



TODAY'S CATHOLIC

During visit to Austria, pope expected to strengthen faith's impact

BY JOHN THAVIS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI makes his first papal visit to Austria in early September, a three-day mission to strengthen the faith and its public impact in one of Europe's traditionally Catholic countries.

The visit Sept. 7-9 will focus on the 850th anniversary of the Marian sanctuary at Mariazell, which has long been a spiritual beacon for Central Europe.

In keeping with the theme of the visit, "Look to Christ," the pope is expected to emphasize Mary's role as a gateway to faith in Jesus and as a model of the church as mother.

The rest of the pope's schedule is designed to spotlight the importance of the Christian faith in Austrian history, the church's recent signs of parish vitality, and its presence in social debates and works of charity.

Among Austrian church leaders, the hope is that the papal visit will mark a new and positive chapter after a troubled period. Over the last 10 years the number of Austrian Catholics declined by 6 percent, partly as a result of a seminary sex scandal and a bishop's resignation, as well as new tensions between lay Catholics and the hierarchy.

Cardinal Christoph Schonborn of Vienna said the Austrian church today is turning the corner.

"After very difficult years, we are witnessing a new awareness and a more explicit sense of courage among Austrian Christians, who increasingly understand that our society needs the Gospel, faith and prayer," Cardinal Schonborn said in a recent interview with the Vatican newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*.

"In this sense, Pope Benedict is coming to encourage us and to strengthen us in the faith," the cardinal said.

The trip, the pope's seventh foreign journey, will

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CNS PHOTO/HERWIG PRAMMER, REUTERS

A poster welcoming Pope Benedict XVI appears at the entrance of the Cistercian Abbey of the Holy Cross in Heiligenkreuz, Austria, Aug. 16. The pope is scheduled to visit the 12th-century monastery during his Sept. 7-9 visit to Austria.

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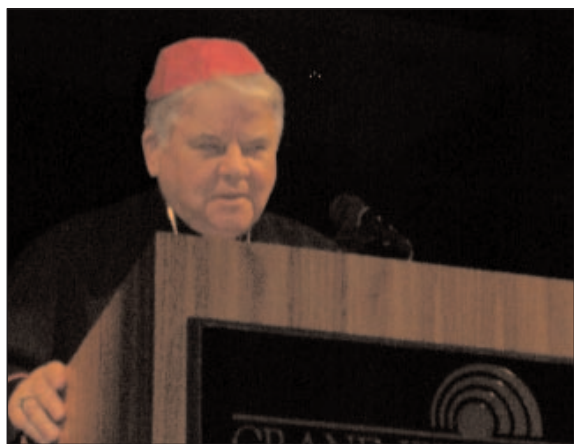
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ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL KICKS OFF IN FORT WAYNE



KATHY DENICE

Bishop John M. D'Arcy talks about how the Annual Bishop's Appeal invests in the future of the church, her young people, at the Aug. 28 kickoff dinner held at the Grand Wayne Center in Fort Wayne.

Diocese to hold regional confirmations in September

BY VINCE LABARBERA

In continuance of the observance of its Sesquicentennial Jubilee Year, the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will hold regional confirmation ceremonies this month in South Bend and Fort Wayne.

On Sunday, Sept. 16, more than 1,200 Catholic confirmandi from 30 parishes will gather in South Bend at 2 p.m. in the Joyce Center on the University of Notre Dame campus.

On Sunday, Sept. 30, more than 1,100 candidates representing 36 parishes will assemble at 2 p.m. in the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne to be confirmed.

Bishop John M. D'Arcy will preside at both liturgies along with several pastors from the participating parishes.

Most of the students being confirmed

are high-school freshmen who would have been confirmed at their parishes last spring when they were in eighth grade, although there will be some eighth-graders confirmed as well, said Brian MacMichael, director of the Office of Worship for the diocese.

Like baptism, which it completes, confirmation is administered only once. The sacraments of Christian initiation — baptism, confirmation and the Eucharist — lay the foundations of every Christian life. According to The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), "The faithful are born anew by baptism, strengthened by the sacrament of confirmation, and receive in the Eucharist the food of eternal life (1212).

"By the sacrament of confirmation, (the baptized) are more perfectly bound to the church and are enriched with a special

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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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Mariazell lacks dazzle, but its simplicity helps make it Austria's most popular site

BY JOHN THAVIS

ROME (CNS) — The sanctuary at Mariazell may lack the dazzle of more famous Marian shrines, but its simplicity has helped make it Austria's most popular pilgrimage site.

"Mariazell is not a 'spectacular' sanctuary. There are no apparitions or miracles that fill the pages of newspapers," said Benedictine Father Karl Schauer, superior of the sanctuary.

"There is no particular form of religiosity here, and no particular group has taken over this place for itself," he told the Vatican newspaper *L'Osservatore Romano*.

Perhaps because Mariazell is "so normal," as Father Schauer put it, the place attracts about 1 million pilgrims each year. They make their way to a mountain valley that is off the beaten track, far from major transportation centers.

Among past pilgrims was Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, who last visited Mariazell in 2004, a few months before his election as Pope Benedict XVI. He is coming back Sept. 8 to help mark the sanctuary's 850th anniversary.

Tradition holds that a Benedictine monk named Magnus was sent by his monastery to this remote area in 1157 to minister to local Christians. He brought with him a small statue carved from linden wood, depicting Mary with Jesus, who holds an apple while sitting on her lap.

According to legend, near the end of his journey Magnus prayed before the statue at a place where a boulder blocked his path. The boulder split and he continued on his way.

When the monk arrived, local residents helped him build a monastic cell with a chapel, where the statue of Mary was kept. The name Mariazell refers to "Mary's cell."

Over the years, as people came to pray, the statue was credited with miracles and answered prayers, and the church had to be expanded several times to accommodate the ever-increasing crowds.

By the 1300s, the sanctuary was drawing pilgrims from regions that today are part of Austria, Hungary, France, Italy, Croatia, Czech Republic, Switzerland, Germany and Poland. Our Lady of Mariazell has been honored as Austria's Great Mother, the Mother of the Slavic Peoples and the patroness of Hungary.

In 1377, King Louis of Hungary built a Gothic church at the site, in thanks for an earlier military victory over Turkish forces.

Under the House of Habsburg, a leading defender of the Counter-Reformation, Mariazell was made a national shrine in the 17th century, further stimulating pilgrimages.

The modern Basilica of the Shrine of Mariazell dates to the



CNS PHOTO/COURTESY OF PAPSTBESUCH 2007

The Basilica of the Shrine of Mariazell in Austria dates to the mid-1600s and recently has undergone a major restoration. The church is built over the site of the cell of a Benedictine monk who came to the remote area in 1157. Pope Benedict XVI will visit the famous Marian shrine Sept. 7-9.

mid-1600s, and has recently undergone a major restoration. It sits atop the site of Magnus' original cell, and incorporates some parts of the 14th-century Gothic church.

Mariazell continued as a regional devotional center even under European communism, when pilgrimages from neighboring Eastern European countries were restricted.

In 1983, Polish-born Pope John Paul II became the first pope to visit Mariazell. Pope Benedict will follow in his footsteps, celebrating Mass and presiding over vespers with priests, religious and seminarians.

Austrian church leaders describe Mariazell as "a place for everyone," and note that it has hosted important ecumenical encounters in recent years.

Father Schauer said Mariazell also appeals to fallen-away Catholics who come in pilgrimage.

"They are better able to find a home here than elsewhere," he said.



CNS PHOTO/COURTESY OF PAPSTBESUCH 20

The statue of Our Lady of Mariazell is seen at the Marian shrine in Mariazell, Austria. Tradition holds that a Benedictine monk who came to the area in 1157 brought the small wooden statue. Pope Benedict XVI will visit the famous Basilica of the Shrine of Mariazell Sept. 8.

Editor's note

Bishop John M D'Arcy's column News and Notes will not be included in this week's issue. Bishop D'Arcy was called to New Hampshire to be with his sister, Mary Caprio, who is dying of cancer. Please keep the Caprio and D'Arcy families in your prayers.

U.S. poverty down slightly, but those with no health insurance up

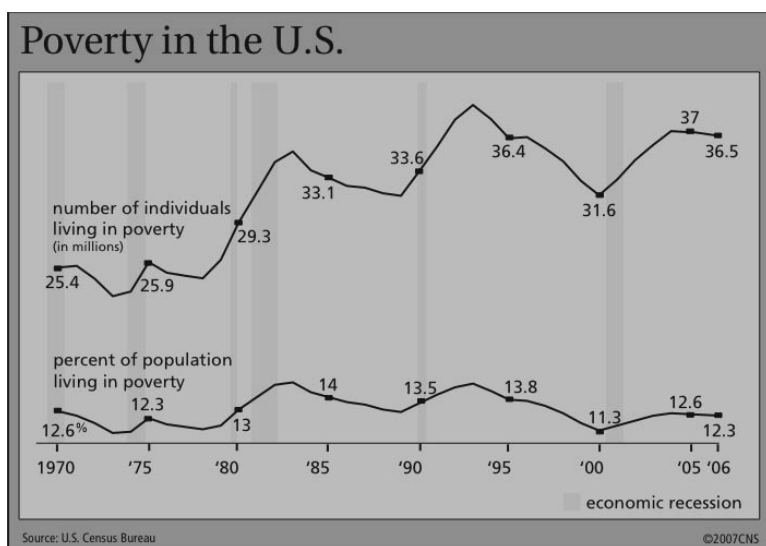
BY MARK PATTISON

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The number of Americans living in poverty went down slightly last year, according to the Census Bureau's annual report, but the number of uninsured Americans rose a bit.

The dip in the poverty rate — the first this decade — brought the percentage of Americans living in poverty from 12.6 percent in 2005 to 12.3 percent in 2006. The number of people in poverty — 36.5 million — was “not statistically different” from 2005 levels, the Census Bureau said in an announcement. The child poverty rate stayed the same, at 17.4 percent, while the poverty rates for adults and senior citizens declined.

Both the number and percentage of Americans without health insurance rose from year-before levels — from 44.8 million to 47 million, and from 15.3 percent uninsured to 15.8 percent. The number of uninsured children increased from 8 million, or 10.9 percent in 2005, to 8.7 million, or 11.7 percent, last year.

“Catholic Charities USA is extremely troubled that the number of uninsured, including children, continues to increase,” said Father Larry Snyder, the organization's president, in a statement issued shortly after the numbers were released Aug. 28. “We firmly believe that there is no excuse for any child in our nation to go without access to health care, which is critically important to the well-



The number of individuals living in poverty in the U.S. declined slightly from 2005 to 2006.

being and development of all children.”

In a separate statement Aug. 28, Sister Carol Keehan, a Daughter of Charity who is president and CEO of the Catholic Health Association, decried the fact that “in a supposedly strong economy, millions of people are still struggling for life's basic necessities, including health care.”

“Whether we are talking about children, minorities or middle-class parents working hard to provide for their families, millions of people are being left out of our health care system,” she added. “This is unforgivable and embarrassing for our nation.”

The increase in the number of uninsured Americans coincided

with a dip in the percentage of people who have private health insurance. In 2005, 65.8 percent had private health insurance; in 2006, 64.8 percent did.

Texas led with 24.1 percent of its residents uninsured. Minnesota was lowest with 8.3 percent of its residents uninsured. As of 2006, more than one-third of all Hispanics, and one-fifth of all African-Americans, lacked health insurance.

While household income increased — by 0.7 percent in 2006 — for the second year in a row, American income has yet to match its 1999 peak, said David Johnson, head of the Census Bureau's Household and Household Statistics Division, dur-

Bishop announces appointments

Bishop D'Arcy has announced the following appointments:

- Rev. Charles Herman has been transferred from associate pastor of Holy Family Parish, South Bend, to pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish, South Bend. The effective date of this appointment will be Sept. 14, 2007. Father Herman will continue to reside at Holy Family Parish, South Bend, but his pastoral office will be at St. John the Baptist Parish, South Bend.

- Father Nolasco Gomes has been assigned as associate pastor of St. Michael Parish, Plymouth. The effective date of this appointment is Sept. 5, 2007.

ing an Aug. 28 teleconference.

Even though household income is up, individuals' earnings are lower. The disparity, Johnson said, is “mainly driven by the fact that there are more full-time, year-round workers in the country.”

“Any time the poverty rate decreases, we should celebrate,” Father Snyder said in his statement. “However, we must never lose sight of the fact that in one of the world's wealthiest nations, 36.5 million people living in poverty, including 12.8 million children, continue to struggle to make ends meet.”

Among large cities of 250,000 or more population, the highest poverty rates were recorded in Detroit, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Miami, St. Louis and Buffalo, N.Y. The lowest percentage of people in poverty in big cities was in Plano, Texas.

Women have historically earned less than men for comparable work, a finding that held true for

all 50 states in the Census Bureau report. However, in the District of Columbia, “there was no statistical difference between the earnings of men and women,” the report said.

Father Snyder said “it is critical that both the House and Senate take real steps to help those living in poverty” when Congress returns from its August recess.

“It's time for Congress to get to work and find the political will needed to make poverty a top agenda item and help the most vulnerable in our nation,” he said. Legislative priorities he listed included expanding the State Children's Health Insurance Program, affordable housing, Head Start and a farm bill that makes it easier to qualify for federal food stamps.

The annual report by the Census Bureau includes details on every metropolitan area of at least 65,000 and takes in every congressional district.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

take him back to a country where he frequently visited and vacationed before his election in 2005. Cardinal Schonborn said Austrians sense that the German pope loves their country and they have shown a positive and growing interest in the substance of his visit.

After arriving in Vienna, the pope will begin his public program in the city's historic Am Hof Square. In keeping with the Marian focus of the visit, he will pray before the baroque Column of Our Lady that stands in the center of the square.

Then the pope will go around the corner to stop at the Holocaust memorial in Vienna's “Judenplatz,” or Jews Square, where he was expected to briefly greet Jewish leaders. Most of the country's approximately 200,000 Jews left Austria after it was annexed by Nazi Germany in 1938, and many of those who remained were killed in Nazi death camps.

The highlight of the trip is the papal Mass in Mariazell Sept. 8, the feast marking the birth of Mary. Some 40,000 Catholics have reserved bus transportation to the liturgy, which will be celebrated in the square outside the shrine's basilica.

Mariazell, nestled in an

Austrian mountain valley, dates to 1157, when a Benedictine monk arrived to care for local Christians. He carried with him a wooden statue of Mary, which is preserved in the sanctuary's chapel and venerated as miraculous by many of the faithful.

Mariazell is Austria's most popular pilgrimage site, drawing about 1 million visitors each year. Especially during the era of European communism, the sanctuary was seen as a symbol of enduring faith by Christians throughout much of Central and Eastern Europe — a point the pope is expected to underline.

At the end of the Mariazell Mass, the pope will consign a “missionary mandate” to representatives of new parish councils. The gesture underscores what Cardinal Schonborn calls a “sign of life” for the church in Austria: new energy in Catholic parishes, as demonstrated by the strong role parishes have played in preparing for the papal visit.

In other encounters, the pope is expected to address problems and positive developments in the church. He presides over an evening prayer service Sept. 8 with priests and religious at Mariazell, an opportunity to reflect on the steep decline in vocations in Austria and the rest of Europe.

On Sept. 9, when the pope celebrates Sunday Mass in Vienna's St. Stephen's Cathedral, he may address the decline in weekly Mass attendance in Austria, which

continues to worry pastoral leaders.

Throughout his stay, in public events and in closed-door meetings with the country's political leaders, the pope will have a chance to speak about life-and-death issues like abortion and euthanasia.

The church in Austria runs programs for unwed mothers, as well as homes for the dying, and the pope is expected to highlight the importance of these and other church-sponsored social programs when he meets with Catholic volunteers on the last day of his visit.

Perhaps more than anything, the visit will allow Austrians to listen to a pope who, as Cardinal Schonborn said, measures his words carefully. The pope's understated style probably means his trip will be short on verbal fireworks but rich in faith lessons, the cardinal said.

Essentially, he said, Pope Benedict is coming “to demonstrate how beautiful it is to follow Christ” and to encourage Christians to “live their faith in daily life.”

These two fundamental objectives are in perfect sync with the pope's back-to-basics approach to his papal ministry. In the pope's view, confronting secularization in Austria or elsewhere requires a double strategy: helping Catholics to reinforce their own faith and inviting them to make it count in society.

NEW PASTOR IN NEW HAVEN



DON CLEMMER

Father James Seculoff reads the order of installation and oath of fidelity as he is installed as pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish, New Haven, at Sunday Mass on Aug. 26. Father Seculoff expressed his gratitude to Bishop John M. D'Arcy and former pastor Father Paul McCarthy, noting that the parish was in great shape.

Guatemalans working in U.S. find life has mixed blessings

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR

SALCAJA, Guatemala (CNS) — Father Juan Poz can quickly tick off the mixed blessings of emigration from this town in Guatemala's western highlands where he is pastor of San Luis Rey Parish.

Immigrants to the United States have made it possible for the families of Salcaja to fix up their houses, buy land and open small businesses. At his parish, when he needs money to repair the roof or help a family in need, it's much easier to raise the funds. More children are able to go to school instead of having to help support their families by working.

"It is people's dream to have nice houses, better roofs, a small business, a piece of land," Father Poz said in an interview early in 2007 at his church. One person working in the U.S. for a relatively short time can dramatically improve a family's fortunes.

"Some are away for two years and they come back and their houses are fantastic," he said. The typical way of building a home for the majority of Guatemala's population is to start with a basic one- or two-room structure — often of adobe. Bedrooms, a bathroom, electricity, plumbing and flooring are added and building materials are upgraded as money permits.

But Father Poz is also very aware of the downsides of having 60 percent or more of the families in town dependent upon relatives who send money from another country.

Some families, unaccustomed to having extra quetzales, the national currency, don't save. Instead they splurge on fancy birthday parties or expensive clothes and luxury items from Quetzaltenango, the region's major city, a short bus ride away, he said.

For some households, the pressures of having one parent — or



CNS PHOTO PATRICIA ZAPOR

sometimes both — working thousands of miles away leads to kids who aren't properly supervised, have time on their hands and get into trouble with drugs, drinking and gangs. Marriages fall apart.

"The father is living away, the children are living with grandparents," Father Poz said. "The children are without control, without support, without education, without both parents. It is a very difficult situation. The grandparents can't manage them.

"The youths say 'I have money,'" and think that means they don't have any responsibilities, he continued. "They don't study, they get bored, get into drugs, get into trouble. The reality is families are disintegrating. The husband gets another woman up there, the wife finds someone else here. This is a big problem with consequences for many."

Cesar Yovani, who works at the Salcaja parish, estimated that 80 percent of the people he knows

A well-kept plaza in front of San Luis Rey Church in Salcaja, Guatemala, is one of the signs of prosperity brought to the small town by emigrants to the United States.

have a relative in the U.S. Of those, perhaps 25 percent send no money home, he said. Some families wait for years with no word about whether their husband, father, sister, mother or brother who headed north even made it across the border.

Most Salcajenos enter the United States illegally, paying a smuggler the going rate of 15,000 quetzales (US\$2,000), he said. The current wait for a visa to immigrate legally is at least three years. In 2005, the U.S. issued 6,167 temporary worker visas and 6,241 immigrant visas to Guatemalans. During 2006, 26,000 Guatemalans were apprehended by the U.S. Border Patrol.

Meanwhile, in Salcaja, the evidence of prosperity is obvious. In the blocks around San Luis Rey Church, homes sprout new second-story additions and fresh paint. Satellite dishes and stores selling electronics are ubiquitous.

The church and the small plaza in front of it are tidy and well-maintained, lacking the trash, graffiti and other signs of neglect typical of Guatemalan towns without the resources to pay for upkeep.

The town's traditional industry of weaving fabric isn't providing the cash to finance such civic improvements. It's the \$100 or more a month sent home by relatives working in Trenton, N.J., or Chicago.

The International Organization for Migration estimates that about 10 percent of Guatemala's population lives abroad, mostly in the United States, and their remittances help support about 30 percent of Guatemalans at home.

The shrinking population is evident in Salcaja, where even on a weekday morning only a handful of people cross the square by the church.

Father Poz also told of more serious problems, such as families split by divorce once the husband returns. In one case he described, the husband couldn't accept how

well his wife had managed the money he sent home.

When he returned to Salcaja to find that his wife and her father had secretly saved and upgraded the older man's house, he accused his father-in-law of trying to steal his earnings.

"The father-in-law had to explain to him, 'This is now your house,'" Father Poz said. "It was hard for the husband to accept that his wife was a good administrator of their money and that his in-laws would help."

The situations workers find themselves in once they get to the U.S. don't help keep families together either, he said. Often they have only temporary work. Comforts like television, the Internet and cars are readily available, but workers don't have family support systems.

"For human reasons it's better to live in Guatemala, where families are closer," Father Poz said.

Vicente Gonzalez, who also works at the church, said in some families he knows an absent father who supports his family from the U.S. is built up to be some kind of superman.

"Then, when he returns, he can't live up to it," Gonzalez said.

Yovani said he knows many families where the lack of a father in the home leads to discipline problems. "Then when he returns, they have no respect for the father."

In one U.S. enclave of Salcajenos, Hugo Sotovandano of Trenton, N.J., said he is struck by the changes to his hometown when he visits every two to three years. The prevalence of televisions, refrigerators, microwave ovens and home improvements are among the obvious differences, he said in

an interview this summer at his business, Salcaja Towing in Trenton.

But he also sees "the destruction of the family" in such things. "Parents try to buy the love of their children with a car," for instance, he said.

It's clear that children in Salcaja have better childhoods because money is more available, he said. More poor families can afford health care, and fewer children have to work to help support their families.

"But many children get into trouble," he said. "It's part of the evolution of prosperity."

Most Salcajenos enter the United States illegally, paying a smuggler the going rate of 15,000 quetzales (US\$2,000)

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Catholic doctor fights cancer with stem cells from umbilical cords

BY MARK INDREIKA

MAYWOOD, Ill. (CNS) — About 10 years ago, Holly Becker's future appeared bright. At 24, she had just graduated from college, moved out of her parents' home and taken a job in sales and marketing. But then something went terribly wrong.

She started running temperatures of 105.4 degrees and she couldn't eat. At first her doctors thought she had the flu, then mononucleosis. Soon she couldn't get out of bed; she couldn't work and had to move back home.

Doctors diagnosed Becker with stage 4 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. The cancer had already spread to her spleen, liver and bone marrow. She spent six months undergoing chemotherapy without success. She was in desperate need of a bone-marrow transplant, but no donor was available.

"I was really as bad as somebody could get," she told the *Catholic Explorer*, Joliet diocesan newspaper, in a telephone interview.

Running out of options, she went to the Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood for an umbilical-cord-blood stem-cell transplant.

"Cord blood has opened the door to curing patients who otherwise would die," Dr. Patrick Stiff, director of Loyola's Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center, told the *Catholic Explorer*. "We actually have transplanted patients in whom the only other option was a hospice program."

The use of cord-blood stem cells does not involve the destruction of embryos, and the Catholic Church supports their use. They are taken from an umbilical cord after birth and used to treat cancers originating in bone marrow or in the lymphatic system when a traditional bone-marrow transplant is not an option.

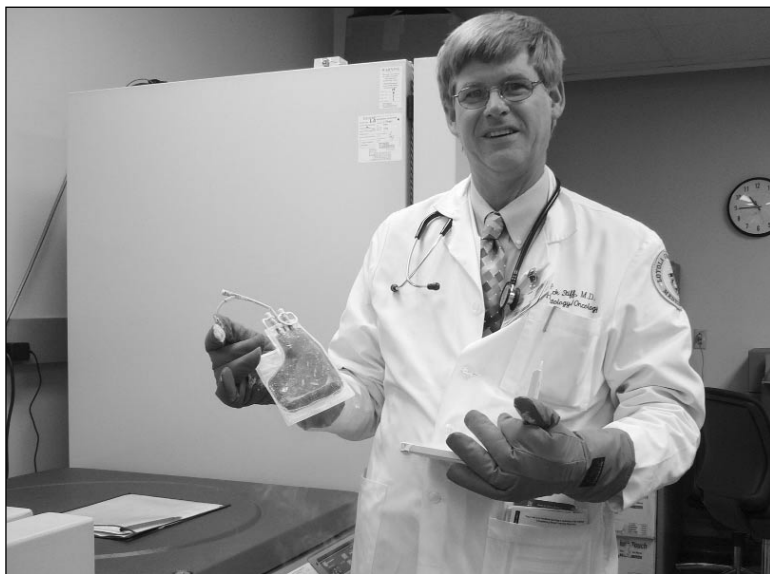
According to a statement released by Loyola, "umbilical-cord-blood transplants at Loyola are curing or slowing the progression of many cancers."

Stiff, also a professor of medicine and pathology at the Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine in Maywood, said cord-blood stem cells "are more immature and have a better growth potential" than other adult stem cells. Doctors still consider living-donor, bone-marrow stem cells to be the best treatment option, but cord-blood cells are getting close, he added.

Ten years ago, Stiff and his team of researchers developed a new technology to grow cord-blood stem cells outside the body. In the past doctors could only get enough stem cells to treat a child. Now they can grow enough for an adult.

"So now a patient who comes to Loyola, who 10 years ago had as little as a 30 percent chance of finding a donor, now has approximately a 90 percent (chance) of finding a donor," said Stiff, a parishioner at St. Margaret Mary Parish in Naperville.

In 1998 Becker was one of the



CNS PHOTO/MARK INDREIKA, CATHOLIC EXPLORER

Dr. Patrick Stiff, director of Loyola's Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center, uses protective gloves to hold a frozen unit of umbilical-cord blood Aug. 13 at the center in Maywood, Ill. The blood is stored in liquid nitrogen at minus 100 degrees Celsius.

first patients to be treated in the Chicago area.

Although at the time she didn't fully understand how bad it was, "pretty much my only chance for survival would have been to have a cord-blood transplant," she said.

She spent five very difficult weeks at Loyola, trapped in isolation where she felt "completely horrible." People around her had to wear masks, and she couldn't "do anything."

Before receiving the cord blood, she received full-body radiation treatments twice daily and high-dose chemotherapy to wipe out her immune system.

"It was obviously the worst thing I've ever been through in my entire life," Becker said, crediting her family and friends for helping her through the ordeal.

She said getting the cord blood was easy. "It's just like a blood transfusion," she said.

Two years ago, President George W. Bush signed the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, creating a national network matching cord blood with patients.

Stephen Sprague, a New York man who has been free of leukemia for 10 years after a cord-blood transplant as part of Stiff's study, now advocates for cord-blood usage. He said that in spite of the law signed by Bush an infrastructure is still lacking to help women donate their umbilical-cord blood. Most hospitals treat cord blood as medical waste, he said.

Stiff agrees. "There is cost associated with getting cord-blood units into the cord-blood bank at the hospital level, and right now there's no mechanism to recoup those costs."

Stiff said cord-blood stem cells have tremendous potential beyond cancer treatments.

"They do have the capacity to produce pretty much anything, and I guess that's part of the work that we're interested in pursuing," he said. "We don't need to go to embryonic stem cells. There are obvious differences, but we think that the differences are so minor as to never warrant the use of embryonic stem cells for any research or clinical use."



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Safes, 140 years of records stolen from Kendallville parish

BY DON CLEMMER

KENDALLVILLE — Two safes containing around \$70 in petty cash and records dating back to the 1867 founding of the church were stolen from Immaculate Conception Parish between 7 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 24, and 9 a.m. on Aug. 25, according to Father Lourdino Fernandes, pastor of Immaculate Conception.

The safes were kept in a locked room in the parish hall attached to the church. The hall contains Sunday school classrooms and the parish office.

The burglary was discovered on Saturday morning by the same parishioner who had locked up the hall the night before.

"We had two safes in there. They were 26 inches long. They were bolted to the floor, and we had our parish records there — baptism, marriage and death registers," says Father Fernandes, who notes that the

authorities are investigating.

"They have found some parts of the safe on the south side of where our church stands, not too far from the church," he notes. Authorities believe these parts were most likely sawed off in order to get into the safe. Father Fernandes believes there was more than one person involved.

"They are very heavy safes, and I believe it would have to be at least two," he says.

Nothing has been recovered, and Father Fernandes notes that the money contained in the safe was only the parish petty cash.

"But what is priceless of course is the records," he adds.

Even if the registers spanning the entire 140-year history of Immaculate Conception are not recovered, the parish may still be able to recover the information from microfilm in the diocesan archives. This option is still being explored.

CONFIRM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are, as true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed" (CCC 1285).

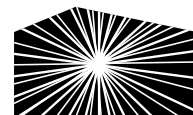
"This is a rare opportunity that, hopefully, the confirmed will remember for the rest of their lives," said MacMichael. "It also is a sign of unity in the Jubilee Year, especially with Bishop D'Arcy ministering with his brother priests in tending the flock."

Due to the nature of the event and the capacity limitations of each venue, the number of guests each confirmandi can invite is limited, MacMichael indicated. In fact, tickets have been printed for both locations with each parish allotted a proportionate number of tickets to ensure there are not more invitees than either arena safely can accommodate, he added.

Each parish has been asked to make a banner to be mounted on a pole and erected where their respective students are seated to make them more identifiable to family and friends in attendance.

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Vatican police cadet dies in apparent suicide

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A 25-year-old Vatican police cadet died from a gunshot wound to the head, the victim of an apparent suicide, the Vatican said. Alessandro Benedetti, who joined the elite Vatican gendarme corps in April, was discovered in grave condition in the bathroom of his Vatican barracks early Sept. 3. Rushed to a nearby hospital by fellow cadets, he died shortly afterward. The Vatican said Benedetti had left a note and that "the initial evidence indicates he wanted to kill himself." Vatican judicial authorities were conducting an investigation into the case. Pope Benedict XVI, who was not at the Vatican at the time of the shooting, was deeply saddened by the news, a Vatican statement said. "The Holy Father entrusts the young Alessandro to God's mercy. He is spiritually close to the Benedetti family and the members of the gendarme corps," the statement said. The gendarme force gathered in a Vatican chapel for a prayer service later Sept. 3 with Benedetti's parents. The 140-member gendarme force provides general security inside the Vatican, including papal events. The Swiss Guard, a separate force, is more directly involved in the personal protection of the pope. Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, the Vatican spokesman, said Benedetti was accepted as a gendarme cadet after passing the usual "psycho-attitudinal" evaluation, which also related to the use of weapons. "His behavior until now had given no cause for concern," Father Lombardi said. According to the Italian news agency ANSA, Benedetti's aunt said he had recently broken up with his girlfriend. It was the worst episode of violence at the Vatican since 1998, when a young Swiss Guard shot and killed the Guard's commander and the commander's wife before taking his own life.

Peruvian earthquake destroyed churches, other cultural sites

LIMA, Peru (CNS) — Three churches on Peru's list of cultural heritage sites were declared a total loss and more were badly damaged after the huge earthquake that struck the country's southern coast, said the director of the National Institute of Culture. Eight others were seriously damaged, eight suffered moderate damage and one was slightly harmed in the magnitude 8 quake that struck Peru Aug. 15, said Cecilia Bakula Budge, the director. In Pisco, the city nearest the epicenter, San Clemente Church, on the main plaza, and the colonial Jesuit church were virtually leveled by the quake, as was an adobe chapel on the Panamerican Highway where a Franciscan friar, Father Jose Ramon Rojas, is said to have brought fresh water forth from the desert. In all, more than 25 churches in the Ica Diocese were seriously damaged, Bishop Guido Lopez Brena of Ica told Catholic News Service. The diocese has been arranging for engineers and architects to evaluate the buildings in the towns of Pisco, Ica and Chincha.

ARCHBISHOP HUGHES SPEAKS AT EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Archbishop Alfred C. Hughes of New Orleans speaks to the congregation Aug. 29 at an evening interfaith prayer service at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Lakeview, La., on the second anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. During the service at the church, which has been restored after being inundated with 10 to 12 feet of water in the storm, Episcopal Bishop Charles Jenkins, Archbishop Hughes and other faith leaders signed a statement, "A Vision for a Renewed New Orleans."

Bishop Pelotte released from hospital, to recuperate in Florida

GALLUP, N.M. (CNS) — Bishop Donald E. Pelotte of Gallup has been released from a Houston hospital that specializes in traumatic brain injuries and is continuing his recuperation at a private residence in Florida, according to the diocesan chancellor. Deacon Timoteo Lujan, chancellor of the Gallup Diocese, said the bishop was discharged from Memorial Hermann/The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research in Houston during the weekend of Aug. 25-26. An update posted by Deacon Lujan on the diocesan Web site Aug. 29 said the bishop's twin brother, Father Dana Pelotte, remains with him. Both brothers are members of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament. Father Pelotte is pastor of a Houston parish. "While the bishop's condition has improved sufficiently to move him from Texas to a private home, he is under the care of medical personnel as an outpatient," said the update. "The rehabilitation program continues at a hospital near the residence. It is expected that his recovery will be protracted and there is no prediction on when he can return to his duties in the Diocese of Gallup."

Judge pulls 42 abuse cases out of San Diego Diocese's bankruptcy

SAN DIEGO (CNS) — A federal judge Aug. 25 ordered 42 of the 127 lawsuits over sexual abuse claims to be removed from the Diocese of San Diego's bankruptcy case so they can go to jury trials in state

court. Bankruptcy Court Judge Louise DeCarl Adler found that leaving the 42 plaintiffs in the group that the diocese has sought to settle with in bankruptcy proceedings would amount to depriving them of their Seventh Amendment right to a jury trial and "will cause severe prejudice to the plaintiffs, especially since these cases are intensely fact-driven." Adler's 14-page ruling said that although the diocese filed for bankruptcy because of the lawsuits "prompt resolution of these claims through the bankruptcy process is unlikely." She said twice in the ruling that the \$95 million offered to the plaintiffs in a financial reorganization plan is "far below the historical statewide average." The Archdiocese of Los Angeles in July announced a settlement agreement that called for the church to pay more than 500 victims of sexual abuse by priests a total of \$660 million.

Head of ex-Legionaries group offers court computer files

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The head of a network of former members of the Legionaries of Christ and Regnum Christi has offered to hand over computer files to a Virginia circuit court after being sued by the religious order. Paul Lennon, president of the nonprofit organization ReGAIN, appeared before the Circuit Court of Alexandria Aug. 22 during a seizure hearing. Glenn Favreau, a former member of the Legionaries and a member of ReGAIN, told Catholic News Service Aug. 28 that the court accepted Lennon's offer. No further steps have been taken in the case against Lennon and ReGAIN, Favreau said. The

Legionaries are suing Lennon and ReGAIN to recover what the order claims is private property and to deter what it said is improper use of stolen materials. The complaint said ReGAIN, "along with other co-conspirators, have intentionally taken out of context excerpts from ... stolen materials and posted them on the Internet as part of a concerted effort to wage a malicious disinformation campaign against the Legion." The complaint, dated Aug. 2, was posted on the Web site of ReGAIN, which offers information about alleged problems associated with the Legionaries and Regnum Christi, an apostolic Catholic movement associated with the Legionaries. ReGAIN stands for Religious Groups Awareness International Network.

Scottish cardinal resigns from Amnesty to protest its abortion policy

LONDON (CNS) — A Scottish cardinal has announced his resignation from Amnesty International to protest the group's new policy to fight for the decriminalization of abortion around the world. Cardinal Keith O'Brien of Saint Andrews and Edinburgh said it was with "great sadness" that he quit an organization he joined as a student more than 40 years ago. He said he was no longer able to support the human rights group in good conscience after it voted at a mid-August meeting in Mexico to fight for abortion rights. "That basic and most fundamental of all human rights, the right to life, is recognized by the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the document upon which Amnesty

International was founded," Cardinal O'Brien said in an Aug. 28 letter to John Watson, program director of Amnesty in Scotland. "Sadly, now Amnesty International seems to be placing itself at the forefront of a campaign for a universal right to abortion in contravention to that basic right to human life." He added: "For me it is a matter of conscience that I have decided to resign from Amnesty International. Others must follow their own consciences."

Body of first bishop of Mississippi exhumed in Baltimore

BALTIMORE (CNS) — The first bishop of Mississippi recently made his final trip from Baltimore to Natchez, Miss. — 155 years after he died in Maryland. Born in Baltimore Oct. 4, 1795, to refugees from the French colony of Saint-Domingue (now Haiti), Bishop John J. Chanche was ordained a Sulpician priest in Baltimore in 1819, became the president of the old St. Mary's College there in 1834, and was named the first bishop of the Diocese of Natchez by Pope Gregory XVI in 1841. He died in Frederick, Md., July 22, 1852 — presumably of cholera — while en route to Natchez after participating in the First Plenary Council in Baltimore. Though he was the bishop of Natchez, the native Baltimorean was buried at the original Cathedral Cemetery in West Baltimore and reinterred at the New Cathedral Cemetery on Old Frederick Road Feb. 11, 1878, but the bishop wanted his remains moved to St. Mary Basilica in Natchez, the church he helped establish. "Bishop Chanche had the vision of building what was then our cathedral," said Father David O'Connor, pastor of the former cathedral, which was named a basilica in 1999. "About a year ago we decided that we should try to bring his remains back here."

Catholic high schools ranked among top U.S. football powers

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A list of football powerhouses among Catholic colleges in Division I of the National Collegiate Athletic Association would probably start with Notre Dame and end with Boston College. But a similar list for Catholic high schools would require a lot more paper. Nine Catholic high schools are in USA Today's "Super 25" rankings — including four in the top 10. The rankings were published in the newspaper's Aug. 22 issue. St. Xavier High School in Cincinnati tops all Catholic schools with the fourth spot in the preseason rankings. It's the highest-ranked school — Catholic, public or private — that didn't go undefeated last year; it finished 10-2 in 2006. DeMatha High School in the Washington suburb of Hyattsville, Md., was ranked fifth. It went 12-0 last season. Its first game was set for Sept. 2 in Cincinnati against St. Xavier. De La Salle High School in Concord, Calif., placed sixth. A perennial power in prep football, De La Salle is going for its 15th consecutive sectional championship this season.

Bishop Luers Walk-A-Thon set Sept. 28

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School will hold its 27th Annual Walk-A-Thon on Friday, Sept. 28. The event is scheduled to begin in the school gymnasium at 9:15 a.m. following an all-school prayer service.

The walk travels through south Fort Wayne area neighborhoods and Foster Park. Each of Luers 550 students is required to raise a minimum of \$75 in order to participate in the walk. The money raised is to support general operating expenses for Bishop Luers High School. The goal for the school this year is \$47,000.

For more information, contact the school at (260) 456-1261.

Al Kresta to speak at Our Lady of Good Hope

FORT WAYNE — Fort Wayne's Redeemer Radio, Catholic Radio AM 1450, announced that it will host Detroit-based Ave Maria Communications founder and nationally-syndicated broadcast journalist Al Kresta for two exciting events on Sept. 11.

From 4-6 p.m., Kresta will broadcast "Kresta in the Afternoon" live from Redeemer Radio's studio in Fort Wayne.

From 7:30-9 p.m. at Our Lady of Good Hope Catholic Church, 7215 St. Joe Rd., Fort Wayne, Kresta will share his inspiring conversion story from Protestant pastor to a Catholic media missionary.

The speaking event at Our Lady of Good Hope is free to the public. The event will begin with the recitation of the rosary led by Fourth Degree Knights from around the Fort Wayne area. The evening concludes with a reception where everyone will have the opportunity to meet Kresta.

In announcing the Al Kresta event, Redeemer Radio program director Patty Becker said, "Such an event brings Catholic Radio in the Fort Wayne area to a whole new level, and we are thrilled to be part of the Al Kresta tour. Our listeners love Al Kresta."

For more information regarding Al Kresta, please visit www.avemariaradio.com

Christ Child Society to begin Clothe A Child Campaign

SOUTH BEND — The excited flurry of back-to school shopping is not a reality for all children. However, nearly 4,000 underprivileged children in St. Joseph County will have free, new, warm coats, shoes and school clothes thanks to the Christ Child Society's Clothe a Child Campaign during the months of September and October.

Bright red, yellow, green and blue dolls will decorate the walls of local Martin's Supermarkets, Notre Dame Credit Union and MFB. Each doll represents \$1 donated by customers. The money collected goes directly to the purchase of children's clothing.

The Christ Child Society is a nonprofit organization whose 500 volunteer members are dedicated to clothing children and babies in our community, as well as to pro-

AROUND THE DIOCESE

SISTER CITY STUDENTS VISIT BISHOP DWENGER



DON CLEMMER

After Mass on Aug. 24, Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, officially welcomed three students from Plock, Poland, an official sister city of Fort Wayne as part of an exchange program. Three American students visited Poland in June. Pictured from left are Oskar Bednarski of Poland, Brendon Keen of Canterbury School and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne, Jonna Kawiecka of Poland, Stan Podzielinski, chairperson of the Plock Council of Fort Wayne Sister Cities International, Dwenger Principal Fred Tone, Jenna Roy and Jeanna Van Hoey of Bishop Dwenger and Gosia Przybysz of Poland.

viding educational services. The Clothe a Child Campaign is a major fundraiser, which involves the entire community through the purchase of paper dolls, each dressed in a coat, hat and mittens to represent the goal of the campaign. One hundred percent of the money raised in the campaign is spent on new clothing, which is distributed from the Christ Child Center on West Thomas Street each Wednesday morning and Sunday afternoon. Referrals are made through local agencies and schools.

For more information about this topic, contact Linda Brammer at (574) 287-5048.

More funds to rebuild Queen of Angels playground

FORT WAYNE — Funds continue to be raised to replace the wooden playground equipment at Queen of Angels School that was burned in a fire on June 12. One of the youngest benefactors, Miguel Hernandez, a second grader at Whispering Meadows, presented over \$80 to Queen of Angels School principal, Marsha Jordan, during the summer, after raising funds door to door in his neighborhood. Recently the young humanitarian spoke at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, his grandmother's church, about the school's need and collected donations of \$300.

Soldiers, scholars, lawyers to seek meaning of war

NOTRE DAME — Soldiers, social scientists, war correspondents, just war theorists, military historians, international lawyers and decorated generals — including two former commanders in Bosnia — will meet Sept. 13-15 (Thursday to Saturday) at the University of Notre Dame for a conference titled "What Is War?"

A clear answer is critical to human rights around the world, according to Mary Ellen O'Connell, Robert and Marion Short Professor of Law at Notre Dame and a fellow in the University's Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies.

"The most basic human rights — the right to life, the right to trial, the right to own property — all depend on whether a conflict is legally definable as war or not," she said. "Yet at the moment there is no immutable dividing line between the two situations."

Governments tend to deny that fighting on their territory is armed conflict, O'Connell said, instead calling it "criminal activity" and claiming that they have it under control.

"Yet if the conflict on your territory is not war, then according to international law you have to use law enforcement methods rather than respond with bombs or violence," she said.

In a reversal of this trend, the U.S. government after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks began calling "war" what many would see as crime, O'Connell said.

"During war, the law changes fundamentally," she said. "Under the argument that the U.S. is conducting a 'global war on terror,' people have been killed, imprisoned without trial, had their property confiscated and lost many other rights that could never have been violated in times of peace."

Among the speakers will be two former commanders in Bosnia, retired British Army Gen. Sir Michael Rose and retired U.S. Army Gen. William Nash, as well as experts from around the world who examine war from legal, historic, political, academic and journalistic perspectives. Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, CSC, president emeritus of Notre Dame, also will offer remarks.

An agenda and list of speakers and biographies are available at <http://kroc.nd.edu/events/>

The second day of the conference will coincide with the release of Gen. David Petraeus' report on progress since the U.S. military "surge" in Iraq.

The conference, which is free and open to the public, is sponsored by the Mershon Center for Security Studies at Ohio State University, Notre Dame's Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies and Notre Dame Law School.

The conference is an outgrowth of a study group formed by the

International Law Association, a worldwide organization of international lawyers and law scholars. Under O'Connell's chairmanship, the study group is charged with addressing the legal challenges raised by the Bush administration's "global war on terror." The committee's work is expected to have a major impact on the international community's understanding of the rights and duties of states, organizations and individuals.

'Walk the walk' Sept. 29 at the Walk for the Hungry and concert

FORT WAYNE — Realizing there is strength in numbers, four faith-based hunger relief organizations, The Associated Churches, The Franciscan Center, The Salvation Army and Miss Virginia's House, are joining together again this year to fight hunger in Allen County with Hunger Walk V on Saturday, Sept. 29, at Headwaters Park East, Lincoln Pavilion, from 12-8 p.m. Registration starts at noon.

The goal of the annual Hunger Walk is to create awareness of the need in our area and to raise needed funds to help fight hunger; all of the proceeds from the walk stay and directly help Allen County residents.

To help increase awareness and support of the Walk, this year's event will feature a concert by popular Christian artist Warren Barfield under the beautiful Lincoln Pavilion at Headwaters East. Tickets for Warren Barfield are \$5 each, \$20 for a family, or free if participating in the Walk earlier in the day.

The walk will also present the annual Father Tom Awards and will feature for the first time a "Clash of the Crusaders" choral group contest, open to any band, choral group or soloists with Christian-themed music.

For more information visit www.hungerwalkallencounty.org.

Deadline approaching for Father Tom Award nominations

FORT WAYNE — The committee members of Hunger Walk V are accepting applications for its annual Father Tom Awards until Sept. 8.

The Father Tom Hunger Walk Award is named in memory of Father Thomas Patrick O'Connor. As the pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Fort Wayne for 34 years, he was best known for founding St. Mary's Soup Kitchen and leading the effort to build Matthew 25 Clinic to provide free medical and dental care to the needy.

The Father Tom Award is for volunteers of local organizations who "walk in the footsteps of Father Tom and exemplify a selfless devotion to others," explains Mary Osborn, Hunger Walk committee member and coordinator of the awards.

All nominees will receive a certificate and will be honored at the Hunger Walk V event on Sept. 29 at 2:15 p.m. under the Lincoln Pavilion at Headwaters Park East.

For more information or nomination forms, call (260) 422-3528, or visit www.hungerwalkallencounty.org.

Diverse speakers on men's conference's itinerary

BY SEAN GALLAGHER

INDIANAPOLIS — Denver Archbishop Charles J. Chaput will headline the second annual Indiana Catholic Men's Conference on Sept. 22 at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis.

The leader of the Denver archdiocese for 10 years, Archbishop Chaput has served on the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom and been the keynote speaker at the National Catholic Prayer Breakfast held annually in Washington, D.C.

He is also the author of "Living the Catholic Faith: Rediscovering the Basics" and has written opinion columns for such national newspapers as the *New York Times*.

Robert Teipen, a member of St. Lawrence Parish in Indianapolis who is helping to organize the conference, thinks that more than Archbishop Chaput's national stature will appeal to the men at the conference who will listen to him.

"He's pretty direct," Teipen said. "And I think men respect that. That's why he's known nationally. He's defending the faith in a vocal way and he's not apologizing for it."

Nearly 1,000 men attended the first conference last year.

Those who attend this year's conference will be treated with a lineup of speakers with a diverse background.

Lay evangelist Jesse Romero is a former member of the Los Angeles Police Department who is a three time world Police Boxing Champion and a two time U.S. Kickboxing Champion.

Darrell Miller, the brother of retired Indiana Pacer Reggie Miller, is a retired Major League Baseball player. He was

received into the full communion of the church as an adult and currently leads MLB's Urban Youth Academy.

Father Larry Richards is nationally known for mission preacher and retreat master. He is a priest of the Erie, Pa. diocese.

Local priests will also speak at

the conference.

They are Father Jonathan Meyer, associate pastor of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis and Father Richard Doerr, pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Carmel, in the Lafayette diocese.

Overall, the scheduled speakers represent a broad array of cultural and racial backgrounds in the Church. Romero is Hispanic. Miller comes from the African-American community. And Archbishop Chaput is a Native American.

Teipen thinks this diversity is an important

part of a conference for Catholic men.

"It attests to the universality of our church," he said. "It's a big net out there. We're trying to draw all in. Jesus didn't limit the Gospel (at all)."

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein of Indianapolis will also be on hand at the start of the conference to welcome its atten-

"It attests to the universality of our church.

It's a big net out there.

We're trying to draw all in.

Jesus didn't limit the

Gospel."

ROBERT TEIPEN

Film series to examine truths about migration

NOTRE DAME — "Migration, Documented," sponsored by the University of Notre Dame's Institute for Latino Studies (ILS), will present six films to be shown at 7 p.m. each Wednesday from Sept. 5 to Oct. 10 in 126 DeBartolo Hall on campus.

The films are free and open to the public. They are:

• Sept. 5 — "La Fuerza," produced with the help of students at Goshen College, demonstrates how Apan, Mexico, and Goshen, Ind., are linked by transnational migration amidst a growing Hispanic population in Elkhart County, crackdowns on illegal immigrants and issues of injustice.

• Sept. 12 — "Letters from the Other Side" tells the stories of many families affected by the immigration of Mexicans into the United States. Offering intimate windows into the lives of the immigrants and those they left behind, the film depicts the difficult complexities intertwined in issues of immigration, U.S. foreign policy and the importance of family structures.

• Sept. 19 — "H-2 Worker" exposes the harsh exploitation of men who traveled from Jamaica and other West Indies nations to work in the sugar cane fields of Belle Glade, Fla.

• Sept. 26 — "Life and Debt" is a woven tapestry of sequences focusing on the stories of individual Jamaicans whose strategies for survival and parameters of day-to-day existence are determined by the U.S. and other foreign economic agendas. It allows the complexity of international lending, structural adjustment policies and free trade to be understood in the context of the everyday realities of the people whose lives they impact.

• Oct. 3 — "Snakeheads: The Chinese Mafia and the New Slave Trade" explores the complicated issues of illegal immigration and sweatshop labor framed against a background of competing global economic forces and shines an uncompromising light on the modern day slave trade.

• Oct. 10 — "My American Girls: A Dominican Story" captures the joys and struggles over one year in the lives of the Ortiz family, first generation immigrants from the Dominican Republic, capturing the rewards and costs of conducting transnational lives that straddle national borders.

dees.

Teipen also emphasized that many of the speakers will appeal to men in their teenage and young adult years.

"They all relate well to young people, but they will not turn off the older adults," he said.

The conference, which will run from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., will include Mass. Archbishop Chaput will be the homilist. The sacrament of reconciliation will be available throughout the conference.

Adult registration for the conference is \$40. It is \$35 for groups of 10 or more. Student registration is \$20. Priests and religious may attend free of charge.

Lunch will be included for all who register before Sept. 18.

Overall, Teipen hopes the conference will make the men who attend it "emboldened in their faith."

"We're supposed to go out and proclaim and evangelize," Teipen said. "Don't be ashamed to let people know that you're Catholic and why you're Catholic and the fact that you're proud that you're Catholic."

For more information about the conference or to register for it, log on to www.indianacatholicmen.com or call (317) 924-3982 or (317) 888-



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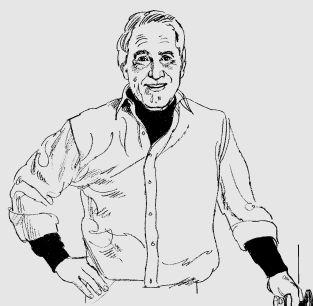
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St. Louis de Montfort organist receives top honor

BY LISA L. COTILLIER

FISHERS — Scott Foppiano, organist, choirmaster and coordinator of liturgy at St. Louis de Montfort Church, recently was named 2007 Organist of the Year.

He received the title and a plaque at the national convention of the American Guild of Organists and the American Theatre Organ Society, held in New York City in July.

"The candidates are chosen from an international roster of players and voted for by the awards committee and board of directors," Foppiano told *The Catholic Moment*, newspaper of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana. "Those who have received the award in previous years are among the top shining stars in the organ world and some of the most famous players of the last 100 years. It is truly an honor to be recognized."

While in New York state, he performed in the Cadet Chapel of the Military Academy at West Point. Foppiano also played a solo recital at the Cathedral of St. Patrick in Manhattan on its historic Kilgen Grande pipe organ.

"It was, without question, an absolute thrill to sit at those consoles, to play music through the same pipes and bounce sound off the same walls as so many of the top organists from decades past," he said. "It is almost overwhelming, and something I will never forget."

"Scott is a truly gifted musician," said Julie Males, director of the Pastoral Office for Worship and RCIA. "He is extraordinarily talented, and has a great knowledge of

organ repertoire."

Foppiano began playing the organ as a child in his hometown of Memphis, Tenn.

As a student at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic School, "I discovered the grandeur and majesty of the pipe organ," he said.

"I was drawn to the organ and its music in church by the grandeur of its power and sound," he said. "However, as capable as the instrument is of a majestic swell of sound, it is also capable of some of the most prayerful, reflective and almost-inaudible nuances possible."

He added, "As the Holy See proclaims, 'The organ is the traditional, preferred instrument for worship in the Latin Church,' and I agree."

The organ brings "substance and a sense of the divine and the sacred" to the Mass, Foppiano said. "The Mass must bring us to a different and higher plane than that of ordinary, everyday life: engaging all of a participant's being — sight, sound, smell, taste, touch — a kaleidoscope of dimensions in which to approach and find God."

"I wish to add reverence, solemnity, majesty and a marked differentiation between the secular and the sacred."

Since his arrival at St. Louis de Montfort in 2005, Foppiano has built up the parish's program to include a vested parish choir, a treble choir, a boys' choir and a Schola Cantorum specializing in early music. He also has played at several diocesan liturgies at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Lafayette.

CHURCH AROUND INDIANA

New steeple in Kentland a top-notch addition

BY CAROLINE B. MOONEY

KENTLAND — A new steeple, with a cross pointing heavenward, sits atop St. Joseph Church here, a re-creation of the 1888 original.

"After all these years, it's really great to put it back the way it was meant to be," said Julie Schlotman,

parishioner of St. Joseph told *The Catholic Moment*, newspaper of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana. "It's just thrilling to see the new steeple."

Men worked in above 90-degree heat to install the steeple on Aug. 22.

In 1962, the original steeple was severely damaged in a wind storm. A modernistic, wrought-iron replacement costing \$17,800, twice the original price of the 1888 church, was erected in May 1962.

In the fall of 2005, Schlotman



CAROLINE B. MOONEY

A crane lifts a new 32-foot tall, 3,000-pound steeple into place at St. Joseph Church in Kentland. The steeple design is a re-creation of the 1888 original.

approached Father Robert Bernotas, pastor of St. Joseph, to propose installing a new steeple. He found the cost would be about \$44,000.

Don Funk, a former parishioner now living in Chicago, offered to match the contributions made by parishioners. A notice was put in the parish bulletin; within one month, \$22,000 was donated.

The new steeple is a visual replica of the church's first steeple. Father Bernotas used old drawings to come up with the design. Campbellsville Industries, Inc., of Campbellsville, Ky., built the steeple and installed it.

The base was custom-made to fit the old tower, which is not square, according to Andrew Guljas, diocesan facilities management coordinator.

The steeple is made of Alltrista Zinc, a combination of zinc, copper and titanium that is a lifetime, no maintenance material.

"The new steeple should complement the church very well," Father Bernotas said. "Though it's shiny now, as it ages it will turn dark gray to look like the slate of the original steeple."

He explained that louvers on the tower beneath the steeple don't duplicate the original louvers as they were replaced in brick instead of wood in 1962. The rest of the roof area, however, is now identical to that of the old church building.

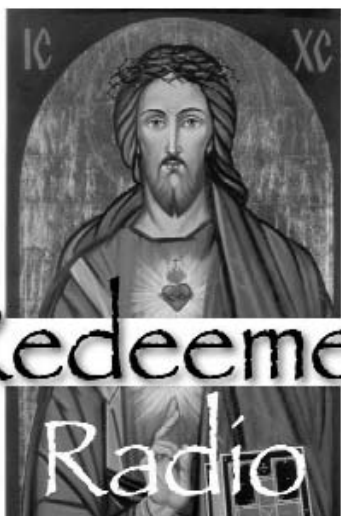
Diedam Decorating of Kentland did all the structural work in preparation for the installation. Brothers Mike and Jim Diedam, both parishioners of St. Joseph, were among the work crew. Their father installed the iron steeple in 1962.

A crane was extended to 120 feet to lift the 32-foot tall, 3,000-pound steeple into place.

A 5-foot tall cross finished in gold leaf was later attached to the top.

Al Kresta to Redeemer Radio and Our Lady of Good Hope September 11th!

Al Kresta, convert from Protestant pastor to Catholic media founder and missionary will broadcast "Kresta in the Afternoon" live from the Redeemer Radio studio 4-6pm and offer his inspiring conversion story at OLGH from 7:30-9pm



Redeemer Radio

Catholic Radio
AM 1450

Streaming around the world at
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Simple Living Raffle

St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County, Inc.



Drawing to be held on September 15, 2007 at St. Vincent de Paul Society Thrift Store.

Seven Prizes Awarded:

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- One Gift Card for St. Vincent's Thrift Store — \$100

TICKETS: \$5 each, 3 tickets for \$10 or 7 tickets for \$20.

All proceeds to benefit the work of St. Vincent's to help families with emergency food, clothing, household items and financial aid. Thank you for partnering with us in this effort!

"Live simply so that others may simply live."
-Mother Elizabeth Ann Seton

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c/o Simple Living Raffle

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Phone Number: _____
E-mail: _____

To purchase tickets by credit card please call (574)234-6000 (ext. 108 or 127).
Please make checks payable to Saint Vincent de Paul Society.

Please send _____ raffle ticket(s) for the Simple Living Raffle. (\$5 each, 3 tickets for \$10 or 7 tickets for \$20.)
TOTAL DUE: \$ _____

Preparation for confirmation begins at home

Directors of religious education and their catechists guide these students through the formal training

BY JENNIFER MURRAY

The sacrament of confirmation perfects baptism, flooding the recipient with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. These gifts are not for the recipients alone but rather to strengthen the confirmed who are now obligated to witness to the faith and defend it.

In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, this sacrament is normally given to seventh through ninth graders. It is the task of the directors of religious education and their catechists to guide these students through the formal training to understand the importance of this sacrament in order to prepare them to receive this gift with open hearts.

However, the parents are the first teachers. More than by words, they must teach by example. Linda Thomas, director of religious education at St. Therese in Fort Wayne offers this prayer for parents to help them in their role:

"Pray that I do nothing today that will cause my child not to want to be a Catholic."

She said that as the students are preparing for confirmation, it is especially important that the parents turn to God for help with their children.

"Pray for your teenager," Thomas said. "Trust God will lead them through this (time in their life) and trust in your prayers."

Preparation for confirmation, then, begins at home. By their example and by their prayers, the

parents have an enormous impact on their children and the strength of their faith. As the time draws closer for their confirmation, the directors of religious education and catechists must help the students to embrace the gift of the sacrament and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. How do they do this?

With a lot of prayer certainly. This sacramental preparation is beyond teaching facts about the faith, although that is certainly an important part of religious education.

When asked how she helps students understand the importance of confirmation, Amy Woodfill, director of religious education at St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, said,

"We make them a part of the process. They hold those sacraments very high. We start with getting them familiar with the gifts (of the Holy Spirit) and service and the role they play. If you are truly free, you are a servant. Once they recognize the gifts and see the fruits, it is just a domino effect."

Thomas added, she "emphasizes they are not in the infancy stage of religion but should grow

in adult religious education. ... I've never been one who thought it should be sit down and read through the book. It's hands on, just different experiences to tempt them to learn."

Thomas said that guiding the students to the spiritual level where they are ready for this sacrament requires "good teachers and catechists ... a sponsor who is strong in the faith, having adults who are strong in their faith."

It is also important for the students to have

opportunities to meet with many other youth who are preparing for confirmation, to get an idea of how large the church is, and to feel that Spirit moving.

Thomas said, "The youth rally

is an awesome way (for students to experience the church as community). When we gather them in large numbers they see the kids as a whole diocese ... This is an age where ... they all feed off that energy. I'm sure every kid who participates will never forget that."

There are great challenges in

preparing these students to accept their roles.

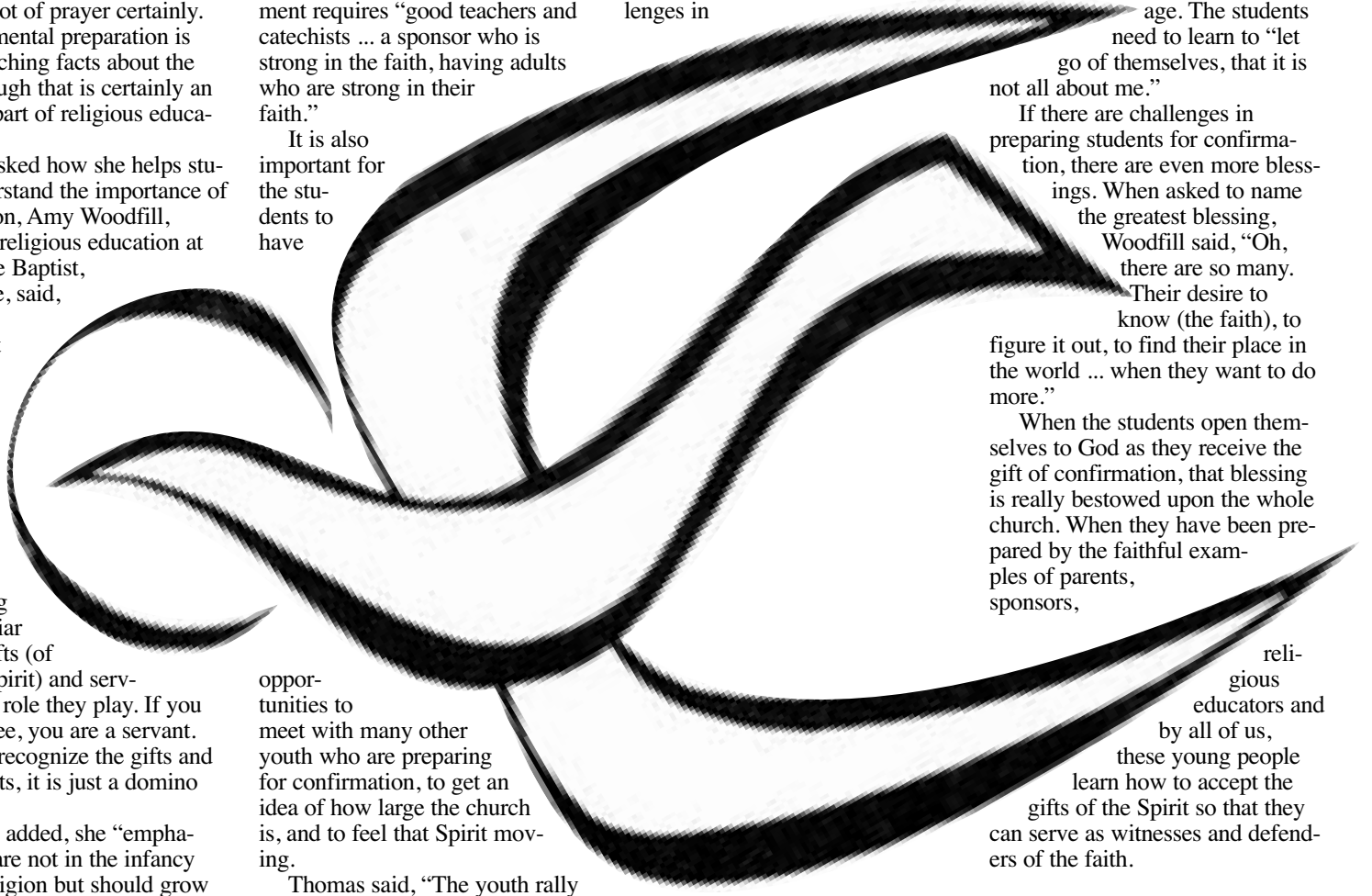
Thomas noted that one difficulty is "meeting all the kids' needs ... to enhance their learning experience so they are all eager to learn."

Woodfill felt the challenge lies in the egocentricity of the society and the students' age. The students need to learn to "let go of themselves, that it is not all about me."

If there are challenges in preparing students for confirmation, there are even more blessings. When asked to name the greatest blessing, Woodfill said, "Oh, there are so many. Their desire to know (the faith), to figure it out, to find their place in the world ... when they want to do more."

When the students open themselves to God as they receive the gift of confirmation, that blessing is really bestowed upon the whole church. When they have been prepared by the faithful examples of parents, sponsors,

religious educators and by all of us, these young people learn how to accept the gifts of the Spirit so that they can serve as witnesses and defenders of the faith.



May the saints whose names are chosen by our Confirmandi bestow special blessings as each receives the grace of the Holy Spirit.



St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish
NEW CARLISLE



*Through Confirmation
You are by word and deed
true witnesses of Christ.*

LITTLE FLOWER PARISH
SOUTH BEND

CONGRATULATIONS
to our
Confirmation Students
from
ST. MARY PARISH
Huntington

As the special graces of
The Holy Spirit
descend upon our
Confirmandi...
Everyone at St. Thomas the Apostle
extends warm thoughts and
prayerful good wishes.
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish - Elkhart



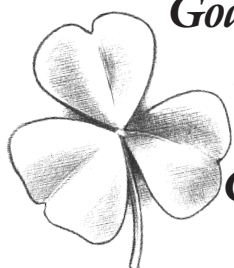
May the gift of
The Holy Spirit
be with you forever.



ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO PARISH
FORT WAYNE



*Receive the
Holy Spirit
and new fellowship
with Christ among
members of the parish of
St. Anthony de Padua
SOUTH BEND*



*God's blessings and
Best Wishes to
the
Confirmandi of
St. Patrick's
ARCOLA*

Congratulations and Best Wishes
to the Confirmandi of
*St. Joseph Parish, Roanoke
and
St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish
Nix Settlement*

*To Our Confirmandi...
As you receive the
Seal of The Holy Spirit,
be assured that you are in the
thoughts and prayers
of the parishioners of
St. Bavo - Mishawaka*



Office of Spiritual Development and Evangelization

“Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch.”

Shared Faith literature
can be found at
www.diocesefwsb.org/OSD

Confirmation — Living in God’s spirit

BY SISTER JOLENE HEIDEN, SSND

Opening prayer

Oh God, send down upon us your Holy Spirit to enlighten our minds. Let that same Holy Spirit continue to work in our world through us who believe. Graced with the seven-fold gifts of the Spirit, may we acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord who lives with you and your Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen

Scripture: Acts 2: 1-6; 1 Cor. 12: 4-13; Is 61: 1-3, 6, 8-9

Commentary

Confirmation is one of the three initiation sacraments, the other two being baptism and Eucharist. However, confirmation has gone through many more stages of refinement throughout the centuries. As we know, in the early church confirmation was part of the initiation or catechumenate process. After a time of serious discernment, catechumens joined the church at the Easter Vigil when the community joyfully welcomed them by celebrating all three sacraments of initiation at one time. Chrismation (the act of applying sacred oil and later called confirmation) had no separate rite; it was simply the name for the last ritual action of laying on of hands and anointing. As the church spread throughout the world, bishops delegated priests to baptize. Bishops then made regular visits to local communities to confirm the priests’ baptisms with a second anointing, and so a separate sacrament was born. With Constantine’s conversion and the relaxation of the catechumenate requirements, baptism was used on one’s deathbed to forgive sins.

Sometimes there was no time for the second anointing, but for those who survived, bishops completed the baptismal initiation rite in a separate ceremony.

Nowadays, for those baptized as infants, confirmation completes, confirms and strengthens the initiation process begun at baptism (CCC #1285) and, in most United States dioceses today, is conferred during the junior or senior high school years. Many of us confirmed before Vatican II remember confirmation as the sacrament of Catholic action. We were being readied to be “soldiers for Christ,” emphasized by the gentle blow on the cheek. Today the emphasis goes far deeper. Not only does confirmation complete baptism, but it also confirms and strengthens us so we can speak for ourselves, be committed and carry out the mission of Jesus.

The rite of confirmation is so rich in meaning that it may be good to consider its signs and actions since many of us, myself included, maybe don’t realize the impact this sacrament has had in our lives. Anointing, in Biblical and other ancient symbolism, is very rich. Oil is a sign of abundance and joy as well as of cleansing and consecrating (setting apart). Oil limbers as in the anointing of athletes and wrestlers in ancient times. Oil also is used for healing and making radiant with beauty, health and strength (CCC#1293).

Anointing with oil, with its qualities of cleansing, healing, health and strength, is used as sign and symbol in the sacraments of baptism, anointing of the sick, confirmation and holy orders. Through the anointing at confirmation, “those who are anointed, share more completely in the mission of Jesus Christ and the fullness of the Holy Spirit with which

he is filled, so that their lives may give off “the aroma of Christ” (CCC#1294 and 2 Cor 2:15).

With this anointing the person who is confirmed is sealed — or marked — with the fullness of the Holy Spirit, which signifies one’s total belonging to Christ to carry out the mission of Jesus.

Another part of the rite is the laying on of hands, usually done by a bishop, the successor to the apostles who received God’s Spirit on Pentecost and through whom then the Spirit was given to others. Laying on of hands signifies the outpouring of the Spirit’s gifts so that the person is strengthened to carry on Christ’s work, to publicly defend the faith if called upon to do so. It also reminds us of the first Pentecost: “Suddenly there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire which spread out and touched each person there” (Acts 2:2-3).

Just as the Pentecostal symbol of wind is necessary for life on our planet so is living with God’s Holy Spirit necessary for life as a Christian. Without the Spirit of courage, joy, understanding, wisdom, etc., our spiritual lives would be cold, dried up, barren and lifeless. We would be living very superficially with no purpose except perhaps for material gain, which in the end really goes nowhere. This reminds me so much of what was said to the church in Laodicea in the Book of Revelation: “I know your works; I know that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either cold or hot. So, because you are lukewarm, neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth. For you say: I am rich and affluent and have no need of anything and yet do not realize that you are

wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked” (Rev. 3: 15-17).

Our culture today readily endorses so much this kind of living. We have choices to make. Confirmation is a sacrament of choice. What kind of choices are we making in and about our lives? We can either choose to serve and love our God, or we can choose other idols. We cannot serve both God and money (Mt. 6:24). The Spirit has so much more to offer us.

Are you aware of the Spirit’s power within you? Do you ever stop and call upon the Spirit when you have a difficult choice to make?

Many saints are models for us. In our time we have the testimony of one woman who believed and trusted deeply in the power of the Spirit at work in her life. She responded “unreservedly to the call of the divine teacher” and followed him by becoming a Sister of Providence. St. Theodore Guérin is a saint for our time who, through obedience to her superiors, traveled to the United States under very difficult conditions to implement the Catholic school system in Fort Wayne. She is a person who opened her life to the Spirit and was guided in all she did by this Holy Spirit.

Reflection and connection

- What was your experience of confirmation? Recall what happened — how you felt — your preparation.

- How do you experience God’s Holy Spirit acting in your life today? Do you act with courage, wisdom, understanding, right judgment, knowledge, reverence and wonder and awe at God’s presence — or not? Explain.

Evangelizing challenge

For interior renewal:

Take one of the suggested Scripture passages and pray with it. What words or phrases touch your heart? Try often during the day to recall that word or phrase and be aware of God’s Spirit alive in you.

For reaching out to others:

Be aware of the many opportunities during the day in which someone may ask you for some help or assistance. What will your choice be? Sometimes the choice may be to say no (parents, be aware).


For transforming society:

Write an editorial to your local newspaper and suggest that you would like to see more good news appear in our papers. Suggest an affirming campaign, highlighting the good things people are doing in our city.

Closing prayer


Spirit of light, let the fire of your wisdom burn brightly within us.
Spirit of silence, in the still moment may we be open to God’s presence.
Spirit of courage, dispel the fear that lingers in our hearts.
Spirit of fire, engulf us with the passion of Christ’s Love.
Spirit of peace, help us to be attentive to God’s word in the world.
Spirit of joy, enthuse us to proclaim about the Good News.
Spirit of love, compel us to open ourselves to the needs of others.
Spirit of power, bestow the gift of your strength upon us.
Spirit of truth, guide us to walk in the way of Christ. Amen

Taken from “Prayer for Parish Groups” by Donal Harrington and Julie Kavanaugh



*St. Michael Parish
extends congratulations
to their confirmandi.
God’s blessings
in all your life.*

ST. MICHAEL PARISH • PLYMOUTH




CONGRATULATIONS
ST. TIERESE
CONFIRMANDI of 2007!
May you always reflect the light of Christ

On the joyous occasion of the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation, the parishioners of **QUEEN OF PEACE - MISHAWAKA** extend congratulations and prayerful best wishes to our Confirmation Class

Best wishes to our Confirmation Class as they receive the seal of the Holy Spirit, the Gift of the Father.

✱

ST. MONICA PARISH
MISHAWAKA



*May the Gift of
The Holy Spirit
allow you to
Behold the Face of Christ*

✦

St. Mary of the Assumption
DECATUR

We are pleased to share the joy and the spirit of the occasion, as the Seal of the Holy Spirit comes upon our Confirmandi.

✦

Sacred Heart Parish
NOTRE DAME

A confirmation sponsor ...

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — As area faithful continue to celebrate the sesquicentennial anniversary of the diocese several important events will unfold on the heels of the spectacular Eucharistic Congress of Aug. 18. Two of the upcoming events are the regional confirmations to take place at the Joyce Center on the campus of the University of Notre Dame in South Bend and the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne.

Hundreds of confirmandi will participate in the sacrament of confirmation at both sites this fall joined by family, friends and confirmation sponsor. Bishop John M. D'Arcy will officiate while area priests will represent the local parishes there.

The ninth-grade students, whether in Catholic school or religious education classes, have been preparing for this special day for over two years, from participating in

required parish and community service to attending retreats to researching and choosing a saint's name for their own confirmation name. And while all of these activities took place, the student was required to designate a sponsor to accompany them on this sacramental journey.

Many choose family members, such as an aunt or uncle, while others invite a trusted friend to sponsor their faith development. In all cases the church requires that the sponsor be 16 years or older and fully initiated into the Catholic faith, including baptism, first Eucharist and confirmation, as well as in good standing with the church. The sponsor must also actively participate in the faith and parish life.

Following the invitation to sponsor a confirmand, the sponsor then is asked to attend any number of meetings that the individual parish requires for confirmation preparation.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne requires the sponsor to accompany the student to two sponsor meetings in which the group reflects on the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Participation in at least one of the community service projects is encouraged. And of course practice for the actual ceremony is a must for the student and the sponsor.

Requirements notwithstanding, the power the sponsor wields in preparation for receiving the Holy Spirit comes from within. While some may take the position lightly, many know the benefit of lending faith experience to the developing heart.

Enthusiasm for the faith is paramount in sharing faith-

life experiences with the student. In that way, expressing knowledge of the Bible, lives of the saints and how God works in this life plant seeds that may grow within the young and fertile heart.

As importantly as the logistics of attending the required meetings, the sponsor has any number of opportunities to connect spiritually with the student. Some choose to send cards in the mail for special dates or holidays. These cards may include an underlying message of God's coming promise in confirmation and a prayer intention as well.

Prayer, both shared with the confirmand and spoken privately for him or her, provides the spiritual foundation for the reception of confirmation. Many times students are delightfully surprised that someone is praying on their behalf.

In addition to an occasional phone call, others use e-mail to stay in contact with the student. Many have a relationship that nurtures outings or attendance at a sporting event.

All contact with the student offers the message that the faith-based relationship is important and the sponsor's commitment to living and sharing faith is imparted as the confirmation journey unfolds.

Ultimately, the responsibility of the sponsor is to offer the student a model for joyful participation in the life of faith and in return may find a deeper relationship not only with the student but with God.



Congratulations

to all our

CONFIRMANDI

from

Holy Cross and St. Stanislaus Parish



God bless our
CONFIRMANDI



Corpus Christi School & Parish
SOUTH BEND



As members of a parish dedicated to the love of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, we ask their blessing on the Confirmandi of Holy Family Parish
SOUTH BEND



As our Confirmandi are marked with the sign of the Holy Trinity and enriched with the special grace of the Holy Spirit, we congratulate the students of St. Matthew school and our CCD students as they become more closely linked with the mystical Body of Christ.

CATHEDRAL OF ST. MATTHEW - SOUTH BEND

As some members of our parish take another sacramental step forward in their journey with Christ, our entire community at St. Vincent de Paul - Elkhart rejoices with them.

ST. ADALBERT PARISH

*Congratulations!
¡Selicidades!*

to our newly 'Confirmed Youth'
Nuestros Jóvenes Recién
Confirmandos

CONGRATULATIONS

*to our Confirmation Class,
as through this sacrament,
they become
true witnesses of Christ.*
Queen of Angels Parish
FORT WAYNE



With friendship and affection for the members of our Confirmation Class, the parishioners of St. Pius X - Granger extend sincere congratulations.



CONGRATULATIONS
to our
CONFIRMANDI
from
St. Joseph
GARRETT

We congratulate our Confirmandi as they are touched by the Grace of the Holy Spirit.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
PIERCETON

With firm confidence in the mysterious richness bestowed with the sacrament of The Holy Spirit, we rejoice and congratulate the members of our Confirmation Class.


ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH
GOSHEN



Congratulations to the Confirmation Class of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.
May the Spirit guide you always.


Father Daryl Rybicki, pastor,
and the parishioners of
ST. JOHN the BAPTIST PARISH
Fort Wayne
**Congratulate
our Confirmandi!**

Congratulations to all the Confirmandi!




**CHRIST THE KING
Parish and School**
Would like to extend
our **Congratulations**
to our **Confirmandi.**

**Congratulations
CONFIRMANDI**
of
St. JOSEPH
CATHOLIC CHURCH
South Bend, from the priests and
people of your parish.
*May the Holy Spirit
guide you today and always!*



**Confirmation
GIFTS**
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• Statues
• Medals • Rosaries
• Crucifixes
Greeting Cards and
Books for All Ages

AQUINAS
2306 Mishawaka Avenue
South Bend
(574) 287-1091




*Catholic
St. Aloysius
Church*

Congratulations
to you who are to be confirmed.
May you bear witness to Christ
as capable members of the Church.

St. Jude Parish - Fort Wayne
extends
prayerful best wishes to all
CONFIRMANDI
as they receive the
special blessings of The Holy Spirit.

*Congratulations to all,
whom through the sacrament
of Confirmation, are now in
full embodiment with the
Mystical Body of Christ.*


**St. Mary Parish
FORT WAYNE**



*May the memories
and blessings of this
occasion allow you to
behold the face of Christ
in all whom you may
encounter.*

**ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON PARISH
FORT WAYNE**

**Congratulations
to the
CONFIRMANDI**
from the
**St. Joseph, Fort Wayne
Parish Community**
On the reception
of their Confirmation



Our Lady of Good Hope
Parish in Fort Wayne
extends best wishes to all
who receive the blessings
of the Holy Spirit.

CONGRATULATIONS
to the members of our
Confirmation Class
as they receive
"The Baptism of The Spirit"

**St. Mary of the Annunciation Parish
BRISTOL**

Congratulations
to our
Confirmandi
**St. Joseph School
MISHAWAKA**

CONGRATULATIONS
to the
CONFIRMANDI
of
**Sacred Heart Parish
WARSAW**

May the blessing
brought by the
Chrism and the Cross
enrich your life forever.

**St. Vincent de Paul Parish
FORT WAYNE**



**Congratulations
to our Confirmation Class!**

Audrey Aldrich	Lauren Crowl	Jonita Miller
Lindsey Allen	Christopher Garman	Melissa Miller
Jordan Arnt	Tabitha Hackbush	Suede Schiffli
Katherine Arnt	David Hamman	Amber Shipe
Douglas Blomeke	Christopher	Alex Van Wye
Lexie Buchs	Harpenau	Katlin Van Wye
Troy Chappell	Bradley Hughes	Chelsea Wilson

**ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL
WATERLOO**

The parishioners of
Our Lady of Hungary
share the joy of Confirmation
with the
members of our
Confirmation Class

✠

EDITORIAL

Jubilee confirmations show unity of the church

Next Sunday and at the end of this month, our diocese will be celebrating the sacrament of confirmation at two confirmation Masses, one in South Bend and one in Fort Wayne. As part of our continuing celebration of the 150th anniversary jubilee of our diocese, all our young people to be confirmed will do so together in two great celebrations.

On the one hand, some may be disappointed that this celebration of the sacrament is not happening in their own parish. Indeed, it is wonderful when the bishop comes to the parish, and it is a wonderful celebration for the parish. However, years of jubilee celebrations are rare chances to experience a special outpouring of grace, and gathering together in such large gatherings for confirmation is a reminder to us that we are formed all together as a church around our bishop.

Although the parish is and will always remain the most pivotal place for most believers in the formation of faith, Jesus Christ forms his church around the bishop. We, altogether around our bishop, form the church of Fort Wayne-South Bend, united, of course, to the universal church.

Individual parishes are not grouped together to form the diocese. Rather, the diocese is divided into individual parishes in order to provide pastoral care. These "group confirmations," as they are sometimes called, are wonderful opportunities to express this reality, namely, that no matter which parish we happen to belong to, we are all united together as the church of Fort Wayne-South Bend around our bishop.

Culture of death example

In Italy this past week, a healthy twin child was mistakenly aborted by doctors instead of a twin with Down's Syndrome. The abortion was performed on a woman in Milan at 18 weeks of gestation. After it was discovered that the "wrong" child had been aborted, the woman had the child with Down's Syndrome also aborted.

This horrific story puts before us the continuing gruesomeness of abortion. Stories like this continue to remind us as followers of Christ of our need for continual, unrelenting intercession for the unborn, spiritually, socially and politically. This story also reminds us how far human culture has fallen.

Our culture gives us the option of eliminating at will those we find undesirable or those we perceive will be a "burden" to us. This is nothing less than eugenics. It is what Hitler did. It is what Stalin did, and now countries all over the world, including our own, allow it as a matter of course.

The good news is that this story has sparked a reaction in Italy and a call from some quarters to end the legalization of abortion there. May it not take something as tragic as this story to spark us to continue to call for the end to abortion in our country.

Congress highlights available

The diocesan Office of Communications is seeking those who may be interested in obtaining a DVD copy of the Eucharistic Congress closing Mass on Aug. 18 at the University of Notre Dame. The DVD would be a freewill offering. Contact the communications office at (260) 422-4611, ext. 3367, or e-mail Vince LaBarbera at vlabarbera@fw.diocesefwsb.org or write: Office of Communications, 915 S. Clinton St., Fort Wayne, IN 46802.

Today's Catholic will soon make photos from the Eucharistic Congress available for download, at no cost, from the diocesan Web site, www.diocesefwsb.org. A blog site is also up and running on the diocesan Web site and eager to receive comments about the congress.

Also, Today's Catholic welcomes your comments about the Eucharistic Congress in a letter to the editor format.

Today's Catholic editorial board consists of Bishop John M. D'Arcy, Ann Carey, Don Clemmer, Father Mark Gurtner, Father Michael Heintz, Tim Johnson and Vince LaBarbera.

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

Noise detracts respect after Mass

I would like to comment on the noise in church after Mass. As soon as the priest gives the final blessing, and even before he leaves the sanctuary, the talking and laughing begin.

People who do not know better should be told from the pulpit that quiet should prevail in church, even after Mass is finished. Why can't they wait until they're outside to socialize?

I really don't want to know about Uncle Fred's operation or Willie's golf game. I just want to spend a few quality minutes after Mass, thanking God for the holy Eucharist and for all the blessings I have received from him.

Please, let us show God the respect due him.

Joseph E. Stachowski
North Liberty

Deepest gratitude for Good Friday collection assisting Holy Land

I am in receipt of your check #162985 in the amount of \$76,808.64, representing the gifts of the people of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend to the Jerusalem Mother Church for the 2007 Good Friday collection. This gift will not only assist in the preservation of the holy places but will also help the people to whom the Franciscan Friars of the Holy Land Custody minister.

In the name of the friars and those to whom they minister, I express our deepest gratitude to you, Bishop D'Arcy, and to our sisters and brothers in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, who con-

tinued to give most generously to help those who are in need. May God bless and reward all of you.

The Good Friday Collection is a Pontifical Collection and is absolutely vital. News reports are received daily about the important challenges in the Middle East. The Christian community is urgently in need of our help. As you know, we are charged also with the protection, physical and pastoral care of the holy shrines, which we make accessible to pilgrims.

With deep appreciation, much gratitude and a promise of prayer for you and the people of God in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, I am yours,

Sincerely and gratefully,

Brother J Rogenski, OFM
Commissary of the Holy Land
St. Louis Region

After earthquake, Catholic relief agencies commit to rebuilding Peru

As the sun began to set off the coast of Peru on Aug. 15, bringing an end to a day marked by the feast of the Assumption of Mary, the earth began to shake.

A magnitude 8.0 earthquake struck at 6:40 p.m. about 100 miles south of the capital city of Lima. Homes, churches and buildings, many made from adobe, crumbled under the intense shaking. The Pan American Highway, the country's major thoroughfare that links Lima with the affected areas to the south, buckled in places and became nearly impassible.

But the human toll was even greater. The worst earthquake to hit Peru in 30 years killed more than 500 people, many buried under tons of rubble. At least 35,000 homes were destroyed, leaving 85,000 suffering people in need of shelter.

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) field staff in Peru mobilized immediately. Working with our local Church partner, Caritas Peru, CRS began identifying critical needs and delivering lifesaving supplies, including food, water, shelter, blankets, and cooking and hygiene kits, and other essential material. All CRS staff in Peru and many from across South America were dispatched to Peru to help in the effort.

They found that the earthquake took its greatest toll on those who were most vulnerable.

"The people most affected by the earthquake are some of the poorest to begin with," said Aaron Skrocki, CRS emergency coordinator in South America. "The earthquake has taken what was already a difficult situation

and made it worse. That is where Catholic Relief Services comes in. We are there to support the local church helping people get back on their feet and regain their lives as quickly as possible."

CRS has committed an initial \$100,000 and is seeking an additional \$1.4 million to support Caritas Peru's response and reconstruction efforts. The appeal is part of a larger Caritas Confederation effort to raise \$11 million for immediate relief and long-term recovery, which would ultimately help some 50,000 people.

Caritas Peru has already set up its main centers of operations in Pisco, Cañete, Ica and Chinca, where hundreds of volunteers are helping with aid distributions and other activities. Traveling through Chinca, Ica, and Pisco, the three cities nearest the quake's epicenter, Skrocki and a CRS/Caritas assessment team found widespread destruction in the poorer rural areas where homes are made of adobe. Initial relief efforts were hampered due to the condition of the roads.

In addition, fragile potable water and irrigation systems were destroyed by the tremor. Restoring the systems over the next several months will be critical in allowing displaced families to return to farming the land and watering their livestock.

But for the time being, the emergency response takes precedence. Recovery will be a long-term process.

"Right now we have to focus on the most immediate needs of the Peruvian people," said Brian Goonan, regional representative for South America. "Once the immediate needs are met, CRS'

long-term response will include permanent shelters, continued access to clean water, infrastructure improvements and the recovery and rehabilitation of livelihoods."

CRS, in partnership with Caritas Peru, has been responding to natural disasters in Peru since 1954. In addition to emergency relief, the agency supports programs — credit unions, health education and agricultural production — that help poor, marginalized communities become self-reliant.

CRS and Caritas Peru are members of Caritas Internationalis, a confederation of 162 Catholic relief, development and social service organizations operating in over 200 countries and territories worldwide. Caritas Internationalis is the official humanitarian agency of the global Catholic Church. CRS is the official international humanitarian agency of the U.S. Catholic community. The agency provides assistance to people in 98 countries and territories based on need, regardless of race, nationality or creed.

How to help

Donate online: www.crs.org
Donate via phone: 1-877-HELP-CRS
Mail a check:
Catholic Relief Services
P.O. Box 17090
Baltimore, MD 21203-7090
Memo section of check: Peru Earthquake Fund

Pilgrim globe-trotters: Modern jet-setters or old-fashioned trekkers?

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The sky was no longer the limit when a Rome travel agency started offering specially chartered flights exclusively for globe-trotting pilgrims.

Opera Romana Pellegrinaggi, run by the Diocese of Rome, had long been offering special package tours for religious destinations worldwide. Each year some 300,000 pilgrims book their religious journey by plane, train and bus through the agency, which is headed by Cardinal Camillo Ruini, papal vicar of Rome.

But those numbers have kept soaring — so much so that Opera Romano could barely keep up with finding spots for its clients on scheduled airline flights. So the agency signed a five-year contract with Mistral Air, a small Italian airline run by the Italian postal service, to run charter flights exclusively for pilgrims.

After a successful inaugural flight from Rome to Lourdes Aug. 27, Mistral Air's next pilgrim flights were set to start next year and were expected to transport an

estimated 150,000 people each year.

Father Cesare Atuire, an official at Opera Romana, told reporters Aug. 27 the pilgrim charters will be a "religious experience from the moment the pilgrim leaves home to the moment he or she returns."

While low-cost plane travel to holy places will make visiting Christian sites possible for many more people, some wonder whether jetting thousands of people for quick visits will fundamentally alter the slower-paced spiritual nature of a religious pilgrimage.

Despite the conveniences of air travel, greater numbers of modern-day pilgrims are traveling the old-fashioned way with a backpack, plenty of water and a sturdy pair of shoes.

One of the most ancient and most popular paths for the foot pilgrim is to the Spanish city of Santiago de Compostela. More than 100,000 people walk, bike or ride atop donkeys or horses every year to visit the cathedral where, according to tradition, the remains

THE VATICAN LETTER

CAROL GLATZ

of St. James the Greater are buried.

But perhaps the road least traveled out of all the ancient pilgrim paths is the one that runs from France to Jerusalem.

In an effort to bring it back to life and spread a message of peace, one U.S. pilgrim completed the 2,700-mile trek from Dijon, France, through 10 countries and two continents in five months.

Brandon Wilson of Maui, Hawaii, told Catholic News Service he "wanted to open this path up as a path others could follow."

Without the signposts and

LETTER, PAGE 16

Discipleship requires determination



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time Lk 14:25-33

The Book of Wisdom provides this weekend's liturgy with its first Scriptural reading.

This book was written, according to scholars, in Alexandria by a Jew who had emigrated from the Holy Land, or whose ancestors had come from the Holy Land.

Originally, it was composed in Greek. Since it was written outside the Holy Land and not in Hebrew, orthodox Jews have never accepted it as genuine Scripture. However, the church long has revered it as inspired by the Holy Spirit.

As is so much of the Wisdom Literature, and indeed so much of the Book of Wisdom, this weekend's reading is a series of admonitions and comments. It insists that the deepest and best human logic, or wisdom, reflects what God spoke through Moses and the prophets.

The reading simply says that much of life cannot be predicted beforehand, nor can it be understood. Humans are limited. God is all-wise. The wonder is that God has shared with us in speaking to us through representatives, such as Moses and the prophets.

For its second reading, the church gives us a passage from the Epistle to Philemon. Only rarely is this epistle the source of a reading

in the liturgy. Possibly a reason for this is that Philemon is so short, in fact the shortest volume in the New Testament, with only one chapter, and in this chapter only 25 verses.

The story is dramatic. Paul writes to Philemon, whose slave, Onesimus, escaped from Philemon's custody and went to be with Paul. Now, in this letter, Paul announces that he is sending Onesimus back to Philemon, but Paul counsels Philemon to receive this runaway slave as a brother in Christ.

Beyond the particulars, several lessons strongly appear. The first is that all humans are equal in dignity, having been created by God, and having been redeemed by Christ.

Secondly, to be a disciple means to live strictly according to this understanding, moreover always guided by the principle of loving all others.

With these points in mind, Paul tells Philemon that there must be no punishment awaiting Onesimus. (To run away from slavery was a very serious crime in Roman law at the time.)

St. Luke's Gospel supplies the last reading.

The Gospel already has made clear that true discipleship builds upon a deeply personal wish to follow the Lord, but enabling a disciple to express this wish and to abide by it requires not just determination but God's strength and insight.

Going farther, the Gospel bluntly says that many obstacles can stand between a disciple's initial intention to follow Christ and actually living as a disciple.

(It is important to remember that Luke was written when Christianity, albeit an infant religion in the Roman Empire, very much was sailing into the hot, strong winds of cultural opposition to Gospel values and even perse-

cution under the law.)

A tradition, and hardly far-fetched when considering the situation, is that Christians had to face pressure to forsake the Gospel from their loved ones. Thus, the evangelist here recalls that Jesus said a true disciple should turn away even from father and mother, brother or sister, if these close relatives urged abandoning Christ.

Good Christians should anticipate a struggle and prepare themselves for it.

Reflection

The Gospel sets the stage. Living the Christian life is not easy. Christians must withstand much if they are committed.

Among other pressures is the pressure not to see God in others, not to give others their due.

However, only in standing firm against such pressures can a disciple expect to stay the course. To stand firm the disciple first must admit personal inadequacy and ask for strength and wisdom from God. Blessedly, if humbly sought, this gift of strength and wisdom will come.

READINGS

Sunday: Wis 9:13-18b Ps 90:3-6, 12-17 Phlm 9-10, 12-17 Lk 14:25-33

Monday: Col 1:24-2:3 Ps 62:6-7, 9 Lk 6:6-11

Tuesday: Col 2:6-15 Ps 145:1-2, 8-11 Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday: Col 3:1-11 Ps 145:2-3, 10-13 Lk 6:20-26

Thursday: Col 3:12-17 Ps 150:1-6 Lk 6:27-38

Friday: Nm 21:4b-9 Ps 78:1-2, 34-38 Phil 2:6-11 Jn 3:13-17

Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17 Ps 113:1-5a, 6-7 Jn 19:25-27

CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Camplisson

On Sept. 13, the church remembers St. John Chrysostom, bishop and doctor. This is a golden opportunity to ask some questions.

1. This saint's name is associated with gold because it means

- a. Goldilocks (he was blonde)
- b. Golden-mouthed (for his preaching skills)
- c. Gold finger (he had the Midas touch)

2. Gold is mentioned in Scripture

- a. never, because it is worldly.
- b. 27 times — no more, as it was not an important item for the Jews
- c. many hundreds of times

3. How did the Israelites discover the value of gold?

- a. Gold was sent down from Sinai with the commandments.
- b. Gold was mentioned in Exodus as being God's favorite metal.
- c. Gold was well established throughout the ancient world as a valuable.

4. In which book of the Bible is the first mention of gold?

- a. Genesis
- b. Exodus
- c. Leviticus

5. Who were the Israelites to ask for gold as they left Egypt?

- a. the brick makers who moonlighted as goldsmiths
- b. their Egyptian neighbors
- c. Moses

6. What idol did some Israelites make of gold to worship at Sinai?

- a. the Golden Calf
- b. the Golden Tabernacle
- c. the Golden Horde

7. Two golden cherubim were to be placed on the ark. What are cherubim?

- a. rings
- b. ingots
- c. angels

8. In the Book of Job this is described as more valuable than gold

- a. a good pair of boots
- b. a beautiful woman
- c. wisdom

9. Whose preaching included what has come to be known as the "Golden Rule?"

- a. Jesus
- b. Paul
- c. Mary Magdalene

10. In a metallurgically incorrect statement, the Letter of James notes that gold and silver have

- a. value.
- b. been polished.
- c. have rusted.

11. In Revelation this city is made of precious materials including gold:

- a. Constantinople
- b. Rome
- c. New Jerusalem

12. The Golden Horn was a strategic harbor coastal area near what significant Christian city?

- a. Constantinople
- b. Rome
- c. Jerusalem

13. What does the 1883 Code of Canon say about mandatory use of gold in chalices?

- a. Failure to follow this norm results in excommunication.
- b. It only implies it is required, because references to "Aurum" can be translated as "ore."
- c. Nothing. It does not mandate the use of gold in chalices.

14. What is the "Golden Rose"?

- a. a figurative mane for a rose shaped scar produced along with the stigmata
- b. a papal ornament presented, in Lent, to a worthy recipient
- c. the name of the ship that brought the first Catholics to the New World.

15. In what Catholic college campus in the U.S. is the Golden Dome a major landmark?

- a. University of San Diego
- b. Loyola Marymount
- c. Notre Dame

ANSWERS

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

Diocese has strict policies regarding cohabitation of engaged couples

A relative of mine is living with his fiancé. I have heard different priests give different answers concerning the morality of this. Is this okay with the church now? K.S., St. Joe

Unfortunately, there have been priests here and there who have told people that there is no problem with this situation given the fact that this practice is so accepted by the culture. However, living with a member of the opposite sex outside of marriage continues to be a grave moral and pastoral problem. First, this situation is clearly the near occasion of sin of a serious nature for a couple. Sexual relations were designed by God to express physically the spiritual bond of marriage. Outside of marriage, the use of sexual relations is a grave sin and does grave spiritual harm to a person and a relationship. To live with someone who is not one's spouse puts both people in a situation which easily lends itself to falling into this sin, and it is seriously immoral to put oneself

purposely in this situation.

Second, a couple who lives together outside of marriage is the occasion of scandal for others. Scandal means something that leads others into sin or leads others to think that something that really is a sin is not. In our society, many people see absolutely nothing wrong with people who are not married living with one another. The more that Catholics engage in this practice, the more we will continue to go down the slope of deeper belief that there is nothing wrong with this.

Third, for couples who are planning to marry, studies have shown conclusively that living together before marriage does significant harm to the relationship itself. In fact, divorce rates for those who live together before marriage are significantly higher than those who do not. There is something about living together outside of marriage that "short-circuits" the necessary process of growth and understanding during

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

the dating and engagement period.

Many dioceses, including our own, have adopted strict policies regarding the cohabitation of engaged couples preparing for marriage, and, although we always wish to treat couples in this situation with love and respect, we cannot shy away from the Gospel truth that this is a gravely sinful situation.

How does the church bring children into the church? My children were baptized in a Lutheran Church, but will be brought up in the Catholic Church. We would like them to be members of the

Catholic Church. What steps can we take to bring them into the church even though they are not old enough to receive any sacraments but baptism, which they have already received? Anonymous

This situation is remedied easily enough. If the child is below the age of reason, that is, below the age of about seven years old, the parents (or the Catholic parent if only one of the parents is Catholic) go to their pastor and explain the situation. The Catholic parent or parents should then be asked by the pastor to make a profession of faith for the child similar to what is done for an infant baptism. The pastor then records in the baptismal register that the child was received into the church by virtue of the profession of faith of his or her

parents. This should be done before first holy Communion.

If the child is above the age of reason, they must go through the Rite of Christian Initiation for Children and be brought into the church the normal way at which time they would receive holy Communion and confirmation.

Father Mark Gurtner, pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, Fort Wayne, answered this week's questions.

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.

On the 10th anniversary of a breakdown

In the late summer of 1997, I fled Washington with 20 linear feet of files, a Toshiba laptop, and two magnums of Kentucky's finest, and hightailed it to Divine Redeemer rectory in Hanahan, S.C. There, for a busy week, Father Jay Scott Newman generously provided southern and Catholic hospitality while I tried to figure out how to fit the extraordinarily busy life of Karol Wojtyla, Pope John Paul II, inside the covers of a publishable book. The result was a 124-page outline that stood up well when I got to writing "Witness to Hope." My keenest memory of that period, though, is of sitting with Father Newman at night, sipping a meditative bourbon, turning on the news, and watching an entire country — Great Britain — have a nervous breakdown in the wake of the death of the Princess of Wales, killed in a Paris auto accident.

Some of the essential background to that staggering week in September 1997 comes into lurid, fascinating focus in Tina Brown's "The Diana Chronicles" (Doubleday). I'm not usually an admirer of Ms. Brown's buzz-driven style of journalism, with its combination of salaciousness and archness. Yet, despite salaciousness in spades, "The Diana Chronicles" is full of genuine insight into the wreckage caused by dysfunctional noble families in an age of media prurience, an age in which the only real aristocracy is what Ms. Brown neatly dubs "the aristocracy of exposure."

In the Victorian 19th century,

English editor and political theorist Walter Bagehot wrote that "a princely marriage is the brilliant edition of a universal fact, and, as such, it rivets mankind." That Bagehotism, endlessly repeated when the Prince of Wales married Lady Diana Spencer in 1981, now seems an indictment of gullibility. For as "The Diana Chronicles" makes painfully clear, Charles-and-Diana was a disaster-in-the-making long before Earl Spencer walked his youngest daughter up the aisle of St. Paul's Cathedral. Emotional immaturity, intellectual incompatibility, false expectations, and adulteries on an epic scale combined to send the wheels flying off Cinderella's carriage, quickly; the outcome ultimately proved as lethal to one of the parties as the marriage was wretchedly unhappy for both.

Bagehot, dedicated servant of the monarchy, was also a successful magazine editor. Yet this accomplished journalist warned his

fellow-scribes that "we must not let daylight in upon the magic" — lest the monarchical magic shatter. That, Tina Brown suggests, is precisely what a desperate Diana tried to do: to shatter the monarchy by letting in, not just daylight, but the harsh floodlight of tabloid publicity, aimed at all the royals she felt had betrayed her. She could try, because, as

Brown notes, the British monarchy had "changed from an institution of power to one of representative virtue" — and was thus far more vulnerable to tales of tawdriness. Diana's revelations of Life Among the Windsors didn't destroy the



GEORGE WEIGEL

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

monarchy in her lifetime. But they helped create a media climate that blasted the public reputation of her ex-husband into smithereens, with consequences that can't be foreseen.

So now the whole nasty story is out — or is it? For, while reading "The Diana Chronicles," I kept remembering those nights in Hanahan, and the British national nervous breakdown. What was that all about?

That's not a question Tina Brown satisfactorily answers, perhaps because she doesn't explore the spiritual emptiness of so much of contemporary British life. That emptiness helped wreck the Wales' marriage; it was embodied, with unintentional irony, in the decision to have Sir Elton John sing at Diana's funeral in Westminster Abbey, scant yards from the mortal remains of Edward the Confessor. A historic Christian nation that has abandoned, culturally, its biblical heritage confronts a public tragedy, and what happens? The quiet courage of the Battle of Britain — "England can take it" — gives way to mass hysteria. An entire country becomes, for a week at least, a front-page tabloid wail.

Diana's cultural revolution continues, as does the prurience of the British press; both previously played important roles in shaping the post-Christian society of 21st century Britain. The long-term effects on that sceptered isle are not likely to be happy ones.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for September 9, 2007

Luke 14:25-33

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C: a lesson about the commitment needed of a disciple.

The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

CROWDS	TRAVELING	TURNED
COMES	MOTHER	WIFE
SISTERS	WHOEVER	CARRY
CROSS	TOWER	FIRST
COST	FOUNDATION	BUILD
TEN THOUSAND	TWENTY	FAR AWAY
DELEGATION	PEACE	POSSESSIONS

CALCULATING THE COST

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

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LETTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

logistical support that other pilgrim paths offer, Wilson's route to Jerusalem was based on an itinerary — printed off the Internet — of one of the leaders of the First Crusade, Godfrey of Bouillon.

It took this 11th-century duke three years to get to the Holy Land because "he had to fight along the way," Wilson said.

Wilson wanted to turn this "trail of war" into a path for peace,

especially since large tracts of the route cut through areas still shaken by violence or instability today.

He said he traveled according to the true pilgrim tradition: no tent, just 15 pounds of supplies in his pack and a lot of faith in the goodness of humanity.

"We were helped by people we called angels who appeared along the way with food when we were hungry and water when we were thirsty," he said.

The site of a lone man traveling across Europe and parts of Asia carrying nothing but a backpack and a message of peace attracted the attention of many, he said.

Yet this accomplished journalist warned his fellow-scribes that "we must not let daylight in upon the magic" — lest the monarchical magic shatter.

Sports

SAINT JOSEPH'S HIGH SCHOOL RECEIVES BISHOP'S ALL SPORTS TROPHY — Instituted by the Serra Club of South Bend as a friendly sports gesture between Saint Joseph's and Marian high schools in conjunction with a 17-sports program that includes both boys and girls, Saint Joseph's won it for the fourth time in seven years. The trophy was presented by Rev. Mr. Ronald Moser, deacon and president of the Serra Club, to representatives of Saint Joseph's during half-time ceremonies of the annual football game between the Indians and Knights before a capacity crowd of 6,000 persons at Marian Field. Saint Joseph's won the annual tussle, 47-21, and now holds a 31-12 edge in the storied series. — *EJD*

CYO teams labor through holiday weekend

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — While many people headed to the lake over the holiday weekend, Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) fans headed to either John D'Arcy Stadium or Bishop Luers' Field to see their team during week 2 football action. Queen of Angels/Precious Blood, the Eagles, Raiders and Panthers all reported victories once again this week.

In the first game of the day at the University of Saint Francis, it was St. Vincent 12, St. Charles 6. The play-by-play action was aired on Redeemer Radio 1450 A.M.

In the first half, eighth-grader Evan Feichter proved his "big play capabilities," rushing for 109 yards and scoring twice for the St. Vincent Panthers to put them up 12-0. Feichter's second score came just before the half when he went the distance on a 63-yarder from quarterback Luke Tippmann.

Great efforts were made in the second half by St. Charles Coach Mike Herald and his linemen to shut down the Panther running

game. The offensive comeback was led by Zach Crabtree, Cameron Schenkel and quarterback A.J. Haughk, but the Cardinals fell short scoring just once.

In the exciting contest between the St. John/Benoit/Hessen Cassel Eagles and St. Joe/Elizabeth/St. Aloysius/St. Therese (JAT), the Eagles came out on top 40-20. The Eagles scored first, but missed the point after touchdown (PAT). Sts. JAT answered back, and Logan Dorman made the PAT putting them up 8-6. Drew Morken threw for three touchdowns in all for Sts. JAT — two to Andrew Yaney and the third to Jake Golden, but the Eagles took over from there.

Dominating the Eagle attack was J.J. Curry scoring not one, not two, but three times with two rushing touchdowns and a pass reception. Eighth-grader James Knapke also added a pair of Eagle touchdowns and Channing Williams chipped in another. Brian Nichter made two point-after attempts rounding out the scoring for the undefeated Eagles.

At Bishop Luers Field, the St. John Raiders defeated Holy

Cross by a score of 8-0. It was a tight game with neither team making it into the end zone by half-time.

Early in the fourth quarter, Colin Stuerzenberger intercepted a Holy Cross pass running it back to the 40-yard line for the Raiders. Dillion Carey followed with a 20-yard gain, which set up Andrew Hoffer for the only touchdown of the game on a 20-yard run. Jeffrey Heaton scored the PAT.

Raider Adam McCarthy also had a pick during Holy Cross' final drive keeping them from scoring in the match up. Heaton, Westin Painter, Caleb Henry and Hoffer combined for numerous sacks leading the defensive front for the Raiders, now 2-0.

In the final game, Precious Blood/Queen of Angels picked up a win downing St. Jude 18-0.

To see your fall sports here, e-mail Michelle Castleman at mmcastleman@aol.com



*Seek God's Guidance!
Immediate Opening for
Parish Music Director*

St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Parish in Decatur, Indiana seeks a full-time (or perhaps part-time) music director. *Responsibilities:* playing piano at weekday children's Masses during school year, adult choir, cantors, helping with organ/piano at Mass on the weekend and whenever needed, i.e., weddings and funerals. (We do have two other pianists/organists who help). Organizational and liturgical planning skills are needed. A music degree preferred, or equal experience is required. This person should be a committed Roman Catholic, with a love for people and be strong in their faith.

Please send resume to:
Fr. David Voors, Pastor
St. Mary of the Assumption Parish
414 West Madison • Decatur, IN 46733
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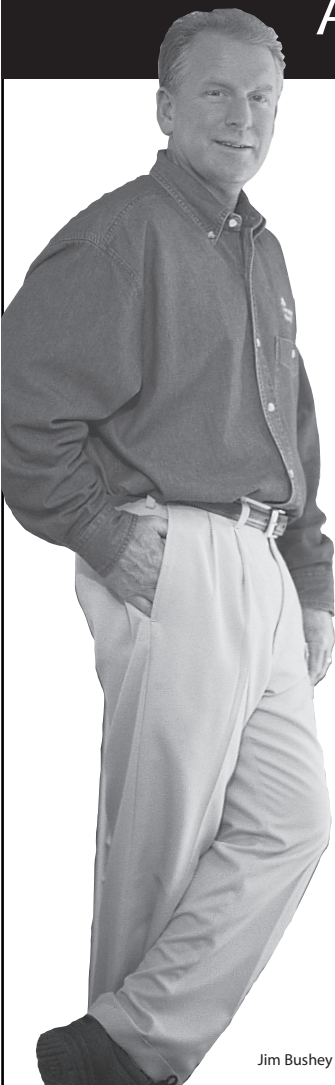

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Fall TV selections offer wide variety

BY HARRY FORBES

NEW YORK (CNS) — Here are some television program notes for the week of Sept. 9 with their TV Parental Guidelines ratings if available. They have not been reviewed and therefore are not necessarily recommended by the Office for Film & Broadcasting.

• Sunday, Sept. 9, 1:30-2:30 p.m. EDT (EWTN) "In Concert: Stabat Mater." The passion of Christ and the grief of Mary are beautifully evoked in this musical performance of Giovanni Battista Pergolesi's "Stabat Mater."

• Sunday, Sept. 9, 9-10 p.m. EDT (History) "Ground Zero Search and Recovery." The Sept. 11 terror attack that killed 2,749 people was the largest act of mass homicide ever in the United States. What had once been the World Trade Center was instantly transformed into America's biggest crime scene. Using previously unseen film and the testimony of crime-scene-unit detectives, led by Detective Joe Blozis, agents and scientists, the program details what the unit uncovered at ground zero.

• Sunday, Sept. 9, 9-11 p.m. EDT (Discovery) "Nostradamus." Everyone knows Nostradamus — or thinks so, anyway. But no one knows why an obscure astrologer from southern France became a household name. Blending drama and commentary this program shows the unlikely chain of events that created a legend that's lasted more than 500 years.

• Monday, Sept. 10, 10-11:30 p.m. EDT (PBS) "The Blitz: London's Longest Night." On the evening of Dec. 29, 1940, the German Luftwaffe attacked London with devastating results. Tens of thousands of incendiary bombs were dropped on the heart of the city. Firemen and workers fought all night to control the burning buildings, many risking their lives. The following morning, after a terrifying and sleepless night, they emerged to face the smoking ruins of the city. Based on more than two years of research uncovering eyewitness accounts, the program mixes computer graphic illustrations and archival footage to create scenes that give life to the events that Hitler hoped would break the backs of the British people and leave them begging for peace (TV-PG — parental guidance suggested).

• Tuesday, Sept. 11, 9-10 p.m. EDT (PBS) "A Woman Among Warlords." This installment of "Wide Angle" follows the parliamentary campaign of 28-year-old Malalai Joya, who became one of Afghanistan's most famous — and infamous — women in 2003, when she challenged the power of the warlords in the country's new government. Despite assassination attempts, Joya conducts her campaign and meets with clan leaders, opium kings and adolescent girls pressured to marry old men. Six years after the Taliban was overthrown, the program looks at the politics and culture of a nation still

ruled by fear but desperate for change.

• Tuesday, Sept. 11, 10-11:30 p.m. EDT (PBS) "The Camden 28" This "P.O.V." program recalls a 1971 raid on a Camden, N.J., draft board office by "Catholic left" activists protesting the Vietnam War and its effects on urban America. Arrested on-site in a clearly planned sting, the protesters included four Catholic priests, a Lutheran minister and 23 others. The film reveals the story behind the arrests — a provocative tale of government intrigue and personal betrayal — and the ensuing legal battle, which Supreme Court Justice William Brennan called "one of the great trials of the 20th century." (TV-PG — parental guidance suggested).

• Wednesday, Sept. 12, 8-9 p.m. EDT (PBS) "Brown Is the New Green: George Lopez and the American Dream." Latinos, this nation's largest and fastest-growing minority group, are big business. This smart, fast-paced program examines how efforts to profit from this group are shaping the contemporary Latino identity. The documentary, whose focal point is George Lopez, an icon and advocate for Latinos moving into the mainstream, offers rare behind-the-scenes access to Lopez's life and world as he shares his struggles to represent Latinos in a manner true to their realities and aspirations. (TV-PG — parental guidance suggested).

• Wednesday, Sept. 12, 9-10:30 p.m. EDT (PBS) "Tony Bennett: The Music Never Ends." The man Frank Sinatra called "the best singer in the business" has been in the business more than 50 years, selling 50 million records and reaping 15 Grammy awards, including two at age 80. The story of a common man with an uncommon gift, the film includes complete coverage of Bennett's 2005 Monterey Jazz Festival performance and interviews at his home and painting studio. (TV-PG — parental guidance suggested).

Books cross the editor's desk

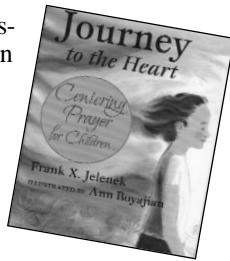
BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — From time to time, *Today's Catholic* will offer a sampling of books that have been sent to *Today's Catholic*. This is not necessarily an endorsement or a review, just a mention of some new reading available. In future issues, we will also post Web site, podcasts and television programming that draws our attention pertaining to the church.

For those with children, Frank X. Jelenek has released "Journey to the Heart: Centering Prayer for Children." The book, released by Paraclete Press, is illustrated by Ann Boyajian. Although written to appeal to children, it can serve as a guide to help parents teach centering prayer, a method of helping children to be comfortable with silence so they can speak with God in the quiet of their hearts. (ISBN: 978-1-55725-482-5)

For parents of teens, Dr. Ray Guarendi tackles issues ranging from curfew to drugs to back talk in his new book, "Good Discipline, Great Teens." The book is presented in a question-and-answer format and equips parents to give their teens a safer, more stable adolescence, and character and virtues for a lifetime. His popular radio program is a staple on Redeemer Radio, "The Doctor Is In." Servant Books publishes the book. (ISBN: 978-0-86716-835-8)

Many readers may recall the commentary of columnist Julie McCarty in *Today's Catholic*. McCarty has recently released "The Pearl of Great Price: Gospel Wisdom for Christian Marriage." The book shows married and engaged couples how to pray and reflect on God's word together, allowing the intimacy of



prayer in marriage to become reality. Inspired by "lectio divina," an ancient Christian prayer technique, the book helps couples deepen their marital relationship and find God at the heart of their marriage. The book is published by Liturgical Press. (ISBN: 978-0-8146-3165-2)

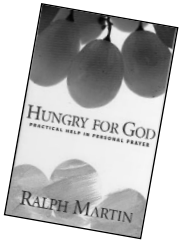
Cistercian monk and abbot M. Basil Pennington's latest release, "Listen With Your Heart: Spiritual Living With the Rule of Saint Benedict" is a collection of weekly talks that the abbot gave the monks at Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Monastery in Georgia. Although he died in 2005, the talks were transcribed by Brother Chaminade Crabtree. The book is published by Paraclete Press and is also available on compact disk. (ISBN: 978-1-55725-555-6)

Ave Maria Press has released a series of "30 days with great spiritual teacher" books. The books are compact and offer meditations, which can be read in just a couple of minutes, but contain enough spiritual food for thought to nourish the reader for the whole day. "Abide in Love: The Gospel Spirituality of John the Evangelist," by John Kirvan, shares the warmth of John's Gospel message — God is love — and is designed to spark a flame in every aspect of our lives, especially our prayer. (ISBN: 10-1059471-098-8)

"Jesus in the House: Gospel Reflection on Christ's Presence in the Home" by Allan F. Wright explores 29 uses of the word "home" in the Scriptures, offering a reflection on the Gospel story, a prayer, reflection questions and challenges to the reader. Written for families, small groups or personal use, "Jesus in

the House" encourages all of us to bring the presence of Christ into our homes. It is published by St. Anthony Messenger Press. (ISBN: 978-0-86716-791-7)

For those hungering more about prayer, "Hungry for God: Practical Help in Personal Prayer" by Ralph Martin, gives readers the tools for entering more fully into a fruitful relationship with God. Prayer is a gift, not a burden. Through prayer, the Holy Spirit draws us into the Trinity. The book is published by Servant Books. (ISBN: 978-0-86716-801-3)



South Bend's Denis Nolan has recently published his book, "Medjugorje and the Church." Nolan explores various commentary, notes and letters from church leaders about Medjugorje, including Pope John Paul II and Mother Teresa. The book is published by Queenship Publishing Company, www.queenship.org. (ISBN: 978-1-57918-330-1)

St. Anthony Messenger Press has also release two books for Black Catholics. "Songs of Our Hearts, Mediations of Our Souls: Prayers for Black Catholics," which is edited by Cecilia A. Moore, C. Vanessa White and Paul M. Marshall, SM, brings together traditions: the African American faith tradition, the Roman Catholic Christian tradition and the variety of forms of prayer from African peoples. Readers will find liturgical prayer, prayers for families and communities, meditations, and prayers of healing, inspiration, consolation, freedom and reconciliation. (ISBN: 978-086716-694-1)

"Sweet, Sweet Spirit: Prayer Services from the Black Catholic Church," by Joseph A. Brown, SJ, with Fernand Cheri, III, OFM, features libation rituals, prayer services, litany of the saints, general intercessions and anointing for evangelization. (ISBN: 978-086716-626-2)



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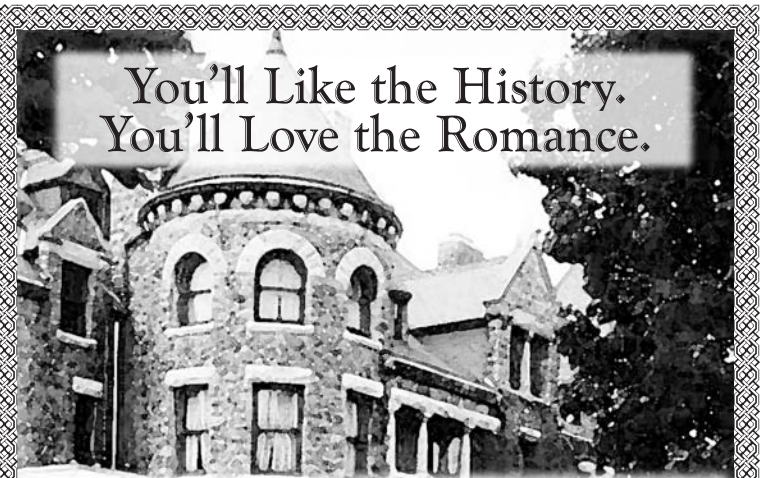
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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

Bishop Luers alumni host tailgate party

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers Alumni Tailgate Party for all Bishop Luers alumni and their families will be Friday, Sept. 21, from 5:30-7 p.m. at Bishop Luers High School on the lawn outside the café. Cost is \$3 per person or \$12 per family. Bring lawn chair and a memory to share.

Bandido's to host homecoming fiesta

Fort Wayne — Bandido's Homecoming Fiesta will be Friday, Sept. 21, after the Bishop Luers homecoming football game at Bandido's on Winchester Road. Tickets are \$15 per person and include a taco buffet. Cash bar is available. To purchase a ticket, call Bishop Luers High School at (260) 456-1261.

Bishop Luers Alumni host golf outing

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers Alumni and Friends Golf Outing will be Saturday, Sept. 22, with a 2 p.m. shotgun start at Foster Park Golf Course. Cost for golf and food is \$55 per person, food only, \$20 per person. To register, sponsor a hole, help with the outing or for additional information, call Bishop Luers High School at (260) 456-1261.

Celtic fest planned

South Bend — The Celtic Fest and Bryan Verkler Invitational Highland Games will be held Saturday, Sept. 8, at Roseland Town Park from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information visit www.michianascottish.org

Legacy luncheon celebrates St. Vincent de Paul Society's 100 years of service

Mishawaka — The Butler and Crowley Legacy Luncheon will be Tuesday, Sept. 11, at Windsor Park Conference Center. Bishop John M. D'Arcy will be keynote speaker. A reception begins at 11 a.m., with lunch and program from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will also be a silent auction with many items related to Notre Dame football. Reserved seats are \$45 and \$60; call (574) 234-6000, ext. 108 before Sept. 7.

Corporate Communion planned

South Bend — The Daughters of Isabella, Notre Dame Circle 572 will celebrate a Corporate Communion on Sunday, Sept. 9, at the 9:15 a.m. Mass at St. Casimir Church. Breakfast will follow at Tom's Restaurant, 131 S. Lafayette St.

New LifeTeen group starting

New Haven — St. John the Baptist Parish invites any high schooler to join the LIFE TEEN program on Sunday, Sept. 9. Mass is at 6 p.m. followed by pizza, pop, and fellowship in the Community Center until 9 p.m.

Community among high school students will be discussed. Prizes given for new comers. Call Hanna at (260) 493-4553 ext. 308 for information.

Health fair at St. Monica

Mishawaka — St. Monica's outreach program will host a community health fair on Saturday, Sept. 8, in the school gym. Vision screenings, veteran affairs, alzheimer's services and more.

Fish fry and salad bar

South Bend — St. Adalbert Parish will have a fish fry and salad bar on Friday, Sept. 14, from 3:30 to 7 p.m. in the Heritage Center. Adults and carry-out \$7, children 5-12 \$3.

Parish festival planned

Fort Wayne — St. John the Baptist Parish will have a festival on Sept. 14-15 on the parish grounds. Friday is adults only from 7:30-11:30 p.m. featuring a silent auction and adult games. Saturday is family day from noon to 11 p.m. with adult games, food and drink and raffle all day. Bingo, children's games,

talent show, teen tent and live music from 8 to 11 p.m.

Casino night supports HASA

Monroeville — St. Joseph School will have a Texas Hold 'em tournament on Friday, Sept. 15, at the park pavillion. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., tournament starts at 7:30 p.m. \$30 buy in. \$700 first place and nine other place winners. Must be 21. Call (260) 623-6810 to register.

Benefit for coach Herb Widner

New Haven — A drive-through chicken dinner will be held on Sunday, Sept. 16, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Besancon Recreation Hall. Dinner includes 1/2 chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, sides and brownie for \$7.

Spaghetti dinner

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council #5570 will have a spaghetti dinner, Thursday, Sept. 13, from 4-6 p.m. for the benefit of the Gibault School for Boys and Girls. Adults \$7, children ages 5 to 12 \$2.50. The council is located at 5202 Linden Ave.

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Sheila K. Adkins, 51, Sacred Heart

Goshen

Jane A. Huser, 82, St. John the Evangelist

Granger

Theresa M. Schimizzi, 79, St. Pius X
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Lakeville

Mary C. Jurkowski, 101, Sacred Heart of Jesus

Mishawaka

Eleanore J. Canale, 97, Queen of Peace

Plymouth

Daniel W. Houin, 49, St. Michael

South Bend

Mary Jane Karczewski, 65, St. Adalbert

John S. Trojanowski, 79, St. Hedwig

Eugenia A. Harley, 88, St. Stanislaus

Bernice Pytlewicz, 79, Holy Family

David M. Moore, 52, Holy Family

Robert F. Wittling, 82, Our Lady of Hungary

Warsaw

James R. Breske, 72, Sacred Heart

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—from The Order of Christian Funerals, Catholic Publishing 1989

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For this Peace Corps volunteer, 'Actions show your faith'

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — Aly Martin, 22, is about to embark on the adventure of a lifetime.

In November, Martin will leave for Namibia, Africa, to teach English with the Peace Corps.

So what prompted her to take interest in the corps?

According to Martin, it was a combination of a gut feeling and her socially-conscious upbringing that influenced her decision.

"It was something I always wanted to do," she said. "It was always in the back of my head."

Likewise, her parents have been active volunteers and encouraged her to embrace community service in high school. Twelve years in Catholic schools at St. Jude and Bishop Dwenger also shaped her world view.

"(In Catholic school) it's so pushed and talked about," she said. "It's not just about you — it's about the world."

Martin recently graduated from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, where she received a degree in secondary education. The Fort Wayne native will bring her love of teaching to a remote village in Namibia, where she will instruct students in the upper primary and secondary levels. The 22 year old said she will be teaching English as a second language to students as old as 24.

Martin said she began the application process about a year ago. The process is intense and exhaustive because they want to ensure candidates are physically, emotionally and mentally healthy, she said. Most of the application process is



Aly Martin, a Bishop Dwenger and Miami University of Ohio graduate, will leave this fall for Namibia, Africa, to teach English with the Peace Corps.

done electronically via a Web site, according to Martin.

But the wait was worthwhile. An e-mail update appeared in her inbox notifying her that her status had changed from "nominated" to "invited." About a week later, Martin found out she was assigned to Namibia. (It turned out Martin had ranked Africa as her first preference for region.)

In addition to her role as a teacher, Martin said she's particularly excited about her time outside the classroom. In the corps, volunteers are assigned both primary and secondary projects. Martin said she hopes to become involved with HIV/AIDS prevention and education programs. Namibia has one of the highest HIV/AIDS infection rates in Africa, according to Martin.

Martin said she hopes to build camaraderie through her service. "I want to build relationships with students and community members," she said.

"I'm looking forward to meeting people and seeing the world. I want to grow as a person and come back as a better person," she said.

The 26-month commitment includes three days of training in the United States followed by thorough two month in-country training, during which volunteers learn the culture of the host country. Martin said she will be officially sworn in as a Peace Corps volunteer Dec. 29.

Martin has already done her "homework." In her research, she was pleased to learn that Namibia has a substantial Catholic population. It's not unusual for Masses to last between two and six hours, she said.

The Bishop Dwenger graduate offered some advice for those considering a commitment like the Peace Corps. "Think about it," she said. "Pray about it. Talk to someone about it."

However, she cautions the corps is not a shallow commitment. "It's not for everyone," she warns. However, "if it's right for you, you'll realize it."

Martin is scheduled to leave Oct. 29 for her three-day orientation. In the meantime, she is working for Vera Bradley doing human resources, visiting friends and packing.

Follow Aly's journey on her blog found at alymartin.blogspot.com. To learn more about the Peace Corps, visit www.peacecorps.gov.

Part-time Case Manager

Catholic Charities seeks a flexible self-starter to provide brief services in the St. Joseph County area. This individual will also oversee a busy food pantry. A Bachelor of Social Work or related degree is required with six months of experience. Knowledge of social service providers in the area is essential. A working knowledge of word processing, spreadsheet, and e-mail applications (prefer Microsoft Office) is desirable. Starting salary: \$12.02 per hour.

Please send resume to:

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

EOE

PART-TIME Immigration Caseworker

Catholic Charities seeks an individual to provide assistance in completing required documentation/paperwork for immigrants in Allen County. The qualified applicant will have a Bachelor's degree in a human services or business-related field, be detail-oriented, be comfortable working with various government agencies, and have the ability to work under minimal supervision. Excellent written and verbal skills are a must. Bilingual (Spanish) is preferred. A working knowledge of word processing, spreadsheet, and e-mail applications (prefer Microsoft Office) is desirable. This position will require some travel in the area, plus mandatory out-of-town training. Salary \$12.02/hour. Please send resume to:

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Full-time LCSW

Catholic Charities seeks an individual to provide counseling services in South Bend Catholic schools and in-office. This position may also supervise unlicensed counselors and interns. Applicant must be a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in the State of Indiana. The qualified individual should be familiar with general counseling issues, and sufficiently familiar with the Catholic faith to identify and appropriately respond to issues unique to Catholic clients. Starting salary: \$32,971. Send resume to:

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315 East Washington Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46802
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EOE

Refugee Resettlement Caseworker

Catholic Charities seeks an individual to provide direct service to refugees and assist in administering a program related to providing material assistance. The qualified applicant will have a Bachelor's degree in a human services or business-related field, be detail-oriented, and have the ability to work under minimal supervision. Excellent written and verbal skills are a must, as the incumbent will represent the agency in a variety of settings. The ability to speak Burmese is a plus. A working knowledge of word processing, spreadsheet, and e-mail applications (prefer Microsoft Office) is desirable. This position will require travel within the Fort Wayne-Allen County area. Starting Salary: \$25,000 per year.

Please send resume to:

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Sacrament of Self: The Catholic Roots of Contemporary Memoir



Patricia Hampl is Regents' Professor and McKnight Distinguished Professor at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. Her fiction, poems, reviews, essays, and travel pieces have appeared in many publications, including *The New Yorker*, *Paris Review*, *New York Times Book Review*, and *Los Angeles Times*. Her most recent works are *Blue Arabesque*, a nonfiction book about Matisse, and a memoir about her parents called *The Florist's Daughter*.

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