



TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Pope to visit New York, Washington in April, papal nuncio confirms

BY CAROL ZIMMERMANN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI will visit Washington and New York April 15-20.

Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States, confirmed the dates of the papal trip and announced the pope's itinerary in remarks Nov. 12 at the beginning of the annual fall meeting of the U.S. bishops in Baltimore.

"Peter, the rock on which Jesus founded this church, will be among us in the person of his successor, Benedict the XVI," Archbishop Sambi told the bishops.

The official title of the upcoming papal trip is "Apostolic Visit to the United States of America and to the Seat of the United Nations."

According to the archbishop, the pope will arrive in Washington April 15 and will receive an official welcome at the White House April 16. That afternoon, coincidentally his 81st birthday, he will address the U.S. bishops.

The following day he will celebrate Mass at the new Washington Nationals baseball stadium in Washington. Later that day he will meet with directors of Catholic universities and colleges and diocesan educational leaders at The Catholic University of America in Washington and then he is to attend an interreligious meeting at the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center.

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CNS PHOTO/DARIO PIGNATELLI, REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI waves to the faithful as he arrives to lead an audience with Italian religious confraternities in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Nov. 10. Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States, in remarks to the bishops Nov. 12, confirmed the dates of the pope's U.S. trip, April 15-20. He said the pope will arrive in Washington April 15 and will receive an official welcome at the White House April 16.

MISSOULA THEATRE RETURNS TO ST. JOHN



TESS STEFFEN

St. John the Baptist School, Fort Wayne, welcomed the Missoula Children's Theatre from Missoula, Mont., to the school last week for a production of "Cinderella." During the week, while Missoula was at St. John the Baptist School, students in kindergarten through grades 8 participated in special workshops. Students learned about scenery, props, lighting equipment, costumes and makeup. The week culminated in performances featuring over 60 students on Saturday, Nov. 10.

Therapist brings wheelchairs to orphans

BY DENISE FEDOROW

NAPPANEE — There are two things that St. John the Evangelist, Goshen, parishioner Loren Hartman cares very deeply for — helping children with physical disabilities improve their quality of life and participating in Mass.

Hartman is a physical therapist who works exclusively with children. He said he chose to go into private practice because he didn't want to turn families away because of lack of insurance.

"I wanted it to be more focused on children, not money," Hartman said.

In 2001 he bought an old school in rural Nappanee and opened Children's Therapeutic Services in what was once Union Center Elementary School. The practice took care of children in St. Joseph, Elkhart, LaGrange, Kosciusko, Marshall and Noble counties.

"We service a lot of Hispanic and Amish families who might not get served otherwise; for some we're a buggy ride away," Hartman said.

In the front entrance of the building there's a picture of Jesus stating he is the founder of the center. "This is his mission, not mine. I just sign my name to it," Hartman said.

Hartman very recently had to make the sudden decision to close the center due to difficulties with Medicaid.

Hartman, who is going through RCIA to convert to Catholicism, has been attending Mass for six years — first at St. Dominic Parish in Bremen and for the past year at St. John the Evangelist in Goshen.

Hartman was asked what led him to the Catholic Church.

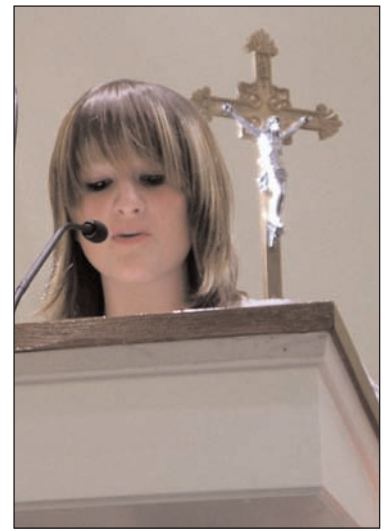
"I love that the Mass is a ceremony of celebration and worship. It's an opportunity for me to be in the presence of God without distraction. I'm not there to be entertained, I'm there to worship. I don't care who sees me at church. It's not about who has the best speaker, it doesn't really matter who the priest is," he said.

This is the second time Hartman has gone through RCIA and he said, "The doctrine is sound and as it should be. I do like the traditions and teachings, the veneration of Mary. I have questioned it, and I'm good with the answers."

Trip to Kyrgyzstan

Hartman puts that faith into action and recently returned from a trip to Kyrgyzstan

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Thanksgiving holiday

Diocesan offices will be closed Nov. 22 and 23

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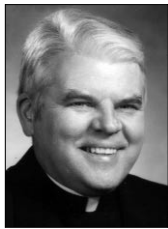
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St. Joseph's parish mission invigorates parish, bishop



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

A parish mission, nothing like it

In whatever parish he has found himself, Father Terry Fisher, now a pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Mishawaka, has turned to the Office of Spiritual Development for what he calls "a spiritual boost," a spiritual enlightenment and a revitalization of parish life. Also, he has taken this up early during his stewardship. So it was a joy for me, even after a hard and demanding day, to strike out from Fort Wayne, northwest to St. Joseph, Mishawaka. I arrived late for the now customary soup and sandwich, which priests are providing more and more before an event. It is easier for them and always more than enough for me. Father Mark Thesing, CSC, was there and Jim Fitzpatrick, and we enjoyed the simple but tasty affair very much.

Then, over to one of the most beautiful churches in the diocese — St. Joseph's, Mishawaka. This parish was founded in 1848. Located in a beautiful square, it towers over the working-class city of Mishawaka and surely is one of the most beautiful churches in the diocese. More important, this church was almost full on this fourth night. The three excellent speakers before me were Father Mike Heintz, Father Dan Scheidt, and the newly ordained Father Bob Lengerich. In fact, Father Bob was there, I believe, for the night on reconciliation. At any rate, he was one of the six confessors and really had a baptism of fire. The six priests heard confessions for about an hour, and that was a first for the new priest.

It was encouraging to hear the remarks

of the people as they left the church. Much credit rightly goes to Sister Mary Brooks, CSC. Sister Mary, whose base of operation is our South Bend chancery, works with the parishioners. What you have here is really "the new evangelization." Not new, said Pope John Paul II, in content but new in method, in expression and in ardor. Part of the new evangelization is it involves lay people. Indeed, the laity are central. In this program, every parishioner received a phone call and a letter from the pastor. There was babysitting service, so young couples could attend; and their general enthusiasm pervaded the evening and the whole week.

It is strange. Driving to Mishawaka in the November evening, I felt very tired. Coming home, after a Mass so well attended and a wonderful reception afterwards, the fatigue was gone. So it is with the work of Christ.

Redeemer Radio

Speaking of the new evangelization, I had a wonderful afternoon with Redeemer Radio in Fort Wayne. It was founded entirely by lay Catholics and located at 1450 on your AM dial. More and more people are listening to this program all day. Chris Langford, who was one of the founders, picked me up and with me was Bishop Robert Muhiirwa. More on the bishop in a moment. We spent an hour trying to raise funds, and we brought in \$7,000. More important, an anonymous donor promised to match our first \$5,000. The donations came pouring in. I promised if anyone gave \$50, they would get a free subscription to *Today's Catholic*. A \$100 gift meant they would also get a copy of "Worthy of the Gospel of Christ: A History of the Catholic Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend" by Joseph M. White, PhD. A \$150 gift meant you get those two things plus Pope Benedict XVI's beautiful book, "Jesus of Nazareth."

It was wonderful to see the joy and collaboration and good spirit of the volunteers

squeezed into the very small space of Redeemer Radio. Catholic radio is growing throughout the country, and we are thrilled to be part of it.

About Bishop Robert Muhiirwa

Bishop Robert Muhiirwa studied for a degree at Duquesne University and a master's in theology at the University of Notre Dame. He was a priest then, and he served at St. Jude in Fort Wayne; St. Jude, South Bend; and helped out at St. Matthew Cathedral. Many of our priests know and love him. He regularly sends us a priest. Right now, we have Father Benedict, who is serving at St. Mary of Assumption, Decatur.

Our diocese helps Bishop Muhiirwa financially, and I hope to bring him here sometime to speak and to have a Sunday collection at our cathedrals. We recently gave him \$10,000 from the Zeiger Fund. This is a fund left to the diocese by a wonderful couple from St. Dominic, Bremen.

Bishop Muhiirwa has many friends here, and it was a joy to have lunch with him. He has 800,000 people. There are only 24 parishes, but about 400 outlying "stations." In some parishes, the priests might have 20 stations where he has Mass. The people may have Mass once every two or three months, and it is a great and memorable day when the priest arrives to hear confessions, baptize, pray for the dead and celebrate the holy Eucharist.

He accompanied me to Redeemer Radio, and it reminded all of us of the universal church.

I am off to Baltimore, the Primatial See of our country for the meeting of the bishops. A new beautiful component has been added in the past few years — we will have an afternoon of reflection with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the opportunity to receive the sacrament of penance. I shall pray for you there; and as always, the best moment is arriving home on Thursday evening.

See you then.

'Unprecedented' consultation brings politics document to bishops

BY NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN

BALTIMORE (CNS) — The U.S. bishops began consideration Nov. 12 of a document that rejects politics based on "powerful interests, partisan attacks, sound bites and media hype" and calls instead for "a different kind of political engagement."

That engagement must be "shaped by the moral convictions of well-formed consciences and focused on the dignity of every human being, the pursuit of the common good and the protection of the weak and vulnerable," the document says.

Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio of Brooklyn, N.Y., introduced "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility From the Catholic Bishops of the United States" on the first day of the bishops' fall general meeting in Baltimore. Debate and a vote on the docu-

ment were scheduled for Nov. 14.

Bishop DiMarzio said he spoke not only as chairman of the bishops' Committee on Domestic Policy but as "the leader of an unprecedented, extensive and some would say endless consultation" among seven committees of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

He said the document, which underwent numerous drafts, was "a challenge to politics as usual" and "not a disguised voters' guide."

The bishops also are to vote on a shortened version of the text, designed for use as a parish bulletin insert.

In the longer document, the bishops admit that "Catholics may feel politically disenfranchised, sensing that no party and too few candidates fully share the church's comprehensive commitment to the dignity of the human person."

"As Catholics, we should be guided more by our moral convic-

tions than by our attachment to a political party or interest group," the draft document says. "When necessary, our participation should help transform the party to which we belong; we should not let the party transform us in such a way that we neglect or deny fundamental moral truths."

The draft is part of a series of documents that have been issued before every presidential election for more than 30 years.

Although the draft document outlines a wide variety of policy positions taken by the bishops on domestic and international issues, it makes clear that not all issues carry equal importance.

"There are some things we must never do, as individuals or as a society, because they are always incompatible with love of God and neighbor," the document says, citing in particular abortion, euthanasia, human cloning, stem-cell research involving the destruction of human embryos and "violations

of human dignity such as genocide, torture, racism and other unjust discrimination, and the targeting of noncombatants in acts of terror or war."

As drafted, the document does not address a topic raised during the 2004 presidential campaign — giving Communion to Catholic politicians who support keeping abortion legal. Archbishop Raymond L. Burke of St. Louis already has said he would not give Communion to former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, who is, according to recent polls, the leading Republican presidential candidate.

In response to a question, Bishop DiMarzio said the Communion issue would not be addressed because the conference had dealt with it earlier in two other documents and because "Faithful Citizenship" is "directed at Catholic voters, not Catholic politicians."

Local Catholic Campaign for Human Development awards grants

The local Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), the Catholic Church's domestic antipoverty program, has awarded grants totaling \$17,000 to seven local and area institutions who demonstrated an ability to attack the causes of poverty by empowering the poor.

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

Those receiving grants and the amount of the awards are:

In South Bend

- St. Augustine Church — a \$2,500 education grant to help support and sustain its African-American tutor program aiding students to achieve academically and develop life-learning skills

- St. Adalbert Church — a \$1,000 grant for its adult education program helping to educate the poor in the parish

In Fort Wayne

- Catholic Charities — a \$3,000 community organizing grant for its Refugee Resettlement Department to address numerous and varied health and mental healthcare issues of refugees in Allen County

- Vincent House, Inc. — a \$2,000 community organizing grant to provide support for its Basic Financial Literacy project for homeless adults residing in Vincent House Transitional Shelter and Vincent Village affordable rental housing

- RSVP Volunteer Center — a \$3,500 community organizing grant to provide technical assistance to leaders in non-English-speaking immigrant and refugee communities in Allen County to increase their capacity to provide financial literacy services — training them as IRS certified tax preparers — to non-English-speaking low-income immigrants and refugees

- St. Joseph Church — a \$1,000 education grant for its English as a Second Language program for immigrants

In Kendallville

- Immaculate Conception Church — a \$2,000 community organizing grant for its proposed project empowering women of the Mexican community through education, awareness and leadership training

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

According to Ann Helmke, director of the CCHD program for the diocese, two types of CCHD funds are available in the diocese:

In central Wisconsin, family dairy farmers have started their own cooperative so they can pool their production and get better prices for their milk. The Catholic Campaign for Human Development distributed nearly \$9 million projects, like this one.



PHOTO FOR CCHD BY PETER HOWARD

organizing grants — those engaged in empowering the poor and working to bring changes in policies, institutions and laws; and education grants — those which build solidarity between poor and non-poor, and educate Americans about the root causes of poverty.

For 37 years, CCHD has distributed more than \$300 million in grants to self-help projects nationwide. This year, CCHD is supporting approximately 315 local projects in 45 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

CCHD intern learns how to empower poor in diocese

FORT WAYNE — Christ told us to love and care for the poor. But on a daily basis, we may find it difficult to realize the poor around us and difficult to know what to do for them.

Therefore, we don't think about them because we don't know what to do. Sometimes we will drop some money into the collection basket at church or a coin or two into the Salvation Army bank, but is that enough? Kristin Bjorkman, a student at the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne, didn't feel like that was enough. But she also didn't know what more she could do.

She was a student, with a hectic schedule and a very tight budget, what could she do to make this world a better place? Then one day, walking into campus ministry changed all that. Her campus ministry director told her about an opportunity for an internship with the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD).

When she found out about the program, she knew just about as much as anyone around her, that is, nothing.

She applied and was accepted to the internship program and began learning about ways to help the poor around her.

This CCHD campaign does not just give to the poor such as in soup kitchens or clothing banks, although they do appreciate what these charities bring to the community. The CCHD campaign works to teach and empower the poor to get out of the cycle of poverty.

Bjorkman had training in Washington, D.C., and discovered the workings of CCHD, which began about 37 years ago by a group of United States bishops who took Christ's words to heart.

This program is based on

empowering and teaching not only the poor, but everyone. As the saying goes, "It is better to teach a man to fish than to give him one fish."

Right now Bjorkman's job is to educate herself and others about Catholic social teaching, the principles on which CCHD is based, and to increase her knowledge about CCHD funded projects in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend including Vincent House, the TAPS program, and a few other great opportunities for the poor to escape from the cycle of poverty.

CCHD is about finding the right programs to break this cycle and helping them to get started with grants.

Bjorkman is excited about the leadership position and the teaching capabilities. She is majoring in English and hopes to someday become a teacher in her field. This internship provides a great experience builder, and it helps her further her dream of helping others.

Bjorkman is only the second intern for the diocese and, therefore, has a lot of work to do. But, thanks to her predecessor Jeanie Eiserlie, her diocesan director Ann Helmke and hard work, she knows that she can make a difference.

To learn more about the CCHD or to learn when to donate to the cause of helping to break the cycle of poverty, go to the Web site, www.usccb.org/cchd.

The annual collection for CCHD, is held the Sunday before Thanksgiving — Nov. 18 this year.

The collection is a means that readers, as well as Bjorkman through her internship, can help the poor escape from the cycle of poverty in the diocese and the nation.

Announcement

By BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Nov. 1, 2007 Solemnity of All Saints

The following decrees were received from the Holy See:

1. On June 23, 2007, Pope Benedict XVI decreed that the Reverend James Robert Blume is dismissed from the clerical state.
2. On June 23, 2007, Pope Benedict XVI decreed that the Reverend Brian E. Carsten is dismissed from the clerical state.
3. On July 7, 2007, Pope Benedict XVI decreed that the Reverend Jerome Konecny is dismissed from the clerical state.
4. On July 25, 2006, Pope Benedict XVI decreed that the Reverend Robert J. Mahoney is dismissed from the clerical state.
5. On July 7, 2007, Pope Benedict XVI decreed that the Reverend Richard A. Stieglitz is dismissed from the clerical state.
6. On July 25, 2006, Pope Benedict XVI accepted the request of the Reverend Richard F. Thompson and made a decree of laicization, returning him to the lay state.

NEW YORK

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On April 18, the pope will be in New York to address the United Nations in the morning and attend an ecumenical meeting in the afternoon. The following day, the third anniversary of his election as pope, he will celebrate Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral in the morning and meet with youths and seminarians in the afternoon.

While in New York the pope will visit ground zero on the morning of April 20. Ground zero is the site where the twin towers of the World Trade Center stood before they were brought down by terrorist attacks Sept. 11, 2001.

Archbishop Sambini said the pope's visit to ground zero will be in "solidarity with those who have died and their families and all who wish for an end of violence and the implementation of peace."

In the afternoon, he will celebrate Mass at Yankee Stadium, which will be the final event of his U.S. trip.

Pope John Paul II, who visited the United States seven times during his pontificate, traveled to Washington and New York in 1979 and revisited New York in 1995. During both visits to New York, he addressed the General Assembly of the United Nations. Pope Paul VI likewise addressed the United Nations in 1965.

Archbishop Sambini likened Pope Benedict's visit to the United States next year to "a sign that the spirit of the Lord is with its church"; he also said he hoped the visit would provide a "new spring" and "new Pentecost" for the Catholic Church in this country.

He praised the U.S. bishops for "upholding the faith" and said the church in the United States showed "an impressive unity" among the faithful and church leaders.

The archbishop also noted the visit would mark a celebration of the beginning of the U.S. church and should demonstrate how the church in this country will continue to grow by "making all things new in Christ."

The bishops gave Archbishop Sambini a standing ovation.

"This is a blessed moment for our nation," said Bishop William

S. Skystad of Spokane, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. "Pope Benedict is not just the leader of Catholics, he is also a man of inspiration for all those who work for peace."

Cardinal Edward M. Egan of New York said New York Catholics were looking forward to the papal visit. When they initially heard news of a possible visit, he said, there was "both rejoicing and thanksgiving," he said.

The cardinal also noted that the pope would receive a "warm and prayerful welcome."

Likewise, Washington Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl spoke of "faith-filled joy and enormous enthusiasm" of Catholics in the Washington Archdiocese for the pope's visit.

"Personally, and in the name of all of the clergy, religious and faithful of the archdiocese, I express our warmest welcome while renewing our sentiments of love and loyalty to our holy father," he said.

During a Nov. 12 press conference at the bishops' meeting, Archbishop Wuerl said he thought the pope's decision to visit Washington and New York represented a pastoral visit to the entire country.

He also acknowledged that after inviting the pope to Washington he "prayed very hard" that the pope would accept.

The archbishop called the upcoming visit "an enormous privilege" for the church of Washington and he said the archdiocese would work to make the visit "a moment of true spiritual renewal and a vibrant manifestation of God's kingdom at work among us."

Vincentian Father David O'Connell, president of Catholic University, said he looked forward to the papal visit with "tremendous anticipation and enthusiasm."

"It will be an honor beyond measure," he said, for the university to welcome the pope.

Pope John Paul visited Catholic University Oct. 7, 1979, to deliver an address on Catholic higher education. Plans call for Pope Benedict to address broader themes of Catholic education to an invitation-only audience.

Archbishop says women seeking ordination risk excommunication

BY JAMES RYGELSKI

ST. LOUIS (CNS) — Two women who say they were to be ordained Catholic priests Nov. 11 risk excommunication, as do any Catholics aiding them, Archbishop Raymond L. Burke of St. Louis said in his newspaper column two days before the purported ordination.

"The attempted ordination is a violation of what is most sacred to us in the church, one of the sacraments," he wrote in the Nov. 9 edition of the *St. Louis Review*, archdiocesan newspaper.

"It imperils the eternal salvation of the women seeking the attempted ordination and the woman, claiming to be a Roman Catholic bishop, who proposes to attempt the ordination," Archbishop Burke added. "It generates confusion among the faithful and others who are not Catholic regarding an infallible teaching of the Catholic faith."

Rose Marie Dunn Hudson of Festus, Mo., and Elsie Hainz McGrath of St. Louis are part of a group called Roman Catholic Womenpriests. Begun in 2002, it claims to have had "women-priests" ordained every year since then. The two are to be co-pastors of a congregation that will hold services in the city's central west end, according to a statement from the organization.

Archbishop Burke also said the fact that the ceremony was to take place in a local synagogue "constitutes a grave violation of the mutual respect which should mark the relationship between the Jewish faith and the Roman Catholic faith."

If the attempted ordination did go forward, the archbishop said the church would respond by excommunicating the two women and anyone who might help them. But he also asked Catholics to pray for the two women.

"I urge you, therefore, to offer fervent prayers for the women involved, that they will repent and be reconciled with the church. Please pray, too, for all who will be confused and led astray by their sinful action," he wrote.

Responding to the women's claim to ordination, two Catholic authorities said the Catholic Church ordains only men as priests because Christ chose men to be his apostles and the first priests.



ARCHBISHOP RAYMOND L. BURKE

Father Vincent A. Heier, director of the St. Louis Archdiocese's ecumenical and interreligious affairs office, and Lawrence J. Welch, professor of dogmatic theology at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, also expressed dismay that a synagogue, Central Reform Congregation in St. Louis' central west end, was hosting the alleged ordination.

They said it was disrespectful toward Catholicism and could hinder future Catholic-Jewish relations.

Father Heier, who also is pastor of All Saints Parish in the St. Louis suburb of University City, and Welch said the ordination of men is in keeping with God's sacramental plan for the church and not a put-down of women or their important role in the church.

"This is a teaching of the church that goes back to what we think is the intentional choice of Jesus," Father Heier said of the traditional ordination of men only.

"The church believes in equal rights and equality of the sexes. But we also recognize that within the church there are differences in both ministry and roles," he said.

"The priesthood was founded on the discipleship of Twelve Apostles, all men, the intentional choice of Jesus and the early church," he added. "Because of that we have always maintained that men are called by the community to perform that function. We do not feel authorized to change that."

Welch spoke of the symbolic and theological connection between Christ and the church

that went back to the Old Testament's description of God's relationship with Israel.

"In ordaining men, the church wasn't arbitrarily acting but conforming to God's plan for the church. Christ's relationship to the church is marital-spousal. God had a steadfast love for Israel, his bride," Welch said in noting the sacramental nature of the priesthood.

Through the Roman Catholic Womenpriests group, Rabbi Susan Talve said her congregation decided to sponsor the ceremony because "our building was built to be a 'sukkat shalom' — a shelter of peace — for those who need it."

But Father Heier said, "We have to respect the teachings of other faiths. We would expect others to respect ours as part of good interfaith relations. They're (Central Reform) not respecting our teachings. We wouldn't do that."

Father Heier said he expressed his disappointment to both Rabbi Talve and the board of directors.

Welch, appointed in 2002 to the Pontifical Council for Christian Unity, has been part of interfaith discussions with the Disciples of Christ.

"It doesn't surprise me that non-Catholics do not accept the church's teaching (on male-only ordination), but it does surprise that another congregation would host (the ceremony). One of the basic principles of interreligious dialogue is that you don't sponsor things or people in opposition to the tenets and leadership of another faith," Welch said.

The Jewish Community Relations Council of St. Louis issued a statement acknowledging that Catholics were upset with Central Reform's decision but stating that Judaism does not have a central authority to control the actions of individual synagogues.

"In the Jewish faith, there is no ecclesiastical hierarchy. Each congregation is free to act in accordance with its own understanding of Jewish tradition and law," the statement said.

"It is our hope that an isolated act on the part of a single congregation will not be allowed to disrupt the long tradition of continued dialogue and mutual respect between our Jewish and Roman Catholic communities," it said.

Never settle for a 'good enough' marriage

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

BREMEN — Couples should take time to commit to their marriages, taking a half hour a day to talk and one hour once a week suggested Fred and Lisa Everett at a talk, Marriage — A Mutual Gift of Self, at St. Dominic Parish, Bremen, "Never settle for a 'good enough' marriage," noted Fred.

The Everetts, co-directors of the Office of Family Life for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, spoke to a group of around 30 people on marriage and offered steps to make a marriage great. They explained that the depth of the gift of self in Christian marriage is expressed in the quality of a couple's communication, intimacy, partnership, sexuality and spirituality.

One of the suggestions was to take time to talk alone with one another — not just about the never-ending to-do lists of life,

"It's really important to catch up on an emotional level," said Lisa. She proposed that couples should use the H.A.L.T. checklist, which stands for Hungry, Angry, Lonely and Tired or pressed for time, and not try to talk at those times.

Communication is best when couples are sure to praise, give thanks, ask for forgiveness when needed and resolve arguments. The Everetts suggested that couples should tell each other on a regular basis what they appreciate about one another. They also should be aware of their nonverbal communication, which studies have found to be used much more than verbal communication in a relationship.

"Over 93 percent (of communication) is in nonverbal communi-

cation" said Lisa. Couples should always "be very conscious of your facial expressions," she noted.

Every couple also has an emotional bank account in which they deposit things that would be considered acts of love for their spouse, such as a wife accompanying a husband on a fishing trip or a husband going out shopping with his wife.

The Everetts asked that each couple at the talk to write down and then share with each other five to 10 special things that would be "real deposits for you" and then try to do them.

"Build emotional intimacy by keeping a 5-to-1 ratio of deposits to withdrawals," they suggested.

"The number one way you show you love God is the way you treat your spouse," said Lisa.

While many don't like to think about it, Fred said that putting your financial house in order and

tithing is something that should always be a part of your marriage. "Time, talent and treasure," said Fred.

Couples should "respect the gift" of their sexuality as God

designed it and "welcome children with a generous sense of responsibility," said Lisa.

Committing as a couple to grow in spiritual parenthood is necessary for making a marriage great. "All of us can find an ultimate fulfillment," said Fred who added that we can do this by the way we educate our children, how we can give them "solid values and help them find what their vocation can be," not only as parents, but grandparents and catechists.

Marriage should always be grounded "on the rock of faith — the rock of Peter and the church," said Fred who noted that "with the church, we have an infallible guide. All we have to do is say, 'yes.'"

"Over 93 percent is non-verbal communication."

LISA EVERETT



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ORPHANS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

where he delivered 11 wheelchairs, many to orphans. This ministry came about because of his work with children, who as they grow, also grow out of their wheelchairs and equipment. Families began giving the used equipment to Hartman. He often gave or loaned some of that equipment to others in need.

"I began collecting it and ran out of space. God told me to take it somewhere," he said.

He first looked at Ecuador because one of the therapists worked as a missionary there for two years, but Hartman said he didn't get the feeling there was a huge need there. He also attempted contact with a director of orphanage in Pakistan but never got a response.

Finally he was in touch with someone whose daughter had just returned from a mission trip to Kyrgyzstan, part of the former Soviet Union. Hartman said people often ask, "Why did you pick Kyrgyzstan?" I tell them, "Kyrgyzstan picked me."

He first tried to ship the wheelchairs, contacting the Air Force and then UPS, which was way too expensive and realized he'd have to take the chairs himself.

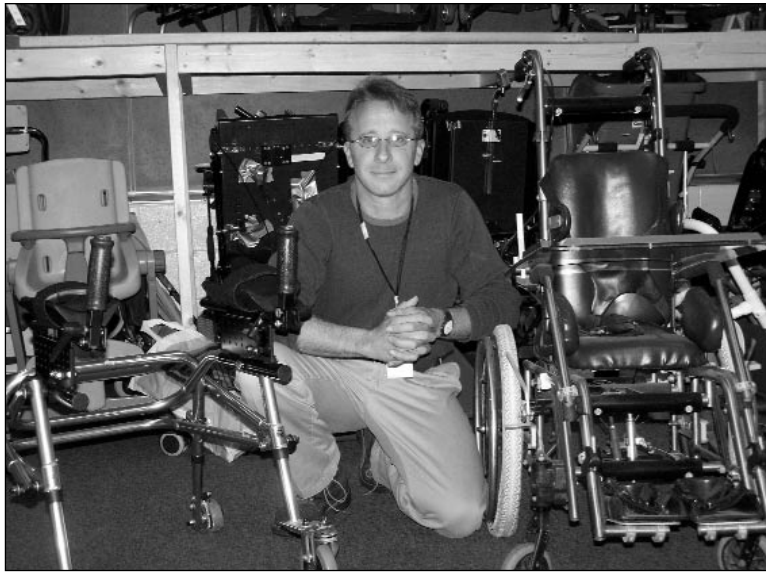
"I took 11 wheelchairs on

British Airways for under \$200 a chair. Five went on the ticket, the rest were carryon. It was the most cost-effective way to do it."

Hartman visited two areas; the first the small village of Talas.

Kyrgyzstan is an Islamic country, according to Hartman, but most don't practice. Hartman said the people were "very delightful. The children are loved by their families but hidden away. (Being disabled) brought shame upon the whole family."

Hartman said he stayed with a family who knew why he was there, but it took a while before Hartman was told there was a niece in the family with cerebral palsy who needed a chair. Hartman questioned why he wasn't told right away, and the family



DENISE FEDOROW

Physical therapist Loren Hartman shows some of the wheelchairs and walkers he is collecting to bring to children in Kryrgyzstan.

member admitted they were ashamed. He delivered seven chairs in Talas and called it "miraculous."

He toured Kyrgyzstan with the minister of disabled. The first child, he said, was easy to fit for a chair.

"After five chairs, it was still perfect. Every chair was a perfect fit. It was as if Christ himself picked the chairs," Hartman said.

Hartman also visited Bishkek, a capital city. He visited a baby orphanage where he had three very small chairs to deliver. Then he visited an orphanage for the disabled where 250 children with

mental and physical disabilities lived.

"That was an eye opener," he said. "The staff did the best they could, but there were so many children profoundly disabled — one child won't be there when I go back."

That child, Stanley, had problems eating, and Hartman said there

weren't any gastric tubes to be found, which is what would be done here. The kids were lying in huge cribs; their arms were just bones, their stomachs distended. He said their needs were being met, but they just lay around. Where they had wheelchairs, the chairs didn't fit the child.

Hartman said in some cases he questioned whether the chairs would be used. He said he gave a chair to a family and the next day saw a grandparent pushing the

child in a stroller instead of the chair.

He asked the translator to question why. Hartman was told that in the Kyrgyzstian culture, if one sees someone in a wheelchair, it means they're never going to walk. They wanted to hold out hope the child would be okay. Also it was a shameful thing, the translator said.

"What I said is if he sits better in a wheelchair he'd develop more strength in the hips and back, and it may help him walk," he said.

Hartman had some help putting the trip together through Kids Connection, a division of Cross Path Ministries, a nondenominational ministry out of Wakarusa. The whole trip cost \$3,000 and Hartman paid his own expenses. His flight was \$2,000, and it cost a little under \$200 to ship a chair. British Airways did give him a missionary fare discount.

Hartman plans to return in May and focus on bringing walkers this time. "If the kids had a walker they could walk instead of being carried and be more independent," he said.

He wants to build a relationship and return to Kyrgyzstan twice a year. Hartman contacted Riley Hospital to start saving used equipment for him to bring as well.

"I'll be going back for a while, my main concern is the children," he said.

To donate or to help Hartman continue to provide wheelchairs, contact him at (574) 773-7733. Donations made through Kids Connection should make a notation with Hartman's name on the donation.

BROTHERS OF HOLY CROSS HOST OPEN HOUSE AT NEW ANDRE PLACE



BROTHER CHARLES McBRIDE, CSC

The Brothers of Holy Cross hosted Holy Cross priests, brothers and sisters for an open house at new Andre Place independent living apartments at Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame on Sunday, Nov. 11. The 93-unit apartment building completes the 20-month, four-building project at Holy Cross Village. Pictured are brothers and sisters of Holy Cross taking refreshments at the open house.

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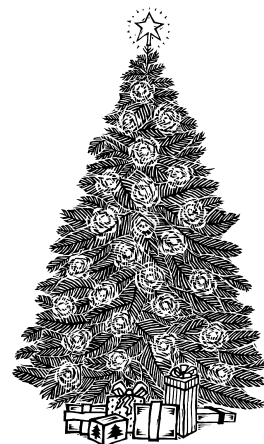
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Bishops' draft says Iraq situation 'unacceptable, unsustainable'

BALTIMORE (CNS) — Citing an alarming political and partisan stalemate in Washington, a draft statement discussed by the U.S. bishops Nov. 12 again laid out a moral framework for a transition in Iraq. Noting that the bishops have called for bipartisan action for almost two years, the draft said the current situation in Iraq "remains unacceptable and unsustainable." The draft said, "Our country needs a new direction to reduce the war's deadly toll and to bring our people together to deal with the conflict's moral and human dimensions. Our nation needs a new bipartisan approach to Iraq policy based on honest and civil dialogue." On the opening day of their fall general meeting in Baltimore, the bishops voted to take up the statement, which would be issued in the name of Bishop William S. Skylstad of Spokane, Wash., the bishops' conference president. A final version of the statement was to be reworked to incorporate suggestions from the floor of the bishops' fall general meeting in Baltimore and released Nov. 13.

Cardinal beatifies Argentine Mapuche

CHIMPAY, Argentina (CNS) — A top Vatican official beatified Ceferino Namuncura, the son of a Mapuche Indian chief who embraced Catholicism in the 19th century. The Vatican secretary of state, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, presided over the Nov. 11 beatification Mass in Blessed Namuncura's hometown of Chimpay. More than 200,000 people attended the ceremony; they included the country's vice president, Daniel Scioli, and nearly 100 Latin American bishops. Blessed Namuncura already enjoyed a popular, saintlike status among the Argentine poor. He was a Salesian novice when he died of tuberculosis in Rome in 1905 at the age of 18. In his homily, Cardinal Bertone, a Salesian, said Blessed Namuncura never forgot he was a Mapuche and that his goal "was to serve his people."

Priest put on leave after being charged with stalking TV show host

BOSTON (CNS) — Father David Ajemian, a Boston Catholic priest arrested on charges of stalking late-night NBC talk-show host Conan O'Brien, has been put on leave by the Boston Archdiocese and "is no longer able to exercise public ministry." The 46-year-old priest was arrested Nov. 2 in New York City while trying to enter a taping of "Late Night With Conan O'Brien," despite warnings by NBC security personnel he should stay away. He was arraigned on stalking and aggravated harassment charges and ordered held for psychiatric evaluation. A judge ruled Nov. 9 that the priest was fit to stand trial based on the recommendation of a court-appointed psychologist. Father Ajemian's attorney agreed his client was fit for trial, but he told reporters the

NEWS BRIEFS

FIRE DAMAGES NARTHEX AT INDIANAPOLIS CHURCH



MARY ANN WYAND, CRITERION

Father John Beitans, pastor of St. Lawrence Parish in Indianapolis, talks with Tony Camacho, a supervisor with ServiceMaster, on Nov. 4 about cleanup work under way in the St. Lawrence Church narthex after a late-night fire on All Souls Day caused by votive candles that melted and burned out of control.

priest had been taking medications and has been treated for psychological problems for the past year. According to court documents, Father Ajemian, who described himself in a letter to O'Brien as the "priest stalker," has allegedly been sending O'Brien threatening letters since last year and also wrote to the TV personality's parents.

Natural family planning gets government, insurance recognition

ST. LOUIS (CNS) — The medical coding system used by the government, insurance companies, medical clinics and health care providers now includes two codes specifically for natural family planning. Behind the push for the new codes was the American Academy of FertilityCare Professionals, a national organization that promotes the use of the Creighton Model FertilityCare System, which is used for natural family planning and women's health and infertility issues while upholding Catholic teaching. Diane Daly, director of the Office of Natural Family Planning for the St. Louis Archdiocese and a member of the academy, headed the committee that worked several years for the new codes. On Oct. 1, the International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM) published the following codes for natural family planning: V25.04: Counseling and instruction in natural family planning to avoid pregnancy, and V26.41: Procreative counseling and advice using natural family planning.

Bishop urges House to expand tax credit for children of poor workers

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Domestic Policy called on the House of Representatives to "make the well-being of poor workers and poor families with children a central priority" as they consider tax legislation. H.R. 3996, the Temporary Tax Relief Act of 2007, would improve and expand the child tax credit, "an essential element of our national safety net," said Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio of Brooklyn, N.Y., in a Nov. 7 letter to members of the House. "Too often, poor families are overlooked in public policy debates," the bishop said. "While their voices are not always heard, poor people have compelling needs that should have a priority claim on our consciences and the choices made in Congress." Unless the changes in H.R. 3996 are enacted, "millions of poor and working families" would not be eligible for the refundable child tax credit because they do not make enough money to qualify, Bishop DiMarzio said. Without the changes families would have to earn more than \$11,750 in 2007 to receive the credit, he said. The legislation before the House would lower the earnings level to \$8,500 and remove the current inflation index.

Doctrinal official says people, not religions, are equal in dialogue

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — When Catholics engage in interreligious dialogue, they must know that

equality exists among the participants, not the religions they represent, said Archbishop Angelo Amato, secretary of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. "The fact that there are various religious propositions does not mean that they are equally true," the archbishop said in a Nov. 8 interview with *L'Osservatore Romano*, the Vatican newspaper. The newspaper conducted the interview after the archbishop gave a speech to the heads of Italian men's religious orders on the theme "Witnessing to Christ, the Only Savior, in a Multireligious Society." Archbishop Amato had told the superiors general that, especially in a situation where there is so much doubt about the existence of objective truths, there is no room for dilettantes in interreligious dialogue.

Vatican official criticizes narrow reading of Tridentine ruling

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The secretary of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments criticized bishops and priests who have given a narrow interpretation to Pope Benedict XVI's permission for the wider celebration of the Tridentine Mass. Archbishop Albert Malcolm Ranjith Patabendige Don told an Italian Internet news site that he found it difficult to understand the action "and even rebellion" of churchmen who have tried to limit access to the older Mass. "On the part of some dioceses, there have been interpretive documents that inexplicably aim to limit the 'motu proprio' of the pope," he

told the Web site Petrus Nov. 5. Pope Benedict's apostolic letter, published in early July, eased restrictions on the use of the 1962 Roman Missal, which governed the liturgy before the new Order of the Mass was introduced in 1970. The papal document said the Latin-language Tridentine Mass should be available when a group of the faithful requests it and should be celebrated by qualified priests. However, differences exist over what the precise characteristics of the group should be and over what specific knowledge and training a priest must have before he can celebrate the older Mass.

Las Vegas teen fatally injured after arriving in Ohio for conference

COLUMBUS, Ohio (CNS) — Veronica Gantt, 16, who had traveled to Columbus from Las Vegas to attend the National Catholic Youth Conference, was struck by a vehicle and died in the early morning hours of Nov. 8. Gantt was part of a Las Vegas delegation that had arrived just a few hours before the accident that claimed her life. Mark Butler, director of the Columbus diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, said Gantt was part of a group of 15 young people and adults from a Las Vegas parish who were traveling to the conference with another group from the Diocese of Colorado Springs, Colo. The two groups were on a flight that was delayed and did not get into Columbus until past midnight. There was no meal available on the plane, so after the Nevada youths checked into a hotel near the Ohio State University campus, Gantt, another youth and two adults went to a nearby McDonald's restaurant to purchase food for everyone. They were walking back to the hotel from the restaurant and facing traffic when Gantt was struck at about 2:40 a.m. by a large van or a truck that continued up the road without stopping.

Judge grants San Diego Diocese's motion to dismiss bankruptcy

SAN DIEGO (CNS) — The San Diego Diocese said Nov. 1 it was grateful Judge Louise DeCarl Adler granted its motion to dismiss its bankruptcy case. "This gets us one step closer to implementing the terms of the global settlement agreement," it said in a statement released the same day as the ruling. On Sept. 7 the San Diego Diocese and the San Bernardino Diocese, which was split off from its southern neighbor in 1978, announced an agreement to pay \$198.1 million to settle lawsuits with 144 people for abuse suffered between 1938 and 1993. "Nevertheless, it is extremely disappointing that the presumption continues, as if it were a conclusion, that the assets of nondiocesan Catholic institutions and parishes are available to the diocese for the financial resolution of the sexual abuse cases," the diocese said Nov. 1. "This issue was not resolved in the bankruptcy proceeding," it added.

Dialogue of Cultures conference scheduled at Notre Dame

NOTRE DAME — The Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture, concerned by the deep cultural divides that characterize so much of our world, has found inspiration in Pope Benedict's Regensburg address, and has decided to devote its eighth annual fall conference to the theme: The Dialogue of Cultures.

In interdisciplinary fashion, this conference will take up a variety of questions related to both the difficulties and opportunities involved in addressing cultural conflict. Contemporary political issues will certainly be on the table, as will philosophical and theological inquiries into the broader conception of reason of which Pope Benedict speaks, along with its relation to Christian faith. Legal theorists, also, will bring their perspective to the discussion, perhaps especially in regard to questions of natural law. And, if pattern holds, historians, literary theorists, artists and people in business will make their own substantial contributions.

One of the key purposes of The Dialogue of Cultures is to help restore the richness in the notion of dialogue itself, which too often has devolved into a cultural cliché. But above all, the center wants to follow the lead of Pope Benedict, who closes the Regensburg address by declaring, "The courage to engage the whole breadth of reason, and not the denial of its grandeur — that is the program with which a theology grounded in biblical faith enters into the debates of our time. ... It is to this great logos, to the breadth of reason, that we invite our partners in the dialogue of cultures."

Elias Chacour, Archbishop Metropolitan of the Melkite Catholic Diocese of Acco, Haifa, Nazareth and Galilee, and a recipient of an honorary degree from the University of Notre Dame in 2007, will inaugurate the conference with a keynote address entitled, "The Role of Religions in Promoting Dialogue," on Thursday evening, Nov. 29, at 7:30 p.m. in the Main Auditorium of McKenna Hall.

On Friday evening, Nov. 30, George Weigel, senior fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center and author of "Witness to Hope," the authorized biography of Pope John Paul II, will give a plenary lecture entitled "Reading Regensburg Right," at 7:30 p.m., also in the Main Auditorium of McKenna Hall.

Bishop John M. D'Arcy will preside at the 5 p.m. Mass on Saturday evening, Dec. 1, in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, after which the conference will conclude with a festive banquet.

The cost of the conference includes all receptions, and on Friday and Saturday, a continental breakfast and a served lunch and dinner. All conference sessions and meals will be held at Notre Dame's McKenna Hall.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

DWENGER COMMUNITY GETS 'ON THE MOVE'



PROVIDED BY BISHOP DWENGER HIGH SCHOOL

Bishop Dwenger High School participated in its 12th Annual Saints on the Move service project Oct. 27. Dwenger students, teachers, staff and parent volunteers converged on nearly 200 work sites throughout the city of Fort Wayne assisting the elderly, homebound and social service agencies in a fall cleanup effort. Under the direction of Ann Noble and Nancy Yorke, this annual project gives the Dwenger community the opportunity to reach out to the entire city of Fort Wayne and help those in need. Volunteers raked leaves, washed windows, visited with the elderly and more.

Conference talks are free and open to the public, but those wishing to participate in the meals and receptions must register.

Registration questions should be addressed to the Center for Continuing Education by telephone at (574) 631-6691, by e-mail to cce.1@nd.edu, or by facsimile to (574) 631-8083. Any questions related to the conference itself should be directed to ndethics@nd.edu.

St. Vincent de Paul Parish children support newly ordained priest

FORT WAYNE — Angelic voices "raised the roof" on Wednesday, Oct. 24, in the St. Vincent de Paul Parish Activity Center for Deacon Jason Freiburger, just before his ordination to the priesthood on Oct. 27. Both the students and religious education classes sang praises to God for the gift of vocations and the ordination of Deacon Freiburger.

The three separate services ended with a special prayer over the deacon led by Father John Kuzmich.

At the school, children met at 1:30 beginning with the band playing the school song. Following a couple of songs led by the choir and cheerleaders, student council members and representatives from all classes, grades

1-4, raised hands over the deacon as he knelt in the center of a circle.

Father Kuzmich talked to the children about the deacon's journey from St. Therese School to high school at Bishop Luers and college at Purdue. Then, Deacon Freiburger spoke directly about his call from God and how his vocation came to him. He thanked the students for the support and expressed to them the importance of praying for God to let them know what he has planned for their lives. He emphasized how grateful he is for the opportunity to serve the people of St. Vincent de Paul Parish and all of God's people as a priest. The students cheered louder, and the band led more songs.

Other school activities during the week included a decorate the door contest with themes of vocations and the Holy Spirit. The week culminated with "dress like Deacon Jason day." The deacon look-a-likes included students and teachers as many donned the priestly white collar and the deacon's signature red hair.

On Sunday, Oct. 21, religious education students presented Deacon Freiburger with pictures of himself drawn by second graders and a poem about the sign of the cross.

Father Freiburger celebrated his first school Mass with students on All Saints Day.

Task force raises awareness of homelessness

FORT WAYNE — The Allen County Housing and Homeless Task Force kicked off National Hunger and Homeless Week Nov. 12 by releasing one balloon for every homeless person counted on the streets of Fort Wayne on Jan. 25, 2007. These are citizens who sleep in abandoned buildings and places not meant for habitation to escape the bitterness of the cold. While 90 homeless people living on the streets on a cold January day does not seem a lot for a city the size of Fort Wayne, this count hardly represents a true number.

There are a number of people experiencing homelessness, living on the streets, suffering from paranoia and other disorders who were not counted because of fear or because they were just not located by the team.

It is difficult to accurately count the homeless. What is a better indicator of homelessness is that city shelters are full, many with waiting lists.

The food banks have seen record numbers of requests and are having difficulty keeping up with the demand for food. People are hungry. Many are foregoing food to pay bills trying to stave off homelessness.

Fort Wayne has lost ground in

leveraging federal dollars targeting homelessness over the past few years as the agencies funded by HUD have entered the competition with the state of Indiana.

This year, two homeless programs were cut and the current trend of housing foreclosures, rising heat bills and shocking increases in the cost of gasoline are making it difficult for families and individuals to sustain their housing.

"We, as a task force, want the public to know that while we do not have the very visible problem of homeless people standing on every corner as larger metropolitan areas have, we do have men, women and a significant number of children experiencing homelessness every day in our city and towns," noted the task force coordinators, including Ann Helmke of Vincent House, in a press statement released last week.

Tatiana returns to Fort Wayne with Advent-Christmas concerts

Tatiana will return to the Fort Wayne area Dec. 7-9 to perform an Advent-Christmas concert. The performances will be at the following venues:

- On Dec. 7 at 7 p.m., she will have a concert at St. Joseph Church, Garrett.

- On Dec. 8 at 7 p.m., she will have a concert at St. Mary Church, Fort Wayne.

- On Dec. 9 at 7 p.m., she will have a concert at St. Vincent De Paul Parish, Fort Wayne.

Tatiana has a new DVD for Advent. A freewill offering will be collected at the concerts.

Luers to hold visitation day, exam make up day for eighth graders

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School has announced Eighth Grade Day on Friday, Dec. 7, from 8:30 a.m. until 1:45 p.m. All eighth-grade students are welcome to attend.

The purpose for this day is for eighth graders to spend some time in the Bishop Luers community learning about school academics and extracurricular activities as well as meeting ninth-grade teachers and other current and prospective students.

If a student attends a non-feeder grade school, call the Bishop Luers High School Development Office for reservations at (260) 456-1261.

Bishop Luers High School 13th Annual Scholarship/Placement Exam make up date (for those who missed the first test date) is Dec. 8 from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. No advanced registration is required. The test will be given in the school media center with registration beginning at 8 a.m. Students are asked to bring \$10 to take the test and two No. 2 pencils. All eighth-grade students are welcome to attend.

The test is to determine placement for the 2008-2009 school year and to test students on academic merit in order to award financial scholarships. Please call the Bishop Luers High School Development Office at (260) 456-1261 for more information.

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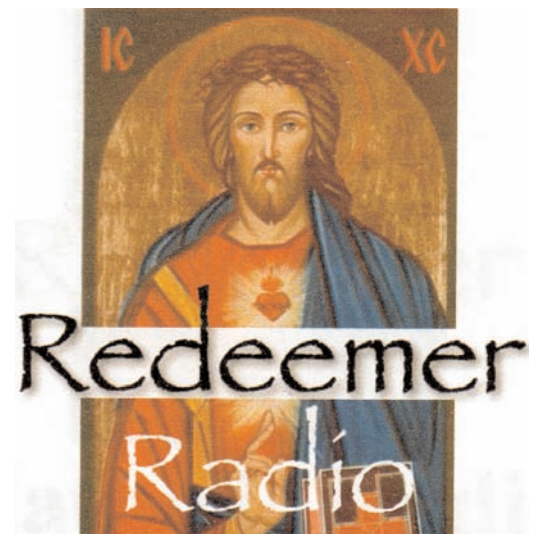
The Knights of Columbus Council 4511, through their annual Tootsie Roll fundraiser, were able to make contributions to the following: \$3,000 to Special Olympics of Kosciusko County and \$14,435 to the Cardinal Center. Above, Paul Hurst, financial secretary of the Knights, is shown with Becky Walls and Ruby French from Special Olympics and Jeff Neumann of the Knights. Below, Hurst is shown with Jane Greene of the Cardinal Center, Neumann and Candy Townsend with the Cardinal Center.



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Taking your faith to college and living it

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

November is prime time for college applications, campus visits and other major considerations. For Catholics, the question of whether to attend a public or private (Catholic) school often arises. However, going away to a public college doesn't mean you have to compromise your Catholic faith. Many programs exist with the purpose of preserving and promoting the Catholic faith on a collegiate level.

The following is a guide to resources for students considering state schools, like Purdue University, Indiana University or Ball State University.

Purdue University

Tom Landrigan is a senior and president and cofounder of the Catholic Truth League at Purdue, a group that "defends, lives, propagates Catholic faith with fidelity and orthodoxy."

Landrigan, a Fort Wayne native, started the group in January in response to the abundance of evangelical groups on campus. He said Catholics have a stereotype of not being as outgoing as evangelical Protestants and he wanted to change that. "Our main emphasis is on apologetics," Landrigan said.

The group is comprised of



PROVIDED BY THE NEWMAN CENTER

Catholic students who attend Ball State University in Muncie have the St. Francis of Assisi University Parish, a fully-functioning church just off campus that serves families and students. In addition to Masses, students can attend weekly gatherings, small-faith groups, men's and women's groups, retreats social dinners and service projects through the Newman Center.

about 45 students and meets Friday evenings from 7 to 8:30 in the Stewart Center, a multipurpose building on campus.

"We discuss a different topic each week, generally something pertaining to our Catholic faith," he said. (Our main focus is) how to explain the scriptural basis for church teachings and how to

defend them."

The Purdue student offered some advice for high school seniors preparing for the transition to college. "Choose your friends wisely because the people you associate with will have the greatest influence on you," he said.

Landrigan encourages high

schoolers to visit the Purdue campus and see what the Catholic Truth League is all about. Those interested can e-mail him at catholictruthleague@gmail.com.

Ball State University

Mindy Bowman, a campus minister at Ball State University, is proud of the campus's rich Catholic life. According to Bowman, Ball State University has St. Francis of Assisi University Parish, a fully-functioning church just off campus that serves families and students. In addition to Masses, students can attend weekly gatherings, small-faith groups, men's and women's groups, retreats social dinners and service projects through the Newman Center.

"We have tons of different opportunities (available through the Newman Center)," Bowman said. "We're always willing to try new things," she added.

According to Bowman, Ball State University offers a "hands on" approach to living Catholic faith. Ball State University students can elect to become peer ministers through the Christian Leadership Program and live their faith on the job, she said. These students live and work at the church center with other Catholics, free of rent. This situation is ideal for someone who wants to grow spiritually and learn more about Christian lead-

ership.

Like Landrigan, Bowman, also from Fort Wayne, has some advice for newcomers.

"Seek us out because we're here to reach out to students," she said. "You can find great friends and support (at the center)."

Bowman said that attending a public college can be just as or more conducive to a healthy faith life, as attending a Catholic institution.

"You find yourself surrounded by people who are choosing their faith," she said. "We're all Catholic, so that makes the roots deeper."

The Newman Center is open Monday through Friday, but there are people there seven days a week, the campus minister said.

Bowman encourages prospective Ball State University students to come and "get a feel for what the church is like."

Take a tour and pick up a brochure, she urges. Putting things into perspective, "students that end up (at the Newman Center) don't expect to find themselves here," she said.

For more information about the programs, visit the St. Francis Parish's Web site, <http://stfrancis-newman.org/html>, e-mail the church office at admin.stfrancis@comcast.net or call (765) 288-6180.

THE NOTRE DAME CENTER FOR ETHICS AND CULTURE ANNOUNCES ITS 8TH ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE

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ADOPTION, TEENS, TWEENS AND THOSE THAT ARE VERY SPECIAL

St. Jude Parish hosts adoption support ministry

BY DEB WAGNER

FORT WAYNE — St. Jude's Adoption Ministry group has met once a month for the past two-and-a-half years in Fort Wayne to build support for those who have adopted or are considering adoption.

Each meeting begins with an educational component regarding one facet of adoption. Those in attendance quickly find that they have something to contribute to the presenter's information and soon the direction of the discussion changes to meet the need of those present. There is a core group of five couples that regularly attend the meetings and guests are always welcome.

Many of the couples feel that in some way they were called by God to adopt and that maybe infertility was a blessing. Some couples were

open to adopting any child; others simply asked that the child be healthy. Consequently, many of the core participants have adopted children who are cross-cultural and trans-racial.

Krista Stockman, who along with her husband, Dan, adopted an African-American baby before having their biological son who is Caucasian. Krista says that the adoption agency they went through said they needed to expose their daughter to those things that would have been a part of the child's cultural heritage. As a result, there are a few pictures of black people, a black Santa and a few African American dolls around the house.

Steve and Emily Cook also adopted their three African-American children. Steve questions what culture we are supposed to orient their children since racial cultures vary greatly depending on



PROVIDED BY KRISTA STOCKMAN

The St. Jude's Adoption Ministry, shown at a recent meeting, has met once a month for the past two and a half years in Fort Wayne to build support for those who have adopted or are considering adoption. Pictured, from left, are group members MaryLou and Chris Mettler, Steve Cook and Brenda Brelage discussing an adoption issue.

the geographical location in the country.

"Every February we talk more about African Americans and Martin Luther (King)," said Emily, "but our kids are just Midwest American, corn-eating kids."

The assumptions and stereotypes by which people live might not always be true, but that is the reason education and early intervention are so important in decreasing social tension and increasing cultural understanding.

Change is more difficult for some than it is for others and cross-cultural and trans-racial adoptions are not excluded from this. Group members said that they had initial fears about what others would think, but then were pleasantly surprised by how much love was given to the child.

They were also stressed about whether the extended family, many of whom grew up with segregation, would react. Over time, many of these concerns became a distant memory.

two adopted children are now beginning to experience the subtle innuendoes that could hurt a child's feelings. It is often the children who matter-of-factly educate the adults to espouse less prejudicial thoughts and behaviors.

Prejudice is a learned behavior from elders and observations made. It is not necessarily that a particular play group is better for a child because everyone in that play group has the same ethnic background either. Support groups come together because it is a shared experience for the participants and children might also benefit from such a shared experience. A conscious effort should be made to achieve balance between exposure to cultural differences and the support gained through a shared experience.

Steve Cook suggests that times are changing and that acceptance in older adopted children might be more related to self-esteem issues than cultural issues.

"You don't get the reaction in the classroom that you did in the 1960s," he said. "It's easy to blame teasing on nationality, but sometimes it's normal kid-to-kid interaction or self-esteem issues."

Mark and Mary Lou Graf are also among the core group of couples who have adopted. They believe there are more issues to be concerned about as the children grow older. Adoption can bring with it feelings of insecurity and questions about one's identity in addition to those often grappled with as a teenager.

For this reason, open adoptions are important in that through them adopted children can receive answers to questions about who they are.

The St. Jude's Adoption Ministry group is available to help anyone find answers to their questions surrounding adoptions and related concerns. Group members gain strength from one another because they simply love their children.



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Foster homes special place for children in need

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — The number of children who are in need of foster care is staggering due to instability in the home, abuse, neglect and a myriad other factors. There are several agencies in the area that offer training and support for foster care providers.

Catholic Charities offers four adoption-foster care program supports that serve nine counties, including the Foster-Adoptive-Kinship Training (FAKT) Program, home studies, foster family support liaison and the adoption program.

The FAKT Program serves those interested in providing foster care to a single child or sibling groups. The kinship care piece, says FAKT coordinator Robin Springstead, supports those with a relative in the foster care system and wishes to take that child into their own home.

Those interested in providing fostering services are required to participate in 20 hours of pre-service training, following a criminal background check, a home study and completion of personal information paperwork.

Additional permanency planning training hours are required for those interested in adoption.

The training includes CPR and Universal Precautions, and, once licensed, the foster family participates in annual in-service trainings in order to maintain their license.

During the initial information meetings, families decide what level of care they wish to provide. "Most want newborns," says Springstead, adding that there is as great a need for the special needs population, which not only includes children who are considered medically fragile, have behavior difficulties, ADHD or other mental health diagnosis, but those who are teens or in large sibling groups as well.

Fostering special needs children, considered therapeutic care, requires participation in an additional 10 hours of specific training. Many who become therapeutic care foster parents are nurses or have special needs children of their own, reports Springstead. Others believe it's a calling and just want to help.

"It takes a lot to be a foster parent and work with special needs," says Springstead. She adds, "But there are a lot of people out there with hidden potential and just don't know it."

Because the foster care system is a matching process, the need for more foster families is ongoing to provide the best placement for

each individual child.

Kathy Bosk, foster family support coordinator, is the liaison between foster parents and the Department of Child Services (DCS). "I'm there if the parents need some help," she reports. Her role involves networking to assist foster parents in receiving additional services according to their need.

Bosk visits each licensed home at least once a year, facilitates monthly support meetings and assists with child care. She also works closely with the DCS to coordinate information to facilitate problem solving within the homes.

Assisting those who foster special needs children requires Bosk to locate specific training needed, such as the community training at Park Center, which includes workshops on attachment and bonding issues and severe behaviors.

"People need a strong support system and utilize the many community services available. We can help them do that," says Bosk. And though the area supports over 250 families, she too reports there is an ongoing need to serve the special needs population.

Another area agency, Foster Care Select of Northern Indiana, works collaboratively with Catholic Charities to place children referred by the DCS with fos-

ter families, including those with special needs.

Shelly Edwards, regional coordinator there, oversees the programming of the agency and assists with recruitment and retention of foster parents. For those families who foster special needs children, therapeutic care requires specialized services from the agency including more frequent home visits, clinical intervention, respite care and counseling.

To those considering foster care, Edwards offers, "It's a wonderful community service to the kids and families. Make sure you are ready to do it. Research it. Be committed and work through the problems with the kids but also have fun as a family. I tell parents try to find the lightness."

She says of the special needs population, "At the end of the day, these kids are like any others. They need safety, consistency, fun and love."

And that is just what Betty Jackson has provided for many area children over the years as she opened her home to them. Jackson is the mother of three grown children and began providing foster care after seeing the needs of the children attending her sister's day care program 15 years ago.

Her first wards were babies and small children. "I became so

attached to them," she recalls.

She soon was fostering children ages one to 10, including sibling groups.

"It didn't matter, I took them to keep them together," says Jackson, adding, "I wanted these children to feel at home. I gave them love and cleaned them up. The kids call me 'granny.'"

The children Jackson has taken in as her own over the years include those with mental disabilities, biracial children and others. She includes them in her family and church activities and says fostering is a "family affair."

This compassionate caregiver has adopted three of the children she has taken into her home.

Jackson recommends fostering to anyone, saying, "You're making a better life for the kids. A lot of kids need care. We need them and they need to be loved."

As for Jackson and her house, she says, "I'll take care of children as long as I can."

For more information on foster care, including therapeutic care for special needs children, contact Catholic Charities at (260) 422-5625 or Foster Care Select at (260) 425-9828.

Couple convinced they were meant to be loving parents of adopted children

BY JUDY BRADFORD

SOUTH BEND — Sometimes, God has something different in mind for you. When you look back on it, you'll know why.

Maria and Paul Kil understand now why they went through some difficulties bearing children — and the "roller coaster" experience of adopting. Those hardships have strengthened their marriage and their Catholic faith — and convinced them that they were meant to be loving parents of adopted children.

They are parents to four adopted children: Abraham, 8; Susanna, 7; Angie, 5 and Natalie, also 5. Angie and Natalie are both Down Syndrome children.

Early in their 13-year marriage, the Kils experienced infertility. After two years of trying to conceive, and trying some minimal medical interventions, they realized that getting pregnant isn't the only way to become parents.

"We prayed, and were doing a considerable amount of asking (to bear children)," says Paul. "But then we realized, through prayer, that giving birth wasn't so much what we wanted. What we wanted was to become parents."

"Once we decided to go for an adoption, we knew it was the right thing," adds Maria.

The couple contacted Catholic

Charities. Their first attempt at adoption fell through because the birth mother changed her mind and decided to be a parent. While this decision was probably the best for the birth family, it left the Kils feeling "at their lowest low."

"But there was a plan, and God's plan was for us to have Abraham. If that first adoption hadn't fallen through, we wouldn't have Abraham," says Paul.

One year after they adopted Abraham, they put in the paperwork for another adoption.

Nine weeks later, Susanna came.

Then they made the conscious decision to adopt a Down Syndrome child, which resulted in getting Natalie, now 5. Natalie had some health issues about six months later, causing them a lot of worry about her eyesight and a congenital heart defect.

They had just joined Little Flower Church. "The parish was with us through it all, praying with us every time she needed surgery," says Paul.

Then, when Natalie was one year old, they received a newsletter about Down Syndrome children. In it was the picture of "a cute little girl from Bogota, Colombia."

They considered another adoption, and that's how they got Angie.

"A few of our family members



JUDY BRADFORD

Paul and Maria Kil are shown with their four children, Susanna, Abraham, Natalie and Angie, at their South Bend home.

and friends thought we were crazy to adopt a fourth child, and one from Bogota," says Maria. "but we felt it was something we needed to do. For Natalie, in particular, we thought it would be great to have another child close to her age and abilities. This was a leap of faith for us, going to another country. But we were able to understand

another culture, and the needs of a developing country. This is something we would not have done, had we given birth."

The Kils say that Little Flower Church has been very supportive.

"It's a dynamic parish, and very family oriented," says Maria, who works out of her home as program director for the Michiana Soccer

Association. "They are very accepting of lots of different types of people. They're also very involved in the community, and have their own food pantry."

Being Catholic and being faithful has helped them to be nonjudgmental of the birth mothers for all their children. Since the adoptions were open, their experiences have also led to ongoing relationships with some of the birth families for their children.

"They were doing such a selfless act, to give their children up for adoption. And without them, we wouldn't have children," says Paul, who teaches elementary school art for the New Prairie United School Corp.

In addition to raising a big family, the Kils are also marriage preparation advisers. They invite engaged couples into their home to talk about the challenges of marriage — a task for which they are highly qualified now that they've been through the adoption process several times.

They are grateful for the church and diocesan emphasis on family.

"On a regular basis, we say to our children, 'God gave us this beautiful day,' so our kids will think about the wonderful gifts God has given us. It gets us through frustrating times, and happy times. And it gives us a sense of peace."

Parish music director brings hope to her parish, family

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — St. Charles Borromeo Parish has seen new songbooks, carpet and even new doors recently, but one thing has remained the same for 25 years — the director of music and liturgy.

Karen Hope, 51, boasts more than two decades of experience as the director of music and liturgy at St. Charles. Prior to her employment at St. Charles, Hope obtained a master's degree in education, but God had other plans for her.

The young teacher was unexpectedly laid off and trying to make ends meet. Under the discretion of Msgr. Edward Hession, pastor at St. Charles at the time, approached her about a possible position as the director. Hope agreed to give it a try and, well, the rest is history. What started as simply a way to pay the rent ended up as a career, she said.

"I've been able to do so many different things with the church and with my life," Hope said reflecting on her 25-year career.

In 25 years' time, a great deal has changed liturgically, but her passion for music and people has remained steadfast through the years.

"I love being able to work with so many talented people and share music with them," she said.

Hope said she has learned a great deal along the way, but she's always anxious to discover more each day.

"I'm still learning," she said about those everyday "aha moments."

"It doesn't cease," Hope said. "You suddenly don't know it all."

Hope views the music as an integral part of the celebration of the modern Mass.

"For me it's hard to go to a Mass without music," she said. "Music is a necessity. It fulfills its function without distracting from prayer."

Hope said at first she had a propensity for contemporary pieces, but now she has "grown to love all sorts." "There are so many (songs) that are so beautiful," she said about the breadth in liturgical repertoire.

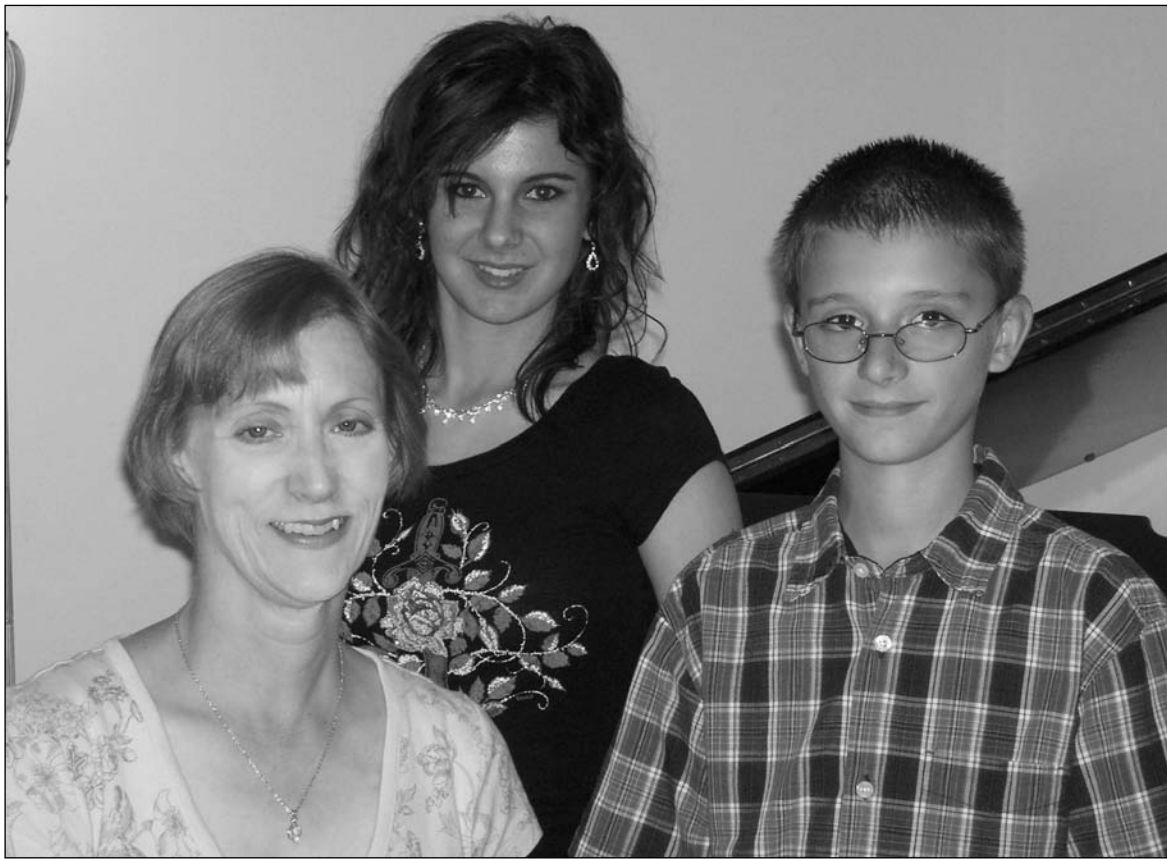
While Hope said she cannot claim one song as her favorite, certain songs have resonated with her at different stages in her life.

Moreover, the director said she appreciates the organic nature of liturgical music, specifically its ability to reflect our culture. "Music is always changing," she said. "The culture has heavily influenced what we sing."

It's important that the church cater to the needs of the people through the years, Hope said. The challenge, however, is keeping the young and old engaged, she added.

Hope has ample experience in engaging youth beyond her role as director.

Many St. Charles alumnae recall two dark-haired children, Cynthia, now 16, and Tommy, 12, peeking through the pews before and after Mass.



LAUREN CAGGIANO

Karen Hope, the music director at St. Charles Parish in Fort Wayne, is shown with her children, Cynthia and Tommy.

According to Hope, the half-siblings were members of her extended family who needed a maternal figure. Hope wanted to make a difference in the world and raising the children happened to fulfill this desire. The director made a major decision to become their guardian and legally adopted them several years later.

So what is her secret for managing work and family life?

"You just do your best," she said. "Keep it in prayer all the time. God provides for you but you have to be open to (his plan)."

The mother of two said she's thankful for the love and support of family and friends along the

way. The parish priests were particularly supportive during the adoption process, she said.

Without them, she said she wonders how she would have functioned.

"It's been a lot of blessings," she said summarizing her experience at St. Charles.

New Haven parish youth group motivated and thriving

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

NEW HAVEN — "I wanted it for my kids." That was the original motivation for St. John the Baptist, New Haven, youth director Hanna Eakin. When they moved into the parish, Eakin inquired if there was a youth group. The answer was yes, but it "wasn't all that active." So, Eakin set out to make the program stronger.

After much prayer and discernment, support and direction from diocesan youth director Cindy Black and months of volunteer hours, the position for a new youth director became open and Eakin was hired.

"I was at home with my children (Lizzie and Alex) and available. It was something I felt God was calling us (along with husband, Tim) to do," recalls Eakin.

Before their first official event, Eakin and a core team of adult volunteers asked the members of St.

John Parish to pray for the success of the program. They prayed that just five youth would show up. Much to their surprise, over 150 junior high and high schoolers came for free pizza and pop after a youth Mass and round of Deal or No Deal.

Remembering how they had to scramble to make preparations, Eakin says, "It was like the story of the big catch in empty waters.

We were not prepared for such a crowd. Our nets were overflowing!"

Since then, the ministry has continued to grow and flourish. Each month, they now offer two youth Masses followed by a connecting activity, lesson and snacks. They also make eucharistic adoration available and try to do some sort of

service project. "Our goal is to offer enjoyable programs without watering down the truths of the Catholic Church," explained Eakin.

Speakers have been brought in

"Our goal is to offer enjoyable programs without watering down the truths of the Catholic Church."

HANNA EAKIN



PROVIDED BY ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

St. John the Baptist Youth Group recently participated in a cleanup day for two residents in the community. Afterwards, the youth were able to meet the homebound they served, to see their frailty and their need.

to discuss topics focusing on relevant issues in today's culture and last month Father James Seculoff talked on the Mass and gave a tour of the church. Teen witnesses have also been a very powerful means of sharing a particular message.

Recently the group held a fall

cleanup day for two elderly residents in their community. Eakin was very pleased so many turned out to experience God's love and joy by "living out their faith."

Afterwards, the youth were able to meet the homebound they served, to see their frailty and their

need. Eakin also prayed with them reminding them about the verse from James 3:26, "Just as the body is dead without a spirit, so also is faith dead without good deeds."

She encouraged them to always have a zeal for God and to make sacrifices for others. "I think the kids truly felt good after a day of giving themselves away," Eakin concluded.

The group, which also welcomes youth from neighboring St. Louis and St. Rose parishes, attends various diocesan events including the XLT worship programs in the area.

Down the road, Eakin would love to see St. John providing Saturday night events, mini versions of XLT.

Another one of her goals is to get more teens attending weekly adoration. "We have purposely tagged a teen Bible study after adoration to draw more teens," said Eakin. "We want to get them looking at their day to day through God's eyes rather than through the world's eyes."

In January 2008, the St. John's Youth Ministry is planning to offer their first retreat for high-school age members of the parish.

Eakin summarized, "It is beautiful to see kids absorbing 'Christianity'; so open to and ready for all that we can offer them."

Prayer sustains aspiring young ballerina

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Dance is a way of life for 16-year-old Shaely Simonton whose dream is to dance for one of the major ballet companies in the United States. Prayer, she says, is what keeps her focused and on track.

Born in Kendallville to Sandra and Powell Simonton she attended St. Mary's School in Avilla from kindergarten to eighth grade. Her natural interest in dance began at a very early age when she twirled around her own living room.

"I've always liked to dance. It's fun," she says.

By five Simonton was attending recreational tap, jazz and other dance classes at a nearby dance studio. But she admits sheepishly that ballet was not originally her favorite.

"When I was 10, my mom forced me into ballet because she knew it would help me in other forms of dance," she said.

By age 13 Simonton had fallen in love with ballet and after speaking with her dance instructor Beth McLeish decided to focus all of her attention and energy on it.

"She (Beth) thought I had a talent," says Simonton.

As eighth-grade graduation approached, the Simonton family discussed high school placement for Shaely. East Noble High School was a viable option, yet faith formation was a concern. The family considered the commute to

Bishop Dwenger as well. But as divine providence would have it, Simonton's dance instructor, McLeish, formed a new school, the New American Youth Ballet, in time for Shaely's freshman year and offered her placement in the school.

In response to the faith concern, McLeish, who had been Shaely's confirmation sponsor, assured the Simontons that she would assist their daughter in this area as well. So after much discussion and prayer, Shaely was enrolled.

She is currently involved with the LifeTeen program at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Fort Wayne as well as attending their retreats.

Interestingly, three of the four teachers at the ballet school are Catholic and Simonton says, "I can go to any of them with my problems. I'm very close to them."

At one point in her academic career, Simonton admits she began to stray from her faith and it was McLeish who counseled her. "I was feeling like I wanted to quit ballet, and Beth told me, 'You'll always be faced with challenges.' She got me back on track," says the teen dancer, adding, "I prayed about it and God helped."

The New American Youth Ballet, located in Fort Wayne, offers dance as well as academic classes. A junior this year, Simonton boasts of her studies in advanced math, chemistry, biology, world history Spanish and more. She, along with 30 other students



SHAELY SIMONTON

in grades 5-12, starts her day after commuting from Kendallville at 7:50 a.m. when academic classes begin. After four periods of instruction, she enjoys a ballet class followed by another academic class. After lunch, Simonton catches up on homework in a structured study hall and from 2 to 5 p.m. she rehearses with the other students for the many performances held throughout the year.

The performances, she reports

are held quarterly, with the fall concert held on Nov. 11. The girls also travel following graduation from academics in the spring to area schools with performances for the elementary students.

But she doesn't want to sound like a social misfit with her grueling schedule. Simonton has a boyfriend and many other friends outside of her ballet "family."

"I go to Dwenger football games," she says, naming a few

other fun activities she enjoys.

Simonton says she has always been close to God and continues to pray for guidance as she discerns her future path. She hopes to graduate from high school as a junior this year and will begin her auditions with some major ballet companies in December.

"I'm at the right age to start auditioning for a job in a company," she says confidently. "I've put a lot into it and hopefully I'll get a lot out of it in the end."

Living away from home isn't an issue for this young woman as she has spent the last five summers traveling for five-week summer ballet camps to locations in Washington, California, New York, Florida and Washington, D.C.

Attending Mass has always been her faith anchor, so she intends to find a church in the area she will live. When asked what company she would choose, Simonton replies without hesitation, "New York City Ballet. That's the number one company."

Her advice to others who dream of dancing, "Remember at times it's going to be difficult because ballet is strenuous. It takes dedication. Keep looking to the company and the struggle will be good in the end."

As for this talented young ballerina, she continues to pray and prepare for the future saying, "I talk to mom ... and God ... and pray, a lot. I will make it somewhere."

Goshen's multi cultures pull together to celebrate the 'same Eucharist'

BY HEATHER GRENNAN GARY

GOSHEN — St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen started a new Sunday evening Mass eight weeks ago, but it's really three new things wrapped into one: a Sunday evening Mass, a weekly youth Mass and a regular bilingual Mass.

"It's been a real team effort," said Father Christopher Smith, pastor of St. John. He, along with associate pastor Father Constantino Rocha, youth ministry coordinator Sara Knight, and liturgy and music director Stephen Royal, had been thinking about and planning for the evening bilingual youth Mass since last year, when both Smith and Royal joined the parish staff.

About 80 people attended the first 5:30 Mass on Sept. 23. "Some people were a little apprehensive when they found out it would be bilingual," said Knight. "But Mass is the same in every language, and it's a language we all speak."

The most encouraging thing for Giovanni Muñoz, who has been at St. John's for seven years and has worked with the Hispanic young adults in the parish for the past year, is the effort he sees the two priests putting into the project.

"It's such a great thing they've been doing. Father Chris in particular has been trying a lot to get both cultures together," Muñoz said.



HEATHER GRENNAN GARY

Father Constantino Rocha, associate pastor at St. John the Evangelist in Goshen, distributes holy Communion at the youth Mass. The Mass is a team effort to bring together the Hispanic and Anglo youth communities.

And his efforts have been fruitful, Muñoz says, because "You can tell the Anglos and Hispanics are really working together on this."

Fathers Smith and Rocha alternate Sundays, and the two priests have tried different strategies to make all parts of the bilingual Mass accessible to everyone. Father Smith has had his sermon

translated into Spanish and printed up in the program for people to read as he delivers it in English, while Father Rocha has had a translator speak an English version of his sermon as he gives it in Spanish.

Prayers like the Our Father and the creed are said in whatever language each Mass goer chooses,

which, Knight admits, sound a little jumbled, but is more meaningful.

"We're a multicultural parish, so the language barrier is always there," said Knight.

While the Anglo and Hispanic communities typically have functioned almost as two individual parishes, there's been growing interest in finding ways to interact. Because most of the young people speak English, it seemed a youth Mass could bring the two communities of the parish together.

"You've got to start somewhere, and this seemed like a good first step," said Knight.

The staff didn't rely on an outside template for how to incorporate both languages into the liturgy, Knight said, but really started from scratch and focused on who they wanted to reach.

Previously, the parish had a youth Mass only on the fourth Sunday of every month, so Knight said she was very excited to move to a weekly schedule.

She and Muñoz schedule youth and young adults to work as readers, ushers, musicians, and altar servers. Regular volunteers include musicians Maria Weaver and Erica Budowski, altar server Patrick Wheeler, translators Flor Garcia and Edgar Macias, lector Humberto Perez, and lector and eucharistic minister Christian Elliot.

One highlight of the Mass is the music, which Knight calls "youth friendly." From praise music to

traditional Hispanic worship music, the Sunday evening musical styles tend to be ones that aren't heard at St. John's Sunday morning English Masses.

About 15 musicians, both Anglo and Hispanic youth and adults, have been involved. "It's a lot of fun," says Royal. "Trying to mix it up is a bit of a challenge because the approaches are so different."

Royal says the Hispanic choir plays by ear, while "Anglos need notes. When we get together in rehearsal, I'm furiously writing down chords."

Attendance has been between 80 and 120 people each week, and, despite the youth focus, many of the Mass goers are well past their 20s.

Knight says the feedback she has gotten has been overwhelmingly positive. Part of that, she says, is because "the people who are coming want to be there."

But Knight has high hopes for the evening bilingual youth Mass. "I'd like to see more youth attend. The more that show up, the more youth-oriented the Mass and homilies will be, and the more their parents, brothers, sisters and grandparents will follow."

"Cultural differences can be difficult to get past, but I hope both communities can focus on our similarities. It's the same Eucharist, the same liturgy," said Knight. "We all make up the body of Christ."

EDITORIAL

Building a family

November is adoption month. In this week's issue of *Today's Catholic* and also in some issues to follow, we journey through some families' experiences who have followed the path of adoption to build their families. Others, as we explored this week, have found foster parenting as a means of offering family.

If either fostering or adoption is a consideration, a good place to start is with Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. In the next few issues, you will meet families who have found assistance from the services offered by Catholic Charities.

A visit to their Web site, www.ccfwsb.org, and a click to adoption services, will offer the range of adoption-related services: agency placement, private assessment, special needs adoption, self-referred, assessments for relative or stepparent adoption, international placement, family assessments or home studies, adoption case management services and post-placement supervision, finalization services, counseling for adoption-related issues, and search and reunion.

Prospective adoptive parents are screened, participate in adoption education training, and undergo a family assessment to be approved through Catholic Charities. Supervision continues six months following placement until the adoption is legally finalized.

Catholic Charities also works with birth mothers and children who have been adopted. They have also assisted those desiring reunion with the adoptee and birthparents.

Although many couples prefer newborns, that is not always a viable option in a day when most birthmothers choose to raise their children. But there are many children who need a loving and caring family, and Catholic Charities offers services with additional paths to building a family.

International placement, adoption outside of the United States, is offered. Catholic Charities works with Associated Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Baltimore to facilitate adoption of children from the Philippines and Korea. They also work with Children's Home Society and Family Services in St. Paul, Minn., to facilitate the adoption of children from a variety of countries.

For those interested in foster care services, Catholic Charities completes foster home assessments for six counties: Allen, Fulton, Kosciusko, Miami, Wabash and Wells. The agency provides training services for foster parents applying to become licensed or already licensed in Adams, Allen, Cass, Fulton, Huntington, Kosciusko, Miami, Wabash and Wells counties.

Adoption and foster care can offer its challenges.

The adoption process has its shares of ups and downs — a birth-mother decides to keep the child, another couple is selected, a couple can be on a list for long periods of time. There is also some expense — some of which is reimbursed by the government after the adoption is finalized — depending on the option selected. But when that child enters the family, the heartache and trials sting a bit less and life as a family is most appreciated. One can only thank God for his bounteous blessings.

Thank you Squanto and Mr. Lincoln

When our pilgrim forefathers enjoyed the first Thanksgiving feast, which well may have featured venison instead of turkey, they were just happy to be alive, and saw as their agent for survival, Squanto, an Indian who taught them how to catch eel and grow corn.

Through the years an annual feast continued to be associated with harvest and was endorsed by President George Washington proclaiming thanks for God's providence.

Beginning with President Lincoln, who established Thanksgiving as a national holiday, every U.S. president has issued an Thanksgiving proclamation.

Part of the Thanksgiving mystic is that although it is not a religious feast day, we instinctively treat it that way and at many tables, personal expressions of gratitude to God will last much longer than composed prayers.

For us, at the top of our list is the fact that we know of our heavenly Father and consider him to be the provider of what we cherish — faith, family, health and right down the line.

So thank you Father ... thank you Squanto and Mr. Lincoln ... now please pass that eel salad and fried corn.

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

Invitation to join Silent Peace Circle

From Huntington to Laurens; when Eleanor Conrad was in Huntington and heard of the Silent Peace Circle she exclaimed, "I need to take that with me to Laurens, S.C."

Again and again I have been asked to explain or write something about the Silent Peace Circle. Where is the flyer to pass the news about this circle? What is the circle? Why the circle? What do people do in this circle?

The Silent Peace Circle is a way of saying we value people. We are for all peoples. We value global peace. Global peace is why we form a circle. We stand in a circle, we hold hands in this circle. The circle is a symbol of the globe. This global world which belongs to all and yet belongs to none. We join hands as a sign of our trust in one another.

A circle is endless yet it has many points of entrance. In the United States we have people who crossed the Bering Strait to enter. Others entered by ships in the harbor of New York. Still others came by ship through the port of Galveston, Texas, and some through Florida.

The circle allows freedom. It allows all to take a part, to share their gifts, to be enriched from the gifts of others. The circle is porous flexible yet very strong in what seems to be its flexible weakness.

In the Silent Peace Circle people come and go by simply coming to the circle, placing their hand on the hand of one in the circle. The person in the circle lets go of the hand they were holding and takes the hand of the

newcomer. The persons in the circle let their hands open and then take the hand of the new arrival or arrivals. When a person needs to leave the circle they simply let go of the persons hands they held in the circle. These two people rejoin their hands as the person goes their way.

A circle is a symbol of many different peoples, cultures, races and creeds coming together to seek peace, promote and reflect on peace. In order to reflect people need silence.

The purpose of the silence is to allow people to reflect upon what peace, silence, circle and the globe would be like with peace. One person shared after one of our Silent Peace Circle experiences, "I have not had such stillness in my life since last month when I stood in this circle. I need this."

Come join the circle. It is simple. You may stay as long as you are able. Come experience peace with your neighbor in a circle of sisters and brothers.

The Silent Peace Circle is held each second Saturday of the month in Huntington on the sidewalk outside of the courthouse from 11 a.m. until noon. In Fort Wayne the circle is held on the first Saturday of the month at Clinton and Berry streets by the courthouse from 11 a.m. until noon. Come dressed for the weather. Bring your own chair if you wish.

Sister Angeline Walczyk, OLMV
Huntington

It's time for turkey

Tuesday, Nov. 20, about 7 a.m., while it's still dark and cold outside, the parking lot at The Franciscan Center will have people standing in line waiting for the food bank to open

at 9 a.m. hoping, that they will receive a turkey for their family's Thanksgiving dinner.

We do not buy any turkeys or promise any. It strictly depends on the turkeys that are donated to us.

If you would like to donate turkeys to needy families for Thanksgiving, you can bring them to The Franciscan Center, 4643 Gaywood by Nov. 19. Please feel free to call The Franciscan Center (260) 744-3977.

Sally Ley
CEO, Founder, The Franciscan Center
Fort Wayne

Thankful for 'motu proprio' series

The third piece of the four-part series on the "motu proprio" document by Pope Benedict XVI was extremely informative and exciting. To read that the one-time much anticipated periods of silence found in the older Mass form can be a part of the new Mass form without diminishing the suggested changes addressed in the Vatican II document was exciting.

Active participation of the laity in the Mass is essential for full appreciation but periods of contemplation can only enhance one's spiritual experience.

I suggest that too-loud and too-orchestrated liturgical music is at best entertainment rather than a pure and true expression of worship. Thank you for this wonderful series on the liturgy.

Michol A. Byanski
Fort Wayne

As Senate begins debate, stage set for battle over new farm bill

BY MARK PATTISON

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The harvest is in. The apples have fallen from the trees. One thing is awaited, though, before farmers can declare whether 2007 was a good season for them: the passage of the federal farm bill.

The biggest issue in the five-year, \$285 billion bill is crop subsidies. Though the subsidies account for only about \$40 billion in the bill — food stamps and nutrition assistance, by comparison, account for two-thirds of the bill's budget — it has become the subject of the latest round of veto saber rattling by President George W. Bush and veto-override saber rattling by members of Congress.

The Religious Working Group's main objections to the subsidies: They are weighted in favor of the largest and more corporate-run farming operations at the expense of small- and medium-size family farms where people live on the land they work, and they create international trade distortions

when U.S.-subsidized grain floods small domestic markets overseas at prices below the cost to grow those crops locally.

"Many of those people who are impacted by the farm bill live in our parishes and our dioceses, where extreme poverty is our daily bread," said Bishop Thomas Kabore of Kaya, Burkina Faso, at a Nov. 6 press conference prior to a day of lobbying Congress.

Bishop Kabore added, "If our African farmers didn't have to compete with heavily subsidized crops from the U.S., we would be able to send more of our children to school, we could provide better diets for our families, and we could reinvest in our farming sector."

"The United States has nothing to fear from our farmers and from our exports. In fact, God should be so good to our countries that our exports would ever be a threat to anyone!" he said.

At the press conference, which was billed as "an appeal to the Senate's conscience," John Carr, the U.S. bishops' secretary for social development and world

peace, was asked if he and his allies were essentially licked if they had to appeal to the conscience of lawmakers. "Write this down: 'No,'" he replied.

The Rev. Jim Wallis of Sojourners said there are "three kinds of legislators": those who will do the right thing even if it costs them re-election; those who will do the right thing but need a push; and those who merely want to get re-elected. He acknowledged that this coalition did not have the muscle yet to "deliver the deliverables" on the farm bill, but that religious groups working together as they had would soon have that power. Once they do, Rev. Wallis added, "all three groups change."

The Rev. David Beckmann, head of Bread for the World, the Christian citizens' anti-hunger lobby, said, "The Senate has some tough choices to make, but choosing between help for hungry people trying to feed their families and payments to millionaire farmers shouldn't be one of them."

Vatican ambassadors: Potpourri of insiders, politicians, scholars

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Many countries' embassies to the Vatican have a priest on staff to help advise their ambassador on pontifical protocol and all things Catholic.

But most of them could learn a few things from Mary Ann Glendon, the Harvard law professor President George W. Bush nominated as U.S. ambassador to the Holy See.

In 2004, Pope John Paul II named her president of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences, an advisory body chock full of experts in law, economics, sociology and other fields. She led the Vatican's delegation to the 1995 U.N. Conference on Women in Beijing and to a follow-up meeting on the status of women in 2005.

At first glance, it would seem that if the U.S. Senate confirms her nomination Glendon's Vatican connections would make her a unique member of the diplomatic corps.

But Poland's ambassador to the Vatican, Hanna Suchocka, also is a member of the social sciences academy and, like Glendon, she is

one of the original members appointed by Pope John Paul when he established the academy in 1994.

Suchocka, again like Glendon, has a background in law. But the Polish ambassador also was deeply involved in partisan politics, elected to Poland's legislature before serving as Poland's prime minister, 1992-93.

The Polish ambassador currently is one of 17 women in the 175-member group of diplomats accredited to the Vatican.

While Glendon can be described as a Vatican "insider," she has never been a salaried Vatican employee, like two other members of the diplomatic corps serving at the Vatican.

Montenegro's Ambassador Antun Sbutega is a former economics professor who spent almost 13 years working at the Society of St. Peter Apostle, one of four pontifical missionary societies under the jurisdiction of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples.

Slovenia's Ambassador Ivan Rebernik earned a doctorate in philosophy from Rome's Pontifical

THE VATICAN LETTER

CINDY WOODEN

Gregorian University, then entered the library sciences program at The Catholic University of America in Washington. He returned to Rome, where he worked in the Gregorian library, 1964-88, then spent the next 16 years as the director of the prints catalogue at the Vatican Library.

Many of the nations that have diplomatic relations with the Vatican always send a Catholic as ambassador, believing it gives their representatives a jump on the learning curve.

But other countries believe that sending a non-Catholic ensures the objectivity and impartiality of their ambassadors, who are sent to the

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Those who love God will triumph



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Lk 21:5-19

The Book of Malachi is the source of this weekend's first reading. Malachi actually was not a proper name for a person in ancient Israel. Rather, it was an abbreviation of an informal title, "Messenger of God."

This prophet is thoroughly in step with all the other prophets whose writings we now possess in saying that humans are responsible for their own misery and disappointment in life. Their sinfulness, or indifference to God, leads them into trouble.

The effects of sin do not simply slide away. One day, sinners will have to pay the piper.

Paul's Second Epistle to the Thessalonians supplies the next reading. Paul must have been an interesting personality. He hardly was withdrawing and quiet. Yet, for all his assertiveness, he had the humility that rises from genuine wisdom and true faith. He knows that he owes everything to God's mercy, and he knows that everything is being in peace with God. He offers himself as an example, because God will save others as God saved Paul.

Here in this reading, he goes to his well-schooled Hebrew roots,

essentially repeating the theme stated centuries earlier by Malachi and the other prophets. Human sin has brought grief to humanity. However, God does not leave humanity to its peril. God sent messengers to the world repeatedly to lead people away from their foolish sinfulness. Finally, in the greatest act of love, God sent Jesus, the Son of God, to the world.

Jesus did not come and go. He left the community of faith that is the church. He left the apostles to guide the church to everlasting life.

In the first generations of Christianity, disciples of Christ easily felt at the mercy of a hostile culture and even of hostile laws. Paul insists that Christians are not alone. God has given them Christ. In the apostles, Christ still speaks and redeems.

St. Luke's Gospel, the third reading, follows in this theme. While sin has reaped a whirlwind, relief is on the way. A new day will come dramatically and decisively. It will occur in nature. Earthquakes will shake the earth. Plagues will rage.

Among humans, close relatives will betray each other. Danger will be everywhere.

None of this, however, will threaten those who truly trust the Lord. Not even a hair of their heads will be harmed. God will triumph. Those who love God will triumph.

Reflection

The church is closing its year of instruction and worship. Next weekend, it will rejoice that God's salvation has been poured forth on the world yet again, as it celebrates the feast of Christ the King.

So, the church's last statement

of its fading year will be its excited proclamation that, despite all the negative forces in the world, despite the attacks of the devil, even despite human inclinations to sin and pride, Christ is king! He is the rock of salvation upon which all may find refuge on the edge of a raging sea.

For six years now, Americans, and others in the world, have lived in uneasiness if not fear. The sights of the crashing towers in New York, the bleeding commuters in Madrid and London, and the slain in Iraq, haunt us.

These grim realities should teach us. As the prophets warned, as Paul emphatically declared, sin brings us death. And, none of us can foretell the future, our own future, with exactitude.

Our deaths may not come as the result of such evil, terrifying circumstances, but we will die.

However, come what may, if we are in Christ, if we are with God, we shall live. If we are of God, if we are in Christ, we will live forever.

Where then is the cause to fear? Where, death, is your victory?

READINGS

Sunday: Mal 3:19-20a Ps 98:5-9
2 Thes 3:7-12 Lk 21:5-19

Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63 Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158 Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31 Ps 3:2-8
Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31 Ps 17:1, 5-6, 8b, 15 Lk 19:11-28

Thursday: 1 Mc 2:15-29 Ps 50:1-2, 5-6, 14-15 Lk 19:41-44

Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59 (Ps) 1
Chr 29:10-12 Lk 19:45-48

Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13 Ps 9:2-4, 6, 16b, 19 Lk 20:27-40

CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Camplisson

This quiz looks at doctors of the church.

1. What is a doctor of the church?

- a. a bishop who has a doctorate
- b. any cleric who is an MD
- c. a saint with this special title

2. What (amongst other things) do you have to be to be a doctor of the church?

- a. licensed
- b. a male
- c. dead

3. What does the designation "doctor" actually mean?

- a. the person lived a saintly life
- b. their teachings or writings are determined by the church to have value
- c. they are known to have performed miracles

4. How does time play a factor in the process of being named doctor of the church?

- a. The person must have been declared a saint at least 50 years before becoming a doctor of the church.
- b. It does not, as time is relative, and many clergy have no relatives.
- c. Their writing or preaching is determined to have value to any age of the church.

5. How infallible are the writings of a doctor of the church?

- a. They may include infallible teaching, but the status of doctor does not confer that.
- b. As infallible as the pope's, only harder to prove.
- c. Not at all, in fact the writings contain no truths at all.

6. Are there doctors of the church who are not saints?

- a. no
- b. yes
- c. only if they are so voted by acclamation by the College of Cardinals.

7. In the Middle Ages only this many doctors were recognized:

- a. four
- b. six
- c. twelve

8. Which of these men were amongst them?

- a. Jude the Obscure
- b. Augustine
- c. Julian the Apostate

9. Which of these men were not included in the medieval doctors?

- a. Abelard
- b. Ambrose
- c. Jerome

10. When other doctors were added, this 3rd to 4th century apologist was added:

- a. John the Evangelist
- b. Justin Martyr
- c. Athanasius

11. Which doctor is referred to as the Syrian?

- a. St. Assad
- b. St. Ephraem
- c. St. Joppa

12. This doctor is named for the birthplace of the church:

- a. St. Cyril of Jerusalem
- b. Jeffrey of Nazareth
- c. Francis of Rome

13. This doctor even has his own adjective:

- a. Carlus Theis (theistic)
- b. Thomas Aquinas (Thomistic)
- c. Leo the Munificent (Leonine)

14. Catherine of Siena is part of a minority among church doctors; why?

- a. Most are gentiles
- b. Most were single
- c. Most are male

15. Despite dying very young and living a mostly sheltered life as a nun, this saint was named doctor of the church in the 20th century:

- a. Mother Teresa of Calcutta
- b. Maria Young of Salt Lake City
- c. St. Thérèse of Lisieux

ANSWERS:

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

Making total gift of self to the other

I believe life begins the moment of conception, so what is wrong with using pills that prevent conception? Why is NFP so important? Being a woman myself, it takes a long time to really even know when it is "safe" and when it's not "safe." Both NFP and this pill that prevents conception, aren't they doing the same thing? — Melanie

There is a world of difference between contraception and NFP. What is most important here is to understand and appreciate God's plan for marriage and the spousal act. In God's plan, marriage is designed to endure "until death do us part," and it requires total fidelity. What is the spousal act supposed to express and accomplish, as God designed it? The Catholic Church teaches, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that every spousal act must be open to a love-giving (unitive) dimension and also to a life-giving (procreative) dimension. In the marital act the spouses are renewing their marriage covenant. This calls for making the total gift of self to the other: no conditions, no reservations, nothing held back. This

includes our fertility.

When couples abide by God's plan for spousal love, then they have a strong marriage and a healthy, happy family. When they reject God's plan, and substitute their own plan (contraception, sterilization and abortion), then they fall into a cultural trap where today, in this country, there is a 50 percent divorce rate, a lack of male responsibility, 35 percent of children born outside of marriage, dysfunctional families and increased abortions.

NFP is completely different from contraception when used as a means to space your babies.

1.) NFP respects God's plan. Contraception does not.

2.) NFP respects human fertility, and never turns against it. Contra (against) ception does not respect your fertility. Instead, it sterilizes it, either temporarily or permanently.

3.) NFP regards fertility as something good and natural. Contraception regards it as a disease.

4.) NFP requires self-sacrifice and self-giving. Contraception wants instant gratification.

5.) NFP compels a couple to take their relationship seriously. Contraception focuses everything

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

on orgasm.

6.) The divorce rate among users of NFP is less than five percent. For users of contraception it is 50 percent plus.

7.) The Pill causes all sorts of problems for a woman's body. Read a list of all the counter indications that come with the prescription. NFP is completely natural. It is God's way, and nature's way for spacing pregnancies responsibly in a morally good way.

I suggest that you read the encyclical "Humanae Vitae." Go to Google and find it there.

Let's spread the good word about NFP, so that it can benefit everyone.

Father Matthew Habiger, OSB, answered this week's question.

A disappointing call for dialogue

On Oct. 11, at the end of Islam's holy month of Ramadan, 138 Muslims from around the world addressed a letter to Pope Benedict XVI and numerous other Christian leaders. Entitled "A Common Word Between Us and You," the letter was released in a media-savvy rollout in several world capitals and was welcomed with enthusiasm by one of the addressees, Canterbury's Rowan Williams. Cardinal Jean-Louis Tauran, president of the reconstituted Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, was cordial but cautious, suggesting that while there were certainly things to talk about based on a shared commitment to the two Great Commandments of love of God and love of neighbor, there were also many difficulties.

Something else struck me about "A Common Word" and the media commentary on it: both the letter's signatories and the reporters writing about it seemed unaware of the proposal for framing a new dialogue between Christianity and Islam made by the Holy Father last December, in his Christmas address to the Roman Curia. There, Benedict XVI proposed that the dialogue focus on the question of how religious traditions assimilate the positive achievements of the Enlightenment. Those achievements include the victory of the idea of religious freedom as an inalienable human right — a human right that, acknowledged in law and thus erected into a civil right, leads to distinctions between religious and political authority in a just state.

Catholicism, the pope reminded the Curia, had spent the better part of two centuries trying to find solutions to the questions of faith, freedom, and governance posed by

the Enlightenment, a process that bore fruit at the Second Vatican Council. Might there be something in this Catholic experience of retrieval-and-renewal for a Christian-Islamic dialogue to ponder?

These do seem to be the most urgent questions. For unless Islam can find within its own spiritual resources a way to legitimate religious freedom and the distinction between religious and political authority, the relationship between 2 billion Christians and 1 billion Muslims is going to remain fraught with tension. "A Common Word" speaks at length about the two Great Commandments; it says nothing about their applicability to issues of faith, freedom, and the governance of society: issues posed, for example, by the death threats visited upon Muslims who convert to Christianity and by the refusal to allow Christian public worship in Saudi Arabia. "A Common Word" also seems rather defensive, as if it were 21st century Christians who, in considerable numbers, were justifying the murder of innocents in advancing the cause of God. But that is manifestly not the case.

Knowledgeable analysts of Islamic affairs have also raised questions about the composition of the "138," which includes a considerable number of government functionaries as well as figures with connections to Wahhabism, the fanatic sect whose teachings and financial influence inflame so much Islamist agitation around the world. Be that as it may — and it's not an insignificant thing — I would suggest that the better approach would be to ask the people who put "A Common Word" together why the pope's invitation of last December was not



GEORGE WEIGEL

addressed.

Do these 138 Muslims agree or disagree that religious freedom and the distinction between religious and political authority are the issues at the heart of today's tensions between Islam and the West — indeed, Islam and the rest? Would it not be more useful to concentrate on these urgent issues of practical reason (which bear on the organization of 21st century societies) than to frame the dialogue in terms of a generic exploration of the two Great Commandments (which risks leading to an exchange of banalities)? Why not get down to cases?

It is of the utmost importance for the human future that a genuine inter religious dialogue unfold between Islam and Christianity (and Judaism, which is largely ignored in "A Common Word"). Genuine dialogue requires a precise focus, and a commitment by the dialogue partners to condemn by name those members of their communities who murder in the name of God. It is unfortunate that "A Common Word" took us no closer to cementing either of these building blocks of genuine dialogue into place.

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

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for November 18, 2007

Luke 21:5-19

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C: a discussion about the appearance of the end times. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

SPEAKING UPON ANOTHER WILL COME TERRIFIED AGAINST KINGS BROTHERS	TEMPLE THROWN DOWN I AM HE FIRST EARTHQUAKES WISDOM HATED	STONES SIGN WARS NATION PERSECUTE PARENTS A HAIR
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TRIBULATIONS

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

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

Vatican to represent their nation's interests and not simply to explain Vatican policy to their foreign affairs departments.

Francis Campbell, named Great Britain's ambassador to the Vatican in 2005, was the first Catholic to hold the post since the Reformation. The government of Germany continues to have a policy of alternating a Catholic ambassador and a Protestant ambassador.

Stutega told Catholic News Service that he was named ambassador to the Vatican "because I know the Vatican better than any other citizen of Montenegro. If the Vatican is a

mystery to most Romans, imagine how confusing it is to someone from Montenegro."

"In a technical sense, one can learn quickly how things work in the Vatican, but there is an underlying culture formed by faith that is more difficult to learn," he said.

Raymond Flynn, a Catholic who served as U.S. ambassador to

the Vatican from 1993 to 1997 under President Bill Clinton, told CNS he thought Glendon would be "a great asset" to the United States in her new role.

"She is so clever, so smart," he said, that she should not have any problem explaining the Vatican's views to the U.S. government and the government's views to the Vatican.

"Sometimes I was too outspoken, and I paid the price for it. I was reprimanded by the State Department," said the former Boston mayor. "I was a politician, and that's what you do: You talk."

But Glendon, he said, is a scholar and legal expert; "she isn't looking for votes. ... She only deals with the facts."

While Flynn believes there still is "an undercurrent of anti-Catholicism" in Washington that

needs to be handled with tact, he said, "You do your country a greater service by expressing your point of view."

And, he said, a coherently Catholic ambassador "gains credibility with the Vatican because they know you are not just another politician willing to sacrifice your core values for votes."

"She is so clever, so smart that she should not have any problem explaining the Vatican's views to the U.S. government and the government's views to the Vatican."

RAYMOND FLYNN

Sports

DIOCESAN HIGH SCHOOLS' JOURNEY TO STATE TITLES CONTINUES Three diocesan high schools will vie for a semi-state title this weekend as the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) football season narrows in the 35th Annual State Tournament Series. In Class 4-A, Fort Wayne's Bishop Dwenger will play Lowell. In Class 3-A, Saint Joseph's of South Bend will play Fort Wayne Concordia. In Class 2-A, Fort Wayne Bishop Luers will play Cass.

CYO quarterback profiles:

A key factor to teams' successes

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — The QB — also referred to as the team leader, the playmaker, the signal caller. These guys throw the ball with authority and are often key factors in their team's success.

Today's Catholic took time out to ask a few of this year's eighth-grade Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) quarterbacks some questions, and also checked in with All-American, John Goodman.

During his CYO days, Goodman wore the blue and gold jersey for St. Jude. His mother recalls hiding Joan Bobay's *Today's Catholic* articles about her son and the St. Jude team "so that Johnny would not get over confident." Goodman's eighth grade season, the Eagles went 11-0 and won the 2003 league championship over St. John Fort Wayne.

In the loss, Coach Jim Carroll recalls, "It was a real challenge for us to corral John Goodman. He'd slip out and turn somethin' nasty into something good."

The CYO was full of talent. St. John, Fort Wayne, had Steve Williamson, Kevin Kiermayer and seventh graders like Tyquan Hammock, Lawrence Barnett, Ryan Eifrid, Nick Houk and Austin Tillman. And Snider record-breaker Dylan Painter played for St. John, New Haven, that year. "We all wanted a shot at Goodman, but never got him," Carroll concluded.

In 2007, the CYO was once again packed with talented, scoring machines like Feichter, Causey, Curry, Crabtree, Dorman, Stuerzenberger and Schon.

Carroll could not say enough about his quarterback, James Knapke, this season. "James 'The Big Cat' is the real deal, a great kid."

Quarterbacks this season for the CYO included Chase Kalenbeck (QA/PB), James Knapke (St. John, FW), Kyle Sovine (St. John, NH), Luke Tippmann (St. Vincent), Tanner Spencer (Holy Cross), Carter Delaney (St. Jude), Drew Morken (JAT), Casey Cooney and A.J. Haughk (St. Charles). Seventh graders John Cassel (JAT) and Codi Henline (St. Jude) also stepped in due to injuries after the start of the season.

John Goodman

Bishop Dwenger, No. 10. Height/weight: 6 feet, 4 inches, 190 pounds. What is your home parish? St. Jude. Who are your parents? Andrew and Julie. Who is your favorite NFL player? Jerry Rice (because he is the best receiver that ever lived). What college would you love to attend? Ever since I was a little kid — Notre Dame. What is your favorite song from Mass? "On Eagles Wings" What will you remember most about CYO football? Going 11-0 as an eighth grader and winning the championship.

Carter P. Delaney

St. Jude, No. 12/77. Height/weight: 5 feet, 7 inches, 140 pounds. What is your home parish? St. Jude. Where will you attend high school? Bishop Dwenger. Who are your parents? Patrick and Liz. Who is your favorite NFL player? Anthony Spencer. What college would you love to attend? Purdue (undergrad); Michigan (grad). What is your favorite song from Mass? "Never Give Up" What will you remember most about CYO football? Hamburger in the mud.

Drew Morken

St. JAT, No. 15. Height/weight: 5 feet, 9 inches, 145 pounds. What is your home parish? St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Where will you attend high school? Bishop Luers. What are your parent's names? Dan and Becky. Who is your favorite NFL player? L.T. What college would you love to attend? Notre Dame. What will you remember most about CYO football? Playing QB, breaking my hand eighth-grade year; popping friends on other teams.

Kyle Sovine

St. John, New Haven, No. 10. Height/weight: 6-feet, 1/2-inch, 150 pounds. What is your home parish? St. John, New Haven. Where will you attend high school? New Haven. Who are your parents? Kevin and Jenny. Who is your favorite NFL player? Matt Leinart. What college would you love to attend? I.U. What is your favorite song from Mass? "On Eagles Wings" What will you remember most about CYO football? Playing on the turf at Saint Francis.

James Knapke

St. John, Fort Wayne, No. 3. Height/weight: 6-foot, 1-inch, 158 pounds. What is your home parish? St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel. Where will you attend high school? Undecided. Who are your parents? Jim and Roselyn. Who is your favorite NFL player? Reggie Bush. What college would you love to attend? Notre Dame. What is your favorite song from Mass? "On Eagles Wings." What will you remember most about CYO football? Being a captain.

Luke Tippmann

St. Vincent, No. 6. Height/weight: 5-foot, 6-inches, 115 lbs. What is your home parish? St. Vincent de Paul. Where will you attend high school? Bishop Dwenger. Who are your parents? Dan, Vicky, Jackie. Who is your favorite NFL player? Joey Harrington. What college would you love to attend? Wabash College. What is your favorite song from Mass? "Once Again." What will you remember most about CYO football? Running with Coach Alf and Coach Lou.



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D'Arcy Stadium expansion completed in time for critical game, playoffs

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis (USF) has added nearly 400 new seats to D'Arcy Stadium just in time for the crucial match-up between the fifth-ranked USF Cougars and sixth-ranked St. Xavier on Saturday, Nov. 10. The seating is located on the east side of the stadium and will accommodate visiting teams' fans.

"In the past, USF has rented portable bleachers to accommodate the overflow crowds for big games, including the NAIA Playoff games," said Mark A. Pope, USF director of athletics. "Those bleachers were

sold earlier this year, so that was no longer an option for us."

USF Athletics partnered with Fort Wayne-based manufacturer National Recreation Systems to build and install a new seating facility for visiting fans in time for this game, which had NAIA playoff implications. It was the last regular-season game for both teams.

It took just over 16 minutes for the University of Saint Francis to score, but once the No. 5 Cougars did, they outscored No. 6 Saint Xavier 42-10 and locked up the program's 100th win with a 42-13 victory at Bishop D'Arcy

Stadium.

"We really played as close to a complete game as possible," USF Coach Kevin Donley said after getting his 100th win at USF and 215th career victory. "We played well in nearly every phase of the game. Doug Wasyk really played the way we knew he could play."

"Daniel Carter, Taylor Vieck, seniors Brian Smiley, Echo (Josh Ekovich), Zach Rainey, Bo Thompson, William Knepper, Tim Farrell, so many names the list just goes on and on."

USF assured itself an NAIA Football Championship Series first-round home game with its

44th consecutive home win.

"This was a big win not only for this team but for all 10 teams," Donley declared. "It's something for all of us to be proud of."

Of the new bleacher seating, Pope said, "We had to be prepared with sufficient seating that complies with NAIA rules. This new seating complex accomplishes all of our goals."

The seats are constructed to maintain the USF's fans' view of picturesque Mirror Lake, yet allow visiting teams' fans to be closer to their team. Construction was started in late October and completed last week. Visiting fans

were previously seated at the south end of the west stands near the entrance/exit for the visiting team.

"We are deeply appreciative to our corporate partners for their assistance in making this addition a reality," said Pope. Corporate contributors include Garrett State Bank, Kirby Risk Corporation, Fort Wayne Orthopaedics, Glenbrook Dodge Chrysler Jeep, Design Collaborative and Leepoxy.

USF will install signage to direct visiting fans to a new entrance, located on the east side of D'Arcy Stadium.

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

Legion of Mary plans rosary
Fort Wayne — A rosary for deceased members of the Legion of Mary will be at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 18, in St. Charles Borromeo chapel, 4916 Trier Rd. The 5 p.m. Mass will be offered for the repose of their souls. For information about the Legion of Mary, call Connie Acierto at (260) 486-1001 or Chester Mackowiak at (574) 287-9204.

Day of Reflection
Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) on Wednesday, Nov. 28, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is "Promises, Promises." Please bring your Bible. The cost of the day is \$15 and includes lunch. Register by Friday, Nov. 23, to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

Craft and Bake Sale.
Fort Wayne — The St. Joseph Rosary Sodality, Brooklyn and Hale Ave., will have a baked goods, craft sale and raffle in the parish hall on Saturday, Nov. 17, from noon to 7 p.m. and Sunday Nov. 18, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call Kathy at (260) 459-9108 for information.

Little Flower Holy Hour
Fort Wayne — Father Edward Erpelding will celebrate the Holy Hour at MacDougal Chapel on Tuesday, Nov. 20, at 7:15 p.m. Father Erpelding is pastor of St.

Mary of the Assumption Parish, Avilla.

Preview Bible study DVDs
South Bend — The Great Adventure Bible Study is coming to St. Jude Parish. This is a DVD based study presented by Bible teacher Jeff Cavins. There will be three "Come and See" sessions to preview the DVDs, ask questions and register. The sessions will be Monday, Dec. 3, at 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 8, at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 9, at 11 a.m. The Bible study will begin in Lent 2008.

Santa and pancakes Dec. 1 at Wabash
Wabash — Have breakfast with Santa at St. Bernard School on Saturday, Dec. 1. The event will include a special morning at the North Pole where the family can eat pancakes and sausage together. Children of all ages are welcome to sit on Santa's knee and tell him what is on their wish list this year. The first seating is at 9 a.m. and the second seating is at 10:30 a.m. Adult tickets are \$4, children are \$3, and those two and under are free. Call the St. Bernard School office at (260) 563-5746 to make reservations.

Turkey Trot Knight planned
Fort Wayne — The Bishop Luers High School "Turkey Trot Knight" will be held Sunday, Nov. 18, at 6:30 p.m. at Columbia Street West. Tickets are \$20 per person, which includes hors d'oeuvres, snacks,

draft beer, soft drinks and dancing to The Junk Yard Band. Tickets can be purchased by calling Bishop Luers at (260) 456-1261. Casual attire and open to the public. Must be 21 to attend. Proceeds will benefit LuersKnight and Bishop Luers Athletics.

Holiday cookie walk helps children
Fort Wayne — The Christ Child Society will have a holiday cookie walk at a new location this year. The event will be held at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 1. Homemade holiday cookies and sweets will be available for purchase. All proceeds will go to disadvantaged children in the community.

Fiesta Friday held at St. Adalbert
South Bend — St. Adalbert Parish will have a Fiesta Friday on Friday, Nov. 16, from 5-8 p.m. in the Heritage Center. Authentic Mexican food, music and raffles. Pre-sale tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 for children 10 and under and children under 5 free. Adult tickets at the door are \$10.

Turkey and ham dinner
New Haven — St. Louis Besancon Parish will have a turkey and ham dinner on Sunday, Nov. 18, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. A silent auction, country craft store and raffle will be offered. Adults \$6.75, children 6-13 \$5, children under 5 free.

REST IN PEACE

Fort Wayne Ruth B. Scharringhausen-Jackson, 89, St. Jude	James F. Neidhart, 82, Our Lady of Good Hope	Genevieve Zuk, 93, St. Hedwig
Lois E. Fleck, 73, Our Lady of Good Hope	Paul Walter Schoenle, 88, St. Peter	Gladden R. Griggs, 50, St. Matthew Cathedral
Huntington Vera Margaret Johnson, 73, St. Therese	Dorothy Ann Scheiber , 80, Sts. Peter and Paul	Julia E. Huyvaert, 95, St. Joseph
Robert W. Pequignot, 88, Our Lady of Good Hope	Mishawaka Geraldine Edwards, 92, St. Monica	Margaret R. Rozmarynowski, 87, St. Stanislaus
George W. Ables, Jr., 69, St. John the Baptist	Thomas G. Murphy II, 61, Queen of Peace	Charles P. Nix, 90, St. Matthew Cathedral
Maria Kline, 39, Our Lady of Good Hope	Martin R. Cole, 81, St. Joseph	Mary B. Perry, 84, Little Flower
Susan J. Beatty, 62, Most Precious Blood	Notre Dame Mary Clare Skendzel, infant, Sacred Heart Basilica	Florence A. Winkel, 89, Holy Family
Richard Hake, 80, Most Precious Blood	South Bend William Thomas Karban, 4 mo. St. Joseph	Mary E. Kiplinger, 97, St. Matthew Cathedral
Colleen Harris, 35, Most Precious Blood		Alfred J. Kromkowski, 88, St. Adalbert

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THE Young Voice

ST. BERNARD is located in Wabash. The school has 101 students in grades preschool through 6. Theresa Carroll is the principal. Additional information is available by emailing stbernard@kconline or by calling the school at (260) 563-5746.

St. Bernard, a tradition of excellence

BY JORDAN RAUH, SIXTH GRADE

St. Bernard's mission statement is, "St. Bernard Catholic Elementary School is a partnership of students, faculty, staff, parents and parish: teaching what the Catholic Church teaches, fostering a spiritual, academic, physical, social and emotional climate where children grow to their maximum capabilities." Many students of St. Bernard are following in their grandparents' and parents' tradition by attending the school. This tradition shows the true excellence of the school.

St. Bernard started on the first floor of the old church on Sept. 5, 1922. At that time there were a total of 40 pupils. Nuns from the convent of St. Joseph's in Tipton were assigned to administrate and teach at the school. There were no real walls, only partitions, to separate the classrooms. They had a central potbelly stove for heat and used textbooks from the public school. The following year the

student enrollment almost doubled up to 70 students. St. Bernard was on its way to building a solid foundation for children.

Then on Sept. 4, 1951, the doors opened on a separate two-story building holding a total of 141 pupils. This was thanks to Father Leo Hoffmann who started the fund for building the school. At this time, the church was torn down and the basement of the school became the chapel for the parish. When the church was completed, the basement was converted into a kitchen and lunch room for the students.

Ten years later a third floor was added to the school. Each classroom could now have just one grade in it instead of two. Later the sisters of St. Joseph withdrew from the school. The school then hired lay teachers to teach.

Today, St. Bernard has 101 students in grades pre-k to sixth grade with a full day of kindergarten. Of these 101 students, 45 percent of them are Catholic and the other 55 percent are other

denominations. The church is located across the alley of the school, which enables students to attend Mass every Tuesday and Thursday and holy days. The school also has enrichment programs such as music, art, choir and physical education. St. Bernard students also get involved in community programs such as Symphony in Color, Fame, Hoopshoots, Earth Day activities, champs camp and plays at the Honeywell Center. The choir also performs at different functions throughout the year.

St. Bernard School's goal is to have all the students grow in their spiritual education and to have Christian principles in their everyday lives. These ideas were voiced by Father Hoffman and is known to be the heart of St. Bernard since its inception. Through the dedication of teachers and staff, and the parents' contributions of time and talent, St. Bernard continues to thrive. The parents are an integral part of the partnership that is between the school, home life and the surrounding community.



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8	1	9	7	6	2	2	4
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1	8	7	2	4	8	1	1
2	2	8	1	1	9	6	6
6	1	2	8	2	9	2	1

WESTON SAPUSEK, SIXTH GRADE

Joke corner

Not so very long ago, an old German man was feeling guilty about something he had done so he decided to go to confession. He said, "Bless me, father, for I have sinned. I feel terrible because I hid a refugee in my attic during World War II." The priest said, "But that's not a sin! I wouldn't feel terrible

about that!"

The man said, "I made him pay 50 marks for every week he stayed."

The priest said, "Well, I admit that wasn't the most noble thing to do but you did save his life. Don't worry about it so much; God forgives."

The man said, "Oh thank you, Father, that eases my mind. I have only one more question to

ask you. Do you think I should tell him the war is over?"

• • •

After the baptism of his baby brother, little Johnny sobbed all the way home in the backseat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replies, "The priest said he wanted us to be brought up in a Christian home,

but I want to stay with you guys."

• • •

The children were lined up in a cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. A nun made a note, and posted it on the apple tray: "Take only ONE apple. God is watching."

Moving further along the table there was a large pile of chocolate

chip cookies. A child had written a note, "Take all you want. God is watching the apples."

• • •

A boy asked his father to take out the car. The father said, "Not until you get a haircut."

The boy said, "But Jesus had long hair."

The father said, "Yeah but Jesus walked everywhere."



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