are in a wonderful position to pass on the practices of faith, prayer and morality through "teachable moments" in opportune life experiences and through tuning into the spiritual needs of those whom they love, their grandchildren.

Sister Marlene Halpin, PhD, Dominican, in a wonderful little book called "Passing on Our Religious Heritage" provides some very practical ways in which grandparents can make a huge difference in the lives of their grandchildren. The ideas are very simple, but they can have a profound difference in the lives of children.

Reading stories

One of Christ's favorite ways of teaching is through stories. Jesus is a master at storytelling in the Gospels.

Children cherish the attention, physical closeness and special place of storytelling. Grandmas or grandpas can be master storytellers. As you read to your grandchildren, be silly, look at the pictures and laugh. Ask them who their favorite character is and why. Dare to read them a story from the Bible or from a children's Bible. Better yet, tell them one of your favorite Bible stories in your own grandma or grandpa style. When you are finished telling the story, pray aloud to God with the children. Invite them to talk to God, too. Ask them for what and for whom they wish to pray.

Watching TV or videos

Pick a good TV program that contains a storyline pertinent to their stage of development. At the end of the show, talk with them

about the characters in the story. What did they like or dislike about the movie or show? If the opportunity arises, talk with them about the consequences of certain decisions and behaviors. It may give them a chance to connect with you about things going on in their lives and allow an opportunity for you to guide them lovingly. Spontaneous or quiet prayer time, added to this time of popcorn and fun, will not only enhance the child-grandparent relationship, but also the child-God relationship.

Hang out together

Sometimes it does not really matter what you do with another person; it is just that you are together. Kids love to learn by watching and helping. Take time to teach your grandchildren how to make a favorite recipe, like Christmas cookies; put a worm on a hook; play cards; make a bed from scratch; plant a garden; go to Mass or take dinner to someone who is ill. Get to know what your grandchildren like ... chocolate or strawberry ice cream, their favorite flower or game, holiday or sunset. At the end of the day, spend some time recalling the day with them. Have them talk to God about the day: the good parts, the bad parts, the hard parts. Invite the children to talk to Jesus about the favorite people they love and those who love them.

Telling family stories

Children love to hear about things from the past ... what they looked like when they were born ... what mom and dad looked like when they first met ... how grandma and grandpa met and what they used to do. Old photo albums rich with family history ... pictures of cars, great aunts and uncles, buildings and machinery ... give

children an identity that makes them unique and yet ties them to others. Sharing an old letter or seeing a yellowed, brittle wedding invitation is sacred when told by grandma and grandpa.

Start your own traditions with them

Make a gingerbread house with your children or grandchildren each year before Christmas or give them an Advent calendar, complete with treats or surprises. Hide little treats, edible or non-edible, for them to find when they come to visit. Keep a "Remember" journal with them to record details of their visits with you ... or plant a shrub or tree that's "theirs" so they can watch it "grow up" over the years.

Just as these pictures and memories give children a family identity, so Scriptures unite them to their ancestors of faith who loved God. Grandma and grandpa can help children make the connections between their lives and the lives of others throughout salvation history who are a part of God's family. Intertwine their human lives with a life with God.

Anne and Joachim knew and loved God, and they taught Mary to do the same. Grandparents, like Anne and Joachim, we need you — now more than ever — to give children the religious heritage of our Catholic faith.

Closing prayer

Dear Father in heaven, we thank you for our grandparents. We thank you for their faith in you that watches over and gently leads us to you. We thank you for their love that reminds us of your love for us. Watch over them, Lord, and help us show them how much we need and love them. Amen.

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Faith and prayer brought him home safely

Parents of military major discuss spirituality during wartime

BY MAY LEE JOHNSON

SOUTH BEND — “I worried about him being in Iraq,” said Ollie Ross, Sr., of South Bend.

“But I knew he was well-trained, so in my heart I knew he’d make it home alright.”

And he did.

Retired Maj. Anthony (Tony) P. Ross, 40, was stationed in Fallujah as part of a military police unit. He was working in civil affairs, helping to build schools and rebuild Iraq.

Tony graduated from Riley High School and Indiana University with a degree in criminal justice.

He later joined the ROTC program at the University of Notre Dame, where he finished as second lieutenant. From there, he enlisted in the Army Reserves.

He was stationed in Kosovo, where he did two tours of duty with his last tour in Iraq in 2005.

His parents, members of St. Augustine Parish in South Bend, remember those times very well.

“When Tony was in Iraq, I was worried to death,” said mother Corine Ross. “Sometimes my daughter and I would just sit around the table and hold hands

and pray because you never can tell what might happen.”

The Rosses relied not only on their personal prayers but the prayers of the St. Augustine community in South Bend.

“Every Sunday that I was able, I went to church,” said Ollie, age 81. “It was powerful to hear my son, Michael, pray for his brother. And when the congregation said, ‘Lord, hear our prayers,’ that really helped me get through the tough times when we didn’t hear from him and wasn’t sure how he was doing.”

Tony was aware of just how much his family worried about his safety.

“For me, we were doing important work in Iraq,” Tony said. “We were helping the people of Iraq who were very much in need of our help, so I really didn’t spend a lot of time worrying about my safety. ‘I didn’t join the service to die. I joined for a better life and we were able to help the people of Iraq have a better life.”

“I did miss my family, and I’m glad I’m out, but the military helped me and my family have a better life, and I am really thankful to be home.”

Ollie, the patriarch of this

large family that consists of eight children, saw his son’s mission in Iraq a little differently than the women in the family.

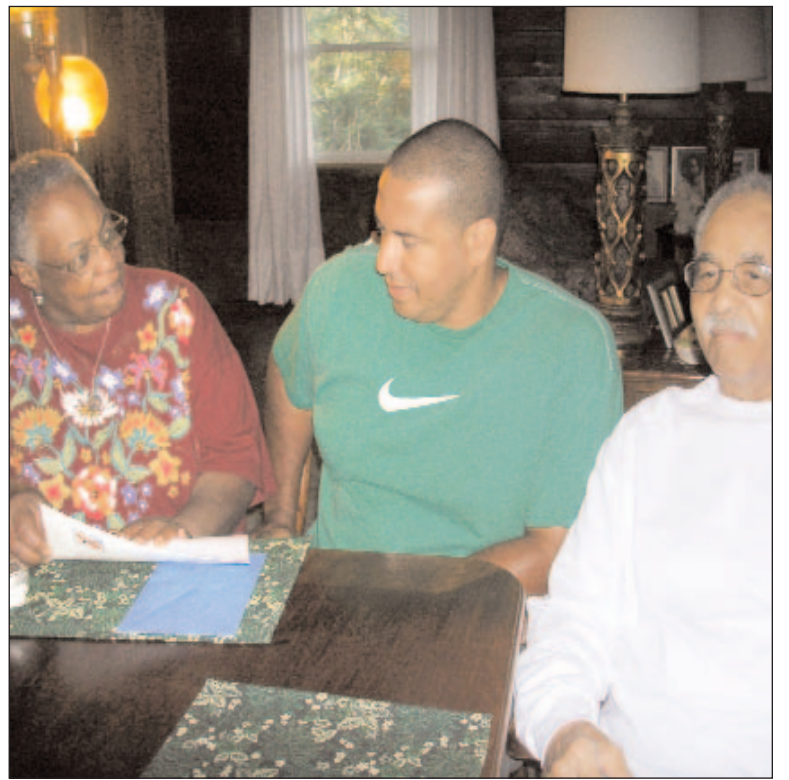
“When I look around today and see all these young men walking around, not finishing school and having no jobs, I wonder who’s going to defend this country,” he said.

“Someone has got to defend this country and other countries that have no one to help them. ‘I’m so proud of my son and the other men who served in Iraq for being willing to go over there and fight for all of us ...

“But we could not have made it without our faith. Our family spent a lot of time in prayer and prayer does change things. He’s home and retired, so his work is done.”

Ollie Ross thought about Tony’s safety every day he was in Iraq. Corine worried about him even more.

“It was faith and prayer that brought him home safe,” said Corine. “I just thank God he made it home and hope and pray that the president will bring all the soldiers still fighting in Iraq home safely — just like our Tony did.”



MAY LEE JOHNSON

Retired Maj. Anthony P. Ross, center, who was stationed in Kosovo, and did two tours of duty with his last tour in Iraq in 2005, talks with his parents Corine, left, and Ollie Ross, Sr., right, around the family dinner table about his time spent in Iraq. Ross says that although things are bad in Iraq, the soldiers are doing a good work for the people there and that his time served was well worth it.

A G. I.'S CATHEDRAL



MARK WEBER

Catholic chaplains serving with the U.S. Armed Forces have offered the holy sacrifice of the Mass in the desert, at sea, in caves, tents, even in chapels and churches. Throughout World War II and toward the end of the war in Vietnam, Christian chaplains were issued a “hard kit” shown here, which contained vessels and accessories needed. The box itself could be expanded to make up a small altar. This kit was replaced by a “soft kit,” about the size of a large camera bag, which was more convenient when changing ships, boarding planes, etc. An obsolete “hard kit” is on display in the Cathedral Museum in the Archbishop Noll Cathedral Center at 915 South Clinton St. in Fort Wayne. The museum is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There is no admission charge.

Abrego family's dilig

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Mexican born Jose and Hilda Abrego have a dream. In fact they have several dreams, both for themselves and for their children. That’s why their close-knit family came to Fort Wayne eight years ago: to pursue the American dream.

Jose Abrego says what began back in the late 1970s when he and his parents came to the United States has brought him to the place he is today. Though their brief stay lasted only a year, nine-year-old Abrego always knew he would return to America. A decade later, after graduating from high school in Mexico, at age 19, he took a job in Texas where he crossed the border daily between family and work. Soon he met his wife-to-be Hilda, and the devoted couple was married in 1991.

Abrego worked long, hard hours to support his new wife, and the family expanded in 1992 with the birth of their first son, Jose. With the new baby, Hilda found it more difficult to be without her husband as he worked across the border and joined him in Texas as a visitor. All the while, the couple dreamed of one day opening their own Mexican restaurant. Second son Edgar, now eight, was born the year Abrego’s brother-in-law invited him to come to Indiana where Hilda’s parents and three brothers live. Holding hard won legal permanent residency, Abrego traveled to Fort Wayne in 1999 and found a job in Ellison Bakery where he has worked now for eight years. Three months later, Hilda arrived and has since become a legal permanent resident as well. The boys followed their mother three months after her arrival, and two years after their move to Fort Wayne, daughter Jennifer was born and is considered an American citizen.

The family attends St. Patrick Parish where they have the support and friendship of the Spanish community there. The faith they brought with them from Mexico is important they say. “Without it there is nothing,” says Hilda.

Jose Jr., who recently completed his freshman year at New Haven High School where he plays football, recalls his frustration with the language barrier when he first arrived in the United States at age seven. Currently, at age 15, he is duo-cultural and feels comfortable as a bilingual Mexican-American with dreams of his own, one of which is to one day become a chef. Though the family retains their Mexican heritage within their home, where they speak Spanish, the children are immersed in American culture and have instructed their parents on the English language as well as some cultural nuances.



Jose Abrego, Jr., back left, where he works to become an American citizen.

Both Edgar and Jose Jr. recently returned from a trip to Mexico with their grandmother for a cleaning for the occasion at Payton. But she is quite busy. In Mexico, she has a little working in America. Finally get a chance to see the year and

A TIME TO HONOR REFUGEES



DON CLEMMER

Nyein Chan, refugee resettlement director for Catholic Charities, performs a song from his native Burma at the June 20 open house at Catholic Charities in Fort Wayne in honor of World Refugee Day. Chan, who himself came to the U.S. as a refugee, played a large part in organizing the day's activities of honoring refugees' stories and accomplishments, as well as learning about their cultures and homelands through informational displays and presentations.

Immigration builds American dream



KAY COZAD

back right, stands proudly with his wife Hilda, sons [names obscured] and daughter Jennifer at Catholic Charities [names obscured] with Luz Ostrognai, immigration case manager, [names obscured] American citizen.

ar and Jennifer have completed first grade at [names obscured] elementary School and are anticipating a 10-day [names obscured] with their father and brother in July to meet [names obscured] for the first time. Hilda, who has worked in [names obscured] the past four years, has recently acquired a posi- [names obscured] warehouse and will remain in the U.S. in July. [names obscured] to say that she is pleased her family can travel. [names obscured] she says, people work so hard just to survive that [names obscured] time or financial resources for leisure activities. [names obscured] America has given this family the opportunity to [names obscured] lead. [names obscured] as worked so hard that he was voted employee of [names obscured] was awarded an all-expense-paid trip to Disney

World for his entire family. And though the memory of the trip brings smiles to their faces, Abrego says the opportunities in America have brought him more than that. This quiet man proudly announced that in two years he will realize his long awaited dream of opening his own restaurant. It will be a family affair he says that will include authentic and Americanized Mexican cuisine.

His children are now citizens and Hilda will be eligible to apply in the next two years.

Several years ago, Abrego, whose love of family is evidenced as he speaks, realized the importance of citizenship for his children and began to pursue it with vigor. Working with Luz Piedad Ostrognai, immigration case manager at Catholic Charities, Abrego attended citizenship classes and completed the exam. His reward for the struggles he and his family faced during the

process was being granted American citizenship in 2005. His children are now citizens and Hilda will be eligible to apply in the next two years.

Of integrating into American culture, the Abregos say they came here with nothing but dreams. They have worked diligently and had several of their dreams realized including financial security, leisure time with all important family and educational opportunities for their children. The family agrees that language differences have been the most difficult challenge in the process of learning to live in America. So important is learning the native tongue, says Hilda, that her dream is to open a school to teach the English language to immigrants seeking a better life. The family has experienced some prejudice in the past, but Hilda feels, though some say the immigrants are "taking over" the country, that they are just like other families seeking better opportunities for their children. Both Hilda and Jose recommend all immigrants go through the proper channels to come into the country so as to earn the rights available to them in the U.S. Of living in the United States Abrego says, "We are happy to live here in Fort Wayne. We are working hard and our dreams are coming true." America continues to be the land of opportunity for those who seek a better life.

Holy Cross Justice Offices co-sponsor seminar

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

NOTRE DAME — The Holy Cross International Justice Office and the Congregation Justice Office of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, based at their central administration at Saint Mary's, Notre Dame, sponsored a seven-day JusticeCraft Seminar, June 3-10. The purpose of this biennial seminar is to prepare participants to lead and coordinate justice activities of religious congregations and other faith-based organizations.

Twenty-one men and women from eight countries on five continents gathered at Saint Mary's for input, prayer and reflection. Their time together focused on a theology-spirituality of justice ministry, today's critical justice issues, practical models and strategies for justice ministry and how to prepare rituals that shape and sustain commitments to justice.

Internationally known presenters led the interactive sessions. Sister Aline Marie Steuer, former president of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, spoke on Catholic social teaching and the spirituality of social justice ministry. Sister Aline's experience as an educator in Latin America during Brazil's military dictatorship made her more aware of the roots of injustice and strengthened her commitment to nonviolent social change.

Sister Amata Miller, a member of the Sister Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and professor of economics at the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, Minn., spoke on global economic justice. Well known for her tireless work for justice, Sister Amata worked as a former policy analyst and was the education coordinator at NETWORK, a national Catholic social justice lobby in Washington, D.C.

Mary Evelyn Tucker, a co-coordinator of the Forum on Religion and Ecology and member of the drafting committee of the Earth

Charter, presented a talk on the Earth Charter and ecological sustainability. Tucker is a theologian, currently on the faculty at Yale and has authored several books on various religious traditions and ecology.

Richard Dieter, currently the executive director of the Death Penalty Information Center in Washington, D.C., addressed the topic of peacemaking and nonviolence.

Barbara Ziliak, liturgy director of the Church of Our Lady of Loretto at Saint Mary's and Holy Cross Sister Marilyn Zugish spoke on shaping rituals for justice ministry.

Finally, Immaculate Heart of Mary Sister Ann Oestreich, director of the Sisters of the Holy Cross Justice Office and Holy Cross Sister Mary Turgi, director of the Holy Cross International Justice Office, presented practical models and strategies for faith-based justice ministry.

The Holy Cross International Justice Office was established as a vehicle for creating a well-informed, unified, public Holy Cross voice to impact critical justice issues. The office currently focuses on the areas of global economic justice, ecological issues, minority rights and serves as a clearinghouse for information and action opportunities for the entire Holy Cross family of sisters, brothers and priests.

The Sisters of the Holy Cross are well known for their promotion of social justice. Recently, the congregation approved a Corporate Stand on Nonviolence. The sisters are working to promulgate and implement this stand through their ministries in the United States, Mexico, Peru, Brazil, Bangladesh, India, Ghana and Uganda.

Those who wish to learn more about Holy Cross' work for justice can go to www.holycrossjustice.org and www.cscsisters.org.

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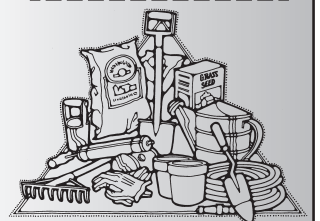
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Reporting on the 20th Annual Bishop's Appeal

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In a few weeks, we will launch our 21st Annual Bishop's Appeal. I recall with gratitude the priests and laity who urged this new approach and the many who have worked on it over the years. I have always seen it as a work of love and sacrifice for the church and for the work of Christ.

As in the past, I wish to make a full report on the most recent appeal. In the weeks ahead, I will present in these pages the financial report of our most recent fiscal year. Recently, I shared with you an up-to-date report of the Legacy of Faith campaign. All this is an effort to continue to meet our responsibilities to be as transparent as possible about the financial situation in our diocese.

The 20th appeal

For the fifth time, the appeal exceeded \$5 million. The total pledged is \$5,534,676, the second highest ever. The following numbers show the results of the past several years. The 18th appeal is not listed. Remember, that was the year the annual appeal was folded into the Legacy of Faith.

	Total amount pledged
16th appeal	\$5,263,900
17th appeal	\$5,623,163
19th appeal	\$5,048,502
20th appeal	\$5,534,676

While the appeal went down slightly, as was expected after the Legacy of Faith, it has come back quite strong this year. If all pledges are kept, over \$1.5 million will be returned to parishes.

Another reason for encouragement is that the number of contributors rose from one year ago by over 1,000. Nevertheless, there were 2,000 fewer contributors than in the 17th annual appeal. Thus, in the coming year, all of us must work together to increase the number of givers as well as the total amount. We have remained steadfast in the commitment that everything the parish achieves over its goal is returned to the parish. When the parish is strong fiscally and spiritually, the diocese is strong. At the conclusion of this report, there are listed the percentages attained by the various parishes. Unquestionably, the incentive of retaining all funds over the goal has, over the years, proved to be a great motivation for our people.

Parish schools

The Annual Bishop's Appeal has greatly strengthened our schools. Over a recent five-year period, teachers' salaries were raised to the highest level and at the highest rate in history. The salary of every teacher in our school system, from kindergarten to grade 12, increased at least \$9,315 over these five years. Many will receive more, depending on their progress, academic achievement and years of service. While it was not possible for the parishes to continue this rate of increase, we are raising teachers' salaries every year.

How to pay for these increases

While it is true that some large suburban parishes can fund these increases, almost half of our schools could not meet such an increase. Also, if we ask tuition increases alone to carry these increased salaries, it would set tuition at a rate that many families cannot pay. Our schools must remain within reach of working-class families. We initiated an historic change in hope of assisting in a substantial way a large number of parishes with schools. We did this by an increase in the appeal. Thus, last year, 30 parish schools received grants from the diocese totaling \$400,000. These schools are found listed at the conclusion of this report.

A change this year

We are now ready, as of July 1, 2007, to

distribute some of the results of the Legacy of Faith to our parish schools. You will recall, it was promised at the beginning of the Legacy of Faith that we hoped to have an endowment of \$20 million for our parish schools. From pledges kept, this endowment is now close to \$16 million. This will begin to be distributed this coming year using a formula recently reported in these pages. It is hoped that this year from this fund \$800,000 will be distributed to all parishes with schools across the diocese.

These "basic grants" that have come from the appeal were always intended as a "bridge" until the endowment funds from the Legacy of Faith became available. Nevertheless, we will continue these basic grants in smaller amounts to parishes for a few years and no parish will receive a decrease. In fact, with both sources we hope to be able to distribute about \$1.1 million this year to parishes with schools. This will be the largest amount given from the diocese to Catholic elementary schools in our history.

Thus, we have taken a significant step in sustaining our parish schools. It all has been made possible by your generosity.

Please note, that as in every year since the appeal began, we also will give grants totaling at least \$210,000 to parishes in need, who have applied and been approved.

Also, as reported recently in these pages, from our Legacy of Faith, \$4,623,188 already has been distributed among parishes.

High schools

The Annual Bishop's Appeal has stabilized our four Catholic high schools. A total of \$3.3 million has been divided equally among these splendid institutions. The principal of this endowment stands at \$5,522,684 as of April 30, 2007, thus ensuring the continuance of our high schools for years to come. Including what comes from the endowment, the appeal gives \$1.7 million, spread among our four high schools, on an annual basis. This has kept tuition increases moderate so that our high schools can welcome everyone who wants to attend and can pay at least a minimum amount.

Other ministries

There is so much else. The appeal makes it possible to provide retreats for young adults at a cost they can afford. Recently, for the 14th consecutive year, I took part in such a retreat for over 150 young adults, including 100 young Hispanic Catholics. Parishes are having retreats and missions. Religious instruction for the formation of teachers of religion in our high schools, elementary schools and parish programs is especially encouraging. Our school office recruits good teachers and works to strengthen the curriculum of all our classes.

Priests

The strong relationship between priests and parishioners in our diocese continues to show itself in the Annual Bishop's Appeal. The appeal has been successful because it has put the parishes first; also, because the priests make it their own. This is not a "downtown" effort, but an effort that is rooted in the parishes.

The appeal helps to train our priests. I believe we will have at least 17 young men studying for the priesthood in the coming academic year. Two are scheduled to be ordained on Oct. 27, 2007, and two more in the fall of 2008. The appeal makes this possible and also funds our vocation efforts. Indeed, our seminarians themselves are leading a discernment retreat for those interested in the priesthood. It will be funded by the appeal.

The appeal has made it possible to bring exemplary priests from other countries, including the countries of Latin America. Indeed, recruiting quality priests from

Mexico and other countries has become increasingly necessary with the influx of those who speak Spanish.

Currently, 16 of our parishes are being cared for by priests from overseas. The appeal makes it possible to bring these priests here so that all our people may have the holy Eucharist and the example of the Good Shepherd.

Lay leadership

I wish to thank George and Marjorie Bycraft of St. Matthew Cathedral Parish, South Bend. Their leadership over many years, but especially in this recent appeal, has been critical to our success. I thank also Dr. Michael and Jeanne Mirro of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne, and Brian and Jeannelle Brady of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Elkhart, as well as John and Julie Kenny of Our Lady of Good Hope, Fort Wayne, and Peter and Nancy Baranay of St. Pius X, Granger. This wonderful group, working throughout the year in concert with their bishop, has proved to be a great blessing.

For me, the appeal is a year-round responsibility. It is part of our effort of evangelization. I undertake it each year with joy, as do our priests and laity.

Sesquicentennial year

We are living now our Jubilee Year, commemorating the 150th anniversary of our diocese. Already, through efforts of evangelization, many people have returned to the sacraments and the practice of their faith. I look forward to our Eucharistic Congress on Aug. 18, 2007. It will be a day of prayer, instruction, adoration and thanksgiving.

A look ahead

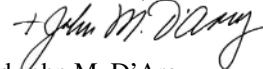
Pope Benedict XVI said, at the beginning of his pontificate: "The church is alive, the church is young." So in this 150th year we look ahead. Our present goal is to raise the number of contributors.

The appeal will continue to assist those in need. As our present Holy Father has written: "The love for widows, prisoners and the sick and the needy of every kind is as essential to the church as the ministry of the sacraments and the preaching of the word."

I take particular joy and gratitude that we have given millions of dollars over these 21 years for the homeless, for children without clothing, for those without adequate medical care, for the protection of the unborn, as well as grants for those who could not otherwise attend our schools. I am reminded of the words of Pope John Paul II: "Charity, never enough, never enough."

I am pleased to share with all of you the results of the 20th Annual Bishop's Appeal, and I look forward to working with you to continue this splendid example of faith, hope and charity.

Sincerely yours in our Lord,



Most Reverend John M. D'Arcy

Percent of goal reached — highest to lowest

Parish	Percentage of goal reached
St. Jude-SB	281.0%
St. Patrick-Walkerton	274.0%
St. Martin-Syracuse	215.4%
St. Michael-Waterloo	199.0%
St. Patrick-Ligonier	191.5%
St. Thomas the Apostle-Elkhart	181.3%
St. Louis-Besancon	180.6%
St. Joseph-Garrett	179.8%
St. Joseph-SB	177.4%
St. Rose of Lima-Monroeville	176.0%
St. Paul-Clear Lake	174.8%
St. Mary of the Lake-Culver	168.4%
St. Patrick-Arcola	167.3%
Sacred Heart-Notre Dame	166.5%
St. Mary Assumption-Decatur	164.8%
St. Matthew Cathedral-SB	162.9%
Immaculate Conception-Auburn	159.4%
Blessed Sacrament-Albion	156.2%
Sacred Heart-Lakeville	155.9%
St. Mary of the Presentation-Geneva	155.8%
Corpus Christi-SB	151.0%
St. Catharine-Nix Settlement	147.1%
Our Lady of Good Hope-FW	146.3%
St. Michael-Plymouth	146.3%
St. Pius X-Granger	146.0%
Christ the King-SB	145.7%
St. John the Baptist-FW	143.8%
St. Francis Xavier-Piercetown	143.2%
St. Gaspar-Rome City	142.4%
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton-FW	139.8%
St. Anthony-Angola	138.3%
St. Joseph-Mishawaka	137.6%
Holy Cross-SB	135.6%
St. John the Baptist-SB	135.6%
St. John Bosco-Churubusco	134.9%
St. Henry-FW	134.4%
St. Mary-Huntington	133.5%
Most Precious Blood-FW	133.4%
Sacred Heart-Warsaw	131.5%
Queen of Angels-FW	131.0%
St. Mary of the Annunciation-Bristol	130.8%
St. Monica-Mishawaka	130.3%
St. Vincent de Paul-Elkhart	130.1%
St. Joseph-LaGrange	129.7%
St. Bernard-Wabash	129.3%
St. Vincent de Paul-FW	128.4%
St. Aloysius-Yoder	126.6%
Our Lady of Hungary-SB	126.5%
Holy Family-SB	126.3%
St. Charles Borromeo-FW	126.2%
St. Joseph-Bluffton	125.2%
Immaculate Conception-Kendallville	125.1%
Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception	122.4%
St. Bavo-Mishawaka	122.0%
Ss. Peter & Paul-Huntington	120.3%
St. Stanislaus-SB	120.0%
St. John the Baptist-New Haven	119.7%
St. Stanislaus-New Carlisle	118.7%
St. Joseph-Roanoke	118.2%
St. Jude-FW	118.1%
Immaculate Conception-Ege	117.2%
St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel	114.8%
St. Anthony de Padua-SB	114.6%
Queen of Peace-Mishawaka	114.6%
St. Mary of the Angels-Big Long Lake	113.0%
St. Peter-FW	112.3%
St. Mary-FW	110.1%
St. Therese-FW	109.4%
St. Dominic-Bremen	106.5%
St. Paul-Columbia City	105.7%
Sacred Heart-FW	104.6%
St. Adalbert-SB	104.0%
St. John the Evangelist-Goshen	103.4%
St. Mary of the Assumption-Avilla	102.1%
Our Lady of Guadalupe-Warsaw	101.4%
St. Patrick-SB	100.0%
St. Robert-N. Manchester	100.0%
St. Joseph-FW	100.0%
St. Augustine-SB	100.0%
Little Flower-SB	100.0%
St. Casimir-SB	100.0%
St. Hedwig-SB	100.0%
St. Patrick-FW	100.0%

Bishop's Appeal School Income Committee Grant recipients for 2006-07 school year

Benoit Academy, Fort Wayne
Bishop Luers High School, Fort Wayne
Corpus Christi, South Bend
Holy Cross, South Bend
Holy Family, South Bend
Most Precious Blood, Fort Wayne
Our Lady of Hungary, South Bend
Queen of Angels, Fort Wayne
Sacred Heart, Warsaw
St. Adalbert, South Bend
St. Aloysius, Yoder
St. Anthony de Padua, South Bend
St. Bavo, Mishawaka
St. Bernard, Wabash
St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne
St. John the Evangelist, Goshen
St. John the Baptist, New Haven

St. John the Baptist, South Bend
Saint Joseph's High School, South Bend
St. Joseph, Fort Wayne
St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel, Fort Wayne
St. Joseph, Garrett
St. Joseph, South Bend
St. Joseph School/St. Rose, Monroeville
St. Jude, Fort Wayne
St. Jude, South Bend
St. Louis, Besancon, New Haven
St. Mary of the Assumption, Avilla
St. Michael, Plymouth
St. Monica, Mishawaka
St. Patrick, Walkerton
St. Therese, Fort Wayne
St. Vincent de Paul, Elkhart

EDITORIAL

The things we take for granted

As of last Thursday, spring has drifted quietly into summer. This is the season that makes agriculture possible in northern Indiana. We need the warmth of summer to help our plants grow and produce a bountiful harvest — that's a gift from God.

The change of spring to summer may go unnoticed, unlike the assignments of our priests who often find a place in our hearts and are then moved to minister at another parish. But isn't it also amazing how quickly we come to know and love our new pastors? They too are all experiencing change.

Like the warmth of summer, we often take for granted the pastor to be there to provide for our spiritual needs. We take for granted that we will always have the Eucharist. We are fortunate in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend that most parishes, just a few do not, have a pastor on the premises.

This too may be something we take for granted, but with many of our priests either ill or nearing retirement, there is an urgent need to pray that more men of quality accept the call to the priesthood. There are other men or women who may be called to life in a religious order.

Taking things for granted ... so often we take our very home, America, for granted. But we don't have to look far to see those striving for the life we often take for granted.

As we look back last week at the World Refugee Day celebrated worldwide and in our diocese, we see those striving to get out of oppression, danger, slavery and extreme poverty. There are people willing to risk life and death to enter our country where they see opportunity, education, a chance to make a good life for their family and willingness to oftentimes share a part of that fortune with family outside of this country.

The United States is a nation of immigrants. And we have always been noted as a nation that welcomes the immigrant. We only have to look at the beloved Statue of Liberty: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

The truth is most of us come from families of immigrants. It is only by the grace of God that we were born in this land. We are called to be good stewards of our nation: to lift the low and suffering; to help others embrace their dreams; to have the right to call what is evil, evil and to call what is good, good; and treasure the land that allows us to praise God in accordance to our beliefs. Let us thank our Maker for this gift.

Let us always, too, embrace the freedom to live our call to be faithful Catholics, standing for her values to love God first and foremost, love our neighbor and build the kingdom of God in a land so blessed.

Kudos for a veto

Last week, President George W. Bush vetoed the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act (S.5) and issued an executive order supporting alternative means for obtaining and using versatile or "pluripotent" stem cells. *Today's Catholic* applauds this veto. The bill would have diverted federal funds, using our tax money, away from legitimate research with adult stem-cells to unethical avenues such as embryonic stem cell research, which requires the destruction of an embryo, a human life.

To date there are 70 illnesses that are treated using adult stem cells. And fortunately that list is growing with this type of research the president is encouraging. On the other hand, not a single treatment has been derived from embryonic stem-cell research.

So while many in the media, politicians and movie stars may be pushing for embryonic stem-cell funding, let us encourage our leaders to use our tax money as good stewards and towards the adult stem-cell research, which poses no ethical concerns and holds much promise today.

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

Essayist reports on responsibility as a Catholic citizen

Every year the Knights of Columbus Council 11353 hold an essay contest it is for eighth graders and 12th-grade seniors currently enrolled in a Catholic school. Every year they receive great responses from the eighth graders at St. Vincent de Paul School in Fort Wayne, and it gets more difficult to narrow down to just two. This year the second-place essay was written by Ryan Smith, and the first-place essay was written by Michael GlouDEMANS.

The following is Michael GlouDEMANS essay on the responsibilities of a Catholic citizen in a free society.

The responsibility of the Catholic citizen in a free society

BY MICHAEL GLOUDEMANS

Numerous countries exist in the world where people who want to express their beliefs suffer serious consequences. As a Catholic citizen of the United States, I am blessed to live in a country where my religious freedoms are protected, not prevented, by the law. In America, I can choose to go to church every week, and I can choose to pray to God whenever I want.

With these rights comes a great

deal of responsibility. Catholic citizens of the United States must vote for righteous leaders whose beliefs are most similar to those of the church.

Electing these candidates will improve the chances of creating laws that the church believes in. This is an extremely important role for all Catholics in a democracy.

Another right Americans have is that they can speak out against leaders, laws or anything that they believe is immoral. They can voice their opinions on issues such as abortion, (embryonic) stem-cell research and the death penalty. If people are being mistreated, Catholics need to stand up for them.

Not just adults have a responsibility as Catholics. As a teenager, there are numerous ways that I can support my Catholic faith in today's society.

Music is very popular with teens. I can choose to support artists by buying their music. As a Catholic, I can buy music with life-enriching instead of life-diminishing music that promotes negative behaviors.

I can avoid situations that will pressure me to use drugs and participate in other dangerous activities that could cause harm to me or to someone else.

I can also participate in service projects to help others. My time is one of the biggest gifts I can give to people who need help.

Many Americans have sufficient amounts of money to support all of

their needs and many wants as well. I can make sure that I spend some of my money making the world a better place rather than just squandering it on myself. I can donate time and cash to organizations working for good causes, such as The Franciscan Center and the Rice Bowl.

Catholics must also strive to do God's will at all times during their lives. I must follow God's commandments — even when I won't necessarily get caught if I choose to sin.

Honesty is one very important virtue that is vital for Catholics to practice. I should always be honest, whether the matter at hand is cheating on a test, not paying taxes or stealing supplies from work. If I break God's commandments, he will know even if no one else does.

Although all the other rights I have are important, one is more special to me than all of the others. The most valuable right that I have as a Catholic in a free country is my freedom of religion. In America, I can worship God without worrying about rejection or persecution. I can attend Mass and pray whenever I want. Prayer is the most important responsibility of a Catholic citizen in a free society. God wants a relationship with me, and I can strengthen this relationship through prayer. I can pray for peace in the world, guidance in making the right choices, and any other needs. A prayer can be said anywhere and at any time, and no prayer is forgotten by God.

The roller coasters of life

We all wear many hats in life. In my case it's husband, dad, son, editor, church musician and music director, and then all those sideline items like gardener, pool maintenance man and bluegrass-er. Finding spirituality in all this is the goal of this occasional column.

Two weeks ago, Rose, my wife, and Heather, our four year old, and I, hit the road with Rose's brother and 14-year-old niece for two days at Holiday World in southern Indiana. We had gone there for a day last year but decided we needed two days to fully explore the theme park's possibilities.

Holiday World, formerly called Santa Claus Land when I was a kid — my family went there when I was four or five — sits in the midst of a Catholic haven. Jasper, the town where we stayed, has 12,000 people and three Catholic parishes. Ferdinand, just north of the park, is the home of the Sisters of St. Benedict. St. Meinrad Seminary is also near the park and Catholic churches speckle the countryside. Holiday World is owned by a

Catholic family. Hints of Catholicism could be found in the park. When entering the Christmas-themed section of the park, a Nativity scene is located in a busy walkway, and the "Ave Maria" and other Christmas hymns are included with "Here Comes Santa Claus." The gift shop even sold St. Christopher medals.

My brother-in-law challenged me to say something in an editorial about all the people who bore tattoos, especially those who bore the crucifix, the crown of thorns, etc. We had quite a discussion of what it could mean.

My theory is that, if you bear it, you better live it, and live it with joy. That applies not just to crucifix tattoos, but also to those with the "In God We Trust" Indiana license plates and the magnetic fish on their cars symbolizing Christianity. Signs are great reminders, and people truly are seeking examples of authentic Christian living, but woe to those who transgress bearing these signs. Society is waiting for you to fall, to plunge like we did from the top of Holiday World's Voyage roller coaster.

MANY HATS



BY TIM JOHNSON

The Voyage is an exhilarating thrill coaster. I'll go out on a limb and say it may be the best coaster I've ever been on. It had twists and turns at 90 degrees and lots of tunnels, definitely not for the faint-hearted.

It reminds me of life in general — full of unanticipated twists and turns and tunnels. But when we keep our lives on track with God, we can see the light at the end of each tunnel, and we know we will arrive back at the station after the thrill from the ride of a lifetime — the ride of life.

Tim Johnson is the editor of *Today's Catholic* newspaper.

In Assisi, Pope Benedict follows in John Paul's footsteps

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI's recent visit to Assisi was an emblematic event, demonstrating once again that this pontificate is more about continuity than revolution.

For some at the Vatican, Assisi long ago came to represent the excesses of dialogue and the dangers of political activism.

The birthplace of St. Francis was the site of the famous interreligious encounter convened by Pope John Paul II in 1986, when the representatives of 15 faiths assembled in the city's holy places to pray for peace. The absence of Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger — now Pope Benedict — from Assisi that day was interpreted as a self-distancing from the interfaith initiative.

So when Pope Benedict made his own pilgrimage to Assisi June 17, the stage seemed set for a papal corrective or reprimand, and perhaps a change in direction for dialogue.

Instead, the pope made it clear that not only did he consider the 1986 Assisi meeting a prophetic idea and a "moment of grace" but that dialogue with other religions should be considered an essential

part of being a Christian.

He spoke of St. Francis as a man of dialogue and peace, recalling how the saint had spoken with "meekness" with the sultan of Egypt, yet without ever hiding his own Christian faith.

In the end, rather than rein in the church's outreach to other religions, the pope gave it strong support.

As usual, he added some qualifiers: Dialogue must never be religious indifferentism; tolerance does not mean suppressing one's own faith convictions; and, for the Christian, respect for others does not negate the duty to announce Christ as the unique savior.

These were the same caveats noted for years by Pope John Paul.

Nor did Pope Benedict have problems with people seeing St. Francis as a special saint for the causes of peace and ecology. The important thing to remember, he said, is that what transformed St. Francis and made him sensitive to these causes was his conversion to Christ.

What distinguished Pope Benedict's Assisi pilgrimage was, in fact, his focus on the person of

THE VATICAN LETTER

JOHN THAVIS

St. Francis and his relationship to the faith. St. Francis did not find God through social activism, but became a man for others precisely because he was "a man of God," the pope said.

There were obvious parallels with the pope's pilgrimage in April to the northern Italian city of Pavia, where St. Augustine is buried.

The pope chose to highlight these two very different saints because both are examples of dramatic conversion. As young men, they were dedicated in similar ways to material pleasures before an encounter with Christ radically changed their lives.

LETTER, PAGE 15

Christ gives freedom, not constriction



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time Lk 9:51-62

The First Book of Kings is the source of this weekend's first reading. As the names of these two volumes imply, First and Second Kings were written, to a degree, to be a chronicle of the lives and reigns of Israel's early kings.

However, in no sense were they political or even personal biographies. They were written with the purpose first and foremost of drawing the people of Israel more closely to God and to obedience to God's commandments.

With such the case, it is not surprising that they feature prophets as much as kings. In this weekend's reading, the focus is upon Elisha and Elijah, two of the earliest recorded prophets.

Described is the passage of responsibility from Elijah to Elisha, much more than simply a conferral of authority upon a new generation by a preceding generation. Succession occurred. However, God directed Elijah to call Elisha to the role of prophet. In other words, both Elijah and Elisha were divinely chosen.

It was part of God's plan to give the Chosen People direction, lest they go astray, and to their own

doom, if left to their own plans.

Two points are worth remembering. The first is somewhat coincidental. God tells Elijah to anoint Elisha. Anointings with olive oil survive in Christian liturgies. Anointing is one of the most ancient gestures of ritual. It means being marked.

Secondly, the prophets put everything aside to serve God.

The Epistle to the Galatians is the second reading. While pious Jews abhorred slavery, the literal owning of human beings was commonplace in the Roman Empire. Galatian Christians to whom this epistle first was sent, saw slavery everyday and at every turn. Everyone instantly would have understood a reference to slavery.

The letter to the Galatians reminded its ancient readers in Galatia, and us today, that blindly following our instincts is not in any way true freedom. Instead, it is slavery. But, we are attracted to following our instincts. We are attracted to sin and to selfishness.

God's strength, given in the Spirit, through identity with Jesus, fortifies us. God's revelation, proclaimed by Jesus, instructs us. In Christ, God frees us.

St. Luke's Gospel furnishes the last reading. For Luke, the Lord's coming to Jerusalem was momentous, for Jesus personally but also for the world. Thus, this evangelist can be very dramatic in detailing the movement of Jesus toward the Holy City.

Passing to Jerusalem, the Lord goes through Samaria. For devout Jews, Samaritans were a disgusting lot. Long ago Samaritans had compromised themselves by accepting foreign invasion and by consorting with pagans. All this happened centuries before Jesus, but in the first century A.D., Jews still scorned Samaritans.

Understandably the apostles asked Jesus for a harsh retaliation when people in a Samaritan village rejected the Gospel. Jesus reprimanded the apostles for their request.

Someone else loudly cried out loyalty to Christ. The Lord tells this person that true faith means a commitment so strong that nothing can divert it.

Reflection

The Lord, in Luke's Gospel, calls us to a high ideal indeed by saying that no one who looks back after commitment to God can receive the gift of eternal life.

The church is blunt in proclaiming this passage. However, it also is encouraging and reassuring. God sent prophets to guide the people. God sent us Jesus.

It is up to us. We must set our sights on the row to be plowed, on our way to heaven. We allow ourselves to be slaves. Our culture hardly sees it this way. It has completely reversed the meaning of freedom. We are slaves if we sin, not somehow in control. Christ gives us freedom, not constrictions.

READINGS

Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:16b, 19-21 Ps 16:1-2, 5 Gal 5:1, 13-18 Lk 9:51-62

Monday: Gn 18:16-33 Ps 103:1-4, 8-11 Mt 8:18-22

Tuesday: Eph 2:19-22 Ps 117:1-2 Jn 20:24-29

Wednesday: Gn 21:5, 8-20a Ps 34:7-8, 10-13 Mt 8:28-34

Thursday: Gn 22:1b-19 Ps 115:1-6, 8-9 Mt 9:1-8

Friday: Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67 Ps 106:1-5 Mt 9:9-13

Saturday: Gn 27:1-5, 15-29 Ps 135:1-6 Mt 9:14-17

THE CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Camplisson

In July we celebrate the birth of our nation. But the term nation had a particular meaning in the Bible. This quiz looks at "nations."

- In the Old Testament, to whom did the term "nations" refer?**
 - any non-religious group
 - polytheists
 - any non-Israelite
- The commonly used Hebrew term was:**
 - Ptant Ptang
 - Goy (Goyim plural)
 - Gerasine
- The term "nations" is often rendered in biblical translations as:**
 - Hebrews
 - Gentiles
 - Romans
- Confusingly, "nation" or "nations" is also used (as in Gen 12:2) for these:**
 - The Israelites
 - The Hittites
 - sheep
- To add to the confusion, in Latin the term could also mean**
 - Muslim
 - compatriot
 - singer
- The term gentile was not necessarily negative, as the Jews recognized friendly non-Jews. One of the greatest examples is this Persian emperor who let the Jews return to Jerusalem:**
 - Nebuchadnezzar
 - Cyrus
 - Augustus
- God was clearly concerned for the welfare of gentiles as seen in Jonah, when**
 - God saved the people of Jericho by boiling them in lime.
 - God sent his messenger Joseph to the Egyptians.
 - God sent Jonah to save the gentile citizens of Nineveh.
- To add to the confusion sometimes the word "gentile" is translated as**
 - Greek
 - Celtic
 - priest
- Why is it translated this way (q.8)?**
 - Because the most common culture in the Eastern Mediterranean was Hellenist Greek.
 - Because from Galicia to Ireland, the Celts were the most numerous gentiles.
 - Because Jews had Rabbis and pagans had priests.
- When did Jesus encounter gentiles?**
 - Technically from birth as his mother was, by fiat, a gentile.
 - Never, as a rabbi it was forbidden to him.
 - During his ministry and his arrest and trials.
- What does his teaching tell of Christ's view of Gentiles?**
 - He saw them as superior to Jews.
 - He saw them as being able to receive the faith, but through Judaism.
 - He wrote them off as not worthy.
- How many of the apostles were gentiles?**
 - Probably all, since the Church ended up a gentile organization.
 - Only two that we know of, Judas and Thomas.
 - None.
- Which apostle was most identified with outreach to gentiles?**
 - Peter
 - Paul
 - Zeus
- Eventually the gentiles formed the majority of the church. But what was the group that held on to the notion that gentiles had to become Jews to be Christians?**
 - Ebionites
 - Zealots
 - Zionists
- There is an echo of "gentile" in the Vatican II Document "Lumen Gentium." What does it mean?**
 - Men and non-human
 - Light to the Nations
 - Refined Weaving

ANSWERS:

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

Luke tells of St. John the Baptist's parents, Zechariah and Elizabeth

What were the parents of St. John the Baptist like? Anonymous

The Gospel of Luke gives the names of the parents of St. John the Baptist as Zechariah ("whom God remembered") and Elizabeth ("God is my oath").

Zechariah was a Jewish village priest from the priestly class of Abijah. Abijah was the head of a priestly family, specifically the eighth of the 24 divisions of the temple priesthood. In New Testament times, says Father John McKenzie, these 24 divisions served in the temple in weekly turns, and the families within the divisions served in daily turns. Zechariah, who offered incense in the temple, had a specialized office. Incense was burned as a perfume.

J. Comay says two individuals were chosen by lot each day to tend the brazier on the altar of incense in front of the Most Holy Place, one in the morning and one in the evening. When Zechariah entered the sanctuary to burn incense, the congregation remained outside at prayer.

While Zechariah was offering incense in the temple, the angel Gabriel appeared and said his ster-

ile and elderly wife Elizabeth would bear a son who should be called John. The elderly Zechariah could not understand how this could happen, so he was struck mute or unable to speak. When he came out of the temple in this speechless condition, the people realized he had seen a vision.

St. Luke says Zechariah and Elizabeth were both just, blameless and followed the commandments of God. Elizabeth was a descendant of Aaron, the brother of Moses. Aaron and his sons were designated and installed as priests, with Aaron as high priest. Elizabeth was also a relative of Mary, the mother of Jesus.

Meanwhile the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and said she would bear a son and also told her of Elizabeth's pregnancy. Mary then traveled from Nazareth to the hill country outside of Jerusalem to visit Elizabeth. At their meeting the baby in Elizabeth's womb leapt for joy. Mary remained with Elizabeth for three months and then returned home. Elizabeth gave birth to a son whom they named John. Then Zechariah's mouth was opened and his tongue loosed and he praised God with the "Benedictus," or "Blessed be the

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

Lord."

Christian tradition designates the village of Am Karim, equidistant between Jerusalem and Bethlehem, as the home of Zechariah and Elizabeth. The Franciscan church of St. John the Baptist is said to be built over this spot. The present church dates to 1674 but is built over earlier churches going back to the fifth century A.D.

K. Prag says the interior of the church has a nave with side aisles divided by piers. The high altar is dedicated to St. John the Baptist and the altar on the right to St. Elizabeth. Steps descend down to the grotto of St. John, traditionally his birthplace, where reliefs depict scenes from his life. A marble tablet reads, "Here the precursor of the Lord was born."

South of this church is the

Spring of the Virgin, where Mary is said to have drawn water. Further west is the Franciscan Church of the Visitation of Mary on the site of a cottage or summer residence of Elizabeth and Zechariah. The present upper church was built in 1955 with a mosaic on the façade depicting Mary's arrival. The interior has frescoes and mosaics with lines from Mary's hymn the "Magnificat" or "My soul magnifies the Lord." There are pilgrims' crosses scratched into the masonry. The "Protevangelium of James" says that near here Elizabeth hid the baby John the Baptist from the wrath of King Herod. At the other church of St. John the Baptist there are two rock tombs that may hold the remains of the Holy Innocents, the young babies who shed their blood for Christ.

Near Am Karim is a small chapel with a tomb, now empty, under an apse, said to have been

that of St. Elizabeth. A later tradition says Zechariah was murdered in the Temple of Jerusalem at the command of King Herod, because he would not tell Herod where his son John was to be found. The feast day of Zechariah and Elizabeth is Nov. 5.

Father Richard Hire, pastor of Queen of Peace Parish, Mishawaka, answered this week's question.

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

Forgiveness and the present moment

About 10 months after the birth of my third baby I discovered a lump in the side of my right armpit. I was just 28 but old enough to know that I'd better get it checked out. A mammogram and examination by my doctor were both inconclusive, and I was referred to a surgeon for a biopsy.

The surgeon said he would not operate on a lactating breast so I was told I had to quit nursing. This was tough. Breast-feeding is a wonderful bonding experience.

When I held my dear daughter in my arms I was not only physically nourishing her little body I was also nourishing our relationship.

The first feeding time I offered her a bottle I could tell she was confused. She kept reaching for me and I gently turned her away. She reached again. I turned away again. It was hard.

But I did what I was supposed to do, following the surgeon's advice. When I went to the hospital I asked for a local anesthesia both because I was a little afraid to "go under" but I also simply felt a need to stay awake.

The surgeon tried to talk me into a general but finally agreed to do the procedure under a local. This was a good thing because after I had received a relaxant and the local anesthetic the surgeon began cutting ... in the wrong place. "Uh, excuse me," I said, "but the lump was right under the armpit."

He had been cutting in an area that is very sensitive and important for a nursing mother, and I was mortified. The surgeon checked the chart, looked at me, checked the chart again and mumbled, "Well, we'll just take a sample from here, and no charge for the second incision." What?!

When I was wheeled from the room and met by my husband the



EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

TERESA A. THOMAS

doctor turned to him and said, "She did fine. She's a little loopy, though. She might say things that don't make sense. She might say things happened that really didn't. I was furious.

My husband is a lawyer and guess what I wanted to do? Yup. Sue the scalpel right out of his hands. Especially after I later had difficulty nursing on that side.

After the birth of each subsequent baby I would go into a routine of clogged ducts, infection, antibiotics, yeast in the baby's mouth, more medication. We ran into the surgeon at a college football game one Saturday afternoon, and he was overboard nice. I didn't care. I was silently seething and hoping he'd trip on the way out.

My husband David urged forgiveness. "I'm sorry you're uncomfortable, but you can tell he's sorry," he said, "This may have made him more careful." For a lawyer he sure wasn't acting very "lawyer-ish"!

I tried to follow my husband's advice, but it wasn't easy. However, with David's encouragement (and prayers, I'm sure) by the time we were having our eighth or ninth child I could actually offer with reserved detachment the inconvenience and discomfort I felt for an intention. I knew I had turned a corner when I could offer up the suffering for the surgeon himself.

We have daily encounters with people in need of forgiveness, beginning with ourselves for past mistakes, and moving on to an acquaintance who slights us, a

surly teenager, a wayward son, an offensive in-law, a rude boss, and yes, a doctor who cuts us in the wrong place. We can choose to seethe or we can choose to move on. It's entirely up to us.

Mother Angelica, the evangelical nun who has her own television show on Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) talks about the "sacrament of the present moment," an idea gleaned from a 16th century Carmelite monk, in Raymond Arroyo's book, "Mother Angelica's Little Book of Life Lessons and Every Day Spirituality."

Mother Angelica explains simply: Yesterday is dead. Tomorrow is yet unborn. What we have as alive and a reality is just today. By offering our thoughts and actions to Jesus, our hearts can be like little tabernacles housing the living Christ. We don't need to handle everything at once, just what is in front of us in the present moment. And with our pure hearts as tabernacles housing Jesus himself we can handle whatever comes our way.

It is easy to see how this relates to forgiveness. By trying to live in the present moment and imagining what God would want I can forgive whatever offenses occur and have a pure heart.

Theresa Thomas, parishioner of St. Matthew Cathedral Parish in South Bend, is the mother of nine children and wife of David. Visit her Web site at www.theresathomas.typepad.com.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for July 1, 2007

Luke 9:51-62

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C: a story during Jesus' final trip to Jerusalem. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

JERUSALEM	MESSENGERS	VILLAGE
FIRE	REBUKED	YOU GO
FOXES	BIRDS	NESTS
HIS HEAD	ANOTHER	FOLLOW ME
LET ME GO	BURY	THE DEAD
PROCLAIM	KINGDOM	SAY FAREWELL
A HAND	THE PLOW	IS FIT FOR

FOLLOW & PROCLAIM

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

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LETTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

In Pavia and Assisi, the pope confidently told young people that if they search for deeper meaning in their lives, as Francis and Augustine did, they will find it in Christ and his Gospel. He also warned that this search for deeper meaning and for a space for contemplation is not easy in a world filled with "noisy but empty voices."

Ideally, the pope sees Assisi as a place for this kind of spiritual discovery. With that in mind, he

asked the priests and nuns who operate the Assisi pilgrimage sites to make sure the millions of visitors understand the connection between St. Francis and the faith.

"It's not enough that they admire Francis: Through him they should be able to encounter Christ," he said. St. Francis would suffer "a type of mutilation" if he is only appreciated for his social and cultural values and not for his conversion to Christ, he said.

His words reflected a recurring theme of his pontificate: that contemporary society is losing touch with the divine and tends to appreciate the role of the saints or the church strictly in terms of human promotion or social action.

The church and the media

BY FATHER JOHN J. COUGHLIN, OFM

Watching live coverage of Pope Benedict XVI's recent visit to Brazil filled me with hope. The Holy Father displayed personal warmth, intellectual acuity and pastoral love as he proclaimed the Gospel. EWTN Anchor Raymond Arroyo and his guest commentator, Msgr. Michael Heras, punctuated the images and words of the Successor to St. Peter with insightful, probing, yet faith-filled commentary.

In contrast, to the extent that the secular media in the United States covered Pope Benedict's journey to Brazil, the all too familiar spin tended to depict a church in decline beset by a failure to jet-tison tradition as required by the doctrines of the modern secularist creed. An ostensibly objective May 14 *New York Times* story characterized Pope Benedict as "conservative" and "contentious."

Personal disappointment with a media story

At the start of the papal trip to Brazil, I had my own personal disappointment with a media story. During his flight from Rome to Sao Paulo, Pope Benedict held the first press conference of his pontificate. An Italian journalist asked Pope Benedict whether he agreed with the excommunication of Mexican politicians who voted in favor of legalized abortion. The Holy Father responded as reported by the Associated Press May 10: "Yes, the excommunication was not something arbitrary. It is part of the Code of Canon Law. It is based on the principle that the killing of an innocent human child is incompatible with being in communion with the body of Christ. Thus, they (the Mexican bishops) did not do anything new or surprising or arbitrary."

Later during the flight on Good Shepherd One, Jesuit Father Frederico Lombardi of the Vatican Press Office, clarified that what Pope Benedict meant was that voting to enact legislation in favor of the killing of the unborn child was inconsistent with participation in the Eucharist. The prompt clarification notwithstanding, the secular media seized upon the story in what one journalist described as a "fury of dispatches" from reporters aboard the plane.

Perspective of canon law

It must be acknowledged that from the perspective of canon law, there were several difficulties with the Holy Father's response that may have led to misunderstanding and overreaction on the part of the media.

First, contrary to assertion contained in the Italian journalist's question, the Mexican bishops had not in fact excommunicated any public official for his or her vote. Second, although Canon 1398 of the 1983 Code of Canon Law does provide for the automatic excommunication ("latae sententiae") for "one who actually procures an abortion," it is highly doubtful that this provision applies to coopera-

tors in the evil such as a public official who votes to legalize abortion. Third, Benedict's response did not distinguish between excommunication and denial of Communion. Excommunication is a penal sanction in canon law, which prevents one from receiving any of the seven sacraments.

While he served as Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger issued a protocol that called for the refusal of holy Communion to, but not excommunication of, the Catholic public official who votes in favor of legalized abortion or euthanasia under certain conditions.

Consistent with Canon 915, the protocol requires refusal of holy Communion to a Catholic public official with a clear record in favor of liberalized abortion and/or euthanasia laws after a warning by the appropriate pastor. Although the application of this provision continues to be a matter of some disagreement among the United States bishops, those who would apply the law hold that such a Catholic public official is "an obstinate and public sinner" whose participation in the Eucharist causes scandal and other injury to the ecclesial community.

Within hours of the controversy breaking, I was contacted by Nicole Winfield, the Rome correspondent for the Associated Press. Several positive previous interviews with Ms. Winfield have led to my respect for her as a person of the utmost journalistic integrity. This interview only confirmed my positive impression. We discussed the relevant canons and the correct application of canon law in this case. I explained that to the extent that the Holy Father stated that the Mexican politicians were excommunicated, he simply misspoke.

The next day the Associated Press carried a story under the byline of Victor L. Simpson with whom I have never spoken. Mr. Simpson correctly reported my position that there is no provision in the 1983 Code of Canon Law under which Catholic public officials are automatically excommunicated for voting in favor of legalized abortion. However, I must admit that I felt slightly used.

The story suggested that I was among a group of scholars challenging the pope. To the contrary, my purpose in speaking with the press was not to add fuel to the controversy. I was simply trying to clarify the church's canon law. As a Catholic priest, I was not at all intending to challenge but only to support Pope Benedict's exercise of the Petrine ministry.

Sound advice: Don't be 'gun shy'

A few days after the Associated Press story appeared, I had the good fortune to encounter Bishop John D'Arcy. When I expressed my disappointment about my role in the Associated Press story to him, he reminded me that both John Paul II and Benedict XVI have pointed to the vital role played by the media in spreading the good news. In Pope Benedict's own words from Brazil: "We must not limit ourselves solely to homi-

lies, lectures, Bible courses or theology courses, but we must have recourse also to the communications media: press, radio and television, Web sites, forums and many other methods for effectively communicating the message of Christ to a large number of people."

With the advent of global communications, the media has become vital to the church's mission. Communicating the mystery of God's love and the dignity to which it calls the human person depends in large part on the church's continuing interaction with the media. In this vein, Bishop D'Arcy advised me not to become "gun shy."

The bishop's sound advice served as a balm, but was also expressed with an interesting metaphor. Interaction with the media often involves the kind of dialogue with which we Catholics have become familiar in the post Vatican II church.

Contrasted interviews

For example, I am thinking of Charley Rose's inviting and conversational interview style that I had the pleasure of experiencing

some years ago when I appeared on this intelligent PBS show. However, interaction with the media may sometimes require the kind of apologetics that reflect the image of the church militant. In the pre-conciliar church, figures such as Frank Sheed championed this more confrontational approach.

In contrast to my experience with Charley Rose, I recall an appearance on the "O'Reilly Factor" in 2002. Requesting that I appear on the show, a "Factor" staff member had asked me if I would be willing to discuss the history of the papacy.

Once I was in the studio and actually being interviewed, it quickly became apparent to me that there was to be little discussion about papal history but rather an aggressive interview about the clergy sexual abuse crisis.

Now, I must admit that as a fellow Catholic of Irish descent who grew up in New York, I like Bill O'Reilly. Although I have since learned from occasionally watching his popular show that I do not always share his opinion, Mr. O'Reilly has my respect for his straightforward attempt to present

an alternative account of the news than that afforded by the major networks.

If one agrees to engage in debate with media personalities of the ilk of Bill O'Reilly, Bishop D'Arcy's metaphor about not being "gun shy" seems most appropriate. In this kind of media climate, the image of the church militant continues to make at least some limited sense. This aspect of ecclesiology, of course, must always be expressed in a way that shows deference to the humility, joy, and peace that faith offers to the human person.

Whether it is the *New York Times*, Associated Press, PBS or Fox News, I do not expect the secular media to adopt the faith that a religious network such as EWTN displays. At the same time, when the secular media functions from an implicit bias or expresses outright hostility against religion, it seems to fall short of fulfilling the professional standards of objective journalism.

Father John J. Coughlin, OFM, is a professor at the University of Notre Dame Law School.

Meet the Priest



Father Edward E. Erpelding

Ordained May 28, 1966
CAPT, CHC, USN (Ret.)
Pastor, St. Mary of the Assumption, Avilla

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

The seeds for my vocation as a priest can be traced in no small part to the spiritual life fostered in my home. My parents believed and encouraged the mission of the church through daily family prayer, the practice of stewardship and my parents self-sacrificing lifestyle for the good of the parish. The spirituality encouraged by the self-giving example of the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration who taught me in grade school was reinforced by the example of my parish priests.

What is the most rewarding part of being a priest?

Experiencing the peace and the sharing in the love of Christ through the celebration of the Eucharist and the sacraments of the church, which promote the healing and growth of individuals as they say "Yes!" to God, entering into a more intense relationship with God and the members of the faith community and making a positive difference in our secular world.

What are your interests or hobbies?

Through the years, I have enjoyed reading non-fiction, studying languages, religions and cultures, wood working, playing musical instruments, writing, cartooning, painting in various media, jogging, bicycling,

archery, target shooting, hunting, diving, sailing and flying.

Do you have a pet?

No, I do not have a pet. I related well with animals when visiting the homes of people with pets in their homes. I believe that animals need order in their lives along with companionship. I consider my hours to be so irregular that it would be tantamount to cruelty to keep such a pet.

What do you do for relaxation?

Walking, drawing, painting, playing musical instruments, reading widely, working at the computer, watching football when in season and seeing an occasional movie.



What is your favorite reading material? What are your favorite authors?

I regularly read a number of newspapers, periodicals and professional journals: *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*, *Biblical Archaeology*, *Inside the Vatican*, *The Priest*, *OSV*, *Today's Catholic*, *Washington Times Weekly Edition*, *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *National Defense Proceedings*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Forbes*, *U.S. News & World Report*, *Wilson Quarterly*, *Naval History*, etc.

Scripture, The Fathers of the Church, Avery Dulles, Scott Hahn, Joseph Ratzinger, John of the Cross, Teresa of Avila, M. Scott Peck, William Glasser, etc.

What do you think is the best part of being Catholic?

Being a member of the Body

of Christ and sharing fully in the sacramental life and tradition of the church.

What is your favorite prayer?

the Prayer of St. Francis

What is your favorite Scripture passage?

Lk 6:27-28 — Love your enemies, do good for those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.

What is your favorite food?

salmon

Who is your favorite pope?

St. Pius X

What is something interesting about yourself that most people might not know?

I was a middle child.

How do you prefer to be addressed by the laity?

Father Ed

Sports

MARIAN GOLFING KNIGHTS FALL SHORT OF STATE CHAMPIONSHIP Marian High School's talented golfing Knights' bid for a second Indiana state prep championship fell short by nine strokes to defending champion and winner, Floyd Central, 596 to 608. The Knights had to settle for fourth place behind Carmel and Bloomington South. Sophomore Adam Sumrall carded a brilliant 68, four under par, to go with his previous day's 69 for a two-day total of 137. He saw his chances for medalist honors vanish when Tyler Duncan of Columbus North tallied four successive birdies on the last four holes to nip Sumrall by a single stroke with 136.

CORPUS CHRISTI'S GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL TEAM WINS DIVISION

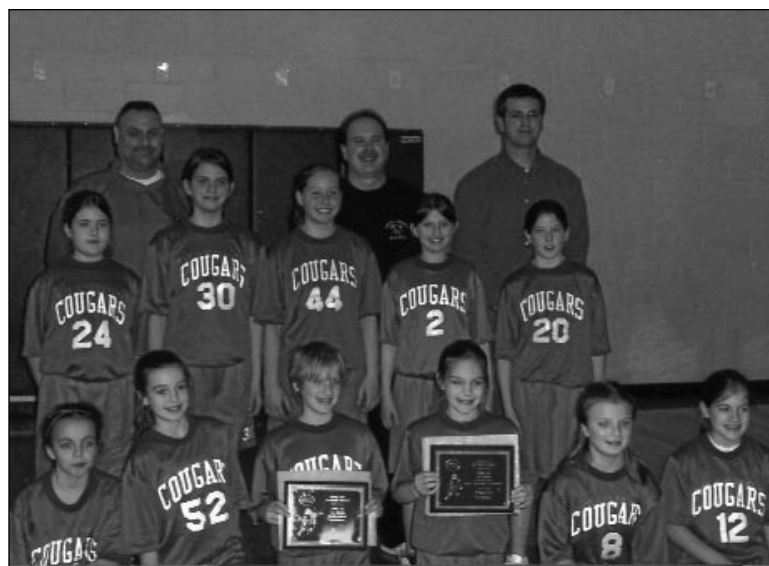


ELMER J. DANCH

Members of the girls volleyball team include the following: front, from left, Emily Lindzy, Lillie Renbarger, Shannon McMahon, Haley Powers, Hali Barany, Tori Plummer; middle, Sara Bogol, Magdalena Rzeszutek, Trina Kamanda, Nicole Francoeur, Lucy Thomas, Mary Kaczorowski; and top, Coaches Scott Francoeur, Kathy Kennedy and Sandy Francoeur.

CORPUS CHRISTI'S FIFTH GRADE GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM WINS DIVISION

Corpus Christi Parish in South Bend has a strong athletic tradition for both boys and girls sports. This year both the fifth grade girls volleyball and basketball teams won their division championships in the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) and each finished the season with perfect 14-0 records, also a record in the grade school ICCL. Members of the girls basketball team include the following: front, from left, Haley Powers, Emily Lindzy, Mary Freeby, Lillie Renbarger, Hali Barany, Shannon McMahon; middle, Gabrielle Szynski, Nicole Francoeur, Sara Bogol, Casey Colvin, Mary Kaczorowski; top row, Coaches Rick Bognar, Doug Kaczorowski, Dave Renbarger.



ELMER J. DANCH

ST. THOMAS SPARTANS WIN ICCL BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP



ELMER J. DANCH

Baseball champions of the Inter-City Catholic League are these schoolboy Spartans of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Elkhart who compiled a remarkable 19-1 record as well as winning the hitting title of the circuit with 115 hits. They won both their division and postseason tournament titles. In the photo are the following: front, from left, Matt Hammond, Alex Brewers, Ben Mausar, Bobby Brewers; back, Parker DeVenney, Ben Brewers, Tyler Rody, Taylor Krugh, Jordan Grise and Jordan Hinton. Not available for the photograph are Corleone Desimone and Bobby Norrell.

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'Evan Almighty' is a delightful spin on book of Genesis

BY HARRY FORBES

NEW YORK (CNS) — Funnyman Steve Carell might not seem a likely choice for a present-day Noah, replete with white beard and flowing robe, but he turns out to be just dandy in "Evan Almighty" (Universal/Spyglass), a delightful contemporary spin on Genesis.

At the outset, Carell (reprising his TV anchorman role from "Bruce Almighty") is leaving the nightly news desk in Buffalo, N.Y., having just been elected to Congress.

Together with his wife, Joan (Lauren Graham), and their three young sons — Dylan (Johnny Simmons), Jordan (Graham Phillips) and Ryan (Jimmy Bennett) — they move into a luxurious new home in the fictitious town of Huntsville, Va. Before retiring to bed that first night, he kneels at his bedside and prays to God to "change the world."

At work, he meets his chief of staff, Marty (John Michael Higgins), administrative assistant Rita (Wanda Sykes), fawning intern Eugene (Jonah Hill) and his patron — powerful Congressman Long (John Goodman) — who wants him to co-sponsor a major bill.

He takes the assignment as a great honor, but it will mean renegeing on his promise to spend time with his boys.

The stage is set for an ideal life, but suddenly unwanted lumber and tools begin showing up on his front lawn. And his digital alarm clock-radio starts setting itself to 6:14 — the verse in Genesis containing God's injunction to Noah to build



CNS PHOTO/UNIVERSAL

Steve Carell stars in a scene from the movie "Evan Almighty."

an ark. Then those numbers start showing up everywhere else, too. Is someone trying to tell him something?

Even when Evan is visited by God (in the person of Morgan

Freeman) who speaks of an impending flood, Evan refuses to accept the obvious. But before

long, especially with birds and animals suddenly besieging him two by two, he comes to accept his mission, much to the skeptical consternation of his staff and wife. Director Tom Shadyac and screenwriter Steve Oedeker skillfully mix slapstick with sentiment and surprising reverence. The script has admirable pro-family and pro-environmental themes, the latter providing sensible rationale for the biblical events as they play out.

All these elements are beautifully embodied in Carell's serio-comic

central performance. Early on, Carell gets to do his comic shtick, including being bitten in the crotch by a mutt, shaving his nostril hair in an extended montage, and coping with the swarm of birds that poop on his suit as they perch on his head.

But as he starts to morph into Noah, with a beard he simply cannot shave off, and rough-hewn ancient robe he cannot remove, the funny shenanigans subside and he projects warmth and humanity through his eyes alone. Frankly, Carell's playing Noah and indeed the central section of the "serious" part of the story are far better done than the comparable John Huston sequence in 1966's "The Bible."

Freeman's God is likewise carefully and reverently written and enacted. His gentle advice to Joan

— who has left home with the kids, thinking Evan has lost his mind — is a special high point.

The paired animals (part real, part computer graphics), the flood effects and even the physical ark itself are heart-stoppingly beautiful in their execution, and there's a powerful message stressing the importance of performing one act of random kindness at a time to change the world.

The film contains a smattering of mildly crass language, humor, irreverence and innuendo. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

Evan refuses to accept the obvious. But before long, especially with birds and animals suddenly besieging him two by two, he comes to accept his mission, much to the skeptical consternation of his staff and wife.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send in your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. Mail to: Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne 46856; or e-mail: fhogan@fw.diocesefwsb.org. Events that require an admission charge or payment to participate will receive one free listing. For additional listings of that event, please call our advertising sales staff at (260) 456-2824 to purchase space.

Teen leadership camp offered
Donaldson — The Diocesan Office of Youth Ministry will sponsor Apostles of the Nazorean — a Catholic teen leadership camp — July 25-27 at the Lindenwood Retreat Center. The camp is open to all teens grades 10-12. Brochure and registration forms are available at www.diocesefwsb/YOUTH. Registration deadline is July 13. Cost is \$80 (scholarships available). Call (260) 422-4611 for information.

Spaghetti dinner helps religious vocations and Catholic education
South Bend — The Serra Club and Knights of Columbus Council 5570 are sponsoring a spaghetti dinner Thursday, July 12, from 4-6 p.m. at Knights of Columbus Council 5570 located at 5202 Linden Ave. Adults \$7, under 10 free.

First Sunday rosary for families
Fort Wayne — The first Sunday rosary for families will be at MacDougal Chapel on Sunday, July 1, from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Deacon Fred Larson from St. Jude attending.

First Monday rosary
Fort Wayne — The first Monday rosary for the souls in purgatory will be at MacDougal Chapel on Monday, July 2, at 7 p.m.

Beginning Experience Weekend
Mishawaka — A Beginning Experience retreat for widowed, divorced and separated persons will be held at Bethel College, from 7 p.m. Friday, July 27, to 3 p.m. Sunday, July 29. This Christian-based program assists persons to work through deep feelings of grief, anger, depres-

sion and loss. Register by July 14 to Rachel at (574) 271-1699 or e-mail at b.e.lady@juno.com or Becky at (260) 768-7350. The next weekend is Nov. 16-18.

Organ Historical Society recital planned
Lagro — The Friends of St. Patrick's will host the Organ Historical Society for an organ recital on Friday, July 13, at 10:15 a.m. Dr. Gregory Crowell of Grand Rapids, Mich., will be the guest organist. The St. Patrick organ is considered to be the oldest in Indiana dating to 1851 and then brought to St. Patrick, Lagro, in 1873.

Knights plan fish fry
Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 451, 601 Reed Rd., will have a fish fry on

Friday, July 6, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$7 for adults, \$3 for children 12 and under. Fish, two sides and beverage are included.

Knights plan fish fry
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, July 6, from 5 to 7 p.m. Adults \$7, children (5-12) \$3. Chicken strips for \$7 and shrimp for \$8 will be available.

Central Catholic High plans reunion
Fort Wayne — A reunion is planned for all alumni of Central Catholic High School Sunday, Sept. 16. Mass at the cathedral at 11:30 a.m. and party at the original high school site from 1 to 4 p.m. Call (260) 485-6164.

EDITOR

Our Sunday Visitor

Our Sunday Visitor, one of the largest Catholic book and periodical publishers in the United States, currently seeks candidates for the position of editor of its OSV newsweekly. Candidates must have a passion for Catholic journalism and a vision that embraces both print and web. Qualified applicants must have a degree in Journalism, Mass Media, Theology or related field, a minimum of 7 years of experience in an editorial function, in-depth knowledge of the Catholic Church, a working knowledge of new media, and an ability to work in a fast-paced, team environment.

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Chief Operating Officer

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The successful candidate will be committed to enthusiastically support the mission and needs of the Catholic Church with the diocese of Evansville as identified by the Bishop, possess an advanced degree, and a minimum of five years in an executive-level position, preferable within a Catholic environment, demonstrating progressively demanding responsibilities. This person will possess excellent computer, writing, oral, and presentation communication skills. The candidate will also exhibit excellent organizational and analytical skills, and be a results-oriented self-starter. This position requires a willingness to work a flexible schedule.

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St. John the Evangelist youth choir growing in excitement

BY DENISE FEDOROW

GOSHEN — There's a totally different sound coming from the choir loft at St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen the third Sunday of every month. That's when the 10 a.m. Mass has been designated as the youth Mass, and a newly-formed youth choir, with the help of some dedicated adult musicians and vocalists, add a contemporary sound along with traditional hymns.

The youth at St. John's have taken charge on a monthly basis under the direction of youth ministry director Sara Knight, taking over the responsibility of ushers, cantors and lectors, but the choir, which started approximately six months ago, was something Knight had hoped would happen for a long time.

"I'm so overjoyed it's come to fruition. I wanted it every since I came," Knight said. "Thanks to Steve Royal (new music director), he made it happen. And we have such a great group of adults willing to help until we get enough youth members."

Aside from Royal, adult members include Tim Gardner, Terry Smith and Deb Stack as vocalists, Tim Dolan on bongos and Dave

Smith on bass, all of whom are St. John the Evangelist parishioners. Traveling from other parishes to assist Royal are Craig Parmely on drums (St. Monica Parish, Mishawaka) and Frank Cassela on guitar (St. Thomas Parish, Elkhart).

St. John the Evangelist pastor, Father Chris Smith, has been very supportive of the youth choir and contemporary music as well. Knight was quick to point out that Father John Delaney, former pastor, was also supportive and had no objection. Knight said, at that time, she didn't know how to get it going, and that's where Royal's experience has been key to getting the fledgling choir off the ground.

Currently the youth in the choir are Maria Weaver, soprano and cantor; Stephanie Trenshaw, soprano; Erica Badowsky, soprano and cantor; Keith Guthrie, violin and sound; Alex Knight, guitar; and Reid Cover.

All of the girls told *Today's Catholic* they've been singing in the choir since their St. John Elementary School days and are involved in choir at Goshen High School. Joining the youth choir was a natural choice.

"I've been in choir my whole life," junior Trenshaw shared. "When Steve asked me (to join) I



DENISE FEDOROW

Several adults take part in the youth Mass choir to mentor the youth as the choir is formed. From left are Tim Gardner, Terry Smith, Deb Stack and Erica Badowsky. The youth choir sings a mix of traditional hymns and contemporary Christian music and several different instruments including drums, bongos and guitars are played.

thought it would be something fun to get involved with. I like being involved with the group, meeting every Sunday. I enjoy singing so I thought it would be a great choice to be in the youth choir."

Badowsky agreed, "It's nice to be able to incorporate that (singing) into the church choir, especially one where the youth are

involved."

Weaver has not only enjoyed singing in the choir but has also enjoyed singing as cantor. "I love it, it's so much fun," she said. Weaver is a freshman at Goshen High School and said, when practicing, they liked her voice and asked her about becoming a cantor. She said everyone has been very

supportive of her so she's no longer nervous.

Guthrie, also a freshman, has been playing violin for over three years but just started to play it in the youth Mass. "I usually do sound," he said. On the Sunday that he was interviewed he was doing both and said he hopes to continue doing so.

Knight has been taking guitar lessons for over a year and enjoys playing for the youth Mass. He said, "Some of the stuff is challenging, but not very hard. I enjoy how it all sounds."

Weaver wanted to encourage others to participate, "We only practice twice a week, about an hour on Friday and a half hour on Wednesday."

Knight said, "We know the Eucharist is the center of our worship and should be enough to keep them here but sometimes they (teens in general) go down the road for a different worship experience. I'm finding now they don't anymore and they're bringing other kids and those kids enjoyed it. There's no way we could've done this without Steve — he has an amazing gift."

Badowsky thinks this is an important step for the church. "It's vital for the church's future to have the youth involved."

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DON CLEMMER

Seminarian Tink Coonan carries the cross ahead of the pilgrim group as they make the walk from St. Patrick to St. Peter Church in Fort Wayne. Bishop D'Arcy joined the group for this portion of the journey.

PILGRIM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

kindness, refreshments and with ridicule, but according to Deacon Drew Curry, event organizer, those involved knew they would be out of their comfort zone, one way or another.

The final days of the walk took the group from Warsaw, to Pierceton, to Columbia City, to Arcola. On June 17, the final morning of the journey, the group left extra early to avoid the heat of the day and rested at St. Patrick Parish in Fort Wayne before being joined by Bishop John M. D'Arcy. Bishop D'Arcy asked the group questions about their journey up to that point and

then led them in prayer.

Bishop D'Arcy also accompanied the group on their walk to St. Peter Church, Fort Wayne. At Mass that evening at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, the group made one final walk, up the aisle ahead of the entrance procession. Bishop D'Arcy invited the pilgrims to share their experiences with the congregation and to sing the song they had sung so many times along the course of their journey, a journey that both spanned and united the diocese in its experience of this small band of dedicated pilgrims, determined to witness to the good news.

Don Clemmer contributed to this story.